

## **The People**

The country of Benin is much like other French-speaking countries of West Africa. The metropolitan areas of Benin are slowly progressing in infrastructure, transportation, communications, and education. Most of the country, however, is populated by poor farmers living in rural villages that lack these amenities.

While Christianity is making a notable advancement in Benin, the country remains the voodoo capital of the world. Worship of things seen in nature is widespread. A small percentage of the population practices Islam, but that percentage is growing. Catholicism is widespread and has been for many years.

Survival in rural Benin is a challenge due to a lack of technology and modern tools and conveniences. That said, the culture of Benin is excellent in many ways. The people are humble and appreciative, placing an emphasis on family life. Family discipline is obvious in their culture, and the desire to learn true Bible knowledge is a growing phenomenon. The people of Benin and French-speaking West Africa openly show appreciation for biblical teaching and are eager to share it with others.