

Hello friends!

Thanks for your faithful prayers for our family, the IDAT team, and the people of South Sudan - we are deeply grateful.

Two weeks ago we returned from a break in Kenya feeling refreshed, energised and thankful for this life we get to live following Jesus with our South Sudanese brothers and sisters. A highlight was picking up Bella, a lovely young lady from Christchurch who has come to help homeschool our girls for the next 7 months before we return to NZ for Christmas. The girls mobbed her when she arrived, and haven't stopped since. Destinee is excited about spending more time training our maternity team here, and investing into the children's church and youth program. What a wonderful answer to all your prayers!

Currently everyone in Tonj is busy preparing their gardens as rainy season begins. We have given our CHE volunteers a 3 week break from home visitations for them to plant their seeds, and are making the most of this time with CHE leadership training & planning. It's been incredible sitting with the team and hearing so many stories of God's goodness. For example in Guaria on Sunday Pastor Joseph baptised 2 more witchdoctors who have given their lives to Christ, and he went with them and burned their charms afterwards. In Malony there are 6 more villages begging Pastor Santino to bring them the gospel. Our team had a goal of reaching 20 villages with the gospel through CHE by the end of the year... but the harvest is ripe, the Holy Spirit is moving, and our team are passionate – so we are already up to 19 centers & now hope to have 25 villages by the end of the year! (photo attached showing village names if you would like to pray for them)

Today we had the joy of welcoming to Tonj the Beard family from Australia, who will be volunteering with IDAT for the next 3 months. They are the first family with young children to visit IDAT since we arrived in 2014, so it's a great blessing especially for our children. Ben is a nurse who will join our Kiwi friends Zac & Rebekah Soper in overseeing the nursing side of our busy inpatient ward.

Prayer requests:

1. God's protection over us and our awesome team mates from sickness, snakes & scorpions
2. The right amount of rain for crops to grow perfectly this year and provide people with food to eat. Right now many families in Tonj are struggling to provide a meal each day for their children.
3. God's provision of shelter for the IDPs who are living under trees without protection from rain or mosquitoes
4. For the Holy Spirit to continue opening doors for us to take the gospel to new villages. For God to raise up more leaders in our current network of village churches.
5. For the head witchdoctor of Malony region called Akuach who has been trying to shut down one of our churches there. Also for the head chief of Malony region Manut Bak. They both need Paul on road to Damascus encounters with God!

Arohanui,

JDZE+S.