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Experiencing Ghana

A dirt house has electricity, and a Coca-Cola sign hangs outside. A solar-powered street light stands in the middle of a village where a tin roof is a luxury. A nomad riding a camel takes pictures of the Americans with his cell phone. Northern Ghana contains many contrasts.

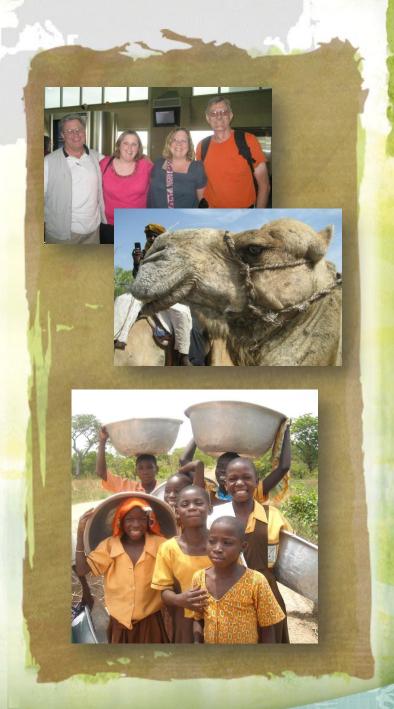
Children with sometimes ill-fitting or few clothes give big smiles. Christians with few earthly goods sing and dance for Jesus. A church of subsistence farmers presents a generous gift—a goat and 50 lbs. of maize—to the guests. The people of northern Ghana will not be soon forgotten.

From March 7-19, four people traveled to Ghana to visit the Gowins and to minister in the villages—Director Steve Elsey, Oleta Witt, Penny Fairman, and Bill Lee (pictured top right).

Director Steve preached in various locations and dedicated the new church building at village Qgu. Bill Lee brought special soccer balls made with the colors of the gospel, and he presented these at each village; he and Steve also built benches for the Christians at Qgb. Oleta Witt, an RN, provided medical care to villagers, and Penny Fairman assisted Oleta and made friends quickly with her neck rubs for the ladies.

Enduring the heat of the dry season, befriending children who are fascinated with white skin and freckles, meeting villagers who burn incense to idols, camping out overnight in a village: the variety of experiences and ministry opportunities combined to make a trip that was interesting, profitable, and unforgettable.

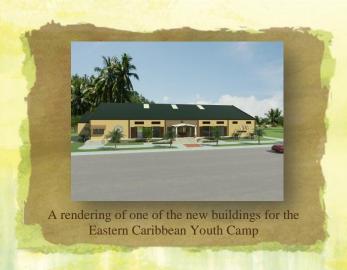
Thank you for your prayers for the travelers!



To see additional pictures from the trip, go to our website: www.coghworldmissions.org

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Phone: 913.432.0303

PO Box 4711 Overland Park, KS 66204

WWW.COGHWORLDMISSIONS.ORG

AROUND THE WORLD

HAITI

Pastor Samson, National Director of our churches in Haiti, recently returned from a visit to the Bainet church. This church is located in southern Haiti, close to the coast, toward the beginning of the arm that extends west into the ocean. Bainet has about 100 members, and about 100 children attend school there, as well. These children benefit from our Foodbank program, which provides them with a meal each day at school.

Special services were held while Pastor Samson was visiting. Six new converts were baptized, and two individuals were ordained as a deacon and deaconess.

Please continue praying for each of our thirteen churches and six schools in Haiti. Ask God to continue giving Pastor Samson wisdom, and pray for more souls to be won.

YOUTH CAMP IN THE CARIBBEAN

The annual Youth Camp is a highlight of the year for the Eastern Caribbean churches. But two years ago, the ministry seemed to be grinding to a halt when the lease on their property was not renewed. Some wondered whether Youth Camp would proceed in 2011, but God had other plans. Miraculously, He provided seven acres in Virgin Gorda, and Camp continued.

Since that time, a campaign has been underway to raise funds for buildings on the property. The leaders made a goal to see at least one building constructed by the summer of 2013, but a technicality regarding the ownership of the land delayed their plans.

Just weeks ago, the final permission was given so that construction could begin, but time is limited! Pray for the EC churches as they prepare for Youth Camp 2013.