



ETHIOPIA GOSPEL OUTREACH

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MISSION REPORT FROM A DISTANT REGION IN EASTERN ETHIOPIA:

(This report was received from Bro. Perry Taylor, Gospel preacher from La Vergne, Tennessee and provided to us by Sister Jackie Steen, a faithful sister from the Springbrook congregation in Renton, Washington. They are World English Institute Bible Correspondence Course teachers.)



BELAY KEBEDE is a Gospel preacher who lives in Dire Dawa, Ethiopia. This city is located in a Muslim populated region in Eastern Ethiopia. Recently he made a mission trip to distant areas he mentions in his report. These areas are near the border of Somalia and

have a Muslim population that exceeds 96%. Kebede is pictured on the right in the center of the back row with his classmates at the Level 2 School of Preaching in Addis. He has been a gospel preacher for more than 20 years. His report:

“Praise the Lord, I completed my trip successfully and safely and victoriously. The Lord saved 12 souls and planted 3 new congregations. May God bless these brethren! They invited so many people and our meetings were held under the shade of trees. Before I arrived in the areas, they informed the local administration for recognition in that the meetings were not political, but religious meetings. I taught and preached three full days at Garawa and two full days at Boke Xiqo and the rest of the days were with one on one discussions.

The people from Boke Xiqo invited others from Boke Guddo, which is 15 miles away. 90% of those who attended our gatherings were elementary and secondary school teachers.

From Boke Guddo two families, both husbands and wives, obeyed the gospel and those four souls became the new Boke Guddo congregation. At Garawa three souls were added to the church and another church was planted 16 miles away at Kurfa Challe as five souls obeyed and were baptized. These five are all school teachers.” Kebede Belay

USING WORLD BIBLE SCHOOL CORRESPONDENCE COURSE LESSONS:

The report above from Brother Belay doesn't mention how these contacts were made. He has always used Amharic World Bible School (WBS) lessons to reach out to others with the gospel. He has hundreds of students all over Eastern Ethiopia and the trip he made to the regions near Somalia was a WBS follow-up trip. It is difficult to teach in heavy Muslim populated areas and Belay uses the WBS lessons as a way to penetrate and find those who are searching for a faith that is loving and compassionate. The new Christians mentioned in his report will be tested in every way. Belays' going there to preach is a positive sign of the depth of his faith and his dependence on our Lord to protect him and his desire to tell others the saving message of Jesus. We know of other preachers in distant areas of Ethiopia who use WBS lessons as the way to reach others. The brethren in Addis Ababa are always ready to supply lesson materials to any gospel preacher to use. Pray for Belay and others like him and for these new Christians as they have chosen to follow Jesus and are willing to stand up for their faith when tests come.

BROTHER NEBEIYU: GOSPEL PREACHER TO THE DEAF:



Nebeiyu is the preacher for the deaf congregation at the church in Addis Ababa. Pictured with him is his wife and three children. His wife is also deaf. Their three children are all hearing. The story about him was sent to us by Brother Behailu and we would like to share it with you. It is a great story and demonstrates the way that God uses the faithful to reach out and teach others, even in difficult circumstances. Our hope is you will be encouraged by this report Behailu shared with us.

“Nebeiyu came to our deaf school when he was nine years old completed his elementary school years at our School for the Deaf in Addis. He is a profound deaf and not able to use a hearing aid. He was an outstanding student at our school being a very bright and intelligent student. He was taught lip reading and that helped him to be able to attend a normal government high school. When he completed his high school he received training at the Teachers Training College and then was employed to teach in our school for the deaf. After he had taught for 9 years the Baptist Church gave him a scholarship to go to Nairobi, Kenya for one and half years. He was trained in Nairobi on how to communicate better with deaf people especially to reach them in the gospel. When he returned to Ethiopia he came back to us and expressed his burning desire and interest to preach for the deaf and to work with us for the rest of his life.

He said, "I have been taught the truth in the Lord's Church and I would like to minister the deaf community by teaching them the true Gospel." We gave him special training to help him teach the Gospel and he completed the courses we teach in our Level 1 School of Preaching.

He got married and became a minister for the deaf congregation in Addis Ababa. He travels sometimes to our other deaf schools to strengthen and teach the deaf Churches. He has been an outstanding leader for the deaf. Over 75% of the deaf members in the Addis Ababa congregation were taught the gospel by Brother Nebeiyu.



These pictures show some of the fruit of his labor. Left: He is speaking at the deaf couple's marriage. They were both raised at our school. Nebeiyu taught them the gospel of Jesus and they are faithful members in the Addis congregation. Right: A celebration of the graduation of one of our deaf students from the University of Addis Ababa. Nebeiyu reaches into the homes



of the deaf to strengthen them and help them to become strong Christian families. The deaf congregation in Addis continues to grow spiritually and in number as Nebeiyu preaches and teaches them the gospel message.” Behailu Abebe

THE ETHIOPIAN MINISTRY CONTINES TO PROGRESS ON EVERY FRONT:

Preaching in the new water well areas and establishing new congregations, training new gospel preachers at the four Level 1 Schools of Preaching, teaching and lifting up the lives of the hundreds of students in our Schools for the deaf and in the Kindergartens are some of the ways being used to lift up, serve and reach out with the gospel message of Jesus. This ministry is made possible by two things: God's blessing the ministry and by the faithful support and prayers from all of you. May God continue to bless each of you!

Kevin and John Ed Clark