

October 2006 Email Update

Greetings from Cameroon!

During my last email update, I was getting ready to go to Kribi along the coast. Now we are preparing to leave this Thursday for the northwest mountainous area for a 2 ½ week village living phase.

Our time in Kribi was good though not always easy. We fought a nearly constant battle with the rain to keep our tents dry or, at least, less wet. We learned a lot about cooking and camping in more rustic conditions and enjoyed playing Frisbee on the beach and body surfing in the waves. As always, there are a lot more pictures on my website: www.petersonfamily.info/robert.



Since then we have continued our orientation classes and practical projects along with spending one weekend living with a local Cameroonian family here in Yaoundé. I stayed with Prosper Atchombat and his family. He works with CABTAL (Cameroonian Association for Bible Translation and Literacy) which is a national partner Bible translation organization. Prosper and Jodeline have three children plus the brother of Jodeline who lives with them.



Now the focus is on preparing for our village living phase. Lord willing we leave this Thursday to travel northwest about 5 hours by bus to the town of Bamenda. We'll have the chance to see the regional Wycliffe office in Bamenda and then stay the night in a Baptist guesthouse. Early Friday morning we will travel an additional 5 hours to Nkambe by "bush taxi" which is basically a small bus. From Nkambe, we will take taxis to our individual villages. For good reason the single women will be teamed up. However, the single guys will each be living with families in separate villages for the next 2 ½ weeks. We plan to leave our village Nov. 13th for Bamenda and then return to Yaoundé the 14th. **I would deeply appreciate your prayers for this time of cultural immersion experience. Health concerns (malaria) and dietary concerns also continue to be areas for trust and prayer as we live and eat with our host family.**

I continue to be blessed by the chance to play volleyball with my Cameroonian friends. They have also been very helpful cultural mentors for me as I continue to adjust to life here. Rafael, one of my good friends, is the one hitting the ball. We play every Saturday morning and then there is a Bible study that is led by one of the Cameroonians afterwards. Some of my friends in this group came to know the Lord through this ministry.



There is one final picture to share with you: the first ever Wycliffe-Cameroon helicopter cleared customs and arrived here safely in Yaoundé last Friday. Praise the Lord! This helicopter came directly from serving with Samaritan's Purse in Indonesia where it was used for hurricane relief and is now being leased to us here. There are currently two Wycliffe/JAARS mechanics here assembling the helicopter. This picture is with Tangko, our Cameroonian mechanic in Yaoundé.



Praise:

- Arrival of the helicopter in Yaoundé
- Good health and strength with no problems from Crohns
- A good 2nd trip to Kribi
- New Cameroonian friends

Prayer:

- Our village living phase (Oct. 26 to Nov. 14): safety in travel (by bush taxi), good witness and health.
- 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

Website: www.petersonfamily.info/robert

Personal Address:

SIL, B.P. 1299, Yaoundé, CAMEROON

Wycliffe Address (for financial gifts):

Wycliffe, PO Box 628200, Orlando FL 32862-8200 (attach note: For Robert Peterson)