

Spring
2006

Tim & Barbara Downs

PRAYER

- Souleymane and Salaam for salvation
- Grace with regard to the war
- Church construction in Gbegbessou
- Furlough
- Health and well-being
- Children in the States
- PASTORS & THEIR FAMILIES:
 - Richard
 - Eloi
 - Evariste
 - Anatole
 - Emmanuel
 - Mattias

A GOOD PROBLEM?

It seems that we are always concerned about "space". As the churches grow we go through a predictable series of stages that always lead up to one common need, a building. After a trip to the local government offices to inquire about the land situation, the search begins. In reality each community is supposed to have a certain amount of "free" land for religious purposes. However the "free" land can often cost more than an outright purchase due to the "gifts" necessary to get it "free". Gotta love Africa!

We now have two new works that are in need of buildings. The church in Yamoussoukro in Dioulabougou, which means Muslim neighborhood, has outgrown their present facility and are in desperate need of something larger. In this case, the "yard" is al-

ready paved so all we will have to do is put up a tin-roofed pavillion that will work for quite some time.

In Toumodi, we have already built a small pavillion, but now it needs to be closed in. It all takes time and money, but these are really good problems to have. People are being saved and the churches are growing. What a privilege it is to be a part of what God is doing in Côte d'Ivoire.

Pastor, we are still in the States on furlough and have a few dates free in July and August. If you would like for me to report, please contact me at: 913/484-1100 or by email. I'd love to update you on the progress in Côte d'Ivoire.

www.WestAfricaNow.com

timdowns@bbfi.org

GOD CHANGES LIVES

Anne-Yvonne grew up in a strict Muslim family. When she accepted Christ as a young woman, it rocked her family with scandal and her father frantically tried to persuade her not to change her faith.

He was embarrassed and shamed by his friends presumption that he could not control the women in his family. Anne-Yvonne had always been a favorite of his and he was distraught so he began to bargain

with her.

Privacy is something that is reserved for the rich in Côte d'Ivoire, but her father was prepared to do almost anything to keep his daughter. The thought of having her own house was unheard of, but that is what he proposed.... If she would simply honor her Muslim heritage. Of course, she could not so he disowned her. To this day they have no contact. He didn't attend her wedding which was complicated by

the fact that she was marrying a Pastor. Yes, former Muslim Anne-Yvonne is a Pastor's wife. I officiated and Barbara was the matron of honor. God changes lives!

