

MISSION INTER SENEGAL (MIS), THE VILLAGE OF BABACK, AND CALVARY FELLOWSHIP SENEGAL, WEST AFRICA

An Overview of our Partnership | 2005 -2017

Mission Inter Senegal (MIS) is a church planting organization in Senegal, West Africa. Its vision is to reach 400 “unreached” villages with the Gospel and see churches planted and reproducing by 2020. These villages represent about 500,000 Senegalese from the Wolof and Serer tribes. Calvary began our partnership with MIS in 2004 and became part of their Adopt-a-Village program. We adopted the village of Babak. Pastor Antoine shepherds a small church in the village and reaches out to 4-5 surrounding villages. Through tangible projects, a foundation of trust and friendship has been built with the Muslim leaders in the village. During our 2005 visit, we were amazed to hear Chief Diouf welcome our team in Jesus’ Name. He shared the truth that we worship the one true God and that our God answers prayer.



Baback is a Serer village with a population of about 3500 people. Pastor Antoine Diouf is trusted by the Elders of the village. Baback is a wonderful testimony of MIS’ holistic church planting strategy that includes water projects, medical care, literacy programs, women’s vocational training, and micro-finance programs all in support of the church planting focus. Each year we have worked with MIS, Pastor Antoine and the Elders of Baback to identify various projects that would meet tangible needs within the village and provide a powerful witness for Christ.



Baback now has a fresh water well, 10 public water faucets and 40 private faucets throughout the village which have reduced the miles that women must travel to bring water to their families. Access to fresh water has also allowed the village to irrigate a wonderful garden that is managed by families in the village. Fresh water has also dramatically improved the health of the entire village.



Antoine worked with the Elders of Baback to establish a cereal bank where people contribute to a community reserve to assist those in need when the harvest may not be as plentiful. We provided funds a few years ago for the church to purchase a grain mill. This has simplified the process of grinding millet and the entire village has benefited from this gift.

The government funds a health hut in the village and numerous mobile clinics sponsored through MIS have been conducted in Baback. We have conducted a few medical clinics each year during our short-term trips to Senegal. The clinics allow us to demonstrate the love of Christ in a tangible way and they open the door the church planters to build relationships with those in the village after we leave.



The village school provides opportunity for the children to learn to read and receive a well-rounded education. In 2006 we provided the funds to build a fence around the school.



Pastor Antoine has been reaching out to 4 surrounding villages to build relationships and plant churches. We have been blessed to be able to conduct medical clinics in these villages and witness the power and love of Christ and how God has been opening doors for the gospel through these projects. In two of these villages, the Chief and Elders have allowed for the construction of church buildings where the growing number of Christians can meet for worship. In 2008 we were privileged to be present for the first baptism service in the Babak where 14 people publicly identified with Christ as their Savior.

Three years into our partnership we shared a meal with the Elders of Baback and presented them with special gifts expressing our love for them. We were humbled by their invitation to come and live with them in Baback. We long to continue building relationships with our brothers and sisters in Christ as well as the Muslim men and women who we have been blessed to meet. It is our prayer to see Baback transformed for Christ and the Kingdom expanded through the surrounding villages.

This partnership with MIS and the village of Baback has helped our church to develop a greater appreciation for what God is doing in West Africa.

For the past eight years, people from Calvary have sponsored 30 children in the village. The funds go to MIS and they in turn help to pay for school fees, supplies, tutoring, medical care and spiritual coaching through Kids Club. During our annual visits to Baback, we meet with the children, deliver gifts and letters from their sponsors and spend time with them throughout our stay.



In 2012 our prayer was to raise enough funds to purchase 600 mosquito bed-nets for 200 families in the village. Each day, more than 2,000 children die from malaria related illnesses around the world. Progress has been made in Senegal to reduce the mortality rates with malaria in the larger cities but the net distribution program has not penetrated many of the villages

God provided abundantly for this need and more than 1600 nets were distributed to the villages of Baback, Ngonine and Ndandoum.



In 2013 we raised funds to purchase rice for the families across the village. \$750 will purchase one ton (900 kilos) of good quality rice. There has been a growing food shortage throughout West Africa and this act of love helped to introduce many in the village of Baback to the Bread of Life, Jesus Christ. Over 11 tons of rice and 5 tons of millet were provided and every family in the village was blessed.



In 2014 and 2015 we returned to Baback to continue building relationships and supporting the work in Senegal. Calvary Fellowship expanded its ministry focus in Senegal with MIS as well as other organization such as SIM-Sports Friends, World Vision, and the Beersheba Project by the grace of God and for the praise and glory of His name.

Our 2016 trip may have been our "best" trip yet over this 12-year partnership. Funds were raised (over \$17,000) to start an Agri-business project in Baback. The proceeds from this 3-acre garden will enable to church to be self-sustaining within 2-3 years. This will allow Calvary Fellowship to adopt a second village (by God's grace) and shift financial support to this village while maintaining the relational connection with the village of Baback.

Our team of twelve returned to Senegal in March of 2017 to continue building relationships in Baback with 40 sponsored children and 70 families, many of which are Muslim. This past year we have provided funds for three young women to receive professional training over the next three years. Calvary awarded MIS with a \$5000 grant to fund a livestock project that will complement the agri-business project that started last year. The gospel was shared and lived out all throughout the village during this trip as we distributed soap and detergent to many of the compounds and shared gifts with our adopted families. The depth of relationship and openness to hearing more about Jesus and His love is amazing. As the church in Baback continues to reach out to surrounding villages, we pray that God will provide guidance regarding the next village to adopt in partnership with the church.

