

September 19, 2006 Email Update

Dear family and friends,

Greetings from Cameroon! I am now starting my third week of AOC (Africa Orientation Course). I moved from the Freelands, where I had been staying, to the AOC training center here in Yaoundé Monday morning September 4th. I left for Kribi with three African workers the following day to repair a shed that was damaged by a falling tree. This is one of several future AOC campsites. Kribi is located on the coast in the southern part of Cameroon - about a three-hour trip by car. Since it is rainy season right now, we spent quite a bit of time working in the rain, but we were able to finish the project and return Thursday evening. Here we are putting on the roof.



Since then the emphasis has been classes – cultural, health, cooking, medical and personal topics. There are 15 other AOC participants including 4 kids. As we learn our way around town, we continue to assume more and more responsibility for shopping and cooking our own food. We will be here at the AOC training center until Wednesday of next week when the entire group will leave for Kribi. We will spend about a week there living on the beach and learning to live and cook in a village situation. Here is a second photo from Kribi with the team. For other photos from this trip along with several other recent albums that I have added, my photo gallery is located at

www.petersonfamily.info/robert/gallery2



There have been several significant highlights for me over the last several weeks. The first was a chance to give away two French Bibles. I have already given away the one I brought from Switzerland. The other Bible, which I just bought, I will be taking to Kribi to give to a gentlemen I met while I was there. A Bible here costs about \$7. Incidentally, that price is based on the average wage of an individual for one week.

The second highlight for me has been the privilege of some new Cameroonian friends. I have started playing volleyball with a number of Cameroonians every Wednesday and Saturday and have since been able to spend a significant amount of time with some of them outside of volleyball. This is a direct answer to prayer and very encouraging for me. Here are several additional praise and prayer items.

Praise:

- Continuing to feel more at home and at ease here
- Good health and strength with no problems from Crohns
- A good trip to Kribi and good start of AOC
- New Cameroonian friends

Prayer:

- Our Kribi camping trip (9/27 – 10/2): safety in travel (by bush taxi), health and good learning.
- Continued cultural adjustment and insight.
- Cameroonian friendships: continued growth and spiritual fruit.

Thanks so much for your continued prayers, notes of encouragement and faithful support. They are each a special blessing to me, and I am so thankful for such a wonderful support team.

May the Lord bless you! In Him, Robert

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