

December 2024

"But he that is spiritual judgeth all things...but we have the mind of Christ." 1 Corinthians 2:15,16

Everyday decisions must be made. There are small decisions which have little to low impact, and then there are great decisions which can affect our entire lives. Believers are exhorted to have the "mind of Christ," and our judgment ought to constantly be brought into line with the standard of God. Even in the simple word "all," our judgment is constantly being brought into line. Let's examine four ways that a spiritual person can thrive today. 'How do you get from here to there? I mean, how can you get anyplace??' Since I could not download a rental car mobile app on an old-fashioned text-based phone, I was perplexed. In fact, none of us waiting in line at the car rental desk – smartphones or no phone at all – were going anywhere quickly, as this airport facility had run out of inventory. The reality was everybody would just have to wait.

1) ABIDING: "...without me, ye can do nothing." John 15:5

IPM national workers bring Christ to some of the poorest places in the world. These countries literally have NOTHING financially. I was reminded of this as I updated my list of IPM fields being reached to include South Sudan. The GDP of Sudan is the poorest in the world for 2024 at \$455, and it is only slightly better in the refugee camps across the Ethiopian border. In the midst of this hardship, the government has given the Deaf believers a plot of land and asked them to develop it. Why? In a place where tribes cannot get along, there are Deaf people from Dinka and Nuer backgrounds abiding in Christ peacefully together as a testimony of God's grace during physical hardship.





2) CONTINUING: "I therefore run, not as uncertainly..." 1 Corinthians 9:26

IPM national workers are convinced of their calling and continue to serve Christ even when no one is noticing. Liberia (#8 in poverty; GDP \$1,882) has a man who was burdened to bring a boy receiving no education near the border of Ivory Coast to the Deaf school. He wrote this past month, "Praise God for Karker staying with our family..., he learned some sign language and ethics/manners. God willing, he will be going back to the dorm Sunday." His parents have paid nothing for this boy's registration as the value of enrolling a Deaf child is considered to be 'nothing' according to their cultural view. Yet we have 100% certainty that this precious Deaf soul has great worth in the kingdom of Christ.

3) OCCUPYING: "...he called his ten servants, and delivered them ten pounds..." Luke. 19:13

IPM national workers are looking for the soon return of Christ in the clouds! God's man in Ivory Coast let us know that 2025 will mark 10 years of Deaf ministry! They recently had over 200 Deaf souls attend their annual outreach camp in August. Considering that their 2nd civil war only ended in 2011, during which God used Leonce as a sign language interpreter willing to go into the jails to meet a few Deaf



swept up in the chaos, this is a phenomenal growth in outreach. Notice that only three of the ten workers in Jesus' parable give a report! Thank God with us that in India our IPM worker, Biak, has occupied past the 10 year mark now, while many others in his region have started but not been able to finish.

4) FORGET NOT: "...for with such sacrifices, God is well pleased." Hebrews. 13:16

IPM national workers communicate from the most remote regions, such as the Amazonia of Peru. Earlier this spring, three Deaf campers believed in Jesus Christ as their personal Savior. A recent question prompted this missionary to update us that all 3 are now attending a Deaf church in a more urban area. Please, let us not forget about those working among the Deaf in some of the most difficult countries such as Chad, Nepal, or even Ghana, where disease, heavy-handed governments, and corruption hinder regular reporting. We have witnessed first-hand that the work continues even if under "radio-silence."



Well, the car I had reserved was compact-size, but someone returned a Dodge Charger, and it was able to transport me successfully with the help of an old-fashioned paper map and by God's grace! Unlike a whole line of angry customers, I chose not to stamp my foot and raise my voice but simply sat down with my Bible within earshot of the counter. The agent didn't raise her voice when a vehicle was located...she simply motioned me to come back and get my keys. May the Lord find YOU abiding, continuing, occupying and forgetting not to pray! Reminds me of a song, "Anywhere with Jesus, I can safely go!"

So very thankful for the privilege to partner with each one of our national workers and stateside local churches to reach the Deaf world!

Contributions for our ministry should be made payable to IPM and sent to IPM, Inc., 100 Spring Ave., Hanover, PA 17331-2717 Be sure to include a note designating "Maki Support" or any other special designation you may have for us. Thank you.

If you have an email, please help us to help this missionary save postage by receiving his newsletter by email. Please take a moment to contact us at office@ipmworld.org with your email and home address and use "subscribe Maki prayer letter" on the subject line.

International Partnership Ministries, Inc.

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