



### Arrived

Wow, it seems strange to write this from Guinea. We are so grateful for your prayers, support and encouragement. God has definitely used all of you to bring us here.

After more than 30 hours of travel, we arrived at the Conakry airport on August 5th. It was obviously

a very long trip for the boys but overall they were great.

We were in a bit of a daze but were amazed to find a choir from our host church waiting for us at the airport with a song! After a long drive through traffic we arrived at our

home to find another large group of people waiting to greet us. Our co-workers had already set up the basics for us so we had beds to sleep on and a table to eat at. We are very thankful for their work!



### NCLA

The first phase of our time here in Guinea is called 'NCLA'. NCLA stands for **National Culture and Language Acquisition**. This is the time devoted to learning the culture of Guinea as well as attaining a very high level of French. We started almost two years ago in Québec but over the next year we will continue to improve our level of French. We have a tutor each morning and the rest of the day is used processing what we learned and participating in cultural activities. There are no lack of opportunities to practice our French, multiple times a day people drop by to greet us. This is also a



Canaan, Norm and our tutor, Samuel

great opportunity learn a lot of Guinean culture. There is no set length of time for this phase of our ministry, it all depends on how fast we attain the required level of French and culture. Please pray for diligence and perseverance so that we can quickly attain the required level of French.



This is Canaan and Dani-Jacques. Dani-Jacques has been visiting since we first arrived in Conakry and has become a good friend to Canaan. They don't yet have a language in common but it doesn't stop them from having a good time. Canaan still talks about his friends at home but we are thankful that he has found a new playmate.

### Big Adjustments

We have faced many adjustments over the last couple of months. While we have definitely faced many physical and material adjustments, by far the biggest changes have been in culture. The people of Guinea see the world completely different than we

do. Relationships are key so we have been trying to adjust to the many unannounced guests that we receive on a daily basis. We are continually reminded of how important it is to understand the culture and the way people think when it comes to sharing the gospel.



Emmaus and Yada napping during our first day in Guinea.



One thing that has been a lot of fun to see is our neighbors reaction when we tell them Emmaus' name. This is because the local church and school are also named Emmaus. This has made Emmaus very popular in

the community but even more importantly it has opened up doors of communication with those around us. It's neat to see the little things that God prepared for us in advance!

## Malaria!

About a month after arriving in Guinea, we caught our first case of Malaria. We are really not sure who was first but in quick succession, Debra, Canaan and Emmaus fell to this tropical parasite. Malaria is very common here, even among missionaries but it was our first time dealing with it and it hit us hard! I

am very thankful that God protected me (Norm) from getting sick so that I could look after my family. We are also thankful for the outpouring of prayer and support that we experienced. It was overwhelming to hear everyone's well wishes. Thank you so much for being such an integral part of our support team!



## Prayer Requests

We can not emphasize enough the impact that your prayers have had on our lives here in Guinea. Please continue to pray for us and the people of Guinea as time goes on.

- Praise for God's healing as we battled malaria.
- Praise for an amazing host family. They are truly a blessing from God!
- Pray for Emmaus as he has yet to get into a good sleeping schedule since arriving.
- Pray for Canaan as he adjusts socially, he's treated differently because he obviously stands out amongst all the other children.
- Pray for Canaan, on October 15th he will be starting school. He will be attending a local Guinean school run by our host church. The language will be solely in French. Pray he adjusts to the way things are run. He has a very hard time being in large groups of kids. Pray for wisdom as we help Canaan adjust to this.
- Pray that God will teach us how to be godly parents in a cross cultural situation.
- Pray for the government in Guinea as January elections approach.
- Pray that we will attain a high level of French and culture quickly.

We also we want to pray for you! If you have anything specific that we can be praying for, please contact us.

**NTM Press Release:** Please pray for the situation in Guinea. On September 28th, a march and rally organized by those in opposition to the current government were held in Conakry. Government security forces responded with force against the assembled crowd, resulting in a large number of deaths and injuries. There are varying reports as to the actual number of fatalities and injuries. The situation since the 28th is calm but tense. Security forces appear to have the situation under control at the moment. The interior of Guinea has not experienced any unrest up to this point. All of the unrest has taken place in Conakry. All members of NTM in Conakry are safe and well. Many foreign embassies have encouraged their citizens to remain at home until the situation returns to normal and so the families are following that advice. Those who work in the interior are continuing on with their ministries as normal.

## Finances

For a tax deductible receipt, please send your donation to the address below located in your country.

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Please make cheques (checks) payable to NTM or NTMC and attach a note designating the funds for Norm & Debra Copeland.

US donors can donate online at: [www.ntm.org/give/2279](http://www.ntm.org/give/2279)

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If you would like to send us a **regular letter**, please send it to the following address:

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If you would like to send a **package**, please send it to one of the addresses below and it will be forwarded on to us:

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