

Liberia News

By Rob Armstrong



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Near the location where we stay in Liberia is the home of a prominent and powerful politician. His house is surrounded by high fences, check points and guards. One day as I was walking past on the outside of the fence line, one of the guards ordered me to stop. When I complied, he walked over to where I was standing and in a severe tone asked me who I was and what I was doing there. I told him that I was a visiting missionary and that I was teaching the Bible every day, not far down the road. To my surprise, this guard (whom they call "colonel") asked if I had a Bible that I could give him. At the time, all I had in my backpack was my own study Bible which I needed for the workshop. But then I remembered that I also had a printout of the first few chapters of

Galatians which I brought along for personal study. So, I told him, that I didn't want to give him my own Bible, but I did have some pages from the Bible that he could read. He gladly accepted these and I was allowed to go on my way.

The next day, I had to pass by the same checkpoint. This time, the "colonel" (whose name is Joseph) came out of the concrete guard booth and told me that he had been reading the pages I had given him, but that he was having difficulty understanding what they meant. He then asked me if I would be

willing to explain the meaning to him and a few other guards who were with him on duty. So right then and there we huddled together on the steps of the guard house, and as they listened intently, I had the wonderful opportunity to share the gospel, answer their questions, and explain the meaning of what Paul had written.

There is much more to this story, but I just want to say that since that time and by God's grace, John Clark and I have had the privilege of sharing the gospel with many of the guards and other workers at the same location. Several of these men have told us that they now believe in Christ alone for their salvation and three of them have attended one or more of our DM2 workshops on their days off. We were also able to give a few of them small mp3 players with pre-recorded memory cards that include every session of the DM2 Liberia workshops from the last six years, which is literally hundreds of hours of Bible teaching. Please pray for these men and that we will have many more opportunities to share the gospel with other men and women in Liberia.





Isaac Paye (age 17) has successfully completed every one of our DM2 Liberia workshops over the last four years. Isaac is a student at a very legalistic "Christian" school. When he was 15, one of the teachers told the class that in order to be saved, a person must live a life of obedience and good works. Issac raised his hand and said, "But sir, the Bible teaches that we are saved by grace through faith in Jesus and not by our works." The teacher became angry and told him to sit down and be quiet. Later, Isaac's father (Pastor George Paye, our DM2 coordinator for Liberia) was required to report to the school to meet with the leadership to discuss what had happened in class. Pastor Paye told them that he agreed with what Isaac said, and then Pastor Paye presented the truth of the gospel from the Scriptures. By God's grace, the leaders acknowledged the truth of what Pastor Paye (and Isaac) shared. As a result, they asked Pastor Paye if he would be willing to teach all the school's Bible classes from that point on. Pastor Paye accepted their offer and has been teaching the Bible and portions of the DM2 curriculums for all the students at the school ever since. Issac and his older brother George are two of a team of over 20 young people who now teach DM2 youth workshops all over Liberia.

Liberia Rundown *By John Clark (field leader)*

The Liberian pastors' growth in grace and their desire to replicate the teaching has been nothing short of remarkable! Since the time we trained the core group in 2015, they have re-taught the DM2 Romans 1-8 curriculum close to 500 times in various settings. We have been so encouraged by their ownership of the Great Commission.

Due to COVID-19, we have had to cancel in-person trips. I was concerned that their momentum would slow down. However, God has been working behind the scenes in ways we could not have known. Our lack of ability to travel to Liberia has actually served as a motivation for our pastors to branch out more.

Due to the technology of the internet and ZOOM, we have also still been able to connect with our group for two separate two-day workshops in October of 2020 and February of 2021. Pray with us as we make plans to return in-person in October 2021.

Special Prayer:

Pray for Bret Nazworth and Brad Rigby who will be traveling to Zambia May 5-19 for a Hebrews 1-7 workshop. Pray for an extra profitable time with the leaders there and for health and safety for all. It is a great blessing that they are able to make this trip at this time!