



# Tooth Tales

A Newsletter of Jack & Jennifer Mitchell



January 2018

It's always a challenge to reduce the events and blessings of a two-week ministry trip to a single sheet of paper, but here goes!

We've just returned from Benin, West Africa where our GDM Missions team had the privilege of treating very physically, as well as spiritually, needy patients. We (Jack and Jennifer) had the blessing of working in the fully functional Benin Clinic, or officially in this French speaking country, Centre De Sante Evangelique Baptiste. We were working alongside Dr. Steve and Katrina Boutrus, with part of our responsibility being the training of a Beninese young man, Latifou, from the nearby Boiffo church, and part of the current clinic staff, to be the future dentist there.



Jack Training Latifou



Receiving a Live Chicken as a Gift

In addition to time in the clinic, we went along with the clinic staff as they did follow up medical visits in several local villages with those previously treated at the clinic. In each of these villages, Dr. Steve took the opportunity to share the gospel with all who gathered, and Jack got

to share the gospel, through a translator, with a group of men watching nearby. What a great ministry these "home visits" are! We were warmly welcomed in each place, the gospel was respectfully listened to, and we were sent off with gratitude (and a live chicken in one location!)

We also held three mobile medical/dental clinics in outlying villages and had the opportunity to address some long standing serious dental and medical needs. From Kassa we brought back with us a pregnant woman, needing emergency surgery, so she could be transported to the Christian hospital at Bembarake, 3 hours away. We believe the Lord arranged for her to come to us for a routine exam so her condition could be discovered. We're still praying for her and her unborn child as we haven't as yet heard the outcome.



Dr. Steve Examining a Pregnant Woman

At the village of GounGoun, where two young men have been saved recently as a result of their visits to the Benin clinic,

we were happy to see the gospel proclaimed to the many waiting patients with over a hundred receiving medical or dental care. That day, three men expressed an interest in further Bible study. Follow up will now take place and our prayer is that a church could be planted in this village in the future.



New Believers at GounGoun

In villages like this in Northern Benin, mosques are being built regularly with foreign money, planting the flag of Islam throughout this area. Would you pray with us as we, and the missionaries permanently stationed there, seek to win the lost for Christ using compassionate care? The medical care in these places is substandard or non-existent and the people have such terrible needs. The clinics are a beacon of hope for the sick and the lost.

At the clinic, Jennifer befriended a young girl named Zenabu. She is twelve years old and has been abandoned by her parents because of a terrible long standing leg wound which has not healed. She had been living with an aunt who was forcing her to earn money for her food. While being treated by Dr. Steve at the clinic she sought his help in finding a better place to live. In answer to multiple prayers by God's people, she is now living with a Christian family and is attending the Boiffo church. One by one people are hearing of Jesus through the Benin Clinic, receiving the care they need, and God is changing lives!

Thank you for faithfully praying for us as we were away. There were several challenges along the way, a delayed team member, missing luggage, and minor illnesses within our team, but God was so very faithful! Prayer makes a huge difference!

We are in the States now and will attend a conference in Iowa next week and will report to several churches in the mid-west before leaving the country once again in March when we go off to Guam, Indonesia and Micronesia. We continue to covet your prayers for both physical and spiritual strength!



Jennifer with Zenabu

Sincerely in Christ,

*Jack and Jennifer*

Jack and Jennifer Mitchell

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