

Dear Friends,

Heiney Prayer Requests for March 2008

I sat on this idea for a whole week now and have decided that this is something that needs to be done.

I attend a bible study for missionary women each week and every other week we set aside for prayer. Last week when we came together and started sharing I was struck by how many trials our field (including ALL missions working here) has been seeing these past weeks. Those of you who know Tim and I well know that we believe that we as Christians on this earth are engaged in warfare for the Kingdom of God. Therefore when persecutions come we often ask "What's going on in the realm we can not see??" Let me share just a bit of what workers in God's field in Guinea have experienced:

- One family lost their home and all their belongings in a fire
- One missionary lost her dad very quickly, and has a sister who is suffering with cancer
- missionaries who are feeling discouraged in their language work and work in general
- leaders that are stumbling and backsliding
- A family who has a child suffering with a bone disease
- A missionary who was forced to leave her home
- Attacks on children of missionaries both here on the field and in the US: depression, eating disorders, discouragement, mysterious sicknesses
- Machines breaking down, computers quitting or having trouble
- the continued unrest in the country and the ever looming "strike threat."

These are just the ones I can think of off the top of my head. All are things that have happened in Guinea within our various mission groups, and all are things I've heard just in the past month. Yesterday our electrician, Jonathan, a Liberian Christian man was on the road and had an accident. He was fine but due to his being a stranger here, was charged a lot of money even though it was not his fault. We no sooner finished praying for him and Tim left here to refill some gas bottles. I heard the screech of the car but didn't know he'd been hit until our guard came running in telling me that my husband had had an accident. Everyone was fine but we were on our knees immediately, knowing that in this corrupt country there are plenty ways of making someone pay even beyond what he should have to. As we were visiting with Jonathan last night when everything had calmed down a bit, he was adamant that Satan has been working extra hard to discourage God's workers. It reminded me again of all that had been happening and the need for extra prayer.

Here is my request. I am asking our supporters and missionaries from other missions to ask their supporters, to designate the rest of this month as a Prayer month for Guinea. I like this month especially because we're going through Lent and will go through Holy Week. During this time we remember what Jesus Christ did for us and that He has given us the task of taking that news all over the world. We believe that God wants to do something in Guinea. Whether Satan is rebelling against that or just throwing fits we don't know, but there is something going on. Will you please, during this month, hold up:

- The country of Guinea and the political situation here
- The missionaries of all missions working in Guinea, and their families
- Leaders and Christian workers in Guinea who are striving to live in a Muslim country
- The church in Guinea, and especially the Muslims with whom we work

We talk a lot about prayer and the importance of prayer but sometimes I don't think we explain just how vital it is to the work here. It's why we try to keep you up to date on what is happening and how you can pray. Being here without the backing of people at home in prayer would be like trying to get somewhere in a vehicle without putting in fuel. We could probably push the car a ways but we'd get tired and give up.

It can get very discouraging day after day after day when you are facing these things or watching your coworkers suffer. I'm asking you to commit to concentrated and fervent praying for the rest of this month. When you attend your Lenten services will you remember these things in your prayers? Will you share these with your pastor and ask your congregations to pray? Will you pray as you travel to work and as you lay down to rest? It's SO easy in America to get so caught up in life that you can forget what is going on beyond your front door, let alone beyond the border. Will you tack up reminders in your home, on your mirrors and your computer screens? Lift these things up with us. I want "GUINEA" to be on your hearts and lips with each waking moment!! And should the Lord waken you during the night, let this be His reason. This year, may Easter be even more of a celebration because the message of Easter is going out mightily throughout the world! You can't have missions without Easter!!

Thanks for your continued support. We are asking other missions in Guinea also to have their supporters praying for Guinea in March. With all of us praying it will be an "around the world" event, and we're excited to see how God works! And please, let us know how you are helping in this effort!!

Love in Christ,

Tim, Beth, Katie and Andrea in Guinea  
Joel and Jonathan in the US

*" In our lifetime, wouldn't it be sad if we spent more time washing dishes or swatting flies or mowing the yard or watching television than praying for world missions?" -- Dave Davidson*