



Tooth Tales

A Newsletter of Jack & Jennifer Mitchell

October 2013

Quality healthcare is a big issue in our country as this update is being written. And it is a big issue in many countries because it isn't readily accessible or affordable. These bodies of ours are subject to injury and disease, often changing the future of those with needs into a continuous struggle to gain help. But, because of these very real needs in third world countries, affecting overwhelming amounts of people, God's plan of salvation gains a hearing. This was the case as our small GDMissions team of three traveled to Zambia in Southern Africa in September. Working with GFA missionaries Todd and Kathy Beaman, we held evangelistic dental clinics in three locations in the Mnukwa area of Chipata. There we treated mostly Ngone tribal members. As tribal protocol requires we went first to the Chief's "palace" and gave care to his immediate family members, members of his guard, village members and finally the Chief himself. First we were treated to a welcoming ceremony outside the Chief's "palace." Then we started into the work of alleviating pain from broken and abscessed teeth while our missionary friend addressed the sickness of their souls. The Chief was delighted to see his family and people helped and gave his approval for additional clinics being held and the gospel being shared in Mnukwa.

We moved on to work in the area known as "Big Tree" where we were extremely busy and people had to be turned away at the end of



Jack & Jennifer "in action"

each day. Todd, his coworker Dan and our coworker Bryan Bell were diligent in sharing the gospel with those waiting. One man made a profession of faith and others listened intently for hours. Some followed us to our next location and heard more of how to be saved. This new village, Chijyezo, is the area where the Beaman's want to plant their church and the clinic provided a positive introduction to the people in the area. We experienced a dramatic increase there in the difficulty of the dental problems but twelve people made professions of faith in a village dominated by Jehovah's Witness teaching. We had some people begging for treatment as we packed up and we accommodated as many as we could. We left exhausted but glad that the light had been shown in the deep darkness of paganism and false teaching.

It was that same night that we received a call at 2:00 a.m. that Jack's mom was dying. The doctor had given her a

glowing report before we left but an infection had gone undetected and ultimately overtook her. It was very difficult to not be with her but our son and his wife were and read Scripture and shared the gospel with her in those last hours. We were able to come home a few days early and attend her funeral with Jack sharing the gospel clearly with about a hundred family members and friends at the cemetery.

Our hearts are still heavy with this sudden, unexpected loss. We know that God makes no mistakes though and we hope to see Jack's mom in heaven someday. Now we are trying to leave all of this with the Lord, trusting Him to use His Word in those who heard and turning our attention to preparations for a December trip to Benin, West Africa. We would ask for extra prayer support for our team of seven as they go to an area where Islam is the predominant religion and where there are many desperately sick people. May the Gospel shine in the darkness and our team be kept safely under God's wings.

Sincerely in Christ,

Jack and Jennifer

Jack and Jennifer Mitchell

During our ministry in Benin in December our mission is planning to meet with officials there to finalize plans to secure land that has been donated for the purpose of building a permanent medical/dental clinic there. This is a huge answer to prayer! GDMissions has had this burden to build a clinic in Africa for a number of years now and it's almost hard for us to believe that God is making it possible!

We will be setting up a non-profit organization locally in Benin to administer the clinic and soon we hope to be breaking ground for the start of construction. We would appreciate your prayers concerning the details and funding for this project as we feel we must move quickly in this heavily Muslim area. Realistically, we don't have the available funds to complete this project, but we know our God does and we are fervently praying that He will supply the need in a way that only He can.

You can follow the progress of this project at a new website we have constructed related to this clinic, <http://beninclinic.com/>. We've also set up a "Benin Clinic Fund" at the mission. Please contact us at the mission office if you have any questions. To God be the glory!



Todd sharing the gospel

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