

*“But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy” (1 Peter 2:9,10).*

Again, as He has so many times before, God opened for us by His grace the way to visit local assemblies and groups in towns and villages, distributing gospel tracts wherever we had the opportunity along the way, after the relaxing of restrictions made by the government.

### **BAFWASENDE ROAD**

Leaving Mputu on Wednesday after the weekly Bible study, we took motorcycle taxis to the city of Epulu (headquarters of the reserve in Okapi) where we spent the night after the distribution of tracts to passers-by and local inhabitants. During the distribution from 4 pm to 6 pm, for the first time we noticed opposition from some local Muslims and Somalis on vehicles carrying fuel to Kisangani; however, about a hundred tracts were distributed.



The next day we left for the villages of Niania and Badengaido, with the aim of continuing to distribute tracts. This section is in a very advanced state of disrepair. Just 12 km from Epulu, hundreds < of vehicles that had been parked on either side for several days made it difficult for us to proceed. Therefore a few hours were necessary to clear the way. On our way to Bafwasende where there is an assembly, we were able to hand out hundreds of tracts in Badengaido and Niania. These inhabitants were very open and asked us questions concerning the purpose of our visit and our “church,” and after some clarification from us with the help of the Scriptures using names like Christians, brothers, saints, or disciples, they ended

up receiving our tracts and reading them with joy.

After two days, we finally reached Bafwasende with great difficulty as a heavy rain fell all night and again the next day. Many large vehicle accidents also delayed us, but the Lord helped and we arrived safe and sound. Most of the brothers were absent when we arrived, given the current situation. Because the forest is virtually the only source for everything needed by the inhabitants, everyone goes in to the bush. And due to lack of communication in the places where they go, they remained uninformed.

We stayed in a guesthouse, and a brother named Moses and a sister named Rachel, who live in the village, welcomed us with all joy and met our few physical needs. Over two days, we crisscrossed the city, delivering several tracts to people both on our way and at the home where we met them. On the first day of the week at Brother Benjamin’s house (Sister Rachel’s husband was absent), the meetings went well. There were five of us to break bread and after ministry, at 3 pm we returned to spend the night in Niania.



### **BIAKATO ROUTE**

This difficult stretch was almost impassable, watered by an abundant rain that made our journey painful. Falling and getting up, sliding and getting back on the rail, so seasoned our walk to Biakato with wet clothes painted with mud.

The brothers awaited us with joy, and when we arrived they were happy because of the answer to their prayer to the Lord concerning us. Here, we combined the visit to the houses of the brothers with the distribution of tracts. We visited 21 houses of the brothers, including a brother named Sitamani, seriously ill for several months, a sister in poor condition due to age, and another impacted by blindness. We were very saddened to see this state of our loved ones and quickly understood the causes of the tears of Jesus Christ at the tomb of Lazarus!

On the other hand, we were amazed at the zeal of all the brothers, making door-to-door visits with us for two days without slackening. Elsewhere this is not the case, as sometimes only one or two local brothers accompany us to make these distributions! Our conclusion was that they were animated by brotherly love.

It was necessary to repeat the teaching on the Assembly and the local assemblies, because some still confused this teaching with the functioning of the administrative body.

Back from Biakato for Mayuano where we broke bread on Sunday, we stopped at the assembly in Lwemba. Brother Mangwasi de Mayuano, who leads the literacy program, chose this place, his area of work since the restrictions were relaxed. But the proper site for the exercise was still not located. His presence has made a good contribution to identifying the space; an already erected shack will be operational as soon as the tarpaulins that we have bought are spread out on the roof while waiting for sheet metal for final roofing. This site will serve first for literacy instruction and later for assembly meetings.

< Literacy program

After exploring the site and a short scriptural exhortation with the local assembly, we handed over a batch of evangelical tracts brought from the Bible Center in Biakato for distribution.

In the Mayuano assembly, many young people no longer make it to the various assembly meetings due to the Covid restrictions, which prompted us to revert to the door-to-door strategy and we visited 19 homes. Pastoral service is missing in this assembly; let us ask the Lord to raise up shepherds!

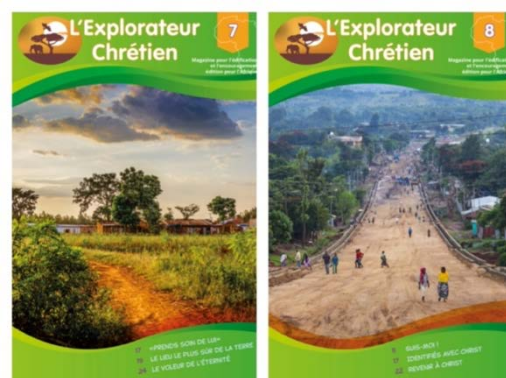
The brothers maintain the concession and a community cocoa field where production will contribute to the future financial needs of the local assembly. Pray for practical fellowship in this financial business!



After Mayuano, on the way back to Mputu, we had a stopover in Butama. This local assembly needs a major evangelistic campaign as it is suffocated by many denominations that pull away many of those who are weakened by waves of false doctrine. In the days to come, it will be necessary to spend several days there to test the teachings to know if they were really on a secure foundation, capable of building up the Lord's sheep.

**OUR THANKS**

The evangelical tracts that were sent to us are impressive and attract readers in advance who take them willingly. Thank you for responding to our earlier request and printing ten thousand of these 15 Swahili tracts. The little book called *Kanisa* (in Swahili) has for its part edified many in the face of the doctrinal confusion that hangs over the church. Young people are eagerly looking forward to the next issue of the youth magazine "L'Explorateur Chrétien", whose numbers 7 and 8 > have been distributed in thousands in recent months.



May God fill with grace all the brethren who, near and far, contribute with their own funds and pray for the advancement of the work in several countries of the world, and in particular among us in the East of the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Your brothers Kimimbi Daniel, Bay Maurice, Ladislav Ndakola



The booklet "The Church" in Swahili



6 of the 15 gospel tracts in Swahili