

Newsletter #8 – April 1, 2014

Well, April marks six months for me here in Cameroon. I've done a lot of growing and learning. I came here to take on the role of recruiting other missionaries from Wycliffe Associates. Soon after I got here I became involved in many other activities such as teaching arts and crafts at the elementary school, co-leading a Bible club for the local kids, and volunteering my time out at Rain Forest International School.

Recruiting from right here in Cameroon has proven to be very difficult because technology is so very, very far behind. After six months of trying new ideas and, supposedly, better services to no avail, I was pleased to be offered the position of Learning Support Specialist at Rain Forest International School! Rain Forest International School (RFIS) is a school for 7th – 12th grade students of missionaries. It is a very multicultural school with students from across the globe coming to get a first class education. RFIS is not a boarding school, however there are currently two hostels serving the needs of students. The hostels are located adjacent to the campus and students are taken care of by wonderful husband and wife teams who have joined the ministry to be “mom and dad” to the many students whose parents are working in dangerous and remote areas of the world. I continue to work as a full-time self-supporting missionary under the Wycliffe Associates umbrella. None of the teachers are paid by the school and I will continue to rely entirely upon the support of my “ministry family” as I have since coming to Cameroon.

As Learning Support Specialist I will be able to make good use of my degree in Special Education by assisting students with special needs at RFIS. I will work to make sure that students needs are met in the classrooms and will be assisting teachers to help ensure that each student reaches his or her full potential. I will be responsible for reviewing the Individual Education Plans (IEPs) of the students and making revisions when necessary. I will also be working with students who require one on one attention. This is a full time job that will keep me very busy. Monday through Friday I will be leaving my apartment at 6:30am and usually returning about 5pm. It is a 20 minute ride by van to the school, along a mostly dirt road, with big potholes to be dodged. Some of you who are (or have been) teachers will understand the amount of time that goes into this job! RFIS is a fascinating organization and they are always looking for teachers if you are interested!

I continue to co-lead the bible club for local children. We will soon begin learning about creation and some folks from right here in Cameroon have donated teaching materials for us. If you, or your organization, have any leftover bible study materials you would like to donate to a worthy cause, please send me an email. My contact information is below. You can have materials mailed to a U.S. address where someone who is planning to come here can carry it with them, instead of having to pay for shipping.

The rainy season is in full swing here, yet again. It rains every day, and with no dryers to dry our clothes I have had to invest in an indoor drying rack. The rain comes on pretty quick so I have to make a mad dash out to the clothes line before my clothes are soaked again. And with the rainy season come more frequent electricity outages, as well as the occasional “brown out” where the electricity is just barely strong enough to keep appliances going. There are more mosquitos now too. In fact, a friend of mine is suffering with malaria as I write you. Not to worry though, she is taking the treatment and she'll be on her feet again in a day or two. I had my own scare with malaria a couple of weeks ago. I woke up in the middle of the night with a fever and chills and felt like I had the flu. The malaria test came back negative though and the symptoms were gone within 24 hours, so whatever it was went away.

Many people feel called to the mission field but never go because they have a child that requires special education. Organized education of missionary kids is still new and in many areas homeschool is still the only option. But, that means that one of the parents cannot give their time and talents on the mission field because they are responsible for their children's education. With the innovation of schools for missionary kids, parents are free to work on spreading the Gospel. However, there is still a lack of qualified professionals to meet the needs of children who do not thrive with traditional education. My heart aches for those children. The mission field can offer so much to a child who struggles. I have fond memories of being on the field with my parents. These are memories that I cherish. It hurts me to know that those memories are often denied to children with special needs. Perhaps, by God working through me and other special education teachers on the field, we can change that! As I was praying about this new position I came across the following Bible verses. I'd like to share them with you.

John 9:1-3 – As Jesus was walking along he saw a man who had been blind from birth. “Rabbi,” his disciples asked him, “why was this man born blind? Was it because of his own sins or his parents’ sins?” “It was not because of his sins or his parents’ sins,” Jesus answered. “This happened so the power of God could be seen in him...”

Luke 14:12-14 – Then he turned to his host. “When you put on a luncheon or a banquet,” he said, “don’t invite your friends, brothers, relatives, and rich neighbors. For they will invite you back, and that will be your only reward. Instead, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. Then at the resurrection of the righteous, God will reward you for inviting those who could not repay you.”

Doesn’t THAT give us all something to think about!

Prayer Requests:

Pray for my new position, that God would use me to touch the lives of my students, and that I will fit in well among the other teachers and staff members.

For my continued health in a third world country.

Continued political stability in Cameroon

Praises:

I can use my degree in special education on the mission field!

I love hearing from you, it is such a blessing to receive emails, cards, and letters!

Contact Information:

Mailing address (if you wish to send something other than cards or letters please let me know)

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Packages:

Please contact me.

To make a tax deductible 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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EVERY VERSE. EVERY TONGUE. EVERY HEART.

