

*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 - MAY 2023

## NATIONAL EASTER CONVENTION - GHANA

We thank God that the four-day National Easter Convention of the Christian Churches in Ghana was a great success. The theme was *“Seeking and Saving the Lost, A Charge to Keep (Luke 19:10).”*

**Seventy-five churches from all over Ghana including some from Burkina Faso and Togo came.** Attendance was better than expected under the economic hardships caused by inflation. This was the first convention since 2019. The 2021 convention was canceled because of Covid 19. In the future the convention will be held once every four years instead of every two years.



**The convention was hosted at Kintampo where Daniel Marley is working as one of our church planters.** Some from the community gave their life to Christ and are now attending the

Kintampo worship services.

Godfred Mintah, Francis Afrifa-Konadu and Emmanuel Boafo set up a display of the extension courses offered by the Christian Leadership Training Institute. They encouraged churches to enroll their leaders in the program. **One afternoon, Francis organized 35 of the students of the extension program and went into the town for evangelism.**

## One Man Confessed His Sin Against the Church



A man from Gulumpe, which is the location of Daniel's first church plant, met with Daniel, Godfred Mintah and Francis Afrifa-Konadu to confess his sins. **He had buried a black magic (voodoo) charm (talisman) in the land where the church was to be built.**

Unknowingly the church constructed their building on top of the charm. The purpose of the charm was to frustrate every activity and development of the church, but it failed. His whole

family came to confess Christ as their Lord and Saviour. **They were convinced that the Lord which Daniel Marley serves is the Living God.** He expressed fear that Daniel and the church would not forgive him of his evil act. Daniel, Godfred and Francis expressed their love and forgiveness through Jesus to the man. They prayed for him and encouraged him to walk diligently in his new found faith in Jesus.

## Daniel Marley's Struggle With Hepatitis C

It was difficult for Daniel to host the convention because of his struggle with hepatitis C. **He suffered much pain and fatigue during the convention.** He is now taking the expensive medicine needed to treat and hopefully cure the disease. Pray that he will be completely healed. Without the medicine, his liver could be permanently damaged.

**We thank God for an unexpected donation which came to the mission in time to cover the cost of the medicine.** I instructed Godfred by email to purchase the expensive medicine and trust God to provide. That day the unexpected donation arrived in our mailbox. You never know how God is going to use you.



It is now time for Daniel to plant his yam farm but his body is still weak from the sickness. **Pray that volunteers will help him plant. He depends on his farm to supplement his small income from the mission.**

## NIGERIA

Sunday and his wife Regina led the annual retreat for preachers' wives. They enabled the ladies to understand their calling and **encouraged them to stand strong by sharing personal experiences in the Lord's work.**

The three-day Easter Retreat was held at district levels with the theme "Fearless Living." Twenty-one confessed faith and were baptized in the Calabar district. Nineteen confessed and were baptized in the Ekori district. We thank God for their salvation and pray for their spiritual growth.



The building for **the new mini medical clinic at Calabar is almost finished** and will soon be ready for inspection by government officials. The upper floor of the Faith-Way School building will soon be completed. We are thankful for those who have donated to make this possible.

Continue to pray for peace and political stability in Nigeria.

## Gift for a Retiring Church Planter



The construction of a house for the retirement of Kingsley Laryea and his wife Mercy is roofed and waiting for doors, windows, flooring, wiring, etc. They have served the Lord faithfully and have almost no resources for retirement. **The mission is partnering with their children to complete this**

**house and set up a small poultry for their retirement.** About \$6,500 is needed to complete the house. About \$3,500 will be needed to set up the small poultry farm. The mission is trying to avoid this problem in the future by encouraging and enabling staff members and church planters to set up personal pension plans.

## God Has His Own Timing

One of our projects is to build a residence and a training center for the supervisor of extension classes in northern Ghana where the demand for leadership development is increasing. The project was progressing well until Covid 19 and inflation brought it to a standstill. **We thank God for a grant of \$50,000 for this project which came**

**through a long-time friend of the mission.** She received a large inheritance and put it into a foundation to help others. She immediately thought of our work when she set up the foundation. Godfred Mintah and Francis Afrifa-Konadu are restarting the construction and planning how to use the funds wisely.

## **PRAISE AND PRAYER REQUESTS**

- 1. Thank God for the successful Easter convention in Ghana and the Easter retreats Nigeria.**
- 2. Thank God for those who confessed Christ and were baptized during the above mentioned events.**
- 3. Thank God for the unexpected donation that paid for the expensive medicine to treat Daniel's hepatitis C.**
- 4. Thank God for the \$50,000 grant that enables the construction project in Tamale to resume.**
- 5. Pray for the preacher's wives as they face challenges and support their husband's work.**
- 6. Pray for the spiritual growth of those who accepted Christ during the Easter events.**
- 7. Pray for full recovery for Daniel Marley.**
- 8. Pray for the funds to complete the retirement house and poultry for Kingsley Laryea.**