



Kristina Premo

ASSISTING CHURCH PLANTERS IN THE IVORY COAST

Dear Friends,

In my last prayer letter, I quoted Psalm 37:5 which says, “Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.” I have seen the truth of this verse displayed in the events of the last two months. However, I have also been reflecting on the verse that comes just before it. “Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.” (Psalm 37:4) This verse is familiar to most Christians, and it is taught and explained and applied in a variety of contexts. What I have experienced these last few months is that as I have delighted in God and in obeying and serving Him, my desires have aligned with His. Sometimes that meant direct fulfillment of a previous desire and sometimes that meant that my desires changed. Either way, my heart is full because there is nothing greater than delighting in the Lord and seeing Him work. Let me share with you some of what He has done.

Praises and Prayer Requests

I mentioned in my last letter that I had obtained material for teaching English and that I had a desire to offer evening courses. After praying for direction and wisdom, the Lord answered, and I offered two eight-week session courses to the church people and to friends and family they might know who would be interested in learning English. My goal was that these courses be used as a tool for the church members to reach unsaved friends and family. These sessions began in June and will continue until August. So far, these classes are going well, and I am learning a lot as it is really the first time I am consistently teaching English as a second language. **I am praying that God will continue to develop me as a teacher and that I will be able to offer more courses in the future and that these courses will grow in their outreach.**

In addition to these courses, one of the young men who is an English student connected me to a man who runs the English club at the university. We were able to meet and I presented the information on the evening courses and told him I would like to do something similar at the university. He showed much enthusiasm and said it was something we could do at the university as well as the extension campuses throughout Abidjan. However because it was the end of the semester, we settled on only doing once-a-week clubs for now. The first club was attended by about 10 students and 4 of them stayed after to simply chat. I was able to share my testimony and learned that two of the students were Christians as well. We will continue to meet once a week, and **I’m praying the Lord will use me to encourage the students who are Christians and find opportunities to share the gospel with those who are not.**

The English club with the teen girls continued to go well, and they took their exams, and all but one passed! We had a party celebrating the exam being over and the end of the school year. While we will stop meeting for now, **I'm praying that I will be able to continue to invest in these relationships.**

I have started telling missionary stories in the Sunday school classes each week and once again had the opportunity to teach the ladies' Sunday school class. I'm thankful for these opportunities to use French in a more formal context, and **I am praying that I will continue to develop these skills so that I'm less dependent on reading and able to speak more freely and confidently.**

I also mentioned in my last letter that I would have to find a new house. After beginning the search, I realized just how blessed I had been with the house the Lord had provided. While I regularly thanked God for it; I had a new perspective. So I began praying that the owners would change their minds and allow me to stay. **God answered that prayer and I am able to stay in this house!**

Finally, **please pray for the political situation in the Ivory Coast.** This is an election year, and one that could get heated. We are praying that these elections will pass peacefully and that it will not prevent missionaries from serving in the Ivory Coast. With that being said, because of potential issues, including violence, and because the rest of my team are currently on their furloughs, I have been asked by my pastor and by BIMI to step away from the field temporarily. I have been given permission to finish my current session of classes, and then I will return to Paris where I will be using this time to continue advancing my French in an intensive course offered in the fall. It also looks as though the Lord is already opening doors for similar ministry opportunities while I am there.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions, and, as always, thank you for your continued prayer and support. May God use us wherever we are to tell others about Jesus!

Because of Christ,

Kristina Premo



Weekend English club with teen girls



University students of English club



Eight-week English course

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