



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

That's right - we are officially back in Madagascar. I know it's been a while since we have done a prayer letter or a video, but we have been on the move back in the States doing our best to report to as many friends, churches, and pastors as we could. Let me just say, the last several months while we have been on furlough have been great! We were able to spend a little bit of time with each of our kids and the rest of our families. We were not able to see all of our sporting churches, but in seven months we were able to be in 33 churches and report on the work that God has done here over 50 times. One week, Vala and I had to divide and conquer and report on the work in three different churches in two different parts of the country on the same Sunday. One of the many highlights of deputation was helping a pastor introduce, not only Madagascar, but missions giving in his church for the very first time. The Lord also blessed by allowing us to replace some of our support that we had lost over the last four years, mostly due to Covid. Vala and I had an awesome time! Thank you for taking care of us while we were State-side.

Before I close, I want to give an update on something awesome that has happened here in Madagascar. For the last seven months we traveled all over the US sharing the life-change stories that we have seen during the last four years because of your investment in missions. Two of those stories were about a couple of young men, Fitahiana and Nomena. We were able to introduce these young men to all of the churches we were in, and at the end of furlough there were a few churches where we were able to share more about them. However, for most of you this will be new. I was texting my good friend and partner in ministry Dan, about some super spiritual stuff...okay it was actually about baseball. Anyway, while we were texting, Fitahiana and Nomena arrived at his house after leading their own English outreach. That's right while Vala and I were on furlough, Fitahiana and Nomena stepped up on their own and started an English outreach class where they are teaching English for an hour and a half and then 30 minutes of Bible. These two young men who were reached through the English outreach are now trying to reach others the same way! Sunday, Vala and I were welcomed back at the church and were greeted by two brand new faces – two men who have begun coming to church regularly as a result of Fitahiana and Nomena's English outreach. Friends, this is life-change because of your investment. Thank you for all of your faithful prayers and support, and know we are always praying for you.

As we say in Madagascar *Tratrin'ny Kristmasy* and *Tratrin'ny Toana* - we wish you a merry Christmas and a happy New Year!

Phil and Vala Long

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