

# THE SPAN-CLAN NEWSWIRE

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Dear praying family and friends:



## The short long-term mission trip

A short 20 years ago, we arrived in Guinea with a 9, 7, and 15 month old.

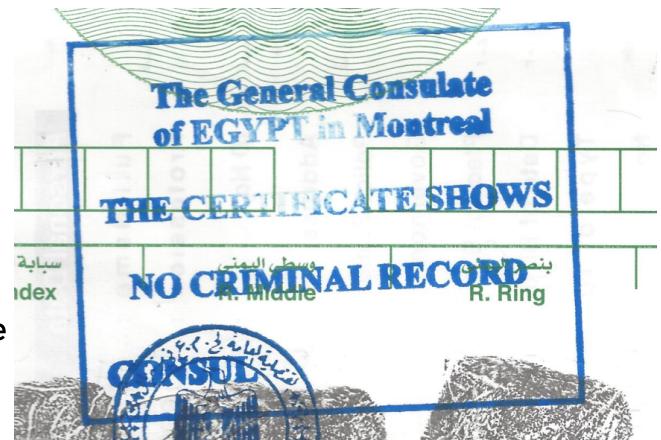
Three young children, now all in their 20's, and all of us as a family have witnessed God's faithfulness. Guinea, Mali, Egypt, and South Africa: all one continent, many different languages, one faithful God.

What have we learned in 20 years? God is faithful, and sometimes he moves at a pace that is different than ours, and he has produced results mostly inspite of our weaknesses, rather than due to our strengths. Thus, we ask ourselves, "Are we powerful people of God? No, we are people of a powerful God." We have seen how he has graciously mobilized his people to pray, give and care for us, for this, we are deeply thankful.

Just yesterday, we were at a church that has partnered with us for these last 20 years. They received us with joy and showed wonderful hospitality, and were excited for our plans for ministry in South Africa.

## No criminal record found

We recently received a paper with our fingerprints and photo from the Egyptian embassy. It said that we have "no criminal record." I had to think about the fact that because of Jesus' perfect righteousness, this is the same way that God sees us. Isn't that freeing?



## Impatient patience

"Avec patience impatiente," so finished my letter to Sosthene, the Resonate representative in Guinea. "With impatient patience," I said after there was yet another roadblock in getting a simple signature that says that we did not engage in criminal activity in our stay there. The Guinea police check is the final document we need to submit all of our paperwork to the South African embassy here in Canada. Pray for God's favour in finalizing this important piece of the puzzle

## Travel plans and logistics

With South Africa opening its borders slowly, and paperwork coming together slowly, we hope to leave in late December/early

January for the start of the semester at Mukhanyo. Before then we hope to visit churches and individuals, continue to write articles, and to pack up our house. On October 18 Bethel, our sending church in Waterdown, plans to have a commissioning service, and you are warmly invited but some might have to come by Zoom. We can send you the link if you like.



## Some praise and prayer items

We praise God for...

-connecting us with Sosthene in Guinea when it seemed like all for getting our police check there were exhausted

-a new church which called us and asked if they could take a collection for our ministry

-the people at Global Scholars, P, H, and A who are so willing to serve

On-line teaching with Hanan

-opportunities for Anne and I to consult, write and teach via on-line tools

-for God's provision for a place to live in South Africa

-the fact that over 50% of our funding needs have come in so far



## Prayer needs...

-continued favour with the visa paperwork and perseverance to keep on when there are setbacks

-for finding good tenants for our townhouse in Waterdown

-for being able to be fully funded prior to our departure for South Africa

**In closing**, we are sure that the sentiment of "impatient patience" is reality for many of you during this time of COVID. May God prosper your health and your work in these times, and may God give all of us a focus on the prize!

***Love John and Anne Span***

I (we) would like to support **John & Anne Span**

Here is my gift \$

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