

Alderman Lifeline

Togo, West Africa



February, 2025

Dear Praying Friends,

During this last trip to Togo my time was filled to the brim with teaching and preaching, and moving several building projects along for both churches, and a clinic and a pastor's house. The highlight, however, of my 3 weeks was a special event held in the central region of the country when we ordained Germain into the gospel ministry. The Blitta and Tchaloude churches hosted this milestone which had not been arrived at easily or quickly. Both the Tchaloude church, begun in 1993, and the Blitta church, begun in 2005 as an outreach from Tchaloude, have faced frequent attacks from Satan, yet they have remained faithful.

The ordination ceremony included a time for Germain to give his testimony of salvation and call to the ministry. His story began in 2003 when, according to him, a missionary (me) came to the village to show a film about a man who turned from worshipping voodoo and fetishes to accepting Christ. He glimpsed something he had never heard before but was unable to attend any other film showings. Over the years he thought about what he had seen and heard on the film that evening and had a desire to know more. In the meantime, the Tchaloude church was growing and had a permanent pastor. Ten years later Germain approached the pastor asking him when the missionary was coming back to show another film. At that point the pastor talked with him about salvation and invited him to come to church. After several weeks of attending he realized he did not need to see a film, he just needed to accept Jesus as his Savior. The following year during the rainy season I had the privilege of baptizing this brother in a creek near the church. Germain attached himself as a new believer to the pastor of the church, being willing to serve in any capacity no matter how humble. It was during this time of teaching and encouragement that the Lord gave Germain a desire to serve in the ministry. God has given him a Godly wife, Benjamine, who was also saved in the Tchaloude church, and willingly serves the Lord beside her husband.

I well remember my trip to Tchaloude in 2003 when Germain was first exposed to the gospel. I had Hepatitis A but was unaware of it. I just knew that all I could manage during those days in the village was to lie on a bench and do teaching from that position. It is amazing that God can take our most feeble efforts and turn them to the good for His Glory.

The ordination service was a very special time as Pastor Philippe preached the charge to Germain, and Pastor Abalo and I led the ordination. Our pastors in attendance laid hands on Germain and prayed just as was done in Acts chapter 13 for Barnabas and Saul.

We know that God often uses the unknown, the seeming unimportant of this world to do His work. The Tchaloche church is in a very small village comprised mostly of farmers with very low incomes. Yet this church has been instrumental in helping start three other churches, and now the Lord has called another man into the ministry from their little flock. To God be the Glory!

Because of Him,
Randy and Jeanette Alderman

