



Newsletter for  
Oct - Dec 2023



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# The Mihsills

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& Rease Mihsill:  
*Missionaries to  
Côte d'Ivoire,  
West Africa*

## Advent: A New Beginning

We're writing this update from Namibia, where we are attending the Africa Missionary Staff Retreat with our missionary colleagues from around the continent. Our devotional time has been focused on Advent, a word that means "beginning" or "arrival." We are giving thanks during this season for a new beginning with the national women's ministry in Côte d'Ivoire. After a change in leadership, the women had not met as a national group for over three years. After discussion and prayer, the former vice president of the group, Madame Kouassi (*pictured right*), stepped up as the new national women's president, and in November, the officers had their first meeting since 2020 and began envisioning what this new beginning could look like. Join us in praying for these women leaders as the Lord uses them to bring a fresh wind of unity to the national women's ministry.



We've also been challenged this week during our devotional times together to consider that several people in the Bible — the wisemen, Mary, Elizabeth, and Simeon — may not have been able to make plans for their journeys or what they would experience, but they encountered the Messiah as they were prepared to seek, submit, and witness the coming of the Son of God to earth as a baby. We can't plan out exactly how our journey will go in the Christian life or in the missionary life, but we can be prepared to seek, submit to, and witness what God is doing around us and in us.



Today, our family experienced riding quad bikes with some of our missionary colleagues (*pictured left*) on the sand dunes. In some areas, we couldn't go too fast or it would be dangerous, but we couldn't go too slowly or we would slip in the sand or not make it up the hill. We had to adjust and be prepared for what was to come. May we hold our plans loosely and be prepared to seek, submit to, and witness what the Lord has for us during this Advent season and in the new year to come.

**Merry Christmas from the Mihsills!**



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For a monthly calendar of prayer requests for Côte d'Ivoire and Burkina Faso, visit [www.cichog.org](http://www.cichog.org) and click on "Prayer Calendar."

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