



Carina Saarloos in Mali

Newsletter March 2007



**"You are the God who performs miracles: you display your power among the peoples."
Psalm 77:14**

A God of miracles!

Together with the single group of missionaries, I am studying here in Mali a bible study book of the American Beth Moore, which is titled 'Believing God'. Beth says that every Christian should apply the following confession of faith in his life. This confession of faith consists of five points:

1. God is who He says He is.
2. God can do what He says He can do.
3. I am who God says I am.
4. I can do anything through Jesus Christ.
5. Gods Word is alive and active in me.

Do we really still believe that God can do whatever he says he can do? Psalm 77: 14 does say: "You are the God who performs miracles". Do we believe that God can and will do miracles nowadays?

The past weeks I witnessed two miracles. Let me share them with you.

It was a Tuesday afternoon, and my colleague Ewien was in the Rahab open house together with Angela from Congo. At one point a Nigerian woman came in, together with her husband and son. Ewien immediately saw that the little boy, Fred, (approx. 2,5 years old) was very ill. She listened to what Fred's mother was telling her and during all this time the only thing Ewien could think of was; if nothing will happen Fred will die. Together with Angela Ewien prayed for protection and curing of sick little Fred. After that they gave the parents an amount of money and the advice to go and see doctor Cissé immediately!

Six days later, Monday afternoon. I and Aya were working in the open house. A little boy enters the open house frolicking, his mother follows, her face radiant. Fred and his mother came back to thank us. Together we praised the Lord for this miracle. I had to confess again that we are serving a God of wonders.

The following week I visited the women's prison together with a prayer team of six women. One of the women, Kunba, was seriously ill. She had a very large boil on her leg. The antibiotics she had been given were not working. Together with a few

members of the team, I started praying for Kunba, that she would be cured. A lot of the female prisoners witnessed us praying.



Praying for sick Kunba

Three days later, Friday afternoon. I visited the women's prison for our weekly meeting and bible class. Kunba entered the courtyard with a big smile on her face. She showed me

her leg; there was no trace that there had ever been any boil. A God of miracles? Yes indeed!!! That afternoon the room was too small to be able to keep all 38 women (normally some 15 come) who wanted to hear from God's Word!

- *Praise the Lord that He still is a God of wonders, He has not changed.*
- *Pray that God will use Kunba's testimony in the womens prison.*

Rahab Ministries

It is fascinating to observe the women in the training centre. Koura is an ex-prisoner and just recently gave birth to her fifth child. She turned her life around 180 degrees. She has been in our centre now for 8 months and she has completely

changed. Koura has confessed her sins and sincerely asked forgiveness in February. As of the beginning of March she goes to church and every day I can see that she is changing. Yes, God truly is a God of wonders.



Koura is just an example of one of the women. But God is also working in the hearts and lives of the other the women, like Fatoumata, Veronique en Mariyama.

- *Praise the Lord for the changes in the life of Koura!*

Centre Philémon

The halfway house for the male prisoners, known as 'Centre Philémon', is open! As of mid February, six ex-convicts live in the centre with their guide Ibrahim Traoré. They start at 6.00 every day. On



their empty stomachs they pray and read the bible for half an hour. You could call it a sort of "quiet time", time with God. After that

the men go to work in the vegetable garden. A professional carpenter visits the centre two mornings a week. Under his supervision the men are making their own beds. At the moment they are sleeping on mattresses on the floor, which is already quite an improvement; in prison they had to share a beach mat... Around noon they cook their own meal and take a long siesta. In the afternoon the work in the vegetable garden continues.

- *Pray for the conversion of these men. Two of them, Namori en Adama are Christians and were baptised in the prison of Kati.*
- *Pray that there will be enough funds so other activities in the centre can be started.*
- *Pray for the leader Ibrahima Traoré who is, together with referent Siaka Koeta, responsible for all aspects of the centre.*

Upcoming leave

As mentioned in my previous newsletter, I hope to set foot on Dutch soil on the 24th of March 2007. This will be for a short term leave of 3 months. Although it will be very hard leaving everything and everybody behind in Bamako for 3 months, I really



feel that this leave is more than welcome.

Carina with the new car that will stay in Bamako as well!

Thank you EO Metterdaad for this great car!!

My Home committee has already found a nice place for me to stay in Middelharnis so that I will have my own space. This will for sure help me relax and come

to rest. On top of that it is also very close to my home church and nearby my mother. Is there more anyone could wish for?! I sincerely am looking forward meeting a lot of you, so please do not hesitate to make an appointment or to drop by in Middelharnis.

- *Pray for Aya, Nancy, Ewien and Gordon and Cheryl who will keep Rahab ministries going during my leave.*
- *Pray for Anatole and Angéla Seke, who will be responsible, together with referent Siaka Koeta, for the work in the four different prisons in these upcoming months.*

Dear family, congregation, friends and supporters. Thank you for your compassion, your prayers and your support and, last but not least, all the well wishes I received for my birthday in February. I hope to see you soon!

Dearest regards, of your Carina.

Info of Home Committee with regards to Carina's leave

It will only be a short while before Carina will be walking on the soil of Flakkee again! She hopes to arrive here on Saturday the 24th of March. As her HC members we are surely looking forward to this day.

If you would like to send Carina a welcoming card, her address will be:

Kaaidreef 1, 3241 CG Middelharnis.

There are still some dates open for Carina to give presentations about her work. For specific dates and details you can contact family Struik, tel. (00 31) 187-648220. Please do not hesitate in doing so, as there is nothing Carina loves more than telling people of her work in Mali!

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Gifts for this work among the disenfranchised people are welcome at:

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Saarloos work special account nr 310240
Centre Philémon account nr 330694