

Dear Friends,

As you may have noticed, this prayer letter is arriving a month later than regularly scheduled. These last three months have been a whirlwind of activity and emotions, and yet through it all, I have sensed the steady presence and guidance of our good God. "I will praise thee, O LORD, with my whole heart; I will show forth all thy marvelous works." (Psalm 9:1)

## **Praises**

Throughout July and the first two weeks of August, I continued teaching evening courses and working with the university students. The evening courses were really my first time teaching English to French speakers, so it was an excellent learning opportunity and gave me a solid sense of what I can offer in the future. Furthermore, it gave me a better idea of how I can incorporate opportunities to share the gospel. I can't wait to see how God will use me and teaching English to tell others about Jesus. Second, my work with the university students was successful as we enjoyed practicing English with various activities, but more importantly, I was able to have several spiritual conversations with a number of students. I was also able to get the contact information for these students and am continuing my work with them via WhatsApp and Zoom.

In August, while I was busy with teaching, I also had to get everything in order for my departure and the maintenance of my home while I'm away. I thank God for the veteran missionaries who were able to share their wisdom in this as well as for the many church members who have come alongside me to keep things in order while I'm away.

Mid-August, I arrived in Paris where I have been and will continue to be until the end of October. My reasons for being here are two-fold. The first requires a bit of background information. At the beginning of the year, I first contacted my pastor, Pastor Pete Folger, and my missions director, Bro. Eric Bohman, to let them know that God had brought Rémi Casalis, a godly Christian man from France, back into my life. I asked them to pray with me as we sought God's will for our future. As the months passed, our relationship developed, and after much prayer and counsel, we knew that God had truly brought us together. On August 15, he asked me to marry him and I whole-heartedly accepted. We are confident that God is leading us to continue serving in the Ivory Coast and the aspects of the ministry that God has called me to will not change. Rémi also just so happened to be my former French teacher; so to everyone that was praying that I would continue to progress in my French—thank you! God answered our prayers in the most unexpected way.  $\stackrel{\square}{\cup}$  All this to say, because for the last 8 months we have been in a longdistance relationship, I am here to spend time with him, meet his family, prepare for our marriage, and plan our wedding.

The second reason I am here is to take an advanced French course. While being in a relationship with a Frenchman has made me comfortable with conversational French, I have truly had a desire to develop my French so that I may effectively teach the Word of God. As I mentioned in my previous letter, I have had opportunities to teach in the ladies' and the teen girls' Sunday school classes, but I primarily read from my notes and felt restricted by my language abilities. I started the advanced course in September at Alliance Française, and it has pushed me in all the ways that needed. I have given several presentations and have learned a lot about forming arguments and developing my thoughts with better vocabulary. It truly has been exactly what I wanted and needed, and I look forward to continuing to advance.

## **Prayer Requests**

As I mentioned in my last prayer letter, I had to leave the Ivory Coast because of the upcoming elections.

Please pray that the elections will pass peacefully and that there will be political stability in the Ivory Coast. Our heart is to return as soon as possible and continue the work that God has called us to.

As I mentioned, I am continuing my work with the university students online. Please pray for continued opportunities to share the gospel. Unfortunately, Rémi was unable to visit the Ivory Coast because of the elections, and, at this time, it is unclear exactly what his work will be. His heart is for education and his training was in teaching French. Over the last several years he has worked at Les Cedres, where he has served in preparing missionaries going to French-speaking countries. While he would love to continue doing something similar in the Ivory Coast, we are praying that God will give us clear direction on what he will do once we return.

Finally, please pray for us as we prepare for the wedding and for all the administrative details that accompany the marriage as well as preparation for his move to the Ivory Coast. We know that God will continue to guide and provide as He has always done, and we are excited to take these steps of faith together and see God work!

Thank you as always for your prayer and support. I am honored to be partnered with you in reaching the people of the Ivory Coast. Please feel free to contact me with any questions. May we continue to reach the world with the gospel of Jesus Christ!

Because of Christ,



Final English club group!



Engaged!

## **CONTACT INFO**

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