



Project REDEMPTION

'Sharing hope in the French Speaking World'

To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me. Acts 26: 18

Bonjour!

December 11, 2014

One of the challenging aspects of cross-cultural ministry is the realization that you can't always get an explanation for why things don't function the way you expect them to. Some things just can't be 'fixed'. You have to find another way.

Recently, Project Redemption church planter Damien Owona, a Cameroonian serving in Northern Gabon, was unable to pick up his support from the local Western Union office because of a network failure across his region. I contacted Western Union and, 'from where they sat', it all looked fine. I laughed out loud when the representative named several places that Damien might go to try to collect his funds – places that were at least a day's journey away – and impossible for other reasons. The WU representative could not possibly understand just how impractical her suggestions were.

When nearly a month passed with no change to the situation, his house rent late, school tuition unpaid, and no money to buy necessities, Damien had to make a trip back into Cameroon. We canceled the transactions for Gabon and ordered new ones for Cameroon. The travel took him several days, but, thank God, was successful. Thanks to everyone who was aware of it and prayed with us. Damien made good use of the travel by taking time to visit family and share Christ with people along the way. Now, he's back at it in Gabon and one wonders what will happen when we try to send his support again early next year. Whatever happens, the gospel is being preached and the Spirit of God is changing lives. Damien often says, 'God is in control.' Usually he says this when I ask him a question that can't be answered and other times when things just go exactly the opposite of what we would like to see. And he's quite right.

Over these past 8 years, enough has gone wrong and enough plans have fallen through to cause any vision to evaporate. But no evaporation has occurred because this isn't our work but that of the Lord through us. God has used the successes, the set-backs, the changes, and the daily plodding forward to accomplish what we could hardly have imagined – all for His honor and glory. His name is to be praised!

As we approach the end of 2014, please know that the Bile family, the Owona family, and the Gostlin's thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your fellowship in the work of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Sincerely,

Mark Gostlin



SUPPORT ADDRESS

Beacon International Baptist Mission (BIBM)
PO Box 5907 • Johnson City, TN 37602-5907
423.928.5759 • www.beaconibm.com

SENDING CHURCH

Bethlehem Baptist Church
678 W. Main St., PO Box 41
Henderson, TN 38340