

FAMILY
focus

Raphael Guno: A servant's heart

How many of you have stepped off the plane in Ghana to be greeted by the smiling face and willing servant attitude of Raphael Guno? As the coordinator for short-term medical and evangelism outreaches, Raphael is ready to assist teams and individuals as they come to Ghana to share in medical evangelism initiatives with Ghana Christian Mission.

He, along with the staff of GCM, has already taken care of the many details of planning and organizing that happen before you arrive. Then while you are here he is ready and willing to serve you in any way, and as he says, "Happy to be a behind-the-scenes contributor to the Kingdom building ministry" of Ghana Christian Mission.

He may be behind-the-scenes, but he is a valuable asset to the ministry. Doug Fox, with Global Health Outreach, has led short-term trips to Ghana for the past 4 years and has worked closely with Raphael to successfully manage joint medical outreaches with GCM.

This joint venture has treated more than 3,250 patients and witnessed more than 350 new souls brought

to Christ. Doug shares, "Raphael's assistance in managing the logistical support and management of supplies for our team has been invaluable. Without Raphael and Enoch these medical mission trips would not have been possible."

Even though he started working with Enoch in FAME Ghana in February 1999, God had started weaving their lives together as children in their home villages.

Growing up with 10 siblings in Agave-Avegagorme village in the Volta Region of Ghana, he was just 1 1/2 miles down the road from Agave-Akplale village where Enoch's family lived. Before attending primary school, Raphael

used to help his mother sell food to the children outside the schools in the area. Raphael's first contact with Enoch's parents and siblings was when he was a hard-working youngster



Referring to Exodus 17:8-13, Raphael sums up the role he plays with Enoch and GCM as he and Emmanuel serving as Aaron and Hur who hold up the hands of their leader, Moses. He says that the Joshuas are the evangelists and the nurses on the field fighting on by providing for the physical and spiritual needs of the people.

helping meet his family's needs.

Raphael committed his life to the Lord in April of 1979. After years of continued studies and various jobs Raphael worked with Enoch in 1990 on a development planning committee for their home villages.

He was the secretary for this committee, and Enoch could appreciate then the committed team member and hard worker he saw in Raphael.

Even though his job is quite demanding in securing and delivering supplies for the clinics, churches, and Ghana Christian Mission office and being available for whatever needs

Enoch and the ministry have, Raphael displays a joy in serving God through it all. He says, "I see the hand of God in everything I do, as He continues to use my ministry to accomplish a lot for His glory."

He sees God working through the office staff, the nurses, the evangelists, the sponsors/partners in the US, and the medical teams to win many souls. As he uses his God-given talent of organization in his job, he says, "I'm happy to be a part of a team whose primary objective is spreading the FAME of Christ.

-Sue Ketchum

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VISITING
Americans

Keep visitors to Ghana in your prayers

1. David and Sue Ketchum and their son Andrew serving with Mission Resource International are living just about 200 yards from Enoch's home in Tema. Please pray for them as they continue to supervise micro-economic enterprises, hold encouragement seminars in the churches and also help us in so many other ways. They arrived in early January and may return to Columbus, IN in April or stay on until June as the Lord leads.

2. We were blessed by a 10-day visit with Team Expansion from February 21 to March 3. Martin Brooks, accompanied by Kimberly Daniels, Kim Haines, Lizzie Cody, and Nancy Gillespie were here to explore the possibilities of partnering with Ghana Christian Mission, Ghana Christian College, and the Fellowship of Christian Churches of Ghana to develop indigenous missionaries and plant new Christian Churches in unreached areas of Ghana as well as other West African countries. Their focus will be primarily in areas with extensive Muslim influence and areas with idol worship being the prevailing form of spirituality.

One highlight of the visit of Martin Brooks and the

Team Expansion team was the baptism of Joshua Adzrakor who accepted Christ after Martin preached at the Akplale Christian Church on Sunday morning February 27. The entire congregation of about 100 walked about a mile to the river where Ernest Nyador, the minister of the church, immersed him amidst singing of praises for his conversion from idol worship to new life in Christ. Earlier in the service, Martin and I were in terrific sync as I interpreted his message into Ewe, the language spoken at Akplale.

3. Please keep in your prayers the following who are preparing to visit us in the summer and fall. Rachel Gibson, a premed student at Asbury College, Lexington, KY who will do an internship with us for seven weeks, starting May 26; 12 interns drawn from Johnson, Lincoln and Ozark Bible Colleges and led by Steve Sigler of CIY who will do about 8 weeks in Ghana and also visit Burkina Faso and Niger before going back; four Team Expansion interns to be led by Martin Brooks and his family to do an 6-8 week internship and some other individuals and groups.

DIRECTOR'S
podium

'Tis the season to be grateful

Dear Precious Partners,

Once again Spring is here and we can focus on renewal and the freshness of life we see all around us as trees, plants, and flowers which stopped growing in the winter spring back to life with awesome beauty and reflection of the glory of the Lord.

But even more significantly, this is the season of Easter when we go through mixed emotions of contemplating on both the suffering of Christ to redeem us and his powerful Resurrection from the grave to give hope and victory to all his followers. We cannot be grateful enough to him for willingly laying down his life and suffering extreme physical and psychological trauma on our behalf to complete the ministry of atonement.

One of the lessons for us this season must be our own preparedness to endure suffering as we partner with the Lord in spreading the Good News of his atoning death to those who have not yet heard of and accepted him.

There are so many ways in which we must suffer with

and for him, be it separation from family and loved ones for short or long periods on evangelism or mission trips, loneliness in remote fields in cross-cultural ministries, lack of basic amenities of life such as clean water and electricity, lack of adequate educational facilities for our children, giving up our wants so that funds could be freed for vital ministry needs, persecution by enemies of the Gospel who feel a real threat to their power and economic base and in many others ways.

Whatever the cross we are called upon to bear, let us do so with joy, devotion and total focus, knowing, we follow the trail of our Savior, who paid the ultimate price for us.

Also, let us not focus on our own suffering alone, but think and pray for others who may be suffering even more than us for the same cause. May we bear one another's burdens and so together complete the work of the Lord!

-Enoch Nyador

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