



ETHIOPIA GOSPEL OUTREACH

WOODWARD PARK CHURCH OF CHRIST

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BROTHER HABTU ZEMECH ASSUMES LEADERSHIP ROLE:



Habtu Zemech has accepted the assignment as our Country Representative in Ethiopia. This position is required by the government as part of our legal status to preach the gospel there. Brother Alemayehu has served in that position for many years. Alemayehu is transferring his ministry to becoming a leader in the evangelism outreach and with Brother Moges; they will lead the Preacher Training Schools and spend more time traveling visiting and encouraging churches throughout the country. Habtu is pictured on the left with his family. They live in Woodbridge, VA and attend the Falls Church church of Christ congregation in Falls Church, VA where he serves as a deacon. Habtu came to the Lord's Church in Ethiopia during the famine of 1984-1987. He lived in Brother Behailu's Home for many years. When Behailu's family fled in exile to Kenya, Habtu accompanied them. Alemayehu was also in exile and was taught the gospel by Behailu there. He and Habtu attended and graduated from the Great Commission School of Preaching in Nairobi. In 1991 when Behailu's family returned to Ethiopia, Behailu and Habtu worked together preaching the gospel to the people of Ethiopia. Habtu's family is pictured on the left. In the center, Alemayehu and Habtu are shown together in Ethiopia on a recent trip. On the right, Habtu is pictured speaking at the church in Addis Ababa. Habtu will be dividing his time between his job in Washington D.C. and Ethiopia.



Brother Behailu is pictured on the left teaching a group preachers at the Level 2 School of Preaching in Addis Ababa. It has been Behailu's dream for many years that Habtu would one day assume this new role he has been assigned. Behailu continues to serve in the Ethiopian ministry and will continue as long as God permits him to serve. With the technical communications capabilities we now have, Behailu and Habtu are able to speak with and plan and advise in every phase of the ministry outreach. Behailu is unable to travel to Ethiopia because his health will not allow him to do so, but he remains at the core of leading that work.

In 1971 when our Ethiopian brethren accepted the leadership in the work, God has provided a constant flow of dedicated spiritual leaders to serve. Under their leadership the church has flourished and tens of thousands of members are scattered throughout

Southern and Western Ethiopia. Please pray for these great men of God as they serve together reaching out to the lost with the saving message of the gospel.

VISITING THE PREACHER TRAINING SCHOOLS:



Left: Habtu teaching at the Nekemte PTS. Center: Habtu teaching at the Jajura PTS. Right: Moges teaching a group of preachers and students at the Shone School of Preaching. Training men as gospel preachers continues to be the central focus of the Gospel Outreach in Ethiopia. The lessons in Nekemte are taught in the Oromonia language, so it is necessary for brethren from Addis Ababa to use interpreters as they teach. In Jajura the classes are taught in the Hydian language. Most in that area also speak Amharic, so Habtu is seen teaching without an interpreter. The same is true in the Shone PTS where Moges is pictured teaching on the right. If you added up all the languages and dialects spoken by the men in these pictures, there would be a minimum of 25. If you went to the areas where these men live, you would find at least that many more different dialects spoken among the people. It is not uncommon to have men attending the schools that speak four or five different languages spoken near their homes. On a visit we met one man being trained who spoke 13 different tribal languages. It is easy to understand the necessity of training gospel preachers in Ethiopia and send them out to preach to their people. All of you who read this report make it possible for the people there to hear the gospel “in their own language to which they were born....!” (Acts 2:8)

VISITING AND ENCOURAGING PREACHERS AND CHURCHES:



Left: Meeting and teaching preaching brethren from the northern Sidama area at the Dale congregation church building. Center: A group picture of the men who gathered in Dale. Right: Meeting with a group of preachers gathered at the Santariaea, Sidama church building. The importance of traveling to, studying with and praying with area wide gospel preachers cannot be measured. In Acts 15:36f Paul, Silas and other brethren returned to the places where they had taught previously to “strengthen the churches”.

CHILDREN’S MINISTRY:



Jesus loved little children. He used them as the example of what we should be in our own personal lives. These two little ones are happy. They are students at our Mekanissa School for the Deaf in Addis Ababa. Your prayers and financial faithfulness enables the Lord’s work in Ethiopia to serve and lift up the lives of children like these and to train gospel preachers and to preach the gospel to the lost. Your involvement is making a real difference in the lives and eternity of many, many people in Ethiopia. May God continue to bless you all as we all to serve him together.

Kevin and John Ed Clark