

CALL TO PRAYER

JANUARY 2022



DELIVERED!

As Pastor Pierre and I looked at the small group of believers, he said, “These have all come to Christ because of sickness. Many things were tried, including traditional medicines and sacrifices, but in the end, they came to the church for prayer and were healed.” Then, he pointed to young man sitting among the youth and said: “He was demon possessed. His family brought him to an elder in our church after finding no one else to help him.” At birth, this young man had been given the name of one of his people group’s powerful fetishes: Do.

Several years ago, Do began having trouble walking. His legs became numb, and he would fall. The problem worsened. He described something terrible that came to live inside of him, preventing him from eating, sitting still, or sleeping. The witch doctors were summoned, potions were taken, and sacrifices were made, but they only made things worse. The family took him to a clinic, but the medicine did not help.

An uncle noticed the problem and mentioned that he knew someone who was a Christian. “Those Christians pray

for people like Do and make them better,” he said. So, in desperation, the relative took Do to Jeremiah, an elder in a nearby Alliance church. Jeremiah took Do into his house, took care of him, and prayed for him. The pastor came often, spending many hours praying for Do. Slowly, he began to have freedom. “But the real breakthrough came,” Jeremiah said, “when Do said the name of Jesus.” In that moment, when Do surrendered his life to Jesus, he was delivered.

Do returned to his uncle’s house, but every weekend he visits Jeremiah, and they attend church together. Do has been growing in his faith and will begin baptismal classes.

Deliverance testimonies serve as a reminder to pray for those living in darkness and the shadow of death. Prayer truly makes the difference, and believers in the country where we serve need to be helped through our prayers as they confront evil spirits. These testimonies also remind us of the power of Christ over the forces of evil. Deliverance is a process that involves prayer and patience.

| by Esther, an Alliance international worker serving in West Africa

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A NEW YEAR'S GREETING FROM A. B. SIMPSON

In the name of the Lord, we wish for all a happy New Year. In order that it may be so, let it be:

1. A year with Jesus. Let us seek its plan and direction from Him. Let us take His highest thought and will for us in it. Let our peace and joy be His peace and joy. And let our service be not our works, but the grace of Christ with us.
2. A year of self-forgetting ministry for Christ and others. Let us not drag our burdens through the year but drop all our loads of care and be free to carry His yoke and His burden. Let us do good to all as we have opportunity, let us lose no opportunity of blessing, and let us study ingenious ways of service and usefulness.
3. A year of prayer. Let us see that our highest ministry and power is to deal with God for men. Let us be obedient to the Holy Spirit's voices of prayer in us. Let us cherish the spirit of unceasing prayer and abiding communion.
4. A year of joy and praise. Let us live in the promises of God and the outlook of His deliverance and blessing. Let us never dwell on the trial, but always on the victory.
5. A year to forget the things that are behind and reach out unto those that are before. God has "a new thing" for us in 1886 [2022].

VOLCANIC ERUPTION DISPLACES MANY IN LA PALMA

On September 19, 2021, Cumbre Vieja, a volcano on the island of La Palma, one of Spain's Canary Islands, erupted. It has caused enormous damage. Over 2,500 buildings have been destroyed, including hundreds of homes; families are being forced to leave; earthquakes are continuing to displace people; and everyone in La Palma is affected—including Alliance people.

On November 19, the volcanic activity—including a new blow of gas and ash—caused a 5.1-magnitude earthquake. Over 7,000 people have been forced to evacuate. According to a C&MA pastor in La Palma, many church members have lost jobs and homes yet still have mortgage payments. Many have had to evacuate because of the poor air quality, and all are longing for prayer during this tumultuous time.

The effects of such tragedy are strong, but the power of prayer and our God is so much stronger. Will you join us in lifting up our brothers and sisters in Christ in prayer? Specifically, pray for those who have lost homes; for people who have had to relocate; for those who have lost their jobs and income; for people who are mentally, emotionally, and spiritually suffering the effects of this disaster; for those experiencing health complications; and for God to give strength, wisdom, sustenance, and peace to the leaders and pastors. Pray, too, for the opportunity to share the gospel.

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Thank you for praying for Alliance workers and for the people with whom they share the gospel.

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