

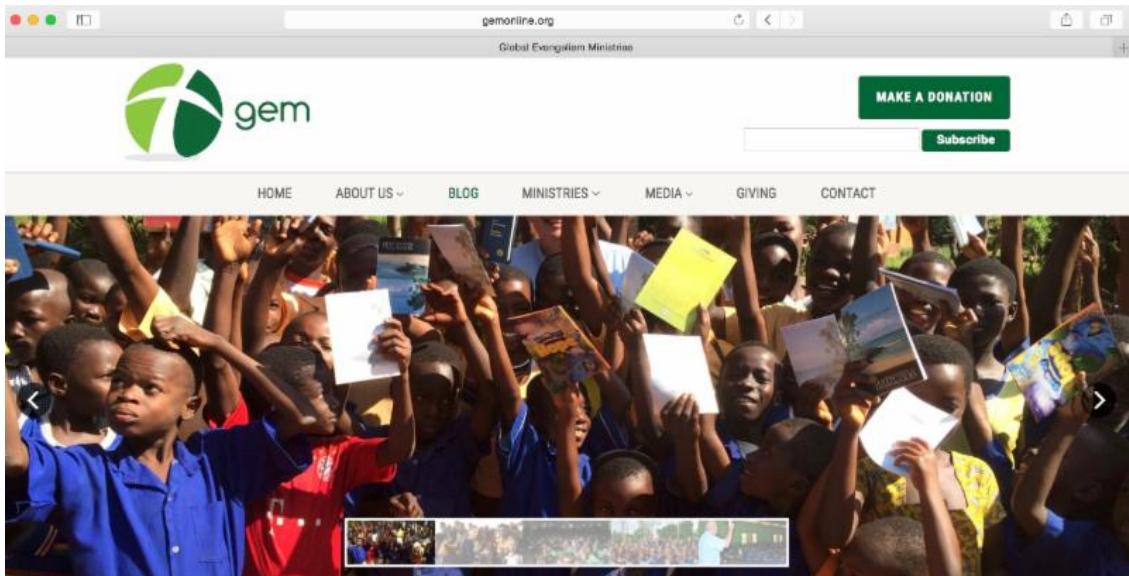


gem

"Go into all the World and preach the Gospel."

--Mark:16:15

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Read our blogs while we travel

We have changed our service for providing blogs while we are in and out of the country. The only way you will be able to read of our ministry work is to "Subscribe" to our website blog. Wordpress no longer will get these blogs to you. If you are interested in getting these updates please click the "learn more" link below and it will direct you to our new website. At the top of the page enter your email address in the block next to the button "Subscribe" and you will begin to receive our updates.

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GHANA ... here we come!

This is our first project of 2015 which is the official launching of "[Operation Harmattan](#)" where we are committed to making the Gospel available to every person in Ghana. The past six months have seen our team in Ghana working diligently to prepare for our arrival on March 14. This time of preparation has been difficult and challenging for everyone involved. There have been numerous trips and treks into the remote and distant villages which have been costly in time, energy, and finances, however this has all been done without complaint on the part of any of our wonderful team in country.

The team from the USA are excited and ready for the ministry opportunities. Although we never really know what we are going to experience in country we are always certain of the fact that God has gone before us and has prepared the way for His work to be accomplished. We can anticipate the roads to be rough, the weather to be uncooperative, and the spiritual battles to be intense. We are also confident that God will prove Himself sufficient for everything we face.

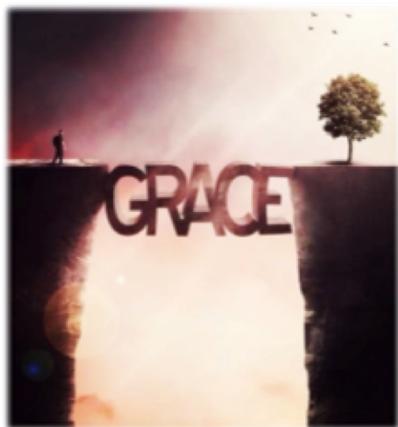
The most difficult part of the project, as always, is leaving the comforts of home and family so please pray for team members, Jeff Andler, Roy Mason, James McLean, and Andy Poe and our families as we "*Go into all the world [to] preach the Gospel.*"

What is Operation Harmattan?

Over a year ago God placed into the hearts of our team the idea that

we must cover the entire country of God with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

One of the physical things that happen in this country is the experience of the annual harmattan which is a cold-dry and dusty trade wind, blowing over the West African subregion. This northeasterly wind blows from the Sahara Desert into the Gulf of Guinea between the end of November and the middle of March (winter). The Harmattan brings desert-like weather conditions: it lowers the humidity, dissipates cloud cover, prevents rainfall formation and sometimes creates big clouds of dust which can result in duststorms or sandstorms. The heavy amount of dust in the air can severely limit visibility and block the sun for several days, comparable to a heavy fog. ***As the dust of the harmattan covers every inch of the country, so must we share the Gospel with every person in the country.***



The country of Ghana has a population of nearly 27 million and so very many of them have never heard the Gospel of Jesus Christ in a personal way. We have accepted the challenge to present to them the truth that Jesus Christ is the only way for them to move from works and religion to faith. The challenge is not easy, but our entire team has realized that God has placed upon us the responsibility of "going into all the world" with the life-changing message of grace! Going means using every means possible to saturate the country and culture with the good news of Jesus Christ. We are distributing bibles, New Testaments, and scripture portions with every person we meet. We are using radio and other media avenues to get the Gospel into the country. We are conducting weekly film crusades and assembly programs to share the Gospel with every person possible. Please continue to pray for Sammy Lartey and his ever-expanding team as they engage in Operation Harmattan.

Straight from my heart ...



Dr. Roy D. Mason

There is a constant battle for the minds and souls of humanity. The news from around the globe depicts and displays the absolute depravity of the human heart. From the nearly weekly acts of brutality from terrorists in the acts of beheading, burning, and beating of people there is no doubt that Satan is alive and active in the world today.

It is imperative that we always remember that this battle for the souls of men is not primarily a physical battle. The Apostle Paul reminds us that our "battle is not against flesh and blood" (Eph. 6:12) but that it is against EVIL. He further reminds us that our readiness for this battle is found in the Word of God. We are instructed to put on "the WHOLE ARMOR of God that [we] may be able to to withstand in the evil day." (Eph. 6:13)

Take note of the armor:

1. **The girdle of Truth** covered all the vital organs of the body. Truth (which is Jesus, see Jn. 14:6) is our only Hope. Truth is not the ideas of man, it is the person of Jesus Christ. Live in the truth that Jesus is in control.
2. The **breastplate of Righteousness** protects the hearts and lungs is a reminder that staying in right relationship with Jesus is the only way to keep our hearts pure in the midst of the battle. It is easy to let our heart stray and be dictated by circumstances and confusion. God is NOT the author of confusion (see 1 Cor. 14:33) but the author of faith (see Heb. 12:2). Our hearts will be confused without the protection of Jesus Christ.
3. The **Shoes of the Gospel of peace** which tells us that we must be constantly ready to share the Gospel with everyone. The only HOPE for the world is the HOPE of the world ... JESUS. In the midst of the battle you and I must be ever ready to share the good news of Jesus with everyone (see Isa. 52:7, Rom. 10:15).
4. The **shield of FAITH** reminds us that all we have to stand behind is the faith that God gives us through Jesus Christ. Our faith is not based on what we see but on what we KNOW. Faith is a gift of God that comes through the Word of God. When all the attacks of the Evil one come they can only be extinguished and exhausted by FAITH in and through Jesus Christ.
5. The **helmet of Salvation** protects our minds from the assaults of the enemy. Satan has always tried to influence our minds away from God. From the first

mention of this enemy in Genesis he has attempted to get humanity to doubt and deny the word of God. Satan is a liar and everything he says is a lie.

"Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect." (Rom. 12:2NLT). Keep filling your mind with the promises of God.

6. The **sword of the Spirit** which is the Word of God is our only offensive weapon! This reminds us that the battle in which we engage belongs to the Lord. He will prevail and all we need to be sure of this is the Word of God. Matthew Henry wrote about the Sword of the Spirit ... *"It subdues and mortifies evil desires and blasphemous thoughts as they rise within; and answers unbelief and error as they assault from without."* It's all we have, but it's all we need.

Beloved, stand firm. This battle belongs to the Lord! Until Jesus comes, I remain yours in the

Fulfilling of the Great Commission,



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