



## July Newsletter

Greetings from Douala and blessings to you! I am thankful to God for the bond we share in Christian unity and particularly for your partnership in this ministry to which God has called me. I thank God that in His mercy He chose to use vessels as weak as we are to shine His great light into the lives of children in Cameroon.

### *Ups and Downs (A Way of Life Here)*

July was another example of the balance that is part of the ministry here in Cameroon as I have come to experience. The awe of seeing God move through the teaching of His word followed by some disappointment and frustration.

Two examples:

First, I had a particularly encouraging five-day training at Bethel Baptist Church Bipele. The Christians' response to the seminar lessons was outstanding. God was at work in an obvious way.

Second, after this excellent experience, the following Sunday, I visited a Pentecostal church to share about CTCC. I had previously been pursued by one of the members of this church to come and talk to their pastor about a possible partnership with their church. After she introduced me to the pastor and church leaders, I was asked to go and present my ministry there on a

particular Sunday. When I attended, I was not acknowledged or invited to share. They forgot that they had asked me to come and share about my ministry. After 6 hours at this church, I was exhausted and frustrated. So, after the service, I approached the pastor and pointed out to him this oversight. He apologized, reaffirmed their intentions for a partnership, and asked me to set a different date for a visit this month (August). What happened at this Pentecostal church shows how often unconcerned churches are about ministry to the children though they give lip service to it.



## July Ministry Highlight

The Parents Awareness Seminar at Bethel Baptist Church was a highlight for me in July. Bethel is a congregation of 400 to 500 people. Most of the Christians are farmers and most of them either only finished a primary education or barely know how to read or understand spoken English. During the training, I was able to use our everyday language (Pidgin-English) to communicate the concepts at least 90% of the time. I believe I got better at conveying the truths in Pidgin-English as the days went by.

At the end of each session, parents and leaders would often testify of their need for change and pray, collectively, in repentance for their failure to disciple their children according to God's call (gospel-centered way). They admitted that the truths were hard to hear because they felt guilt and conviction for needed change in their hearts and homes. After a particular session on how sin affects parenting and particularly disciplining children in the Cameroonian culture, the Pastor and his wife and other leaders confessed that they were particularly moved to repent. On the last day, one grandmother admitted that she failed in the past to live according to God's call to train/disciple her children. She said after this seminar and knowing what God expects of parents she will commit herself to disciple her grandchildren in a gospel-centered way.





## Closing Remarks/Prayer Requests

There is much I could share, but I hope these snippets will do for now. Your prayers and financial support are God's ordained tools in accomplishing His purposes through the teaching and work of CTCC here in Cameroon. Please pray through each request that I give, sincerely seeking God's will to be done in me, through me, and for His glorious purposes in Cameroon. The task is a God-sized task, and all He requires is "mustard-seed-sized faith" and willing hands.

*Here are some ways you can be praying for me:*

- Please pray for me this month as I set up my visit with the Pentecostal church (I think this is one of the worse cases I have seen so far; the need here is enormous). Pray that I will look past the external differences and focus on the task of training faithful parents and children teachers.



- Pray for the Christians/parents at Bethel Baptist that they would seek Christ daily for grace and in their efforts to establish gospel-centered homes. Pray that God would make clear to them and me the next steps moving forward.

- Pray for focus and direction for me as I work on writing projects; particularly the curriculum/devotional for home and church.

- Please continue to pray for safety for me; Douala is a very unsafe place and some days it is easy to be overcome by fear for one's safety.

May the Lord bless and sustain you in your daily walk with him!

In Christ,

Emmanuela