

GOSPEL OUTREACH TO ETHIOPIA

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Dear Brethren and Friends of the Gospel Outreach to Ethiopia,

The apostle Paul said in Romans 10:14-15, "How then will they call on Him in whom they have not believed? How will they believe in Him whom they have not heard? And how will they hear without a preacher? ¹⁵ How will they preach unless they are sent? Just as it is written, "How BEAUTIFUL ARE THE FEET OF THOSE WHO BRING GOOD NEWS OF GOOD THINGS!"

THE PROCESS OF ESTABLISHING A CHURCH IN ETHIOPIA:





On every trip to Ethiopia we are blessed as we sit with men being trained as gospel preachers and to listen to their life stories. Some of them have grown up in the church. Some are new Christians. Some are sent to the training schools before they have been baptized and in some cases there is no congregation in the area where they live. Within two weeks after their study begins, all of them experience a transformation (Romans 12:2) and their life's focus changes. They want to share with others what they have found.



Awoke Etebo is an example of this process. His home is at a place called Dabule, Gombora. In the upper left picture Moges is shown preaching at Dabule. A water well had been completed nearby. The hearts of the people had been touched by the wonderful gift of pure clean water for their families. An evangelist named Bezuna Kelbako went there to preach. Awoke was there the day that Bezuna came and after the sermon Bezuna was asked to study more with them. Soon twenty people, including Awoke were converted and obeyed the gospel. Bezuna continued preaching for the new congregation until one of the 20 converts named Tamarat Sugabo was sent to the Jajura School of Preaching and had returned home to serve as their preacher. The new church then chose Awoke and sent him to be trained. As we met with

Awoke, he said he will return home to Dabule to assist Tamarat in building up the new congregation. But he also plans to go to another place called Marina to preach. He said there is no church there and he wants to do for the people of Marina what was done for him and the

new members in Dabule. This is the process which results in more than 50 new congregations every year in Ethiopia.

STAYING ALERT AND KEEPING WATCH:

In the parable of the sower, Jesus described the first soil this way, "Those beside the road are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their heart...." Our Ethiopian brethren must maintain a constant vigilance watching out for the new churches and new members and teaching them the full measure of God's word. Brother Moges sent the following information regarding the problems they face every day:



"Our Santariea Preacher Training School teachers are playing tremendous roll in strengthening and keeping churches diligently following the New Testament pattern of faith. I admire them for their dedication. Together we will continue the good fight to keep the church pure and in the faith. We know that God is with us. Whenever we deliver His sound doctrine to everyone, we are able to see all the people ready to go forward in the truth. Last Sunday I taught on the subject of "New Testament Church Worship" for two and a half hours at the Wenenata church. Many area

preachers were in attendance and will take the message out to the other congregations in the area, especially the new congregations that are under constant attack. We returned back to Addis Ababa Sunday evening glorifying His Name because of the rededication we heard from all who attended."

Please remember these churches, especially the new congregations, in your constant prayers. Remember also the faithful brethren who are vigilant and dedicated to watching out for all the false teachers who seek to lead God's people away. God has blessed His work in Ethiopia with many strong church leaders and preachers that faithfully serve Him.

SERVING THE CHILDREN:



Every morning many children come to our School for the Deaf in Mazoria from homes where there is no food for breakfast. Some of the deaf children have walked for miles and are tired and hungry when they arrive. Each day they receive a fresh loaf of bread and a cup of hot tea at the school. This is the common breakfast in homes where there is food. This meal has made a difference in the school life of these children. Not only are they very happy to have food to eat, their academic performance has multiplied. It was a blessing to be with them during this important part of their day.

OUR ECONOMIC SITUATION:

We sincerely appreciate all of you who faithfully support the Lord's work in Ethiopia. We understand the difficult economic conditions we are all living through at this time. Still, you are faithful and the eternal destiny of many people in Ethiopia is being made secure through you. Our prayer is that you will continue to be blessed through the sacrifice you make for this great ministry. Our leading brethren in Ethiopia effectively and efficiently use your gifts to the fullest. Nothing is wasted or used unwisely. Thank you for serving with us.

John Ed and Kevin Clark