

## In His Hands



(Isaiah 49:16)

**May 2013**

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Dear Friends and Family,

Thank you so much for your prayers for us. We received so many responses to my letter of introduction! Thank you! I was so surprised by your warm greetings and encouragements. The fear and apprehension I had when I thought about your reactions were just thrown away. I thank the Lord and I thank you for being so gentle and kind to me.

Since my last letter to you, many things happened in our lives. I was convicted by the Lord to leave my job at the government hospital in Ngaoundere so that Rob and I could work in missions together. Making that decision before obtaining my government number was not easy. Living in a poor country, the money I was to receive from the government after working 1 ½ years as a doctor was quite significant for me, so it was difficult for me to let that go.

At the end, I had to repent to the Lord and to Rob too, because the first time I realized God wanted me to do that, I did not accept. But as I continued to walk and pray daily for our situation, the direction in which God wanted me to go was becoming clearer and clearer each day. Finally, I stopped, I gave it to the Lord and I left.

There are many Christians in America who quit their job to come to Africa as missionaries and endure many of the same struggles of Africans. Now that I have experienced the same process of leaving my country to go somewhere else, I have greater understanding for the sacrifices missionaries make. Being a missionary also means leaving family. I too, for the first time, have had to leave my family. This whole process has given me a greater appreciation and admiration for missionaries.

I thank the Lord for all the people in the world who left their comfortable life to go and share God's Word, no matter the aspect of their work. Maybe they are pilots or Bible translators or wives taking care of family and homeschooling their kids. It is something huge and I did not fully know that before.

So as of Wednesday, May 1, we are in the country of Gabon. I flew from Yaoundé to Libreville. Rob, with my brother as his companion, travelled to Libreville (Gabon's capital) by car. The journey was strenuous. It took three hard days. The roads are very bad and there is a river to cross on a ferry. And when the ferry is not ready to leave, you have to wait until it is. No need to tell you that you can wait an entire day!



*Waiting for the ferry with D'aquin, Bintou's brother, who traveled with me.  
More pics at: <http://petersonfamily.info/robert/gallery/Driving-to-Gabon>*



*Welcomed in Libreville by Steve and Alace Straw!*

While in Libreville, we are busy with our orientation. Rob is focusing on the aviation program. He is tired, but he works a lot. There are a lot of challenges for the aviation program. It is a new program and they need a lot of wisdom to further develop the program. The plan is to move the airplane, a Cessna 207, now stationed in Libreville, to Bongolo, the location of the mission

hospital, by the end of the month. Many things need to be done so that the hangar is fully operational. We will be staying in Libreville through next Saturday in order to obtain our “cartes de sejour” (residence cards) here in Gabon.

Even though the last weeks we’ve encountered many difficulties and no doubt more are to come, we are happy we can be here together to serve the Lord!

Thank you for your prayers and thank you again for your kindness towards us! We look forward to our next letter being from Bongolo. If you would like to learn more about where we are serving, you can read all about it at the following link: [www.bongolohospital.org](http://www.bongolohospital.org).

In Christ’s Love,

Bintou and for Rob

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