

THE AKUOKOH'S

| MISSIONARIES TO GHANA |

DANIEL & RAQUEL AKUOKOH



Hello Friends,

Thank you all for signing up for our bimonthly prayer letter. We are so blessed to know that so many people pray for us and are just as anxious as we are to see what God will do through us next. Our journey as missionaries to Ghana, West Africa got a tremendous boost this past March as we took our much anticipated survey trip.

We traveled to Ghana on March 6th and spent our entire trip in the city of Kumasi, a city of about 1.5 million people. Though I grew up in Ghana, I felt like I was a tourist during our trip. I know the culture and speak the main tribal language Twi, but a lot has changed in the country since I last visited 15 years ago. I was nervous for my wife before we made the trip because I wasn't sure how welcoming the people would be towards her. To my surprise she was more popular than I was. She made more friends there than I have made in my entire life. She was thrilled with the overall experience and her bubbly personality definitely made the trip more enjoyable for her.

For the first five days of our trip we stayed with a missionary family that has been in country for the last 12 years. They have a church of about 20 members and several Bible and discipleship ministries. I got a chance to go soul winning on a major university campus, where we also held a Bible study with male students who had been recently converted and were looking to grow. A couple days later we were also able to go soul winning on the streets, which were flooded with small markets and people walking around selling everyday necessities (in Ghana, everyone is a businessman or woman). People were literally everywhere and they all want to talk about God, they all have time to sit down and have a conversation. To the Ghanaians, people are more important than time.

Although Ghana is considered a Christian nation, with roughly 75% of the population claiming Christianity, I've never been around a group more clueless about salvation.



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Our missionary host had told us that everyone claims to know Christ but they're completely confused when you ask them what they have to do to gain eternal life. In the United States, when we go soul winning most people don't know what we are going to present to them, so it makes it easy to teach them what they have to do to get saved. In Ghana all the Christians believe that they are saved; they know all the verses you're going to present, they have a church they go to, and they pray and read their Bibles everyday.

We had to be very careful when presenting the gospel and ask a lot of questions just to make sure they are engaged. The people believe in a works based salvation and the television preachers make matters worse because all they teach is that having money means you have blessings from God. It takes at least an hour to lead someone to Christ because they have to first understand that they are lost, then see they are in need of a Savior. Ghana is always bright and sunny, but spiritually speaking the country is dark. It's a great challenge, nevertheless we were and still are very excited to take on the challenge.

After leaving the first missionary family we were able to join a missions team of six families on the other side of the city. They've built a huge work over the last 15 years, running a church of about 500, having a Christian school, a Bible college, a deaf ministry, and more. I got an opportunity to preach on their radio station ministry and in their college chapel. My wife and I also got to sing a special during their Sunday evening service. When we went soul winning with the different team members my wife was able to lead three young men to the Lord. Getting to see someone grasp the gospel was so fulfilling; you could see the light bulb turn on in their head. It's evident that God is working in the lives of many men, women, and children through the various ministries.

Overall, our trip was very fruitful. I have many relatives in the country and a some of them came to visit us. My uncle, on my mothers side, got saved during one of those visits, so it made the trip even more meaningful to us. We flew back on March 16th and arrived in the States on the 17th.

Our next step is to officially begin the deputation process, but this time that our nation, our entire planet, is going through right now has been a bit of an obstacle for us. Please continue to pray for God to open doors for us. We will also be keep you all in our prayers.

With much gratitude,

Daniel Akuokoh

