



# **ETHIOPIA GOSPEL** **OUTREACH** 7886 NORTH MILLBROOK FRESNO, CALIFORNIA 93720 559 446-2550 [www.wpcoc.com](http://www.wpcoc.com)

December 27, 2017

## **2017: OUR ASSIGNMENT TO BE CHANGE AGENTS:**

Perhaps 2017 will be remembered as a year of change. Some of the changes have been good; but certainly not all. Some changes made people's lives better; some didn't. You and I; disciples of Jesus, have been assigned the responsibility of being change agents. Not in the ways of the world, but in the lives, hearts and souls of ourselves and others. Jesus gave this assignment to in Luke 24: 47, ".....repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations....." In His final words before He ascended, He commanded His message must be preached at home, in nearby areas and then to the "remotest parts of the world." (Acts 1:8) Repentance is change and the responsibility to preach change is ours. In our mutual ministry in Ethiopia we are together fulfilling what Jesus said his disciples must do. Thank you for your faithful participation in this wonderful opportunity to proclaim the saving message of Jesus. 2017 has been a great year of changing people! We diligently pray that in 2018 all of us working together will continue His quest to change our world by providing the opportunity to carry the gospel message to many thousands more.

## **OUR MINISTRY: TRAIN AND SEND PREACHERS (1 Corinthians 1:21-25)**

In 2017 a total of 116 men completed our Preacher Training Schools. 90 men from our four Level 1 schools and 26 men from our Special Seminar Level 2+ session. Many of these trained graduates went into new places, preached the gospel message and established new churches. Some of the new places are in very remote parts of Ethiopia. It is always interesting to see how these men were led to Christ; if they came from a long established church or if they are the only New Testament Christian in their home area. Sometimes World Bible School courses were their introduction. Others who by chance had a conversation with a preacher on a bus, or in a village or in the market place. They expressed their desire for a deeper understanding of God's word. So, they came and were trained and now they are going back home to teach others. Here are a few examples:

## **PREACHING THE GOSPEL IN THE DARWO AREA OF SOUTHERN ETHIOPIA:**



### **Labaso Telahun**

Labaso is from a congregation located in a distant area of Darwo at a place called Bouyena. This is a two day bus ride from the Jajura School. It has 85 members. People living in the Darwo area were resettled there by the government because where they were living in Soro was over populated. The preacher at Bouyena, Joseph Doylina, made the choice to also be resettled so he could preach in that area and to also make sure the members who settled there had congregations to attend. Following his graduation, Labaso will return back to his home church and serve, teach, strengthen the members.



## **Samuel Zeleke**

Samuel is from the Mode congregation in the Darwo area. He was taught the gospel and baptized by Joseph Doylina 9 years ago. Mode is a two day bus ride from Jajura; it is a distant place. Samuel's wife is also a member of the Lord's church. They, along with their 6 children attend the Mode congregation. Following his graduation from the Jajura School of Preaching, Samuel will return to his home in Mode and serve there. He also plans to walk to a place called Tamare and preach the gospel and establish a new congregation. There is no church at Tamare at this time.

It was more than 10 years ago when the Ethiopian government, local and Federal, concluded the population of the Soro, Hydia, Wollietta and Kambatta was too high, so they started a resettlement program which took people from their homes and homelands and placed them in the Darwo area. It is two day bus trip from Jajura and then up to an 8 hours walk to places where the many of our members were taken. A preacher named Joseph Doylina, who was not included in the resettlement plans saw many church members were being moved and he knew there were no churches in those areas. He concluded he must also move there to make sure our brethren set up congregations and remained faithful. From that start there are several churches now meeting and sending other men to the preacher training school at Jajura. There are other areas in that Region where the gospel has been preached and congregations established. This kind of evangelism has proven the value of the preacher training schools. In each session of the schools, more men come to be trained from the Darwo area and other distant areas, adding to this proven method of taking the saving message of Jesus to people who live where no congregations are located. Your faithfulness in praying for and supporting the Gospel Outreach in Ethiopia makes the training of preachers possible! God bless you all!

## **HEALING THE CHILDREN TEAM VISITS DEAF SCHOOL FOR THE SECOND TIME IN 2017:**



A medical team of ENT Specialists and hearing professionals visited the Mekanissa School for the Deaf for their second biannual trip to Ethiopia from December 5<sup>th</sup> through the 8<sup>th</sup>. They examined and treated many of our deaf students during their visit. Healing the Children's home office is located in Spokane Washington and they have chapters in many cities throughout the U.S. Their services for our children are extremely valuable and deeply appreciated. A team from Philadelphia is scheduled to visit us in the spring of 2018 to perform surgery on the deaf children who will benefit from it.

In our world where there seems to be fewer bright spots as time passes, it is refreshing and a blessing to look at the Lord's work in Ethiopia; it is brighter than ever before. Our brethren are able to take the obstacles they face daily and turn them into opportunities. Our monthly reports by no means tell the whole story; we try to tell about some of the great works that benefit the children and people of Ethiopia. The value of your involvement in this ministry cannot and will not be measured in this life; only in eternity will we all be able to see the eternal investments you have made and continue to make. Pray that God will make 2018 another great year of ministry in His Kingdom; in Ethiopia and where you serve at home.

Kevin and John Ed Clark