



Josh & Alyssa Clay to MALI

July-August Prayer Letter

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Goals:
Evangelism
Discipleship
Church Planting

Go ye therefore,
and teach all nations,
baptizing them
in the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Ghost:
teaching them to observe
all things whatsoever
I have commanded you
Matthew 28:19,20

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Timing is important in many areas. A baseball player needs to time the swing perfectly in order to get the ball where he wants it to go. If he swings a little early, he may still make contact, but it will go foul to the left. If he swings a little late, it will go foul right. I was hoping to be able to write this letter to you from France, but the timing did not work as we had hoped. While it is disappointing we have not left yet, we do want the Lord's timing as we don't just want to make contact, we want to make contact with perfect timing.

As we got all of the paperwork ready to submit our visa, the last process required scheduling an appointment to submit all the paperwork. It turns out they were very backed up and we could not get an appointment until August 30th (obviously that means we did not make our 23rd departure date). I am sending this prayer letter a few days early so that I can ask for your prayers specifically on August 30th. There are some possible complications, so we would greatly appreciate prayer for a smooth and quick visa process.

We will be ready to fly out as soon as they issue the visa as we were able to go to the BIMi home office to get details finalized for our departure. As well, the language school has been gracious and willing to work with our situation. Because we have been getting a head start with Rosetta Stone, we are hoping to jump into the middle of the 1st session, but we also have a backup plan as well.

While waiting for our visa appointment, many other events have happened these past two months. While we did not make the move to France, we did make the move across town as we told our landlord we would be moving out by August 23rd (our intended departure date). My parents have been gracious in allowing us to use their basement apartment until the visa is issued for us to leave.

We have also been busy in ministry these past two months. In addition to our regular ministry opportunities in our home church, I had seven other preaching opportunities. One of those was our Vacation Bible School. I have always enjoyed preaching VBS and the opportunity of outreach it provides. We were able to see ten children profess their faith in Christ. Now to the work of seeing them become faithful through discipleship.

Finally, we went through the battle with Covid. Either Adelynn and I did not get it or we had no symptoms, but Alyssa had the typical symptoms. We praise the Lord that it was not serious, and she is fully recovered. It is interesting to note that if our timing was followed, we would not have been able to take the flight on the 23rd anyway because Alyssa would have tested positive for Covid, but I think God knew that the whole time.

We want to thank you for your continued prayer and support. I don't intend to wait another two months before writing as I will update you about our visa as soon as we know the situation. May God bless!

-Josh, Alyssa, and Adelynn Clay

