



**Kids excited to see this white couple**



**CAO Essien Bible College students**

## **NIGERIA AND CAMEROON 2014** **Dan & Joyce Goodyear**



**Graduating students of the first graduating class of Cameroon Institute of Biblical Studies**



**Outfits as a gift from Eblabor family (L to R: Dan & Joyce, Gwen Goodyear Eblabor, James & Maria Eblabor)**

## PRE-TRIP

It has been a ride getting ready for the trip to Nigeria and Cameroon. There is always more than you can possibly get done in the time planned. The first challenge is getting the elders to agree for Joyce and me to travel to Nigeria. Since the state department relaxed their warnings, the elders finally decided that we could travel to Nigeria. They were concerned about our safety, and we appreciate that. We went back to our travel agent and she worked and worked to get us a good deal, but it looked like it was going to be very expensive. She waited until Tuesday to make the reservation because people often turn back in their bookings and those prices are put out to be sold again. She called and told me the bad news that it was going to be the price she had quoted, but I told her to make the reservation. Making the reservation and paying for it are two different things. I needed the reservation to apply for the visas, which the countries will take even if the flights have not been paid for. She came back the next day and said we needed to pay right now to get a much better price. She had quoted \$1578 and got them for \$1257. She works so hard for me and others of Southwest to get the best price for our mission work. I really hated to purchase them before I got the visas approved, but to save over \$300 per ticket I was willing to do that.

Now I needed to apply for the visas. To apply for the visas, each country is different. For Cameroon, you must download a form and fill it out. One of the requirements for Cameroon is to have a yellow fever shot. That meant Joyce and I had to schedule our overseas shots. Joyce got six and I got four. Total price for the shots was \$1195. The visa cost for Cameroon was \$124 each. Then we had to apply for visas for Nigeria, and it was \$180 each with a processing fee of \$30 each. The visa for Nigeria is applied for online but the system would not allow me to fill out the proper forms. I talked with the agency about how to fill out this form online because my system wouldn't allow me to complete the forms. They said over and over that the challenge with filling this out was on my end of the computer and not their end. I did everything they told me but it still didn't work. Finally, Wendy got another number for me and I started telling the lady the challenge I had and she asked, "Oh, you need support?" I said, "No, that is the problem. I am not getting support." She asked if I had filed a complaint and I said yes. She saw the complaint online and wanted to know if I knew the names of the people I had talked to but I had not written them down. She went through the same process with me that I had already been through, and she said it was working on her end. She said if I would allow her to have my personal information that she would do it for me. I said I need to get this done so I allowed her to do this. Once she got mine done, she asked me to go back to the site and see if I could do Joyce's. I could do Joyce's and finished that. Then we tried to pay for it and again my end would not allow it, so I had to give her my credit card number and she paid for it. She told me to print out the forms that said I had completed the applications and also the form that said I had paid the fees, which tells Nigeria that it had actually been accomplished. I tried to print the forms and it wouldn't do that either so she printed them and scanned them and sent them back to me so I could print them out of my email. What a challenge. I also needed invitation letters from both Nigeria and Cameroon. Cameroon's had to be signed by an official and this took some time.

We were finally able to send our passports and visa applications to Washington DC, so Tonya Ortiz would walk them through for us. She was sure she could accomplish this without paying extra fees for quick turnaround. We got our visas with about two weeks before we departed. I would say it was too close for my comfort. We also had to make flight reservations from Port Harcourt to Douala, Cameroon. This cost \$381 each. We fly from Port Harcourt to Lagos (staying in transit lounge) and then on to Douala.

We also had lessons to prepare. I prepared about six before I began getting the requests. Since I had spent a lot of time on these six, I was surprised when they came back and started asking for other lessons. Prince Ugbe asked for a lesson on "Keeping That Which I Have Committed Unto You," "Discovering my Gift," and "The Glorious Church." James Eblabor asked if I could do an all-day marriage seminar for many coming from all over Yala district. Prince Ituen in Cameroon asked that I

“Introduce 1 and 2 Timothy,” “Do an Exegesis on 1 Timothy 3” and on “Leadership.” Brother Esoh Aaron asked me to teach one of the SIBI courses for the week on “God’s Design for The Christian Home” and test the students after the week. I don’t know what Emmanuel Essien has in mind, but he did not make a request. I finished my last lesson on Monday and we depart on Friday. Joyce also had lessons to prepare. She prepared a lesson on the “Fruit of the Spirit,” Philippians 4, and two lessons on the “Women of the Bible Showing How They Were Involved in Telling About Jesus.”

The other challenge we have is how much equipment we are taking with us. We have five computers (one is mine and four are for them), one extra battery for Betty Ugbe’s computer that she has, 60 solar players with the bible and the 44 courses from SIBI recorded for their growth and teaching, one flash drive with all the printed material from SIBI with a couple of DVDs recorded on it for a new school in Calabar, one camera, 20 Power Bible disks, four communion trays with one lid, 1000 plastic communion cups, three quilts, 810 book markers on the Fruit of the Spirit for Joyce’s class, ten bags of candy, seven tote bags, coloring books and crayons, and books that Joyce will use in her teachings. I am sure I left something out that we are taking. Oh yes, we are taking some clothes. We are allowed two checked bags each, one carry on each, and a computer bag or a purse. Each bag is allowed to weigh 50 pounds. One of the bags weighs 49.6, another 49.4, another 49 and Joyce’s bag weighs 50.6 pounds so we may have to move a book or something out of her bag. Joyce also has for Eracare School a book on teaching English through the Bible (parts of speech and scriptures).

Once the elders gave the okay, we went full bore ahead and were ready to go. Now there is a concern about the safety. The Boko Haram has kidnapped 273 girls, they have bombed a bus depot in Abuja killing 72 and injured over 100 others. They also set a bomb off in Lagos and killed and injured some. So you can imagine how the elders are feeling now about giving us the okay to go. Paul Hinds has been in contact with me almost daily about the dangers, and I have some emergency numbers to call if there are challenges. We are flying into Port Harcourt and not into Abuja or Lagos. We will be about an hour flight from Lagos and 1 ½ hour flight from Abuja. There are some warnings about Akwa Ibom state, but the brethren will protect us as they always do.

I have said all of this to say that these trips don’t just happen but take a lot of work.

## **THE TRIP**

### **May 9 – Friday**

I got up at 4:00 AM so I could do my exercise the morning we left. I didn’t figure I would get it in for Friday any other way. We zipped up all our bags and pray that we get everything through the screening with no problem. Can you imagine taking out five computers for them to be screened. We left the house at 6:40 AM to get to the airport two hours early, since we had so many bags to check and to go through screening. The agent at the Alaska desk was impressed at how close we got each bag to the maximum. I was so thankful that I was an MVP that we didn’t even have to take our shoes off to go through screening. The only thing I had to take out of my pockets was my cell phone. Joyce could not believe how easy it was. We ate breakfast, splitting some French toast and having some coffee. Now the wait to board the airplane.

We were blessed to have the exit row, and it was a great flight. We sat by a man from DC who was very talkative until we got up in the air and then he went right to sleep. He told us not to let them wake him up for a cola. Joyce and I read the study I am teaching at Buea College “Biblical Studies on Discovering Your Family.” We had some great discussion about it. She also read and discussed my presentation that I will teach on “Introduction to 1 and 2 Timothy.”

We arrived on time and got another cart because we had seven bags plus a purse. The bags fell off the cart a number of times because I stacked them so high. This also happened in Portland. We waited on Joyce’s daughter, Nicole, and when she arrived I said there is no way we are going to get all these bags in her tiny vehicle but we did. It was like the clowns in the circus. Carmen (Nicole’s daughter) was in a booster seat and she was lost behind the luggage. It was funny.

When we got to their house, the grandchildren were so happy to see Joyce and just could not get away from her side. It was good to see. We had supper and visited a lot, and then Joyce and I went for a walk in the dark just to stretch a bit before bed because we had done a lot of sitting today. I did wear my support stockings to help me from getting another blood clot. Joyce was bad and didn't wear hers. We are both tired and Nicole's family is tired, so we turned in about 10:00 PM. It was a good day.

### **May 10 – Saturday**

I got up late today and went out for my walk about 6:00 AM. I walked to the Church of Christ building on Leesburg Pike so that we could find it for tomorrow. It was a five-mile walk, so I got my exercise in for the day.

David fixed breakfast and we had waffles and fruit. It was great. Then we planned the day. We went to the farmers market where you could taste a lot of treats. There was an African stand and they were from Ghana. The lady knew where Swedru is, which is where I go in Ghana. We then went to the park and let Carlos and Carmen (Joyce's grandchildren) play for a short time before the children went to swimming lessons. Joyce and I then rode with David's parent to Carlos' soccer game. I rode with them so I could use my GPS on my phone to get us there, since David and Nicole had gone in different directions to take the children to swimming lessons. It was called a "silent game" where the parents could not talk to or encourage the children. They could not talk to the coach or the referee either. I texted my girls and they all said that was impossible. Wow! It was hard to keep quiet when I wanted to encourage the kids but especially when I saw the referee make a wrong call. I made it though. Then we came home and dressed for Carlos' first communion at the Catholic Church. The priest talked about Acts 2 and being baptized for remission of sins and to receive the Holy Spirit. After the ceremony, we went to a pizza place at Carlos' choosing. It was good food. I had a salad, which I know I am not going to get a lot in Africa, and Joyce had a huge tuna sandwich. She brought home half of it. Carlos ate his whole pizza, which really surprised me. We got home about 9 PM and so here I am typing the daily report. I am glad it is a short one. It was a good day for Joyce and me to be with her family and encourage and be encouraged by them. I met David's parents, and we visited a lot. She has Stage 4 lung cancer. Praise God for giving us the time to be with family.

### **May 11 – Sunday**

I got up early to do my walk before church. I had talked to Joyce about walking to church this morning but thought if I don't do my exercise and then we drive, I won't get my exercise. I did exercise for one hour and ten minutes. After I got back, both Joyce and I were ready to walk to church, but David had made pancakes; and since it was Mother's Day, Nicole wanted us to have breakfast with them. We drove their vehicle to church and almost had a wreck. I was in a lane that could go straight or turn. The person to my right wanted to turn left and he was in a straight lane so he came over and almost side swiped me, but praise God that didn't happen.

Church service was good and I met some nice people. We went to bible class and to worship. The bible class was on the Holy Spirit and the sermon was on Ephesians 4. The singing was a little dry because he picked all solemn songs. You could tell he was from the old school of leading songs. We met a lady from Ghana who lived here, a man from Ethiopia who is the local mission's deacon, and the mission deacon who is from Mexico. I talked to a couple of elders and gave them my card in hopes that I can later talk to them about my work in Africa.

We came back to Nicole and David's house in Falls Church, Virginia and there were visitors for Carlos' first communion and for Mother's Day. We had a wonderful Mother's Day with friends and family of David and Nicole. David and Nicole made a wonderful buffet spread of lasagna, salad, couscous, shrimp pasta, frittata, grilled eggplant, berry muffins, asparagus, and multiple desserts. We had carrot cake, brownies, pear pie and really too much to eat. We went with the parents and children to two parks and the library. While at the park, David and I had a great bible conversation while the children played. He said that Catholics do not believe we are saved by grace but by works. He also said

that if you don't do a lot, that is all you are capable of and are still saved by works. I quoted him many scriptures and we especially talked about Ephesians 2:8-10 and 2 Corinthians 5:21. He said they understand that the Old Testament is the Word of God along with the Gospels but that all others after that are like commentaries. I went to 2 Timothy 3:16-17 to say all scripture is God breathed and if you look at what Jesus said in John 17, He says in three places that He gave them the word the Father gave to him and even verse 14 says the world hated them because they were speaking the same thing He was and they hated Jesus. Then we came back and ate again. I couldn't believe that they thought we needed to eat again and both David and Nicole are skinny. We are all tired and look forward to another day with Joyce's family. We will leave Tuesday afternoon.

## **May 12 – Monday**

I got up at 4:45 AM and had already made a decision to go out and exercise for two hours since we ate so much yesterday. The problem is that I kept checking my clock to see how much more time I had to sleep before I got up. It was still dark when I went out but was light by the time I got back. I saw five deer and many rabbits. According to David Ortiz I went ten miles this morning, so I did get some extra in.

We ate breakfast and walked Carlos to school, which is a ½ mile each way so there is another mile. We took Carmen to her preschool and then Nicole took us to the Metro to go to the National Mall in DC. We walked to the Washington Monument, and they were having a ceremony to re-open the monument. We stayed for a while but got tired of the speeches so we went on to the World War II Memorial. I had never seen this monument because it was not completed when I was in DC in the past. We went on to the Vietnam Memorial. I found my two buddies on the wall and saluted them and had a photo pointing to their name on the wall. From there, we walked past the Korean Memorial on our way to see the Martin Luther King, Jr Memorial and Franklin D. Roosevelt Memorial. I had never seen the FDR memorial. It was great and I was impressed with how it went on and on being very large. We walked past the Jefferson Memorial and then back to the Metro to get back to Falls Church. Nicole picked us up at the metro station, and I know Joyce was glad to have that happen. According to the Mall map, the miles that we walked were four, so I got in more exercise. It was great seeing all these things but the only reason we went is because Nicole needed to work without us being there interfering and worrying about us.

I walked with Nicole to pick up Carlos from school. That added another mile to my total exercise for the day. I had a total of 16 miles for the day (it is a good thing I am not old), and Joyce had five for the day since she didn't go with us to pick up Carlos after school. She stayed home and put her feet up on the bed because they were so swollen. I am insisting that she wear the support stockings for the flight. We later went to watch Carlos do his Taekwondo and saw how well he is doing with this sport. David said this has really given him coordination and confidence in himself.

We came back home, and Nicole and David fixed supper while Joyce read to the children. They just hang all over her. She lived with them three years while going through chemo treatment and they had missed her so much. I offered to help David and Nicole but they did not let me. They made patties from sweet potatoes and those were for our sandwiches. I loved it and it was very good. Nicole bought iceberg lettuce just for me so it was nice having crunchy lettuce for supper.

We visited some and then went to bed because all of us were tired from the weekend and also the daily activities. Joyce read a bedtime story to Carlos and Carmen.

## **May 13 – Tuesday**

I got up at 5:00 AM but it was raining, so I put my exercise clothes on and waited until it stopped. I went out at 5:15 AM and exercised until 6:45 AM. According to the markers, I went a little over seven miles, which was good since I won't be able to exercise for a few days. I had breakfast with David, Carlos, and Carmen. Joyce and Nicole were not down yet. It was good to talk with David one

more time before we left. I was able to hug him before he left. He has been so hospitable along with Nicole. They are a great family and I am glad Joyce got to spend Mother's Day with Nicole.

Nicole was willing to do a couple loads of laundry for us so we could leave some there and also have clean things for the trip. We tried to help in many ways, but neither Nicole nor David would allow us to do much.

We walked Carlos to school and got our last hugs from him and then we took Carmen to school and got our last hugs from her. She wanted us to stay but Nicole told her we would be back in a month to see them again.

Nicole insisted that we eat something so we didn't have to buy the expensive food at the airport. We had a sweet potato burger and some chips. I snuck in a very thin slice of pear pie. Nicole was on the phone with her job, and when she came down we went to the airport.

When we arrived there was a very long line and the agents didn't open for another ten minutes. We waited in line for about an hour but then it moved pretty fast. I was watching the agents, and one was weighing the carry-on luggage. I knew we were in trouble if we got her. Both she and another lady came available at the same time, so I rolled our mountain of luggage to her desk and got through without her weighing our carry-on luggage. All of our checked luggage made the weight. Then the next step was to go through security. I asked three TSA agents if we had to take out all of the computers since we had four new ones for the Africans and my personal one. All three said yes. That was a trip and then the hassles of packing it all back in to make sure they were secure. I did it twice to make sure I had every part of the computers. The second time, a nice man came by and told Joyce that she had left her purse. You have to realize that she bought a bright orange one so she wouldn't forget it. She did have her passport, shot record, identification and money in her money pouch. If she would have lost it, she would have been without some medicine.

We got to our gate and had about an hour to relax before we board the plane. I am glad the security went well and we have everything through that we were trying to take.

It was getting close to time to load and the agents kept saying if your bag was too big (ours really were) or are over 8 kilograms (9.6 pounds) (ours definitely were) then you had to check them. We got in line to go on board and some people slipped by with carry-on luggage as big as ours or bigger, so again I was trying to check in with the lady who was letting them slip by; but when I got to her, she said I had to check my bag. I then had a big discussion with them as to why I couldn't check the bags, and they had me show them the computers to prove that what I was saying was correct. Finally, after a long conversation, they said if the crew would let me on with them then okay. We got to the plane and the crew didn't even question the bags. The flight attendant near where we sat sure watched us though. I was glad we got them on and didn't have to check them because they would have been stolen for sure.

We had two seats to ourselves. The plane had a two-four-two seat system so we didn't have to crowd anyone. We watched a movie called "12 Years a Slave." We had our supper during this time and actually had real silverware instead of plastic. The flight attendants were very efficient and it was a great flight.

Joyce and I got about two or three hours in of studying, which was a good thing because for sure I was behind in getting the lessons in my mind. I still have a long way to go to be prepared. We tried to rest for about an hour but it was useless. At least we shut our eyes for an hour. They gave us a muffin and coffee about an hour and a half before we were to land in Germany. Joyce said she was really impressed with the airline. I agreed with her.

## **May 14 – Wednesday**

We landed in Germany on time and didn't have to go through passport control since we were just transit passengers. We walked a long way out of Z concourse and were on our way to B concourse. It was the longest walk I have ever taken in an airport with no transportation. We were lugging around the heavy carry-on luggage, and I noticed we went out of a secure area. We went upstairs then downstairs and then upstairs again after a long walk, and when we got upstairs the second time we had to go

through security. I hated this. I again asked if we had to take the computers all out and they said yes and that they have plenty of scan boxes to put them in. This is the second time we have had to do this. What a pain. Then after we get them, we have to straighten up the carry-on luggage again to make sure everything is secure so the computers will be safe. I hope we don't have to fight getting them on the plane this time like the last time, but it wouldn't surprise me if I had to insist again. So many had their carry-on luggage taken away from them and you could tell they didn't like it.

We were here at breakfast time, so we had some breakfast. It cost \$40.00 including the tip. I knew the Euro was worth more than the dollar but didn't realize that the dollar was that poor against it. We were supposed to be at gate B22, so we were on our way when I saw a Lufthansa service center and asked if my mileage was on my ticket and she assured me it was. She said, "Oh, your gate has changed to B60," so here we go again on a long hike to get to gate 60. We arrived at the gate, and Joyce lay down on the bench and took a little snooze. I took a photo of her to show everyone she knows how to travel. We still have 2 ½ hours before we board for Nigeria. Since we had 5 ½ hours to start with, you can see how long it took us to walk and go through security.

We sat and waited for the boarding time. I studied a little but I was real tired. I tried to charge my cell phone but it wouldn't work so I don't know if I am doing something wrong or not. I will ask Prince Ugbe to help me once we get to Port Harcourt. Everyone began to gather and when it got time for us to board, they made us all go out and come through and check our ticket. The other thing they checked was our carry-on luggage. They said it was too big and too heavy. I talked and talked and talked but they said we could not take it on board. I even asked them if it is stolen will they be responsible for replacing the four new ones. They said they could not make a guarantee like that, and I tried to reason every way I could but they refused. I hate that this will go on the airplane with the other luggage, but all I could do is pray about it. We waited in line to ride a bus out to the airplane and then had to walk up the stairs to get on this big plane. Some people who were told they could not take the bags aboard took off the luggage tags and took them aboard; but because I didn't do that, the lady saw our tag and insisted on taking it. I talked hard to her and she called back to the gate and the gate confirmed that I had to let it go under the plane and not on board. All I could do is trust God to take care of it. Not only was I concerned about them getting stolen but also damaged with other bags packed on top of them. I am glad I left the Styrofoam on the ends of each computer, which will help them be protected.

We took off about ten minutes early because everyone was there, loaded and seated. I was glad to get on the way again. We watched a movie while we had whatever meal it was. I knew they would feed us this meal and one before we landed. In an 8-hour flight, that seems like a lot. I didn't realize that the flight was to Port Harcourt via Lagos. We landed in Lagos and were on the ground but those going on to Port Harcourt stayed on the plane while they refueled. Can you believe for an hour flight, they gave us a sandwich to eat? I didn't eat mine because we had just eaten before we landed in Lagos. We landed in Port Harcourt on time and had to wait for the bus to transport us to a temporary terminal. It was really a tent, which was just to keep us out of the rain. For what they had, they did a good job. The lines were long because Air France had arrived before us. Joyce and I were in the back of the line. They always like the name Goodyear when they look at the passport. They were very friendly. You had to wait in one long line where the man entered your passport number into the computer and then you had to get into another line to wait for them to stamp your passport. After that, we had to go to the shot record line and then on to our luggage. There was a man there to help us find our luggage. He said he would carry it out for \$100, and I said no I would do it myself. He then said \$50 and I said no, and he said the final price is \$40. I knew that was way too much and again I said, "No, I will do it." He finally went down to \$20, and I said okay even though I knew it was way too much. He said with that small amount, I would have to go through customs. I said no problem so they had me open one bag. I chose the one and put it up there and it was the one with the quilts, candy, and shirts all for give away, and they just let me go. He tried telling them I am a missionary but the lady said missionaries bring things in, too. I had no problem with them inspecting everything.

When we got out to the receiving area, I didn't see Prince, James or Emmanuel. But a man called my name, and it was Cliff Jarrell and his wife, Nkurika (Happiness). Her name is hard to pronounce so she said she goes by Happiness. These are the people we will be staying with tonight. He and his wife have 22 boys and 19 girls who they care for. They all call them mom and dad. His first wife died, and he is now married to a Nigerian lady. He has been here 19 years serving the Lord in many ways. We were driving back and he said we would normally go down a road he pointed out but, because it was night, we would go the traffic way which would be safer. The traffic way was very slow because the roads were crammed with traffic and this was 8:00 in the evening. We got to the house about 8:30 after arriving about 6:30 PM. This is the way it is in Africa...you get nowhere fast. As we road back to Cliff and Happiness' house, we talked about people we knew. He had gone to the Sunset School of Missions in the fall of 1978 and we were there in January-May of 1978 before we went to Lesotho. He said he was part of the group that went to the airport and prayed with us before we flew out of Lubbock to Lesotho. What a small world we live in.

Brother Cliff made sure we had a meal. We really didn't need to eat something because we had eaten so much on the plane. They fixed us rice, topping for the rice which they call soup and we would call sauce, chicken, slaw, green beans and corn. Cliff had brought us some blended mango juice, which was so good. I drank too much of it. Then when we were almost done, he brought us some boiled plantain.

After the meal, we met with James, Prince and Emmanuel and it was so great to see them and hug them. We were all smiles. Cliff and Happiness came in, and we discussed how to get to Obudu tomorrow. We all decided we are going to rent a taxi van because that would be easier for an 8-hour trip. I led us in a prayer for the trips and for the blessings that God is giving us to work together. Joyce and I were exhausted, so we went to bed. I just typed a few notes so I could remember what to type the next morning. God is good all the time and all the time God is good.

### **May 15 – Thursday**

It was so good to be able to rest. I got up at 6:00 AM and took a bath at the place we stayed, which had running water and a showerhead. It did not even wake Joyce up. After my bath, I typed on the report waiting for breakfast. We ate about 7:30 AM, and they made a feast which included ham and scrambled eggs. We knew it would be a long trip so we got out the door at 8:00 AM. Brother Cliff and Sister Nkurika took us across town to where the taxis were. They felt bad that they were not going to drive us because they had planned to do that. We got to the taxi stand and hired a taxi to Calabar, which was about halfway. We were going to pay N20,000 (\$120.48) but Brother Cliff insisted that we hire a larger one and even paid the extra N10,000 (\$60.24). It was nice to have the more spacious one. We really appreciated it once we got to Calabar and rented the next one on to Obudu. It cost N18,000 (\$108.43). It was small and we sat very close to each other (as the sweat rolled down). James was scrunched in the backseat with many bags pushing against him. Joyce got back there at first but the brothers would not allow her to sit there. She sat between Prince and me on a middle seat that was just a plank of wood with cloth over it. We spent 12 hours on the road and the last one seemed longer even though it was shorter. We arrived in Obudu at 8:00 PM and were very excited to get out of the car.

The road is like all Africa roads and has severe pot holes all along the way, so much so that it really slows down your driving. The drivers are often on the wrong side of the road and there are other vehicles coming toward you. It is scary at times. We often passed big trucks on corners but the driver drives this everyday and did a great job. Including today, we have travelled (including layover time and transport to the house we stayed in) 36 hours, so we are ready to be in one place for a week.

Along the way, we were stopped by police and the army. They usually waved us through but twice we were stopped and once they wanted to see our passports. There were no challenges but these roadblocks along the way also slowed us down. We saw many different sights along the way and Joyce took many photos of them. Many vehicles were broken down and when they break down, they don't move off the side of the road so that causes more delays. We once had a line of trucks and our driver



drove on the side in the dirt to get past them. I mean about a mile or two of that type of driving. If the driver had not done that, we would still be on the road. Our lunch was boiled corn on the cob and nuts along the way.

We arrived and got unloaded and had a meal almost immediately and then had a devotional with all the students before bed. Joyce took her first bucket bath before we went to bed, and she said her mom called this a spit bath and that is exactly what it is. Praise God He gave us a safe journey and we are now able to have some sleep.

## **May 16 – Friday**

I got up at 4:45 AM and wanted to go exercise but the devotional was at 5:30, so I needed to wait until after the devotional to do my walk. James Eblabor brought the devotional on Luke 5:27-31 and talked about leaving all and following Him.

I did my walk and then took a bucket bath. The challenge with that, once you have done exercise, is getting cooled off which is very hard in this humidity. I was glad to get some exercise in though, since we had been sitting mostly for the last two days during travel. I did my speed walk for about an hour, which is what it takes me at home to do about six miles.

After my bath, I went over my lesson again and brought a lesson on leaving a legacy. We had this time from 9:00-10:30 AM. It was supposed to be until 10:00 to complete all. I went too long on my lesson, but they were very attentive. We then prayed for all the challenges in Nigeria, especially the girls who have been kidnapped by the Boko Haram.

We then had a break, so it was time to give them their computers and they were delighted. I also gave them each a quilt that was made by some sisters at the Hermiston Church of Christ. They were so happy to get them and they are looking forward to more that will be sent by these great sisters. I gave them a big bag that Linda Elliott got from her work that they were going to throw away. I also gave them some brand new shirts that were older years from Camp Yamhill, which were being given away. I gave candy to the children. I also gave them the solar players that SIBI is helping get to many nations. We took a video of the men receiving them so that SIBI can use it to encourage more to give so we can get more and more of these.

We had another devotional at noon and one of the students gave a devotion on John 21, in which Jesus asked Peter, “Do you love me?” His emphasis was on feeding my lambs. He did a great job. After devotional, we had lunch and then I had time to study for my lessons as we were waiting for the board for DMBI to arrive.

Joyce was lying down with her feet propped up because they had swollen so much. I took a picture of this and showed her after she got up. She laughed about it. Prince came in and had me help him with his computer. I know my son-in-law, Richard, and Dennis Guilfoyle will laugh at this, since they have to fix mine all the time. We were able to get it open and operating, and I was also about to install Power Bible on the computer for him since I had purchased these before I left the States.

I spent more time studying until one of the board members arrived, and her name was Rose. She wanted to visit so much and we loved visiting with her. She brought us some special gifts. She brought coffee which was in a package with milk and sugar already in it. The box she brought had 20 packets, and Joyce and I have already drunk five and Emmanuel drank one. It won't take us long to finish this. We were so thankful for her gift. Then in about an hour, she brought in a whole bottle of freshly made mango juice. It was so good and hard to turn down, so I drank a lot of it. She was making good friends and loved to be with them and they loved her being with them. Even with Rose as we sat and visited with her, Joyce and I had a great bible discussion with her about giving and love. Brother Justice Ada (the chairman of the board) arrived, and Brother Prince thought we should eat before we had the evening devotional because he had come a long way. The food was brought but Brother Ada did not want to eat because he doesn't like to eat so late. He said his doctor said it was not good for him to eat late.

Joyce saw a small goat in the morning and looked all day for it so she could take a picture of it. She finally found the goat, and it was for dinner. We had pounded yams, soup (made of melons and

greens) and goat meat. This is the first time that Joyce had eaten this, and she really liked it. The brethren were impressed that both Joyce and I ate this over some other food that had been prepared for us.

We had four devotionals today, and all of them except the last one were given by the students. The last one was from a preacher who supports the school and talked on love. It was a great lesson on how to even love those that don't love us.

Joyce took another bucket bath and this time she asked me to help her wash her hair because long hair is harder to wash than my short hair. We were glad to get her bath so we could go to bed. I will take mine in the morning after my exercise. Again, it is good to be going to sleep and have more rest.

## **May 17 – Saturday**

I have been thankful they ran the generator all night because this allows us to have a fan. I still don't use covers or top sheet because I am so hot. Joyce pulls the top sheet over herself. I don't know how she does it. I did not sleep too well last night because the Assembly of God had an all-night service with music blaring and preaching so loud that you had to listen to it and not sleep while this was going on. I got up at 4:15 AM and was going out to exercise, but Joyce asked me not to go out until it was light. I said I do it all the time when I am in Africa but she was afraid for me. I am going to have Prince talk to her about it so she will know it is safe. I went to the morning devotion and then did my hour of exercise. We were supposed to leave for the Obudu Ranch at 8:00, so I knew I needed to get my bucket bath done and be ready. I was ready by 7:30 AM but the rest were not. We finally got breakfast (bread and eggs) and were waiting on James and Emmanuel so we could take off to the ranch. When James and Emmanuel came in, they said they had been listening to the news, which talked a lot about what the government needs to do to rescue the girls that had been kidnapped. The news said that the US soldiers who came here to train the Nigerian soldiers said the Nigerians were afraid to go against the Boko Haram because they felt like they would die. Then I learned from them that many of the army soldiers are Muslim and so many would not be willing to fight against their fellow Muslims. The brethren believe that the government needs to go in and fight them to get the girls back. It was an interesting discussion.

We left for Obudu Ranch, which is about 30 minutes away. I felt guilty doing something so "touristy," because that is not what I came for, but Joyce said we influenced a lot of people today to see that US citizens were good people. We saw the tram, the house that is bulletproof where the president stays when he goes to the ranch, we saw the convention center, the reception area, the falls where we actually got water bottles filled because it is clean water, and the last thing we saw was the "Mountain," who is an old man of 107 years old. We had photos with him and prayed with him. Actually he prayed for us. We travelled back home but the road is so steep that the brakes heated up and were smoking by the time we got down, so we stopped and the driver put water on the brake rotors to try to cool them down. (I would never do that.) Then we spent time under a shade tree allowing them to cool more. A man who hauled a cow down in a small vehicle passed us while we were waiting for our brakes to cool. I told Emmanuel that our driver just used the brakes too much when it wasn't necessary.

When we got back to Prince's house, Joyce lay down for a bit and I started going over tomorrow's lesson. I went over the lesson twice but it was just too hot to do anymore studying. I felt like my head was frying.

While we were in Obudu Ranch, four students were involved in doing our laundry, so when we got later in the week there would not be as much for them to wash. I paid them N200 each, so it cost us N800 (\$4.82) for their work. They all came in and personally thanked us.

Brother Austin Edi came from Cameroon. He only had enough funds to travel so far, so he had to walk another day to get here. He used to walk for three days to get here for school, and when there was a break from school he would walk three days back so he could teach his village during break. I had a great talk with him about his work. He said he is having trouble growing the church and the

reason is that, before he became a Christian, he was the town drunk. People have a hard time letting those past actions go. There are about 16 adults in the congregation and others have a hard time accepting what he says from the Word of God. He has talked with Brother Prince Ituen who directs the school in Batibo, Cameroon, Cameroon School of Biblical Studies (BCBS) who would like him to come as an instructor, because Prince is the only one instructing right now. I asked him what it would cost him to do this. He said he is a farmer. I asked him how much did he make from farming. He told me farming feeds his family but he also sells some for cash. I asked him how much he makes in a year and he said 80,000 Cameroonian francs (\$160). I was amazed at this. He also barter with his food goods. I asked again what it would cost a month to be an instructor with his family being in Batibo with him. He said 50,000 francs (\$100). I said when we get to Bamenda and Batibo, we will talk with Prince Ituen and I would be willing to commit \$100 per month for one year. Those funds would come from the funds that I raise for Central Africa Sunset International Bible Institute (SIBI), because CSBS is one of the schools I am trying to associate with SIBI. I gave him \$100 so he would be able to travel and also have some for his family. This is from funds that a Southwest couple gave me to help in special situations. I explained to him that this was not from me but from others who shared this love.

I still had a few hours to study for tomorrow before we gathered for singing and praying at 5:00 PM. We were now waiting for one more of the board members to arrive before the meeting at 7:00 PM. I was trying to get on Skype so that one of the board members in Canada could join us in the meeting. I was having so much trouble getting on that I had to text Wendy to help me make it work. This was interesting since I was eight hours ahead of her and she was helping me. This is great that we have this kind of electronics available to work with challenges like this.

Joyce said that I spent a lot of time finding things that she can't seem to find. She said I am a good finder.

Before the board meeting, we had a devotional and actually got the board meeting started at 8:30 PM and ended at 12:45 AM. Most of it was discussing the Constitution for the approval of the school in Nigeria. They are getting close to getting it certified and, because Nigeria knows the school has the funds for this, they are working with the school. We also discussed the funding of the school. These were the main topics of the meeting.

Finally to bed at 1:00 AM. I was ready for sleep, knowing I would be up soon for the morning devotional.

## **May 18 – Sunday**

I got up at 5:00 AM and looked at my lesson a little bit before it was time to go to morning devotional. We sang the song "Sing and Be Happy," and I was laughing because the only ones smiling at that time of morning were the song leader and me. I told them that later. I went back to the room and went over my lesson a bit while Joyce rubbed my feet with lotion. I wanted to do hers because her ankles were so swollen, and I was amazed that she allowed me to do that but she said it helped her. I took my bucket bath to get ready for class and worship. I thought I had plenty of time, yet I heard them singing at 8:15 AM. They sang for 40 minutes before church services started. They actually started the service at 8:55, which was early. It might be a great lesson to take to the Americans to actually be early for services. I had a laugh about that.

After the prayer they had Joyce teach the ladies and one of the instructors taught on Job 1:12-22. He did a great job. After the class, they opened up to the audience for questions. We went 20 minutes answering questions. They had a prayer and a song and I was up teaching. I taught for an hour with no interpreter. I felt bad going so long but they were very attentive through the conclusion of the lesson. After the lesson, we had the giving for the church. We took up the normal contribution and then they had a special contribution for more work to be done on the building. We had the Lord's Supper after that and then had a song and prayer and introductions of all the visitors. After a prayer, we dismissed and everyone greeted everyone. We then formed outside for photos before each going their own way.

The senior class leader brought a sister to talk with me. He represented her and said this was the wife of one of the students who died. I asked him what was he asking of me. He asked if I could help her with some funds. Because it caught me off guard, I felt like I needed to help but didn't know how much at this time. I gave her N2000 (\$12.05) and she almost cried. You can see it is a small amount but it was so much to her. She was so thankful, and I praised God that He allowed me to help her.

I came back to the room to get my coat off because I was soaked with sweat from being in the heat. My undershirt didn't have a dry place on it. My regular shirt was soaked too. The inside of my coat looked like I had dipped it in water. I was glad to get down to my T-shirt.

I received a text from Brother Champion Mugweni and Brother Abednigo Mugweni about how many they had in worship today and if there were baptism. I sent them a text in return.

We don't have anything until 5:00 PM, so I will take the opportunity to study and to rest. I am exhausted because of the heat. Like usual, they always start singing early so you feel like you need to go over and be with them. I am thankful they love to sing. Brother Udofia spoke on fellowship and the importance of it. He talked about some of the silly things that the church does not to have fellowship. He said we are better at disfellowship than we are at fellowship. What I could hear was good but, with generator running, I had a hard time hearing him because he did speak softly. They could all hear him, according to Prince. I am glad that he spoke this lesson because I know he has had challenges with this in the past with some brothers, and it is great to know that he has grown in this. That night, we had a brother there who was a graduate of DMBI and had not been coming to worship. He blamed it on the job, yet it was found out they would let him have time off to come to worship even though he does work on Sunday. He came forward with his family and repented. His wife and son had continued coming to worship even when he didn't come. I believe he was so thankful to have a job that he didn't want to jeopardize losing the job over coming to worship. The church worked with him and the job, and now he is allowed to come.

We finished about 7:30 PM and then they brought us supper of boiled yams with dill and fish. It was tasty, and we enjoyed fellowship with each other as we ate.

When Joyce and I got into bed, we spent a lot of time talking about the day and some of the things she heard in the evening ladies' class from those who responded to questions. She thought I should bring up one to Prince's wife so she could have more teaching. The fan went off for a period of time and I thought it was going to be more miserable than it had been, but I think they just need to put petrol in the generator. Thank God for the day and the sleep we were about to have.

## **May 19 – Monday**

We had devotional as usual at 5:30 AM, but today a preacher from Ogoja was the speaker. He talked about the fields being white for the harvest and we as preachers and members must recognize the harvest and be harvesting. He did a great job. He went longer than most of the students do when they teach. I was a little late getting out on my walk but still got an hour in. I was concerned because Joyce wanted me to get her up by 7:00 AM. I didn't get back until 7:10 AM, so I was glad to see she was already up. She is the test proctor this morning and they start at 8:00 AM. Our classes start at 10:00.

We talked with Brother Emmanuel Essien, and Joyce asked him how Christians in America could help Christian schools so they could stand strong against Boko Haram. He said schools like DMBI and CAO Essien Bible College need to be helped to develop technical training for the students so that they just didn't get bible but also get training in how to support themselves to preach as well as their families. This would allow them not to be tempted to be taken care of by the extremists who make it sound like a good life rather than the hard life they have. The Christian community here in Nigeria seems very strong. There are more Christians than there are Muslims and, because of what the Boko Haram has done, they seem to think that the current president will be elected again next year.

Joyce proctored the test that the students took today for two hours. She seemed to enjoy it. She felt compelled to give funds for a man who needs glasses. We found out it would be about \$50.00,

which Joyce gave from the personal funds she brought. She has a heart to help these people but, she will see in each place we go, they need so much help.

I studied for two hours today while I waited for the lectureship to start after the testing of the students. I was glad to study because I teach back-to-back lessons tomorrow, and it is hard to get your mind around two at a time. It was so hot that I just left my t-shirt on and my shoes off while I studied, which kept me cooler. Finally it came time to start and Brother Udofia spoke on Biblical leadership for 1 1/2 hours. We had lunch, and then he spoke on how to handle church problems. My shirt was soaked and I didn't even wear a jacket. It was so hot. Joyce was there for the morning session, but in the afternoon she took a bucket bath to cool off and rest.

The next session was a panel that went two hours. They took questions from the audience about how to handle the challenges they had. It was a good session and many profited from it. We broke for an hour and then had devotion at 7:00 PM and then had supper. I visited with Emmanuel, Prince and Brother Udofia for a period of time. We had gerri for supper which is cassava fried and then boiled in soup with fish, melon and something else in it. It was okay. They also made some spaghetti for Joyce and me but we ate their food. Joyce seemed okay with it.

The children come every day wanting candy, so what Joyce and I do is make them say memory verses to receive two pieces of candy. I then gave them one more for trying to learn a verse with me. They went outside and Prince took a piece from each one of them and said to the children, "I am your daddy." It was funny.

We visited some and Emmanuel is going back to Ikot Essien tomorrow to prepare for when the rest of the team comes. He also has a three-week-old baby and wants to get there to help his wife with the other children. I will miss him until we get to Ikot Usen.

Prince had time that he wasn't going to use on his phone so we talked with Bob Israel, Joyce left a message with her daughter, and I talked with Gail, Dusty, and Dani at the church at Southwest. It was good to hear their voices.

It is time for bed, and I am ready because of how much the heat took out of me. We are actually getting to bed at a decent time tonight at 10:00 PM.

## **May 20 – Tuesday**

It started lightning about the same time we went to bed and the lightning went on for hours but there was no thunder. Then about 1:00 AM, the rain came down in buckets and it was so good to hear on the tin roof. I enjoyed listening to it. I got up during the night and went to the toilet (that is not unusual for me). When I got up, I fell backward and scraped my arm and back. When I came to bed, I didn't realize I was bleeding so in the morning there were quite a lot of spots with blood. I bleed easy so it was no big deal.

I went to the early morning devotional and then went on my exercise route after that so I could get back and get cleaned up, because I was going to proctor the two-hour test this morning. I looked over some of the answers and some were doing great and others not so great. I caught a couple who didn't understand the question and marked true when Prince wanted what chapter in Acts was the statement record. Prince allowed them to come back and redo it. Also one was supposed to draw the tabernacle and didn't do it because he missed the question that said to do it on the back of his test. Again, Prince let him come back and complete the test because he still had plenty of time before the test was over. Because I was the proctor and caught the mistake, Prince agreed with me.

Because breakfast wasn't ready on time, the test started ½ hour late. Our lectureship was supposed to start at 10:00 AM and now we won't be able to start it until 10:30. I was already sweating while going over my lessons and watching the students take their exams. We finally got to the lectureship started about 11:00. I thought another man was going to speak before me, so I had my coat off. They introduced me so I was immediately up preaching. I preached for about 40 minutes on the "Glorious Church." The second lesson was given by a preacher who is from Gboko. He went an hour and 40 minutes. He was twice given notes that he only had five minutes left and, finally on the third

note, he concluded in about five minutes. The schedule said we were going to break for lunch but they introduced me again and said we would have lunch after my lesson. I preached on "Discovering My Gift." This took me about 50 minutes and we were eating lunch at about 2:30 PM. I was glad we didn't have the break, because I had to wear a coat and tie again while preaching and I was soaked. We ate lunch and then it started pouring rain and we were both thankful because it cooled us down a lot. We talked with Prince for a while and then I told him he needed to go rest a bit before the devotional tonight. He seemed ready to comply with that and then Joyce said that is good recommendation for me. We had about an hour and a half before devotional so I did lie down and took about a 30-minute nap.

After the devotional, we had supper at 7:30 PM of Nigerian yams (unless you have been to Nigeria you could not imagine these yams) and eggs. The yams were just boiled but very tasty.

I had a preacher from another congregation appeal for funds to complete their building N1,500,000 (\$9036.14), and Sister Fanny came asking for help to do work in an orphanage, prison and hospital. I told her that we could try to get some to send clothes and WBS lessons. She seemed satisfied with that. Since Prince was there, we talked about customs. He said if you send items for the poor saints, they don't usually charge customs. I hope to get some to help in this when I get back to the US.

Prince was visiting again and I told him he needed to go spend time with his family. I was sure they have not seen enough of him since we have had the lectureship; he was making sure that Joyce and I were taken care of. I feel bad that they always feel the need to serve us. Even when we try to carry the dishes back for them, they run to get them. I was trying to carry chairs to the chapel room and the men said, "No, you can't do that. You are our guest."

Getting to bed about 10:00 PM tonight, so it will be another time to rest a little longer.

## **May 21 - Wednesday**

I got up as usual to go to the morning devotion at 5:30 AM. This is later than they use to have it which was 4:30 AM. After the devotional, I did my exercise. I talked to Prince about where I did my exercise, and he said I have actually gone into another state which is Benin. So Obudu is right on the border of another state.

We had breakfast of eggs and bread and hot chocolate because all the coffee was gone. I could have tea also. After breakfast, we took one of the students to the eye doctor. The doctor said his eyes are too damaged because of the glaucoma, and he will go blind eventually because there is nothing he can do to reverse it. He did give him an examination and prescribed him medicine, which will slow the process. It cost N6500 (\$39.16) for all of that. Prince, Joyce, the student and I walked to the doctor's office and back. It was one mile each way, which is nothing for them. It was a nice walk for us too. As we walked back, we saw a lady sewing and asked if we could talk a photo. Joyce asked her how long it takes her to make the dress. She said the blouse takes three days to make. It is not an electric sewing machine but is one that you have to pump with your feet. It was amazing, the work she was doing.

Joyce has taken so many more photos than I would have taken. She wants to take a photo of everything. When we got back, Joyce put her feet in a bucket of cool water because one of the ladies said this will help her swollen ankles.

We did a few things around the area of DMBI and then we went to the farm. The farm is on the land that we purchased for the school to build on. It was built on church grounds because it was going to be much more expensive to build where the farm had been. The school had to develop the land or they would lose it. They developed it this year by clearing an area and planting corn. They have cassava and Nigerian yams planted too, and they use all of this for feeding of the students here at DMBI. We took motorcycles out there to see it. Joyce rode with Prince and I rode with one of the students. They went real slow for us so that we wouldn't be fearful. Joyce was glad they went slow.

Today was laundry day, and six young men did our laundry. There was much more laundry than we had the previous time. I am paying N500 each or N3000 (\$18.07), which I feel guilty about but Prince won't let me give anymore than that. I also want to try to Skype my LIFE group this week. I

will have to get up at 3:00 AM to do this, which will be 7:00 PM yesterday there. I hope we can make it work.

The students wanted to meet with me without Prince present. They gave a glowing report on the school and what they have learned and a glowing report on Prince. They said what I see Prince doing and how he is involved in everything is no different when I am not here. They don't like the men who were here before, trying to stir up trouble with the students. They had caught these men in lies but have never heard a lie from Prince. They had five concerns that they presented to me, and I think they are all viable.

1. They need a vehicle to go out and evangelize or at least funds to ride taxis for this purpose. The congregations they spend time with feed them and pay for their return trip.
2. The school to be recognized by the government.
3. The funds to pay an English teacher to train them more in English.
4. Monthly assistance for each student.
5. Each to receive a solar player from SIBI.

They said it is disturbing to hear that men have left the school and are not preaching, because they are not being supported by the congregations they work for.

I responded that a vehicle needs petrol and maintenance. These are both costly. I told them the funds are in the DMBI account to apply for recognition by the government but the board is working on the rest of the requirements, one of which was the constitution. I told them we met until 12:30 AM working on this, so I believe it will be done. As far as the English teacher and the monthly stipend, that would have to wait until I can find a congregation who is willing to totally stand behind the work and be their support. I told them I brought enough solar players for all who are graduating and would have them here for those who graduate in a few years. So the grads are going to get this as a gift.

I told them how much I appreciate Prince too and see him as a hero for the work here and around Nigeria. I told them to pray hard for God to open a congregation or two who will be willing to let DMBI be their work and support them monthly with all their needs.

I studied my lesson but, to be honest with you, it was hard to stay awake since it was so hot. Joyce even took a bucket bath to cool down and then she could rest. I was going to rest but this was before the students wanted to talk with me. Once I finished with them, I was just too hot to lie down.

I am typing in the dark because the generator is not working. It is a little cooler since it is pouring down rain with thunder and lightning. The lightning is very close because you cannot even count 1001 before the thunder sounds.

Brother Bartholomew came by and visited before church. He asked if I could contact mission printing to send the church at Township a large number of tracts. He was converted by a tract given to him and is willing to give out tracts all the time, because it has brought people to the Lord. I was more than willing to do that

I preached on "A Charge to Keep" to encourage the church, the school and the students to finish the task that God has given them. Prince has wanted to copy my last three lessons to have them available for people to read and use.

We came back to the room, and Brother Servantes came to ask for help getting his eyes operated on for glaucoma. He said he needed almost \$200 US dollars to have this done. He is unable to work because he cannot see, so he is living off of charity. He is a qualified preacher and could be doing well if the surgery works, but we are not even sure of that.

We are eating tonight with Prince's whole family just to say goodbye and enjoy the evening with them.

## **May 22 – Thursday**

I waited to do exercise today because I knew I was going to do it with Eracare students. We finished packing to leave and had breakfast thinking the brother who was going to give us a ride to

Okuku Yala would be there soon. He first washed the vehicle and then he needed a bath for himself. He finally got there about 8:30 AM and then we had to load the luggage. He had a small car, so we had to tie the trunk down to keep them from falling out. I was concerned about them and we got a couple of photos of what it looked like. They really load vehicles down here. We had to get petrol and oil first and this was part of the cost to Okuku Yala. We went about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the way and were warned if we went further the traffic control will impound the vehicle and there will be a big fine. We would not be able to move until the fine is paid. Prince checked on the price for a taxi from where we were, and they wanted another N3000 (\$18.06) to go from there. Prince said this is not acceptable so he called James to come and get us. We had to wait about 30 minutes for James to get us because of the road blocks along the way.

We arrived in Okuku Yala about 11:00 AM and were waiting for the Eracare principal to call us over to the gathering of the students who were going to greet us. They were all in one hall and it was jammed packed with students (about 300). They welcomed us and crowned us Master and Matron of the week. They even made a ribbon necklace to put around our necks. The principal read a welcome and charged us to help Eracare with electronic equipment, song books, materials for the students, and bibles. I responded that our Vacation Bible School was challenging the attendees at VBS to give toward this. I am trying to get photos to the VBS directors to show the VBS students, but I have tried by text and flash drive modem and neither will upload the photos and send them. I have tried twice.

Then the students from different classes sang and danced for us doing a great job. We were also entertained with a debate about which is better: a Christian school or a public school. I was impressed with the great job done by the debaters.

We had a small break and then went back for sports. The students went on a speed walk with me and did cadence all the way. It was great. When we returned, we did exercises at the school's grounds and then played volleyball, table tennis, tag, swings and of course football (soccer). You should not have to guess that I played soccer. This went on for two hours. I was totally exhausted and fully soaked with sweat.

James wanted me to wait until after supper to take a bucket bath, but I told him many would suffer if I did that because I stank so much. He insisted, so I ate being very stinky and Joyce even sat beside me.

I took my bucket bath and then we had about an hour before the evening devotional. I spoke on Psalm 36, talking about the trust we can have in God's love. We went to bed about 10:00 PM but it was so hot I could not go to sleep. I was thankful to be lying down though.

## **May 23 – Friday**

I did not sleep all night until the fan came on at 3:30 AM and then I got about an hour of sleep. The heat was just too much, so I just tried to lie there and relax. I wanted to get up but knew Joyce wanted me to stay in bed and try to go to sleep.

I was up at 5:00 AM because I heard the bell for the children to get up. We had the morning devotional. They read John 12, and I was asked to give comments on that chapter. After the devotional, I went out for my exercise but the children could not go with me because they had to get ready for school. I remember the route from last time, which was an hour exercise route. After I finished, I was surprised to see James had followed me on his bicycle to make sure I was safe. He said some of the children can go with me tomorrow since there is no school.

We went to the school about 7:45 AM and both Joyce and I spoke to the students. I spoke about doing all to the glory of God, and they wanted her to speak about the English language and how she could teach them American English. She did a great job showing that many in the US speak differently and what they were learning, using British English, was more proper.

The students sang the Nigerian National Anthem and the Eracare song. They had a drum corps that played with them as they sang and then played as the children marched into class. It was great to



watch. I thought I was taking video of it but, when I looked at the video, it didn't turn out so I did something wrong. I will tape it again on Monday.

The students were taking a government test, so we went to each room and just viewed what they were doing and how they were accomplishing the test.

We came back to the house and sat under a shade tree to try keeping cool but that didn't help much. We were waiting for the principal to call us back to the school. This gave me a chance to catch up on my daily log and study my marriage class for tomorrow.

Prince gave me a computer to take back to see if it could be fixed. I brought a battery I had purchased in the US but that didn't solve the problem. I didn't want to take it back if it was the charging cord. We found some for the Toshiba computer but none of them caused the computer to charge. I know a brother in the US will look at it and see if it can be fixed. I don't know when I will get it back to them but they are okay when we can get it back if it is working. We had to go to Ogoja to try to find the cord, which is about three miles from Okuku Yala.

When we got back, the children came home from school and were excited to see Joyce and me. Joyce reacts well with them and they loved her for it. I found out that I am on Facebook; some of the students put a photo on there and stated, "We love Dan Goodyear." I am embarrassed about that.

I met with two brothers who were having a challenge since 2012 and have not worked it out. I got them to discuss it and prayed that they could react calmly in their responses in talking about the situation. It hurt me to see these brothers have such a challenge with each other, and it reminded me of what Paul said in 2 Cor 11:28. His greatest concern of all his suffering was his concern for the church. I asked James for his recommendation. He said he knew Prince may not agree with this but thinks he should pay the money to James. He said even this is a challenge with American support because this often causes division between brothers. I wanted to cry over this challenge. One way to solve it was to give one brother \$100 to let this be over. James Eblabor had tried to solve this in the past. I told them if they were my children I would make them hug each other. We prayed and I hugged both of them and then they hugged each other. This did my heart good to see this.

I now have more time to study for tomorrow. It has been a day without much activity because the students are taking exams and James didn't want us to interfere with that and neither did we.

We were able to have a lot of discussion and it was great just to be with them and have this relationship. James later said, "It is not about the money that Southwest sends, and for sure we need it, but it is more that Southwest loves us enough to send you." He said their relationship with us is more important than the money. Joyce asked Maria, "Why do all the people stare at me?" (not that this bothered her). Maria answered, "It is because you are white." Joyce asked, "Don't white people come here and visit?" and she said, "No, you are the only ones." The children all touch me to feel my skin because it is white. The school that Maria and Joyce went to had never had a white woman visit them in their 60 years of existence.

We ate supper and it was a traditional meal. Both Joyce and I ate with our hands and had the soup that you dip the fufu in, so you have to roll it and make a dent in the ball so you can dip the soup. It is thick soup so it is easy to dip and keep it on.

It started raining, and I called both James and Maria false prophets because they said it would not rain. I was so glad it did rain because it cooled down, which I desperately needed because I was so hot.

We discussed more, and one sister was so concerned about Joyce's swollen feet and discussed it with her for a long time. I am glad they are concerned about this. Joyce has not felt well today and we believe that it is the malaria medicine.

I was glad to get to bed because I had slept so badly the night before. I think my head didn't even hit the pillow and I was out.

## **May 24 – Saturday**

It started raining hard at about 3:00 AM, which was nice because it was still cool. I love to listen to the rain on the tin roof. It was raining so hard but I loved it. It was still raining when I got up for the

devotional at 5:30 AM. The devotional was again reading a chapter and the chapter today was John 13. I took a bucket and washed about 14 people's feet as they read the chapter. The children were shocked at first, but the ones whose feet I washed loved it. I told them this was not a practice that Jesus was teaching that we must do, but that He was teaching that we must be servants because how can you love one another and show you are His disciples unless you are willing to be a servant? If we are not willing to be a servant, then we betray Him like Judas or we deny Him like Peter.

We did not go exercise this morning because it was pouring down rain, but we told the students if it is not raining this evening then we would go exercise after the marriage seminar. This gave me one last chance to review my notes. God is helping me to be prepared for the seminar.

We were supposed to start the seminar at 9:00 AM but James said we were on Africa time and we told them at 9:00 so they would get here by 10:00. The problem with that is we had a serious rain storm early, so it was hard for many to get here at 10:00. We started at 11:00 AM and finished at 3:30 PM. We only had one 15-minute break. They were very attentive. At two different points, I kissed Joyce in front of them and they loved it because they don't show emotion in front of the children. I told them to let the children know that their parents love each other because it gives the children security in the home. At 3:30, Joyce talked to the ladies for about ½ hour. She encouraged them not to fear displaying emotion, and she explained that they needed each other and needed to meet together often.

We then had the lunch meal at 4:00 PM, so they listened all this time not having eaten lunch until after we finished. We had rice, fufu and the goat that we had been seeing since we have been here.

After lunch, it wasn't long until the children came and asked, "Are we going to go exercise now?" We did not get to exercise this morning so I felt like I needed to go with them, since they wanted to go so badly. We stayed on the back roads but actually went longer than I do by myself. James didn't want me to get on the tar road because today is market day, so there are many vehicles. We walked to the unfinished church building and back. I told them if they got behind, when we could meet them on the way back. I told them on the way out, they must stay behind me but on the way back they must stay in front of me. I had to turn around three times to get stragglers. I didn't want to leave anyone behind on the return trip. I had to sit and just sweat until I stopped sweating so I could take a bath. We sat outside and tried to stay cool while I cooled off, and it allowed us to talk a lot.

Joyce has a little girl named Precious and she has become Joyce's best friend. She hardly leaves her side. She is 3 ½ and is so cute. Also there is another little girl who hangs around a lot with Joyce and her name is Rachel. Rachel's mom left her with her sister and Rachel's mom is in the States. Rachel's sister has her boarded at Eracare School. Someone asked Precious if she wanted to go to the US and she said yes. James' daughters asked us to make pizza, so we had to get the recipe from Wendy for the crust. I am eager to see how this works out.

Joyce and I told Maria not to fix supper. We could have bread and tea later because we ate at 4:00 PM and would not be hungry. She didn't need to work hard again. We had singing by individuals, duets, and quartets. I taped a few but my camera battery ran out. Then the students had a bible challenge with 30 questions, and they did so great in the competition. After that, we had a short devotional. I used 1 Timothy 4:8 and asked how many exercised with me, and a lot raised their hand. I said this is good for the physical but what you did tonight was great for the eternal. I told them to focus on both but if they have to give up one, focus on the eternal. We were able to go to bed about 10:00 PM, and we were both ready for bed after the heat and humidity today.

## **May 25 – Sunday**

I did not exercise this morning because I am going to do it with the children after the "Seekers of Truth" lesson at 4:00 PM. That gave me time to go over my lesson and bible class. Maria made us matching African clothes so we had to take a lot of photos before services at 9:00 AM. We still got to the school where the church meets at about 8:15. We and the children sang songs together. James asked me to teach a new song to them, so I taught them "Redeemed, How I Love to Proclaim It." I was amazed at how quickly they picked up the tune and the words. They sang it well. The church wanted

me to speak on the work of the church in bible class, so I went to Ephesians 3:10 and talked about the church making known the manifold wisdom of God. Joyce attended the children's classes because she wanted to observe them. She is so impressed with the children's knowledge in the Word. When they came back in, the children were asked what they learned. They had to stand before everyone and tell them what they learned.

For worship, James asked if I would speak the lesson, "Leaving a Legacy." He heard it in Obudu and said that Okuku Yala needed to hear this lesson, so I preached it again. James also asked me to mention the finances for the church building and to let them know I didn't bring a lot of cash to give them. I showed them how much our plane tickets cost and how much the transportation to get to Okuku Yala cost. I also included the flight cost to Cameroon. They were amazed at the cost. I told them when I come, I spend so much money that I don't have extra funds to spend. I thanked those who helped in giving Maria and James eggs and fufu so they could help Sister Maria offset the cost of feeding both Joyce and me.

After services, everyone wanted to take a photo with us. You can hardly get away from them because they just don't have a white person in the area, especially a white woman. Joyce and I were both dressed in Nigerian clothes, and they loved that we would wear their clothes.

On the way back to the house (by foot), we went to the home where a baby was born on Thursday. Because that was day we arrived and it was a boy, they named the baby Dan Goodyear. That means there are two in the Yala area and one in Crossriver State. I am humbled and honored that they have named their children after me.

We came back after services (3 ½ hours including bible class and worship). The moderator always has to summarize the lesson and sometimes goes quite long, but it allows the people to hear the lesson twice and may allow them to obey what they have heard to be able to go out immediately and put it in practice.

We had lunch of rice and chicken, which is normal for lunch and it is what we get almost every day. Joyce has eaten little because it is so hot and it makes her not want to eat.

The local chief came by and we visited with him. He used to lead the PTA for Eracare School. He appreciates the school because it is a great school and it is the only one in his village. I talked to him about his faith and he said he was a Catholic. I set up a bible study with him and James for after we leave.

At 4:00 PM, we had "Seekers of Truth" and I taught them 1 John 1 through 1 John 2:2. They seemed to really be involved in it. They are very attentive and Joyce says all the time she can't believe how attentive they are in everything.

They were all ready to go for exercise after the class. I told James to tell them that I was just going in a big circle and if they could not keep up that they needed not to go, because I didn't want to get on the tar road at the end and be worried about them. Maria sent some of them back to the compound because she felt like they would be left behind. As we started on our trek, many of the children ran ahead as I was speed walking and they would rest until I caught up with them and then they would run ahead again. Some just ran alongside of me as we went along. I came back and Joyce couldn't believe how red my face was but that is always the case, especially in heat.

Maria made fried yams and potatoes for a snack, and I think I ate most of them. Then they brought out supper of wheat that you roll in your hand and dip in sauce or greens. Tonight it was both greens and sauce, and it is always good.

The children were taking baths while we ate. They take a bath in the morning and again in the evening. James and Maria make sure that they are clean and this helps them cool off also because everyone sweats so much.

It was time for us to go outside and be with the children. They sang a few songs and then they played a game called "Bible Sword Brain Box." They chose six young men and put three against three. What they had to do is take turns quoting a verse. One team would quote a verse and then the other team would quote a verse. They could not quote a verse that had already been quoted. They went on for

over an hour before all ran out of verses, but I knew they knew more. It was amazing to watch and to see how they continued to quote different verses than had already been quoted. Both Joyce and I were amazed. You would think they had been in the church for a long time, but some of these children have not even been baptized yet knew the Word well.

I spoke on Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego and asked them what their Jewish names were. If someone could say the Jewish names, I would have given them candy. Then I asked if they knew Daniel's Babylonian name and, if they did, I would have given them candy. I used the event to teach them to trust in God.

I was glad to get to bed but was so hot that I was afraid I would not be able to sleep, but I did go to sleep pretty easy.

## **May 26 – Monday**

It was so hot all night that it never cooled off. I was so glad to have the fan; it was just blowing hot air, but I was glad to have that.

I spoke again at the morning devotional, which I did everyday as I was assigned by James to do this. Today they read John 15, and I had to talk about that and give them some encouragement about that.

Joyce and Maria went to the school where Maria teaches, which is a government school. They were so excited to see Joyce because they have never seen a white woman at that school. The children just all started touching her, and Joyce was finally totally surrounded that it was almost impossible for her to move. She told Maria that they should go in Maria's classroom now. As they went into the room, others tried to follow. The students in Maria's class told the other students to leave because it was not their class. Joyce became the queen of the school.

I went to Eracare School with James and spoke with the whole school, encouraging them knowing that God is with them. They then marched to class and I videotaped it on my cell phone. Joyce had the camera with her. It came out great. James and I went to his office. I said he should contact Maria's brother in US and get him to promote the school. He is already promoting one but he could make the school known, and you never know where the funds may come from. He liked that idea. James and I then began to visit the classes again, and Joyce and Maria joined us about halfway through after returning from Maria's school. When we had finished going through the classes, we came back to James' house for about an hour rest and had some watermelon. We went back at 11:00 AM and had photos with all the classes and the individuals who could afford to pay the photographer N100 (60 cents) for a photo with us. We took photos for an hour and fifteen minutes. Remember, I was in a sport jacket with a tie on. It was hot. I had to turn it inside out to allow it to dry. I was dripping wet, so sitting in front of a fan was great.

The teachers and staff of the school gathered for Joyce and me to give our thoughts on the school, and all we could do is praise the work they had done with little or no supplies. Joyce and I stood and gave them applause for the work they had done.

Joyce then talked to all the senior school students. She talked about the gifts of the Spirit, their hygiene, and their morality. She spoke for about 20 minutes on the fruit of the spirit, that each one has a gift, and that as ladies they can do anything they want and imagine to accomplish. She also talked about hygiene and saying no to the boys when they try getting them to have sex. The girls enjoyed it so much. We got back to the house and I was glad to get my jacket off. The boarding students were told to wait to have their photos with us until school was over, because there would less people trying to crowd in on the photos.

We had lunch and tried to get cooled off before we had to dress back up again for photos at the boarding house. It again took another hour in a sport jacket and tie. I was drenched after the photos and so was Joyce. We felt honored that they wanted photos with us. James said we don't understand this but it is important to them.

After the photos, I went out with the children for another exercise session. They wanted me to go one more time, so I agreed. I needed the exercise but it was so hot. I am glad I did it after it was over. I did not enjoy a step of it but enjoyed being with the children. The principal tried to catch us on the exercise and I even heard the children once say, "Here comes the principal," yet he never caught us. The people said to him along the way that the white man is stronger than him. It looked like it was going to rain tonight, and we were so happy. It came in about two hours and this allows us to be more comfortable.

They asked Joyce what she wanted for dinner, and she said fried yam chips and chips made for what they call Irish potatoes. After they served this, I told Joyce they would have something else for a meal, and sure enough they did. We ate some but only not to offend them for the work they had done.

I gave the workers who worked hard for the boarding school students N500 (\$3.01) each for a total of N3000 (\$18.07). I thought it was so little, but they had big smiles on their faces when they received it. They truly went out of their way to make sure we were taken care of.

The children were going to have a special event for us tonight but, because of the rain, they were not able to do this so we had our regular devotional at 9:00 PM. We have to leave at 6:30 in the morning for Ikot Usen, so Joyce and I had to pack to get ready for that before we went to bed.

## **May 27 – Tuesday**

This was the day for departure to Ikot Usen but we still had devotional with the children at 5:30 AM, and I spoke to them for the last time. They loved having us there and were all sad because we were leaving. After the devotional, Joyce and I finished packing and had just sat down to breakfast when the driver showed up. We loaded the vehicle with our luggage and then went in and had eggs cooked with tomatoes and onions and bread. We of course had coffee to go with it.

After breakfast we said our goodbyes with lots of tears from Maria and her girls. We all stood in a circle and prayed for the safety and maintenance problems to be nil. We also prayed for the family and the boarding students. James, Joyce and I got into the vehicle and departed at 6:40 AM, so we were ten minutes late with our target departure.

We got petrol in Okuku Yala but not much, because two villages away it was cheaper. We did well except we were all over the road trying to miss all the potholes. There were too many, however, and we hit a lot. There were a lot of semi-trucks on the road, and this is a challenge because they are over loaded and often go very slow. We often passed when I didn't think we should but this is the way they drive here. This really is the most dangerous part of the trip...traveling on the roads. We were almost to Calabar and there was a long line of mostly trucks. James had heard on the radio a half hour earlier that there were problems. We got there and all the drivers of smaller vehicles got impatient so we drove on the shoulder (not like ours but is dirt) for about a mile. One big truck was even doing this. It took us another hour because of this. You have to be flexible to be here. Joyce took so many photos. I never get close to what she has taken and have even downloaded from her camera once and will have to probably do it at least one more time. I am sure you will see more of Nigeria than you have ever seen since Joyce is in control of the camera most of the time. She was fascinated by the architecture and the people and the landscape.

We were stopped three times. Once, I was made to get all my seven bags out and open them up and dig to the bottom to show what was there. When I got to the last one with the solar players, he wondered what it was so I showed him it was the bible on tape. He wanted one immediately but I told him I have them already promised to others. One of the officers apologized but said it is because of the challenges here with the Boko Haram. Then another place, I had to get out and show my passport. He asked me what I was doing here and where I had come from. I said Ogoja and he said, "No, I mean where do you live?" and I told him the US. Another time, only James and the driver had to get out. James said he was a part of the road safety club and that they were detaining us so they let us pass. James said at another place a man said, "You are missionaries and you should be going to church in the US and not here in Nigeria."

When we entered Calabar, a man came to the window and asked if he had a driver's permit to enter Calabar and the driver showed him the ticket. After that, he asked for some money for breakfast. The driver said "no," so the man opened the door, turned off the engine, and tried to get the keys so we would have to pay something, but the driver kept him from getting the keys. They continued to argue but the driver started the vehicle and we moved on. If they had gotten the keys, they would have thrown them to others and we would have been begging for the keys and they would have charged us a high price. After that, we rolled up the windows and locked the doors.

We got to Calabar and James called a brother in Christ whom he had baptized, and he sent his driver to come pick us up at the taxi stand. We went and changed more money and then went to his place of business. He owns a car dealership (not like ours) and sells about 20 vehicles a month. Most of them run between \$13,000 and \$26,000 US dollars, so someone here in Nigeria has some money. He sent for another driver (who is a long-distance driver) to take us from Calabar to Ikot Usen. He would not allow us to pay for the vehicles, the petrol or the driver. He said we are doing mission work of the church and this would be his contribution toward the work. The roads were rougher from Calabar to Ikot Usen than from Okuku Yala to Calabar, although all of them were bad. One good thing about the ride to Ikot Usen is that the vehicle we were riding in was air conditioned and it allowed us to be really cool for the first time since our arrival.

Emmanuel didn't have funds to pay for food, so I gave him the \$200 (N33,200) ahead of time instead of at the end when I usually give it to them. I also gave him N20,000 (\$120.48) for the drive to Port Harcourt on Sunday after services and for them to return back to Ikot Usen. We were taken to the Palmer Memorial Hospital to stay in the guest house. This is where we usually stay since Sunday O. Ekanem Sr. died. This is also the place where the team of eight stayed when we came from Southwest. It is a nice place and I am sure we will enjoy being here. Because we traveled all day today, we will rest this evening and start the schedule tomorrow.

James and I were talking about things, and Joyce said she was going to go for a walk. I said I would go with her and she said, "I have been around you two all day. I will just stroll around Palmer Memorial Hospital and see the sights." It wasn't long until I saw her go by the window and thought I would see what she was doing. The fans and lights went out about that time, so it was a good time to be outside where you at least had a little breeze. When we got out there, Joyce was running around the school grounds. I was glad she was doing this because her ankles are so swollen, and I hope that this will help. She actually went longer than I thought she should. I didn't want her to be too sore in the morning.

Emmanuel came back in about an hour later and brought food his mother had cooked. It was rice and chicken with some bananas and cucumbers, the normal diet here. It was very good because I had not eaten lunch or had anything since about 6:30 AM. It was now 7:15 PM. One of the students in the degree program (Stephen) came in after we started, and he also ate with us.

After supper, Joyce went and took a bucket bath and didn't come back to where Emmanuel, James and I were talking. We were talking about funds and the proper use of them and how the country of Nigeria needs to learn to support itself. Emmanuel told of a congregation that he went to for support of the school. After he made the presentation, many were interested but one man asked the question, "How much are you receiving from the US to run the school?" Emmanuel said, "Except what I receive personally (\$380) per month for my personal support, nothing." The man said, "I do not believe you. You are associated with SIBI in Lubbock, Texas and you get nothing to run a school that offers a BA program?" He said he didn't believe it. He said that is not what the missionaries did when they came from the States to start the church; they always paid for everything for the training school. Emmanuel stated again I receive nothing for the school and again the man said I don't believe you. Emmanuel said, "You could ask Dan Goodyear, but what I have told you is the truth and you can believe it or not. I am asking you to help the school. You can choose to help and you can choose not to help, but again we are receiving nothing for the training of these men. This man caused others to doubt, so he got no support for the school.

There is one Nigerian who goes to the States at least six months out of the year to raise support for a school and only stays in Nigeria five to six months. All of his children live in the States and he lives like a president when he is in Nigeria. The people see this in a few others over here and see that they are millionaires because brethren in the States have bought their story, never come and visit the work, and never see where they live and in what kind of house they live in comparison to the rest of Nigerians. It is sad.

It was 9:00 PM so I decided to go to bed, because I assumed that was where Joyce was and sure enough she was in bed. I know she gets tired when the heat is so high with the humidity. She has been a Trojan in all of this though and has really been a blessing to the people here. They love her being here. Most have not seen many white women come to Nigeria. I am going to bed with a sore throat, which I don't like and hope it is better in the morning. I have brought nothing with me for a sore throat.

### **May 28 – Wednesday**

I got up at 3:30 AM. It was so hot I had trouble sleeping and my throat was hurting all night. Both of these kept me awake. I also was thinking about the lesson on the schedule that Emmanuel gave me last night, and I could not get it out of my mind so I figured I might as well get up and work on it. One of the lessons desired are churches supporting their preachers in the local congregations. I worked on it for two hours and then Emmanuel came out of his room and asked if I was ready to do exercise. Both he and James were going with me because they have a "soccer field," not like the ones we have in the US but it is nice for here. So I walked around that 24 times and that was six miles. I was glad it was over because I was hoping it would help me feel better, but it made me feel worse. I only ate pineapple for breakfast and a banana for lunch. That is all I feel like eating. I was running high fever but we went to the hospital to pray with the patients. There were six in the hospital and one had had a "C" section but lost the baby. She is still in the hospital because she can't pay the bill and is waiting for her family to come up with the funds. She cried about losing the baby and also not being able to go home. We went and visited the quarantine room where a man has TB. We didn't get close to him, but that is probably why I have encapsulated TB in my lung. I have been exposed here many times.

Joyce spoke with a man this morning who had a pension and had been paid but the government stopped paying the pension eight years ago. We don't have this figured out, but this man has no income and is trying to raise six children. Joyce went over by the school, and the teacher let the kids come out of class to see this white woman. They love being around us because we are white. Many here have not seen a white woman in their life although they have more chance of seeing them here than in Okuku Yala.

I spoke in chapel on 1 Timothy 4 and talked about setting the example before the brethren. I was very weak so I came to the guest house and lay down to try getting my temperature down. It was real hot so it came down slowly. I laid there for about two hours (not eating lunch), and then Joyce brought wet towels to put on me to cool me off. I finally got up and finished my lesson for tomorrow, which allowed me to feel some better. James was ill, then he found out from Maria that six of the boarding students, two workers, and Maria at Okuku Yala where we just came from were ill also, so that is where we both probably got our illness.

I kept lying down on the couch to feel better and then I would sit up for a while. I used some of this time to go over my lesson to make sure I had all the right verses for teaching about a preacher and his support.

A man came about 4:45 PM and said Emmanuel sent him to tell us that church would start in 15 minutes, and they really wanted us to come. Both James and I said we are not going because we have been ill all day. Emmanuel had run to see his family, so Joyce made us coffee and some buttered bread with cucumber on it. It was really pretty good since I had not eaten lunch and only had pineapple for breakfast.

About 6:30 PM, many from the church in Ikot Usen came to pray with us and to give us gifts. They brought three pineapple, three papaya, cucumbers and eggs. We praised God for their kindness.

They visited for a short time, and after prayer they departed. They were so glad to see us since they had not seen me since 2008. They were so thankful that the elders allowed us to come this year.

Emmanuel brought supper of yams, sauce and pineapple. I had half of a yam and some pineapple, and I was off to bed after that in hopes I would feel better in the morning.

## **May 29 – Thursday**

Today would have been Gwen's 65<sup>th</sup> birthday. I wrote my children and grandchildren a note telling them I am praying for them for we all miss her so much.

I slept well during the night and my temperature was up again about 2:30 AM. Joyce gave me some aspirin, which brought my temperature down, and I was thankful for that. Right now, I feel pretty good and think I am doing much better. Joyce made sure I took the ibuprofen and aspirin. She is also giving me zinc and vitamin "C". I know Joyce is worried about me and a little frustrated because she thinks I am pushing myself too hard with the exercise in the heat of the day. I keep telling her this is what helps me get better and most of the time keeps me from getting ill.

We waited in the house until 8:45 AM to go to CAO Essien Bible College. We were supposed to register at 8:30 AM but Emmanuel said he scheduled it so that they would be there by 9:00 AM. You guessed it they were not there at 9:00 AM, but Joyce and I were there on time. We actually didn't start until almost 10:00 AM, which is typical Africa. I spoke for about an hour and ten minutes. There were about eight questions that I dealt with from the lesson and then the other speaker spoke for about the same time. So the school gave the people two packs of biscuits (cookies) and a drink called malt. It tasted terrible but they love it. They asked us to only take a 20-minute break. I had to go back to the quarters to take more medicine to bring down my temperature again, because I was speaking after lunch. Emmanuel asked me to speak the "Legacy" lesson so I did. Tomorrow, I have the second half of supporting preachers.

After the lessons, we took a lot of questions that both of the speakers answered. They had some questions that don't always have the answer they want; but you know me, I go to the Word to answer the question.

We were done for the day about 3:45 PM. I was then asked to meet with the local board, although Emmanuel also has a board in Abuja. They all told me their needs and asked me to work hard to find a sponsoring congregation who could take the work as their own. I commended Emmanuel for where he has taken the school and told the volunteer teachers that he cries each month for me to give something for the teachers since they travel here at their own cost.

Joyce didn't come to the second session after what lunch they offered, so when we got back to the rooms there was coconut rice for lunch at 4:15 prepared by Emmanuel's mother. It was really good. We also had goat meat to go with it.

Since Joyce stayed back, she tried to wash our laundry. She had a great experience at this. She hung out the clothes and found out the line was dirty and so had to wash some of them again after wiping down the line. Prince Ugbe fussed at her that he should have done the laundry for us. Joyce said, "There is still more to wash," and the brethren said, "Let us do it for you."

We had the evening off, and Prince and James went out walking in the village. Emmanuel went to the man who was going to give us a ride to Port Harcourt. Emmanuel wanted to give him a down payment for the ride, since it is on Sunday and many want to take that day off. He did not give it all, but he does have an appointment because of the down payment.

When he got back, we walked to Emmanuel's mother's house. She helped Emmanuel's father plant five congregations in Cameroon. He was converted by his brother CAO Essien. He was the first graduate of Nigeria Christian Bible College, which was started in Ikot Usen in 1948. Wendell Broom encouraged him to be a missionary in Cameroon. They were there from 1955 to 1974 having eight of his children born there.

His mother's house was about a half mile away. We walked in the dark. He wanted to get back before it got real dark but we didn't make it. I had to hold Joyce's hand all the way back because it was



pitch black. The stars were beautiful in the dark with no street lights. The electricity keeps going off here, and I don't like it because it makes the fan go off.

Emmanuel wanted us all to eat again but I told him we ate at 4:00 PM and now it is 8:00 and time to go to bed. I think it hurts his feelings when Joyce and I don't eat much. He can't believe how little Americans eat, and he knows we like the food. It is time for bed and I don't like to be full when I go to bed.

### **May 30 – Friday**

Joyce was trying to watch out for me for my girls and allowed me to do exercise this morning, but I could not do it at the pace that I usually do it. I still went the six miles but much slower. I went out about 5:20 AM and had done about 14 laps when Emmanuel came out. He was waiting for me in the house but, since he didn't get up, I didn't want to go to his room and wake him up. He spent 20 minutes waiting for me. He could tell I was going to exercise because my shoes were not on the porch. He asked Prince, and Prince asked, "Did you check the door?" He did and saw it was open and knew then I was out there. He finished my ten laps with me and said that was enough for him since his knee was hurting.

We had no water this morning, so I was thankful that Prince had thought ahead and put some in a plastic container, which held about 30 gallons. That allowed me to take a bucket bath. We ate breakfast, and Emmanuel had to go to the college to administer an exam. The rest of us had about an hour and 15 minutes before we needed to be there. I left at 8:45 AM, and James and Prince said that was early even though we were supposed to start at 9:00. We actually started at 9:30 but others showed up as late as 10:00 and some at 11:00. We knew we just had to continue. Emmanuel spoke on the work of the preacher, and the next speaker spoke on the social life of a preacher. They were both great lessons, and I hated that the attendance was down today. Yesterday, we had 46 and today our high number was 28. We were supposed to take a break from 12:15 to 2:00 PM. Emmanuel said, "Let's just take a break until 1:00 PM." "At 12:30, I said "If everyone is here, then let's get started." I finished the part of my lesson on giving, which they must get their congregation to do before they can support the preacher. I apologized for the missionaries of 1948 who provided for all of the financial needs of the church, which was wrong. It ruined the church in thinking that they don't need to give because the Americans will take care of it. I told them they had to change the thinking of the brethren, and it starts with each one who is here today. They seemed to appreciate the lessons on this.

After all the questions, the students wanted to meet with me and read a letter to thank us and tell us about their needs. They gave us a gift of sandals, both for Joyce and me. You have to understand these students have nothing yet they gave us a gift. I cried and said I am the one who should be giving them a gift. We took photos with the class and one of the instructors and then we returned to the rooms. On the way, the teacher who comes three times a week from a far distance was going to get a taxi. I asked him if he had a motorcycle, and he said he did but it needed repair. I asked him how much it cost. He said it was N8500 (\$51.20), so I gave him N5000 (\$30.12) since he comes the farthest.

When we got to the rooms, there was still no water. We learned that the pump, which pumps the water to the holding tank, is broken and they are waiting for the repairman to come. They never know for sure when they are coming. We have been without water for three days now and usually are without power for at least half of the day.

Emmanuel went to Uyo to get the wedding certificate he will need today for the wedding he is going to perform, and he has to present it to the husband and wife at the wedding. This will be in Abak, where he lives with his wife about three or four days a week. The other days, he is in Ikot Usen with the school. He sometimes goes back and forth daily but it gets too costly. Prince and James went to a brother's house who is a student. He is the one that has been bringing us water for bathing and for washing of clothes and dishes. We still drink bottled water. We were without electricity all night, which is bad because it is hard to sleep when there are no fans.

When they returned, Prince had asked the shop owner to stay open until we walked back up there because he thought this was where Joyce wanted to go. She really wanted to go to the place with art, but it was okay; we got to see a three-in-one shop: a shop to buy goods, a drinking parlor, and a chemist. Joyce felt bad and asked if we could buy something. Since I had used a lot of aspirin the last couple of days, and they were Joyce's baby aspirin, I bought N200 (\$1.21) of aspirin which is N5 (\$0.03) each. It was nice to be able to walk there and back.

Emmanuel got back and tried to find some roast corn but couldn't so he bought some popcorn, which was real good for it is the first since I left the States. We talked with Emmanuel until about 9:30 PM and then went to our room. We took water and wet ourselves down so we could be cool to start with as we tried to go to sleep. There was a big party going on that had gone on all day today, and as we lay in bed at 10:00 PM it was still going on.

### **May 31 – Saturday**

I did exercise this morning at the slower rate at Joyce's request but for the same distance. It was lightning and thundering, and I thought I might get caught in the rain but didn't. I thought I heard Emmanuel get up to go with me, but I waited about ten minutes and he never came out. I start out with a flashlight and then by the end it is daylight. Emmanuel did come out for about the last ten laps. When I got back to the room, I saw our clothes hanging on the line. Prince and James insisted that they wash them last night. They didn't want us to arrive in Cameroon with dirty clothes, because they didn't know their situation there since Prince Ituen had to move. Prince is praying that it doesn't rain so that they get dry today, and Emmanuel is saying that it is going to rain.

We are going to a wedding today in Abak, which is on the other side of Uyo. We have the same driver today as we will have tomorrow. It is nice that we can make a relationship with him. I have to wear a jacket and tie, which is bad for me because I will be sweating all day.

We were supposed to leave at 8:30 AM but we left at 9:00 AM, and the driver waited on us instead of us waiting on him. All were ready except James and Emmanuel, but we got there in plenty of time. We arrived at Emmanuel's apartment in Abak, which is within walking distance of the church where we were going to be. Emmanuel had to change into his suit and they were calling him to come. We got to the church building at 11:00 AM. They had a trio singing, and a lot in the church were singing with them. It was about half full, so a lot of people had not come yet. Once we started, the people started pouring in. I was in the jacket and tie from about 10:45 AM to 2:15 PM. The wedding lasted three hours. It was a lot like ours but had so much more congregational singing or group singing than ours usually do. I was assigned to pray for the bride and groom after they were pronounced husband and wife. All the ministers involved stood around them as they knelt, and I put my hands on each of them and prayed that they would focus on God. We marched out with them and I put N1000 (\$6.02) in the hand of the groom. During the wedding, the cake was cut. It was made by Emmanuel's wife, Victoria. She explained the cake before she cut it. It was three-tiered and was beautiful. We took a photo of it to show Amber Dawson. After the wedding, they were having a reception. The brothers said it could go all night but probably not, since there will be no booze because they are both Christians. It was announced in the wedding that he made first class in the university. Very, very few do that and he was immediately offered a job lecturing at the university. We did not go to the reception but went to Emmanuel's apartment. There, his wife Victoria gave us a meal. It was pounded yams with yam soup. They also had chicken on the plate. I ate some pounded yams and soup and one bite of chicken. I still can't chew meat very well with my partial plate, so I don't care for meat much right now.

All of the men thought we had to at least stop and greet Monday John Akpakpan, so we went out of our way to do that. He had food ready and insisted that we eat a bite, even though we needed to be on the way. So we ate quickly. I had one small spoon of rice with soup with grated carrot and cabbage. I mixed it all together and it tasted really good that way.

We travelled on to Epek, where an extension of the CAO Essien Bible College is located. Many from this area wanted to come to the school in Ikot Usen but could not afford to stay in the area, so

Emmanuel and two preachers said they would help if Emmanuel would set up an extension school. They have 12 students, and five are women which is great. They asked me to speak a short lesson so I spoke for about 15 minutes and then they told me the challenges that they have. The Church of Christ in Epek has graciously allowed the school to meet in their building and also allowed their paid minister to be a part of the teaching staff. Emmanuel told them if they set up the school, he had no fees for travel. Therefore each student had to pay N2000 (\$12.04) per month for his travel, which he uses for petrol for his motorcycle and the other preacher who travels in to teach.

We got back to Ikot Usen about 6:30 PM and were very tired and glad to be back at the Palmer Memorial boarding rooms. We rested a bit while Emmanuel, Prince and James went out to do different things. Emmanuel went to do chores to take care of us. In each area, the men worked very hard to take care of us. Emmanuel's wife was in Abak, so it is a little harder for him but he did a great job. Prince and James tried to also help him.

The challenge this evening was to get the laundry we had left on the line folded and into our suitcases. I had to put things in and will rearrange them once we get to Port Harcourt tomorrow at Cliff's house. The biggest challenge was to get us water, so we could take bucket baths and go to bed.

Emmanuel talked with me and presented some things that they were in a lot of need to have. Electricity, a copier/printer, beds and mattresses for the students, and a toilet facility at the school were the challenges. He also asked for a raise from \$380 per month to \$500 per month. He has not had a raise in three years, and the cost of everything has gone up which was evident to see. I told him I would talk to Sunset and see what we could do together. I was glad to finally go to bed.

## **June 1 – Sunday**

I got up and took a bucket bath because there was no electricity again all night and also they had carried water for us to be able to do this. After the bath, I tried to get everything into the suitcases and didn't really care how much weight they had, since I would do a lot of rearranging in Port Harcourt at Cliff's house.

We left for the church building at 8:45 AM, walking on roads and paths for a short cut. We arrived at the building, and Joyce met a lady at the little hill they had to walk down. They held each other's hands until they got to the entrance of the building. The sister in Christ said, "You must sit with me," so Joyce sat with the ladies.

Emmanuel and I agreed that I would do the bible class and he would preach the sermon, which would help us on the time so we could leave on time for Port Harcourt. I taught for 45 minutes and was told to teach for 30 by Emmanuel, but they wouldn't let me stop at that point. The class was over and I was back in the audience. We had songs and then we had the contribution. Each person got up and walked to the front to give and would put it in a box looking the other way as they dropped. I hurriedly went back to Joyce and gave her something to put in. After the giving, they had a benevolence giving time and again everyone walked by and put funds in a big pan. Joyce and I didn't go up this time because I had budgeted what we should give each congregation, and we didn't have any small bills.

It came time for the sermon, and it was announced that I would preach. I told Emmanuel that I thought he was preaching and he said, "No, they want you," so he interpreted again for me. I spoke on Mark 5 and 6. I was not prepared for this, but the Holy Spirit gave me words to say. Joyce said both lessons were good and so did everyone.

We had the Lord's Supper and Prince spoke about this. Their bread was dried yams and the juice was real wine. It took a while to do this because they don't have cups for everyone and there were about 160 present. This is the first Church of Christ established in Nigeria.

After services, they put two chairs up front and insisted that Joyce and I sit up front. We did, and they talked about their appreciation for us being there and were so happy that we were allowed to come to Ikot Usen this time. Emmanuel told them if I did not come this time but went to Prince's and James' area, he would not be my friend. He was glad he could still be my friend, because everyone in Ikot Usen was asking, "Why doesn't Dan Goodyear come to Ikot Usen anymore?" The ladies took Joyce off to a

special room. They took off the dress she had on and put on a new dress with head covering, necklace and earrings. She was so beautiful when she came out. They gave me a handmade document bag and a woven sign that has a Nigeria flag with "Thanks from Nigeria." Again, we were both humbled by their generosity when they don't have much. We sang a song together and I spoke a word of thanks. After many handshakes, we went to the van that would take us to Port Harcourt.

We went to our rooms and got our luggage and departed for Port Harcourt. On the way, we stopped by to see Brother and Sister Dixon. He is an old man who used to cook for us when we stayed in Palmer Hospital guest rooms. He could not leave his wife, who is so bent over that she needs help all the time. He was so glad that we at least stopped by to say hi before we left.

On the way out from his house, the electrical light came on for the van. The man called his electrician and told him the problem. We looked at the alternator and he unplugged a cord and blew it out but that didn't change the situation. We drove on and at about the 7<sup>th</sup> check point, the vehicle died. We looked at the alternator and battery again but could see nothing. Since it was a stick shift, we pushed it. One of the army personnel asked, "You help push?" and I said yes. He was impressed that I would help push, being a white man. We got it started and at the 9<sup>th</sup> check point it died again. This time we pushed and it didn't start. So we looked at the alternator and the battery again. I actually pounded on both with the tire tool. Nothing would happen so we tried pushing it again. It started this time. We arrived at a junction, and the driver asked a local person to get an electrician. Believe it or not, he found one and he came with his tools. He had a wire for ground attached to a light and then with a spring that he would touch different things to see if they worked. The battery worked and the generator worked. So he started testing different wires and found that one was shorting out the others. He bypassed this wire, which at least was a temporary fix. Joyce was amazed that there was an electrician there, but I told her that they figure this at junctions because people stop for the stop sign and the vehicles die. She was so impressed with what he was able to do with what little he had.

We made it to Port Harcourt and there was a traffic jam, so we took a back road but it had so many potholes I am not sure it was faster. It took us 1 ½ hours from the traffic jam to get to Cliff's house. We were glad to get there; it had been a long day. Cliff and Happiness were not there yet but many of the older children were there. They helped us unload the van and get the luggage to the room we would stay. They tried to keep us from helping ourselves. When Cliff and Happiness arrived, they insisted that the men and the driver eat something. So they fed the three men, the driver, James' daughter and her friend before they left.

Era came across town just to see Joyce and me. It took her 1 ½ hours to get there from the school where she teaches. It was nice to see her but we didn't get to spend much time with her. Her roommate is a Muslim and Emmanuel said right in front of her that Era would convert her to Christ by the time the year of service to Nigeria was up.

Emmanuel really didn't want to wait for the money exchange and to eat but wanted to get on the road back to Ikot Usen again. They left at 7:00 PM and arrived back in Ikot Usen at 11:30 PM. So the trip back was just as long but it was night, and you have to drive slower even though they didn't have trouble on the way back. I was told later that they took the wrong turn, which cost them an hour for their return trip.

Cliff and Happiness brought us two huge sandwiches called Schwarma, which was like a tortilla with all kinds of meat in it. It even had a hotdog in it. It was delicious but we could only eat half so we split one. Then Cliff and Happiness came to visit. Happiness gave Joyce one of her paintings that she had at the art museum and gave her a choice of which one to take. Joyce had to find one to fit into her suitcase. We visited awhile about their work and also the work that we are doing. They offered their place to us at any time. They also told us to offer it to others who may be coming. They could see we were tired and departed for the night. I rearranged the bags in hopes that we could meet weight the next day. Joyce lay down and I took a bath. I was going to type the day's events but I was just too tired. I was ready for rest. The room was air conditioned and I was so thankful. I tried to go to sleep and Joyce asked, "Are you ever going to stop moving? Finally I went to sleep."

## June 2 – Monday

We got up at 4:50 AM, and I continued to rearrange suitcases and even took out two trousers, three sets of underwear and some towels that we had used. That saved some weight but I was sure not enough. Cliff knocked on the door at 5:30 with food for us. They had two big omelets: one with cheese and the other with corned beef. We had less than half of one with a couple pieces of toast and ginger tea. I can't think of why they would bring so much food this time, since last time we didn't eat much either. While we were eating, Cliff carried our luggage and loaded it in the car.

We left at about 6:10 AM for the airport and our flight leaves at 7:30. I was concerned that we would be rushing things because it was some distance to the airport. We had to go down a road that was really for the other direction and was rough, but we got to the airport and four of Cliff's young sons unloaded for us and took us inside. There was a long line and a man came up and said, "I will help." He took our passports and paper showing our reservations and went to the front of the line. Once he got our tickets, he had us bring our luggage up. When Cliff got inside, he was a little concerned that we had given our passports to someone. They weighed our luggage and found we were 18 kilograms over for a domestic flight yet our reservation said each allowed 30 kilograms. They said, "No, only 20 kilograms each," so we had to pay N10,000 (\$60.24) for overweight. Then I had to pay the man N2000 (\$12.04) for helping us, but it was worth it.

While we waited for the man to arrange things for us, I gave Cliff a solar player. He had asked about them and since they had helped us so much I felt like he should have one for the work he is doing there. He is a SIBI mission student graduate, and he was so thankful to receive it. He said he was humbled that I would give him one when he knew they were for other people.

We immediately went through security and they allowed us two carry-on bags and my computer bag. It is a good thing, since the bag that had Prince's computer and 27 solar players in it was probably the heaviest bag. As we went through security, they wanted to see what was in the bag with the solar players. So I would show them and play it for them and they wanted one. I would have loved to give them one, but I have them reserved for Cameroon and told them I left 35 in Nigeria.

Once we cleared security, they told us to go straight to the plane because it was loading. I was glad we had used the man's help to get us checked in. We got on board and, even though it was assigned seats, they told us it was open seating. Our assigned seats were occupied, so we just took ones further back. This caused some challenges with those who got on late. I am glad we got on earlier so we had space for our bags. The plane was completely full, and when we took off it was so smooth. They served us juice and a cinnamon roll without icing. It still tasted good.

We landed in Lagos in the domestic airport, and Joyce was trying to carry her bag down the steps since I already had two. A man said, "Let me carry it for you." He carried it down the steps, on the bus and off the bus for us. He was being so kind, and I told him over and over how much we appreciated it. We had to go to the international airport. This was not supposed to happen. We did hire a man to carry our six bags because it was just Joyce and I. It cost us N1000 (\$6.02) but it was well worth it. I saw a man that said Arik air transfer. I said, "That is where I need to go," and the man said, "We will get you on that." I asked him how much it cost, and he said it was free. I thought that is good because a taxi is \$30 a piece to make the transfer, especially with all the bags we had. They loaded the bags in a truck and the bus followed the truck. When we arrived at the international airport, which took about 30 minutes, they unloaded the bags for us and then one man asked for a tip for the drivers. Again, I gave them N1000 which was much cheaper than the taxi. Then there was a man at the side of the curb waiting to help us and of course for a fee, which I was glad to pay. Not only did he carry our bags, but he got us to the front of the line to check in. Even the men that check the luggage did not require us to be checked. I checked in three of our bags and, because it was an international flight, I didn't have to pay overweight this time for which I was thankful. We went through customs with no problems. Then we went through security again, and again they wanted me to give them a solar player. I had to refuse again and inform them the cost and that they were already ordered by Christians in Cameroon.

We got inside the terminal to wait for our flight and were able to use the restroom facilities. The reason I mention this is because Joyce loved the facilities; it had a place to wash your feet and she even took a photo of it. We went to our gate and waited. I used the time to catch up on the last two days' report and almost did catch up. I have been so tired the last few days that I could not write the day's report.

It was time to go to the boarding waiting area, which was to sit again and wait. We were supposed to take off at 12:00 but we were not even loaded by 12:00. We finally loaded a half hour late. We got on board and tried to put our luggage in the overhead, but the luggage was too big because this was a smaller plane with smaller overheads. They had to take them from us and I was afraid again because of the electronic things in the bags, but I had no choice. I would just have to trust the Lord that He would take care of the situation.

Even though the plane was smaller, it actually had more leg room, for which both Joyce and I were thankful. I had to put my computer bag under the seat because it would not fit above either. We took off and landed in Benin to let off passengers there and had to sit for 25 minutes before we took off for Cameroon. We arrived in Cameroon about ½ hour late and the brethren had come early in hopes that they would not miss us if we arrived early. There was a man who was waiting at the luggage rack to help us. Again we were glad to pay once we got through customs. Once we went through, we saw Brother Aaron. He took the cart with the man to the door. I had no francs, so Brother Aaron paid him and gave him F2000 (\$4.00). The man seemed upset that I didn't give him F10,000 (\$20.00). Brother Aaron said what we gave him was plenty.

We got into the vehicle and were on our way. It was hot in Douala and even the windows being down did not cool us down. It should have taken us one and a half hours to get there if there was no traffic. Instead, it took us four hours to get there. At one point, we even turned around and tried a different route. We saw a taxi motorcycle carrying a full refrigerator on the back of the motorcycle. We saw a Del Monte banana plantation, rubber trees and coconut trees. It was a pretty drive.

We were glad to get there and greet Sister Elizabeth and the children. They even sang a special song for us, and it was so good that I recorded on the camera. Wow! I was impressed.

While supper was being put on the table, I got the solar players, the candy for the children, and the bracelets that Rian and Dani had made for the children in Nigeria and Cameroon. When I took out the solar players, I noticed that Prince Ugbe's computer (the one I was bringing back to see if it could be fixed) was missing, so I know that it was stolen before it was put in the plane. What is amazing is that the 30 solar players were all accounted for, and they cost \$500 each. I was disappointed but there was nothing I could do about it.

We ate supper of rice with meat, greens and fruit. All was very good and Elizabeth had popcorn made for me too. It tasted so good. After supper, we arranged our suitcases so we could take just two with us besides my computer bag. We were able to make it happen but my bag was very heavy because I had all the solar players and the candy for the children in it. Brother Omam came by just to see us and have a prayer with us. This was very thoughtful of him.

Brother Aaron and I went to the bus station trying to find a big bus with nice seats to take us to Bamenda, but they said only the smaller buses go during the day and the big buses go at night. We bought a ticket for both of us which cost F10,000 (\$20.00). That is very cheap but I was not looking forward to it, because they jam the people in these and you really have no room to stretch your legs. But Brother Aaron tried to get us the best seat for us to have more room.

We returned to his house and had a prayer, and I was glad to get to bed for I was very tired. Brother Aaron said that the prayer time in the morning is usually at 5:00 AM but sometimes it starts later.

### **June 3 – Tuesday**

I was out in the front room at 4:50 AM, and only one boy who had been studying most of the night was there. The rest didn't come until 5:30. We sang a couple of songs and then Brother Aaron

asked me to give a word of encouragement. After the devotional, I took my bath. I started with a bucket bath but the water came on so I was able to continue with a shower. It was so nice.

We had breakfast of bread, eggs and fruit and, after I had eaten some, Sister Elizabeth brought out popcorn again. I was in trouble. As we were eating, Sister Omam came to greet us. She talked to all of us, but Joyce really got encouraged by her program of feeding the children. They talked while I tried to get caught up on my writing. I never finished, but I did make progress. We visited until it was time to go and arrived at the bus station at 9:00 AM, which is the time that all were supposed to arrive but we did not take off for Bamenda until 11:00 AM. The bus ride was supposed to take five hours but it took us seven hours and 45 minutes. There were 27 in the vehicle, including the driver. None of the brethren rode with us, but we made conversation quickly. Later in the ride, the man sitting beside me is a singing artist and gave us a copy of his CD. We had him sign it, and I said I was sitting beside a celebrity and didn't know it. He is on his way to be crowned the head of his family in the village he is from because his father died five years ago and this is a custom that they do. Joyce was sitting by a nice lady too, and they talked a lot.

We went through many army and police road blocks. At two of them, we had to show our passports. One of the road blocks didn't like the paperwork on two people, so we sat there for over a half hour as they argued their case. This was really good for us because we needed the facilities anyway. Speaking of facilities, they didn't have any so I was beside the road and Joyce was allowed to be behind someone's house. It was good to stretch our legs but we also knew it was going to make our arrival later.

We finally arrived, and Prince Ituen was there shortly after we arrived. He got a taxi for all of us and had him stop at a bread and pastry maker, where we bought four hamburgers already made up for supper. It is the first hamburger we have had since we left the States. It was tasty, but more because I think we were hungry than that they were really good.

I left our towels in Buea thinking we could get here in time to buy a couple but not a chance. Joyce used one of my t-shirts for her towel tonight. I got caught up on my typing, and I am again looking forward to going to bed. It is hot and we have no fan, so sleeping is not too good for me but Joyce seems to be sleeping okay. I was exhausted so I am thankful to go to bed.

## **June 4 – Wednesday**

I was glad to be able to go out and exercise today. I had not exercised since Sunday morning, because of travel to Cameroon from Nigeria, and then journey over seven hours in Cameroon from Buea to Bamenda. It actually felt good, even though it was very dark outside and the trail was very rough. I took my shower and then spent some time talking with Prince Ituen about the work here and how the Cameroonians need to have a change of thinking in giving. It will be like a father passing a new concept to a child. The church has been hurt because missionaries here now will often pay men working with them their travel to and from a lectureship and pay for food along the way and while they are there. If students go to bible training at two different schools here (one in the north and one in the south), they receive \$80 US dollars a month and their entire medical and sometimes food is provided. All the evangelism trips are paid for too. Once they leave the schools, the congregation can't pay them but maybe \$50 per month so many quit preaching because they can't survive. That is not the case with Cameroon Institute of Biblical Studies (CIBS) and Buea College of Biblical Studies (BCBS), and they seem to fare better but it would be nice if they could have about \$25.00 per month to help a little.

We ate breakfast and were supposed to leave by 8:30 AM but did not leave until 9:15. Joyce stayed in Bamenda and helped with six children while Sister Margret Ituen took an exam from 8:00 AM to 11:00. The lady who came to help wash clothes, cleaned the house and mopped. Joyce kept the children busy. I was going to listen to the final day of a seminar of personalities, which is using the DiSC personal assessment tool. It was a great class for the students and the local brethren who attended. I was asked to speak for chapel after the class. I applied what Brother Friday Adima taught using 2 Corinthians 5:11-21. After the devotional, the diplomas were handed out by Brother Friday, and I was

asked to be a part of this procedure. We concluded with a prayer, and Brother Prince Ituen fed those that were present rice, beans, and one piece of goat meat. He gave me a hamburger, but I could only eat half of it and it was 2:30 PM. While I was gone, Prince Ugbe and Emmanuel Essien arrived from Nigeria which was an all-night trip.

We came back to Prince's house, which is about a 45-minute trip. Sister Margret had food ready, so I ate a small amount of fufu made out of rice. I also ate a pepe (pepper) and they cannot believe I can eat this with no problem. It is hot but eating it with food is not challenge.

Prince Ituen immediately went out with all the busy things to do for the start of the lectureships tomorrow. Joyce and I needed a towel and I didn't want to add this to Prince Ituen's challenge so Prince Ugbe, Joyce, I went to the market in a taxi. On the way out the gate, there is a big drop off. I didn't notice Joyce holding on to part of the gate, and I shut her finger in the gate. I know it hurt her a lot. As we arrived at the market, I noticed some ladies by the side of the road selling towels and I told Prince we should look at them. We called the ladies over because the traffic was so bad, and they risked themselves to sell us some towels. Prince did the negotiations and we got two towels for \$4.00. We went walking the market. Many tried to sell us something because we were white. Joyce saw some soccer jerseys from Cameroon, so she bought two for \$12.00 after Prince's negotiations. We got a taxi back to Prince Ituen's house just before the big rain.

On the way back, Joyce was not feeling well again and we both determined that it is the malaria pills that she takes in the afternoon.

We sat around and visited until about 9:30 PM, and I was going over my first lesson for tomorrow while we visited. I brought my shirt out to iron, but Emmanuel would not let me iron it and insisted that he iron it. I was thankful for his willingness to do it for me. I am concerned about my lesson because it is really a class and not a sermon, so it is not something you practice and make a presentation; but because it is a lectureship, you still have to present it without getting those in attendance involved in the class. I will have to speak slowly so that they can understand my English. I was thankful for the day being cooler and not have my energy just zapped because of heat. Since I started early, it was still nice to go to bed and get a good night sleep.

## **June 5 – Thursday**

I was up at 3:45 AM because Joyce was thinking of one of her blouses that she had not seen and was hoping that it was not taken at the airport like Prince's computer. I left for exercise at 4:15 on the rough road. My torch (flashlight) seemed very dim this morning and the road has so many gullies and potholes. If Joyce knew how bad it was, she would probably not let me go do the exercise.

I went over my lesson two more times, and I am so concerned about it but have prayed that God will give me the words to say that will encourage the hearers of His word.

I had not told Prince Ugbe about his computer and cords being stolen in Lagos, so I had him sit down while I told the bad news. He asked me what the flight number was, so I got him the information. He is going to call them and register a complaint, which will probably do no good but he feels like he needs to do this. The computer may not have been fixable but just the fact that they stole it is sad.

Joyce and I had what the call cornflakes for breakfast, but it is more like corn meal. It was good and we were glad to have it. After breakfast, I had one more time to review my lessons that I will present today and am just thankful for the time to be able to read them over.

Brother Friday Adima wanted to go to market so Prince Ugbe, Emmanuel, Friday, Joyce and I got into a taxi and went to the market. We saw lots of things that looked tempting to buy. Joyce really wanted an African dress for Nicole but all were really too big. We did buy some gum for the children. We walked in places that, if we had not had the brethren with us, we would have not done this. It was great because we got to greet a lot of people and get a lot of smiles and gave a lot of smiles. Joyce liked the beauty shops where the ladies were getting hair added to the short hair to make it look like long hair. I think you call it braiding. We met Prince Ituen at the copy shop and then rode a taxi back to Prince's house. Prince and Margret are just running to get things done at the last minute. I believe that he can do



pre-planning but this is the third time I am here and I talked to him about it two previous times, so I guess this is just his demeanor and the way he gets things accomplished. It seems too stressful to me.

We got back to the house where we were able to pick up our books and go to the Lectureship. We actually arrived near the time we were supposed to and got to greet all the brethren. They had a prayer and it was time to eat the noon meal. We had corn fufu, greens and fish. It was very good, but Joyce and I split a plate and still didn't eat but about half of it. It didn't go to waste because I gave it to Prince's son, Eugene, and he finished it for us.

I spoke the first lecture introducing I and II Timothy. It went better than I could ever imagine, and I know it is because God heard my prayers. Paul and Janet Key were there from the North of Cameroon and Jeremiah and Britney and family were also there. There were six white adults and three white children among all the black brethren.

Joyce taught the ladies class on the "Fruit of the Spirit" and it went well for her and all the ladies participated well. Sister Margret Ituen translated for her and they asked many questions in the participation. She got me after class and said a lady wanted to talk to me. She wanted to know more about obeying Jesus, so I set up a one-on-one bible study with a sister helping me with her at 8:30 AM tomorrow. That was good news to me. She heard about the lectureship and decided to come and hear what was being said.

We had a small break and then I taught a class on 1 Timothy 3 on the qualifications of an elder. I thought I could finish the whole chapter but barely finished the first seven verses of the chapter. We finished at 7:30 PM and the team with Prince left to go to the Vice President of the National Assembly as a Parliament leader. He is very high up and invited us to his home to greet us and was thankful we were taking the gospel to his village. He has a strong faith in Christ.

We arrived home very late after going through a number of road blocks. There are many more at night than there are during the day. I was falling asleep in the car and was glad to get home, so I could finish this report and go to bed. We have to leave for Batibo tomorrow morning at 8:00 AM. It was a long day but a great day.

## **June 6 – Friday**

I did my exercise early and I was glad I did because it was thundering and lightning and I knew the rain would come soon. As soon as I got my shower finished, it started pouring. I was thankful I was not in this kind of rain. I came out to make coffee and all the coffee was gone, so I made a hot chocolate. I saw that there was enough for just one more cup, so I knew I needed to buy some. More and more people are coming to the house and drinking a cup each time because they always offer people a cup. I made Joyce a cup and took it to the room for her. She was not feeling well. Her throat was sore and she had a fever, probably got it from me when I was sick. She decided not to go out to the lectureship today and try to get well for the graduation tomorrow.

I tried to get Prince to let me walk down to the shop to get more coffee and chocolate, but he said that type is only at a couple of shops and they were not open yet. We waited until he thought it was open, and then we took a motorcycle taxi to the main road; but because it was raining harder, we got off and got into a taxi to go to the store. We got to the store where they usually get this, and it wasn't open. We waited a little and then I said we need to go and suggested the store next to the bakery. We had to take another taxi because it was still pouring. We got to the store and they didn't have the little cans but had the big ones. Those cost more but we probably need the big ones, because many will be at Prince's house in the morning and many will drink coffee tonight. The can had F2000 (\$4.17) on top but when she rang it up, it said F3500 (\$7.29). I said, "It says F2000," and she said it had two prices on it and we had to pay the higher price. Prince tried to talk to her about it, but she wouldn't budge.

We finally took off to the lectureship and arrived there at 10:00 AM, which was 1 ½ hours late. One of the lessons was about half completed. Again, we had classes for both men and women. Joyce, Prince and I decided yesterday that I would teach on submission of the wife in her teaching time, and it was a good thing since Joyce did not go because of illness.

I took Joyce's class time and taught how the husband should treat the wife, and all the ladies loved it. I had them laughing a lot. I told them to tell their husbands that Dan Goodyear said the husbands are lazy. If they treated their wives like the special dish, then it would be easier to submit. Janet Key said the lesson was real good but the men needed to hear it too. All the ladies said they could understand my English except one, so one of the ladies interpreted for me.

We had a number of lessons before lunch, and the men were studying 1 and 2 Timothy. We completed through chapter 2 of 2 Timothy and then had lunch. They had gerri and soup. Prince didn't think I would like it so he brought me two hamburgers. This was food that Emmanuel had trouble with, so I gave him one of my hamburgers.

After lunch Paul Key, Jeremiah Hottler, Prince Ugbe, Emmanuel Essien, Ji Mathias, Mbah Thomas, Prince Ituen, Margret Ituen, Friday Adima, and I had to go meet the divisional officer for the area. He told Prince Ituen that he should have informed him that we were there. Prince said he came by once last week and the Dean of students had been by a number of times, but he was out. He was glad that we were there and had us all sign a paper with our title and how long we would be there. We prayed with him as we left and again he welcomed us.

Prince Ugbe and Emmanuel Essien taught on 2 Timothy 3 and 4. They did an excellent job. I was so proud of them and, as far as I am concerned, were some of the best speakers of the day. After the lessons, we had question time for about an hour and then we had a devotional before supper. We had plantain and Cameroonian soup to go with it. Prince allowed me to eat this, but I could have also eaten the gerri for lunch.

I talked to John, a student who had been expelled from BCBS because of causing division and not being the husband he should be. He was also disfellowshipped from the church. I confronted him and told him that he needed to repent and do what a husband should do and lead his family. I told him he needed to counsel with Brother Aaron with his wife for four months, once a week, with required assignments to complete. He didn't want to do that and kept making excuses. I told him then he needed to repent. He said I needed to listen to him. I told him I listened enough and the only way I would listen is if he would make an appointment with Brother Aaron and me. He was the one who would need to initiate it.

We arrived back at Prince's house about an hour earlier tonight. I was again thankful so that I could relax a bit before I went to bed. I needed to type this report so I could keep up with the daily events. I have two assignments for tomorrow to speak.

## **June 7 – Saturday**

I got up early but didn't exercise because I had two lessons to go over before 7:15 AM. Prince Ituen and I went to the radio station at 7:15, both riding on a taxi motorcycle with a driver. I was surprised that the motorcycle could take the three of us since it was just a 125cc motorcycle. We got there with five minutes to spare, and then I preached on 1 John 1:1 through 2:6. I spoke slowly so all could understand me. Prince said I was very clear and all heard me. He was pleased with the lesson and thought it may bring some calls. He taped it.

We arrived back at the house about 8:15 AM and were supposed to leave right away. We left by 9:15 and got to the graduates' breakfast. The motel was supposed to have the hot water ready but it was not, so we didn't have bread and tea until about 11:00 which was the time we were supposed to start the graduation, again typical of Africa. Prince Ituen served the graduates and their families cocoa and bread, which is what they called breakfast. Joyce had what they call cornflakes (nothing like them) for breakfast, and I ate spaghetti with the rest of the men for breakfast.

As we drove to Batibo there were two overloaded trucks broke down on a hill. They were in the middle of the road and neither had a warning triangle so they put clumps of grass and mud in back of the truck behind them to warn oncoming vehicles and in the front to warn those coming from the other direction. Joyce thinks it is creative but the problem is when they get the vehicle fixed they don't take these clumps of grass and dirt off the road.

We finished the breakfast and then walked down to the community hall for the graduation. We all got in gowns to march in with the students. They even wanted Joyce to have a gown on and march in with us. She didn't want to do that but she did to honor them. I had a coat, tie and now a gown on and I was so hot. The graduation lasted 3 ½ hours which didn't surprise me the way they do things here. They sang the Cameroonian national anthem and their class song. We had prayer, sung two songs, a scripture reading, and I spoke a charge to the graduates. (Sounds like a church service but remember this is a bible college.) Emmanuel spoke on Christian education and how this will help the country of Cameroon to grow and be what they want to do and will cause God's blessings to come on them if they will follow Him. We passed out diplomas but they were just pieces of paper, because we did not have time to get the diplomas before we departed. I awarded all the graduates one of the solar players from SIBI. The dignitaries wanted one and asked if I had brought one for them. I disappointed them because I did not have one for them. We also awarded them the Roger Dickson Bible library that the funds I had paid for the shipping charges. They were so happy to receive these things.

Prince gave out lifetime achievement awards for about 12 people from CIBS, and I handed them to everyone except the one he gave to me. Then about eight dignitaries had to say a few words which prolonged end of the graduation. After the graduation, we had to spend a lot of time taking photos of the students and us with the students. We still had to survive with the gowns and our jacket and ties on.

Prince wanted to feed all the dignitaries and the special guest so we went to a place near the site of the graduation and ate salad, beef, rice and soup. It was very good. This took a while and we got back to Bamenda at about 5:15 PM. We hit heavy rain on the way back and had to go much slower than when we went to Batibo. When we got to Bamenda, it had not rained in the last hour. As we stopped at a road, being crammed in the backseat, Joyce was very near me so I reached over and kissed her cheek. A man standing on the side of the road saw it. He smiled at us and gave us thumbs up.

When we arrived at Prince's house, I could tell our clothes were not dry and the lady who washed them said she had fought the rain all day. I spread the clothes out on the line again because the wind was blowing pretty well but it looked like it was going to rain again. I kept watching and sure enough I had to pull them off the line and hang them all around the room that Joyce and I were staying in. She laid down when we got back and fell asleep and I did not even wake her while I was hanging the clothes all over the room. She was tired.

The children of Prince went in to see her later (they call her grandma) and saw she was asleep. They just stood there and she sensed them and got up. It allowed her to visit more with everyone. We visited for a while but everyone was so tired, especially Prince Ituen and his wife, Margret, who had worked so hard for at least two weeks to get the seminar, the lectureship and the graduation organized. The last five days were especially hard on them, even though they had the instructors and students helping to serve. I believe that Prince had everything in his head and tried to direct it all. Plus, a lot that needed to be accomplished cost money, and he is the only one that had money (and he really didn't have much). I don't know how he could have pulled this off had I not been here with funds, and I really didn't budget for what I was giving him to help it all to be done.

It was so hot with so many people inside that I often went outside just to cool off. I really enjoyed being outside because God had a lightning show going on and it was beautiful. We don't get to see that much in Oregon.

Sister Margret made gerri and soup, which we ate with our hands. I was sharing a bowl with Brother Aaron as we ate. I really didn't feel like eating because I had eaten an ear of roast corn about an hour and a half earlier but you just hate not to eat when Sister Margret went to so much work. So I ate a small portion and that way I honored her but also had fellowship with the brethren. Joyce had gone to bed and after we ate I soon went to bed too.

## **June 8 – Sunday**

During the night at about 1:00 AM, there was a girl who started screaming and you could tell she was being beaten. She started running and screaming. There was a lot of commotion for a long time

and Joyce snuggled close to me. It went on for a long time and finally calmed down. I thought there was going to be a serious fight with all that was going on. I was getting ready to go out for exercise at about 3:45 but there was another fight, so I decided it would be better that I didn't go. Joyce was afraid for me to go and was glad I chose not to go.

Joyce has given a lot of the medicine away that we brought because someone is always sick and she tries to help them. She said next time we must bring more medicine. I asked her how we would have done that this time, and she said we would have left something out that we needed. I appreciate her attitude.

We had fried potatoes and bread for breakfast. The fried potatoes were very good and it was hard to just eat a few. Both Margret and Prince Ituen had sat in the kitchen to peel them as a team. I took a photo to show how the husband helps the wife when he is a Christian, because many don't treat their wives that way in Africa.

We walked to the main road and caught a taxi to the church building. The driver could not get us to the building. The road was blocked because they were working on it and it was very muddy. We had to walk in the mud to get to worship. We sang a number of songs, had the Lord's Supper and then I preached about supporting the preacher because this congregation doesn't believe that you need to do that. Prince Ituen said that the man that really needed to hear this was out preaching at another congregation and somehow uses Ephesians 4:11-32 to proclaim it doesn't say Paul was supported; but he does not listen to Paul in 1 Corinthians 9:14 where the same writer says God commands that if a man preaches, he should live by the preaching. This is sad that he has so much control and he would split the church if they did it a different way. It will probably take him dying before that congregation changes.

Emmanuel Essien taught the class, and the title is "How Has Jesus Touched You and Made a Change in Your Life?" He did an excellent job and I even took good notes.

Brother Aldophus asked us to go to his house, and Prince said we need to honor him with this request because he is one of the instructors in the school. We went to his house and it is very nice. He has pigs and has made his living off of pigs and selling things. He lives in the city and having pigs in the city would not be allowed in the US. He told us that he and his whole family worked together to pay for the house and support themselves, even though he has been the preacher where we worshipped this morning and they refuse to pay him. His schedule is that he would go to bed around 10:30 PM each night. He rises at 3:00 AM to do bible research until 5:00 AM, at which time he gets his family up to have ½ devotion and then talks to them about how they should live their lives and be an example for the day. He then gives them opportunity to ask questions about this. He then takes his vegetables with all of his family until 5:00 PM to try to sell them and bring income to the family. Then he goes back out and sells bananas until 10:00 PM, and the people call him pastor banana but he doesn't care that they call him that. His four daughters all have degrees, and one is in Vietnam with her husband. His two sons start university soon. He and his wife know what it is to sacrifice. He will teach Old and New Testament survey at CIBS and also piggery.

We came back to Prince's and had lunch of rice with fish and carrots and cabbage salad. It was very good. Joyce laid down because she knows it is going to be a hard trip tonight to Buea. I packed my suitcase because the clothes I hung up yesterday were finally dry and I could put them in the suitcase. I had to get Joyce back up because Margret wanted photos with us since she didn't have one from the last time I was here. We also took photos of their entire family.

Prince and Margret Ituen left their house to go to a meeting. It started late because it was pouring down rain and everyone was waiting until the rain let up to travel to the meeting. I waited at the house and visited with the Nigerian brethren while we waited for them to return. Sister Margret returned but Prince had another meeting. I was waiting for him to discuss a situation with Austin Edi about support and teaching at CIBS. There were more teachers than I was led to believe by Austin, but I probably misunderstood him. What Prince and I decided is that we would give him one of the solar players for his use and ask him to go back to his village and listen to the lesson so much that he could almost teach them. It also may be a good way for him to invite others in the village to come and hear

the messages or just the reading of the bible. Prince would keep him in consideration if one of the current teachers had to stop teaching. It is evident that he needs mentoring before he actually teaches the students, which would be a great thing for him.

It was 7:45 PM and we wanted to leave by 8:00 PM, but Prince just arrived. He and I had a small discussion and then we also had discussion again with Austin, who agreed with the plan that we had. We all gathered together and held hands and had a prayer before we left. Emmanuel Essien led the prayer and it was so moving. We all hugged and then Brother Aaron, Brother David, Joyce and I got into a taxi and left for the bus depot. We arrived and checked in, and they needed to record our passport number or identification number in the case of the Cameroonians. It was 8:30 PM but the bus was not ready to leave but I scheduled for 9:00 PM. We did load our luggage and saw where that would be for the trip. We had time to drink a soda while we waited.

Joyce wanted to get on the bus at 9:30 so we did, and really it was better because they were better seats than where we were sitting. As we sat down, we noticed cockroaches in Brother Aaron's seat and they were also by the arm of Joyce's seat. We killed some and kept our eye out for others. Joyce put hand cleaner around the area by our seats and we did not see another one after that...another use for hand cleaner. Just because we didn't see them didn't mean they weren't there. A lady sitting across from Brother Aaron brought a live chicken on board and got a second bag to cover its head. I had to laugh at this and pointed it out to Joyce. She said this shouldn't be allowed but should go under the bus. I told her the people here are used to this type of thing and are not bothered by it.

We took off at 10:30 PM, an hour and a half late but better than we thought. We climbed the steep hill out of Bamenda and, as soon as we got to the top, we were in line to go through an army check. The army personnel came on the bus and checked each person's identification. The army was going to accompany all the buses all the way to Douala. Sometimes they rode in the same bus or the bus behind us. Tonight, it was the bus behind us but we knew we had an escort. The reason is they were looking for Boko Haram who may have come across the border from Nigeria. The checks were very detailed. We went through a number of these checks and it was midnight.

## **June 9 – Monday**

At 1:00 AM we were stopped again, and this time they not only checked our identities but they decided to check everything under the bus. They got disturbed because they asked everyone to come and identify their things. Brother Aaron was out there for us. One man was either asleep or didn't hear and, when he finally did hear, they were mad. He had a machine he was taking to Douala. It was disassembled and would be assembled once he got to Douala. The police said to the driver that he should let the air out of the tires, and the driver said, "If you do that, then one of us will be dead tonight," because he was not going to allow it. The police then put their vehicle right in front of the bus so we couldn't take off in a hurry if the driver decided to do that. They took the man's machine off because they said this was not allowed to be transported but he had all the right paperwork. Brother Aaron pleaded with three of them to allow the man to go but they kept his machine and took him off of the bus before they would let us go. Brother Aaron said the chief was drunk and now he was saving face by taking this stuff when he knew he was wrong.

We got stopped many times and were checked many times, so the six-hour trip turned into a nine-hour trip. We were tired by the time we got to Buea. I catnapped some, but Joyce said I was falling out of the seat so she had to stay awake to keep me from falling out. I wasn't but she thought I was.

When we arrived, we had fried plantain, eggs, bread and coffee. Joyce and I then took a bucket bath because the water was off and then laid down to rest. I slept for about an hour but needed to be up to go over my lessons for tonight. I studied in the room some and then I came and studied more. This gave me a chance to get coffee too.

Sister Elizabeth made lunch and served it about 2:30 PM. Once they had it on the table, I tried to get Joyce up but that was impossible. She was so tired. We ate and they understood Joyce being tired.

It was great meal of plantain, Cameroon soup (greens, melons, and fish mixed), avocado, oranges, and mixed fruit. It was a feast. I studied some more and then went back into the room. Joyce asked if I could bring her some bread. I got some from Sister Elizabeth and took some coffee with it. I told her we had avocado, and she asked if I could bring a slice of that too. She finally came out after resting some more and then had some fruit. I continued to study for my lessons tonight.

Brother Aaron and I went the church building to meet the students. They were supposed to be there by 6:00 PM but didn't arrive until 6:30 PM. I had a lot to cover in three hours, so I rushed through to finish at 9:15. I was exhausted from the long trip, arriving this morning from Bamenda. Sister Elizabeth called and asked when we were going to be home because Sister Joyce asked when we were going to be there. Joyce really didn't want to eat, because she was thinking about going to bed. Sister Elizabeth had made food and didn't want us to go to bed until after we ate. I really didn't want to eat but we did. She made a nice salad of shredded carrots, cabbage, red cabbage, cucumbers, and avocado with homemade salad dressing. I ate a little with a piece of bread to not offend her. She had made coffee, so I had that because I felt I was so tired that nothing was going to keep me awake. I was glad to go to bed. Joyce was talking to me about many things, and I fell to sleep in the middle of it.

## **June 10 – Tuesday**

I was waiting for the singing to wake me up at 5:30 AM, knowing I was tired and would not automatically wake up. I looked at the clock and it was 5:45, so I got my exercise clothes on and went out and I was still the first one out. Brother Aaron came down about 6:00 AM and started singing, and one by one his family and Joyce came out to join us. I did the devotional for the group.

I took off exercising after the devotional. I went uphill first so I could end coming downhill. They live next to Mount Cameroon, the tallest mountain in West Africa, so I had a good climb. Once I showered, breakfast was ready. I studied until about 11:00 AM when Joyce wanted to go see some things. Brother Aaron took us to see the hospital, his work place at the colleges, and the market. Joyce took so many more pictures. I wanted to get back because I really needed to study more.

When we got back, Brother David was there asking if we could participate in a two-hour lectureship on Saturday. That meant I would have to prepare another lesson for Saturday, which I was not excited to do since they had an assigned passage; but I agreed since I am here to work. I was hoping for a day off to relax but that is not happening.

After lunch, I studied some more because I am way behind with knowing the lesson for the next four days for the students. I want to make sure they get the required information, so I have to really work on it. That means I spend a lot of time not being able to talk to Brother Aaron, which I would prefer to do rather than studying the whole time. We are about to leave for a preaching assignment, which I did not find out about until today, so I will have to come up with one from knowing the scriptures. I am glad I know a few of them, so I can give a lesson when I haven't spent days preparing one. Brother Aaron took a nap on the couch, and Joyce took a nap in our room while I was studying; but after an hour, Joyce came out and began to write in her journal.

I continued to study out on the porch to be cooler than in the house. Brother Aaron has not recovered from our ride from Bamenda and needed the rest. I am glad he was able to rest some. I woke him up at 4:15 PM, because I thought we were supposed to be at the church building at 4:30. He said we could leave at 4:35 and be there by 5:00 PM. He quickly went back to sleep. We went to a congregation that Buea supports, and they encouraged them to meet on Tuesday for mid-week services so that the congregation here can be involved to encourage them. I was asked to preach, so I preached on sin and how we blame others and how we blame God.

We went straight to the church building after that for me to teach three more lessons on the "Christian Family," which is a required course for the students. I taught from 6:30 to 9:30 tonight. Right when I finished, there was an argument outside of the building. A family had been renting a room to someone, and they found out that he had been taking liberties with their 16-year-old daughter. It was quite an argument and went on for a long time. I thought there was going to be a serious fight. It was

raining so hard that we had to wait to walk to the car so we would not get soaked. It was still raining when we departed, but not as bad as it was.

As we drove home, the water was running on all the roads like a river. When we turned up the road to get to Brother Aaron's, it was really a river. The water was coming over the bonnet (hood) as we drove up. A couple of vehicles were already stalled out, but we made it fine. When we got to their house, the water was flowing in their yard up to the middle of the wheels of the car. One daughter brought an umbrella and we jumped from the car to the porch as she held the umbrella over us. It was flowing like a river in their yard.

We came in and food was on the table. She had made a nice pasta salad but she also had popcorn. Joyce loved the pasta salad and insisted that I eat a small amount, but I ate the popcorn and I know this will surprise some of you. I had competition though, because Brother Aaron's son was eating it as fast I was eating it. After eating, we went to bed and it was still raining so hard. It was great to hear it on the tin roof and sing you to sleep.

### **June 11 – Wednesday**

We heard Brother Aaron singing at about 5:45 AM and knew it was time for morning devotional. Brother Aaron and one young man were out here singing when I came out. Then Joyce came out, and we just sang louder and louder until all four of his daughters, son and wife got here. We then sang some more. I have been asked to bring the devotional each morning. After the devotional, I did my exercise. Again, it was uphill the first half and all downhill the second half. I got a blister from walking downhill.

After my bath, I noticed Joyce was not in the room but was in the kitchen watching them prepare and cook meals for us. As they were working, they were singing and Joyce was enjoying it so much. She said that they sing so beautifully and should be heard in the US. As they practiced, they would test different harmonies with each other. They are really good.

We had breakfast, and Sister Elizabeth made pancakes. They were sweet but very good. Joyce ate one and Brother Aaron and I each ate two. Joyce taught Kochabini (Brother Aaron's son who is 5) how to play paper/scissors/rock. She was teaching him his colors. He has been at her side almost constantly.

After breakfast, I continued to study for tonight's class in hopes I could teach them what is necessary for passing the class. They will have a mid-term test tonight along with a couple of classes. The final is Friday. We will have spent 15 hours in instruction once the class is completed.

I took a break and walked to the market with Joyce. She wanted to go visit the local market so she could just look. It was a tough walk for her because the roads are just lava, and it is tough to walk on. She was looking for a shirt for David (her son-in-law) for his birthday. We did buy him some pepe, because he likes hot sauces. I am glad she has a plastic bag to put it in as we travel. As we walked back, one lady observed us and she praised God because I was helping Joyce as we walked over these rough roads. She said that is what men are supposed to do and she appreciated our example.

We got back and I studied some more for my bible class and for the lesson I would present at the mid-week services at Buea Church of Christ. Tonight, I will present lesson 7 through 9 and also give the mid-term exam for the class. This is tough on the students to get a 12-lesson class in one week but we have spent three hours each night. It is truly a crash course.

I taught on submission at the mid-week services. Most said that they liked the lesson and they opened it for questions. There were about three questions and the people seemed satisfied with the answers I gave from the scripture. After the lesson, I had three young men come up to me and ask more questions, which was good because that says they were really listening. None of these three were married. At the end, one of the young men said this lesson seemed more for the man than for the woman. I laughed and said, "You heard well." I believe the women needed to hear about submission but I believed more that the men needed to hear what submission means for a wife to submit to her husband.

After the mid-week services were over, we were to start the BCBS class on the family. It took us 30 minutes to get everyone out of the building so we could start. I explained the exam to them and told them they should be able to complete it in a half hour. We reviewed all the answers the day before; and every time I talked about something on the test, I told them they may see this again. They didn't like the fact that none of the self-test questions were on the test, because that was what many of them had studied. That is what I will use for the final is questions from the self-test exercises that they do for homework. They also have two memory verse assignments. I looked at the exams and, at a quick glance, it seemed that they did pretty well. Only one of the students wrote the memory work at mid-term, so the others will have to write them for the final. Since the students took a mid-term test, it meant that we went until 10:00 PM to finish the three lessons required for the day.

We got back to Brother and Sister Aaron's house. Amelia, their oldest daughter, had made a feast for us for supper but it was 10:15 PM. I really didn't want to eat this late, but I also didn't want to offend them. She made a beautiful salad, beans, and plantain. I had a little salad with some beans on top. I even got Brother Aaron to try putting beans on top of his. I was hoping for popcorn. While I was eating, I began to smell popcorn and then Amelia brought out a big pan of popcorn. I told Sister Aaron that she fooled me and wanted me to eat something besides popcorn like she did the night before. I still had to eat some, and it was very good. We finally went to bed at 11:15 and would be up early for the morning devotional.

## **June 12 – Thursday**

Joyce and I woke up at 4:00 AM and began to discuss the women of the bible. We talked about if they were educated or not and did they only work in the home. We saw that Lois and Eunice trained Timothy and most likely knew how to read or had heard the events, so much that they could train Timothy by what they had memorized. We also talked about Lydia having a business selling purple. We talked about Romans 16 and how Paul commended all the women who had helped in the work.

We heard Brother Aaron start singing about 5:50 AM so we came out. Eventually, all the family arrived and we had the devotion. Again, I gave the devotion when Brother Aaron called on me.

I did my exercise and, after I came back, got cleaned up and breakfast was ready. We had spaghetti with egg in it fried like a pancake. They covered a whole plate so Joyce and I split one. Sister Aaron wants us to eat the whole plate of food put before us, but it is just too much food for us to eat.

After breakfast, I graded the exams and they did well, especially since I crossed them up and didn't give them questions from the self-exam exercises. They scored a 67, 79, 85 and 88. One was not there to take the exam and will have to take it later. I felt like they did well; you could at least see that they got the concept, which is the most important for them for they must teach it to others. The one who got the 67 will have to pass the final with a better score to pass.

I studied for the final three lessons for about an hour and a half before I worked on my lesson for Saturday, which I was asked to do on Tuesday. I didn't like the short notice, so now I must get busy on that. I can hopefully present something that will bring glory to God and allow the brethren to be encouraged and learn from God's word.

I took a break, and Joyce wanted to go for a walk to get a little exercise. It was just her and me that went without anyone from Brother Aaron's family. It is very safe here. Joyce wanted to take a photo of a man pouring cement but he would not allow us to do that. Two ladies really gave him a bad time for not being willing to do that. We walked pretty far downhill and then had to come back up all the way back. We must have walked a mile down so it was a mile back. We went into this alley that had a lot of shops. One had a cooler, so we bought a coke. It is called American Cola and tastes much like Coca Cola. I think it is only the second coke I have had since I have been here, because they don't have sugar free. It cost F500 (\$1.04) and it was a full liter. I also bought some toothpaste because we were about out, and it cost F300 (\$0.63). As we walked back to Brother Aaron's, Joyce asked the man who was laying the cement if she could take a photo now and he allowed her. Joyce was thankful I was willing to go with her so she could get some exercise.



We had BCBS classes early tonight. We started at 4:00 PM and went until 7:00 PM. I finished the whole course for them, and tomorrow we will have a final. This is a required course by SIBI in Lubbock, Texas. I told them what the test would cover, and they seemed to think I was being unfair making it over the whole 12 lessons since they had taken a mid-term; but I wanted to know if they got the concepts, since it was a crash course. They will do well. We had a lot of good conversation during the class. The first day, they hardly spoke; but each day, they spoke more and more.

We had dinner about 8:00 PM and had a guacamole salad (it was all guacamole, onion and tomato). It was so good. We also had mangos, and I was thankful it was a light supper for I had asked them not to make a full meal. They keep saying Americans don't eat much, but we feel like we are eating all the time.

Thursdays, they have a small group meeting in their home with singing, prayer and a bible lessons. We joined that and had some people from the area at the house with us. After visiting with everyone, Brother Aaron turned on the TV and we watched part of the match of the World Cup. Joyce and I went to bed after about an hour, but the TV was so loud that I heard the whole match just lying there and listening. They cannot turn down their TV. It was still good to be lying down. I am a little tired but God is helping me with strength.

### **June 13 – Friday**

It was a very rough night. There is a nightclub very close to Brother Aaron's house, and they played loud music all night. Joyce said it would have been okay if it had been Brother Aaron's family there singing hymns but it was popular music. When I went out and did exercise after the devotional this morning, they were still playing the music and dancing. I don't think they minded keeping everyone awake during the night.

We all ate breakfast together before the ladies left for their retreat. It is being held about an hour from here so they will come back tonight. I think Sister Elizabeth would like to stay the night but she is coming back for Joyce's sake. I am spending a lot of the day preparing for the lesson I will teach tomorrow at a lectureship and also reviewing lessons for Sunday. I give the final exam for the students tonight starting at 7:00 PM. They get at least two hours for the exam and, if they need it, three hours. So I may be out late again tonight.

I was glad to have had the time to study because I just finished the lesson today for tomorrow, and it gave me a chance to practice it. I got sleepy while I studied and finally tried lying down; but every time I did, I wasn't sleepy anymore, so no rest for the wicked.

We went to the church at 5:45 PM to have a prayer session at 6:00. I was visiting with someone when the young man leading the songs came up to me and said he would lead about four songs and I was then to give a ten-minute exhortation about prayer. I wish I had known earlier so I could have prepared. It was okay but it would have been better if I had time to prepare. We had prayer time until 7:00 PM and then we asked all the people if they could visit outside because I needed to give the exam to the BCBS students on the course "The Christian Home." Only two were there and I hated to start before the others got there. I waited and finally two more came. Only Sister Patricia was not there, and she was coming back from the ladies retreat. She arrived with an hour to go on the test and actually finished it, which didn't surprise me because she is so smart.

We got home and Joyce was really excited about the day she had with the ladies. They went on the main road and then drove on small dirt roads for about a mile before they came to the church building. She got a lot of photos of the ladies teaching the other ladies. She even made the remark that, "You men better preach well because they ladies really shine when they preach to other ladies." She was not going to give a lesson but the ladies really wanted her to; and when she said she just wanted to listen, they seemed disappointed so she gave her lesson on the "Fruit of the Spirit" and also talked about Lois and Eunice and how important women are to the church. She gave them a review on our trip to Nigeria and northwest Cameroon. When she said we visited a hospital, they said we are going to visit

one and this is a brother who is the doctor and does surgery. He often does it for free or at a greatly reduced price.

We ate about 10:30 at night before we went to bed. I ate popcorn and Joyce ate spaghetti and popcorn. I was glad to get to bed because it was 11:30 and I had to preach in the morning.

## **June 14 – Saturday**

Today is Ashleigh Hess' birthday (my 27-year-old granddaughter), and I hate to miss her birthday. I sent her a text to let her know that Joyce and I were thinking of her.

We had our devotional at 6:00 AM (late this morning) and, since we needed to leave at 7:30, I didn't go out and exercise. I will be able to do it tomorrow since we don't need to leave until 8:30 AM for bible class and worship.

We didn't leave until 7:45 AM, which didn't surprise me. We went on back roads which was a beautiful drive. We were in the area where they grew tea, and the fields and the area were so beautiful. We arrived at Wotutu Church of Christ, where a two-hour meeting was supposed to happen. I told Joyce it will be much longer than that. I spoke on 1 Peter 4:11 at their request and used the context of the whole book of 1 Peter. After I finished, Brother Aaron said that is exactly what needed to be said. Kochabini went with us so Brother Aaron's daughters didn't have to care for him while his mom was at the ladies' lectureship. After the lesson, they were supposed to have 15 minutes of questions but it ended up being between 30 and 45 minutes. Then Brother Ballard from Bear Valley School of Preaching gave a lesson on the assigned topic of "Who Should You Let Preach in Your Place?" He did a great job and then we had another 30 to 45 minutes of questions. We were there almost five hours. Mission Printing had sent a container of tracts, so many of the ministers came because they were picking up tracts. They were still going to have a preachers' meeting but we didn't stay for that.

Brother Aaron took us to Limbe for lunch. We had a full-size sea bass, and Joyce and I split one. Brother Aaron and Brother David both had one of their own. We also had a roasted plantain with the fish. It was very good and that is because it was so fresh. We drove back on the same road. This time, the clouds were so low that we had trouble even seeing the road, which was also very narrow and curvy. At every curve we came to, Brother Aaron had to honk his horn to make sure we didn't hit anyone and that no one hit us. We made it home safely.

We had the afternoon to rest. I used the time to study for tomorrow's lessons and also to visit. Sister Elizabeth was at the ladies' retreat and arrived home very late. Their daughter, Prata, went to Douala for a wedding she sang in, so she also was very late coming home. Emila went to the church building to clean because they have construction going on and is a mess. The young people cleaned it for the worship tomorrow. We did watch a football (soccer) game on TV for the World Cup games. It was fun seeing it but sorry it wasn't the US playing.

Joyce and I were very tired so we went to bed about 8:00 PM and were glad to get some extra sleep for this night.

## **June 15 – Sunday**

We had morning devotional as usual and then I went out to do exercise. I usually don't do it on Sunday morning, so I can use the time to go over my lessons but I did that last night. I was glad to get the exercise in since we will be on a plane for two days starting Monday night.

We ate breakfast and quickly went to church. I taught the class on Ephesians and then it was open for questions. There were five questions. Then we got the sign from the back by the time keeper to stop because it was time to move to worship. They actually hold up a sign with 30 minutes to go, five minutes to go, and then stop. We started worship, and they have the preacher preach immediately. I preached on 1 John chapters 1 and 2. I again got the sign with five minutes to go, so I knew I would not finish my lesson but I did get the points across. Both the bible class and the sermon were translated into French because the church has converted some French speakers and want them to also be able to worship.

We had the contribution, and one of the brothers spoke about giving. We then had the Lord's Supper. Another brother spoke on the Lord's Supper.

After worship, the ladies were getting the food ready, and we had the children come up and show us what they had done for bible class. They were so cute. There were two children's classes. After the children, we had some young men come forward and sing about three songs. They were so great and harmonized well. The BCBS students then sang a couple of songs and did a great job.

The church had Brother Aaron give a speech to tell us goodbye and thank us for being there and for our sacrifice of coming and being with them. Then Brother Omam spoke as the president of the board of BCBS and again he thanked us and also asked for continued support for the school and to keep BCBS in our hearts and prayers. I responded and told them we did not sacrifice while here and were honored to be in their presence and their homes. They always make us feel at home. I asked the church and the school to pray that God would open doors for a congregation to take BCBS as their work, so they could get support not for the church but for the school to train men and women. I told them I did not come with funds to give them, so they would know that I didn't leave a lot of cash with Brother Aaron and the church wouldn't think that I left him packets of money.

I called the BCBS students forward and gave them the solar players with the 44 courses and the bible on them. They were excited to receive them. I told them that there was one condition: they must complete their schooling; but if they did not, then they must give the solar player back to Brother Aaron.

Finally, it was time to eat. The ladies brought lots of food forward and then began to serve. They insisted that Joyce and I go first to get our food. We had fufu, vegetables, and fish. It was all so good. The vegetables were greens. They had three different types, and one of those was huckleberry leaves. Everyone got to eat and we had great fellowship.

I received a text message from Dusty saying "Happy Father's Day" and, to be honest, I had forgotten it was Father's Day. I am glad she remembered.

We came back to the house and Brother Aaron, Brother Omam and I signed the Association papers with Sunset International Bible Institute (SIBI) with Brother David Otia (one of the instructors) witnessing the signing. This will allow the students to be eligible for the BA from SIBI if they meet all the qualifications. SIBI will help with materials such as the courses, TV, DVD player, computer and printer. These things have already been purchased for BCBS by the sacrifice of those who have given funds toward the work in Africa and for the schools. I told them that my goal is to find a congregation to take on the work of BCBS as their work for the Lord in training men to preach and women to be leaders for the women. We prayed about the signing and we also prayed about God to open doors to a congregation to support BCBS. We then presented a solar player to David Otia to use as he prepares his lessons for BCBS. If he stops being an instructor for BCBS, then he must give the solar player back to the school or pay \$500 (F240,000).

I gave Brother Aaron \$100 (F48,000) to split with the five instructors and the five students who are still in school. That is only about \$10 each, but they were excited to get it. You could see the smiles on their faces. I told them I did not do this for any other schools that I had visited. I did help the schools in other ways.

Andy (one of the students) showed up to quote his memory verses that he owed me for the class and to take the mid-term test. He did well on the test, but he missed so much of the class. He is also in his fourth year at the university majoring in petroleum. He is very smart and this is the kind of caliber of students they have in BCBS.

We visited for a while, and about 9:30 Joyce went in our room to arrange a few things for our trip to the US tomorrow.

## **June 16 – Monday**

I got up at 4:20 AM to go do my exercise. Brother Aaron decided to go with me because I was going in the dark. He felt it was unsafe for me to go alone at this time. He was amazed at the pace I could go just walking, especially on the way out because it was all uphill. I kept the same pace coming

back, but he could run then and keep up with me. Uphill he could not. I am glad he went and he also was glad he went.

We got back at 5:30 and, since no one was up, we decided to take our baths before we had the devotional. About the time I got dressed, Emila was already singing and we all came out. I spoke on 3 John and read their names into the scripture and used their names when it talked about Gaius or friends. I wanted them to know that they treated us in a manner worthy of God. Joyce and I decided that we would give Elizabeth, Emila, Prata, Janet, Ruth and Theresa F5000 (\$10.42) each for all the service they did in cooking food and taking care of us. We also gave Eugene and Marvine F5000 (\$10.42) for doing our laundry and ironing and cleaning around the house. We gave a sister who was staying with them the last couple of days and helped a little F2000 (\$4.17) and Joyce gave her a small jacket. We also gave Kochabini F2000 (\$4.17) and some ground nuts (peanuts) for being a grandson to Joyce. Then Sister Elizabeth presented Joyce and me with a gift from the church. They said it was supposed to happen yesterday and they needed to take a photo of us receiving it to show the church. It was an African dress for Joyce and an African outfit for me.

We went to the home of Brother Omam and his wife for breakfast. We wore the outfits the church bought us, so they could see that we had actually received the gifts. They loved it and took photos of us. Sister Omam made a feast for breakfast. We had pancakes (African style), carrot/pineapple/avocado salad, bread, eggs with tomatoes and onions in them, and popcorn because she knows I love popcorn. Can you imagine having popcorn for breakfast? But Sister Omam also ate popcorn with me.

We came back from breakfast, and I took another shower because the first one was a bucket bath and now the water was on. We arranged all the suitcases and are ready to go with just a few things left to put in. Now we are just visiting and waiting to go to lunch with a sister who insisted that we come for lunch. I am sure we will not need much to eat for the rest of the day.

Kochabini was very clingy with Joyce and prayed with her twice. He is only 5 years old. It was neat to see his love to pray. He hung around her and wouldn't move from her side.

We went to Sister Mary's house for lunch, and again she had a big spread of food. They are amazed that we don't eat much. What Brother Aaron said they do is they eat the food that is set before them until it is gone. I told him I would weigh 300 pounds or more if I did that. Sister Elizabeth finally saw that we only eat a little compared to them, so she cut down how much she made for each meal.

We had a discussion about the Christian School where Sister Mary is the proprietor. She doesn't seem to like the way everything is going. Brother Aaron is her advisor and tells her she needs to let those she hires run the school, like the principal and vice principal. She says she wants it to be a Christian school but wants to hire non-Christian teachers. Brother Aaron has shown her she has driven away 21 Christian teachers. We also talked about the type of discipline that the school needs to have. She doesn't like caning but they have a system in place to use that only as a last resort. Mary heard a lot of good things from Joyce and liked the ideas that Joyce talked about.

We got back to Brother Aaron's house and loaded the luggage, and it was 4:15 PM. Brother Aaron said we were going to leave at 5:00 PM. I said we should leave at 4:30 and he agreed. We got about two miles down the road and had to turn around and go back to his house to get the WBS lessons that he wanted to send with me. Then we stopped and got air for the tires. We took about 1 ½ hours to get to the outskirts of Douala and got petrol. Then we had to go through the traffic mess and it took us another hour to go about three miles. We got to the airport but Brother Aaron turned at the wrong place and it took us back out of the airport. We tried to get back but you had to go way out of your way to get back. Once he tried to go straight across the freeway. We had two vehicles facing us and we were directly in their path. Finally he asked the police how to get back, and they told us but again we had to go across traffic twice to get back to the airport. The driving is crazy and you wonder how Brother Aaron kept from hitting people. One time near the bridge, we just sat in traffic with the engine off because nothing was moving for about 15 minutes. When we got to the airport, because of Boko

Haram, they would only let passengers go into the airport so we had to say goodbye outside and it was very quick. I had hoped to spend some time with them in the airport.

We got to the agent counter and checked in quickly. Then he said we had to go pay an exit tax before we could leave. We paid \$50 each, which I thought was a lot since we had already paid \$127 each for the visas. We went through customs and immigrations fine and then had a long walk to the gate. I looked for tea for Dusty but there was none in Douala, which didn't surprise me because it is a small airport. I hope I find it in Brussels because I didn't find it in either airport in Port Harcourt or Lagos in Nigeria.

We got to the gate and had to go through security, and then we were behind walls with no food and no water. I thought, since we load in an hour, it won't be bad. We were supposed to load at 8:30 PM but didn't load until 10:40, so we were very thirsty by the time we boarded. Then we had a 35-minute flight to Yaounde, Cameroon and still didn't get anything to drink. While we were sitting on the ground waiting for others to load, I went up and got Joyce and me a glass of water.

### **June 17 – Tuesday**

We took off about midnight and were very tired. They brought us supper right away and something to drink, for which I was very thankful to receive because I was so thirsty. We arrived in Brussels a little late and then went to look in the shops for the tea that Dusty asked me to bring. They did not have it either. I felt bad that I was not able to get it. Joyce bought a couple of shirts for her daughter and son-in-law and then we went through security again. There were some more shops on the other side of security but still no tea. We decided to have a diet coke (I had not had one since we arrived in Africa) and it cost \$11 for two. I could not believe it was that much but was glad to drink it. I did have a couple of regular cokes while in Africa but no diet cokes.

We had to go through security questioning at the transfer gate and were given different boarding passes before we could get on our flight. We are on the last leg to the US. We both slept on the leg from Douala to Brussels for about two hours, and we were glad we were able to get that much.

We only had four hours to wait instead of 5 ½ because the flight from Cameroon took off late and arrived late. We were glad that we didn't have to wait so long. We boarded the plane at 12:00 and had a good flight. This time we were not in a section that only had two seats but three. We had to share one of the seats with a lady from Sierra Leone. She wanted to sit on the aisle so we allowed her but told her we both get up a lot and use the restroom and that was reason she gave us for wanting to sit on the aisle. Joyce sat by the window and I sat in the middle. The lady from Sierra Leone kept falling asleep and falling over on me. We actually got up more than she did, and each time I had to wake her up. I felt bad but she wanted to sit there. Joyce slept for an hour on this flight, but I could not sleep at all. I did shut my eyes but just couldn't go to sleep.

We arrived in Washington, DC on time but then had to go through the immigrations and customs and pick up our bags. Nicole was worried she would be late but just as we got outside of the terminal she pulled up, so it worked out great. Joyce's grandchildren were so excited to see her. Carmen just clung to Joyce and it was cute to see. Joyce and Nicole went through a lot of the photos and then Nicole insisted that we lie down for about an hour before we had supper. We actually laid down for about 1 ½ hours, and Nicole sent Carmen to come wake us up. We actually went to sleep. Carmen had a great time getting us up and was giggling to wake us up.

We visited until about 9:30 PM, and I was falling asleep in the chair so we finally went to bed. I went right to sleep and am sure I needed it.

### **June 18 – Wednesday**

Joyce woke up at 5:30 AM and thought she woke me up, but I had been watching the clock since 3:00 AM because Nicole was going to go exercise with me at 7:00 AM. We went out for about an hour and 10 minutes, and Nicole said this is the longest she has gone since tearing her calf muscle. We had some good talks about Africa and about her mom.

We felt it was good to stop in DC and get a little rest before we came home to Portland. It was good to be with Joyce's daughter and son-in-law, Nicole and David, and her grandchildren, Carlos and Carmen. It was a short 24 hours with them but it was good for all of us. Her granddaughter just clung to her. You could tell they wanted us to stay longer after our trip.

We were able to walk Carlos to school for his last day of school and then go pick him up after school (it was a half day). We ate lunch together and then visited until we went to the airport. We got there two hours early, and there was no line. We got right through and got the seats we had chosen when we made the reservations, which were emergency row seats. It was nice to have the leg room. We arrived in Portland about 40 minutes early. David and Gail were just getting to the airport, so we got our bags and got right in their vehicle. Before we even got to I-205, we got a call from Sarah Israel asking where we were. They had come to the airport to welcome us and didn't know we got in early. We got home, unloaded our dirty clothes, and got to bed about 9:45 PM. We were glad to go to bed and get some rest.

## **POST TRIP**

I believe it was a great trip, and it was great having Joyce go with me. The brethren really appreciated having a woman come to visit, especially the ladies. She was a Trojan and didn't seem to be bothered by anything; she just took everything in stride.

It was a lot of work, but I believe they were all encouraged by us being there and I know that Joyce and I were encouraged by them. They want us there so much for the fellowship and the teaching that we are able to do for them and just be able to talk about God's work in the Kingdom in Africa compared to the work in the USA.

I believe that all the schools are sacrificing to accomplish the goal of training their own people to be able to take the gospel to those in their own country. I still believe it is the best way to do the work. I also believe that they do need help for the schools to be able to train these men and women. They need help with teacher stipends and student stipends, especially funds for materials such as books for the library, paper for copying the class material, food for the students, and housing costs for the students who are there. I believe the best way to do this is find congregations who will take on a school and let that be their mission work. Right now, we need this for four schools, and as we add schools we will need other congregations to do the same. Of the four I am referring to, two of them have buildings but need more additions to the buildings. I am appealing to congregations and individuals to be able to take on each of these schools as their mission work for the Lord. All of the schools are appealing to the local people to support the school and some have received food stuff to help feed the students. A few have given funds to help the students evangelize during their break from studies but during their practicum by evangelizing in areas that have no church or have a small congregation.

I believe that the trip was money well spent. It allowed us to follow up on the work that we have in process, to know that the funds are being used correctly, and that they are following the goals that we have set out together. May God be praised in all of this.

If you would be one of these congregations or individuals, please call me at 503-708-6580 or email me at [dg.goodyear@hotmail.com](mailto:dg.goodyear@hotmail.com). I am appealing to you if you know of congregations who are willing to let me come and speak about the work. I know you will be blessed to hear the great sacrifice they have made to train their own people and how you can help.

## INCOME and EXPENSES

	<u>Advanced Funds Available</u>	<u>Total Spent</u>
Sustainability Funds from Southwest for travel	\$1500.00	\$1228.94
Sustainability Funds from SIBI for travel (#)	\$1500.00#	\$1772.86#
Funds from two families for special uses (*)	<u>\$ 950.00*</u>	<u>\$ 950.00*</u>
<b>Total Funds Available/Spent</b>	<b>\$3950.00</b>	<b>\$3951.80</b>

Total funds returned to the Southwest Mission Committee \$271.06 (\$1500 - \$1228.94)

Total to be refunded to Dan Goodyear (from SIBI Central Africa funds) \$272.86 (\$1500 - \$1772.86)

(\*) \$950 given by two families to be used as I saw the needs. Those funds are marked with an asterisk and are not included in the subtotals of Southwest or SIBI.

Nigerian Naira rate of exchange \$1.00 = N166 / Cameroon Franc rate of exchange \$1.00 = F480

## DETAIL of EXPENSES

May 9	Cart rental at airport	\$ 5.00	
May 9	Breakfast at the airport/tip	\$ 14.15	
May 9	Water and newspaper at airport	\$ 5.78	
May 9	Cart rental in DC airport	\$ 4.00	
May 13	Cart rental in DC airport	\$ 4.00	
May 13	Diet coke in airport in DC	\$ 4.22	
May 14	Breakfast in Frankfort airport + tip	\$ 40.00	
May 15	Cliff and Ikeruka Jarrell to help children	\$ 100.00*	
May 15	Taxi to Calabar	\$ 120.48	N20,000
May 15	Taxi to Obudu	\$ 108.43	N18,000
May 15	Soda and bread	\$ 7.23	N 1200
May 15	Boiled corn	\$ 1.21	N 200
May 15	Nuts	\$ 1.21	N 200
May 17	Ride to Obudu Ranch for 7	\$ 30.12	N 5000
May 17	Guard tip	\$ 1.21	N 200
May 17	Lady tip that led us to old man	\$ 1.21	N 200
May 17	Travel fees Austin from Cameroon	\$ 9.00	N 1494
May 17	Cash for Austin who makes \$160 yearly	\$ 100.00*	N16,600
May 17	Laundry	\$ 4.82	N 800
May 18	Bananas	\$ 1.21	N 200
May 18	Contribution	\$ 30.12	N 5000
May 18	Special Contribution for building repair	\$ 12.05	N 2000
May 18	Gift to wife who lost husband	\$ 12.05	N 2000
May 19	Travel for Emmanuel to Ikot Usen	\$ 24.10	N 4000
May 19	Food, lodging and lectureship at Obudu	\$ 300.00	N49,800
May 21	Student needed eye examination	\$ 39.16	N 6500

May 21	Laundry	\$ 18.07	N 3000
May 21	Load flash drive modem for LIFE group	\$ 9.04	N 1500
May 22	Funds to help blind man	\$ 6.02	N 1000
May 22	Two teachers stipend at DMBI	\$ 24.10	N 4000
May 22	Petrol/Oil	\$ 18.68	N 3100
May 22	Funds for driver to Okuku Yala	\$ 6.02	N 1000
May 23	School supplies for Eracare School	\$ 200.00*	N33,200
May 23	Settle a dispute between brothers	\$ 100.00	N16,600
May 25	Contribution in Okuku Yala	\$ 30.12	N 5000
May 25	Funds as we visited new mother	\$ 6.02	N 1000
May 26	Laundry	\$ 12.04	N 2000
May 26	Gift for extra work caused to workers	\$ 18.07	N 3000
May 26	Food and housing in Okuku Yala	\$ 200.00	N33,200
May 27	Food and housing in Ikot Usen	\$ 200.00#	N33,200
May27	Travel funds for 1 June to Port Harcourt	\$ 120.48#	N20,000
May 30	Motorcycle repair CAO instructor	\$ 30.12#	N 5000
May 30	Aspirins	\$ 1.21#	N 200
May 31	Funds for Prince to Cameroon	\$ 83.33#	N13,840
May 31	Funds for Emmanuel to Cameroon	\$ 83.33#	N13,840
May 31	Gift to married couple	\$ 6.02#	N 1000
June 1	Contribution	\$ 30.12#	N 5000
June 1	Funds for copier for CAO School	\$ 306.02#	N50,800
June 2	Help for children at Jarrell house	\$ 100.00*	N16,600
June 2	Fee for check in and baggage help	\$ 12.04#	N 2000
June 2	Overweight fee	\$ 60.24#	N10,000
June 2	Baggage help at domestic airport	\$ 6.02#	N 1000
June 2	Drive and baggage lift to bus	\$ 6.02#	N 1000
June 2	Baggage help and check in	\$ 6.02#	N 1000
June 2	Funds for Modem for Emmanuel	\$ 45.18#	N 7500
June 2	Additional funds for travel Prince	\$ 24.10#	N 4000
June 2	Additional funds for travel Emmanuel	\$ 24.10#	N 4000
June 3	Bus trip to Bamenda	\$ 20.83#	F 10,000
June 3	Phone charge	\$ 4.17#	F 2000
June 3	Gum	\$ 0.21#	F 100
June 3	Soda	\$ 1.04#	F 500
June 3	Tangerines	\$ 0.21#	F 100
June 3	Roasted corn	\$ 0.42#	F 200
June 3	Water	\$ 1.04#	F 500
June 3	Sandwiches for 4	\$ 5.00#	F 2400
June 4	Funds to offset Joyce/Dan in Bamenda	\$ 200.00#	F 96,000
June 4	Books for graduation gifts	\$ 230.00*	F110,400
June 4	Books for graduation gifts	\$ 53.33#	F 25,600
June 4	Taxi to and from market	\$ 3.33#	F 1600



June 4	Two towels in Bamenda	\$ 4.17#	F 2000
June 4	Water	\$ 0.83#	F 400
June 4	Taxi to and from market	\$ 2.08#	F 1000
June 4	Tissue	\$ 0.21#	F 100
June 4	Gum for children	\$ 0.42#	F 200
June 4	Bread/Water	\$ 4.17#	F 2000
June 4	Taxi back from Batibo	\$ 20.83#	F 10,000
June 6	Taxi to and from market	\$ 1.86#	F 900
June 6	Coffee/Hot chocolate for group	\$ 11.46#	F 5500
June 6	Razor for Brother Aaron	\$ 4.17#	F 2000
June 6	Transportation fees to travel Buea	\$ 20.83#	F 10,000
June 6	Extra fees to help with graduation fees	\$ 120.00*	F 57,600
June 6	Water	\$ 0.83#	F 400
June 7	Transportation to Batibo	\$ 16.67#	F 8000
June 7	Washing of clothes	\$ 8.33#	F 4000
June 8	Water	\$ 1.67#	F 800
June 8	Contribution	\$ 10.42#	F 5000
June 8	Sodas for 4 traveling	\$ 2.08#	F 1000
June 8	Peanuts for 4	\$ 0.83#	F 400
June 10	Taxi	\$ 1.25#	F 600
June 10	Shoe polish and show brush	\$ 1.25#	F 600
June 10	New ink for copier to copy lessons	\$ 31.25#	F 15,000
June 12	Soda	\$ 1.04#	F 500
June 12	Coconut	\$ 0.21#	F 100
June 13	Petrol	\$ 20.83#	F 10,000
June 13	Ladies retreat fees for Joyce	\$ 10.42#	F 5000
June 14	Gum	\$ 0.21#	F 100
June 15	Elizabeth Aaron for cooking supervision	\$ 10.42#	F 5000
June 15	Emilia Aaron help with cooking food	\$ 10.42#	F 5000
June 15	Pratra Aaron help with cooking food	\$ 10.42#	F 5000
June 15	Janet Aaron help with cooking food	\$ 10.42#	F 5000
June 15	Ruth Aaron help with cooking food	\$ 10.42#	F 5000
June 15	Theresa help with cooking/service	\$ 10.42#	F 5000
June 15	Eugene washing clothes/cleaning	\$ 10.42#	F 5000
June 15	Marvin ironing clothes/cleaning	\$ 10.42#	F 5000
June 15	Kochabini Aaron for being grandson	\$ 4.17#	F 2000
June 15	Lady staying with them for help	\$ 4.17#	F 2000
June 15	Contribution	\$ 21.67#	F 10,400
June 15	Funds for BCBS for instructors/students	\$ 100.00*	F 48,000
June 16	Petrol to Airport	\$ 20.83#	F 10,000
June 16	Tip to baggage carrier	\$ 4.17#	F 2000
June 16	Exit tax from Douala, Cameroon	\$ 50.00#	F 24,000
June 17	Coke in Brussels for Joyce and me	\$ 11.00#	F 5280