

The Shumakers

March-April 2025

Dear Pastor and praying friends,

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People have asked me many times why the ministry here in West Africa has been successful. Truly, it isn't tough to answer. I could say many things here, but I will leave you with three things: staying on the field, working hard, and discipling men and women. Training men is more than just a need in the life of ministry; it is the most important part of the ministry. The scriptures clearly outline that we are to disciple believers.

Our goal is to mature believers as much as they are willing to go and how far God wants them to go. We have put a great emphasis on discipleship in our local churches. Discipleship takes a lot of effort, time and energy. It can be messy, but the fruit of discipleship is unmatched. There is great joy in watching a young man stand up and preach a powerful Biblical message knowing how God had transformed his life during the past few years.



We also have two Bible Colleges/Training Centers. This year the Lord allowed us to have two different graduations. By God's grace we were able to hold one of the graduations at Base Camp. Over 350 people were present. It was truly an amazing service. Six faithful men graduated. Four of them are pastors, and the other two are very faithful deacons. At the end of April, our 2nd Bible College had their graduation. Even though I wasn't able to attend, it was a blessing to see pictures and hear the report of four men and two ladies graduating.

Thank you to those who have prayed about the need for land in Korsimoro. Praise the Lord for how He met this need. We have been looking, but we haven't been able to find what we wanted at the price we wanted due to lack of local connections. For the moment, we have purchased a small property, including a house, just to get started in the beginning stages of this new church plant. Brother Adama and his pastor Konate have been going to the small town on Saturdays, and they have started evangelism and a kid's club. They have seen around 20 children make professions in Jesus. Regular church services will start soon, and we will pray and trust God to give us the right property to better accommodate our needs at the right price in His timing.

The vision that God has given us for the need of Burkina Faso and West Africa isn't diminishing but only growing. There is so much that needs to be done and can be done. Thousands of villages and small towns are yet to hear, "Jesus Saves." Will you please say a special prayer for us and the ministry as we are going forward? The devil doesn't like what God is doing. When God builds, Satan wants to tear down. God unites us, and the devil wants to divide us.

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

