

## **GOSPEL OUTREACH TO ETHIOPIA**

WOODWARD PARK CHURCH OF CHRIST 7886 NORTH MILLBROOK FRESNO, CALIFORNIA 93720 559 446-2550 www.wpcoc.com

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Dear Brethren and Friends of the Gospel Outreach to Ethiopia,

## **Brother Demere Chernet**



Many years ago I was talking to an old elder who had served the church more than half his life. We were talking about a strong congregation that we both knew and I asked him what he believed had made that church great? He said something I have never forgotten......"Someone has given their life to that church." God works through His people. When His people give their lives for His purpose, great things happen and the world is changed around them. (Rom. 12:1) Demere's work in Ethiopia is a perfect example of this principle. He will be 77 years old this year.

Standing in the picture above is Brothers Behailu Abebe (left) and Demere Chernet. Demere has been a member of the Lord's church longer than anyone else in Ethiopia. He became a Christian in 1962. He had completed training to be a school teacher and Carl Thompson convinced him to come and teach at our new School for the Deaf. Neither of them knew Demere would serve in that ministry for the next 40+ years. Of course the main reason that the work in Ethiopia is great is because of God's blessing. Demere has given himself to serve in that process and God has certainly used his service.





After Demere retired from directing our five Schools for the Deaf in Ethiopia, he continued as one of the instructors at the Level 2 School of Preaching in Addis Ababa. This program brings back the most successful and dedicated gospel preachers in Ethiopia and equips them for an even greater and more effective ministry in their home areas.

Demere has served as an elder in the Makanissa Church. He has traveled and taught in all four of the Level One Schools of Preaching. Even though he has encountered some serious health problems, he hasn't allowed his physical difficulties to stop his life of service.



Demere and his wife, Amsala, had 4 children. Twenty years ago she was walking along a busy street near their home. A large crowd of people had gathered and she thought someone might be hurt and since she was a nurse she pushed her way through to see what had happened. She discovered a new born baby on the sidewalk and it was what had caused the people to gather. It had been abandoned. She picked it up and took it home. Following the proper procedures, they adopted the little boy and he became their 5<sup>th</sup> child. He is now attending the

University in Addis Ababa. Demere has demonstrated this kind of compassionate love for all who know him. He has been and still is a wonderful leader of God's people. He is my brother, friend, coworker and fellow servant of the Lord. He is one of the leaders in Ethiopia who has given his life as a "living sacrifice". All of you who are so faithful in praying for and supporting the Lord's work in Ethiopia can know you stand and serve with Brother Demere Chernet in changing the eternal destiny of thousands of precious souls in that ancient land.

## New Water Well Agreement Signed March 10<sup>th</sup>:

A report received March 10<sup>th</sup> announced the signing of a new agreement with the Ethiopian Water Bureau to drill an additional 15 wells in the Kambatta Zone. Our crew had just finished 30 wells and are now installing pumps and training community leaders how to maintain and care for their new wells. We hope the weather will remain cooperative, allowing these 15 to be drilled within the next month. The equipment is being mobilized in the new drilling area at this time. The Kambatta area is in the heartland of the church and sources of water are scarce and pure clean water is impossible to find.



The pictures above were taken in the Kambatta area during one of our visits there. The young boy on the left is taking dirty water from a hole he dug in the bottom of a dry river. It is the only source for water near his home. The well on the right provides pure clean water to thousands of people in Kambatta. The 15 new wells will provide good water for up to 50,000 people; many of whom will be our Christian brothers and sisters.

Thank you for you faithfulness. Please know your support is important to make the Gospel Outreach in Ethiopia possible. We pray God will continue His blessings upon you. (2 Cor 9:8-11)