

The Williams Family - Harvest Baptist Missions

Ministry Update / Prayer Letter - Togo Trip

November 2018

Dear Praying Friends,

Hebrews 6:10 "For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister."

On this day after Thanksgiving, having returned from our trip to Togo earlier this week, I find that I have so much to be thankful for.

The duration of our visit to Togo could best be described in one word - BUSY. From the moment we arrived, we hit the ground running and didn't stop until we boarded our airplane for our return trip home. David and Justine Laodima kept us busy - real busy! You see, God is doing so many incredible things in Togo - and they wanted us to see and experience as much of it as possible - so we kept busy. We traveled to each of the four borders of the country and many points in between.

We arrived late on a Friday evening and began a marriage conference at Savior Baptist Church in Lome early the next morning. There were about 220 in attendance that day as Kris and I taught on "*Developing Oneness in Marriage*" and "*Ministering to Your Spouse*." The next morning began a country-wide tour of the nine church plants that are in various stages of growth, moving towards full autonomy. In each of the churches, I shared messages centered around the idea of



Marriage Conference at Savior BC

"*Having a Proper Biblical Response (Attitude) During Times of Trial, Suffering, and Difficulty.*" The Lord blessed the teaching and many folks were helped by this practical series. Kris and Abbey were also able to minister in song in each of these churches as well. It was very interesting to see how these churches were maturing through the leadership of Bro. David's church planting leadership team, while remaining individually unique as the body God has designed them to be.

Later in the week, we returned to Lome to conduct training sessions with the church leadership teams. A number of topics / questions were addressed during these sessions. Kris taught the wives on "*Being an Encouragement to Your Husband in Ministry*." In a combined session, we were able to teach on the basics of biblical counseling, encouraging each of these men and women to maximize their

"counseling" opportunities as people regularly bring their problems to them for assistance / direction / help. Truly, God's Word is sufficient for all matters of life and godliness.

Saturday was a BIG day for the Laodimas and their leadership team. Their anchor church, Savior Baptist Church, had a celebratory service as they became a fully autonomous church. A joyful five hour service took place on Saturday morning with many choirs from each of the mission churches singing as well as many excellent testimonies. I had the privilege of sharing a message entitled, "*How to be a Good Church Member.*" I truly believe that God was honored and pleased by the events that took place that day.



Preaching at one of the Mission churches

The following day continued and concluded our mission church tour with the final two services. Again, God blessed and we were so encouraged. From the final service, we headed back to change and then to the airport - and just like that, our trip to Togo was finished. As we left, we left FULL - full of blessings and amazing experiences, full of encouragement, full of renewed friendships, and full of tiredness (but somehow still amazingly refreshed).



Saying Goodbye at the Lome Airport

As I reflect back on this trip, I am so excited about all that the Lord is doing in this small African country. I have said on many occasions that I know of no better missionary investment that the David and Justine Laodima family in Togo, West Africa. I don't say that as a slight to many of the other truly wonderful missionaries that are serving the Lord throughout the world. However, after having visited with the Laodima's in Togo twice now, I stand by that statement. I am truly overwhelmed by all that the Lord is doing there. Bro. David has amazing God-given vision and the accompanying drive to go along with seeing it carried out. His team-based approach to church-planting is in perfect alignment with the New Testament

model and is clearly producing wonderful results. All of the church mission works appear healthy and the Redeemer House orphanage is absolutely amazing. God's good hand of blessing is evident where ever you turn. If your church is looking for an investment in the Great Commission, I give the Laodima family my highest possible recommendation!

Finally, for those who gave



David and Justine Laodima

beyond your own knowledge and wisdom.

To God Be the Glory - Great Things He Hath Done!

financially to make this trip possible - **THANK YOU!** It would have been impossible for us to go on this trip without your sacrificial gifts. For those of you who prayed for our trip - **THANK YOU!** There were so many times when your prayers were so apparent. Bro. David likes to include a Q&A time following each message or teaching session. The questions can be intimidating. But when God's people are praying, its amazing how He can speak truth through you in a way that is greatly

More Sights From Togo, West Africa



Teaching the Leadership Team.



Some of Kris' New Friends



Hope Baptist Church, Dapaong



Kris and Abbey Singing



Leadership Team at Good News Baptist Church



Pastor Raphael and His Family at Good Shepherd Baptist Church



Autonomy Service at Savior Baptist Church

As always, thank you for your constant care for our family.

Have a wonderful Christmas season as we celebrate the greatest gift ever given!

Sincerely,

The Williams Family (Steve, Kris, Corey, & Abbey)

