

PRAY FOR THE KOTOKOLI OF TOGO



When you lose a tooth, what do you usually do with it? In many African cultures, the answer to what children do with their lost teeth may surprise you. They throw it on the roof! Because my kids are Americans growing up in Africa, we've tried to combine two traditions. At night, our kids put their lost tooth under their pillow and then the next day they throw it on the roof. It's a fun tradition. You should try it next time!

In Togo, a country in West Africa, there is an unengaged, unreached people group called the Kotokoli. This group of about 438,000, currently have little to no access to the gospel. The town of Sokode, the historic Islamic capital of Togo, is also the central location for the Kotokoli people. The Kotokoli converted to Islam in the 1700s, and the first mosque was built in 1820. Although the Kotokoli claim Islam as their religion, traditional religious African beliefs also thrive. Sacrifices are performed before idols on mountains. During the Day of the Kotokoli festival, ancestors are thanked for a good harvest and Semasi warriors perform daring tests of strength on horseback.

Pray that someone, even Christians from other ethnic groups in Togo, will be obedient to the call to make Christ known among all peoples, including the Kotokoli. Cultural traditions often become part of religious practices. Sometimes something as simple as a

child throwing their tooth on the roof, can become a spiritual belief or religious practice that makes up what a person believes about the world and how they view God. The Bible alone provides all that we need to know God and make Him known. Let's pray that the Kotokoli have the opportunity to hear the truth of God's word and see the world through the lenses of TRUTH!

Don't forget to pray for the Kotokoli children too! Pray that next time they lose a tooth, they begin to ask questions about who made them and why? Next time you lose your tooth, take that as an opportunity to stop and pray for the many children in Africa who have not yet heard the Good News. And then go throw your tooth on the roof!

