

the RISHEL FAMILY

CHURCH PLANTING MISSIONARIES IN BURKINA FASO, WEST AFRICA

Special Update: School

Dear faithful ministry partner,

At our Bible Institute, we just finished our study of Old Testament survey. As I was preparing the course, I really fell in love with some of the minor prophets (which honestly I often ignore!). Two of those are the prophets Haggai and Zechariah. The Jews had returned from captivity and had started to rebuild the temple. Even though the work was advancing, the people grew discouraged and quit. Haggai and Zechariah were sent with messages of encouragement to urge them to continue. Haggai tells the people that God was with them in the work they were doing and He would be the one that makes the work glorious! Zechariah tells them to work with zeal because Jesus (the Messiah) is coming. As all of us strive to work for the Lord and advance his work around the world, these encouragements ring true still for us. I love the encouragement that Haggai gives "be strong, all ye people of the land, saith the LORD, and work: for I am with you, saith the LORD of hosts"!



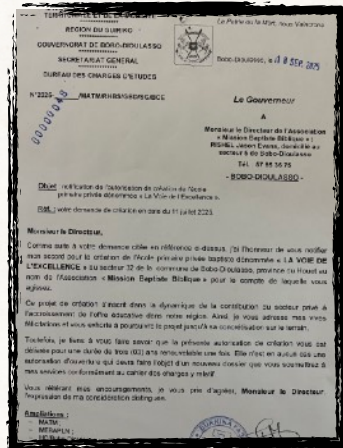
As we see God advance the construction of the school building, we remind ourselves that this is His work and He is with us as we do it! The bottom part of the building has been completed and they have nearly finished the walls for the second story. Within just a few weeks, the actual construction will be finished and they will then put on the roof and start all of the final details, like putting in the doors/windows, smoothing out the walls, and installing the lights, plumbing etc. We are nearing the end and we praise the Lord for that!

It is not only the construction that is advancing, but also the administrative aspects of the school. By God's grace, we have been able to get our paperwork from the government in order, not only for the building, but also the authorization to start the school. Considering how complicated and long paperwork takes here, we praise the Lord for this! We have kicked off the second year of our Hope Scholarship ministry, which is helping to plant the seeds for starting the school. This year, we have nearly fifty children in the ministry and we are looking forward to working with each of them throughout the year. We aim to see them grow not only academically but also in their knowledge of, and love for, Christ. God is at work and we praise Him that we can be along for the ride!



We thank God for His help and provision so far with this project. Thank you to all who have allowed God to use you by investing in this work to help this school get built. We were so touched by the messages from the kids from the VBSs that gave their offerings for not only this project but to help reach children for Jesus. Your heart for the Lord and His work, your love for us and the ministry here, stir and challenge us to do even more for Christ. Thank you!

As we near the completion of this building, we ask for your earnest help and prayers. Even after the building is done, we will still need to do quite a bit of work on the land and the building to get everything in place to start the school. This includes getting the classrooms set up and putting the outer wall around the school land, among many other projects. We have seen what God has already done and we are fully persuaded that He will continue to advance this school. If you have any questions on how you can help get involved, please reach out. May we together see God accomplish what only He can!



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