

The Shumakers

December-January 2020

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Field Director For Africa
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Dear Pastor and praying friends,

What a thrill it is to be able to write back to you from Burkina Faso. Even though the country as a whole has a lot of issues because of terrorism, we feel very safe in the capital city Ouagadougou.

I mentioned a few prayer letters ago about a new church being started. By God's grace, Pastor Nébié has not only started that work, but he has started a second one as well.

I would like to tell you the story of Nébié. Many years ago, while working, he heard some singing coming from a special church meeting. The music and singing touched him, and he decided that he would go to that church on Sunday. He went, but he left empty as the Word of God wasn't preached. After awhile he started going to a Baptist church. He fell under conviction of his sins and was born again. God directed him to Victory Baptist Church lead by Pastor Gilbert in 2012. Through the preaching of Gilbert, Go placed a great desire in Nébié's heart to preach the Word of God. Despite having to work to feed his family and send his kids to school, he was very faithful to our Bible Training Center. He came one week each month for four years. The other three weeks he was faithful studying and being a part of his local church.

While finishing up his biblical studies he began to look at where he might want to start a church. He told me that he didn't want to be in a town that already had churches, but he wanted to work in villages that had no churches. With God's help he found a village called Gado. When he met with the chief and elders of the village, they welcomed Nébié with open arms. They gave 5 acres of land so that a church could be started. Last August they held their first Sunday morning service. God blessed in a tremendous way.

God also brought in a few young men from a neighboring village, about 7 miles away. They asked Nébié to start a church in their village called Bido. Just a few weeks ago Nébié started holding Sunday morning services in both villages. One meets at 8am and the other around 9:30 am.

What a thrill to see a second-generation church begin to start other churches. Pastor Gilbert and Victory Baptist Church have been very active in helping these new churches to be started. They have given their time and their finances.

For the moment, Nébié, is traveling back and forth from where he lives to these new works. He is wanting to move to the village in the near future. Please pray that God would help him with a new moto as his old one is always in a state of disrepair. A new one that is suited for his needs will cost around \$1,300.

His Servants,

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

Photo: Upper right and middle right — Some of the faithful in Gado.
Left : Nébié and I.

