

Fast (hide), seek (read & pray), share (talk, text, proclaim)

Our boxes were processed on December 8th, 2021 and sent on their way to Benin. The journey has just begun so now is the time to fast and pray especially for these boxes. (Remember, it can take months for boxes to get through customs and to their final distribution location).

Monday Jan. 17th: Jabez prayed the B.E.S.T. prayer. Lord bless me, enlarge my territory, stay with me, take all evil away. Pray the prayer of Jabez for Samaritan's Purse and the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association.

Tuesday Jan. 18th: Pray: Lord, I'm completely dependent upon you. Today, let me relay your story of love and peace to the desperately needy souls I encounter.

Wednesday Jan. 19th: today's Bible reading is Genesis 22. As you read the chapter, think about how you can pray the scripture for people in Benin and then pray that scripture for them. Example: the faith of Abraham

Thursday Jan. 20th: Read the info about Benin and allow God to direct your prayers for the people of Benin.

Friday Jan. 21st: pray the 3 "open" prayer. Lord open a door. Lord open their heart. Lord open my mouth. Be careful with this prayer! Don't pray it unless you mean it!

Saturday Jan. 22nd: pray for your own persistence to continue with the Bible reading and praying on a daily basis. The time for fasting may be ending but let's continue to hide, seek, and share what God is doing. Pray for your pastor, deacons, music minister, Sunday school teachers and that Bangham will be a church on mission.

A little info on Benin:

Benin is a French speaking country in west Africa. The population is about 12 million. About 50% Christian (although I think it's really more like 13%), 25% muslim, and 12% practice voodoo. Being bordered by Nigeria to the East, the northern part of Benin is not a safe area to live.

The economy is dependent upon subsistence agriculture (farmers growing just enough crops to provide for family) and cotton. About 40% live in poverty. Malaria is a problem in Benin, being a leading cause of morbidity and mortality among children younger than five years. As of 2015, Benin had the 26th highest maternal mortality rate in the world.

Poverty, a lack of health care, and one of the lowest literacy rates in the world are just a few of the daily challenges the people of Benin face.