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03/2006

## Mali Chronicles

Sep 2005 – Feb 2006

Sep 2003	Move to Bamako.
Nov 2003	My neighbor Simeon saved.
Nov 2004	Bible School launched. CAM launched. Simeon baptized.
Dec 2004	First party for street kids.
March 2005	Accepted by HIM.
Summer 2005	Accepted by FFMI. Seybou saved.
Sep 2005	Weekly program for street kids starts. Street kid Sekouba saved. Sekouba moves in.
Nov 2005	US team visits to evangelize. Government recognition. First anniversary. 4 new believers baptized.
Jan 2006	Land found.
Feb 2006	Van purchased, but not yet registered.



### Street Children

Coming back from my summer travels, we started our weekly program for street kids, as the Lord had clearly spoken. One of the first kids getting saved was Sekouba. Sekouba had been sent away by his family two years earlier. As with all the street kids in Mali, his family sent him to a Muslim "marabout" (teacher and more), where he had to memorize the Quran, beg for money, and was beaten, hardly receiving any food to eat. After one year, he couldn't take it any longer and ran away. By the time we found him - or he found Jesus - he had been on the street by himself for a year. He is 14 years old. Shortly after his salvation, I offered him to sleep on our property, and he then soon moved into a tent. Sekouba is growing in the Lord, as well as learning to read and write, working with me nearly every day. Sekouba is now like a son to me, and in February Brouhama, one his friends that had just run away from his Muslim teacher, also moved in with us.



### First Anniversary

On Nov 27<sup>th</sup> we celebrated our first anniversary as a church. Many people came for this occasion, as we looked back and forward

with the Lord, baptizing 4 people that had all come to the Lord in the previous months. After the service, we had a banquet and time of fellowship.



One of the people being baptized was Paul, who is now a valuable member of our

team and student in the Bible School. Sekouba was also baptized.



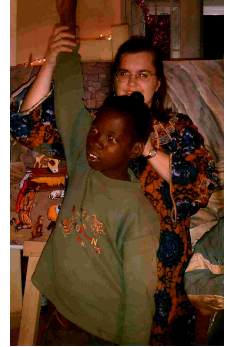
### Seybou & Family

Another person who was baptized was Seybou. Seybou has been my house guard since Nov 2004, keeping watch every night. Over time the Christian movies, services, and learning to read with Christian materials made more and more of an impact until he gave his life to the Lord in the summer of 2005. In Sep we went to get his family from their village, to reunite them - his wife Fanta, his 4-year-old Hama and his new baby girl (8 months) Sarata. Hama was

born crippled, and we're all believing for his healing! Fanta gave her life to the Lord in January - so, praise God, now they are a Christian family!

## Christmas Party For Street Kids

Over 100 kids – mostly street children – showed up to celebrate Christmas with us. We started with a game they all loved, and then we sang some Christian songs with actions, before I started teaching them. I shared the Christmas story with them, as well as the Father's love for each one of them. I was amazed at the anointing that was present as the Lord put the words in my mouth. Many prayed to become children of God. Then I told them I'd like to pray for those needing physical healing to come forward. The first one came – and was healed! We shared the testimony. The next one came – healed! Again, the testimony was shared. Nearly every kid was healed! Like the one on the picture who couldn't lift his arm before.



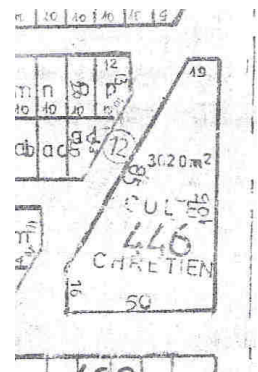
And yet, since Christmas we've seen a lot fewer kids come to the weekly program. We found out that they're telling people in all the mosques around us not to let anyone come to our church. Praise God!

## Property

In November we received our official papers – *Centre Apostolique Malien* (CAM) now officially is a church in Mali. One of the advantages is that the government gives us a property for free! And praise God, we have found ours! It is perfectly located, on the edge of town, in a poor neighborhood, on the foot of a hill, near a primary school owned by my former director at the High School the first two years!!! It is 3020 m<sup>2</sup> or 32,500 sq.ft or 0.7 acres. In my mind, I already see it with all the buildings done! It will have one big building – church/school room on the ground floor, the rooms for the kids above, and on top the rooms for the workers. Then there will be 3 little



houses for me, the guard's family and another family moving with us. There'll also be room for mango trees and planting vegetables. We went there to pray over the property and area, climbing up the hill. The picture shows me extending my hands in prayer towards it. We now have all the paperwork ahead of us, finding an architect and starting the construction work. Projected cost: over \$50,000.



## Vehicle

In February we finally purchased a car – after two years of praying for one! However, we now have a van we cannot use. We found out that we're not exempt of customs, so that we have to pay another \$2000 for its registration – money we don't have.



## My Website

There's so much more that has happened, but no room on this paper. I invite you to sign up to receive my email updates, and to go read my BLOG on my website, that will give you a lot more information and details on a nearly daily basis. You will also find videos in different languages to see what's going on in Mali for yourself.

### PRAY FOR

- v Registration of van.
- v Paperwork for our land.
- v Construction on our new property.
- v Finances for day-to-day operations and construction.
- v Church & team members and wisdom & strength for myself.

Dr. Claudia R. Wintoch is a member of HIM and FFMI, and sent out and supported by Vienna Christian Center in Austria as well as Christ Triumphant Church in Lee's Summit (Kansas City).

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