

THE WIDENER FAMILY

Ghana, west africa

"Taking the Gospel to the Gold Coast"

June & July 2005 Report

Dear Brethren,

Whoosh! Everything seems to be operating in fast forward at the present time for the Widener family. So much has transpired since our last report that I have earnestly prayed for wisdom concerning what to include in this report.

PRAYER ANSWERED FOR HOUSE

During the last two weeks of May, Stacy and I were able to make a trip to Ghana to look for a house. The Lord was gracious to us during this trip as we were able to locate a house for our family. Though there is some repair work that needs to be done, overall the house is in good shape. We have paid a deposit to secure the house and plan to start the two-year contract this September. In Ghana most landlords require at least a two or three year contract to be paid up front. We are happy that we were able to negotiate a contract requiring the first year paid in September (\$4,045), and the second year not due until March 2006. Missionary Larry Morgan agreed that we could not do better, as we looked at some smaller houses that were leasing for \$12,000/year or more requiring at least two years paid in advance.

This trip was Stacy's first time to Ghana. After the initial cultural shock, she adjusted well and developed a love for the Ghanaian people. I am thankful for a godly wife that is willing to follow her husband to a place that is not easy for an American family to live. Though it will not be an easy field to labor in, we are excited and honored to serve our Saviour in Ghana.

I had the opportunity to preach on four different occasions, and went soulwinning with some of the Ghanaian preacher boys. What a blessing and encouragement this was to me! Please pray for the salvation of Mr. And Mrs. John Hasford. We were able to share the Gospel with this couple in their home and they were very interested in learning how to be saved.

SUPPORT AND SPECIAL OFFERINGS

We have picked up five new supporting churches since our last report. Around \$400 more in monthly support will put us at our desired goal. The Lord has also blessed with four more churches responding with special offerings towards our departure expenses. With work funds that we have personally saved and these special offerings, we will be able to get our children's passports & visas, our vaccinations, and our airline tickets.

We are thankful to the churches that have given toward these needs and others who have promised to help. The "Men for Missions" group at the Tulsa Baptist Temple bought us a new 200cc motorcycle for the work in Ghana for which we are very grateful. With gas prices in Ghana now at \$3.40/gallon, the motorcycle will be a real blessing.

TENTATIVE DEPARTURE DATE

Plans are in motion to ship the 40' container with our household items and van on **August 5th**. Then we plan to fly the family over around **September 12th**. We covet your prayers concerning these things, as our time is short and much has to be done to accomplish these things.

It is difficult to share all the needs that are involved in first moving to the field. Our desire is to be a blessing and not a burden to the Lord's churches. It is our conviction, however, that these needs are a means for God to be glorified, (2 Cor. 9:8-13). Many will pray on our behalf for God's provision, God's people will respond to meet the need, and many thanksgivings will be rendered to God for answered prayer. Here are some of our unmet needs to prayerfully consider:

Funds to ship our 40' container- \$6,000

A large capacity water distiller- \$600

Funds for housing & repairs- \$4,500

Funds needed for step-down transformers, voltage regulators, and water pump

Our house in Texas needs to sell- we plan to use the profit towards our home school needs and major household appliances in Ghana.

Serving Our Saviour,

Received: _____

The Widener Family

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