



GOSPEL OUTREACH TO ETHIOPIA

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Dear Brethren and Friends of the Gospel Outreach to Ethiopia,

The emerging of Islam in our world should be a concern for every Christian. Our faith stands firm that God is in control and we have been promised that the victory has already been won. However, as Christians we have been assigned to “Go into all the world and make disciples of all the nations.....” (Matthew 28: 19-20). These words of Jesus were not given as a suggestion; they were and still are a command. When the disciples were scattered in Acts 8, they went everywhere preaching the gospel. It wasn’t easy for them; it isn’t easy for us. Many of them were arrested, tortured and killed. Today the assignment of Jesus still isn’t easy and in more places than we realize, to just own a bible can be a death sentence. Last summer a man in southwestern Ethiopia wrote the words, “Jesus is Lord” on the cover of his friends Koran. He was arrested, put in prison without even so much as a trial and as far as we know he is still there. In Addis Ababa, a wife of one of our church leaders was concerned about the soul of her Muslim neighbor. They had enjoyed being neighbors for more than 30 years. After much prayer, the Christian sister made the decision to mention to the lady that she would like to study with her about Jesus. Immediately the neighbor said to never speak to her again, they would never again associate with one another and to never come on her property at any time. How can we ever reach out to the Muslim world with the gospel? One method being used is World Bible School (WBS) or the World English Institute (WEI) Bible lessons. Now that internet access and use is growing all over the world, these methods will start to have more impact than ever before. Both these great tools of telling the message of Jesus are online for anyone with a computer to study with nothing more than a click of their computer mouse. Still, the majority the Islam population does not have access to computers or internet. Using the mail to distribute the WBS and WEI lessons among Muslims is very challenging. Mailed lessons can be confiscated and those who have asked for lessons can be arrested and persecuted.

SATELLITE AND SHORT WAVE RADIO ARE WAYS TO REACH THE MUSLIM WORLD WITH THE GOSPEL! With the assistance of World Radio, we have been broadcasting the gospel message into the Amharic speaking Muslim populations of Ethiopia. Response has been limited, but interest is growing and the listening audience is expanding quickly among Amharic speaking Muslims in Ethiopia and in many other



nations. Recently, a trained gospel preacher living in a heavy Muslim populated area of Eastern Ethiopia was sent to contact a Muslim family who had been listening to our radio broadcast. We cannot give the place or the name of the preacher or the new convert because of the problems it might cause them as this becomes known. On the left, the family is seen studying the gospel with our preacher. On the right, the brother is baptizing a new Christian sister! **THE LORD’S PEOPLE NEED TO UNDERSTAND THAT RADIO IS AN ANSWER TO REACH THE ISLAMIC WORLD. THE GOSPEL IS THE POWER. (Rom. 1:16)**

NEWS FROM THE WATER WELL DRILLING PROJECT:

**“And do not neglect doing good and sharing, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.”
(Hebrews 13:16)**



Report from Curt King Saturday 2/19:

“We have completed all the wells in the Gedio area, and returned the equipment back to Santariera this Saturday evening. There are a total of eleven wells remaining in this

project. (53 out of 64!) We plan to make some critical repairs to the rig on Monday morning and then drill the one remaining well near our camp here in Santariera. Early Tuesday morning, we plan to drive to the farthest well site, past Bunsu (sp), about 120km on some questionable roads. We have five wells to drill there and if we can find a hotel we will stay near the site. There is no fuel available there, so one of our crew will have to come back to Aletto Wondo periodically to purchase it. We are drilling at about 7800 to 9000 feet above sea level, so the rig is struggling with a great loss of power and efficiency due to the thinner air. We have also encountered some hard rock, which requires a hammer bit and that requires additional air volume and pressure, so at this altitude it drills much slower. But we are moving forward. We are working in remote areas where the need for clean drinking water is serious. Water sources are scarce, and we sometimes have difficulty finding the water we need to run the drilling operation. Understandably, the communities are reluctant to see us hauling their pond water away in our trucks to run a machine they have never seen before. But once the work is finished, the communities have been so thankful and have shown their appreciation in many ways. I’ve been given more Pepsi than I can drink and we are also given food and coffee as we work. The communities have been very helpful and we appreciate their efforts to work with us. We normally pray with the community before we start a well. Often after we have found water and are ready to leave, someone will say, “Shouldn’t we pray and thank God for the water you found?” It is a reminder for me that when some people live so close to the edge of daily existence, God’s providence is very real to them. I may think I have a “savings account” of good health, material blessings and a job, but none of us are more than a breath away from meeting our Maker. I want to be a living witness to His goodness and not forget that “all good things come from above,” and..... not forget to thank Him. I continue to learn from those I seek to help.” Curt King, Ethiopia East Africa, February 19, 2011

BROTHER DEMERE CHERNET: HEALTH UPDATE



Brother Demere, right, is pictured with Behailu. Demere had to make an emergency trip from Ethiopia to Atlanta to correct a serious heart problem. Surgery was performed and stents were inserted into two arteries. A pace maker was implanted to correctly adjust his heartbeat. Then the doctors were able to attack his second health problem; prostate cancer. As of Saturday, February 19th surgery had not been scheduled, but should be very soon. Demere has

been a member of the Lord’s Church since 1962. He has served as an elder and teaches in the schools of preaching. He served as the Director of the Deaf Schools for 38 years. He is a very important part of the leadership that has led the spread of the gospel throughout Ethiopia for the past 49 years. We ask for your prayers for Demere and his recovery so he can return to his ministry in Ethiopia. Many brethren are assisting him in raising the necessary funds for his surgery.

ALL THE SCHOOLS ARE IN SESSION AND DOING GREAT!



Each day more than 800 children attend our schools for the deaf and our three kindergartens. Every day they are taught bible stories and learn to sing songs about Jesus and God's love. Over and over the parents tell us their children will never eat a meal now without praying first. Perhaps it is that one thing, more than anything else that impresses the parents. These little ones are precious and love to learn. They enter our school at 5 years old and the few years we have them they come to know there is a life that God calls all of us to live. Can there be a ministry more important than helping these little ones find a "head start" in living God's way? Many of you who read this report have helped children like these throughout the 45 plus years of teaching children. One of our leaders said recently that almost 10,000 children have gone through our Christian schools. Once in a while an adult will stop by a school and identify themselves as a former student and tell us how much our school meant to them and how important it was in preparing them to face the world. This wouldn't be possible without the faithfulness and prayers of all of you.

PRAISE GOD FOR THE LEADERS!



Left to right: Brothers Alemayehu, Dagnatchew, Moges and Bekele. These four brothers all serve in various ways to take the Lord's work in Ethiopia forward. There are hundreds of other church leaders scattered throughout the Southern and Western Regions of Ethiopia that are giving themselves daily in spreading the gospel message. Looking at these four brothers, there is a diversity of how they came to know the Lord and to be developed into the leaders they now are. Alemayehu was a refugee in Kenya during the great dispersion that occurred in Ethiopia in the mid 1980's. Behailu met him in Kenya, taught him the gospel and baptized him. Behailu sent Alemayehu through the Great Commission Bible School and then on to the Day Star University where he received a BA degree in Accounting. After six years of study and after a change of government in Ethiopia, Alemayehu returned home and became the accountant for our mission program. He now serves as the government recognized Assistant Director of the Church of Christ mission, a teacher in the Level One and Level Two Schools of Preaching and is a great gospel preacher. Dagnatchew came to the church as a World Bible School student. He was already a recognized leader among the people of the Western Region. With the assistance of Joe Boe leading several World Bible School follow up sessions in that area, the church was established. Because of the need for preachers, Dagnatchew was able to obtain land for the church on which the Nekemte School of Preaching was built, along with a school for the deaf and a kindergarten for poor destitute children. Dagnatchew serves as the director of all these good works. Brother Moges also came to the church as a World Bible School student. He was a policeman at that time. He soon became one of the teachers at our deaf school in Addis and then was assigned as the preacher of the Addis Ababa congregation. He attended and graduated from the Level One School of Preaching and also was a graduate of a two year extended bible training school. He now serves as the Director of the Preacher Training Schools in Ethiopia. Behailu recognizes Moges as the finest gospel preacher in Ethiopia. Bekele was an orphan left at our feeding center in Jido following the great famine. He was raised in our orphanage. He became a driver in the work and has served in all of the outreach projects. Sitting at the feet of other great leaders, Bekele will soon be one of them.

May God's blessing be upon all of you as we serve together.

John Ed Clark