



STEVE AND ROCHELLE CLARK - HELPING SEND LABORERS TO THE WORLD WITH CCC

4072 YEATS ST, ORLANDO, FL 32828 CLARKFAMILYORLANDO@GMAIL.COM ROCHELLEJP@GMAIL.COM 407-883-9149 #0257817

STORYRUNNERS



From time immemorial people have been sharing stories, and God's greatest story is meant for all of them.

CREATIVE NEW MISSION STRATEGIES

1 billion people in the world are “locked out” from the word of God, either because it is not in their language or they do not read. Reaching people in these groups is a challenge. Oral learners communicate mainly through the use of story telling.

Our Sending Team sends missionaries to work with these people groups through a Campus Crusade ministry called StoryRunners..

The strategy involves sending volunteers in to learn from the people groups about their language and culture. The volunteers begin to tell key people in the group a set of 30 to 50 stories from the Bible. Once the story set is created and checked with the local people for accuracy,



those who are trained in the stories in that language begin to tell them to listening groups.

Our Sending Team sent Brittany and Amanda to Guinea, Africa with StoryRunners.

Brittany and Amanda went for two-years to translate a set of Bible stories into the Konyanka language. Brittany and Amanda lived in a village of about 400 people and it was often a tough experience for two American women who were used to the comforts of home. They had no running water and no electricity. Despite the hardships, their host family embraced them because they were willing to share in their daily lives, eat their food, and live among them. They even called the man of the family they lived with their village “Dad” because he was like a surrogate father watching over them.

The Konyanka people are almost entirely non-Christian. Brittany and Amanda only met one Christian among them. What’s more, they have no Bible in their language. So they really had to start from scratch, which first meant learning the Konyanka language before they could even think about translating Bible stories.

A key part of the storying process is to find a story crafter—a local speaker to help translate the stories. Brittany and Amanda had a local man working with them on this, but as they progressed through the stories, he became increasingly busy and thus unable to help. Finally, while working on the story from John 10, where

Learn more about the StoryRunners strategy at www.storyrunners.com

Jesus claims to be God, the story crafter said he was unwilling to say this because he did not believe it and he was worried what people would say about him.

It was at this time that their surrogate “Dad” expressed interest in learning the stories. Brittany and Amanda saw this as God providing a new story crafter for them. They asked him to help, and he agreed. The first story they worked on was the one in which Jesus claims to be God and the Good Shepherd who would die for his sheep. He asked the women, “Do you believe this?” When they told him they believed, he said he could believe it too.

Their village Dad later shared with them how, about 10 years earlier, the village was celebrating a religious holiday commemorating Abraham’s willingness to sacrifice his son. Dad said he was praying after this particular holiday and he had a dream about a man who said, “Don’t be scared, I am Jesus.” God had prepared him through the dream, and the stories helped him to embrace new faith in Jesus!

Because of their village Dad’s willingness to help, they were able to complete and record 22 Bible stories. Before they left, Brittany and Amanda taught their village family how to have a church service in their house—including prayer and, of course, telling a Bible story and then discussing it. Please pray for the Holy Spirit to work through the village Dad and the 450 recorded tapes they left behind, that others may know God’s love and forgiveness and will follow Jesus.

OUR SILVER ANNIVERSARY

We were married 25 years ago, on a beautiful spring day at Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church in Levittown, PA. The apple blossom tree in front of Rochelle's house was in full bloom and made for some great pictures. We had so many friends together and enjoyed greeting them all. Our smile muscles were sore by the end of the day, and everywhere we went that first week people knew we were newlyweds (must have been those happy grins on our faces).

God led us to select this verse to describe our new relationship. Rom 15:5-7 NASB “Now may the God who gives perseverance and encouragement grant you to be of the same mind with one another according to

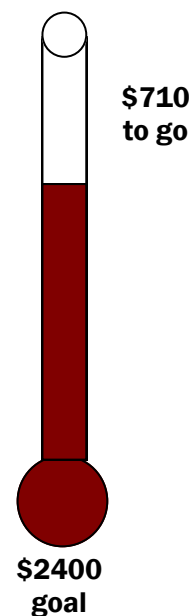


Christ Jesus, so that with one accord you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, accept one another, just as Christ also accepted us to the glory of God.”

As we celebrate our 25 years of two becoming one, and building a family, we rejoice in your friendship, making those 25 years so rich and full of blessings. Thank you!

SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

We continue to work on rebuilding our team of ministry partners so we are fully supported. God is bringing along good progress this year, as you can see in the graph. We are praying that the additional monthly partners will join us by the end of May, so we can return to full time work with the Sending Team this summer. The team is really urgently waiting our return, and there are many new services we hope to provide our new missionaries once we complete this partner development time. Please pray with us for God’s provision!



Thank you so much for your investment in helping fulfill the Great Commission as we seek to send key servants of God into the world to share His good news! God bless you!

With love and thanks,

Steve, Rochelle, Andy, Ben, Melissa and Josh