



# Josh & Alyssa Clay to MALI

## September-October Prayer Letter

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**Goals:**  
**Evangelism**  
**Discipleship**  
**Church Planting**

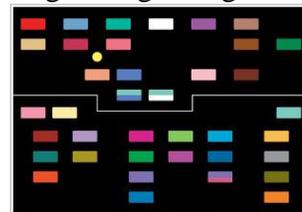
Go ye therefore,  
and teach all nations,  
baptizing them  
in the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Ghost:  
teaching them to observe  
all things whatsoever  
I have commanded you  
Matthew 28:19,20

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Bonjour de France mes amis (Hello from France my friends)! The start of language school has been quite an adventure. Learning a whole new language is quite the task and to be honest, it feels good to be writing in English again.

We appreciate how the teaching style has an emphasis on pronunciation. In fact, the first week was spent looking at this chart. Each color is associated with a sound in the French language. Only then did we advance to the words and sentence structure of French.



As the language study is progressing, it is great to be able to apply the lessons immediately in our daily lives. Sometimes, however, I don't apply the learning correctly. The only noteworthy language mistake so far did not end up too badly. As I was ordering from a restaurant, I tried to order a pizza that has four different cheeses on it. When they called me to the counter for my order I ended up with four pizzas rather than a pizza with four cheeses. Now that is mistake I don't mind learning from firsthand though.

Another advantage of being in France for our language study is that many West Africans immigrate here. In fact, just across the street from our apartment there is an African clothing store and restaurant. There are a few Ivorians who we attend church with and there is a building down the road from our church which is filled with Malians. We are looking forward to communicating and witnessing to the people group God has given us a passion for as we progress in French.

Although it has been somewhat discouraging not being able to talk or witness to most people with the language barrier, God has provided an opportunity in the moment. Although most of our classmates are fellow missionaries, one classmate is a Tibetan girl who moved here from Oman. She speaks English well and her only experience with church is attending a wedding. She has lived in two countries which are closed to missionaries, but now we have the opportunity to share the gospel with her. We are praying for open doors to be able to introduce her to what Jesus has done for her. Will you pray with us for Tenzin?

One more thing before I close this update. The phone number on our prayer card is no longer active as we are overseas. We can always be reached by email or if you use WhatsApp, our numbers are the following: Josh- +33 7 49 11 67 64/ Alyssa- +33 6 95 94 16 51. We appreciate the communication and care packages that have been sent. It has made our transition much easier.

We greatly appreciate your part in giving us the opportunity to follow God's calling. Thank you in advance for praying specifically for Tenzin's salvation, quick language acquisition, and few language/cultural mistakes. We are thrilled to be your co-laborers for Christ.

**BIMI**

-Josh, Alyssa, and Adelynn Clay