



JOHN AND PATTY SOMMER

MISSIONARIES IN GHANA, WEST AFRICA

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Dear Praying Friends and Family,

“Today I have been at a village seven miles away... We preached at some length and left a few tracts and Gospels, but I doubt whether more than one person in the place is able to understand what he reads... The truth is, China must be evangelized like other heathen countries, by the Word preached as well as written. So, we need men, more men willing to deny themselves... to live among the people and make the Gospel widely known. “

Hudson Taylor

Two and a half years. This is the time that we have known Auntie Beatrice. She has been attending almost every service at Biblical Baptist Church for much of this time. She has brought her three children faithfully. For the last few months, she has brought a carload of children and several young ladies with her to church each week. She has participated in three full salvation Bible Studies and has had the gospel preached to her by Daniel, Fred, Amanda, Patty, and myself. But finally, this month the light of the Glorious Gospel has shown through and Auntie Bea has become a believer. It has taken literally hundreds of hours and much prayer, but now her soul can rest in the Lord.

As the reader rejoices with us over this report, some might be tempted to ask: “But why does it take so long for some people to believe?” There are complex answers to this question, but I hope to supply a simple one for the readers of this letter. **There are no innocent civilians in spiritual warfare.** Our enemy and great adversary hates all souls, even the ones that he owns. The devil is never content to let the soil of hearts remain fallow. He sows tares, as many as he can. Ignorance and superstition are powerful weeds. They poison minds and make the reception of truth harder to receive. They have a way of choking out the Word. When someone has religious zeal but not according to knowledge, when someone has been lied to from infancy and given a form of Christianity that uses all the same words but changes all their meanings, when one’s concept of God and self are paganism wrapped in choir robes, it is hard for such a person to see himself as lost. *“The whole need not a physician but the sick.”* The living waters of the Gospel have been turned into a muddy pool in Ghana. The Charismatic churches have made murky what was intended to be clean, clear, and refreshing. But God is working.

We tell you this firstly so that we all can rejoice at God’s power to shine truth into a confused heart. Auntie Bea used to attend a Charismatic Church with the local nickname of “the red garment church.” The moniker came about because the men wear long red robes at church and on evangelism. They meet on Saturdays, preaching on the streets on Sundays, and never wears shoes. They say that they are always on ‘holy ground.’ They taught her many falsehoods, but the Indefatigable Spirit was working and drawing. This is one example of why we continually ask that you pray for the Holy Spirit’s work in hearts and lives. But we tell you this secondly so that you can see the truth of Hudson Taylor words above. We need people. People that will live for Christ in Ghana, because confusion and superstition are not defeated in a day. Pray for our current workers and for future workers. Pray for us to let unsaved people into our lives and to invite them to church. Pray for us to sit with the lost patiently and continually as

they work through the chaos and confusion that this world has sown into their hearts. Gospel workers can be discouraged when they labor long, but pray that we will be like Christ: *“The husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain.”* Pray for us to be diligent and patient people. Pray that we will be joined by other laborers that will be faithful servants for our Lord.

Prayer Requests

1) Biblical Baptist Church of Atonsu: please pray for Daniel and Fred as they grow in their leadership roles at the church. 2) The new church plant in Deduako: please pray as we think we have a school room to rent that we can use for our Thursday night Bible Studies and Evangelistic meetings. Also pray for us as we seek God’s will about the location for our future services on Sunday. We are seeking God’s direction to know if we should also have that in Deduako or in an adjacent community. 3) For individuals: please pray for Lilipearl, Loreeta, M’Awurah, and M’adwoa who are all in Salvation Bible studies right now. Please pray for Salamatu and Dynasty who are both in baptism class -- pray for them to have clear understanding of what it means to join a church and follow Christ themselves. 4) For our family: pray for our college-age girls to follow God for themselves. Carey is serving an internship this summer in Maryland and Ella is working in Michigan and learning to drive. Pray for us to faithfully walk with the Lord and have the strength to do all He has given us to do. Pray for some of our relatives in America that are still facing serious health issues and sickness. Pray for their strengthening and encouragement.

In Christ,

John Sommer

Ghana, W. Africa

(THESE ARE SIGN BOARDS FROM AROUND THE CITY THAT WE TOOK PHOTOS OF FOR YOU TO SEE. (I ENCOURAGE YOU TO ZOOM IN AND READ THEM)

