



ACTS MINISTRY – Burkina Faso

“Providing love and hope for mother and child”

News from Burkina

“I am so encouraged by how the children at the Center are growing in their faith. You would not believe how fervently some of them pray today.”

Monika, a member of the ACTS staff told this to Joanna Ilboudo when they were on the way to the evangelistic campaign at the ACTS Center on February 14.

We are deeply grateful to God and to all those who have supported the poor and vulnerable in Burkina Faso through their gifts and prayers. As shown by the testimony above from Monika, indeed the children are gaining more confidence in the Lord as they trust Him.

Even children who had doubts and fears are receiving fresh spiritual insights and strength.

Every week at the Center, Rachel, Monika and Solange teach the students a special Bible lesson. Rose and Simon who watch over the children spend time in the evenings praying, answering questions and discussing topics with the orphans.



Rachel, a nurse and Bible teacher at the Center

The children are learning through study and practical experience that God is the only refuge for them. In January, Joanna asked the staff to teach the children from Psalm 91 and told them to read the passage before they went to bed.

A few days after teaching about Psalm 91, one of the young boys came to her. Rachel says:

“One child came to me after we taught them from Psalm 91 and said that he had a ring that was from black magic. He said that in the village, the ring was boiled with a chicken while words were spoken. He had to eat the chicken and the ring was put on his finger while it was still hot. The boy said, “Now I understand that God can protect me from this thing. Take the ring. I want it to be thrown away.”

Orphans acquire new vocational skills

Not only are children receiving more understanding about spiritual things, but they are also becoming more skilled through vocational training. Girls enjoy the sewing classes and produce clothing that looks very stylish. Visitors can select and purchase well made shirts or dresses right at the Center. The boys are doing well with their carpentry projects. Our office and school benefit from their fine work. Cloth woven by the widows is made into clothes and shopping bags.

Update: Ellel Medical and Dental Center

With the help of dear friends in the UK, we now have a dental surgery. During February 2008 the dental clinic was completed and the equipment installed. Dental care is non-existent for villagers in Burkina Faso. Our dentist is looking forward to cleaning the orphans’ teeth using the donated equipment. What a blessing!



A well for the Ellel Medical and Dental Center is still a vital need. More concrete blocks for the

construction of the Medical portion of the Center are still needed.

We continue to pray and look forward for the day when the Ellet Dental and Medical Center will be completed so that orphans, widows and other poor from the surrounding community can come and receive medical treatment.

Patients and their families will have an opportunity to hear the Gospel and receive counsel or prayer with the pastor. A pastor/evangelist with a heart for the poor joined the ACTS staff. He was available during the ACTS evangelistic campaign held February 14-16. Many villagers who came to the three-day campaign came forward for the altar calls. Some had never before heard the Good News of the Gospel. Latest figures show that Burkina Faso is 50% Muslim. We must be faithful while the door of opportunity is still open in Burkina Faso. We thank the Lord for confirming our efforts.



Village men, women and children hear the Gospel message through ACTS regularly scheduled evangelistic campaigns. ACTS' staff members and pastor provides counsel, prayer support and follow up to those who are saved.

The orphans are responding in exciting ways. A number of the orphans have made decisions to serve the Lord as evangelists or pastors. They have formed a worship team and lead worship in churches where they visit on Sunday mornings. A number of times all the orphans have come to the staff and requested a day of prayer saying, "May we fast and pray today?" What a thrill it is to see these children forgotten by the world become strong prayer warriors for the Lord.

Update: Short-term mission teams



Mission trips if planned with care and prayer can be a rewarding experience for everyone

Teams from different churches and missions across the United States are partnering with ACTS Ministry. Teams are being organized for short-term missions: one group will provide a "vacation Bible school" experience for the orphans at the Center, a team of women will teach women, physicians will bring medical training and specialized surgeries for the villagers and another group will help with construction of new buildings. Well drilling in Burkina Faso is so very expensive that a team is looking into ways to drill wells for less cost.

We give thanks for all the individuals who will be coming to Burkina. If anyone is interested in sending a short-term missions team, please let us know. Write to acts-burkina-info@sbcglobal.net.

With gratefulness we continue to trust the Lord to send others like you to partner with ACTS.

ACTS Ministry empowers village women and children who are AIDS victims in order to bring them self esteem, show them God's love in tangible ways and give them hope for the future.

Did you know?

- ACTS feeds 750 children one meal a day and 235 of them receive three meals
- It costs approximately \$60 a day to feed the 235 orphans at the Center
- Every month ACTS holds evangelistic campaigns for those living in the villages around the ACTS Center
- There are more than 56,000 villagers in the district where the ACTS Center is located
- ACTS co-op program for remote villagers reaches 3,750 women who are saving money to send their children to school
- ACTS staff has grown to 49 and will double by August
- After nine months of ACTS intensive speed school classes, children from 13 villages are tested and inserted in the appropriate level of public school
- ACTS health clubs teach children the importance of hygiene
- ACTS organizes women's advocacy campaigns for young people using football games, concerts, debates and quizzes with gifts to winners



The dental surgery room is named The David Sherwin Dental Hall, after Dr. David Sherwin who died last year. He was instrumental in getting the dental clinic in place. His widow, Rosemary, was able to attend the dedication ceremony in February 2008.

Widows and orphans living in villages are the

most vulnerable among the poor. They are considered outcasts due to the fear of AIDS.

Widows have no opportunity for education and therefore have no hope of gaining the skills necessary to support a family. With no financial means, no education, no one to help they are hopelessly caught in a cycle of poverty, sickness and ignorance.

This is where ACTS comes along side to bring hope. ACTS gives immediate tangible assistance to bring physical strength but along with this aid, ACTS staff brings the good news of the Gospel.

Prayer Requests and Praise

- Pray for the Lord to provide construction materials, medical equipment and a well for the Ellel Medical Center
- Pray for a team of women who will be coming in March to teach women in Ouagadougou and the villages on the topic, "Woman, God has a plan for your life."
- Pray for the children's health during the hot, dry season when meningitis and polio are prevalent.
- Thank the Lord for teaching the orphans and showing them how to be led by the Spirit.
- Thank the Lord for the continued expansion of ACTS Ministry to the poor.

Thank you for partnering with ACTS Ministry. Your prayers and gifts make a real difference in the lives of the poor.

Yours very sincerely,

Sharyl J. Sieh
President USA

Joanna Ilboudo
Executive Director

ACTS Ministry is a not-for-profit ministry.
All gifts are tax deductible.
In Burkina Faso ACTS Ministry is a registered NGO (non-governmental agency).

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