

# A BRIEF REPORT ON THE TRIP TO BERTUA.

The visit took place over the weekend of February 16<sup>th</sup> through 19<sup>th</sup>.

**The primary focus was on the marriage covenant and an introduction to family discipleship.**

**Our objectives were as follows:**

- To help some families in Bertua to live out the purposes of God in their marriages
- To help them see the need to focus on raising their kids in godly ways
- To serve our key leaders in Bertua
- To explore other ministry opportunities

**The trip was quite engaging and exciting. We met with about 25 couples for a two days' marriage seminar and an introduction to family discipleship. Some of the feedback we had at the end of the two days seminar include:**

1. Our teaching was rich in content and substantiated with relevant illustrations, most of which were drawn from our own life experiences. That makes our teaching relevant.
2. It is possible to bring people from different denominations and successfully minister to them without conflicting on denominational differences.
3. The subject of sex can be adequately addressed from the scripture without attracting guilt, especially among the ladies.
4. The seminar was timely and is going to fix many marriages. "If I knew where you live, I will move in and stay under your feet and keep tapping from your rich resources and experiences so that my marriage can keep getting better" was the comment from one participant who was so excited about the seminar.
5. Some of the participants expressed the need to engage in a bible study where they can learn more about family life.



On the 3<sup>rd</sup> day, we had the privilege to minister in Ange and Tatiana's church. Pastor Emmanuel, who was very satisfied with our message commented, "I have ministered for over 30 years, but I have never heard such preaching which focuses on sound doctrines from the Bible and not exciting people emotionally."

During our debriefing session with our key leaders (Ange/ Tatiana and Amos/Miriam) the following stood out:

- ✓ Both families are well connected to their local churches, trusted by their pastors, and making valuable contributions to their congregations.
- ✓ They are good community leaders. They live good exemplary marriages and family lives in their communities.
- ✓ They are passionate for missions.
- ✓ On the other hand, Bertua is a growing town and brings people from different regions of Cameroon.
- ✓ It has access to Central African Republic, one of the mission areas that Cameroon is praying for.
- ✓ If the right foundation is laid, Bertua could serve as an entry point for the gospel which could eventually expand to the Northern Regions of Cameroon (the Grand North) and Central African Republic.

Based on the above opportunities, our discussion was focused on how we can lay right foundations for church and family discipleship ministries (which are our entry points for Bertua) with the ends of Bertua and subsequently, the Grand North and Central African Republic in view.

**Please pray with us that:**

1. God should revive the marriages and restore godly families among those who participated in the seminar (Ephesians 5:23-6:4).
2. We should be able to provide an effective alongsiding role to the team, as they seek to lay foundations for the ministry in Bertua with the vision of seeing its expansion to the whole of the East region and subsequently the three Northern regions and even Central African Republic (Isaiah 49:6).
3. God should help us develop the tools and skills that will enable us to lay these foundations (Ecclesiastes 10:10).



*Vincent and Mary Taniform  
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