



ETHIOPIA GOSPEL OUTREACH

WOODWARD PARK CHURCH OF CHRIST

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SEMINAR FOR THE TEACHERS OF TEACHERS IN ETHIOPIA:

Brothers Joe Boe and Kevin Schwiger were in Addis Ababa for the month of August to teach all the instructors of our 5 Schools of Preaching. The student body of the Seminar consisted of 24 instructors and Directors of the Schools, including seven leading brethren and instructors from the Level 2 School in Addis Ababa. In



addition, Brothers Alemayehu and Moges interpreted the lessons into the Amharic language, which brings the total to 26. These brethren are the best of the best Bible teachers in the country of Ethiopia. Thousands of men sitting at their feet have been taught to preach and have been involved in establishing hundreds of congregations in the southern, western and eastern regions of that land. Tens of thousands of people will be with God eternally as a direct result of their lifetime ministry. All of them, with the exception of 5, have been preaching for more than 25 years and some as long as 48 years.

Their ages ranged from their mid-thirties to eighty. Many of them had fathers and grandfathers who were gospel preachers. Some were taught the gospel through World Bible School correspondence course lessons and then they attended the Level One and Level Two Schools of Preaching. After several years of successful ministry, they were asked to join one of the Schools as an instructor to teach others what they had been taught. (2 Timothy 2:2) And the rest is history; which is still in the making! We have many ministries that serve and lift up the lives of people in Ethiopia; Deaf Schools, Kindergartens, Water Well drilling, Computer Training Schools and a home in Addis that cares for orphaned and abandoned children. The core purpose of all these and the others that have been done for 50 years has been to teach and preach the gospel of Jesus in word and deed. (Luke 4:18-19, Luke 19:10, Matthew 28:19-20, 1 Corinthians 1:21) Like all of us, we need to replenish our hearts and souls and renew our spirits and that was the purpose that Joe and Kevin had on their hearts as they spent 20 days with these men of God. (1 Thessalonians 1:3, 5:14-22)



Classroom pictures left to right:

Joe Boe teaching with Brother Alemayehu interpreting. The other two pictures show Kevin Schwiger teaching with brother Moges interpreting. The Seminar was conducted in the auditorium of the Makanissa Church of Christ and School for the Deaf.

DEAF SCHOOLS ENTER THEIR 55TH YEAR OF TEACHING DEAF CHILDREN:



The 2017-2018 school year marks the beginning of the 55th year of teaching and lifting up the lives of deaf children in Ethiopia. The Mekanissa School for the Deaf (formally called The Amaha Desta School for the Deaf) started with one building and 12 deaf children in 1963. This year there will be a minimum 800 students in our 5 schools and 3 kindergartens. It is believed the work among the deaf in Ethiopia is the oldest continuing work among the deaf in Churches of Christ around the world. If any who read this report know of an older deaf educational program of the church, please let us know and we will recognize them. This school was the first School for the Deaf in Ethiopia. Its history, quality and growth have been rich and amazing! This ministry has been made possible by God blessing the work and God's using faithful men and women like all of your to support it. Some of you have prayed for supported Ethiopian deaf children since the beginning. This part of the ministry in Ethiopia has been recognized by three different Ethiopian governments.

VISITING, PREACHING AND ENCOURAGING BRETHERN:

After some days Paul said to Barnabas, "Let us return and visit the brethren in every city in which we proclaimed the word of the Lord, *and see how they are.*" (Acts 15:36)



The example of Paul and Barnabas going back to places where churches had been established was an extremely important ministry. In Ethiopia religious persecution, family pressures and community isolation cause discouragement for new Christians. Following the example of Paul, our church leaders and teachers go visit these distant places to encourage and "see how they are." Left to Right: Tesfaye Bogale preaching at night at a church in the Arbegona area. Center, Bro. Moges preaches at a new church in a different language area and Bro. Seyoum interprets the message. Right, Bro. Alemayehu preaching at a congregation in the distant western region church with Bro. Lemma interpreting the message into the local language. Many times the only way to reach churches is by spending the last two or three hours walking.

To all who pray for and financially support these and other ministries in Ethiopia, please know your participation is needed and used effectively in teaching the message of Jesus and lifting up the lives of those who would be without hope otherwise. Kevin and John Ed Clark