

January, 2014

CONTACT INFO:

Caleb & Sarah Benson 559.970.6399 bensons2cameroon@sierrahillsbaptist.org

SENDING CHURCH:

Sierra Hills Baptist Church 32578 Lodge Rd. Tollhouse, CA 93667 559.855.2480 www.sierrahillsbaptist.org Andrew Billings - Pastor



MISSION BOARD

BIMI P.O. Box 9215 Chattanooga, TN 37412





Dear Praying Family and Friends,

Happy New Year! In Cameroon they wish everyone a Happy New Year all the way through the month of January. I pray that each of you had a joyous and prosperous Christmas Season. We enjoyed spending time with family in Arizona after finishing up a few December meetings in Tennessee. Thank you for all the special Christmas gifts, and cards and letters which were sent to us during this time. We really appreciate all of the prayer and support each church has given in this last year.

On January 1st, I took a second survey trip to Cameroon with Missionary Nathan Owens. We were surveying several new areas to begin churches, and also meeting with the leadership of the church in Buea. During the trip I also had the privilege of meeting several missionary families in Cameroon.

We then went to Buea, and met with the leaders of the church, and encouraged them to stand strong in the faith. I couldn't help thinking that it must have been a similar situation for the Apostle Paul according to Acts 14:21-23. The believers there at Calvary Independent Baptist Church in Buea still need to be encouraged to continue the work which God has called them too. After meeting and encouraging them, we then headed to the Northwest region of Cameroon. We arrived in Bamenda on Saturday afternoon, and settled into a bungalow located in the village of Sabga.

Sunday we visited 3 churches in the Bamenda area. The believers are learning and growing in God's Word, and they continue to look for opportunity to reach others with the Gospel. It was encouraging to meet and be able to fellowship with several missionary families in the Bamenda area.



We then began surveying several areas around the Northwest region, and found that many of the towns and villages had Catholic, Presbyterian, Kingdom Halls, or other religious groups present. But there was a huge lack of Gospel preaching churches in this region. As we drove through many towns and villages the people were eager to take a tract and read it. As stated in Romans 10:2, "For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge." They believe that they are serving God in truth, but they do not have a personal relationship with Christ. We visited many large villages, and we are still asking the Lord to confirm a specific location in our hearts. One of the villages we visited is the village of Bafut, which is a very large village. It has about 3 million people spread throughout a very large area. The village currently has 6 Presbyterian Churches, but not a single Gospel preaching church. There are several villages like this in the Northwest and Southwest regions of Cameroon. The task is amazingly large. We saw village after village in need of the truth, but so few Missionaries taking the Gospel to this region of Africa. "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest that He will send forth labourers into His harvest." Matthew 9:38 this has become our prayer, because there are so many people that need to hear. Please pray with us, that we can finish raising our needed support in order to leave for the field. We currently have 54% of our needed support, and we look to leave for the field later this year or early next year.

Thank you all for your prayer, and support.

The Benson Family