

"O God, from my youth, you have taught me, and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds."



CHILDREN TREASURING CHRIST  
C A M E R O O N

Dear Friend,

Greetings to you from Douala! I hope and pray you and your loved ones are all doing well and hopefully enjoying the summer sun and activities of the season. I am doing well most of the time and thankful to God for my health. My main struggle these past months has been sitting and writing on the computer for many hours each day. I try to change what projects I can work on each month or week to keep me from feeling stuck in writing and frustrated with myself in the process.

My prayers, these months, accord with the Psalmist when he cries, "O God, from my youth, you have taught me, and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds. So even to old age and gray hairs, O God, do not forsake me until I proclaim your might to another generation, your power to all those to come." Psalm 71: 17-18

Since February, I have been working on editing and finishing the first three sections of the Sunday school/Home curriculum and creating a consultation for starting a family discipleship ministry with Bethel Baptist here in Douala. There've been many struggles as usual but also many praises. One moment of joy was when I printed the first section of the curriculum, I've been working on for the past couple of years titled, "The Bible: God's Story of Our Salvation- Church Edition."

I started testing the first section of this curriculum at my church (Amazing Grace Baptist Church) last month. I thank God for the possibility of being able to teach these lessons to the children myself. For the past years at this church, certain

deficiencies in these children's Bible knowledge and learning styles inspired my writing the curriculum. It brings me joy to see how much they are learning and it's also good to know how I can improve the curriculum to make it more contextually relevant.

In 95% of churches here in Cameroon, children of different ages, say from 2 to 16 years old, worship in one hall. While creating this curriculum, one of my primary considerations is to make it contextual, mainly by providing one lesson to be taught to children of different ages. I have designed it in such a way as to provide instructions for teachers in the process and help guide them through each section and lesson on how to most effectively teach children of varying ages all together. To help do this, one unique aspect of the curriculum is the "Truths for Young Hearts" box that captures the lesson's main points in simple terms that can be easily taught to or grasped by young ones.

Since the beginning of the year, I've been working with Amazing grace Baptist Church to help set up a functioning children's/family discipleship ministry. It's been a relatively slow process and not what I would prefer. Most of my frustration in this process is the lack of follow-through from leadership, which sometimes reveals a lack of vision and conviction on discipleship of families and children with the gospel. This could be said of just about all the Churches I have interacted with so far. Most days, I struggle with disappointment and feel alone in my efforts to encourage action from the church's leadership. However, I imagine Christ's patience with me, and that spurs me to keep trying.

On the other hand, my plans with Bethel Baptist church (one of the partner churches here in Douala) to start consultation towards setting up a family discipleship ministry have not gone according to plan because of some internal issues with the church's leadership and also because of the pastor's health. It's been hard not to feel discouraged about this delay, but I'm sure at the right time, God will make it possible.

Please pray for me that the Lord will lead, guide, and sustain me. Most days, I feel overwhelmed with discouragement, and I'm not sure if this is normal. Pray that God's grace and strength will be made perfect in my weakness.

Thank you for your partnership with me in ministry. I will love to read from you once

in a while as that encourages me to know I have others walking this road with me even though from afar.

May the grace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ be with you and strengthen you unto every good work.

Your Sister in Christ,

Emmanuela

### Prayer Requests

- Pray that I will desire the word and prayer more daily and not feel trapped by the daily "to-do's" or the discouragement that often lingers close.
- Pray that the Lord will direct my steps and renew my zeal and strength.
- Please pray for God's wisdom and guidance as I consider the possibility of adding on a staff member (more on this in the next letter).
- Finally, pray for insight as I continue the curriculum testing and the teachers who will soon be part of the testing process.



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