



# God's Precious Children

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## **Second Mission Letter 2014**

We arrived--finally! We managed to escape the arctic blast that was gripping the east coast on January 7 but it was not easy! Gary and Deb went to pick Chen up and (by coincidence?) decided to check on the flight only to find out it had been delayed. We instantly gave Barry a call who, (by the grace of God?), had already arrived at the airport. We put Barry on the task of finding out everything he could as we threw our luggage in Chen's van and Chen's son Joshua drove us to the airport.

When we arrived at the airport it turned out (God-incident?) that Barry had met one of the Delta supervisors who just happened to be a Nigerian who understood if we missed our connecting flight we would have to wait at least two days to fly to Africa. He immediately offered us a van-service the airport uses which would be able to get us to JFK Airport in 2 ½ hours (although Chen was dubious that anyone could leave a 3pm heading into rush hour and get to JFK in 2 ½ hours).

After a quick prayer we went for it and were soon on our way to New York with a driver from Uruguay (who we had a chance to minister to as his mother had just passed away that morning) and a graduate student from the U.K. who HAD to get back to turn in papers for school. So in the almost exactly 2 ½ hours it took us to get to JFK we learned all about the educational system in India (the area of study for our new student friend) and the merits of soccer (our Uruguay driver saw Pele play in person!).

We made it through customs and were told to go to gate B28 for now (ominous words) so 3 boarding gates later and my first meal at Buffalo Wings we finally lifted off 3 hours late and were told we would not be able to fly directly to Liberia but would be spending an extra day and evening in Ghana!

Despite the slightly chaotic instructions getting through customs and to our hotel (taken care of by Delta, praise God!) we had a great introduction to our fellow passengers and the different types of work going on in Liberia as we met a graduate student doing research on the nutrients in soil in post-war countries; a missionary team training students in the trades such as mechanics, carpentry, electricity, etc.; and a missionary team training people in the importance of mosquito netting to fight malaria; just to name a few.

The next morning we finally flew into Liberia only to find out (God-incident!) Bill Martin had been trying to get a hold of us to see if we would be willing to stay in Monrovia an extra day to speak at the Rotary club of Monrovia. Since we were a day late we were right on-time and we were honored to be hosted by Bill Martin for a scrumptious dinner and the next day to share the story of God's Precious Children and hear the story of how the Rotary Club is encouraging education in Liberia.

After a bumpy ride on the road the Chinese are constructing we managed to get to Phebe in time to begin our work and after three days our combined Liberian and American team has recorded 983 student profiles--praise God! Thank you for your prayers, please keep up the good work!

Your friends in Christ, gary & deb

*Giving young people a better chance at a brighter future  
through an education in the name of Jesus Christ*