

Spring 2024
Report



The Hedges Family

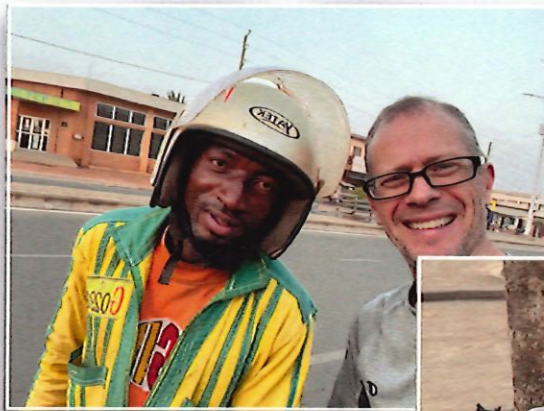
WORKING WITH
BAPTIST MID-MISSIONS and
Bibles International

Resilience

In January, I connected again with the Dendi team in person. I had not seen them for almost two years so I was really looking forward to being with them again. I was very encouraged to see them.

I was encouraged by the progress of the Dendi translation. The Dendi project has advanced to the quality check phase. The last time I worked with the team in person, we checked the book of Proverbs and some Psalms. That was March of 2022. Later that year, my colleague Susan Hossack finished checking the Psalms which was the final OT book to be checked. Then the team moved to the add-ons (book introductions, footnotes, etc...). Having finished those, they have begun the quality checks. So in January, I worked on key terms with the team.

I was also encouraged to witness the resilience of the Dendi missionary team. They experienced a difficult situation in October of



2021 when the team had to evacuate northern Benin due to security issues in their area. One of the team members had been targeted by a terrorist group. So the mission team relocated to central Benin. This meant leaving recently constructed homes and ministry buildings and starting over. Not long after moving, the team located and purchased property to serve as their new ministry center. Parts of the land has been cleared and new housing is underway.



Looking ahead, LORD willing, I will be going to the Ivory Coast in April with colleague Glenn Kerr to help train two translation teams. This is my first visit to this country so there will be new places, new foods, new people, and new work. Please pray for a successful training session.

Different reactions to Joshua's presence in Benin: Left-A motor-taxi driver tells Joshua he is blessed to have his first white client. Right: A toddler runs away from his mother in terror at the sight of Joshua.

Again, we want to thank you for allowing us to be a part of God's work in Africa!

Joshua Hedges

Background: One of the new missionary houses on the new mission property in central Benin.

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Praise the LORD!

- **For the Dendi workshop** - Joshua met with the team in January to work on key terms. They covered terms related to the tabernacle, temple, offerings, Jewish feast days, leaders and witchcraft.
- **For progress on the Day** - Joshua continues his read-through of the Day Bible. He is currently in Romans. He sends notes to the Day team in Chad who are able to make the necessary corrections.
- **For provision for the Benin trip** - The LORD has provided most of the funds needed for the girls (Rebekah, Elianna, Emma and Moriah) to go to Benin in June!
- **For encouraging church visits** - We have started to visit some of our supporters this year. The churches we have visited have been an encouragement to us.

Prayer Requests

- **Pray for Joshua's trip to the Ivory Coast in April** - Joshua and Glenn Kerr plan to go to the Ivory Coast next year to train two translation teams-the Neao (nee-ow) and Kaowlu (kow-lu). These teams will be revising their NT's and eventually proceed to translating the OT's.
- **Pray for the Benin trip in June** - Joshua and three of our girls will be going to Benin to continue working on key terms for the Dendi Bible. In addition, three interns will be accompanying them as they prepare to go and raise funds.
- **Pray for Abigail's wedding** - Jared and Abigail will marry May 31! We are excited for them!
- **Pray for the LORD's direction regarding school for the coming year.**
- **Pray for our family** - Pray that our family would love God, His Word, one another, His church and the lost.



Skiing at Bittersweet.

Emma with a dill pickle, gummy worms and Takis wrapped in a fruit roll-up!

Background: Emma and horse.