

Ohlin Update 4/15/24 "Living on a Hill"

Volunteer Status

In April we shifted to volunteer status with our organization. We are still taking on the cross-cultural ministry projects that come our way from South America and Africa, but are not doing it full time. We will never forget your participation with us in advancing the gospel in Central Africa, West Africa, South Asia and now South America since 1988.

News from Congo

Richard Bokodi continues to train Bayaka Christian leaders to advance the gospel within this people group. He has students from Manfuete at the Dongou training Center. Pastor Jean Claude Nsana at IBM (l'Institut Biblique Missionnaire) in Brazzaville, Congo tells me that they have delayed until later in the year their initiative to equip the believers in the church association to do the work of the Lord. Below is a picture of the building they are putting up for the work of IBM.



Behind the Walls

When I am in TN, I volunteer at a prison and a county jail through an organization called Men of Valor. Our team is able to help inmates that have hit bottom and want to change. Here is a quote I heard on a Gospel in Life podcast, "You don't realize that Jesus is all you need, until Jesus is all you have."

On some weeks we go through the book, "The Key to Your Expected End" by Katie Souza. In chapter 6 she tells of how the nation of Israel fell into idolatry and God disciplined them by sending them into exile. Making an application from Habakkuk 1:5-9 Katie tells inmates, "Would you believe God called the entire judicial system to arrest and imprison you?...Today, God chosen instruments to carry out his plan of captivity are police, federal agents, judges, courts, detention centers and prisons." She tells of how God used incarceration to get her to submit to authority, repent and turn to the Lord. Here are comments from 3 inmates on this perspective.

 T- It sucks being here, but if I was out I would be shooting up dope then dying and going to hell. Here I came to the Lord. If I was in hell I would only wish that I was back in prison.
L- Man broke his own laws to put me in here. I had nothing worse than a traffic violation, but was convicted of a felony. I have not lost my faith, but continue to ask God why.
N- People think, "If I just got out all would be great," but walking out the gate changes nothing. Don't do your time, invest your time.

The latest Adventures in Suburbia post is called "Living on a Hill". Click on this link to read it: <u>https://ohlinupdate.net/</u>

Keep in touch, Paul (for both of us)

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