



ETHIOPIA GOSPEL OUTREACH

WOODWARD PARK CHURCH OF CHRIST

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UPDATE ON THE UNREST IN ETHIOPIA:

We seldom read anything in our newspapers or see anything on television about Ethiopia. However, during the last several months Ethiopia has been mentioned often; especially on the Internet. Out of concern for our Ethiopian brethren, some of you have contacted us seeking information about the reported unrest in several parts of the country. The Lord's work in Ethiopia hasn't been hindered nor have any of our brethren been harmed until now. There has been some inconvenience because public transportation and trucking has been affected. Social media has been cut off on occasion, along with cell phone service. Government reports present a positive view of ongoing discussions. The international community has become involved and we all understand that can sometimes cause more problems than it helps. We cancelled our trip to Ethiopia in April and have again cancelled our November travel plans. Believing everything will be worked out soon, we have rescheduled for April, 2017. Our brethren in Ethiopia have requested urgent prayers for the church, their country and its leaders.

GOSPEL SEED PLANTED MANY YEARS AGO:



Tsigie Bekele is deaf. She was a student at our Mekanissa School for the Deaf many years ago. Her sister Jufare was also in our school. After Tsigie graduated she was able to get a job in Beirut, Lebanon and spent 13 years working there. Last month she returned to Ethiopia to visit her family and also came to visit our deaf school and her friends at the Addis congregation. Brother Nebeyu, the minister of the deaf congregation talked with her and set up a bible study. She had been

taught God's word as a student and this time made the decision to follow Christ and be baptized into His body. Pictured left, Nebeyu and Tsigie stand together in front of the congregation and on the right, Nebeyu takes her confession in sign language. The Addis brethren asks that we all pray for Tsigie as she returns to her work in Beirut and that she might find the church in that Islamic country. Missionaries from the church of Christ went there more than 60 years ago and the church was firmly established. "Christianity" is still permitted in Lebanon; perhaps someone who reads this report can help us direct Tsigie to a congregation of the Lord's church in the capital city. An interesting sidelight to this story is Brother Nebeyu himself. After graduating from the Mekanissa School for the Deaf, a major denomination offered him a full scholarship to a bible college in Kenya. He accepted it and we suspected he wouldn't be seen by us again. As soon as he graduated and received his diploma, he returned to Ethiopia, came to the church and said, "Now I have my education and I am ready to go to work!"

195 TEXT BOOKS DONATED TO THE NEKEMTE SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF:



Brother Mulugeta Adera was able to convince the Oromia Education Bureau in Addis Ababa to donate 195 Grades 1-4 lesson books for our School for the Deaf in Nekemte. The value of these books came to more than \$1000, but the value of them isn't the most important thing. It is very difficult to purchase school books in Ethiopia. It is more difficult for a private school like our Christian deaf school to purchase books from a government agency. But, obtaining a donation of school books from a government agency is a great accomplishment and demonstrates the ability and persistence of our new mission administrator. Mulugeta's

assignment is what we call a "Personnel Director" and an "Efficiency Expert." He looks for good teachers and ways to do every job better with less. Locating and obtaining a gift of school books probably isn't in his job description, but it was in his heart. Mulugeta came to the church through his study of the World Bible School lessons and the encouragement of his WBS teacher in America. He is a graduate of the Addis Ababa University. Our brethren had been searching for someone like him and God answered that search by sending Mulugeta to us.

CURRENT UNREST MAY DELAY OPENING OF PREACHING SCHOOLS:



Report from Moges: "If the current situation allows, the Jajura, Shone and Nekemte Preacher Training Schools will resume in a few weeks. The Santariera PTS completed their regular session in September. These days it is difficult to travel because there are no public buses operating on the highways to transport the new students to our school. We pray that things will return to normal soon and the preaching schools can open."

PAPYRUS SOLAR AUDIO PLAYER MINISTRY REPORT FROM BRO. MOGES:



Preachers are using the lessons on the Papyrus Solar Audio Player to spread the gospel of Christ to non-believers, denominational people and church members. According to preacher's reports they are using this tool for gospel meetings, in market areas, where ever people meet, in their work places, prisons, with their neighbors, in barber shops and restaurants, at home; wherever there are people to listen. An estimated ten thousand people were able to hear lessons from this tool at least one time the last three months. About five thousand of them were able to hear lessons two or more times. Over 200

prisoners in the Hosanna prison requested us to send them the Amharic WBS courses because of the lessons they heard on papyrus audio players used in the prison ministry of Bro. Berehanu Nuramo's. Most listeners everywhere have asked if it is possible for them to obtain a solar unit so they can also teach people in the areas where they live.

Your prayers and financial faithfulness are so important for the work; now more than ever. Our world is troubled and we pray God will intervene. Many congregations and families struggle just to survive. We thank God every day for all of you. Thank you for your concern and love.

Kevin and John Ed Clark