

his/her primary role to reach families, neighbors, and co-workers with the Gospel.

3) When we recruit more national believers as missionary staff of Campus Crusade.

The fact that The Gambia speaks English as the official language from British colonial masters is an advantage for us. We will work with local people who can translate from English into the appropriate mother tongue. We will be sure to pick up some basics of the language spoken most near our future home, however.

Some of you have raised the question about persecution and risk factors for us in the 90% Muslim Gambia. First, we must point out that up to now, there has been little general conflict between faiths in The Gambia. Then, we want to look at this Biblically. Though not prayed for, persecution has always been part of the Gospel. In 2 Timothy 3:12, Paul writes, "In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus must be persecuted." This is not just applicable to those going out as missionaries but to all Christians (irrespective of the location) who want to live godly lives. But beyond that, when such times come, the Lord had fore-counseled us to "...rejoice and leap for joy" when persecuted. (Matt. 5: 10-12). We have His word of promise, "And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age" Matthew 28:20.

The Jattas are excited and eagerly awaiting our arrival, pending full completion of our partnership team. Their current burden is the issue of taking care of converts. Normally Muslim converts are at great risk and danger. Family members drive them out, cease to provide for their needs, and disown them for such "disgraceful acts". They also may try to force them to return to the Islamic faith by any means necessary. Our Crusade staff and the broader Christian community rally around these individuals to provide succor and discipleship. We are already praying for the Gambian mission and we ask you to please join us in prayer as we seek to lay a spiritual tablecloth before going in to eat this elephant!

Serving With You,

Bernard for the Ugwuokes

PRAY FOR US THAT

- ◆ God will anoint and equip us as His instrument in The Gambia.
- ◆ We will receive God's wisdom in each bite we take.
- ◆ Each action step will be taken with sensitivity to the Holy Spirit.
- ◆ Our love for the land and people of The Gambia will deepen.
- ◆ For the completion of our team of partners so we can return to Africa in April. (Praise God for the 10 new ministry partners that have joined our team so far in 2008.)