

Dear Friends,

Happy 2025! I hope you all had wonderful Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's celebrations. I spent my holidays with other missionaries and our church family here in the Ivory Coast and enjoyed celebrating with them! I love that I am starting 2025 on the mission field, but first, let me share with you how God worked at the end of 2024.

Praises

The last two months have flown by, and thanks to the prayers and help of so many people I have been able to accomplish much in getting settled here. At the beginning of November, we looked at several houses and apartments, and after discussion and prayer, it was clear which one the Lord was providing. It's a very secure property in a safe neighborhood, in a location that's not too far from the church, the schools, or the university. We were able to get all the paperwork taken care of, and I received the keys November 20.

Then began the process of finding appliances and furniture and other items for the house. The Ivorians have something called Black November (which sort of bleeds into December) in which all the stores offer great deals. It was the perfect time to furnish a home!

Time, nor space, permit me to recount all the adventures that happened as I made purchases and scheduled deliveries and worked with drivers, employees, and customer service. At times it was amusing and at other times it was overwhelming, but it pushed me into using my French and getting comfortable in the culture and it gave me the opportunity to invite people to church, talk about Jesus, and make connections. It also provoked me to thank God over and over for providing and protecting.

I have also continued to work with a French professor online. She has commented on my progress, and I can see my own improvement in comprehension and confidence in speaking. I am nowhere near where I want to be, but I know I continue to progress.

Prayer Requests

Here are some ways you can be praying for me in the coming months. First, I have taken the first steps in obtaining my driving permit and my residency card. I am praying that the paperwork and process for getting these documents will go smoothly.

Second, I am praying for a dependable vehicle. I have an idea of what I would like, but please pray for the Lord's guidance and wisdom as I make this decision. I know He will provide me with exactly what I need.

Third, I am praying that my French understanding and speaking will continue to develop. Working with a teacher online has and will continue to help in the development of my grammar and pronunciation. As I said before, I can see progress, so I know the Lord is answering this prayer one day at a time.

Finally, I have begun mapping out an English curriculum and I am working on finding tests that can help me determine the level of each student. I am praying for wisdom in developing this curriculum and that I will start my first club by the end of January.

As always, I thank God for your prayers as we partner together in fulfilling the Great Commission. I look forward to seeing how God will work in this coming year, and I am praying that your ministries are blessed and that together we will see people saved and lives changed around the world.

Because of Christ,

Kristina Premo