

April 2000

Aja Harvest Work Report

Murphy, Christine and Stephen Crowson

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Work Activities

Week 1 – April 1 - 8

- Six days language study
- Ainahoue meeting cancelled due to market day.
- I developed, distributed and explained a new Bible stories picture book which the Christians can use to share their faith with non-believers.
- Worshipped with Hunba. 11 present. Briefly told the Biblical stories from Genesis through the Resurrection of Jesus using the picture book.
- Visited Christians from Dadahoue and shared the same stories with them.
- Christine visited and encouraged several women from the Eglime church.
- Four team meetings (Translation, Devotional, Prayer, and Business)
- Preaching point meeting in the village of Ainahoue. 25 adults present. I taught a lesson on: "While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

Week 2 – April 9 - 15

- Worship with Hunba church. Nine Christians present.
- Worship with Dadahoue church. 50 Christians present from three different churches.
- Initial meeting with the Dodohoue village to make plans to begin a preaching point there. They had a lot of questions about our intentions, etc.
- Two days language study.
- Lesson preparation.
- Maturation lesson with Hunba church. Nine Christians present. I taught a lesson on: "Desire of the Flesh." We also made plans for the new preaching point in the village of Dodohoue.
- Cotonou errands: Doctor's appointment, banking, Stephen had malaria this week, monthly report, etc.
- Evangelistic meeting in the village of Ainahoue. I taught a lesson on repentance and baptism.

Week 3 – April 16 - 22

- Worship with Dadahoue. 25 adults. Talked briefly with the leaders after worship about the possibility of beginning a new preaching point soon. One of the leaders there is going to begin teaching in the village of Kenji in a few weeks. (Mid May)
- Evangelistic meeting with Dodohoue. 20 adults. We taught a lesson on trusting in God to protect us using the story of Daniel in the Lion's Den. He is the Creator and the Almighty.
- We took the Bailey's to the airport.
- Continued working on Biblical stories picture book.
- Evangelistic meeting with Ainahoue. 35 adults. I taught a lesson on becoming one with Christ using Romans 6.
- One day of language study.
- Two team meetings (Prayer and Business)
- Leaders Meeting at Keletume. Jim and I told the major stories of the Bible from Genesis through the end of Acts.
- Visited and prayed with one of the Aja leaders who was sick.

Week 4 – April 23 - 30

- Worship with Hunba. 30 adults. I taught a lesson on the great commission and a lesson on our old life of sin and our new life Christ.
- Evangelistic meeting with Dodohoue. 25 adults. I taught a lesson about how serving God is more important than everything, even death using the story of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego.
- Worked on language study lesson plans and booklet of maturation lessons for Aja evangelists.
- One day of language study.
- Paid vehicle taxes.
- Four team meetings (Translation, Devotional, Prayer, and Business).
- Evangelistic meeting at Ainahoue. 25 adults. Kweshivi, the Aja Christian who has been co-teaching at Ainahoue led the entire meeting on his own.
- Worship with Avedjin. 30 adults. 11 people were baptized from the village of Ainahoue.
- Evangelistic meeting with Dodohoue. 30 adults. We taught a lesson on worshipping the Lord only using the story of Elijah and the prophets of Bail.

Culture Studies completed

- Work activities around the home and village
- Creative activities in the village
- Health and hygiene; useful medicinal plants

Advanced Language Level Competencies Completed

- Talk about your future or goals.
- Give instructions about what you would like someone to do, explaining the steps involved in carrying out an activity.
- Give a brief, organized, factual summary of what happened in an event you attended.
- Give advice to someone faced with making a decision, giving reasons for your advice.
- State the advantages and disadvantages of a situation or a decision.
- Tell someone what you would do in a hypothetical situation.

Level I Language Assignments Completed

- Color and texture; descriptive verbs.
- Order of modifiers within noun phrases
- Temporal clauses
- Instrumentals
- Desiring, urging and causing.

The most exciting thing this month was the birth of a new church in the village of Ainahoue. This was the fourth church plant that I've been involved in but the first as the only missionary. It gave me great joy to help these new brothers and sisters enter into the new life that the Lord wanted to give them.

I also began a new evangelistic point in the village of Dodohoue. Greg was planning on working with this village but they had to make an unexpected trip to the states.

My language abilities continue to improve more and more. I'm really enjoying my work with the Aja. I'm finally at a point where I can really see God working through me to make an impact.

Again, thank you for your prayers for us and for the advancement of the Kingdom among the Aja. The Lord is doing wonders.