



GOSPEL OUTREACH TO ETHIOPIA

WOODWARD PARK CHURCH OF CHRIST

7886 NORTH MILLBROOK

FRESNO, CALIFORNIA 93720

559 446-2550 www.wpcoc.com

July 27, 2015

THE OPPORTUNITY GOD HAS GIVEN US:

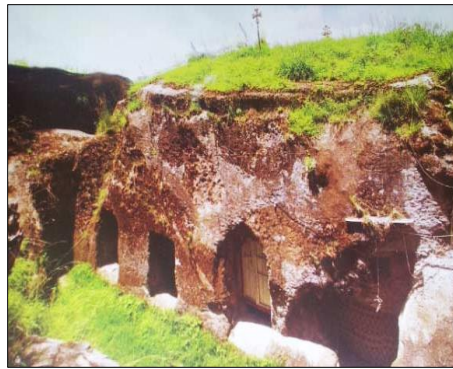
Our Lord established His Church. (Matt.16:18) He commanded his disciples to go to the world and teach others the message he had taught them. (Matt. 28:18-20) The Apostle Paul told the young evangelist Timothy to take this message he had been taught and teach it to other faithful brethren so they could take it and teach others. (2 Timothy 2:2) Paul wrote to the church at Colossae commending them for being faithful in teaching the gospel which was evidenced by their growth. (Colossians 1:3-6) The members at the church in Philippi did what had been commanded by sending support to Paul which made it possible for him to preach the gospel to the lost. (Philippians 4:15-20. All these examples serve to show us how God uses our abilities and finances to reach out with the gospel message and by doing so, the lost can be saved, the poor can be lifted up, the oppressed can be set free and hope can be restored to the hopeless. This is a description of what you who support the Lord's work in Ethiopia are accomplishing by the pattern outlined in the New Testament. May God's blessing be on you as you serve Him!!!

THE CHURCH AT KABELEGAMBO



The church was established at Kabelegambo three years ago after Brother Erkalo Abemo went there to preach. Erkalo is one of the instructors at the Jajura School of preaching. He had family members living there and there were no congregations of the church in that area. Erkalo is pictured above, second from left, with another instructor from the school and three preachers and leaders of the Kabelegambo church. The three men on the right were all taught the gospel and baptized by Brother Erkalo and all of them have attended and graduated from the Jajura School of Preaching. On the left, members of the congregation came out during the week to be with the Kevin, Bekele and other visitors. The membership of this church has grown to over 150 members in just three years. In the picture, Brother Erkalo can be seen standing on the far right. When the church was first established they met in a home of one of the members. Then they built a small round grass roof "tukul" building and met there until they outgrew it. Construction on this new building started about one year ago. They appealed to us for help to purchase the corrugated metal and some of you who read this report responded and purchased it for them. They furnished all the wood, other materials and labor. This church is a perfect example of the receptiveness found among the Godly people living in rural Ethiopia.

OUR STUDENTS VISIT THE ADADI MARIAM HISTORICAL STONE CHURCH:



The 5th through 8th grade students at our Mekanissa School for the Deaf were able to make a field trip to the Adadi Mariam and Melka Kentire stone churches, 45 miles south of Addis Ababa. Historical legends say these churches were carved out of the stone mountains during the reign of Emperor Lalibala during the years of 1180 to 1220 A.D. Sometime during the next 500 years, the carving of the churches was stopped. In the rear rooms of the interior the ceilings are very low providing evidence they were never finished. When Menelik II became Emperor in 1889, history says he reopened this church monastery and it is still being used today. Most school children in Ethiopia never have the opportunity to visit the vast historical landmarks and to see firsthand that their people have been believers and followers of God since ancient times. This history can be used to show them that we worship and follow the same God Ethiopia has always believed in and followed. We teach practical lessons from God's word to all our students each day in all 8 of our Christian schools. They are taught to respect the rich heritage of their land while at the same time they are encouraged to look at God's word for themselves and to choose His Way. So many of you who read this report have been very active in planting the gospel message into the hearts of these children.

WORKING WITH DERES HOUSE OF SPORTS:



The last three years a local NGO called Deres House of Sport has come to our school in Addis two times each week to train our students. Representatives from the NGO had come to visit and they saw the quality of what

was being provided for the deaf children and they wanted to help. The trainers are from Holland and are very skilled in their coaching abilities. Recently the organization provided us with a number of soccer balls, volley balls, nets and other sport equipment. After they saw our program of training the families of deaf children to understand and use sign language they also asked to be able to help those families. A program they have had success with is to teach families how to commercially raise chickens. Until now they have trained eight families and have provided baby chicks, a chicken house and coup and each family. Brother Moges reports four of the trained families have been successful and are earning income. We appreciate this organization for sharing their skills and resources to help lift up the lives of others.

God provides many opportunities to serve. All of you who faithfully pray for and financially support the Lord's work in Ethiopia are answering the challenges presented to all of us. Our prayer for you is that you will continue to be blessed as we work together in His Kingdom.

Kevin and John Ed Clark