



GOSPEL OUTREACH TO ETHIOPIA

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Dear Brethren and Friends of the Gospel Outreach to Ethiopia,

In October, 2009 **Solomon Beratu** was accepted at the School of Preaching in Nekemte. We interviewed him and took his picture when we visited at that time. He was one of ten students in the 15th session. Here is the information as we received it that day:



Solomon Beratu: October 2009

Solomon is from the Nekemte congregation. He has been a member of the church for one year. He was taught the gospel by Brother Kedanu, the preacher of the Nekemte congregation and was baptized by Brother Lemma. Following his graduation he plans to remain in the Nekemte area and to teach his family. No one else in his family is a member of the church at this time. He is 20 years old and unmarried. He has completed the 10th grade and one year at the Teacher Training Institute in Nekemte.



Fast forward four years. On the left, Solomon is pictured standing (front center) in the yard of the new congregation at **Abdeta, Wollega**. A few months following his graduation from the School of Preaching, he, along with some other new preachers traveled to that area to preach and helped establish a “house church” after a few people were converted and baptized. Solomon continued to travel there to teach and the numbers of members slowly increased. Abdeta is 20 miles west of Nekemte.



During our November trip, we were able to visit the **Abdeta** church. Three weeks before our visit, they had moved from the house church into their new church building. At the time of our visit, the number of members had grown to 32 and 20 others were in private studies with Solomon and other preachers from that area.

When Solomon came to the Preacher Training School in 2009, he had no idea what God had in mind for him. He wanted to be used and to serve God. Solomon’s prayer was answered.



Meteku Negere is a member of the **Abdeta** congregation. He was chosen by the congregation to go to the Nekemte School of Preaching and is currently one of the students in the 21st training session. As we interviewed Meteku, he indicated that he feels a burden to go to other places and preach and provide for them the same opportunity that God had given to him. There are very few congregations in the Abdeta area and the doors to preach the gospel are wide open throughout the region. Meteku is married and has one child.

The process of establishing new congregations is well demonstrated in this story. The history of the 900+ churches in Ethiopia has followed the pattern used in Abdeta. These congregations are built and strengthened by men sent from them to the training schools and then return to preach, teach and lead in the new churches. It is not possible to know the exact number of congregations in Ethiopia because in many places there is no way to communicate with preachers who have gone into those areas to live and work. Only in eternity will the entire story be known. The faithfulness of you who read these reports and support this work makes it possible for our Ethiopian brethren to carry out the commands of Jesus to go and preach

THE NEKEMTE SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF:



The School for the Deaf in Nekemte is unique among our five deaf schools. Forty of the forty two students were brought to the school by the Department of Child Services from many different areas of the Western Region. Some of the children were homeless and beggars on the streets. None lived where schools had deaf education departments to teach them. Some are orphans. Most of them have beds to sleep in for the first time in their lives. They have three good meals to eat every day. They have learned a trade (basket weaving) that will provide a way for them to support themselves

for the rest of their lives. They are like students in our other four schools in they are able to communicate and compete in every way with students in normal hearing schools. After spending six years in our school they will be able to enter the government school system and with the work ethic they have learned from quality Christian teachers, they will be able to complete their high school education. And the most important thing is they have been taught God's word and many of them have chosen to become Christians and prepare for eternity. They then become unique again and God's special possession. (1 Peter 2: 9-10 NIV)

May God continue to bless you in your faithfulness to...." the least of these". (Matthew 25: 40)

Kevin and John Ed Clark