

The Williams Family - Harvest Baptist Missions



Ministry Update / Prayer Letter - Togo Trip

September 2018

Dear Steve,

Acts 16:9 "And a vision appeared to Paul in the night; There stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed him, saying, Come over into Macedonia, and help us."

For many years, the Laodima family has longed for our return to Togo to help them with their flourishing ministry. Kris and I last visited Togo in 2011 and came back overwhelmed by God's goodness and blessing on the ministry there in this West African country. Ever since, we have planned to return to Togo but have been hindered for various reasons. As many of you may know, it is very costly to travel to this part of the world - expensive airfare, costly shots and travel visas, etc. In the past year, we have delayed this trip twice but it appears that we are ready to move forward again and praying that this trip will quickly become a reality.

As of this writing, Kris, Abbey and I plan on departing Cleveland on November 8th and will return home on the 20th of the month. Please pray with us as we prepare the many teaching lessons that we will be delivering while in Togo as well as additional finances that are still needed (approximately \$2K).

Our objectives for this trip include the following:

- Teach pastors, missionaries and deacons on **BASICS IN BIBLICAL COUNSELING**. This has been a desire of my heart for many years. I am fully committed to the sufficiency of Scripture to deal with all matters pertaining to "life and godliness" (2 Pet. 1:3). I am excited to share what God has been teaching me with those who have been equipped to speak truth into the lives of their fellow Togolese people.



The Laadima Family

- Speak in 7 churches on "MENTAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL ILLNESS. Bro. David has requested that I address this specific topic while I am in Togo. Without question, this is a challenging issue both here in the US and well as abroad. I would certainly appreciate your prayers as I speak on the help that can be found in Jesus.
- Conduct a one day marriage conference for couples from many churches. In 2011, Kris and I had the privilege of conducting a conference that included over 100 couples. Our focus was biblical principles for marriage (principles that trump cultural differences). During the conference this year, we plan to address the intentionality of the marriage relationship (being intentional in our: love, reconciliation, trust, protection, and ministry/service to each other). Our enemy hates godly marriage and always fights against intentional decisions to do it God's way. Again, prayers are appreciated in this endeavor.
- Kris will also be speaking to pastors, missionaries and deacons wives from several of the mission churches on **HELPING THEIR HUSBANDS BE EFFECTIVE IN THE MINISTRY**. Prayers are appreciated as she continues to prepare these lessons.



Togo Missionary Team

Redeemer House during our visit, something she is excited about.

- Visit the ten mission churches and Redeemer House (Orphanage). Since we last visited, several churches have been started in the northern part of Togo, about 150 miles north of Lome. We are excited to see these new works in the more remote portions of the country. Abbey will also be ministering to the orphans at the Redeemer House during our visit, something she is excited about.
- Participate in a **QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS TIME** with David's ministry team. This is always a bit challenging as it's difficult to know what to expect. We certainly lean on the many prayers for us to give solid, biblically-based answers to their inquiries.
- Participate in the dedication and autonomy ceremony Savior Baptist Church in Lome. This will certainly be a celebratory time as this church moves from "mission status" to fully indigenous local church.
- Finally, it is our great desire to **BE AN ENCOURAGEMENT!** Somewhat surprisingly, the Laodima's have received very

few visitors from the US since they've been in Togo. It is our desire to greatly encourage them and all of their co-workers to keep pressing on with the great work that God has led them to invest their lives in.



Savior Baptist Church

The Laodima's recently published a 36-page Comprehensive Update booklet that depicts the amazing work that is being carried out in Togo. If you would like a copy of this document, let me know and I'd be happy to send you one. It will certainly help you better pray for this family - as well as our family - as we minister with them in Togo in just over one month.

Family Update

With the summer coming to an end, everyone is back in their "normal" routines.

Corey is in his senior year at Ohio State. This summer he took the MCAT Medical School entrance exam and has since applied to 16 med schools. He is awaiting the interview process that will start soon. He feels the Lord is leading him to be a pediatric cardio-thoracic surgeon. Please pray for direction as he has some big "next step" decisions to make.

Tyler and Ashli are loving their new home in Oklahoma City. They also recently shared with us that our third grandchild will be arriving early next year - Travis Stephen. We can't wait to meet him.

Abbey has begun her freshman year at First Baptist Christian School and is starting on the varsity volleyball team. She seems to have inherited her brothers' athletic abilities.

Kris continues to lead our church choir and assist in Wednesday Master Clubs. This summer, she celebrated her 25th service anniversary at University Hospitals here in Cleveland. She continues to work as a part time pediatric nurse.



Family Vacation Summer 2018



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