

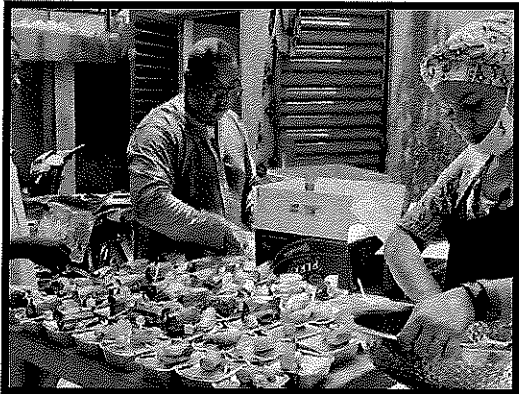
**“...to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.” Acts 20:24 NKJV**



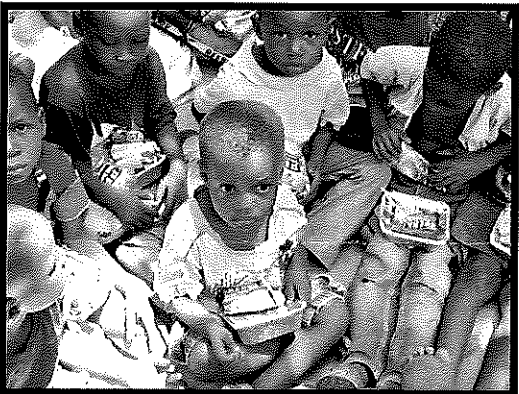
Friends: May the Lord Jesus Christ bless you and yours in His mercy and grace this month of August!

Kappy continues to do well medically, and she is still feeling ok. We appreciate your heartfelt prayers for her!

Paul writes in Acts 20 about his strong God-implemented desire to preach the gospel and testify to the grace of God; this seems like such a fitting verse to consider as we share with you about a recent Gospel Outreach in Bamako, Mali (a Muslim country in West Africa) for street children called Garibou or Talibe children. I was blessed to visit and minister in Bamako in 2019. It was then that I met Allasane and visited the Garibous he serves regularly. Garibou children are given over to Islamic teachers called marabouts for Koranic teaching, but the marabouts often send the children (some are very young, as you see in the lower left photo) to the streets to beg. Many of the children become homeless or don't have stable housing.



In collaboration with our friends Mission To Children, Pastor Alasane and his mission team in Bamako served 120 Garibou children with a gospel presentation, good meal, and gifts (including plastic buckets that the children carry food in). Alasane works with the children at least weekly, and he began to teach a discipleship lesson in French for the children. The teachings are going well at this time. Alasane's wife Simone is a Brazilian missionary; she's pictured with him in the 2 top photos at left with the children. Another factor that affected the outreach was the national coup in Mali that happened about that time. But in God's timing, this didn't stop the ministry to the children. Alasane has asked that we pray for the salvation of the Garibou children, some of whom profess faith in Christ but because of fear of persecution are reluctant to attend churches, and that some can be placed in good homes or reception centers. Please join us in this prayer also for Alasane, Simone, and their family and ministry team. Pray for their safety and much grace to serve the Garibou as they testify to God's grace in a place resistant to the Good News.



Please continue to pray for God's mercies for Uganda, which is experiencing a third COVID-19 surge and another very strict lockdown. We received news that Pastor David

Asibe (pictured in the middle at the right) passed on to the Lord after having contracted the virus. Please pray for his family and the church he led; this church hosted our Street Kid Ministry for many years. Pastor David Kirya (at left in the photo) was the Street Kid Ministry leader then, and now he may become the pastor since David Asibe's passing. David Asibe helped me greatly by his encouragement to pray years ago. It is good that we can testify to his stand for the Lord Jesus in the gospel. A ministry trip to Uganda is hopefully on for me (Jim) in September as the Lord wills; please pray virus conditions will allow that.



## KAPPY'S CORNER—The Lighthouse and the Sea

One day many years ago, I stood on the deck of a house on the edge of the Pacific Ocean and watched in awe as a massive ocean swell overwhelmed a neighbor's bulkhead and came crashing down on a wooden structure, demolishing it in one quick movement. That image has never left my mind. I've thought many times since about the weight of water. There's an old saying: a pint is a pound the world around. How many pounds of water would make up a wave of that size? Add to that the momentum of the wave and the potential for destruction rises astronomically.

We were recently watching an old History Channel segment about lighthouses when one particular lighthouse caught my attention. Eddystone Rocks lie fourteen miles off the coast of Plymouth, England. The first lighthouse built on those rocks was designed and built in 1698 by a man who had lost two ships and their cargo on those rocks. In spite of the improvements he made over the next five years, a massive storm in 1703 destroyed the wooden lighthouse and took the builder's life. Another lighthouse was built on the spot but burned down fifty years later when a fire started in the lantern room. Then, in 1759 John Smeaton designed and built a structure of interlocking granite blocks carved to dovetail into each other like puzzle pieces. He also developed hydraulic lime cement that cures under water for construction on a rock that is often submerged. Holes were drilled through the blocks, and marble rods were inserted to further strengthen the structure. The tree-like shape of the lighthouse was revolutionary in that it was wider at the bottom and tapered in an upward curve from the base. The blocks working together actually became stronger when the waves, winds, and storms hit, and the weight and movement of the water was directed upward by the tapered design, losing its energy. The lighthouse stood for one hundred and eighteen years until cracks appeared in the rock it was built on, and the lighthouse was taken down and a new one built on another rock. The stump of Smeaton's lighthouse still stands anchored on Eddystone Rocks near its replacement.

This puts me in the mind of the body of Christ. We are living stones, each with our own God-given gifts and abilities, built up together in Christ the Rock, our incorruptible sure foundation. We are to hold together by God's grace in whatever way we can, encouraging and strengthening each other in the faith and in the Word. When the storms of life happen—and we don't have to go looking for them, they will come to us—we are to comfort one another with the same comfort with which we are comforted. And just as the purpose of a lighthouse is not simply to withstand storms, our purpose is to shine the light of the Gospel of Jesus Christ into a dark world.

May our living Lord Jesus bless you friend,

*Jim and Kappy*

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