



seasons

SPOTLIGHT ON ...

Turmoil in IVORY COAST

From their house they heard the blast of rocket launchers, Kalashnikovs and other weapons



Hassane, Josiane and daughter Abigaël

Like all Ivorians, Auguste and Brigitte were fearful for their lives as they struggled to survive. During the war, their house became a haven for their two sets of parents, uncles, aunts, nephews, brothers and friends: a total of 30-36 people living in their very small home from February until May. They often travelled 20 or even 30 km on foot in search of food in the outlying villages. Their parents came from the neighbourhood of Abobo, the suburb where Hassane and his

wife lived, where fighting was centred and killings and pillaging were taking place daily.

As was announced by foreign radio stations, the suburb where Auguste and Brigitte live, was the stronghold of the ousted president Gbagbo and fighting took place all around them. From their house they heard the blast of rocket launchers, Kalashnikovs and other weapons, but by God's grace and power, they were not hit.

Hassane and Josiane had their house totally ransacked. Their place served as the SOWERS office so all of the supplies were kept there. Big bins of powdered paint were tipped over the floor and taps turned on so the house was flooded and everything spoilt. All their furniture, clothing and household items were either stolen or destroyed. Hassane could only salvage 100 Level 1 & 2 manuals so there is a need for them and the counselling tracts to be reprinted.

The security situation is not under complete control by the new authorities. That means there is a threat of further attacks by the nearly 14,000 police officers and soldiers who did not return to their bases and who are now hiding in the forest. All of our other Sowers were traumatised



Hassane sorts through the remaining SOWERS materials in his trashed house.

and suffered loss to varying degrees.

In order to re-establish both Hassane and Josiane and the ministry, finance is required. Please consider how you can help out as you look at the projects highlighted overleaf.

FREE gift with donation

For every donation of USD\$20 or more made through the SOWERS website to a project of your choice we will send a FREE copy of *Sonlight and Shadows* by Joan Suisted.



This book was recently revised and updated and includes poetry that will inspire, challenge and bless. Great also as a gift for friends and family. With all profits going to SOWERS, this is a great way to support the ministry and be encouraged. If you would like more than one copy, please make a note in the 'Comment' field when you donate.



by Murray Suisted
NZ Mission Director

We hope you enjoy the new layout of SEASONS. In order to produce it on a regular basis and in a format that can be easily emailed to NZ and overseas workers and supporters, we have made some

changes. These changes permit significant savings in printing and postage costs. If you would like to receive SEASONS by email please ensure you add us to your email address book so our emails don't go to your Junk file.

I recently read, "Christians are supposed not merely to endure change, nor even to profit by it, but to cause it". Over the past few months various fields have reported changes that have taken place in people's lives and communities. Reports from Ghana and DR Congo tell of new churches planted, while from Zambia comes news of transformation in the lives of couples who attended a recent conference. The topics of death, sickness, traditions, herb medicines, evil spirits and demons were addressed. Stephen wrote, "Thank the Lord not only were people delivered from demons but many also accepted Jesus Christ as their Master".

Change was effected as the Sextons returned to Uganda to advance the work further and as Emmanuel travelled from Zambia to Kenya to consider how best he could relaunch the work there. John E's visit to the Philippines this month revealed change that has taken place along with other areas requiring change.

We want to acknowledge the life and contribution of Rev. Dr. Richard Foli of Ghana, who passed away in May after a short illness. He served on the SI Ghana Board since its inception 34 years ago.

God is in the business of changing lives, our lives, transforming us into the image of His Son. In *Sonlight and Shadows* Joan Suisted's poem "The Potter" ends like this:

And those He trusts He tests with fire
To strengthen and complete,
And those who have the highest worth
Must bear the greatest heat.
For only Heaven will reveal
The pattern He has planned,
But every life He fashions bears
The imprint of His hand.

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We Choose to Die

We think of a 500 km journey in terms of hours, not days, so it is hard for us in the West to understand the sacrifice and hardship many of our evangelists endure as they carry the Gospel to those who still haven't heard the Good News of Jesus. This was the experience of K. Emmanuel, as he travelled to the north of his province of Katanga, in DR Congo.

During this visit, two local churches were planted in Pygmy villages - a people group neglected and non-evangelized. He says, "The work is hard and the sacrifices are great, but realising that Christ died for all, we also choose to die in thankfulness to Him, leaving our lives, our property and our plans, for the love of Christ compels us." 2 Cor 4:14

While on this visit, he also opened a pastoral school and a Christian



The Bible shared by several pastors



K. Emmanuel

library. In one remote area he found several pastors sharing a ragged, incomplete copy of the Bible, as they are too poor to each have their own copy.

Back in Lubumbashi, Emmanuel and Saidi along with Stephen and Puta from Zambia have trained 19 people up to Levels 2, 3 & 4 in the SOWERS program, meaning that even more people will be able to hear the Good News.

Emmanuel is planning to visit New Zealand in September 2011. If you would like to hear his story or help make this visit possible, please contact the SOWERS office for more details. Please pray that his NZ visa will be granted.

PROJECTS You can donate through the SOWERS office or via our website www.sowersinternational.org. Every donation to our projects, no matter how small, helps to meet these needs.

Project 15 Development of the ministry in DR Congo. To cover costs associated with the ministry. (USD400.00p/m)

Project 26 Zimbabwe Internet Connection. To cover the annual internet costs for SI Zimbabwe. (USD465.00p/a)

Project 36 Reprint Chichewa L2 Manual. Stock is very low and this reprint is urgently required in Malawi for the continuation of the work. (USD2070.00)

Project 37 Hassane Emergency Gift. To find and set up a new apartment after everything they owned was stolen or destroyed. (USD1725.00)

Project 38 Ivory Coast Equipment/Manuals. To reprint SOWERS material, purchase paint, paper, brushes etc to replace all that was stolen. (USD3450.00)