



# Kristina Premo

ASSISTING CHURCH PLANTERS IN THE IVORY COAST

Dear Friends,

Psalm 37:5 says, “Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; And he shall bring it to pass.” In my last prayer letter, I shared how I am learning that things rarely play out as we expect, especially on the mission field, and that has continued to be true in the last two months.

The Monday that the English clubs were supposed to start, with the response that we received, I was expecting a class full of students. Instead, no one came. Tuesday morning brought the same result. I knew the practice exam for oral expression was the next day, and I remembered that when we had visited the school, there were students everywhere just sitting around, hanging out with friends. So I decided to walk over to the school area and find students to work with. I talked with different groups of students briefly, but it still wasn't the result I was hoping for. Then at the last minute, I turned down a different road, and suddenly I heard my name. It was some of the girls from my Saturday club and some of their friends seated at a food stand. They invited me to join them, and I was able to spend about two hours talking with them, practicing English, and ultimately creating relationships. I invited them back to the English clubs as well as to church on Sundays.

If things had gone as I had expected, I would have taught English, but I would have had to find other ways outside of the club to begin creating relationships with the students. As much as I love teaching English, that is not my end goal. My goal is to invest in people, share the gospel, and see people saved and discipled. As I commit this to the Lord, I can trust that He will bring His to pass in His way and in His time.

## **Progress and Praise**

While the weekly clubs did not produce much, I was able to work with one student intensively in preparation for her practice exam for written expression, and she later told me that she thought it went very well. I also continue to work with the girls on Saturday and am thankful for their faithfulness and the relationships I am building with them.

In March, missionary Kristine McLaughlin had an ACCESS team arrive for a medical missions trip in the northeast of Ivory Coast. I was able to go with that team and translate once again. Through that ministry, we saw hundreds of patients, and many people made professions of faith, accepting Christ as their Savior. We were able to give their information to the local church, and they will continue to follow up on these decisions. What a privilege it was to be a part of this outreach!

These last two months also provided me with several speaking opportunities to use French in ministry. I taught my first lesson in the women's Sunday school class, gave my testimony to the young ladies' class, and hosted a luncheon for the young ladies where I also shared a brief devotional. I am still not confident enough to do any of this without having nearly everything I want to say written out, but I can sense my own progress, and I know the more that I push myself and put myself into positions where I have to speak, the more I will continue to progress.

## Prayer Requests

Pray that the Saturday English clubs with the teen girls will continue to go well, and that they will do well on their exam at the end of this month. They take these exams very seriously as it is necessary to pass them in order to continue their education. Furthermore, please pray that I will continue to develop relationships with them. Several girls from the club came to my house for the luncheon. One of the girls is Muslim and another is Catholic. We were able to share the gospel with them during this time, and I am praying for their salvation.

I was able to obtain new material for teaching English courses. I would like to incorporate the material in two ways. First, I am hoping to reconnect with the head of the English department at the university to create a club that can regularly meet on the campus. Second, I would like to start an official course in the evenings that would meet on the church property. Please pray that the door at the university is still open and pray for the logistics of both these opportunities. I am praying for God's direction and wisdom concerning knowing when and how often to meet as well as finding students who will commit to the courses.

A week ago, I found out that the owner of the house that I am renting wants it back for family that is returning to Abidjan. I was served an eviction notice and have three months to find a new place. This was obviously completely unexpected and less than ideal; however, I can rest in knowing that God knows. Please pray that I will be able to find a new place to live as quickly as possible and that the moving process will go smoothly.

Thank you, as always, for your faithful prayers and support. Please know that I am praying for you and your churches as well!

Because of Christ,

*Kristina Premo*



Medical Missions Trip  
in Tanda



Young Ladies Luncheon  
at my house

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