

The Sellers Sequel



Korhogo,

largest city in the North

Larry & LeAnn Sellers

Church of God Missionaries to West Africa

Jan-March 2017



But these three remain: Faith, Hope and Love. But the greatest of these is Love.

1 Corinthians 13:13

Looking back over the past 20 years we have seen God do some amazing things in some very bleak situations. So, we have entered the new year 2017 full of Faith, Hope and Love: Faith to trust God to do even greater things in the year ahead; Hope to witness His transforming power at work; and Love to be used by Him to make all things beautiful. The above verse is our chosen theme verse for this year as we strive to live in Faith, Hope and Love. We were reminded of this truth while we were in Korhogo over Christmas at the same time that VBS was being held in churches in the North.

Pastor Yeo shared with us that, on Christmas Day, a grandmother gave her heart to Jesus all because the church at Nouplé had faith that VBS would help children see the love of God, which happened when two children gave their hearts to Jesus. The children had hope that their father would see a difference in them and seek Jesus as his Savior as their Sunday school teacher had taught them to not give up on their dad. Their father did give his heart to Jesus. The church, children and father showed their love to grandmother, believing that she might see her need for Jesus. To the joy of all, she did find Jesus this past Christmas morning. Do you have faith today that God is going to do something in your life? Do you carry hope to see it accomplished? Are you sharing the love of Jesus today to see something beautiful happen?

We want to thank Lynchwood Church of God in Portland, OR, who had faith to help us with VBS; the VBS teachers who had hope that God would work through them to touch the lives of children and parents; and the love of Jesus that has brought a beautiful transformation to many families through the years. It was in 1998 that VBS first started in Abidjan! Today, some of those children who accepted Jesus as their Savior are now Sunday school teachers and VBS workers! This year twenty churches held VBS for their children.

Praises!

- ◆ Vacation Bible school in the North during Christmas holidays, was well attended.
- ◆ Three weddings in the last two months.
- ◆ National Women's GA was well attended in Kononfla.
- ◆ IBAO students doing well with their Internships!
- ◆ New believers in the Vincenkro Church of God!
- ◆ Toumodi Church of God working to build their worship facility.
- ◆ God's protection for the Mihsills on Home Assignment.

Celebrate the Dream in 2017

We apologize for not getting this news to you in a timely manner. You will receive the April through June Sellers Sequel very soon!



National Women's General Assembly



On February 10 the women arrived in Kononfla for the annual General Assembly. It was a joy to watch as women from all over the country began to arrive. It was fun to see them working together to learn how to make liquid soap and small fried cookies. On Saturday, the 11th of February the meeting started with meaningful worship and a

message about women being wise in their counsel, led by Mme Gnaoré, the National Women's counselor. The National Women's officers led the meeting. They shared information about the pig project, manioc fields, and the upcoming conference that will be held in February 2018. The gathering came to an end all too quickly!



Burkina Faso Update: New Pastor

For most of 2016, the work in Burkina Faso was without any resident pastor after Pastor Isaac passed away suddenly last March. However, the new resident pastor, Lozeni, arrived safely into Bobo-Dioulasso just in time to celebrate Christmas 2016 with the believers. We are excited about the future for the church in Bobo-Dioulasso. We are holding fast to our faith that God is going to do some amazing things in the church in Burkina Faso in 2017

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Three very different Weddings

We enjoy participating in weddings here in Côte d'Ivoire. In the last few months we have had the privilege of being at three very different weddings. These weddings were all done with an African flair and much excitement. One special moment that happens when the bride comes into the sanctuary. Beautiful pieces of cloth are thrown on the ground just ahead of her as she comes in accompanied by her family and friends. All three of these weddings were different in the way this tradition was carried out.



There was one bride whose unpredictable entrance brought tears, laughter and a total understanding of her joy, that God had given her a treasure in her husband- to be far beyond what words could describe. The joy of watching this bride dance with total abandonment and joy down the aisle to meet her husband was a beautiful image of the joy we have awaiting us when we meet Jesus at the wedding of all weddings.

“Let us rejoice and be glad and give Him glory! For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready.” (Revelation 19:7)



The first marriage was on December 24 in Korhogo, for Gedeon and Priscille. The second wedding February 18 was for Joseph and Rachelle (Pastors Emmanuel and Anne's daughter) in Korhogo. The third wedding was on March 18 for Eric and Parker in Abidjan. We congratulate these three couples on celebrating their marriages and pray for God to walk with them in the years to come.



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