

*Equipping Leaders to Train **More Leaders***



IVORY COAST CHRISTIAN MISSION

sponsors of:

Christian Leadership Training Institute (west Africa)

Faith Way Global Outreach (Nigeria)

and

Grassroots Leadership Development (international)

SHEFFLER UPDATE - APRIL 2020

Dear friends and supporters,

Just like you, our friends in Africa are under restrictions to help slow the spread of Covid-19. However it seems that the virus has not impacted western Africa as badly as other parts of the world. Here are some of the current reports I have received from my African colleagues in the Lord's work in western Africa

GHANA

1,154 cases, 120 recoveries and 9 deaths reported for the nation of over 20 million. Some restrictions have been lifted, but still no worship services or large gatherings. Funerals, which are an important event in that part of the world, are allowed to have 25 people in attendance. The borders are still closed for two more weeks. Everyone is encouraged to wear face masks.

Before restrictions were in place, **the extension leadership classes were moving in a positive direction and the students were demonstrating leadership skills.** Progress was being made in the preparation of French guides for the leaders of French extension courses.

NIGERIA

Movements have been restricted and large gatherings have been banned. Sunday Obeten and his fellow **evangelists have divided their congregations into small groups meeting in houses so they can still worship.** Sunday messages, Bible studies and prayer bulletins are prepared and distributed to the small groups through internet online platform. Printed copies are also distributed to those who do not have internet access. This method is working well by keeping the

church strong and active. Members who need financial help or food are being assisted by the church.

During this stressful time, young people were baptized, the roof was completed for the Ibg0 Imabama Church. Two churches received help with zinc roofing sheets and the Mkpani Church got a new drum set.



small group meeting for worship

LIBERIA

On the 19th there were 59 cases reported in a country of about 4 million. The government has declared a state of emergency with a curfew. All borders are closed. Food and other necessities are in short supply.

PRAISE AND PRAYER REQUESTS:

1. Thank God for keeping the church strong in these difficult times of the pandemic.
2. Thank God for his provisions during this pandemic.
3. Thank God that the leadership training classes are doing well in Ghana.
4. Thank God for those who are risking their lives to treat those who are sick with Covid-19.
5. Ask God to use this pandemic to bring more of his creation into a closer relationship with him.
6. Ask God to enable the work of his Kingdom on earth to come back strong when the restrictions of this pandemic have been lifted.
7. Ask God for wisdom as we serve Him.