

Newsletter #11 – July 7, 2014

Well the summer has just begun and already I am missing the students who have graduated and left the country. It is sad to think that I will probably never see them again, they have gone on to college or the work force, and many of them have plans in place to spread the Gospel in their home countries. Graduation was bittersweet. The students, parents, and staff attended an intimate banquet after graduation where tears and laughter were abundant as all the staff members at Rain Forest International School sang a song to the students, and the students were awarded the opportunity to grab a microphone and publicly thank their staff and teachers. Many tears were shed and laughter was abundant as stories were shared and more memories were made. Most of the graduates have left the country to pursue their God given dreams. I pray for them as often as I think of them.

I am spending my summer tutoring some children in math and reading. I am spending the remainder of my time getting ready for the next school year. As I mentioned in my previous newsletter I'm taking on many new responsibilities. I will be teaching a performance arts class and acting as class advisor to 7th and 8th grade, starting an American Sign Language club that will meet after school, helping out with the Drama Evangelism team, leading a "small group" (topical bible study) once a week, and I will be the newly appointed Director of Discipline. As a performance arts teacher to 7th and 8th grade I will be teaching the basics of performance, including fun aspects like stage makeup, combat, diction, improvisation, among other things. We will be putting on many productions and performing them for the student body during some of our weekly chapel services. As class advisor to 7th and 8th graders I will be involved in weekly meetings to help the children plan fundraisers and community service projects. Some of the students have expressed an interest in American Sign Language so I will be organizing a club that will meet once a week after school to learn ASL. I have been asked to help out with the Drama Evangelism, a team comprised of mostly students and some staff members who go out to villages to perform skits and witness to the people there. I've been told that some of the people they have ministered to have never before heard of Jesus! For the small group we will begin meeting once a week, after the school year has started, to study the Bible and discuss the topic we will focus on (which will be determined after our first meeting). As the Director of Discipline I will be in charge of overseeing the disciplinary actions of those students who have broken rules or become unruly. I will be coordinating detentions, and doling out disciplines whenever necessary. I have been given fairly broad discretion when it comes to correcting the behavior of students. Rain Forest International school is an institution that seeks to produce strong men and women of God; when a child's behavior is out of line with the Word of God we work closely with the parents to determine a corrective measure that will build the student's character while teaching them the consequences of negative actions.

Time has already flown by, teachers are expected back at the end of this month to begin preparing for the first day of school on August 5. I have a lot to do between now and then, because I am also working in partnership with a group of Cameroonians who have started a puppet ministry and asked for my assistance in getting it going. Communication and transportation are unreliable here so it is always a task getting anything like this started. Occasionally there is only one road to a village, and sometimes roads are closed without warning. You could get half way to your destination before you realize it's not possible to get there. Not to mention the constant police stops, where they check your vehicle to make sure you meet the requirements and also check any foreigners (like me) to make sure we have the proper paperwork. Of course, police corruption is a problem here so if you catch one of them on a bad day he may find something wrong and fine you anyway.

To the side is a picture of me with some of my fellow missionaries, taken at the church I attend here. Dirt floors and wooden benches, filled with some of the kindest people you will find! Pictured with me are my friends Kay (left), and Mary (middle).



Prayer Requests:

- * For the puppet ministry to grow and for God to continue to remove obstacles
- * Safety when traveling
- * My church here in Yaoundé is doing some fundraising for upkeep and construction of the building, please pray that funds will come in for this so that we can continue to meet and worship God in a safe and well-constructed building
- * That I will find time to rest and relax before the busyness of the next school year

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Cards and letters can be mailed to:

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For anything other than cards or letters please contact me.

If you wish to make a donation to my ministry please [click here](#) and follow the simple instructions.

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“How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

Romans 10:14,15

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