



GOSPEL OUTREACH TO ETHIOPIA

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Dear Brethren and Friends of the Gospel Outreach to Ethiopia,

Each year closes and the opportunities and challenges of a New Year confronts us. In less than a week, 2010 will be history. We will take down the old calendar and put up a new one. If the Lord allows, we will with your prayers and financial faithfulness and the absolute dedication of our Ethiopian brethren commit fill the 2011 calendar with whatever God calls us to as we train, teach, preach, lift up, hold up, build up, serve, drill, feed, support, baptize, establish and submit to His Will. Will you join with us on this journey? I truly believe and know you will.

As always, we want to use this final News Letter of the year look back and recount the opportunities of service God used to challenge us. We will list several areas; not in the order of importance, but as a “package” to illustrate what we have been called to do as His chosen people.

NEW CHURCHES IN 2010:



Every month of 2010 brought the news of new congregations being established by the evangelists working in the areas where new water wells had been completed. By the end of the year the number of new churches had reach 50 and the number of reported baptisms exceeded 4500. The traveling evangelists and local church leaders have joined together to establish a goal for 2011 that will match the accomplishments of 2010. Today our crew is drilling wells in new areas where the gospel has never been preached. Pray for the evangelists as they walk the hills and valleys of Ethiopia proclaiming the “Good News” of Jesus to all whose hearts have been opened by the wonderful gift of pure clean water for their families.



This couple could not contain their excitement as they spoke of what this water well meant to the people and especially the children in their area. It is this kind of appreciation that comes from the love shown to them in giving them this wonderful gift that they open their hearts to listen to the message of the gospel. This work is limited only by the number of evangelists that can be used in this outreach opportunity.

WATER WELL DRILLING IN 2010:



The drilling crew is working in the Gedio Zone of the Sidama Region at this time. They have completed 17 of the 64 wells assigned to them on the present agreement. The drilling in Gedio is difficult and the terrain is almost impassable for the equipment getting to many of the assigned sites. But the amazing ability of Curt King and his trained crew serves as an example of what happens when passion and commitment are put together in the same package. All 64 of these assigned drilling sites need to be completed before the rains come in late May. We are thankful for these dedicated men.

TEACHING THE DEAF CHILDREN:



In early May our School for the Deaf in Addis Ababa was surprised by a visit from UNESCO. More than 25 educators from several African and European countries were brought to our school by the Ethiopian Ministry of Education to show what a “model” school for teaching what they called Special Needs Children was accomplishing. These educators were able to see the ability of deaf teachers, raised from childhood in our school and had gone on to graduate from the government teacher training college now serving on our staff. On the right; Brother Moges is shown conducting a Bible Training School for the Deaf. The men in the school were all graduates from our deaf schools and now serve as the spiritual leaders of the deaf congregations in Ethiopia.

KINDERGARTEN MINISTRY:



Three hundred and eighteen children from needy families fill our Kindergartens in Jimma, Shinshicho and Nekemte. This is an amazing beautiful ministry. (Mark 10:14)

COMPUTER TRAINING SCHOOL MINISTRY:



A new computer training school was added to the School for Deaf in Addis Ababa in May. This school will train our deaf students in basic skills of computer operation and use. On the left, Brother Shimeles is shown providing hands on training to the 5th grade students. This program addition has been greatly appreciated by the Ethiopian government office of education. Center: another group of 20 students have completed a seven month training school at the Computer School in Awasa. More than 160 have graduated from this school and all are now gainfully employed. Fifty have been converted through the bible study courses required as part of the curriculum. Twelve of these 50 have been deaf. Right: Brother Dinku (on the right) has replaced Shimeles as the Director of the Awasa School. Dinku is a well qualified teacher and preacher and will be a blessing for the Awasa Computer School ministry.

TRAINING GOSPEL PREACHERS:



In 2010 ninety six men graduated from the Schools of Preaching. Eighty six of these came from various areas of Ethiopia; most were sent to the schools from established congregations. Nineteen were from new water well churches. Ten were from the country of South Sudan. There is a constant need for trained preachers and a constant flow of faithful brethren desiring to be trained.



The Jajura School of Preaching facility was completely upgraded this year. Some of the buildings were taken down and completely rebuilt. On the left, members of the Jajura teaching staff are standing in the doorway of the new classroom building. Pictured in the center is the new staff dorm where the instructors can come and stay while the school is in session. On the right is pictured the new kitchen, dining room, cooks quarters and supply storage building. These new buildings were needed and will serve in the training of gospel preachers for many years to come.

MAKING A MISSIONARY JOURNEY:



In October, Brother Moges, along with other evangelists, traveled to several congregations in the country side. They visited both old and new congregations. They were able to meet with, preach for and to encourage thousands of brethren on this trip. Moges would love to give himself full time in this ministry. But, with his work as the Director of the Schools of Preaching, teaching World Bible School students almost nonstop, traveling long distances to meet

with church leaders and preachers to plan and promote outreaches throughout the Southern Region; there just isn't enough time. The work in Ethiopia is blessed to have men like Moges. He is a mentor to hundreds of young preachers as they plan their lives to follow in his example.

AN AGING GENERATION:



Brother Gujo Amege was a young man when he came to the School of Preaching in 1968. He was not yet a member of the church when he and 12 other men from his area enrolled that September. After his conversion and graduation he returned to his home in Homecho and established the first of many congregations in the Sidamo Province. Today he is 84 years old; he can no longer see, he is unable to stand and preach, but the fire is still within him. At the National Preachers Conference in November I stood before the group and read a list of 25 gospel preachers, members of Gujo's generation, who had gone to be with God. There were seven of the 12 who had attended the preaching school with Gujo on that list. I

realized at that moment how important Gujo's generation had been and how soon the time would come they would all be gone. I reminded the hundreds of young preachers and church leaders at the conference that as God had so effectively used men like Gujo, who had so willingly given themselves, God would expect no less from their generation. Today I can say with confidence, the new generation is not only ready to serve; they are already serving and in a great way. The Lord's Church in Ethiopia is in good hands.

THE PRESENT CHALLENGE:

All the good work being accomplished in Ethiopia points to the fact that God is in control and His blessings are abundant. Your prayers and faithful support have been an encouragement to our Ethiopian brethren and have provided them with the means to accomplish God's purposes in preaching the gospel and lifting up the lives of people. 2010 has been a difficult economic year in our world; in America and in Ethiopia. But, you never wavered. Paul commended the Macedonians in 2 Corinthians 8: 3- 5 for their faithfulness even during very difficult times. All of you deserve no less. The opportunities and challenges of 2011 are before us. Paul's encouragement to the Corinthians is so applicable for us today: *"And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that always having all sufficiency in everything, you may have an abundance for every good deed..."* (2 Cor. 9:8) Thank you for your faithful reliance on God's promises and your trust in His blessings.