

DISCIPLE MAKING MOVEMENT

DMM

Dear Friends,



October 2019

1. PRAYER

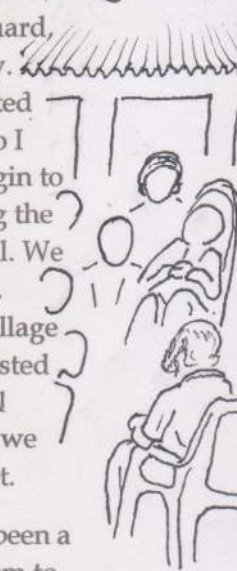
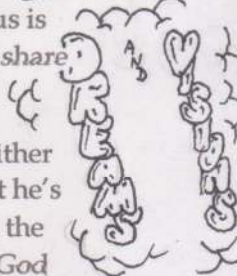
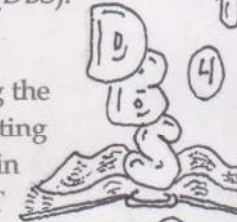
I don't usually have this much trouble starting a newsletter but I've been sitting here thinking, "How in the world do I convey just what is happening here?" Let me do just a really brief overview:

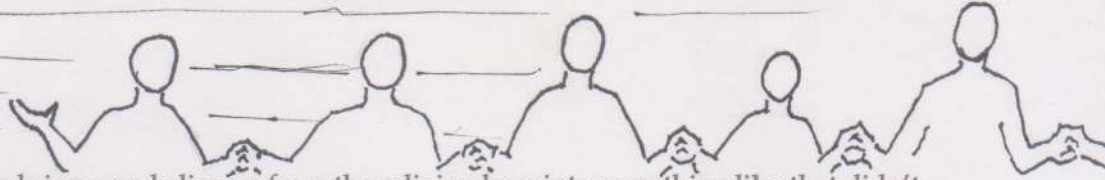
After reading the book, "Miraculous Movements", (and if you haven't read it yet, please do!) we felt like this "Disciple Making Movement" (DMM) strategy was where God was directing us to move among the people here. There are five (5) steps involved: 1. PRAYER. We spent most of our time this past home leave trying to get people on board to pray for the work here. 2. Do something for the community in which you are working. We felt that God had provided that through the clinic we are running. 3. Seek out "people of peace". These are people you feel God has already started working in, people that might be open to hearing the Gospel message. 4. Begin Discovery Bible Studies (DBS). This is where we're at now. 5. Dreams and visions. This is something only God can do.

We spent our entire first 3 years here on the first 3 steps and began to feel that step 4, beginning the studies, would never happen. But God has His own timing and it seems like things are just busting out all over! If you receive our prayer calendar you know that groups are beginning to pop up in many of the areas around us, many in ways only God could have orchestrated. (If you are NOT getting the calendar and have email access let me know!) One thing God seems to be showing us is that He's not bound by any formula but moves in His own way and His own time. I wanted to share two stories with you.

Group A and Group B were the first 2 groups to begin meeting. They both still struggle, but neither wants to give up. After each lesson it is the job of the learning disciple to go out and share what he's learned. Tim has habitually shared with the moto repair man across the street. Two weeks ago, the man was not there and time was short so Tim decided to take a walk down the road and see if God led him to anyone. He came to the tire repair shop belonging to "Morris", the son of our day guard, so Tim stopped to chat with him. Another man, Camara was also there and listened to the story. Suddenly Camara started getting a bit belligerent with an "Oh yeah?" kind of attitude. He started asking questions: Well what if I want to be a Christian, huh? Do I have to go to church, what do I do? Will you give me money? Tim said that no, the best thing would be to start a study and begin to learn what is in the Torah (Moses's 5 books). Before he knew it, Tim had arranged for a meeting the next night to begin a study. Tim encouraged "Morris" to bring some of his house people as well. We sent an emergency prayer letter and asked you all to pray. The next night when Tim went over, "Morris" was the only one there. Camara, a motorcycle taxi man, had been called to a far-off village and none of the house people showed up. "Morris" was excited to start anyway but Tim suggested they wait and begin the study right at his house. They had their first meeting (Group K) several nights later at the home of our guard. God gets all the credit for setting that one up. It's a place we really wanted to see start a group, yet we had nothing to do with getting it going but Tim's visit.

The second story has to do with our church people. A little background. That little church has been a whole lot of trouble. Workers before us had some trouble before we came and things didn't seem to get better. At one point we actually split the church because the people didn't seem to be able to keep from destroying each other verbally. Little by little God's been bringing healing, but our thinking concerning the church has always been that they would continue to be their own little group and we had no desire to really grow it. It's made up of almost all foreigners from English

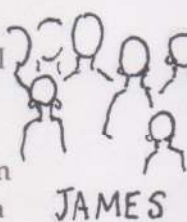
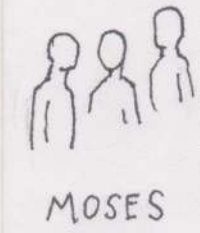
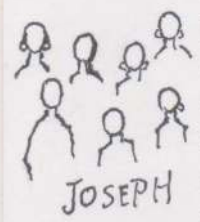
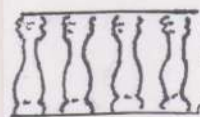




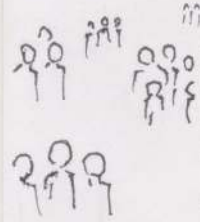
speaking countries, so to bring new believers from the religion here into something like that didn't make any sense at all. Little by little God began to show us that He seemed to want to use those people to accomplish whatever it is He is doing here. "What, Lord?? Have you seen what goes on in that part of Your Body??" But we began teaching the whole DMM system to the church along with some solid teaching on what it means to be a follower of Jesus and the Holy Spirit is beginning (SLOWLY) to change our people! It's been amazing to watch. Still some rough edges, but their focus is more and more turning outward.



Tim has a nightly routine he's been following ever since we lived in Ghana. He gets up in the middle of the night to pray. Two weeks ago after fasting one Thursday he was up at night praying. The next morning he said that he felt God had led him to something, put an idea in his head. He wanted to begin breaking our congregation up into small groups that would be having their own Discovery Bible Studies in their homes. This would accomplish several things: 1. It would help our people to understand DMM better as we seek to lead them into using that process in their own lives, and 2. Since several of them have family people that have basically left the church, we're praying this will be a way for them to bring those people back into the Word while training them to be disciples of Jesus. The group seems to break up easily. Two groups will be only meeting with their own extended families. (Names are changed to easy English ones!!) "Joseph" has a wife and his 2 grown daughters have stopped coming to church. However both the girls and his wife all run in Maninka circles quite a bit. One of their extended family members has been toying with the idea of joining the majority religion here. "James" has older children that have all left the church, but who also run with Maninka people. Since both of these families interact with people in their neighborhoods, we will be praying that the groups will grow and spread. Another group will be a family but of French speakers. "Pierre" and his wife came regularly but she stopped when she got an infection in her foot...and started a store. "Pierre" has contacts all over from his work. Another will be English speaking men. Team "Moses" are 3 men that all want to start their own studies among their friends, so this will be great training for them. The last will be English speaking women, "Elsie" lost her husband some years ago. She has 2 daughters that have drifted away from church, her mom, a strong member, and many others in the house that speak English that might join as we go. I'll be leading that one. We really need your prayers for these groups as they start out. Pray that they become disciples that make disciples! What an impact these folks could have on our town!!



We're going to ask you this month to pray for these groups. Groups A, B, and K are already in progress; Groups: F, and S and V are looking to set up times to hold their studies; and our church groups, Teams "Joseph", "James", "Pierre", "Elsie", and "Moses". I'd like to ask you to pray for all the groups as a whole, but I'd also ask that each of you choose one group to focus on: a group already going, one ready to start, or a church group. Please pray that God's Spirit moves in their lives, that He opens eyes and ears to the wonderful message of the Gospel, that He blocks Satan from trying to come in and destroy, and that He reveals Himself to each member as they learn to obey His commands; and may God's Name be glorified all over this area as His Word goes out!



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