



Phil & Vala Long

Taking Life to the forgotten people of Madagascar

Mad 4 Life Ministries

"I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." John 10:10

www.Mad4Life.org

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Dear Pastors and Prayer Partners,

Bonjour and Salama Ireo from the Big Red Island of Madagascar!



Let me start out by apologizing for not getting this update out sooner. There is so much we have wanted to report, but our faithful old computer has died. Don't worry - we now have a new one. As a matter fact, we wrote this in Madagascar, but because you are reading it, that means we were able to get back to the United States and get a new computer. We will only be in the States for a few weeks, but we really needed to get back. We have expired drivers' licenses, almost expired passports, and bank cards that need to be replaced, but we are also taking this time for Deacon to take his ACT test as he will be starting university next year. And, as for Deacon's doctors' appointments...they have been so gracious to extend his insulin prescriptions since Covid started, allowing us to remain in Madagascar and work during the pandemic, but he will also be able to see his endocrinologist while we are in the States.

Now on to our update. The last two months in Madagascar have been awesome! In August we took our youth to camp for the first time and 4 of our students accepted Jesus. Last week, another student accepted Jesus and guess what - he has asked to go through discipleship, but instead of me or my partner taking him through the discipleship program, another one of our young adults who has just finished with discipleship will be taking him through. Disciples becoming disciplers - that excites us!

At the end of the school year, Vala, our ministry team, and I began to pray about beginning a young adults service on Wednesday nights. Obviously, we wanted another hour with them in the Bible every week, but we also wanted an opportunity to reach out to the students from the school we partner with. The school approached us to do some English clubs for their kids, so I asked the head teacher if she would allow us a couple of weeks to come up with a program and get back to her. Madagascar is on the French school system, and they get half days on Wednesdays, so we developed a plan to do 3 English clubs for their students on Wednesday afternoons. The head teacher loved it! Then I asked, "Since we are already here in the afternoons on Wednesdays, would it be ok if we had a Bible club for our students?" She said she would love that, and was actually wanting to ask us if we would start a Bible club that she could invite the students from the school to. We launched Foundry Student Ministries on September 1st, and we have had a lot of new kids come, and some of them are starting to come to church on Sunday as well. It's been super busy, but God is blessing in an awesome way!

So here is how you can be praying for us this month. We really needed to get back to the US to take care of a lot of personal business that could not have been taken care of in Madagascar. We waited until the Malagasy government said the borders would for sure open, so, like I said, we are in the States now, but plan to get back on a plane to return home to Madagascar at the end of October. Please pray that there are no delays and we can get back to work.

Thank you for praying for us, and remember, we are also praying for you.

Phil & Vala Long

Contact Us

Mobile: (816) 651-0622,
phil@mad4life.org
Mobile in Madagascar:
+261.32.12.669.94

Address:

Villa No 2
Domaines les Pines
Mandrosoa, Ivato
Antananarivo 105
Madagascar

Sending Church

Abundant Life Baptist
414 SW Persels Road
Lee's Summit, MO 64081
(816) 554-8181
www.livingproof.co

Missions Agency

Baptist Bible Fellowship
PO Box 191
Springfield, MO 65801
(417) 862-5001
www.bbfimissions.com