

# Reed Reflections

From the desk of Judy Reed

[www.partners-in-joy.org](http://www.partners-in-joy.org)



Helping train Hispanic Kingdom workers

September 2023

## Meet Joe, Lover of God!



A bunch of us were gathered recently at my brother's house, sitting around the living room, singing a song in Hausa (a Nigerian language)—and doing a pretty good job of it, all things considered. 😊 Our friend and colleague in Partners in Joy, Joe Ifah, was visiting from Nigeria. We were there to learn more about his music ministry in Nigeria. Joe began his Christian walk when as a teenage school boy he sat outside a classroom and cried quietly as a Christian school teacher strummed sweetly on his guitar and sang about Jesus' love and sacrifice. That encounter changed his life, and he has for over forty years pursued music as a way of expressing his faith and love for Jesus. A talented and versatile artist who uses his gifts to glorify God and inspire others, Joe has released 12 music albums to date, and has produced hundreds of songs for other artists. Joe

Ifah oversees *Alternorm Ministries*, an organization committed to creatively communicating the Gospel through the arts and media, and to altering norms through Christ. Through Alternorm's visits to schools and colleges with music, drama, games and spoken word, as well as indoor city concerts, and rural open-air crusades, thousands have responded to the Gospel. Joe and his ministry can be supported through [Partners-in-Joy.org](http://Partners-in-Joy.org). More about Joe Ifah: [joeifah.com](http://joeifah.com), [facebook.com/josephifah](https://facebook.com/josephifah)



## The Pinnacle

If you were to ask him, I'm sure Robert would be quick to tell you that training Hispanic missionaries and pastors to work cross-culturally feels like the pinnacle of his ministry and what God has been preparing him for all along. When I wander through his office, he may be working on his anthropology textbook, mentoring a cohort of students, or interacting with ProMETA staff—offering wise counsel on many matters they discuss, and being a voice of experience in ProMETA's process of accreditation, having walked that path with GIAL/DIU leaders in years past. Robert encourages students and staff alike with his kind, peace-loving nature, and he's known for diplomacy. I feel enormously blessed to be his helpmeet in life and ministry. We are enjoying growing old together while continuing to be active in Kingdom work. ❤️

## Health

Believe it or not, August brought us another bout of covid, only three months after our previous bout. Praise God, this one was not as hard on us, and we're feeling better except for some lingering fatigue—especially for Robert. Please pray for renewed energy, strength, and stamina—for both of us, while you're at it!



## Thank You!

Thank you for investing in us and our ministry! You are a conduit of God's love and provision so that we can continue in this work as we prepare for and anticipate the day when "the knowledge of God's glory covers the earth as the waters cover the sea." (Hab. 2:14) May He multiply back to you—many times over—all you do for us! We love you!

### Praise and Prayer

- Pray for Robert's and my health and for energy and stamina to throw ourselves with vigor into the ministry God has given us.
- The gang-related unrest in the Kaluli village area in PNG where my sister and her husband lived and translated the New Testament into Kaluli delayed plans for a dedication of the newly printed translation. **The dedication celebration is now scheduled for February 2024.** The Kaluli are working on building two giant longhouses to house the hundreds of guests who are expected to walk in from surrounding villages for the occasion. **Please pray for peace and safety for the Kaluli people and others affected by this unrest.**

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