



# Dwayne & Deborah HARRISON

Missionaries to Mali  
West Africa



Greetings in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ,

April 2012

### CONTACT INFORMATION

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### GOALS

Preaching, teaching,  
witnessing, Bible institute,  
Training Nationals.

### BIRTHDAYS

Dwayne 9/15  
Deborah 7/12  
married 6/16/2001  
Joseph 4/3/2007



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Macon, GA 30617  
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I am aware that you all received a letter from me not too long ago and that since then a lot has changed since our last letter. The government of Mali was overthrown on the day that the last letter was mailed out. The president wasn't very popular and the government was taken over by the military without bloodshed. At the same time rebels including Al-Qaida have taken over the entire northern region of Mali. This has in turn caused many problems in the country. We are now under a transitional government until which time we can have free elections and have another sitting president. Please pray for Mali to have peace again in the country and that the rebels and Al-Qaida groups would be forced to leave Mali. The Malian people need your prayers. One of my friends asked me what he could do, "I said pray"; he said if there is anything I can do just ask. I wanted to cry I already said what we needed most. Prayer isn't a secondary need here it is the primary need. Christians think prayer is so unimportant. The prayers of my home church pushed me through many tough times in my life. The prayers of many of you have sustained us when other missionaries have quit. It is the blood that keeps the body going without which we are dead.

Deborah and I are fine. Power outages during the day keeps us outside until around lunch time we bought a small generator so we can run fans during the hottest part of the day. We are limited right now as to movement; so we are being cautious. We stay in town and I visit a lot now but I have only gone out of town to go the other church that is about an hour away for the first time in a month since last Sunday. The south is 90 something percent Muslim, but we live in peace and the Muslims like that and are proud of the diversity. We feel safe for the moment but if that changes I will have to head south for a little while. The truck stays gassed up and I have extra fuel in case I have to leave.

That all being said, around 400 Malian Christians that were in the North have fled because of persecution and fear of being killed. There were rapes and killings in those areas, but God answered our prayers and all the Christians I know of except a Swiss woman escaped, they are holding her hostage. Please pray much for here. These 400 Christians had to leave their jobs, homes, and all their worldly possessions. They need our help. The church here would like to try to organize a small relief effort for them. Some are trying to help them now; however I don't know how long the problem will last. Rice and basic food can be bought locally. We would also like to try to help with basic items for the ladies and children. Macedonia has helped us to set up a fund; Mali Relief Fund. I know this finds America and the whole world facing tough times. The only thing anyone could ask is to pray and if God directs you to help, please do so. The people here are trying to see what they can do but many of them are having a hard time making ends meet.

Pray for Francis, the missionary that I am working with; his brother died a few days ago. With all that is happening he needs prayer. Pray for us as we try to minister to the people. Most need to be saved, Christians need to be encouraged, and the people that fled the north need a compassionate hand. There are some that are starving up north but Christians and foreigners aren't allowed to help, only Malians. One of the bible college students asked me today if it was possible for a preacher to quit. I knew how hard things have been lately. Our soldiers in the north retreated and left the cities wide opened that has led to the rapes and murders of civilians. The soldiers were outnumbered but they were armed; if you run, who will protect our women and children. He almost cried; he said "I understand now". The heat of the battle is when we are tempted to quit, but it is then when we are needed the most.

**Keep firing brethren!**

If you would like to help; send checks to Mali Relief Fund at the Macedonia address.

*The Harrisons*

PRAY FOR: Language acquisition, discernment, God's guidance

