



JAMES NYOACH

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A Missionary's Journey: Serving Amidst Challenges

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Since March, I have been blessed with the opportunity to stay with Dan and Betty, as well as with members of my sending church. During this time, I have witnessed many new faces—students from Faith Baptist Bible College—being trained by our pastor, his assistant pastor, and the deacons. It has been a wonderful experience learning from these devoted members as they exemplify their love for our Lord Jesus Christ.

Meanwhile, the resurgence of the civil war in South Sudan has devastated Upper Nile State, particularly Nasir County and Ulang near the Ethiopian border, where our Deaf ministry once thrived. Sadly, Bible teacher, Tuom, is no longer in the area, as his family and he have fled, becoming refugees in Burebiey or Mattar, along the Ethiopia-South Sudan border. Though his church group continues to persevere, violent conflicts persist between the tribal government militaries - President Kiir's Dinka forces, supported by Uganda and the UN Mission in South Sudan, against my tribe. Unfortunately, the UN has ceased providing aid to innocent civilians, leaving communist nations like China and Russia, along with Arabic countries, to control the economy and reinforce this president's tribal interests.

Despite these hardships, I trust that the Lord has a plan and continue to pray for helpers to support my people. The Dinka people, predominantly Catholic and Anglican, remain loyal to the government, failing to challenge its actions.

Meanwhile, my family in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, faces significant financial struggles, with high costs for rent and food. We are considering purchasing a house in Addis Ababa, as owning instead of renting an apartment is in a reasonable cost range, offering relief from the expensive living conditions. Water and electricity would be far more affordable, making daily life more manageable.

Our Deaf ministry in Gambella and five refugee camps desperately need a church building in Gambella, before later expanding to South Sudan. Though we planned to build last year, we have been waiting for the government to construct a bridge across three small rivers, which currently block access to our church land. The government has suggested relocating us instead. To begin construction, we need additional funding beyond the project that was proposed and has not yet been fully funded.

For the past four months, I have been away from my family in Ethiopia. They urgently need me to return. My wife has struggled living in Addis Ababa as a foreign woman, facing repeated abuse from local men attempting to rob her. She has endured three attacks while shopping in town, making life increasingly difficult.

According to Pastor Nyoch, some Deaf members have left our church, discouraged by the lack of a permanent place of worship, and have joined Jehovah's Witnesses, Seventh-Day Adventist churches, and prophetic ministries instead. I feel a deep conviction that the Lord is calling me back to Ethiopia, rather than remaining here in comfort.

Still, there are signs of hope - our church has welcomed three new believers, including a Deaf woman and her children, as well as a new Christian man.



Just a few days ago, I finally received a call from Tuom, after four months of silence, following the outbreak of civil war in Nasir. His situation remains uncertain, but I continue to pray for his safety and the future of his ministry.

To God be the glory as we press forward in faith.

A word from the Deaf Ministry Department Director:

“IPM is working very closely with James’ sending church whether to attempt to extract his wife and 2 young children from the field while he continues to raise support or to wait as he desires until he is able to return to the field to stabilize the Deaf church and encourage the workers. You can access a link related to his ministry at altoonarbc.org/nyoach or arbc.church/nyoach. James’ does not talk about how horrific the situation has become but has provided us with photographs that his tribe has provided that seem to indicate a genocide of the Nuer people group. His wife and cousin accompanying her to the market were also brutally attacked in the capital city of Ethiopia, but, as foreigners from a minority tribe in S. Sudan, they receive no sympathy from the local authorities. Please pray for great wisdom.”

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 “Nyoach 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 Nyoach prayer letter” on the subject line.

**A LETTER FROM YOUR MISSIONARIES,
THE NYOACH FAMILY**

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