

Mali, West Africa

Mission Trip

Prayer Guide

November 3–14, 2011



The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of darkness, a light has dawned. Isaiah 9:2

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From FBCgT's first trip to Mali, W. Africa, in 2002, teams have seen the darkness in Mali and particularly among the Wassulu, our church-adopted people group. However, over the past eleven years, we've seen many Africans who were walking in darkness "see a great light." This is why going back again is so important as we share the love of Christ with them and see the "light" begin to shine in their lives."

With this in mind, use this itinerary and prayer guide to pray for the team that will be the light of Christ in Mali, November 03–14. Also be in prayer for the Wassulu people to whom we will share and show the Good News. During our time in multiple villages we will be showing Gospel films (*Jesus, God's Story*, and *The Hope*). Pray that these films, along with our Bible Storying, will be used by the Holy Spirit to cause people to see their need for Christ, and that they will have the courage and faith to trust in him for salvation.

NET THE VILLAGE (NtV): This project involves the distribution of mosquito nets to those in need. Our aim behind the project is to help extend physical life to those most vulnerable by providing an element of protection against Malaria (carried by mosquitoes), and giving people the opportunity to hear the Good News of the Gospel.

VILLAGE GARDEN: The team will be helping to double the size of the Victory Garden project, begun on our 2010 Mission trip, in Village B. Additional wells will be dug by the Malians and the fencing relocated to include more area for additional garden vegetables. Pray that the logistics for this project will go well. The aim of this garden project is to assist village widows and other women who are seeking opportunities to improve their family's food supply, while providing them the means to sell produce in local markets. In turn, this will help provide income for local families who work the gardens.

DAILY PRAYER GUIDE & ITINERARY

Thursday, November 03

Itinerary: Four Texas team members depart from Austin today, connect through JFK in New York City, and arrive in Paris tomorrow where they will meet two additional team members—one from FBCgT, and one, a former Journeyman to Mali and one of our translators, from Virginia.

Prayer Request: Pray for safety during travel and smooth flight connections. Pray that the team can sleep on the long overnight flight.

Friday, November 04

Itinerary: The team arrives in Paris, France and then travels on to Bamako, Mali where they will arrive about 9 p.m. “Mali time.” (Time difference is 5 hours later in Mali than in Texas)

Prayer Request: Pray for safe air travel and arrival, and unhindered passage through customs in Paris. This year’s team has three returning team members and two newbies. Pray that all the team will connect before the final leg of their journey—the flight from Paris to Bamako, Mali. Pray for their safe arrival in Bamako and that they will clear customs with no problems. Arrival at this airport is chaotic, at best. Pray that their luggage will arrive in Bamako when they do! The team will meet their Mission 10:14 Partner, Jerry Counselman, after their luggage clears security. Pray for a restful night’s sleep at the SILAH Mali Guest House in Bamako.

Saturday, November 05

Itinerary: The full seven-person team will spend the day in the capital city of Bamako: outfitting, shopping, and for orientation.

Prayer Request: Pray for safety traveling by vehicle and on foot in the capital city. Pray that preparation for the week’s stay in the village will be completed in one day. Pray for unity of the full team as they get acquainted and prepare to serve together.

Sunday, November 06

Itinerary: The team will load their two vehicles and travel to Village B. where their longest-term relationships are and where they will stay the first two nights. They’ll spend the first evening greeting and visiting. (Time changes to 6 hours later in Mali than in Texas.)

Prayer Request: Pray for safety during travel from Bamako to Village B. along roads paved in recent years. Pray for the team as they share the Good News through Chronological Bible Storying to this audience of oral learners. Pray for new (and renewed) relationships that will be formed/strengthened as the team lives among the people. Pray for Chief M. For years, he has heard the Word but has not yet made the decision to follow Christ. Pray for Flake, our Malian pastor, and Michel, one of our translators and a believer, as they will travel with us all week.

Monday, November 07

Itinerary: Today the team will begin helping with the second phase of the Victory Garden Project in Village B, begun on the 2010 trip. The women will spend time helping the women in the village with their basic daily tasks. They may show a Gospel film or do Bible storying tonight

Prayer Request: Pray for good relationships among team members and between team members and the Wassulu people. Pray for boldness in sharing Bible stories and pray that the Word will be made known with clarity tonight. Pray for strength for the day ... each day.



Tuesday, November 08

Itinerary: Today is market day in Village Y. The team will go to Market and visit with the ladies while also helping improve the economy of the village with their shopping! Some of the team will visit the radio station to discuss a new contract for Bible story broadcasts. This afternoon, the team will get settled in at the Encampment in Village Y where they will stay for the next two nights.

Prayer Request: Pray for good relationships among the team and the Malians with whom they interact. Pray that stomachs will be settled even with eating many foods that are different from what team members are used to eating. Pray that sleeping arrangements will work out well.

Wednesday, November 09

Itinerary: The School Team will travel to our adopted middle school in Village Y where they will “teach” English to the 7th, 8th, and 9th graders. The plan is to help the students with conversational English (let them ask questions they’ve always wanted to ask an American if they had the chance) during their regular English class time.

Prayer Request: Pray for physical strength during the daytime and rest at night. Pray for relationships that lead to sharing the Good News of the Gospel. Pray for the team and their interpreters to work well together so they can ef-



fectively communicate with the students. Pray for them as they visit Chief Z in his courtyard in Village Y. He has heard the Bible stories and has been given opportunities to accept Christ but has never made that decision. Pray that this will be the time he takes that all-important step.

Thursday, November 10

Itinerary: In the morning, the team will return to the middle school and continue conversational English in additional classes. They will visit in the village in the afternoon. They will travel to a third Wassulu village late in the day and spend the next two nights there.

Prayer Request: This will be the first time any team has spent time in this Wassulu village but they have been invited because the elders are very interested in the NtV project to help their people. Pray for the team as they again pack up and move to another village with the uncertainties of their sleeping arrangements.

Friday, November 11

Itinerary: The team will spend the day with the Wassulu people in this new village.

Prayer Request: Pray for the team as they visit among the people during the day. They will also have opportunity to distribute mosquito nets (NtV) to families identified by the village chief. In the evening, the team plans to show a Gospel film; so please pray that the film presentation will run smoothly and that the message will be clear. Pray that many hearts will be open to the Holy Spirit and that many people will be open to receiving a copy of God's Word in their language.



Saturday, November 12

Itinerary: The team will travel from this new village, stopping to say "good-byes" in Village B, and then complete their return trip to Bamako.

Prayer Request: Pray for a safe return to the capital city, and rest for the team following our days in the village. Everyone will be looking forward to enjoying a real shower when they return to the Guest House!

Sunday, November 13

Itinerary: The team plans to attend a Malian worship service in Bamako where team member, Marty, will be sharing from the Word. There is always wonderful music shared enthusiastically at their service. Then, the team will complete early check-in at Air France. They'll depart Bamako airport late tonight for an overnight flight to Paris, continuing on to JFK in New York City, and on to Austin.

Prayer Request: Pray for new believers among the Wassulu. Pray that all believers we encountered will be strengthened in their walk with the Lord... a challenge when so many family and friends are Muslim. Pray for safe flights and times of rest.

Monday, November 14

Itinerary: The Texas team arrives back in Austin late today.

Prayer Request: Pray that this experience will be life changing for each one. Pray that their lives will be impacted for Kingdom work when they return home. Pray that their luggage will arrive back in Austin when they do. Pray for the team as they return home to real life—jobs and family—and as they share all they saw God doing in Mali.



FBCgT TEAM MEMBERS: Windell Hebert, Jessie Hebert, Charlotte Watson, Brenda Brakeman, and Marty Krueger

