

PRAY FOR THE BOZO TIEMAXO OF MALI

Have you ever been to New York City to see the giant Christmas tree in Rockefeller Center? If you haven't seen it in person, you've probably seen it in movies. It's in popular movies like Elf, Home Alone 2, and the remake of Miracle on 34th Street. One of the most famous Christmas trees in the world, it's estimated that 125 million people visit the tree during the Christmas season. Each year, the tree is slightly different as it is cut down from somewhere in New York state and brought into the city on a huge truck. Little did anyone know that this year, the tree wasn't the only thing brought into the city on a huge truck. There was also quite a surprise hidden in the branches of the tree – a rarely seen, adult male Saw-whet, one of the smallest owl species in North America and highly nomadic by nature.



Also highly nomadic, the Bozo Tiemaxo of Mali are currently unreached and unengaged with the gospel. The Bozo Tiemaxo are migratory fishermen. They travel from place to place, not settling for long periods of time, which not only makes it difficult to locate them in order to preach the gospel, but also to have any follow-up discipleship plan, or to even establish churches. There is also a need for written Scriptures and audio Scriptures to be translated into their language.

When a creature like the Saw-whet owl or a people group like the Bozo Tiemaxo move around from place to place, they might seem to us to be quite out of reach and hard to track. That might be true for us, but not for God. Nothing, no creature or people, can be hidden from God. Nothing escapes His attention. When the tiny owl, the size of a Coke can, landed on the branch of a tree, it had no idea that it just landed on one of the most famous trees in the world. It also had no idea, that it would be unexpectedly found, fed (as many mice as it would eat), nurtured, and given a name– “Rockefeller.” Then it would be sent back into the world to be and do what it was created by God to be and do. Similarly, when someone is in the right place at the right time (not by their design at all) and encounters a stranger that tells a true story about a man named Jesus who came to take away the sins of the World, they might also be found (by God), fed (from God's Word), nurtured (by the church), and given a new name-Beloved one of God. Then, he or she could also be sent out into the world, moving from place to place, with a new heart and a new story to tell, not just as nomadic fishermen but now fishers of men.



Don't forget to pray for the Bozo Tiemaxo children, too! Not even little children escape the attention of God. Pray that He would send a messenger to share the Good News of salvation, so that they too might know how they can become children of God. If you happen to see the Christmas tree at Rockefeller Center this year, remember the tiny owl that was found and that the children in Mali might also be found with the gospel.