

The Shumakers

October-November 2019

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Field Director For Africa
Missionaries in Burkina Faso

Dear Pastor and praying friends,

Terrorism has affected many parts of the world, and Burkina Faso has unfortunately become a hotspot for terrorist attacks. A few years ago the attacks started on police headquarters in small towns and villages. Then, they began to attack schools. Since that time, over 2000 schools were forced to close down. They are saying that over 500,000 people have now been displaced from their homes.



As we watched things deteriorating in much of the country, we discussed how tragedies often open up great opportunities. That great opportunity began with a call from Konaté, a pastor that started a school a few years ago. He told me that due to terrorism, there are many displaced children in his area of town that can't go to school. Their families have left their homes and their livelihood. Some of their parents had even been killed in the fighting. Most of them left with only the clothes on their back and definitely can't afford to go to school.

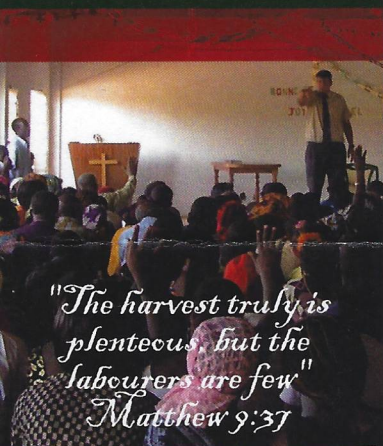
God touched Pastors Konaté's heart, and he didn't want these kids to suffer anymore than they already had. He told me that he was going to figure out a way to help around 100 of them go to school. I asked him how I could help. We built bench/desk sets. By the time they were built, there were over 200 displaced kids that wanted to come to school. We came up with a plan to help each child with a backpack full of school supplies, and we would raise the money for the teachers. After another 2 weeks or so the number of children had multiplied to more than 300. God has supplied most of this present need in the past few weeks.

All of these children come from the North part of the country which is almost totally Muslim. God has given us an opportunity to touch their lives physically but most importantly spiritually. In writing this letter I have one big request. Can you please say a special prayer that many of these children would be saved by the glorious Gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ?

His Servants,

Keith, Rebecca, Emily, Meredith,
Isaac and Caleb Shumaker

The far picture to the right was taken a few weeks ago. All this girl had was a ripped plastic bag and a few supplies. The middle and the right photo are taken the day she received her school supplies. What a smile!



"The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few"
Matthew 9:37

