



GLOBALMISSIONS
of Open Bible Churches

GLOBAL IMPACT



Reading God's Word

*By Drew and Jessica Welch,
Missionaries to Liberia*

*"So then faith comes by hearing,
and hearing by the word of God."*

Romans 10:17, NKJV

We approached initial opening of the Legacy Learning Center with many uncertainties, but as we stepped out in obedient faith, God has prospered this ministry. Currently, Legacy is in its third year, and many have learned to read and grown closer to Christ.

In our first year, our newly hired Liberian teachers were unsure of the vision and approach to literacy they were asked to support. The curriculum was designed for daily individualized reading lessons taught by a reading coach with the main homeroom serving to reinforce concepts. All students were tested before lesson one and again at lesson fifty. When our teachers saw the growth of the students, they were surprised. Now the teachers were enthusiastic, and we saw a new passion in their teaching. At that moment, we knew that God's vision would come true: to see people from an illiterate community read the Bible themselves.



Jeremiah

To our surprise, not everyone in the community was convinced that our center was teaching, because it did not look or feel like other Liberian schools. Jeremiah, one of our students who loved Legacy, was withdrawn from our center and enrolled in another school by his father Jackson. When we approached Jackson to explain why, he said, "Jeremiah was not learning or receiving graded papers." We explained that Jeremiah was reading wonderfully and that he should come and observe the school for himself. Reluctantly, Jackson walked over and watched the children singing songs, listening to stories, saying letter sounds, receiving private reading lessons, and most importantly, the children were interested and excited to learn. After a few days, Jeremiah returned to class. Jackson later told us that his son refused to return to the other Liberian school.

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Our Global Harvest offering for 2023-24, is to help Acropolis Medical Centre in Trinidad. Please partner with us to help purchase special medical equipment. This will help save lives physically and spiritually. To find out more and learn how you can participate in this special offering, go to: www.openbible.org/LetYourLightShine.

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The community continued to rumble with their criticisms of our non-Liberian traditional school. So, we planned to hold our first Parent Teacher Association (PTA) meeting to inform parents and the community about the program. At the meeting, to our surprise Jackson stood and shared Jeremiah’s excitement for school and all that he was learning. The community was shocked that the primary critic was now standing in support. That day the community members voted Jackson as the PTA president. Jackson surprised us by enrolling in our afternoon class to learn how to read. We thank God for the favor we now enjoy with the community and that God’s Word is being read and lives are being changed by the power of the Gospel!



Jackson

Again, we appreciate and thank God for your partnership in prayers and financial support. Without it, we wouldn’t be able to follow God’s calling to bring the Good News of our Savior, Jesus Christ, to the children in Liberia.

Email: welch@openbible.org

To donate online visit: www.bit.ly/MVPwelch

*To donate by mail for **Drew and Jessica Welch** in Liberia, please send a check to:*

*Global Missions, 2020 Bell Ave, Des Moines, IA 50315, Memo: **Legacy Learning Center***

Missionary Birthdays	&	Anniversaries
January	February	January
3 – Grace Obot	25 – Travis Hunsaker	9 – Bill & Fayth McConnell
4 – Nancy *		
5 – Fayth McConnell	March	March
14 – Tirsia Gaitan	19 – Tammy Swailes	17 – Nelson & Tirsia Gaitan
24 – Ian Welch	20 – Drew Welch	20 – Travis & Heather Hunsaker
17 – Michaela Morgan		
<i>* Last name withheld for safety reasons</i>		