



# December 2023

The work YOU do along with us through prayer is critical.

Thank you for taking the time to read and pray through these updates and be part of this incredible story God is telling!

In you, LORD my God, I put my trust. I trust in you; do not let me be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me. No one who hopes in you will ever be put to shame, but shame will come on those who are treacherous without cause.

Show me your ways, LORD, teach me your paths.

Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my
Savior, and my hope is in you all day long.

Remember, LORD, your great mercy and love,
for they are from of old.

Psalm 25:1-6

# **David Mudeya**MTS Beni Regional Office



- DRC elections on December 20. May God elevate those people He had appointed for His glory, justice, and blessing of the nation to leadership positions.
- BHW training in Kasindi November 27 to Thursday, November 30. May God draw in His people, use our team (David Mudeya, Pascal, David Kasumba from Beni, and Gad from Bulongo/Ruwenzori), and pour His healing.
- God's comfort to the people of Oicha and to ignite the hearts of those we have trained and equipped there to see and use the opportunities
- May God end war and genocide in eastern Congo, including in Beni (city and territory), Mambasa and Irumu (territories in the Ituri province), Masisi, Rutsuru, and Bunagana.
  - Several partners (groups and people) have captured our hearts for caring for them in continual prayers: Some orphanages in Beni (Ligue, Maman Marie) and Dorika in Oicha, for God's mercy upon those little children they are taking care of, and for
  - provision for everyday life. The orphanage of Maman Monike in Beni needs a responsible caregiver as she has gone for rest in heaven since September.
  - Several families in Oicha have lost their loved ones in the September killings, among them Kambale Makolo, who lost his three children, and the Masosi church, which lost an entire family (father, mother, and four children).

# **Steven Kato** *MTS Beni Regional Office*



#### **PRAISE**

- We are so thankful to God for November; we had a BHW intensive training in Igayaza, which is mid-western Uganda, for five days in which many participants received healing and restoration. The Caring for the Vulnerable Child (CVC) training with Transformed for Life students is also running well. The students are able to differentiate their feelings gold coin words from stones.
- Last week, we had a pastors' conference where the local pastors had Bible classes. Through these classes, the pastors were able to go through the book of Revelation, which most false prophets misuse to cheat their congregations, and also the book of Hebrews, which stresses the supremacy of Jesus over all Old Testament prophets and Angels and His priesthood. This training continued to equip these pastors for ministry.

- Pray for the participants who have attained the BHW training that God may bring total healing.
- Pray for the final training for the pastors that will occur next week from 4th-8th December that God will continue to open their eyes to His truth.

#### (Steven Kato cont.)

- We also plan to conduct a one-day follow-up visit to the Rwamwanja refugee camp to check on the participants who attended the previous May BHW training.
- Pray that God will offer us safe travels and enable the participants to come in big numbers.
- Pray for the safety of the entire country of Uganda, as during the Christmas season, the Ashababs generally attack Uganda, and car accidents are always rampant due to speeding during the Christmas season.

# Moise Mawa MTS Butembo, Lubero, Bashu Regional Office



- The restoration of peace and security in our country, the DRC.
- Democratic and transparent elections in December.
- The health of the members of our coordination.

## Titus & Stephanie Folden

## MTS Regional Coordinator for Latin America and Europe



#### **PRAISE**

- For a pastors/leaders retreat that I hosted in our town last week. Three of the four leaders in Spain from my first MTS mentor's group have continued to use MTS in their ministries. The four of us gathered for the first time in person last April in Malaga, Spain, where I took them through an MTS facilitator training. We enjoyed our time so much that we decided we needed to gather again for fellowship six months later. This time, they traveled to Barcelona. We have already proposed another meeting in April of 2024.
- Since our time in April, two men, Eugene and Robert, also completed MTS facilitator training online and then facilitated their own group of Spanish-speaking pastors, two serving in Spain, one in France, and another in Turkey. These men have a heart for reaching pastors with MTS.
- Praise for Explore group that started last month in a drug rehab center in Cadiz, Spain, led by Robert.
- Praise for the current women's MTS group being run in Valencia, Spain by Ana Gloria.
- Praise for MTS women's and Explore groups in Cuenca, Ecuador.
- Praise for the current MTS men's group of pastors I am facilitating based in the US/Canada.
- Praise for two small groups of Explore that I am leading with young leaders in our church in Barcelona.

#### (Titus & Stephanie Folden cont.)

- For us as we are consulting and supporting in a situation here in Spain where an 8 year-old girl has experienced horrific sexual trauma by her father when he had custody of her. The father is currently in jail, and the girl now lives with her mother, who has recently gotten out of a life in prostitution. The girl is having frequent fainting/blackout spells, and medical exams show that nothing is wrong with her. The girl and her mother are part of a church, and the girl loves Jesus. Pray that this girl and her mother get the help they need. We are hoping that they can go through the CVC material together.
- For the MTS team in Ecuador. They are currently facing a variety of challenges within the church as well as within some families. The enemy would love nothing more than to break apart the team that has seen God move in powerful ways within their community through MTS, CVC, and Explore over the past nine years. These challenges have also affected the CVC translation projects.
- Pray for the provision of people who can help me finalize the CVC project, someone who speaks English and Spanish and is ideally familiar with the material.
- Pray for a man I started Explore with last year. After completing the first chapter, he prayed with me to surrender his life to Jesus. Since then, it has taken us over a year to get to chapter four because he engages emotionally, comes in close, then gets overwhelmed and shuts down, withdraws for long periods, and then comes back. Every time we meet, he is deeply impacted. Running away and disconnecting from his most important relationships and commitments is his coping mechanism when there is too much pain. He recently told me that he is now exploring Yoga and is talking about God as a force/energy in the universe. Personally, it seems like another way of running away. I do not know what the future holds, but I know Jesus is still actively pursuing him.
- Pray for another man in a similar situation who I am going through Explore with.

#### (Titus & Stephanie Folden cont.)

- We are also at a standstill in chapter four. He also has a great deal of trauma and, as an immigrant who has lived without documentation for the past four years, has very little extra bandwidth to spend addressing his emotional and spiritual well-being. He is a believer and stays involved in our church community.
- Pray for Eugene and Robert as they pursue ministering to other pastors here in Spain and for the other men who went through an MTS group with them.
- Pray for our family to be able to get visa appointments so that we can apply for our national identification cards. Our visas for our family were granted last week after a year of an appeals process, but now we have a few more steps to go through to finalize the process.
- Pray for spiritual, emotional, and physical health for our family, our marriage, and our three children. Prayer that we can continue to steward the responsibilities God has given us well.

## **Debbie Taylor**

RESPLENDA: An abuse ministry using MTS in Spanish-speaking communities



#### **PRAISE**

• We praise God for the healing this fall in MTS and Explore groups.

#### (Debbie Taylor cont.)

#### **PRAYER**

- Pray for us as we wrap up the Zoom Mending the Soul Class for Latin America at the beginning of December.
- Training facilitators and a class for healing from abortion from January to March. In April, we will start again with MTS.
- Pray for us as we want to give more extensive facilitator training to support small groups better.
- Pray for us as we work on PowerPoints from Explore and Forever and Always.

# Joshua Ortiz Indian Bible College



#### **PRAISE**

• For Beta testing new materials in a men's and women's group. The men in the Beta test group are experiencing healing through sharing things they have never shared before. To quote one of the participants, "I am talking about things I have never talked about before." Furthermore, another, "Finally! I can talk about all this!" All of these men are in Leadership of some kind at the school (President of the Student Body, Resident Assistant, Husband/Father/Youth Pastor).

#### (Joshua Ortiz cont.)

- For Tracys support of the project and their willingness to allow us to make necessary changes for the sake of Native American people.
- We were able to showcase some of the material at a recent celebration at the school, where we shared some of the artwork and written material.

#### **PRAYER**

- Pray we finish writing the material. The enemy does NOT want this completed and to see people healed.
- Pray for our leader, Sarah, who is overseeing the rewrite. She is very busy with school, health issues, and being a mother and wife.
- Pray for the six students and two facilitators going through the process of MTS now—men's group: Joshua (Facilitator), Aaron, Tim, and Philemon.
- Pray for Indian Bible College and that students stand firm in their faith and be lights in their communities.
- Pray for the staff and faculty to unite and to serve with humility.

# THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRAYERS THEY MAKE ALL THE DIFFERENCE!

But I am like an olive tree flourishing in the house of God;
I trust in God's unfailing love for ever and ever.
For what you have done, I will always praise you in the presence of your faithful people.
And I will hope in your name, for your name is good.

Psalm 52:8-9

