

Subject: Burdett Update
From: Burdett, Bobby & Joanna (growin_n_grace@yahoo.com)
To: burdett@flight4212.org;
Date: Friday, March 2, 2012 11:00 AM

We attempted to send this email in February, but with the power outages and slow internet we were not able too.
Hope you enjoy it, even if a little late!
~Bobby and Joanna

Dear friends and family,

When learning a new language, you often come across an expression or word meaning that is different and gives new insight to your (or their) concept of that word. That may be stating the obvious, but let me explain. Here are a few words and their meanings in Malagasy:

Fehezanteny = phrase or sentence— literally “ a bouquet of words.”

Trano-maizina = prison— literally “dark house.”

The next is one of my favorites! It’s just a fun word to say.

Mpifanolo-bodirindrina = neighbor— literally “the person with whom you share the bottom of a wall.”

We learned the verb *mamindra-fo*, meaning ‘to have pity,’ is used to express God replacing our heart with His heart. The noun for this verb is *famindrampo*, which is the Malagasy word for ‘mercy,’ ‘compassion’ or ‘loving kindness.’ Then an aspect of mercy is God taking our sinful, hard heart and replacing it with His pure one! Isn’t that amazing? We are so grateful for our wonderful, merciful Savior!

While we’ve been here in the capital learning all these cool words and handling government paperwork, our co-workers have been working hard to finish the hangar. We just sent windows and a door by truck to Maintirano that will help finish the back office/storage building. There is still quite a bit to get done, but we look forward to the day we can show you a picture of the plane inside its finished home.

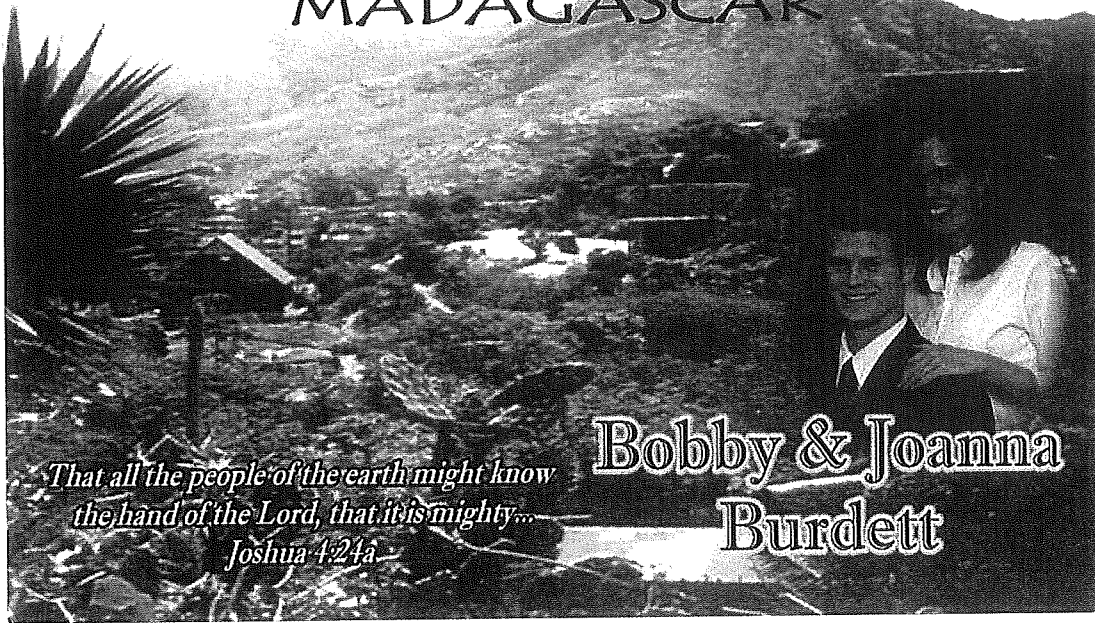
The permission to fly on U.S. registry for our airplane expired this month and the request for extension was denied. This means we cannot fly until we can switch the plane over to Malagasy registration. Once switched over, we cannot work on our plane until we have our mechanic shop licensed. Please pray that God will lead us to the right people to help with the registration, maintenance and licensing of our maintenance shop.

This past Sunday we enjoyed the opportunity to worship with a church south of the capital, in Menabe. Bobby was able to preach the morning message and I taught a children’s Bible lesson. This church is in an area with much witchcraft. We were praying that we could be an encouragement to them, but what a blessing they were to us! Before we left, they said they would pray for our mission in Maintirano because they knew it to be a hard place. We ask for *your* prayers too that God would be known in Maintirano and the Sakalava tribe, that many would believe!

Trusting Always in Him,
Bobby and Joanna Burdett

Planting Churches and Discipling Believers in

MADAGASCAR



*That all the people of the earth might know
the hand of the Lord, that it is mighty...
Joshua 4:24a*

**Bobby & Joanna
Burdett**

Dear friends and family,

When learning a new language, you often come across an expression or word meaning that is different and gives new insight to your (or their) concept of that word. That may be stating the obvious, but let me explain. Here are a few words and their meanings in Malagasy:

Fehезanteny = phrase or sentence— literally “ a bouquet of words.”

Trano-maizina = prison— literally “dark house.”

The next is one of my favorites! It’s just a fun word to say.

Mpifanolo-bodirindrina = neighbor— literally “the person with whom you share the bottom of a wall.”

We learned the verb *mamindra-fo*, meaning ‘to have pity,’ is used to express God replacing our heart with His heart. The noun for this verb is *famindrampo*, which is the Malagasy word for ‘mercy,’ ‘compassion’ or ‘loving kindness.’ Then an aspect of mercy is God taking our sinful, hard heart and replacing it with His pure one! Isn’t that amazing? We are so grateful for our wonderful, merciful Savior!

While we’ve been here in the capital learning all these cool words and handling government paperwork, our co-workers have been working hard to finish the hangar. We just sent windows and a door by truck to Maintirano that will help finish the back office/storage building. There is still quite a bit to get done, but we look forward to the day we can show you a picture of the plane inside its finished home.

The permission to fly on U.S. registry for our airplane expired this month and the request for extension was denied. This means we cannot fly until we can switch the plane over to Malagasy registration. Once switched over, we cannot work on our plane until we have our mechanic shop licensed. Please pray that God will lead us to the right people to help with the registration, maintenance and licensing of our maintenance shop.

This past Sunday we enjoyed the opportunity to worship with a church south of the capital, in Menabe. Bobby was able to preach the morning message and I taught a children’s Bible lesson. This church is in an area with much witchcraft. We were praying that we could be an encouragement to them, but what a blessing they were to us! Before we left, they said they would pray for our mission in Maintirano because they knew it to be a hard place. We ask for *your* prayers too that God would be known in Maintirano and the Sakalava tribe, that many would believe!

Trusting Always in Him,
Bobby and Joanna Burdett



First cross-country flight



Unpacking house container



Sunset—Mozambique Channel



Bobby and Nate Jertberg

*Let them give glory
unto the Lord, and
declare his praise in the
islands. Isaiah 42:12*

Dear Friends,

The past six weeks have passed quite quickly. They were filled with both struggles and victories, challenges and answers to prayer. To give you a little detail, toward the end of August, we received and unloaded our home goods container here in the capital of 'Tana.' It was so good to see things from home after having lived out of what fit in our suitcase for two months!

Around the same time, we started Malagasy language class. It has been good but with all the projects it has been hard to maintain a regular study schedule. We hope to be able to put more time and effort into it in the coming months after the hangar project is done.

The 6th of September, Joanna and I along with our co-workers, Richard and Charity Jertberg, made the trip to Tamatave on the east coast to receive the airplane container. The container arrived and was unloaded with no damage to the airplane or equipment. This was a major praise! Richard and I spent the next two and a half weeks re-assembling the airplane and acquiring paperwork. The Baptist Church in Tamatave was a huge blessing as they provided a place for us to stay and the women of the church prepared meals. They even did our laundry after Joanna and Charity returned to Tana. We praise the Lord for the friends we made in Tamatave.

Two weeks ago we made our first ministry flight out to the village of Maintirano for the Sunday service. While there, I had the privilege of preaching in the morning service. That flight, while costing the same amount for fuel as driving, allowed us to make the round trip in less than 4 hours of flying, as opposed to 4-6 days by truck. What an answer to prayer to finally see the airplane in use in Madagascar!

Once finished with the airplane re-assembly, we hired a truck to haul the hangar and equipment to the capital city (in the center of the island). From there, Richard and I worked on renting a truck to take it the rest of the way to Maintirano. That truck is being unloaded in Maintirano today.

A hangar base is crucial for using the airplane in the ministry. We were hoping to have started on the hangar construction by now, but we have been running into more problems with the land lease at the airport. There have been several visits to offices, written requests and follow up e-mails. As of this point we are still in the process of hammering out the contract. With all the difficulty we have faced, we are asking God to open the way for this land lease or to show us an alternative we need to explore. Please pray for wisdom and progress in this situation.

Thank you so much for your continued prayer and support, it is truly a blessing to be here!

Bobby and Joanna Burdett

Praises:

- ~Both containers arrived unharmed and cleared customs
- ~Airplane is assembled and flying
- ~We have a language teacher and have started classes
- ~ Health—no major issues yet!

Prayer request:

- ~ Agreement for land lease for hangar
- ~Ability/Skill with language classes
- ~Opportunities for witnessing
- ~Wisdom to be culturally relevant and appropriate in all our dealings
- ~Focus to keep the main thing, the main thing