



A Mind for Business ▪ A Heart for Missions

Meet Issah



Issah is a 26 year old man from Ghana, Africa. Issah was born Muslim. He cares for his aging, and nearly blind, father and his younger brother's family. He owns a farm where he raises yams and cassavas, another root vegetable. He has a girlfriend, but not enough money to pay her dowry and marry her. In December, Issah was selected by Pastor Samuel Mensah to be one of the BUV (Basic Utility Vehicle) drivers. As a result, some incredible things are happening in Issah's life. He has been very successful with the BUV, establishing regular routes and customers, by hauling sand, gravel and water. Issah has saved all of his money earned from the BUV. With it, he plans to hire 3-4 people to work at his farm during the planting season. By investing in his farm and earning money with the BUV, Issah is now planning to marry his girlfriend. While working with Pastor Mensah and the elders of his church, Issah has had many conversations with them about Jesus. He had spoken with them before about Jesus and their faith, but he says now he is more committed to Christ and desires to join the church. *This is Kingdom Business! Glory to God!*

The Ripple Effect

The BUV that Issah drives was purchased by Yeji Christian Church with a loan from Mission Resource. Pastor Samuel Mensah manages the BUV and hired Issah. The effects of this loan and the business created by it are amazing.

- Issah is earning income, investing in his farm, planning to marry his girlfriend and committing his life to Christ.
- 3-4 more people will earn income by working on Issah's farm.
- Two boys are being paid for shoveling the sand into the BUV.
- The church receives a monthly gift from the earnings.
- The District Assembly and town chief receive royalties.
- The customers receiving the sand and gravel are able to accomplish their building projects by having the needed materials delivered (6-8 loads per day).



In just 40 days of operation, one BUV has total revenue over 1400 cedis, with a profit of 670 cedis, or about \$500. This is proving to be a very profitable business with a variety of people receiving amazing blessings from it.

Each of these containers was taken down to the river, filled, and hand carried back up the hill and into the BUV. Yaw, another BUV driver, is now ready for delivery.



David is very popular among the African children when he shows up with candy.

From the Director

I have returned from Africa more optimistic that Mission Resource is making even a bigger impact than I had thought we were. What I experienced was that even a driver earning \$50 to \$70 per month is enormously grateful and there is a ripple effect that is much greater than I had anticipated. Often you might hear me say while I am in Ghana, T.I.A.— meaning “This Is Africa.” Usually I say this with some form of frustration. But, it is and the people we are working with are Africans. Their thinking processes are totally different than ours. They think in community. They “manage” to get through a day and are grateful for God’s grace to have survived another day. When asking them how they are, they nearly always say “fine, by God’s grace.” We do not give our Lord that kind of credit. Just let me say that although not all of our Ghanaian ventures have been successful in western terms, they are making a difference and impacting their world for Christ.

By His Grace,
David Ketchum

A Special Message from Terry and Amy Ruff...

“It was a great blessing for us to travel with David over the last week. For us to observe the BAM (Business As Mission) projects in action, what was working and what needed to be tweaked, was very insightful. We watched David interact and deepen his relationships with pastors, their families and church members who not only are bringing hundreds into the Kingdom as they preach and teach, but are also involved in taking the loans they have been given and turning them into profitable businesses to provide for their families, their churches and jobs for church members. The effect of these monies is reaching into many levels in the community.

Being rookies on the field, it has been amazing to see the ingenuity, dedication and hard work with an attitude of “making it work” with whatever they have at their disposal. Observing the discussions gave us an insight into the thought processes of the business owners, the challenges they face, the logical conclusions they reach and the teaching that takes place to make the improvements that are necessary for them to be successful. We have been blessed! We have gained new friendships as well as deepened our love and appreciation for David. He’s doing an awesome work!”
-Amy Ruff



Terry and Amy Ruff are church planters living in northern Ghana. After serving as Missions pastors for 20 years at 2 large churches in the states, they have chosen to live on the mission field, planting self-sustaining churches. They traveled with David on his recent trip to Africa.

Ministry Updates

We’d love to keep you informed with pictures, ministry updates, prayer needs, and travel blogs.



Send your name and email address to office@missionresource.org and we’ll add you to our email list.

Hand-made, One-of-a-kind Purses

Ernestina is one of our business partners who is very successful with her sewing business. She has made beautiful purses that are available for purchase at Cookies, Baskets & More in downtown Columbus, IN or online at www.cookiesbasketsandmore.com. All proceeds go to Ernestina, allowing her to continue growing her business.

Corn Hole Tournament in May

Do you play Corn Hole? If so, please consider participating in a Corn Hole fundraising tournament, sponsored by Roger Bingham. Mission Resource, New Song Mission, WYGS radio, and the Mark Farr family will all have teams. There will be a prize for the winning team from each organization. The top teams will go on to play for the overall grand champion.

Entry fee: \$30 per team. To register, contact us at (812) 314-2927 or office@missionresource.org.