



# LÊVÊ LETTERS

From São Tomé & Príncipe



THE CLAYPOOLS

## Special Note of Explanation

“LÊVÊ LÊVÊ” is a phrase used on São Tomé to represent the way of life or rather the philosophy that governs life here on the island.

LÊVÊ is a Forro word, which is the main dialect of São Tomé. The word means “light” or “easy”.

Literally the phrase means “light, light” or “easy, easy”, but it would be best stated in English as “easy going” or “take it easy”.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page 1

- \* Prayer Letter
- \* Contact Information
- \* Mission Statment
- \* Note of Explanation

Page 2

- \* Geography  
São Nicolau



- \* Language  
Vocabulary - LOVE

- \* Culinary  
-SAFU-



Dear Praying Friends and Family,

April 2011

What a joy it is to be serving our Lord, no matter where we might be! Sometimes only paper thin layers are removed, as with a hand plane, to finish off certain areas like joints or surfaces. Other times, as hammer and saw, great strides are taken in a short span. But though we are all but tools it gives a thrill of excitement, as well as a sense of reverent awe, to see what He fashions when His hand moves.

To give news on the ministry, first off, we are still looking for a room to use. We have looked at different locations, but they have been either entire houses or too small. Please continue praying that the Lord will provide a room with capacity for about 20 people and good ventilation for Bible studies and ministry use.

Secondly, the Lord has led us to begin reaching out to some of the villages in the interior of the island. It began as a mutual desire in both of us, which led to prayer for direction, and through this, the Lord led us to a small village literally at the end of the Central road, called São Nicolau. (As a side note we have 3 main roads on the island – North, South and Central.)

“Branços” or Whites are rarely seen actually in the villages at the distant locations so needless to say we caused quite a stir when we showed up, especially with two little white girls. People passing by as we sat and talked would stop and come back just to verify what they thought they had seen in passing.

Our first visit was while we were doing a bit of exploration and Doug has been going back regularly so that the people can get used to him, a crucial aspect before any freedom or openness can be gained. Please pray with us that God's purpose there would be done.

As a special note of praise the Lord has given us two new supporters. A friend of ours in the military named Patrick who is now serving in Japan, and Freedom Baptist Church in 29 Palms, California. It is a great blessing but at the same time sobering to know that God is using so many individuals and churches alike to keep us here doing His work.

To end on a personal note, we would like to ask your prayers for Amanda and the baby. That's right, we are expecting again. Amanda and the baby are both doing fine, and the baby gives all signs of being healthy and growing. Amanda has monthly visits at the local clinic, and both the nurses and Mommy are pleased with the progress. In fact Amanda has been healthier this pregnancy than with any of the others. So praise the Lord for that.

The due date is the end of August and we would appreciate your prayers in all these aspects as the Lord brings them to your minds. We don't know yet if it is a boy or girl, but Amanda is scheduled to have an ultrasound in May, so if the baby co-operates we might know something by then.

When we first knew, the girls were very excited and wanted a boy as they were tired of just girls. Amanda said that she was asking for twins so the little one would have a playmate. I felt like checking her temperature and running a test for insanity, but really, we are all very happy and look forward to August to see who God has given to us.

Thank you all again for your faithful prayers and support.

Your Servants For His Service,  
The Claypool's

Doug, Amanda, Morgan, Kaitlyn  
adclaypool@yahoo.com

## Field Address:

Caixa Postal 1040  
São Tomé  
São Tomé & Príncipe

## Home Address:

304 E Bittersweet Rd  
Washington, IL 61571

## Email:

adclaypool@yahoo.com

## Sending Church

Bay View Baptist Church  
22648 Grosenbach Rd  
Wahington, IL 61571  
Pstr. Keith Thibo

## Mission Board:

Baptist International  
Missions Inc.  
P.O. Box 9215  
Chattanooga, TN 37412  
Field Director -  
Dr. Ron Bragg

## MISSION STATEMENT

### Primary Objective:

Indigenous Church  
Planting

### Accomplished By:

- Leading People to Christ
- Discipleship
- Training of Local Pastors & Church Leaders

### Methods Used:

- English Classes
- Bible Studies
- Gospel Literature
- Children's Clubs
- Any means by which God gives us an open door to reach our people

### End Goal:

To see strong, grounded, missions minded churches that are self-governing, self-propagating and self-supporting, established throughout the islands, able to grow and perpetuate themselves regardless of the presence of a missionary or outside help.



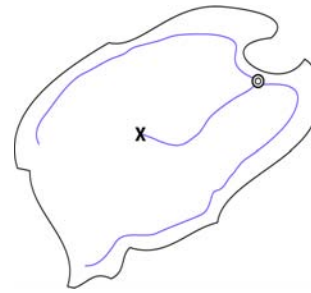
# LÊVÊ LETTERS

From São Tomé & Príncipe

## GEOGRAPHY

### SÃO NICOLAU

São Nicolau is a small village located in the central part of the island right at the end of the middle road. In the colonial times it was a “dependencia” or satellite off of the plantation known as Monte Café. After the S.Tomeian government divided up the plantations, it became it’s own little village.



The “X” in the middle marks S. Nicolau

### Village Children



Cascata or “Waterfall” of S. Nicolau

The village itself has around 200 people in it, with a small military outpost used mainly for training on its outskirts. The children walk in to Monte Café, about 2 miles away, for school.



The majority of the people work in the coffee fields taking care of their own lot, or working with others to do the same. Coffee is the main product, but other vegetables and edible roots are also grown for consumption and to sell in the city.

During the rainy season, tourists come to enjoy the falls about 1km down from the village itself



Boy showing off bird he hunted with the slingshot around his neck

## CULINARY

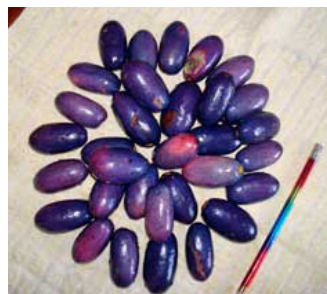
### VOCABULARY

Listen

English: LOVE

Portuguese: Amor   
[ah-MOR]

Forro: Amôle   
[ah-MÔ-lě]



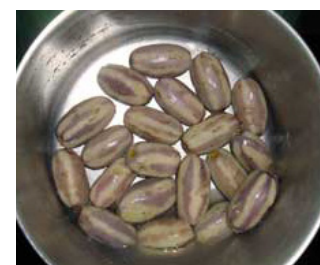
1

### SAFU [sah-FOO]

A delicious little fruit well known in Africa as the ‘African Plum’. It is not sweet but rather has a tart and tangy flavor. They can be boiled plain, in salt water, or with lemon juice which happens to be the way that our family prefers them. The pictures show the stages of preparation from start (1) to the delicious edible product (3)



2



3

### Pronunciation Key:

Say the syllables together smoothly  
Capitals indicate a stressed syllable