

Prayer and Praise - November 23, 2022

Guinea: Missionaries Tom and Sherry Moore shared: "We have so much to be thankful for this year! We are thankful that we got to celebrate our 50th anniversary! We are thankful for the children in our villages in Guinea and that we have been able to stay in touch with some of them on a regular basis. We are thankful they love the Lord, and we pray continued protection over them. We are thankful for each of you who continue to pray for us, for the Lord's work in Guinea and for those who support His work reaching Muslims for Jesus!"

Papua New Guinea: Former Field Director Poi Eka asks us to pray for Felix Wabati, nine-year-old son of his church assistant, Pastor Roger Wabati. Felix was rushed to the hospital's emergency room after being hit by a passenger bus on Saturday, November 19. Please pray for his sustaining strength and recovery. He was discharged from the hospital that same night and has pain all through his body. They praise God that Felix had no broken bones even though the accident was bad. Brother Poi Eka also asks prayer for his own health. He went to his doctor on Monday for a checkup as he is experiencing breathing difficulties.

Thailand: Missionaries Mike and Dara Rasavanh wish you all Happy Thanksgiving from Thailand! They share: "We are thankful to have the opportunity to serve God under Open Bible Global Missions. This is our fifth Thanksgiving in Thailand. Thai Christians don't celebrate Thanksgiving, but we have been holding a Thanksgiving luncheon at the church and teaching the people about the event. It's been hard to be far away from our family during the holidays, but we are thankful for them and keep them close at heart through our daily prayers. We also thank our friends and supporters who are always praying for us and often checking on us. We're so thankful for all the exciting things that God is doing here in Thailand and Southeast Asia, and we are anticipating greater things to come."

Sierra Leone: Field Director Milton Godwin shared: "The youth at Allen Town Open Bible Standard Church celebrated their annual thanksgiving service. They rejoiced and had a blessed and fun time during their celebration."

"We are preparing for our annual combined service to be held on Sunday, November 27, at the Open Bible Standard Church Congo Town, and we will welcome and recognize new pastors into the fellowship. The church will give out credentials to those who have been ordained as full pastors and ministers. This gives us the opportunity to launch the three new churches we recently began planting. I have relocated to the Freetown Peninsular city and will be pastoring the church there. We will also officially commission Pastor Francis John for the new work at Bo City, the second largest city of Sierra Leone. Please pray for God's blessings upon the combined service and His provision to buy property for the three new churches and the secondary school at Congo Town."

Liberia: Drew and Jessica Welch shared: "Happy Thanksgiving to our friends and family! Last week we arrived back in the United States to be reunited with our two oldest children, Ian and Kayla. It was a long three months apart from our children, but our ministry was fruitful in Liberia. We thank God for the Legacy Learning Center (literacy program), Open Bible Academy (school), and Open Bible Fellowship (church plant) that the Lord has helped us to establish in the last year. None of this would have been possible without your prayers and financial support. Relationships in the community are going deep and we are trusting God for deliverance and healing for the people in the Marshall area. This Thanksgiving we are reminded that God is worthy of all the praise!"

Romania: Field Director Simion Hosu shared that last Monday he had surgery in Cluj to remove an 8 cm adenoma from the right adrenal gland and he will also have mesh placed on his abdomen for an older abdominal hernia. Please pray this surgery for Pastor Simi goes well and that the Lord will completely restore his health.

Trinidad and Tobago: Missionaries Mike and Pam Lumbard share: "We are so thankful for the nation of Trinidad and Tobago! We have lived here since 2010 and are grateful for the people, the culture, and the love that has grown through the years. Trinidad does not celebrate American Thanksgiving, but they celebrate 'Thanksgiving' throughout the year. It may be a new job, high marks in school, good health, or simply a grateful heart for all that God has done. This approach to being thankful all year long has taught us a lot about being grateful. We have introduced American Thanksgiving to our Trinidadian friends. They love getting together with us for a traditional meal. Some years it is a small gathering and other years it has been as many as 65 people! Thank you, Trinidad, for teaching us to be thankful and grateful all year long!"

Cambodia: Missionaries-at-Large Roger and Connie Cox share: "We are so very thankful for each gift and every prayer that has been given as we minister in Cambodia. There are amazing things that are happening in Cambodia, and we are in AWE of what the Lord is doing. During our trip in early November, we witnessed the spiritual growth in the young leadership at Lifesong. They continue to grow deeper in their relationship with the Lord even though they are facing trials from family and friends because of their stand for Jesus."

"Ly and Sarin Mak continue to provide opportunity for the villagers to hear about Jesus, learn English, and expand the ministry of Lifesong. Lifesong will be starting a Christian school that is authorized and recognized by the Cambodian Department of Education. The start date is scheduled for January 2023. They will meet government requirements and will also be able to include biblical truths to the children. Another big praise is that INSTE is now in the process of being translated into Cambodia's language, Khmer. I reached out to Pastor Kao, who leads a Cambodian church, and asked if he knew of anyone capable of translating the material. He immediately said, 'Yes I know of someone.' Within the hour Pastor Kao contacted Putthy Ly, who in turn contacted me, and I began the process with the INSTE office. The INSTE translation is now being started with a goal of completing the first book in May 2023. We still need to raise funds and we are confident that God will provide. We will be returning to Cambodia in early March 2023. We appreciate your prayers and would love for our brothers and sisters in Christ to see what the Lord is doing in Cambodia."

Tijuana: Missionaries Travis and Heather Hunsaker shared: "Thanksgiving is not celebrated much here in Mexico, unless people have spent significant time living in the United States. In most cases it is a normal workday. We do want to send a big thank you to all the short-term mission teams and pastors in Open Bible who support our work at Puente de Amistad! We are very grateful for all the love and support we have received from the Open Bible family throughout the years serving the people of Tijuana. We thank and give praise to God for our family in Christ."

West Africa: Andy and Nancy Wagler shared: "We thank the Lord for you and your support! We praise God for a good visit with national pastors that was held last week in North Africa. They are encouraged by the Arabic INSTE course for discipling believers. We wish everyone a blessed Thanksgiving!"

Ukraine: Missionary Tammy Swailes is very thankful to be back with her family in Zhitomir, Ukraine. Even though they have faced many challenges and hardships because of the war there, they also are grateful for the Lord's protection and provision. She said, "It is in times like these the love you feel for each other grows deeper and becomes more pronounced." As Jesus said "Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid" (John 14:27, NKJV).

"Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him! "
Psalm 34:8

We are announcing our Global Harvest offering for 2023, Rejuvenate 2023!! To find out more and learn how you can participate in this special offering, go to: https://www.openbible.org/Rejuvenate23