



ACTS MINISTRY – Burkina Faso

“Providing love and hope for mother and child”

News from Burkina December 2018

To learn, you must love discipline; it is stupid to hate correction....Proverbs 12:1

ACTS new school year has begun!

We are thankful to God for all the young people attending our schools for 2018-2019. At the dedication ceremony for the year, the theme for the year: “Join Excellency to Piety” and the verse above from Proverbs were explained.



At the dedication service, four young girls decided to give their lives to the Lord Jesus. They have openly professed their faith despite coming from a Muslim background.

Please pray that they will grow in the faith and not be intimidated by family and Muslim friends. In Burkina Faso, more than 70% of the population adheres to the Islamic religion.



ACTS schools are favored by many Islamic parents but when they bring their children, they take time

to request that we do not force them to convert to Christianity.

Our response is always this: we never oblige a child to become Christian but we do expose them the gospel message of God’s love for everyone. When they hear that we do not force the children to become Christians, they feel at ease and are confident in sending their children to our schools.

Please pray, that through all the efforts of the staff and young Christian students during this school year that many will come to know the Lord as their own Savior and Lord.

Specialized Training for Seamstresses

Seamstresses who completed the two-year course in clothing construction and earned high marks on their final exam, received sewing machines to use in their seamstress business.

The photo below was taken during the award ceremony at the ACTS Hope Center. The girls studied and worked very hard over a two year period to be able to receive the sewing machines as an award.



There was an added bonus this year for those who excelled in their final exams. The young girls who succeeded in the year end exams at the end of the school year, were awarded an opportunity for intensive specialized training during the break.

They went through two weeks of specialized training that showed them how to construct garments for children. This was a fantastic experience for the students.



Zongo Sita, a professional seamstress with experience in making children's clothing was the trainer for the two-week clothing construction classes. She gave this testimony after the conclusion of the classes.

"My name is Zongo Sita. I am 31 years old and I teach the girls of the second year sewing construction classes at the ACTS Vocational Training Center. I am very pleased to be able to lead the training for the construction of little girl's dresses.

"I found that some participants found satisfaction in creating their own patterns for the clothes. At the end of the training, two participants even decided to specialize in the sewing of children's clothes when they launch their own sewing shops.

The girls enjoyed every minute, especially the knowledge that they had received training not available for others. The next step in their training will be an internship with a professional seamstress.

Exciting New Project for Women

After a training session on foundational biblical topics, 176 pastors' wives from all areas of Burkina Faso said they had never hear these truths before. ACTS plans to publish this series in four languages so that all areas of the country will be able to use the studies.

One of the participants said, *"Since we have not been trained with our husbands, opportunities like this are our only way to find the answers to biblical questions; therefore, it is important for us*

to have material to help us with ongoing self-teaching."

The materials produced will be titled "Practical Guide for The Pastor's Wife" and will be used to teach pastors' wives through seminars, radio and TV programs. Once equipped, pastors' wives will be expected to teach other women in their respective local churches. This project will reach at least 15,000 women.



Discipleship and Leadership Training

During the school break from August to September, we spent time in teaching leadership and discipleship to various groups in churches.

This type of training has become popular, so we have established good partnerships with many churches.



On November 25, Joanna Ilboudo led a special discipleship and leadership session for young girls in one of the largest churches in Ouagadougou.

Update on Burkina Faso

For the most part, the country is still peaceful, but certain areas suffer sporadic terrorist attacks.

Terrorism is therefore a concern for all citizens. Most of the incidents have been when Islamists come across the border to do violence and then return to a neighboring country. We have not had any violence in in any of the areas where ACTS is actively involved with the population.

God has been gracious and we still have freedom of religion. Please continue to pray for our freedom to share the Gospel in Burkina. Pray for the transformation of souls in Burkina Faso.

Pray for the Health of the Children

We are entering an annual period of colder nighttime conditions and blowing dust which is especially hard on children living in adobe homes.

These climatic conditions foster diseases, such as meningitis, which can be quite deadly among the poor. Please remember to pray for the protection of children and adults from diseases brought on by harsh weather conditions and poverty.



Your Prayers are Precious to Us

We gratefully receive your prayer support because we know everything we accomplish is directly linked to your prayers.

We send our thanks for your generosity in giving to the work of ACTS. May our just God reward each one of you for your faithful support to the work of ACTS.

Baptisms in November

On November 18, a baptism service was held at Temple Évangélique El Roï. It was a time of rejoicing as 19 new believers testified of their faith in Jesus Christ. Many of the believers come from Muslim backgrounds. Each was invited to

participate in our discipleship classes. Pray that these new believers become firmly established in the faith.



It is your prayers and financial gifts that have given these adults and children the opportunity to receive Jesus as Savior. Thank you so much.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

This newsletter also brings warm Christmas greeting to you from our staff and family in Burkina Faso.

May the Lord keep watch over you and give you peace,

Praying that the Lord bless you and your family with health, joy and prosperity in the New Year.

Best greetings,



Joanna Ilboudo Sharyl J. Sieh

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