

## Bear Mountain Project Update: April 2023

www.tentmakersbiblemission.org

522jrs@gmail.com

## Get Cultured - Spotlight on Chad, Africa

Tentmakers Bible Mission (TBM) has been hosting discussions in the home office to help students at Frontier School of the Bible (FSB) be more aware of the spiritual needs in other countries around the world. FSB does have several international students that have come and shared about their home country. Most recently was Daniel from Chad.

We heard about the culture, economy and spiritual needs of the country. Daniel talked about growing up in a village and what family life was like. Many things African families do that Americans would think very strange. For example: women are treated very differently from men; boys are considered men at age twelve; not unusual for a man to have several wives. Daniel also shared some fun facts about the food they eat, some of the beautiful scenery, and the animals that live there.

Several students asked questions about what ministry looks like in Chad, how best to share the Gospel, and ways to avoid offending the native people. It was encouraging to see these students consistently interested in missions.



A few of the other students enjoying snacks before we start.



Daniel (in red sweater) speaking in French and letting a French student translate a few phrases.

## **Prayer Requests**

Michael, my 2nd oldest brother, has high blood pressure; also for his financial needs

Goshen County School to find the right person for the secretary position in LaGrange; I'm currently helping fill the position (temporarily), while also working at TBM and doing ministry related work.

## The Sound of Silence

Admit it. You are now thinking of Simon & Garfunkel. Great song, but I have a different kind of silence in mind: the spiritual discipline of silence.

Have you ever noticed how loud our world is? There is noise coming from social media, culture, Hollywood, music industry, etc... These voices tell us how to think, who to be, and what is truth. It all bombards and distracts us from the most important things in life. We sometimes forget about loved ones and reading our Bibles. We forget that truth only comes from God.

The spiritual discipline of silence is meant to bring us back to our Savior. To pull us out of our comfort zone and take our thoughts off ourselves and put them on Who He is. To spend time alone with God will cause us to better hear His voice above the chaos of other voices around us. To sit still in silence - no phone, no music, no TV, no other person, or other distraction - in reverence and wait patiently to hear from Him. This is counter-cultural to society right now. Everyone everywhere is saying "it's all about you", when in truth it is ALWAYS about Him.

This discipline of silence is hard work and doesn't come naturally to us. It pulls us out of our comfort zone, because that is the only place where growth can occur. The rewards far outweigh the time, effort, and energy we put into learning this discipline.

Ps. 46:10 - Be still and know that I Am God.

