

— the — RISHEL FAMILY

CHURCH PLANTING MISSIONARIES IN BURKINA FASO, WEST AFRICA

It is time to head back to Burkina! We start our trip tomorrow morning (Saturday the 13th) and about 21 hours later, we should be landing in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso. The next morning, we'll have a six hour bus ride from there to Bobo-Dioulasso. We praise God for this incredible furlough and all that God helped us to accomplish during this time back in the States. We are so excited to get back to Burkina and to continue working together with the churches and pastors to see God's work continue. Please pray for the trip back, especially that God will provide us with much patience and that we'll have opportunities to glorify Him through our interactions.

I also want to share some specific prayer request for the first few months back in Burkina:

- For the school land - One of the first things that we hope to take care of when we get back is to finalize the purchase of the school land. Our guys there have found some other promising properties for the school and we will look at these, pray about them, and make a decision. The first land we wanted for the school may still be a possibility, but the nephew of the owner has been creating difficulties with the negotiations, so we would need God to work in his heart for that land to work. Please pray that God will give us much wisdom as we make a decision and finalize the purchase.
- Youth Congress (August 20-23) - Instead of our yearly youth camp, this year we are having a youth congress, where each church is sending approximately three of their most faithful youth who are the leaders among the others. This will allow us to have more personalized and deeper time with these youth; allowing us to train them, hear from them, and jointly map out the future programs for the youth of the churches.
- Church at Kouentou - By God's grace, the church in the village of Kouentou has really been advancing. In September, we will be organizing it from a church that is part of the circuit riding preaching ministry into a church with a full-time pastor and a full program of activities and services! Pastor Drabo will be moving out there and taking responsibility of the church. Please pray for Pastor Drabo and this church as they advance in the future.
- Pastors' Camp (September 16th-20th) - Upon our return, we will be meeting with the pastors nearly daily to hear reports of what God has been doing, and to work with them to advance more firmly for Christ. However, the Pastors' camp is a special yearly event we do. so we can get away together for a week to grow in Christ and to dream, discuss and pray for the future of the churches and ministry. It is always a highlight of the year and we are especially looking forward to the one this year.
- New Church in Bobo - At the beginning of October, Lord willing, Pastor Bationo will be starting a new church in a neighborhood of Bobo named Pala. We will be starting this church on one of the lands that we were able to purchase about two years ago when we were buying lands on the outskirts of the cities for future churches. This area has really been growing and a large new hospital is being built nearby. We'll be working together with Pastor Bationo to see this church established and ask that you pray for God to build and strengthen this new work.

We'll share more detailed reports and prayer needs for these events as they get closer. Thank you so much for all that you have done to help make this furlough a blessing and for your continued prayers and support for the work in Burkina Faso!



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