

## THE KING'S VILLAGE

Priscilla Kyei-Baffour



**K**ings Village is located in Kumbungu, a small community about an hour's drive from Tamale, Northern Region of Ghana, on a 43-acre site of land is a model center for holistic and Christ centered community transformation. Rev. Benjamin and Rev. Mrs. Marion Owusu-Sekyere are founders of Kings Village missions.

Benjamin's call to mission was in 1992 when he was invited to join a Missions prayer group, THE HOUR THAT CHANGES THE WORLD, by Dr. Steve and Dr. Mrs. Joy Lawn, a British couple, who were both doctors working at KNUST and doing research at KATH. They prayed from 1992-1996 (the prayer meeting continues to date). The first time for Ben in northern Ghana and Marion's first time in Africa was in 1996, when on a short-term mission trip for 2 weeks. When she went back to England, she felt the call to come back to Ghana after she saw the many opportunities to serve God and to be involved in Missions in northern Ghana - there were not many churches, many children were not going to school, and there was generally a low standard of living. They got married in December 1998 in the UK and moved back to Ghana in February 1999 to start the King's business.

### WORK AND MINISTRY

As Ben and Marion visit different villages to minister the Gospel, they realize the greatest needs of the people are education, health, water, and sanitation. Their vision is to help meet community needs and assist them to break free from generational poverty as Christ penetrates their hearts and communities.

King's village work mainly in rural communities to **take the Gospel to the poor** and to help strengthen rural churches. They work with the North-

ern Rural Evangelism Association as well as several local churches to organize crusades in villages in several districts in the North and Upper regions beginning from Kumbungu to as far as Kariga, Yendi, and Mankaragu, and to help plant churches in those areas.

They have also **encouraged and sponsored the training of many Dagomba Christians** to answer God's call to become pastors at the Assemblies of God Theological Seminary in Kumbungu and at the Baptist Seminary. Many of the pastors they sponsored are currently pastoring churches and have become leaders in the districts across the region.

**The King's School** was officially opened in September 2003. It started with 58 children from about 12 different Muslim predominant communities. The School is now much sought after with about 300 students and has become the best in the district. Its Junior High School has won the second-best school in Northern Region. In 2019, they had some of their students being the first from their community to enter a tertiary institution, one being admitted to the country's premier university, the University of Ghana, Legon, to study administration. Again, a pastor who was mentored by Ben and Marion, has opened a second School, the King's Tehillah School in another community. The School currently has 168 children, trusting for resources to expand.

The King's village is a story of the seed of faith—How just one mustard seed of faith could grow into a big tree that yields many fruits for generations to come!

**The King's Medical Center:** Upon a sad event of the passing away of one of the students at The King's School, Ben and Marion strongly felt the communities need for a fully functioning Health Center. God opened many doors of opportunities for the establishment of the clinic. With generous support from individuals who served such as Mr. Evans Kwasi Fosu-Akomanyi, Mr. Derek and Dr. Mrs. Felicia Amo Sakyi, among others, the OPD of the hospital was officially opened in 2006 and the emergency unit

in 2009. In 2008, the NUTRITION CENTER was added which serves as a place for the care and treatment of malnourished children. Mothers are given free accommodation and their children are fed for free till they put on adequate weight for their age. This is sponsored by a couple and their family from the UK.

## CHALLENGES

Kings village is faced with the challenge of staffing (difficulty getting mission minded people to work with for a longer time), funding and the availability of church workers (the challenge of getting pastors and workers for the local churches).

## TESTIMONIES

Ben and Marion recall how they have seen the faithfulness of God in real and authentic ways through different people and in different circumstances. They give examples of how people they never knew have come to Ghana and have found their way all the way to the “ends of the earth” to make big donations to projects they thought were at a standstill. There was a time when God sent a family all the way to them as strangers who gave them as much as 100,000 US dollars to proceed with a project that was at a standstill for years. They also recall a time when they had unreliable transport and a family who heard about it, called them on Christmas Eve to donate to them a Land Cruiser for their work. Such stories of God’s faithfulness are indeed awesome and greatly inspiring.

Also there has been miraculous healings and recoveries. Amina, a young girl with a hole in the heart, was brought to them when she was two years old and very stunted. Through the years, they never gave up on her as they believed God will one day heal her. Recently they were preparing her for a trip to Holland for surgery which was sponsored by some philanthropists. As part of that process, Amina needed to go to Korle Bu for a scan and a final review before her journey. But when the scan report came back, the scan showed that the hole in heart was completely healed. Amina who had not walked for seven years got up and started walking within a few weeks after the report. The girl who simply dragged her bottom on the ground when she wanted to walk and danced in church shuffling on

the floor is now walking and dances on her feet in church. Hallelujah!

**Vision for The Future:** Ben and Marion envisage the King’s Village, to outlive them to serve the needs of the community and become a catalyst for missions to rural areas of the North, across Ghana as a whole and beyond, as well as a catalyst for community development and a holistic ministry.

They desire The King’s Village to become a model for Unreached areas. A model where missionaries go behind the enemy’s lines and establish a base to penetrate the hard-remote grounds, “the ends of the earth,” with the Gospel of Jesus to hasten his return. A model where people groups who are resistant to the gospel not only see their people saved but also see the practical benefits Christianity brings - that the church is a blessing and not a curse.

## HOW YOU CAN HELP

**PRAYING** - The need for people from different churches who will commit to praying for them and if possible, pioneer “THE HOUR THAT CHANGES THE WORLD” prayer meetings in their own churches.

**GOING** –People who will not only be workers but able to share the Gospel with those who come to their school and hospital at Kings Village.

**GIVING** –Missions is only possible as long as there are people who will pray, people who will go, and people who can give to support ministry. For example, giving to support the new maternity block which they hope becomes the biggest maternity unit in the whole Northern Region besides that in the Teaching Hospital.



**Dr. Priscilla Akyaa Kyei-Baffour** is a young passionate medical doctor whose vision is to raise a missional generation. Inspired by Nehemiah in the bible, she believes in leadership, transformation, and missions. She’s currently working at the Tamale Teaching Hospital and attends the Methodist church. Her interests include writing and Christian Apologetics.