



A Month of Ministry...



Please check out our website and new blog at: <http://www.transformationalministries.com>

Greetings from Cameroon! Our period of adjustment has gone well, and we are all moved into our new Cameroonian home. We have already witnessed a miracle here – all seven of



Enjoying the local attire...

our bags arrived in tact and on the same flight in Yaoundé! We can't say the same for our last flight into the country. We were especially concerned this time because we were asked to bring two boxes of HIV test reagents, which

were also on ice. Any delays or damage would have been a significant loss. It's difficult to get supplies of any sort into the country, and sometimes the best way is to send them with visitors and missionaries on commercial flights.

Our first full day in country was spent negotiating the price of items we would be unable to purchase while in Banyo. There are no Wal-Marts in Cameroon, and basically everything is negotiable. Tiffany had the easier task of pointing out the desired item, and I had the pleasure of doing the "dance of negotiation" with my broken French. Having relatively no idea what the going rate is for most

things, I'm sure we left several happy vendors in the market. I did manage to upset one woman who was trying to sell us some vegetables. Apparently my offer was completely unreasonable based on her use of the word "voleur" (i.e. thief) in her response. There's no better orientation to a country than spending time in the market environment...



and the local cuisine!

WORK IN THE REFUGEE VILLAGE—EASTERN CAMEROON

We have begun work in a small refugee village in Eastern Cameroon where we finished test drilling in preparation for a hand dug well installation. The test drilling is done with a small, hand-operated drill rig to verify the depth to the water table and absence of any obstructions that would hinder digging.



Test drilling in village

The village we are working in consists of approximately 100 Fulbe refugees from the Central African Republic who have been settling at this location for the last seven years.

Tiffany and I have been able to "team up" with this refugee ministry. (continued on Page 2)

Prayer Requests—Pray the Lord will provide...

An end to persecution of Fulbe believers	1
An end to the refugee crisis in Eastern Cameroon	2
Improved language learning ability	3

Prayers Answered

Safe travels into Cameroon and to the villages	1
A laptop for the Banyo hospital pharmacy	2
Direction regarding our future in the ministry	3

Ministry Needs:

- Sponsors for hand-dug well projects estimated at \$4,000-\$5,000 per well
- DVD players for a video ministry with the Jesus film in the local market and hospital
- Monthly supporters as we transition from short-term to career missionaries with the BGC
- Bucket drip irrigation kits and more seeds

WORK IN THE REFUGEE VILLAGE (continued)

While I work with the drilling crew, she is performing health screenings of the village's sick through a "bush clinic". If the likely cause of the illness can be identified, medications are prescribed according to a program established by the Cameroon Baptist Convention Health Board. After only a half day of consultations, she had already seen tape worm, amoebic dysentery, malaria, asthma and multiple cases of "belly bite", as they refer to conditions that cause stomach aches. The



Refugee children watch the drilling

state of some patients is far too severe for treatment or diagnosis in the bush, and they are referred to a facility where they can receive more advanced treatment.

Our work in this village will continue in about a month when we will return to begin a hand dug well and continue health screenings. We have also introduced bucket drip irrigation to the village in an effort to grow the Moringa tree, also known as the "miracle tree" because of its extremely high nutritional value.

This refugee village is very unique in that the inhabitants consider themselves followers of Christ after their Muslim teacher began abandoning more traditional practices and focused more on the "true way" of Jesus. Although they are not Christian, they are hungry for the Word and in need of discipling, which we hope to bring through our presence in the village with transformational development projects and strategic partnering with Fulbe Christians and church planters from other organizations.



Tiffany treats patients at a bush clinic



Teaching about drip irrigation & growing Moringa trees for nutrition

Local Fulbe Believers Baptized

Exciting things are happening among the Fulani, or Fulbe people. The recent baptism of five Fulbe believers bears witness to the hand of God at work in this region. Many seeds have been sown in the Banyo region for over a decade now, and it would appear that the time for harvest may soon be approaching.

An indigenous Fulbe church that is both



Five Fulbe believers baptized

culturally-relevant and biblically-appropriate remains to be established, and intense persecution is still a consequence of public proclamation of faith in Christ.

Please pray God will make a way to overcome these stumbling blocks and a church movement will sweep through the Fulbe villages and towns in Cameroon and beyond.

Partners in Missions with Chad & Tiffany Northington

Ministry Account #**179044**

Yes, I/we want to support Chad & Tiffany in their ministry in [Cameroon, West Africa](#).

- I/We will pledge to contribute a monthly amount. \$25___ \$50___ \$100___ \$200___ Other___
- I/We want to receive their newsletters and updates: ___ via e-mail ___ via US mail.

Name

Street

City State ZIP

E-mail Address

Please Detach Slip and Return with Contribution to:

Baptist General Conference

Attn: Debbie Castic
2002 S Arlington Heights Road.
Arlington Heights, IL 60005
847-228-0200, Ext. 3230
800-323-4215

dcastic@baptistgeneral.org



Chad's Local Ministry with the Banyo Gravity Water System

I became intimately familiar with the Banyo community after what I am calling "The Tap Tour". A member of the water team and myself visited all of the 30+ water taps in town via a 125cc motorcycle. I would have considered the bike a little small for me alone, but we had two grown men on it. I've seen up to four Cameroonians at a time riding on this common mode of transportation. This might seem possible if the roads were smooth and paved, but they're not. In fact, I witnessed two accidents during our tour. One accident involved a gendarme (policeman) dodging a little boy in the road on his 125cc motorcycle. The second accident was an overturned semi truck that had rolled off a bridge unfit for most cars let alone a full-size truck. It had been loaded down with hundreds of

shelled peanut bags. The open trailer had fallen into the river below, where the bystanders were reaping the benefits of being in the right place at the right time as they stuffed whatever they had with runaway peanuts.

As I suspected, the greatest challenges I will face in assisting with the management and maintenance of the water sys-



tem here would not be technical in nature but rather cultural. The first tap stand we visited had been taken offline after I learned that one of the local madmen would attack and destroy it. In this part of Cameroon, and probably many parts of Africa, there are not facilities where the "sanity-challenged" are sent and put on medication like in America. Instead they are often found wandering the city streets or in the market. They tend to be of no danger to the general population and live off the generosity of others. However, it would appear that they can be a danger to inanimate objects like water tap stands...

The next tap visit was even more interesting. A water line had been run to the local prison, so we took off down a long road to the far north of town. When we

reached the tap, we found a lone guard outside a set of large doors leading inside a walled compound. After the usual greetings, we inspected the tap and made note of a small leak. I was then informed that there was another tap inside. Unbeknownst to me, the tap was located right in the middle of the prison. Thinking we're walking into the prison administrative quarters, I suddenly found myself in a small, crowded courtyard surrounded by about 100 prisoners with the only way out locked behind me. I nonchalantly inspected the second water tap in the prison yard trying to mask my fear and hide the cold sweat that was forming as the prisoners closed in around me. My tour guide had failed to inform me that

this would be part of our inspections, and I had no idea what to expect from this unique entourage of water users. I could only think about the same scenario in the U.S., where I probably wouldn't have had this much time to contemplate the situation. To my surprise, I was soon being greeted with a friendly, "Bonjour monsieur" in French, or "Sannu" in Fulfulde. A few brief handshakes and greetings allowed me to work my way back to the door where I breathed a sigh of relief on the other side. Toto definitely wasn't in Kansas anymore!

Every tap we visited was unique in some way or offered its own maintenance challenge. Because it was Friday, many Mus-

"...I was in prison and you came to visit me."

-Matthew 25:36

lim men were returning from the mosque and exchanged greetings as we stopped at each location. Some taps belonged to small communities within the town, while others were property of "big men", as they are called, and were located within their compounds. It was an exciting and intimate way to experience the city life in a Cameroonian community. Next time I'll pass on the prison tour, though...

Tiffany's Ministry in the Hospital

Throughout the first month here in Banyo I have learned to recognize several common illnesses in Cameroon. Some of those common illnesses are malaria, typhoid fever, amoebic dysentery, malnutrition, many types of gastrointestinal parasites and much more. I have been graciously received by the hospital staff, who our teaching me how the hospital functions. I have also participated in assisting the doctor on his rounds at the hospital. Screeners are a major need at Banyo Baptist Hospital.



Tiffany and the hospital staff

A screener is someone who diagnoses and treats patients based on their assessment and history given by the patient. I have been sitting in with the three different screeners to learn some of the basic information they obtain from patients and how they make their inclusive diagnosis. This has also prepared me in knowing how to treat the patients I saw during the bush clinic in the refugee village. God is amazing and has placed Chad and I in a place where our skills can truly be used for his glory!

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*Reaching the Unreached one need
at a time...*

Our Mission

Our mission is to provide for the material, spiritual, and social needs of those who need it most through sustainable, transformational development. The Gospel is the source of lasting transformation and offers a plan for a holistic and integrated approach to community development and world change.



We're on the web!

<http://www.transformationalministries.com>

Other Happenings...

CHAD & TIFFANY GO CAREER...

We're excited to announce that we have begun the transition from short-term missions to career missions with the BGC. This will involve additional training, support and prayers. Our intent is still to return after our first 1-year term for full-time ministry. Our decision was finalized after we were paid a visit by the BGC Director of International Missions, Mr. Steve Doggett, and his wife during their tour of the Cameroon field. We love the team, the organization, the country and the ministry to which God has called us. We appreciate all the prayers and support we have received from those of you in the States as we have continued this journey.

OTHER TRANSFORMATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

We have begun several projects around the house for demonstration of different appropriate technologies and farming

practices, many of which we learned during our stay at Ecofarm and ECHO in



Florida prior to our departure. These include biogas production from manure, bucket drip irrigation, composting, "Farming God's Way", and small scale nursery design. We are hoping the Moringa tree we were introduced to at ECHO will be readily accepted in the Cameroonian diet. It is a fast-growing, highly nutritious tree that is high in Vitamins A, B, and C as well as protein, calcium and iron. All parts of the tree are edible except for the stem, and the leaves have a

taste similar to a popular leafy vegetable found all over Cameroon. Several trees have been started, and we may begin by supplementing the diet of sick children at the hospital with the leaves and leaf powder.

We will begin two community projects next week. One will be an Evangelistic Outreach Center in the Banyo market area. The center will offer video, audio and literature materials focused on the Gospel in several languages, including Fulfulde, Arabic, Pidgin English and French. To avoid potential problems in a Muslim community, the center will also offer other educational materials, such as AIDS brochures and perhaps appropriate technology demonstrations.

The other project we will begin is a small Tilapia pond. Community members will contribute to its construction, and we hope to introduce a hard-to-find commodity to the Banyo market to support local ministries.