

# Our Missionaries Newsletters

Dear Congregation

For spring break, we had the pleasure of taking 25 students from West Chester down to Panama City Beach, Florida. This is a conference where students learn how to share their faith and then go out to the beaches to start conversations with college students who are down there for the week. It was a joy to walk alongside students as they learned to share their faith and then accompany them on the beaches to proclaim the gospel. Each time, before walking out on the beaches, we would gather and pray for boldness. In a sense, it felt similar to the early church who was continually engaged in prayer and living missionally to proclaim the gospel.



Students learning how to share the gospel with the KGP (Knowing God Personally) booklet!

One of the highlights of the trip came when I went out on the beaches with a freshman student at West Chester named Michael. We saw a group of 7 or 8 guys and decided to approach them to try and start a spiritual conversation. All of them but one said no to our offer, and the one who said yes was buried up to his neck in sand. We then proceeded to spend the next 30 or 40 minutes asking him questions about his faith and beliefs, and got an opportunity to share the gospel as well!

As we have returned from Panama City Beach, it has been amazing to see how that week transformed many of the students to live missionally when they returned. Last week during our time of initiative evangelism on campus, we were joined by several students who were excited to proclaim the gospel to their fellow students! My hope and prayer is that this trip serves as a catalyst for them to be lifelong, disciple-making Christians who preach the gospel.

I wanted update you with exciting news concerning next year, I will be staying in West Chester to serve with Cru for another year! This year has been a joy to minister to college students and I am grateful that God has allowed me to stay here for another year. I will be reaching out to you over the next few months to see if you desire to continue in ministry partnership!

Michael Ruel

### **Prayers & Praises**

- 1) Pray for the students who were down at the PCB spring break trip that they will continue to be bold in the Spirit to share their faith.
- 2) Pray for the many people who heard the gospel down in PCB.
- 3) Praise God for those who received Christ as their Lord and Savior in Panama City!
- 4) Pray for the end of the semester, for strength and endurance year!



Though the beaches weren't as populated as usual, there were still many students!

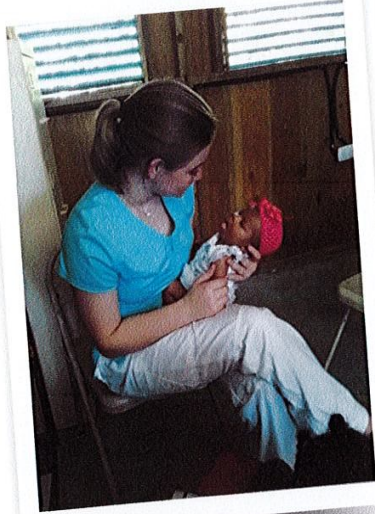


One of our many stops on the 21 hour van ride back home!



Time of prayer and worship during the week.





# TIME to Care!

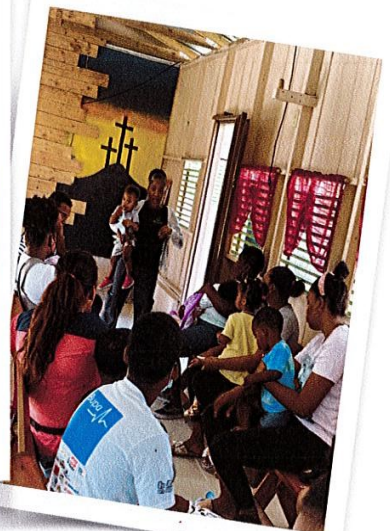
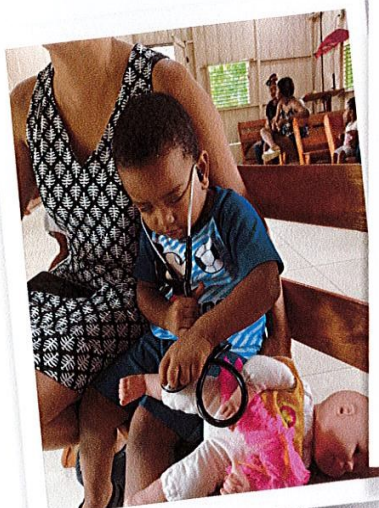


For 8 days, my mom and I went to the Dominican Republic on a medical mission. We spent our week educating women on pregnancy, labor, breastfeeding, parasites, nutrition for kids and gripe, along with passing out vitamins and medications to over 100 women and 500 children of the neighboring communities, and in that time we were able to personally talk to the women and share the gospel.

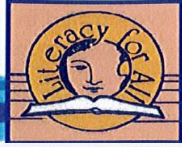
While at some of these clinics, I personally was able to give a pregnancy health, labor and breastfeeding presentation. As a 17 year old with no experience in these subjects, that was something I was so nervous to do. I prayed and The Lord opened the hearts of the women we saw and they were not only willing to listen but invested in what I had to say. I didn't need the experience only obedience.

"There are only three kinds of Christians when it comes to world missions: zealous goers, zealous senders, and disobedient." John Piper

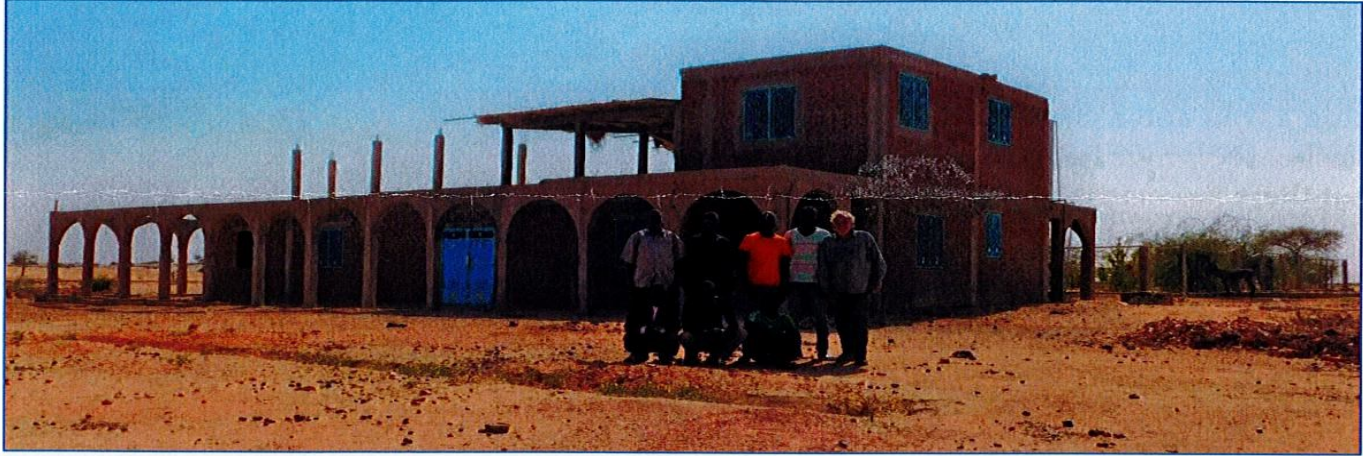
*~Emerson Harris is a High School Senior from Lawson Baptist Church in Missouri.*







## *Bringing Literacy Brings Hope*



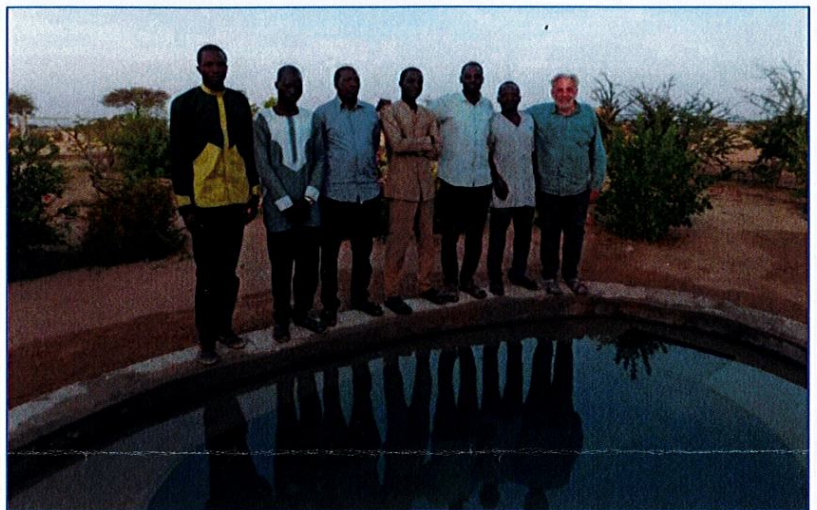
### **The Literacy Center for Eastern Chad and Darfur Is Nearly Completed** *Glory to God!*

We have studied 14 books of the New Testament and after completing a survey of the New Testament we will study *The Ministry of God's Word*, focusing on the teachings of the apostle Paul on how to present the word of God. We are Bible students building a school. We plan for this to be the program, students help build the school while they study God's word and also learn how to develop and implement a literacy program. We are believing God that these men will go out to the ends of the earth to teach and preach and disciple believers in the many unreached villages beyond where we are located. We are near the epicenter of the most unreached people groups on the continent of Africa.

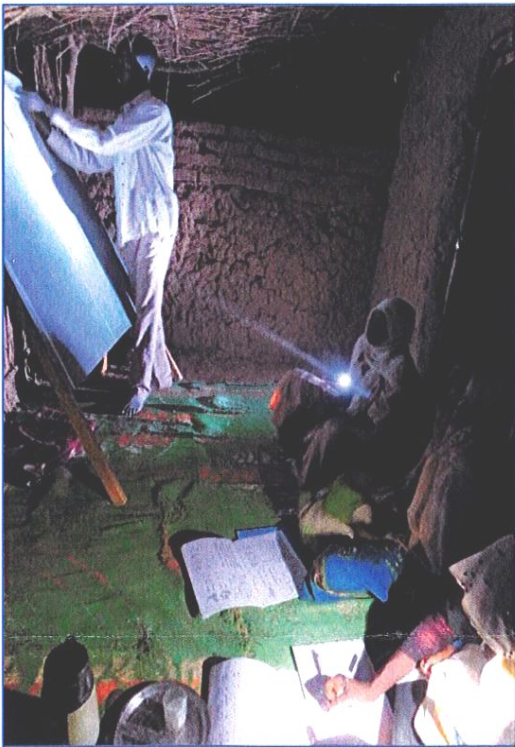
We are now ready to begin studying how to develop a literacy program. This study includes primer construction and the teacher training workshops. The large room in the training facility is for the teacher training workshops and writers' workshops. Soon students will be living at the center and we will begin evening Bible studies as well.

We have had a water baptism in our prayer garden of a new believer from Sudan. We studied in the evening and in the morning did the baptism, before the neighbors began coming for water. We live in a region of Chad which is nearly entirely Muslim. There are three more baptisms being planned now.

The work in the refugee camp includes teaching the Bible to believers, distributing Bibles, Fur literacy class and building a classroom for L1 literacy classes. In the picture of the class below, three students are reviewing for an upcoming quiz. The other six students felt they were ready. Below is the property where we have begun constructing a wall and a classroom for L1 literacy classes. Now we have only Fur literacy but there are many languages in the camp. We also have lessons prepared for the Shamnya language.



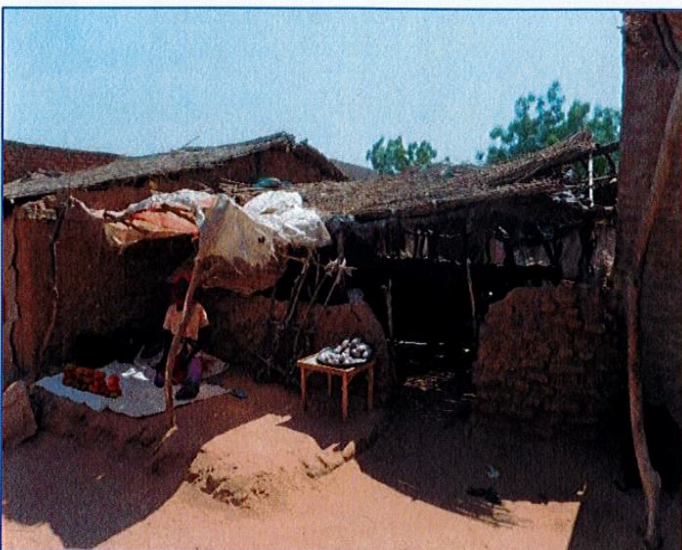




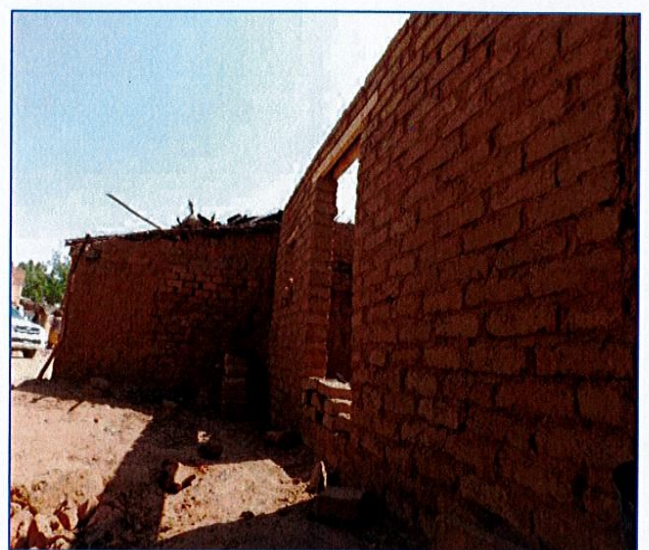
To the left in the above picture there is a water distribution location constructed of cement. Our classroom will be immediately in front of the local water source.

Long time friends of mine of over 40 years, Daniel and Cyndi Croom, gave a donation specifically for the owner of a coffee shop where I regularly teach the Bible and hand out Bibles in the refugee camp. With this donation she was able to renovate her shop. She said that she has for a long time wanted to have an actual building so she can leave her materials there at night rather than having to carry everything back to her house every evening. Every visit to the camp I meet people hungry for God's word.

On my last visit to the camp I left this location in front of the coffee shop riding on the back of a small motorcycle for the mile journey to the main road. We had moved about ten feet and a man stopped us. He asked me for a New Testament. I got off the bike and dug out a Bible from my back pack and gave him a Bible. Many times people stop me in the way wanting to receive a Bible to read! Glory to God! The hunger of the refugees for God's word is truly a miracle of God's power to save.

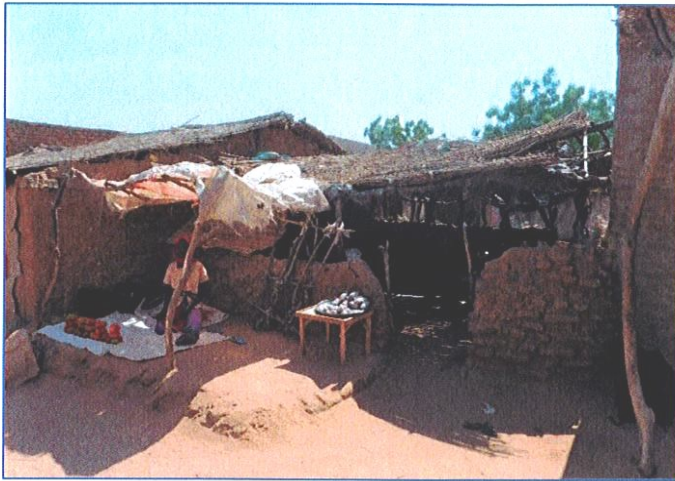


**Khalthum's shop before**



**The shop being renovated**



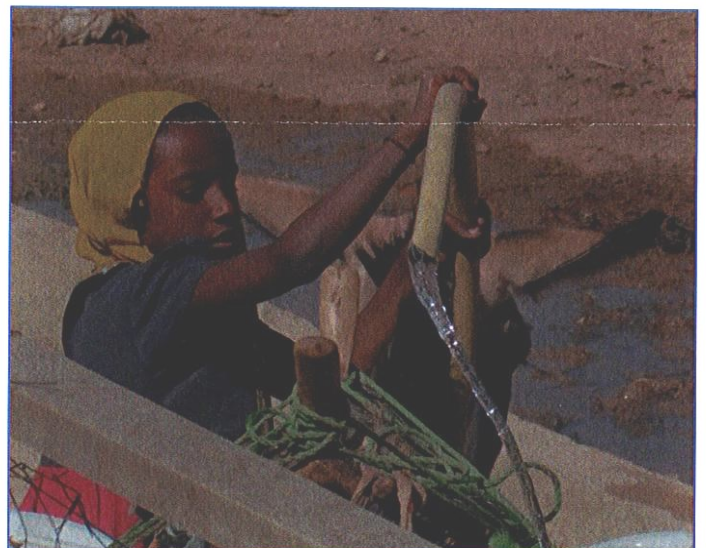


**Khalthum's shop before**



**The shop being renovated**

The prayer garden is a tremendous blessing. We have fruit from papaya, lemon, pomegranate and tamar allhind trees. Work in the garden is not only prayer time but it is therapeutic to have a beautiful spot to commune with God. The garden was built to inspire prayer for the completion of Christ's command to disciple all nations.



**Neighbors getting water**

We provide free water at the literacy center, where we have the prayer garden, for about 30 families who live near us.





The most important thing we do every day is study God's word. On this day we studied Luke chapter 10 and prayed for the Lord of the harvest to send forth laborers into his harvest. We are literally reaching to the ends of the earth with the gospel, and you have enabled this with your prayers and support. Lets agree together that God will fulfill His word that this gospel be proclaimed to all peoples. Glory to God!

In addition to the work mentioned here, I teach occasionally on Sunday mornings at the Arabic Church of Abeche.

#### Prayer requests:

- That God's grace would continue to abound toward us that the vision of sending out literacy workers, pastors and evangelists would be realized in a more fuller way.
- I'm in need of an assistant to join me that I can get a break from time to time. Last year I did not have any break at all. The work I do is stressful and break time is essential. The assistant would need to have knowledge of the Bible and some language ability in French and Arabic.

#### In Memory of Duane Naron

After I felt led to begin work on the training facility, one night I received a phone call from Texas at midnight. It was Duane Naron calling to tell me he wanted to help us. I had met Duane about ten years ago at a guest house in the capital of Chad. Duane had worked for an oil company, spending some time in Africa. After doing research he discovered that Chad was among the more needy countries and he founded a humanitarian effort called *Chad the Heart of Africa*. Duane's donation was the first to help us begin our training facility. Duane recently has gone to be with the Lord. I am very thankful for Duane's heart for the poor and the needy and for his work of faith in the Lord Jesus to demonstrate God's love.