

We left Ndu on Thursday amongst much fanfare. The school had a chapel session at 11am and invited up on stage our team from Canada. They thanked us for our work around the school and then dressed us in African outfits. We were then ushered outside for pictures with the faculty, the students, and then my classmates. Unfortunately we never got any of these pictures because we were busy being *in* them. The school told me they would send some to me and, when I get them, I'll pass them on to you. At 2 pm we made the trek to Bamenda where, exhausted, we arrived for a 6pm supper.

I am writing this on Friday. Toby left this morning to make the nine hour drive to the airport in Douala. He has to be back in Canada earlier than the rest of the team for an RCMP course he is taking in Ottawa. The rest of us are spending the day in Bamenda and will leave for the airport tomorrow. I'm using the day to grade my thirty student papers and tally up their marks. This way I can send everything back to Ndu and the students can see my remarks and their final grades. The work is tiring, which is why I am taking a break to write to you. The rest of the team went to the market to buy some gifts for themselves and for friends back home.

We were able to accomplish a lot during our stay, as well as create some lifelong memories. The team completed painting all twenty-three blackboards. The computer lab was significantly cleaned up and Bernie was able to provide a number of working computer stations. Nancy got the opportunity to teach some of the local elementary school teachers about childhood language development. And the kids got to learn what life is like without the internet for two weeks - so 1980s.

The team also helped me in the last couple of days by listening, and grading, a number of my student's sermons. With a class of thirty this allowed me to divide them into four groups with each group grading 10 sermons over two days. I grade the content with the papers/manuscripts they hand in to me, so they are evaluating the delivery. This can be a lot of sermons to listen to over two days, especially for the kids, but they were good sports about it. And they got to learn a lot of important things about public speaking; like eye contact, gestures, voice projection and facial expressions. This also saved me from trying to listen to all thirty myself.

It is time to get back to my marking. My "done" pile has twenty-one in it and my "to do" pile has nine. I'm on the home stretch. Once I get this done I'll take a nice long rest to prepare for the nine hour drive and fifteen hours of flying to get back home to Vancouver. My goal is to finish the third book of *The Lord of the Rings* on the plane. We're looking forward to seeing everyone again. And we are looking forward to sleeping in our own beds again! I'm not sure which we are looking forward to more, but initially it will be the beds! 😊