

Drill Team November 2012

In November, Tim Johnston took a team of seven men to Burkina Faso to join Matt Durkee and Mark Collier in drilling water wells. Four of the men were from Texas and are in the oil drilling industry. One of the men, Gary Grace, wrote:

“When asked what God taught him, my good friend, Brandon Boggs, responded with a profound statement, “I was blessed and never knew it. On the other hand, those in Africa are sick and they have never known it.” I guess the reality of this truth never quite sank in until we pulled up into the small village of Haaba, Burkina Faso. When we pulled into the village with our heavy equipment, what I heard wasn’t the roar of the motors, but the joyous sounds of song, dance and collective celebrating from the locals. It was an amazing sight in such a remote place like western Africa.



*What was it that brought such joy to these people? How naïve was I not to see it? Thinking.....perhaps this was their way of welcoming us, or even motivating us. In my mind I convinced it was the anticipation of having clean water to drink and in part this was true. While unloading pipe and rigging up, my good friend Matt (who had been through that village several times over the past year) asked if I wanted to know what it was they were saying. With a smile I said, “of course.” Much to my shame it had nothing to do with us and everything to do with God! They were praising and praying to God these words. **“For three years we have prayed to You and today You have answered our prayer.”**What an impression upon the life of a Texas driller! And as for the statement, I was blessed and never knew it, well, I don’t believe that there has ever been an unfulfilled practical*

need in my life that I have felt the need to consistently pray about for three years.

What a humbling experience.....to be a part of God’s wonderful plan. Long before we ever started drilling and long before we ever showed up God, in His infinite wisdom and infinite power, was orchestrating a plan and a means to glorify Himself by showing Himself to



be faithful to the prayers of an indigent people group in a remote corner of the earth; strengthening both their faith as well as mine, and ultimately bringing honour and glory to His name. A good friend's mother always told him growing up that whatever you do in life, make sure that it counts in light of eternity. It is my prayer that, generations from now, great-grandfathers will one day tell their great-grandchildren of the time God answered their prayers and brought water to their lives....not just physical water, but, more importantly, the spiritual water of Jesus Christ."