

July 2012

# Mission to Cameroon



This mission was conducted under the auspices  
and with the support of:



**Hope Outreach  
International Ministries**

Sharing the wonderful hope in the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Financial support was provided by the family of  
the Lord Jesus Christ at:

**Calvary Chapel  
of Westchester County**

*Report Compiled by  
Ursula N. Embola, Ph.D.*

## ***SENT***

How, then, can they call on the One they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the One of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

Romans 10:14-15, NIV

## **THE JOURNEY BEGINS**

**Thursday, June 28<sup>th</sup> – Friday, June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

My journey began on a wonderful note with the impeccable car service offered by Dominick's Limo, courtesy of Mr. Steven Carelli. The ride from Ossining to Newark International Airport was peaceful and so very enjoyable, and we got to the airport with time to spare. Check-in was a breeze, and the favor of the Lord was upon me as not only were all five of my bags accepted by the airline, but also the Lord had provided the resources to cover the cost of the excess baggage. Praise Him!

Following a 2-hour delay due to technical problems, we finally took off from Newark on a fully booked flight to Brussels, where I expected to change flights within an hour of our arrival for a flight that would go directly to Douala.



However, while the trip from Newark to Brussels was uneventful, we hit a snag in Brussels. The plane which should have taken us to Douala had suffered a bird attack and was being repaired. In the end, our flight was cancelled and after several hours of waiting at the airport for temporary Schengen (European Union) visas to be issued to those of us who were simply transiting through the country, we were given overnight accommodation at the Sheraton Hotel in Brussels (across the street from the airport), compliments of SN Brussels Airlines. My expectation at this time is that we will be on the first flight out of Brussels tomorrow (Saturday) morning.



*“Blessed are the flexible, for they shall not easily be bent out of shape!”*

Embracing this motto made the past couple of days a lot more bearable (and even more exciting) for me than they would have been otherwise. We bless God. Amen

## **HOME AGAIN**

**Saturday, June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

My Saturday got off to an early start at 6:00 am Brussels time with a wake-up call from the hotel staff. Breakfast was served between 6:30 and 7:30 am, at which time my fellow travelers and I were required to be at the SN Brussels ticketing counter. I got to the airport with time to spare and made it through security with no problems. The flight to Douala was scheduled for 10:40 am, and we took off at about noon. The ride was uneventful, and we landed safely in Douala at about 5:15 pm local time. (It was a 6-hour flight, but Douala is 1 hour behind Brussels time.)

The favor of the Lord was upon me at the Douala International Airport. One of the things we always pray about when we go on these missions trips is for all of our luggage to arrive safely, and for the customs officers who inspect the luggage before it is allowed to leave the airport to *not* ask for a bribe. We believe that giving a bribe is dishonorable to the Lord. However, in many African cultures, there is often great pressure to do just that.

During previous trips that I have made to Cameroon, for missions or otherwise, I have always had the privilege of having either a family member or a brother in Christ stationed on the ground meet me in the luggage pick-up area, which is off limits to non-travelers. I expected the same thing would be true this year, but the Lord had other things in mind.

I checked straight through the Public Health and Passport inspection stations, and found myself in the luggage pick-up area surrounded by hundreds of other travelers, but with no one to help me through Luggage and Customs. My ride – Brothers in Jesus Sam Monono and James Eno – were not permitted to enter this area and could only watch from the sidelines as I struggled to identify and gather my luggage.

The room was hot and crowded, and there were no more luggage carts available so I had no idea how I was going to get all five of my 50lb pieces of luggage through the exit, that is assuming they all showed up. But the Lord gave me courage and faith to ask for His help, and I did. Also, I remembered the words of the Apostle Paul, who wrote that even when everyone left him, he was not alone, because God was with him. Thus, I had every confidence that God was with me, and that I was where I was in accordance with His will, and that I would get all the help I needed.

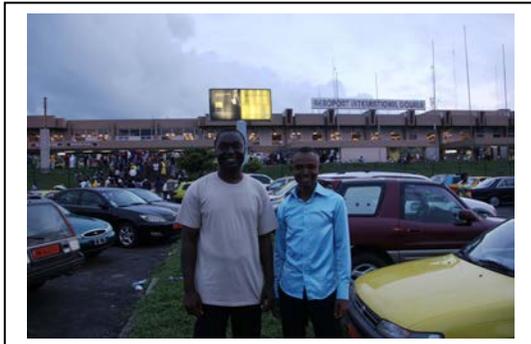
Though on separate carousels, all five of my luggage pieces came in one after the other, and just as the last one arrived, I found a porter who was willing to go outside the airport building to procure a luggage cart (called a “chariot” in French) for me.

When he returned with the cart, he stacked all off my bags onto it and explained that it would be necessary for me to give him \$50 if I wanted to make it through customs without being harassed about what I was bringing into the country. I told him I didn't have \$50 (which was the truth, praise God), that I was a missionary, and that my bags were full of Bibles and Bible studies. I told him he could open them up and look for himself. I did promise to give him a generous tip for his help, but I said a payment of \$50 would be out of the question.

He then asked for the equivalent of \$40 (20,000 francs cfa), and I said I didn't have that either, not for him, not for the customs officers, not for anybody. Again, I said, I was a missionary, and my bags were full of Bibles and Bible Study materials, which he would see for himself if he opened them up. He then said he would take me to the head customs officer and I said that would be fine, and that I'd explain to him what I had come to the country to do.

The head customs officer was a dark and burly man with a kind face. In my halting French (which I had been speaking all this time, to my great surprise, and, I'm sure, my listeners' amusement), I explained that I was a missionary with Hope Outreach International Ministries, and that I was in the country to do a women's seminar and minister to some orphanages.

I have never seen a customs officer so happy to waive a traveler through without any bribe being paid and any of their bags being searched. Correction: I saw the same thing happen in December 2009, but there was a much bigger group of us then, which included people who were obviously not Cameroonians. I had no reason to think that the head customs officer I was speaking with today would be just as receptive to my appeal as he had been to this larger group three years ago. Nevertheless he was! He not only let me go through without a single check of any of my pieces of luggage, but he asked that God bless me, and quoted the Bible (Romans 10), saying, “How can they believe in the One of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone telling them? So we are happy that you have come to tell them so that they can hear. God bless you.” I was stunned and happy and moved. I was also waived through the doors of the airport like a boss. Glory to God.



Outside the doors, I was enthusiastically greeted by Brothers Sam and James, who were there to give me a ride to my parents’ home in Limbe, where I will be based. It was *so good* to be in Douala again, *so good* to see my brothers in Christ, *so good* to be *so aware* of the Lord’s favor throughout this trip, and *so good* to be looking forward to all He has in store for us this week.



Due to heavy traffic in Bonaberi, the ride to Limbe took almost two hours instead of the customary one hour. However, praise God that we had no trouble on the road, and were waived through several checkpoints. We reached my parents’ home in Kie Village, Limbe, at about 10:00 pm and were treated to a sumptuous meal of vegetable salad and homemade dressing. Sam and James left shortly thereafter, while I retired with my parents and little brother to enjoy some family time alone together.

We ended the evening with a prayer of thanksgiving. I expect to spend tomorrow (Sunday) resting (recovering from jet lag) and meeting with other members of my family, as Sunday is the only day I will have to really see anyone. On Monday my mission to Cameroon begins in earnest with a visit to Save the Children Alliance Orphanage in Limbe. I am looking forward to seeing what work the Lord might have for us there.

## ***A DAY WITH FAMILY & FRIENDS***

***Sunday, July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012***

Today I had the awesome privilege of having several family members and close family friends who live nearby come over to my parents’ home for lunch. My mother prepared an exquisite meal, and I believe a great time was had by all.

The most exciting part of the day for me was getting to talk with several of the women in my family, as well as Mrs. Aggie Balinga – a dear family friend and powerful woman of God, about my planned visits to two area orphanages, and the inductive bible study women’s seminar I will be facilitating in Buea come Tuesday and Wednesday, Lord willing.

With regard to the orphanage work, many of these women were not even aware of the existence of Save the Children Alliance Orphanage, and they were pleased that help might be coming to the institution from outside quarters.

Regarding the seminar, although we are already at capacity, several of these women insisted on coming. They encouraged me by affirming the importance of teaching women to study the word of God for themselves, and there was generally a lot of excitement about the fact that a group of women right here in Cameroon’s South West Province were going to be exposed to this opportunity.

Before the evening ended, we joined hands (forming a circle of women) and my mother’s dear friend Mrs. Aggie Balinga said a prayer of blessing and thanksgiving over me. I certainly felt very blessed, and very grateful, and I am truly looking forward to all that the Lord has in store for all of us later this week. May His Holy Name be praised forever and ever. I plan to make it an early night tonight as my work begins in earnest tomorrow morning with a 10:00 am visit to Save the Children Alliance Orphanage. May the Lord God Almighty glorify Himself.

***SAVE THE CHILDREN ALLIANCE ORPHANAGE (FIRST VISIT)  
INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDY WOMEN’S SEMINAR (DAY ONE)  
Monday, July 2<sup>nd</sup> – Tuesday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2012***

It’s 11:00 pm local time on Tuesday, July 3<sup>rd</sup> and by the grace of God I have just completed my second full day of ministry. All I can say at this point is Praise the Lord! Hope Outreach International Ministries conducts operations based on what we call “the three E’s” – Evangelizing the Lost, Equipping Ministers of the Gospel, and Empowering Orphans and Widows. This mission trip has focused on the last two E’s – equipping and empowering.

On Monday, July 2<sup>nd</sup> my day began with a little bit of “con-fusion,” which I later discovered was in fact “God-fusion.” HOIM’s Cameroon coordinator Sam Monono and I had our schedules mixed up, and while I was waiting for him to come over to Limbe and pick me up so we could go to Save the Children Alliance Orphanage together, he was waiting for me to let him know that I had returned from the orphanage so that he could brief me on what to expect during Tuesday morning’s Hour of Hope radio broadcast. Sam and I both eventually realized our mistake, and I left for the orphanage with my mother at about 1:00 pm.

Prior to that though, I received a visit from my precious Sister Katie, a dear cousin of mine who helped raise me. I had the privilege of sharing with her why I was in the country, which opened the door for me to walk her



through the process of Inductive Bible study. We used the workbook I planned to use during the women's seminar, and Sister Katie was so excited over getting her very own copy. We studied a few verses from the book of Genesis together, and I encouraged her to share what she was learning with others. She promised to do so, particularly with the people in the adult Sunday school class she teaches.



Our visit to Save the Children Alliance Orphanage proved very fruitful. I introduced myself as a Hope Outreach missionary under the sponsorship of Calvary Chapel of Westchester County. We were enthusiastically received, and my mother and I had a productive conversation with Ivaan and Royene, the son and daughter of Mama Ngale, the widow who founded the orphanage in her home several years after her husband died. Mama Ngale was absent, as she was on a missions trip to East Africa. However, Royene and Ivaan identified some of the most pressing needs the orphanage had.

In short, the greatest need was for food. With 23 children between the ages of 2 and 14, as well as 7 adult caretakers, the cost of food – a necessity – each month is, for them, exorbitant. They indicated several other needs that I will share in person, but the need for food is immediate, and it is a need that can be met during my time here. So my plan is to return to the orphanage this coming Thursday, July 4<sup>th</sup> with about a month's supply of food, which can be purchased for the equivalent of about \$400. This donation is made possible due to the generosity and faithfulness of the body of Christ at Calvary Chapel of Westchester County. Praise the Lord.



On Monday afternoon we lost power, and it did not return until Tuesday afternoon. My younger brother Mark (who lives in Douala but is staying at our parents' home in Limbe while I'm here so that he can spend as much time with me as possible during my visit) and I took advantage of the fact that with no power there was absolutely nothing to distract us, and we delved into the Word using the Genesis bible study I would be sharing with the women come Tuesday and Wednesday. I was mightily encouraged to see my brother responding so passionately to what he was learning. For the first time, he told me about almost losing his life in a motorcycle accident in 2008, and how he had decided to give his life to Christ shortly thereafter. I will be making

inquiries about where in Douala I can get him plugged into a solid Bible teaching fellowship. Sadly, in Douala especially, those are few and far between. Nevertheless God is good.



On Tuesday, July 3<sup>rd</sup> my day began at 5:00 am as we got ready to be picked up from Limbe and driven to Buea for the 7:15 to 8:00 am live presentation of “The Hour of Hope,” HOIM’s radio ministry conducted under the auspices of the communications department of the Presbyterian Church in Cameroon. Our ride, Brother James Eno, arrived at 6:15 am on the dot as planned, and we headed to Buea, arriving at the studio just in time to begin the live broadcast. While my brother Mark served as the “official photographer,” Brother Sam and I went

into the studio to begin the broadcast.

After answering some questions from Sam about why I was in the country, what the women's seminar was all about, and why the seminar was directed at *women* in particular, I shared a brief devotional message from John 19 on Joseph of Arimathea. The thrust of the message was that wealth and means in any form, as well as power and position, are to be used for the expression of love to God and for the accomplishment of great things for God’s kingdom. Our possessions and pedigree should not keep us from serving God; instead, they should be utilized to enable us to serve him more *zealously*. Following my message there was a fun radio quiz which was ultimately won by two callers.

After we left the studio, my brother Mark and I went to visit relatives in the area while we waited for our brethren in the US to wake up so that we could seek and receive a clear go-ahead on our plans to supply food to Save the Children Alliance Orphanage. We also needed some guidance on what funds to allocate for the ministry at HOTPEC. As soon as I received feedback and a go-ahead from HOIM chair Dr. Julius Esunge, we began to put plans in place to purchase toys for the orphans at HOTPEC (with support from the men’s ministry at New Covenant Community Church in Bethlehem, PA), and food for the orphans at Save the Children Alliance (with support from the family of Jesus at Calvary Chapel of Westchester County). I will cover the actualization of these donations in my Wednesday, July 4<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, July 5<sup>th</sup> reports. Glory to God.

Once these plans had been finalized and the clinical shift at the Hope Center was ended, we headed to the Center to begin setup for the women’s seminar, scheduled to run from 4:30 pm to 8:00 pm. There was a lot of excitement on the part of the Center staff and myself, as we were all eager to see what the Lord would do. A few minutes before the seminar began, Sam informed me that a gentleman who had head me speak on the radio had shown up at the Center and wanted to listen in. He understood that it was for women only and that he could not participate, but he asked to be a “fly on the wall” and we gladly said yes.



About 36 women and 4 men (our 1 visitor and 3 Center staff members) ended up comprising the class for this first day of the seminar. I taught on the importance, nay the absolute *necessity*, of each believer having her own private and personal relationship with the Lord Jesus. Following that, I led the women through a series of Inductive Bible Study exercises, explaining each step to them, guiding them through a group exercise and then having them perform the exercise on their own before reporting back their findings to the group. We took a snack break after the first hour and a half, and then delved into the Genesis Bible Study during the last hour and a half. The seminar began and ended with prayer, praise and worship.



I cannot even begin to express to you the joy I felt as I shared with these women, the blessing it was to watch their eyes light up as they discovered spiritual truths for themselves, the undeniable hunger with which they soaked it all in. My heart's desire is to see these women – already established in their faith – become *powerful* Women of the Word. After day one, I think the Lord is certainly doing something within the body of believing women here in

Cameroon, something that will have an impact for time and for eternity.

The women were asked to provide their contact information and whatever comments they wanted to share regarding the seminar. They expressed their great gratitude to all who made it possible for me to come, and to provide them with a Genesis Bible Study workbook, a Bible and a pen – free of charge. The women's feedback/comments on the seminar are provided here in Appendix A. Praise God for the beauty and simplicity of His word.

Tomorrow morning I will be visiting HOTPEC orphanage before heading back to the Center, where I have to be present by 3:30 pm to meet with some of the women who attended today's seminar.

I am not ashamed to say it: I am in love with the Lord Jesus. He is a glorious, good and faithful God, and it is my absolute *privilege* to be His slave. May my hunger to know Him never be abated. May my heart always long to please Him.

Thank you so much for making this trip possible with your words of encouragement, your financial contributions, and most of all, your fervent prayers.

It is well with the righteous. Amen.

**INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDY WOMEN'S SEMINAR (DAY TWO)**  
**HOTPEC ORPHANAGE**  
**SAVE THE CHILDREN ALLIANCE ORPHANAGE (SECOND VISIT)**  
**Wednesday, July 4<sup>th</sup> – Thursday, July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

It is 5:41 pm on Thursday and I am pleased to report that my mission to Cameroon has, by the grace of God, been successfully completed. I look forward to returning home to New York, and to sharing (in person) with everyone the wonderful things that the Lord has done. Here's how the past couple of days unfolded.

A delayed start to the day was most welcome on Wednesday, as the previous day (Day One of the seminar) had taken a bit of a toll on me physically. However, the women had been so enthusiastic – several of them asking if they could bring friends and relatives previously unregistered to the second day – that I was excited for the conclusion of the seminar, and eager to see how the Lord would move.

But prior to all that, something very significant happened on the home front. After breakfast, the young lady who helps my mom look after my dad, Rachel (pronounced the French way – “Rah-shell”) pulled me aside and said she wanted to speak with me privately. During our conversation, she shared with me some challenges she was facing in her personal life, and asked if I could give her any advice. I told her the only things I could tell her were the things recorded in the word of God. I asked her if she had ever given her life to Christ. She said no. I asked her if she wanted to receive the Lord Jesus as her personal Lord and Savior. She said yes. Right there and then, I had the amazing privilege of leading this beautiful young woman through a prayer of salvation, and we became sisters. If I had come to Cameroon just for her, it would not have been a wasted trip. Please join me in giving thanks to God for this precious new sister, and believing God for a mighty harvest through Rachel's life.



Brother Sam arrived to take me to the Hope Center at about 3:00 pm. By the time we arrived at the Center (about 3:40), several people who had not attended Day One were already waiting for the seminar to begin, hoping to be included in the program even though they were not registered. In the end, 50 attendees were recorded for this seminar, which had originally been conceived of as accommodating no more than 20 women. Several men, though not officially part of the program, participated as listeners only, and were a blessing to the larger body of women attendees.



I began Day Two by presenting a portrait of Jesus as the God of Isaiah 6:1-4, encouraging the women to conceive of the Lord not just as the crucified Christ, but as the Sovereign Lord Over All. Following this brief word of encouragement, the women who were attending the conference for the first time on Day Two were separated from those who had been there on Day One, and moved to another part of the Center. The women who had been there from the start broke up into three groups and

proceeded to have a small group Bible study based on the homework I had given them the previous evening at the end of Day One of the seminar. Their task was to discuss their homework, share spiritual insights and encouragement with each other, and then designate one person from their group to report back to the larger group on what truths they had discovered for themselves during their Bible study. While this was going on, I worked with the group of about twelve women who were either attending the seminar for the first time on Day Two or had been late on Day One. I gave them a “quick and dirty” version of the basic tenets of Inductive Bible Study, and introduced them to the Genesis study that the other women were now working on.

Following that, we returned to the larger group in hopes of taking a snack break together, as an hour and a half had passed by. I was pleasantly surprised to find, however, that the women who were already having their small group discussions of the Bible study had *absolutely no interest* in halting their discussions. So instead, we created a fourth group for the women who were new, served everyone their snacks at their table, and the ladies worked through their snack break – and beyond.



At about 7:00 pm, an hour to the program's scheduled conclusion, the first group was asked to send their representative to the podium. Each group representative was given ten minutes to share with the larger group what they had learned as a result of their Bible study. The women were blessed as they shared and listened, and I was amazed at the Biblical dexterity of these ladies, the insights they pulled out of the Word, and the passion with which they presented their findings. It was truly a joy to watch them, and to know that the Lord had seen fit to use this totally unworthy servant (yours truly) in some small but meaningful way.

After the ladies gave their presentations, I gave another brief word of encouragement from John 20, the story of the Lord Jesus' appearance to Mary Magdalene following the resurrection. I talked about how Mary's passion for the Lord resulted in her being the very first human being to



see the resurrected Savior alive, and challenged each of the women to have this same heart for God.

In deference to the fact that she was the most senior person present as well as a well-respected member of the body of believers in Cameroon's South West Province, I invited Mrs. Aggie Balinga to close the seminar with a few thoughts. Auntie Aggie encouraged the women and encouraged me to go forth in our pursuit of Jesus, even to that highest calling of loving Him with all that is within us. Following a closing

prayer and a time of worship, Auntie Aggie encouraged the women to take up a collection – no matter how small – to demonstrate their appreciation to the family of God at Calvary Chapel of Westchester, who sponsored this seminar. A total of 16,000 francs cfa (about \$32) was collected, and I was charged with the task of either purchasing a Cameroonian gift for CCOW, or taking the money back to New York and handing it over to the church. Several ladies expressed their immense gratitude for the tools they had received during the seminar, and said they wanted the people at HOIM and CCOW to know how much they appreciated this investment in their spiritual growth. The evening ended with us taking group photos with the women and men, several of the women making a commitment to continue meeting with each other to complete the study in Genesis now that the seminar was over, and all of us generally leaving the Center feeling grateful to God and encouraged by His word.



Rather than returning to my parents' home in Limbe once the seminar was over, I spent Wednesday night in Buea at my aunt's home, as I was scheduled to be at CBS radio the following day for HOIM's live radio program – "Hour of Hope" – at 7:15 am. Brother Sam arrived to pick me up for our brief ride to the radio station at about 7:00 am, and we arrived in good time to prepare to go live on the radio. During this broadcast, I shared again from the story of Mary Magdalene, and also shared some of my salvation testimony with the radio audience.

Upon leaving the radio station, I paid a quick visit to my grandfather, and then Sam and I headed for HOTPEC Orphanage. We presented the orphans and the staff with a good quantity of toys donated by the Men's Ministry at New Covenant Christian Community Church. HOIM also provided them with a bag of rice. We spoke with some of the staff members about plans for the completion of a bakery at HOTPEC, took a guided tour of the construction site, and took pictures to share with all of the donors who have supported this work. We also had the joy of interacting with some of the orphans, and I was pleased to see how well several of the children I had met during HOIM's missions trip in December 2009 had grown.

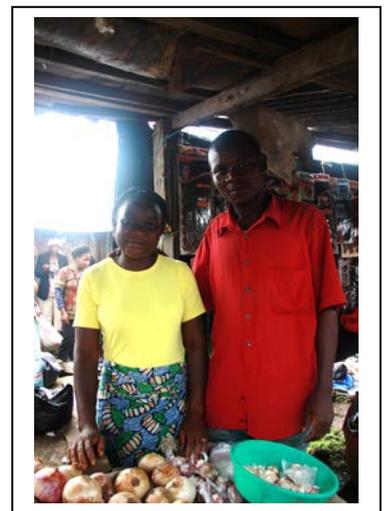


After leaving HOTPEC we headed to Muea Market to purchase food for Save the Children Alliance Orphanage in Limbe. We were met there by Faith, a lovely young lady who had been at the women's seminar, and who proceeded to help us (me in particular) as we navigated this open air, dirt floor market to get "the best bang for our buck." Sister Faith and Brother Sam's negotiating skills were not impeded by my picture-taking skills (that's the best I could do in the market, as I am a horrible negotiator, particularly since I keep converting prices from francs to dollars in my head and thinking they are low when in fact, for the culture, they may be quite high), and we left with an abundance of foodstuffs, about one month's supply, for the orphanage.



While in the market, I had the amazing privilege of getting into a conversation with one of the beautiful ladies operating a stall there. She asked me where I had come from and why I was in the country. Once I explained to her all that I had come to do, she promptly pulled out a Bible from underneath layers of plastic bags which had previously held her produce, and asked me to walk her through the steps of Inductive Bible Study, which I gladly did. She promised to come to the next women's seminar, and expressed her appreciation for the work being conducted by HOIM.

Also while I was in the market, as I was walking by a stall, I heard a woman's voice yell out "Mamy Pastor!" (These words could mean anything from "Mother of a Pastor," to "Wife of a Pastor," to "Woman Pastor.") Now, please understand that in Cameroonian culture, anyone who preaches the gospel is dubbed a "pastor." Even when I landed in Douala International Airport and introduced myself as a missionary, the porter and customs offices continuously referred to me as "pastor." So when I heard a woman's voice say those words in the marketplace, I knew they were for me. I turned around to see the smiling face of one of my women from the seminar. She was selling in the market alongside her husband, who is a pastor. What a joy it was to encounter this beautiful couple in the marketplace, and to hear from the husband how much the seminar had blessed his wife. I was so encouraged, and we agreed to see each other again when next I was in the country, as the Lord willed.





Once our excursion to Muea Market had achieved its goal, Brother Sam and I said goodbye to Faith and headed for Save the Children Alliance Orphanage in Limbe. We were exhausted and muddy, but very pleased with our purchases.

Upon our arrival, we were received by Royene and thanked by her and the children for the food. We signed the register indicating that this was a gift made possible through the kindness of the family of God at CCOW, and in

collaboration with HOIM. Before we left, one of the orphans, the same child who had prayed over us on Monday when we first visited, was called and told that I would be returning to the United States the next day. This child, a future “Mamy Pastor” herself I’m sure, and only eleven years old, prayed a prayer of blessing, abundance and protection over us that spoke clearly of the special anointing for prayer that she has from the Lord. We left thankful and happy, knowing that with this final act, the public part of my mission to Cameroon had been completed. Brother Sam dropped me off at my parents’ home and then returned to Buea. He and Brother James will return tomorrow to take me to the airport in Douala, where I will begin my journey home to New York.

The private part of my mission to Cameroon has involved supporting my mother in her task of caring for my dad. Although I have only been in the country a few days, it has been a privilege to observe her daily efforts to ensure that my dad’s daily needs are being met, and that he is being made as comfortable as possible. (My dad suffers from Parkinson’s disease). It has been an equally high privilege to minister directly to my dad, to walk with him as much as possible, if only for a short time, through this phase of his life, and to encourage him both about this life, and the life that is to come.

I leave tomorrow sad at having to say goodbye to my family yet again, but strengthened by the knowledge that my being in the United States not only helps *them* here in Cameroon, but has resulted and will result in a blessing for *so many people* who are *not* members of my immediate family. I am grateful to God, and to all who made this missions trip possible. May the Lord bless you abundantly, and replenish unto you that which you have been faithful to give.

## **HOME AGAIN, AGAIN**

**Friday, July 6<sup>th</sup> –**

**Saturday, July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

Friday morning was bitter sweet for me. I was excited to come home to New York, having accomplished (I believe) all that the Lord had sent me to Cameroon to do. But I was sad to be leaving my parents' home in Kie, my home, again. This is the plight of every immigrant, but I thank God who has called each of us to fulfill a particular purpose and to bear a particular yoke in life. This is mine.



Brother Sam arrived to take me to the airport in Douala at 3:00 pm as earlier arranged. I said my goodbyes to my family, and we prayed that God would keep us until we could be together again. As my younger brother was also heading to Douala, he rode in the car with Brother Sam and I, and we all picked up Brother James in Bonaberi where he had gone to seek out new tires for HOIM's ministry vehicle. We were encouraged to pray to the Lord and trust Him for provision of the \$1,200 needed to purchase four brand new tires from Michelin that would *last*, as opposed to purchasing used tires that the ministry would have to replace again in a few months. We have every confidence that our God will provide. He is a BIG God.

We arrived at the airport for my 9:30 pm flight with time to spare. Once we had evaded the hustlers outside the airport who used every tactic imaginable to try to get me to give up my last franc before leaving the country, once we had weighed my luggage and ascertained that it met airline rules, once my health and airport taxes had been paid and I was completely checked in, it was time to say goodbye. We did so joyfully, knowing that the grace of God would enable us to meet again. I then entered the passenger-only section of the airport and waited for the boarding call for my flight. The trip from Douala to Brussels was safe and uneventful, as was the trip from Brussels to Newark.

My journey ended as it began, with the impeccable car service offered by the team at Dominick's Limo. I bless God for them.

I arrived at my home in Ossining, New York at about 3:00 pm local time, excited, exhausted, and completely in awe of the goodness, the grace, and the power of Almighty God.

May His Strength, Joy and Peace Abound to You Always.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

**APPENDIX A: COMMENTS FROM THE PARTICIPANTS OF THE JULY 2012  
INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDY WOMEN'S SEMINAR IN BUEA, CAMEROON**

**CARJNE:** My desire for the Word of God has increased and my relationship with the Lord and fellowship with His Word has been enhanced.

**MRS. LJNDA MONONO:** It was challenging and has helped me to study the Word of God in detail as never before and to think critically. I pray for a second seminar.

**FLORENCE:** It was really enriching though very short. I pray that the next one will be longer and not only for two days. The verse by verse by verse studying of the Word of God has helped me to really master the scriptures.

**CORNELJA:** The seminar was wonderful, enriching and well defined. I have never taken time to read the Book of Genesis but now I am going to do that. I pray for more seminars like this.

**ANTOJNETTE:** I have always had problems in this area of studying the Bible verse by verse and meditating on it. But during the seminar I received something that has really changed my studying of the Word of Life. My only worry is that the time was too short. I pray that next time the number of days for the seminar will be increased.

**SE NORJTA:** It was really a blessing and an encouragement to me as far as my studying the Word of God is concerned.

**PROVDENCE:** I have received the lamp light of Inductive Bible Study. My Bible studying life will never be the same again.

**EMJLJA:** It was enriching and please I need more of such seminars with more days.

**GRACE:** The seminar has helped strengthen my relationship with God and has given me a new understanding of studying the Word of God line after line and verse after verse.

**HENRJETTA:** I am now able to study the Bible verse by verse and get a better understanding about each verse.

**CIODETTE:** Before I came to this seminar, I was discouraged about many things. But after the teachings and group work, I am now encouraged and I have imparted this to my daughter too.

**DELPHJNE:** It was very inspiring as I can now explain the Bible with simplicity. It was wonderful to fellowship with other women of God too. Please, I need more of such seminars.

**MUNJONGO:** The seminar has brought a revolution and change in the way I praise and worship God and also study His word. Just that the seminar was too short as it ran only for two days.

**NSO:** I have learned to meditate on God's Word. I need this type of seminar again and again and again.

**ESTHER:** Please, I wish to request for another seminar like this again.

**CHRISTABEL:** I have learned how to study the Bible using the Inductive Bible Study technique. This will help me teach others the Word of God.

**GRACE:** I just want to plead that wonderful seminars like this should come up more often.

**GLORJE:** My life will never be the same again with all the teachings I received.

**IJZETTE:** Thanks very much for the materials. It's going to help me understand many things in the Bible.

**MBOKE:** It was challenging and interesting.

**MELANJE:** I can now look at the Bible from a specific point of view to a general point of view that will bring many positive results.

**EBOT:** My prayer life, studying the word and meditating on it has change drastically as a result of this seminar.

**NEVEL:** The seminar has helped expose me to many other God-fearing women. It has given me an elaborate way to study and meditate on the Word of God. I have also learned to minister without stress thanks to the materials given to me. I also need more of such seminars.

**ANNETTE:** Just want to appreciate the initiative of HOIM for coming up with a life-transforming seminar like this.

**FUMUNJERE:** I have learned to read the Bible with a deeper understanding.

**EUNJEE:** I was not feeling fine as far as health was concerned, but after attending the seminar and getting an in-depth study of the Bible, I got my healing.

**MARGARET:** I have learned how to carry out personal meditation which was a problem for me before. Also, I used to have difficulties in reading the book of Genesis, but now I am already reading it with ease.

**FRENALJNE:** I think enough publicity was not done, because such a wonderful seminar needs the presence of all the women in Buea. I also want to propose that next time we go from one local church to the other, print flyers and do radio announcements, because I knew of the program only a few days to its commencement and I'm sure there are many women out there

who would have loved to also be there but were not aware. I also wish it could be longer. I had never known how to meditate on the word of God but now I can do that. It has also increased my intimacy with the Creator. Finally, the seminar has changed my prayer life drastically.

**FRANCISCA:** The seminar was awesome.

**FRAMBO:** I can now extract bread from every word in the Bible. I have gotten a clearer picture of the value of each day and what God expects from me as regards my present marital status. It was timely, inspiring and challenging.

**GEORGINA:** I have gotten a broader perspective in studying God's word. I will try to come up with something like this in the other chapters. I pray for many more seminars like this.

**FUALEFAC:** I have learned how to study the Word of God in detail.

**ESTHY:** The seminar was awesome.

**ELODJE:** Before attending this seminar I could not spend much time in studying my Bible, but with the inductive study guide, I feel like never leaving the presence of God.

**VJEKY:** I have learned some inner truth about the word of God. The seminar has really opened my eyes to lot of things. I now know the difference between reading and studying.

**ELIZABETH:** My spiritual life has been greatly blessed, especially in the domains of reading, studying, meditating and praying.

**ANNONYMOUS:** The seminar has been an eye-opener to me in and my grace in studying the Word of God has greatly improved.

**EVEIJNE:** It has really been challenging because I did not know how to read the Bible effectively, but now I can. I did not know how to interpret and relate it to life, but now I can do that. I will also use the method Dr. Ursula used to educate others.

**MRS. BALJNGA:** The seminar was great as it was learner-focused, especially with the materials. I have been empowered to effectively study God's word, discovering more of His love and taking the Good News to others.

**MR. BASSA MURUM** (one of the few men who attended the seminar): I benefitted so much from the seminar, especially on how to study the Bible. It was wonderful and so simple. That is, there was neither master nor servant, teacher nor student. I wish to recommend that this seminar should not be limited only to Buea but should be held in other parts of Fako Division.

## **GENERAL COMMENTS**

- Participants appreciated Dr. Ursula Ndolo Embola for her simplicity in passing across her message, and her mastery of the subject matter. They thanked her for the materials and prayed for God to bless her abundantly. They also thanked her for the snacks offered during the 30-minute break each day of the seminar.
- The participants also appreciated the local organizers for the services rendered during the two-day seminar.
- Finally, their special thanks went to Hope Outreach International Ministries (HOIM) for organizing such a seminar, and they prayed for many more seminars like this.

## APPENDIX B: FIANANCIAL REPORT

### Expenses

1. UNE Ticket to Cameroon: _____	\$2,090
2. Cost of Producing and Purchasing Materials (NIV Bible, Pens, Workbooks) for Seminar: _____	\$600
3. Cost of Transporting Seminar Materials to Cameroon (4 pieces of excess baggage): _____	\$700
4. Cost of Snacks for Seminar (over 2 days): _____	\$150
5. Cost of Food Purchased for Save the Children Alliance Orphanage: _____	\$400
6. Miscellaneous Costs (Local Transportation, Fees, etc...) _____	\$150
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE FOR THIS MISSION: _____</b>	<b><u>\$4,090</u></b>

*Note: Food and lodging costs are not included, as I lived at home. Support for this mission was provided by board members of Hope Outreach International Ministries, and by Jesus lovers at Calvary Chapel of Westchester County. Glory to God. Amen.*