



Praises & Prayer

Requests:

Please pray for the final release of our container!

Praise God for a peaceful transition of power with the presidential elections.

Pray as I continue to adjust and get settled in, for my family and I to adjust to the separation.

Pray for wisdom and open doors to the work God has for me.

Pray for my health and safety and the health of the children. Malaria is a constant threat.



The children love to read!



Julie Alexander

Missionary to Liberia West Africa

PRAYER LETTER—March 2018



Dear Friends, Family and Ministry Partners,

It's been almost 2 months to the day that I arrived in Liberia. I moved to the ELWUO Orphanage 6 weeks ago and am settling in to life in Liberia. I was able to obtain my residency and re-entry VISAs. I am truly thankful I made the decision to live here at the orphanage. It is truly my heart to build close meaningful relationships with the women and children and to be part of a community. I have found all of those things here. While I am without some of the conveniences we so often take for granted (24-7 power, running water), I am adjusting and truly enjoying it. We are fortunate to have the Water of Life Well right in our yard and "community current" from a local generator which runs 12 hours a day (7 pm to 7 am), Sundays and holidays. My Liberian "immersion" has really helped my understanding of their language (Liberian English) and culture! I am finding that my understanding, especially of the children, is growing and I can have long conversations and understand what they are saying.

The children are just delightful. Like any children, they have their moments and must be constantly reminded to put on their "slippers" (shoes), take their baths and do their chores (I am learning to yell commands like a true Liberian woman), but they are all sweet spirited and very eager to please. Even a short trip off the orphanage is greeted with screams of "Ma Julie, Ma Julie!" upon my return. I now have a line waiting for good morning and good night hugs. Even several of the harder children are more willing and are accepting the affection more readily.

Last month, the children had a semester break from school and I conducted a VBS. I am thankful for the supplies I carried with me, as the container is STILL in the port (it arrived February 12th, and Pastor Gbendah is still wading through Liberian red tape to get it out). The children loved it and I had as many as 28 on one day including the children from the orphanage and a few from the neighborhood. They loved the song time and listened so well to the stories. I used the Child Evangelism Fellowship Wordless Book series. I continue to be blessed to hear them humming and singing the songs we learned and playing the "American" games we learned like Duck-duck-goose and Red Rover (African children play rough!) I think EVERY child responded to the gospel invitation. I have been dealing with them one on one and have three that I believe made true confessions of faith. Others are eager and they are all well grounded in the word by Eleanor, Jus and Sao, but they need a little more time to grasp the truth. Pray for these children. One of the highlights of the VBS was being able to present the children with "My Little Bibles" printed by missionaries Rick & Brenda Osborne. None of these children own a Bible and they were thrilled to get this little book of verses emphasizing Bible truths.

God has confirmed that my burden continues to be literacy. Not only for these children but for the many adults I meet that can not read or read at a very low level. I spend time almost every day "studying" the children and have started introducing them to phonics and phonemes. Their educational system leaves much to be desired and I just pray that in these children we will find the Christian leaders of tomorrow. Young William, one of the children who got saved told me he wants to be a Missionary in Africa. What a blessing! The nationals can travel and reach places no Caucasian missionary ever could. This is the goal of my work here!

Pastor Gbendah has returned and I continue to attend Temple Baptist Church under the preaching of Missionary Ben Reimer. What a blessing he has been. He and his family have been here a little over a year and I am thrilled by his challenging and culturally relevant messages. We are having a meeting this weekend to discuss the church ministry and each of our roles. To begin with, Ben's wife Jackie and I are going to work to start a children's Sunday School and/or Children's Church. Continue to pray for this ministry and for the safe arrival of Pastor Gbendah's family.

Your Servant for Liberia,

Julie Alexander

Psalm 68:5-6