



CHILDREN TREASURING CHRIST
C A M E R O O N

February Newsletter 2021: Praying, planning, and hoping for a fruitful year.

Dear Friend,

With a hopeful heart, I write you this first email of the year 2021. I pray that you and your family are doing well by the grace of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Like me, I know that you looked forward with hope for the new year, especially given the cheerlessness we all experienced or saw in 2020. Not that our hope is found in the change of times or seasons, but we hope in Him who sustains us through different seasons and times and restores us for his name's sake. Ours is a calling filled with hope even when the world's dark days/years seem to promise nothing but gloom. May your spirit and heart be encouraged with these words from Isaiah 60:1-2.

"Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you."

Dreaming, Planning, and Prayers

It feels good to have things moving as usual now in Cameroon. It's a tough time for most families, especially after the wake of Covid19's devastation on the economy. But otherwise, life is back to its normal rhythm but with a few modifications to accommodate living with a virus amongst us.

Lord willing, I plan to forge ahead on that note of normalcy on plans with ministry partners, which I previously could not execute. I have already had meetings with three partner church pastors to prepare for our partnership efforts this year. As I dream and plan for this year's ministry, there are a couple of things worth highlighting and asking for your prayers.

Church Consultations

This year, I will be working with two partner churches to provide consultation and training towards developing a family discipleship ministry in their congregations. This process will entail at least six training sessions with the church's leadership and six reviews/update sessions. Anticipated challenges include resistance from the congregation given that this is new for most churches, and having a fully committed leadership throughout the process.

Field Testing Curriculum

This year, I plan to begin the field test for the first two to three curriculum sections. The testing will entail that the children's teachers at partner churches teach these lessons and assess how I could improve them contextually. Lord willing, in August, I will begin the training with the teachers for this purpose. The central aspect of field-testing training is to help teachers understand how to prepare and teach the curriculum. They will assess the lessons and provide suggestions/thoughts on making the curriculum better for the Cameroonian/African context.

Writing, Training, and Traveling

The background work of writing and creating curricula, though difficult, is necessary to most of what I do. Pray that the Lord will inspire my spirit/mind to develop a Christ-centered and context-appropriate curriculum for consultation training with leadership and teachers and my continued progress on children and parents' curriculum.

Also, I am sure there will be more traveling this year, so I am bracing myself for the task and trusting the Lord for safety at every turn. I plan to add one more partner from around Douala and, Lord willing, start with training in the Western region and my yearly training in Cameroon's Northern part (Garoua).

Prayer Requests

1. Pray with me that God will be pleased to establish my plans and strengthen me for the work this year also, that I will have the wisdom to listen to God's leading if he leads a different way.
2. Pray for continued health and strength.
3. Pray for a clear mind and focus on writing.
4. Pray for discernment with every partner church and their specific needs.
5. Pray for the partner churches with whom I will be mostly working this year, that God will prepare the hearts of the leaders, the teachers, the parents, and the children to receive what he has for them.
6. Pray for God's specific guidance and direction in forming new partnerships this year.

I am dependent on the Lord to do what He has called me to do in Cameroon. The Lord has led me thus far, and He is faithful to guide me all the way. Be encouraged, keep praying, and giving towards reaching the next generation of Cameroonians with the good news of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. So that they may treasure and serve Him above all else.

Blessings to you in Christ!

Emmanuel