

Dear Pray-ers,

Thank you for praying, especially for **Beryl**. She is to have a full body scan on 29 March and if that is clear they will just monitor the spots on her lungs. If these don't grow there is no cause for alarm. Please keep praying for peace and healing.

### **My activities**

I'm still waiting for **Badake** to be proof-read by **Werner**. I've sent the Burkina dialect to a Fulani from there, **Safi**, for proof-reading but haven't heard back yet. She won't be used to reading and writing her language so may have felt over-faced. Please keep praying both dialects will be proof-read before too long. Please also keep praying about the work needed to become data-protection compliant!

Bible studies with **Jamila** have recommenced on Fridays. As her husband's English improves, and also because JWs have started calling, the men are hoping to begin something with him. The family did all come to the home of a couple in the church for Sunday lunch. Thanks for praying.

I was one of the seven people elected to be a deacon. We were officially appointed and prayed for during the service on 18 February. Pray for improved juggling ability!

### **Thank you so much for prayer**

**Ali** has been released. He's out of jail. After eight months of being wrongly incarcerated, he's free. Imagine how he feels! Thank the Lord with us. May this increase our faith to pray on for **Dr Ken Elliott**, kidnapped two years ago by jihadist groups from **Mali**. Pray on for God's grace and strength for Ken, for comfort and courage for his family, and for a swift release. Pray for his captors to come to repentance and to see the light of Jesus. And pray for the other captives being held by the same groups: **Jeff, Beatrice, Gloria, Sophie** and **Iulian**."

The worker amongst the Fulas who recently suffered a heart attack is doing well. Pray that it will not be long before he and his family can return. Pray that the work will continue to go well in his absence.

I recently read this news from **Bukina Faso**: "On the site of the prison chapel, several pastors, prison authorities, and builders prayed for the building of the chapel. The Mu\$lim prison director was keen for us to build the chapel because he said, "*You protestants are always the first to help in prison – why is it everyone else has their prayer house, but not you yet?*"

"A new Mu\$lim prisoner came up to a pastor recently, saying, '*I keep having a dream of a cross – do you have any idea what it is?*' The pastor was able to explain to him about Jesus and how he died on the cross to bring us back to God. The young man gave his life to Christ, and is now a regular member of the church group in prison. Please continue to pray for our work in the prison and for the group of believers there to keep growing in Christ.

"The dental training conference went really well, both teaching and practice. The opening was attended by the local health authorities and pastors from around the country. The highlight was apparently a powerful message by a Fulani pastor from John 3:16 on the love of God. A young man gave his life to Christ through the dental work."

Keep praying against violence in Fula areas. Armed attacks are happening on a fairly regular basis in some areas. Pray for security and peace, and that the perpetrators will be arrested and dealt with. Often workers have been withdrawn from these areas but courageous national workers continue. Please pray for them.

### **Please pray for these boys**

In many of the towns of **West Africa** you can see groups of beggar boys, many of whom are Fulani. One worker wrote, "The beggar boys have recently started opening up and telling us about the reality of life as a beggar boy. The wife of their Mu\$lim religious teacher beats them, often for apparently no reason. At the end of a Christmas party held for the boys their begging bowls were filled with food for them to take home. The wife took their food. The next morning they asked her for food, but she gave their food to her sheep and the boys went hungry. The father of one of the boys went to their teacher to tell him he was taking his son home. However the teacher threatened to curse the family should they take the boy back and now all the boys and their families are afraid and don't dare to leave. The boys have been sleeping outside on the ground without a mat because the wife took away their mat as punishment and three of them are now sick with bad colds and one with a UTI. Any time we give

them warm clothes their teacher takes them and sells them for his own profit. One evening we found a little guy on our porch. He is new here, having come to learn the K\*ran under the same Mu\$lim teacher. He was fast asleep and the mat he was on was soaked with tears. He had been begging all day but had not got any money. The teacher told him not to come back that night unless he had some money to give him. We gave him a few pennies and told him to come back the next day with the mobile number of his family and we would call them to come and get him. Sadly he didn't. Please pray for these boys who are suffering, and for the team who works with them. They need wisdom."

**Christian writes from the Gambia:**

"Thank you also for your prayers for my health. I finally have no problems. *My* family and I are doing well. Our newest family member, the little girl, is making great progress. She is now laughing a lot and wants to infect all other family members with her laughter! It's a pleasure to see her learn a little English whilst she teaches me Balanta. She recently had her third birthday and we are trying to improve the condition of her malnourished body.

"Despite the survey, the boundaries of the land assigned to us for the school are still not really clear. Meanwhile, we have cleared another piece of land where a primary school will be built. I have made numerous suggestions to the local community as to how they could invest into school without too much effort on their part. For example, a weekly hour of creatively presenting biblical history or physical education, homework help, tutoring etc.

"An 11-year-old boy quite voluntarily said recently that he wants to follow Jesus. This is despite him being very aware of the fact that Christians are known to have reason to fear persecution because of their faith. Please pray for him."

**Kevin and Debbie write from Senegal:**

"The believers had another very encouraging meeting, which included some new people. They are very grateful to have others to fellowship with in their own language and say they feel like they've found family! Pray for unity and mutual trust as they develop relationships in this group, as they encourage and challenge each other, and for us to know how we can get alongside them. **Kevin** continues to be put in contact with new believers and is able to connect them in for discipleship. Praise the Lord for all He is doing here and in **West Africa**.

"**Cammy** is a bit behind in his schooling. Please pray we can get him up to speed and for wisdom in how to help him progress. **Aila** is doing well. **Levi** is a never-ending running/climbing machine."

**Finally, on a lighter note:**

**Cammy** and **Levi** found **Daddy's** electric hair clippers and cut their hair so they now look very much like daddy! Thankfully **Aila** wasn't part of that!"

**Dates**

13 – 16 March                      leading the afternoons of four prayer days in the south-west

Thank you again for praying for me and others working amongst the Fula people.

God bless you.

Love, *Jane*