

Children's Newsletter

May, 2008

Dear Boys and Girls,

Our work in Guinea has been going on for 12 years now! It seems like such a long time, maybe longer that some of you have even been living! There are many churches in the Forest Region of Guinea, where we began the work with the refugees in Guinea. Most churches are now Guinean churches. We have talked before of the different types of churches we have. This time I thought we'd show you some pictures! People build what they are able to build. Sometimes we are able to help them with their building. They must still build the walls but sometimes we are able to help them put on a good roof.



Some villages are just starting and so they build a simple structure of wood and grass. For these churches we often help them with a tarpaulin, or "tarp" so that rain will not come in when they are worshipping. If these villages are serious and continue to grow maybe they will someday be able to build a better and more permanent building to meet in.



This village has a better building. They have people that are serious about having a church and learning about Jesus. When that happens they plan their church building and apply to the National Church to see if some of the chapel roof project money is available so that they can put a roof on their building. These buildings don't have much cement in them and are mostly made of mud. So if the walls are up and the rains come, the walls can melt away and they will lose all their hard work! So it's important to have a roof. For the stronger buildings they use tin on the roof like you see on this church. It is much more permanent for the building and will last a long time. Sometimes even those aren't strong enough.



When churches started growing here in Conakry we were in trouble. You can't just put up a small building here like in the Forest! Plus since most buildings are owned by Muslim men it was hard to find someone to let a Christian church meet. After a lot of prayer the congregations finally found some places that would allow the churches to meet. Most meet in small school buildings like you see here. They hope to someday build their own churches, but it is very expensive.



Now that you have seen what the churches here look like you can remember them when you pray for the people here in Guinea. Pray that God will bless the churches as they meet each week and that many, many people can hear about Jesus!

Love,

Pastor Tim, Beth, Katie
and Andrea Heiney