



SON-rise in Africa

Newsletter

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ASSOCIATION OF BAPTISTS FOR WORLD EVANGELISM
CHURCH PLANTING THROUGH THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION

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Ministry Update

As April is fast drawing to a close, we find ourselves busy preparing for our upcoming trip to Africa. Kathi has had her first "inoculation" session and returns at the end of the month for more "pointed" consultation. I am finalizing the course manuals for Pneumatology to be taught at Mathetes Bible College in Ho, Ghana as well as a study for the Institute in Hohoe, Ghana, and working on the lecture series for the African pastors' conference. The Lord has graciously provided a brother in Christ from Washago who is taking a shot at translating my courses into the French language. This will save valuable time and expense. *Pray for Paul Rondeau as he tackles this awesome job.*

We are still trying to finalize our accommodations while in Ghana. The Ghana team has been blessed with some additional missionaries and a very busy schedule which has left housing tight. We are confident that the Lord will work out these details and prepare us for a blessed ministry (even if it means preparing meals outdoors – camping style!!). I [Earl] have also been busy arranging for French books to be secured and sent for the Bible college libraries in Togo. This has been a challenge; nevertheless, the Lord has led me to several good resources thanks to the efforts of Stig Oborn of Huntsville, a brother in the Lord with a passion for books and 4 or 5 languages to his name. *Please pray for us as we travel to Pensacola Fl., for graduation ceremonies in May, finalize plans for our trip in June and continue to minister the Word as our itinerary outlines.*

Here is a Word in Season from Earl

As fishing season approaches, we die-hard fishermen take time to review the condition of our equipment to ensure that reels are oiled, lines are free of nicks and tangles, and hooks are sharpened to a fine point. For every Christian who takes the Lord's marching orders seriously, there is a similar responsibility.

To the disciples, and through them to the church, Jesus said: "Come, follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." (Matthew 4:19). The mandate of each Christian is to share the good news about forgiveness through Jesus Christ. Peter said it this way: "But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have." (1 Peter 3:15). The church is weak in fulfilling this commission due to a failure to keep personal lives sharp and untangled.

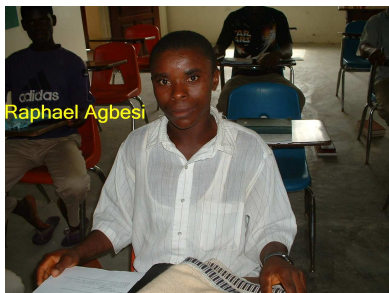
One of the Christian's greatest hindrances is what A. W. Tozer calls "The Great God Entertainment": "... the present inordinate attachment to every form of entertainment is evidence that the inner life of modern man is in serious decline... For there are millions who cannot live without amusement; life without some form of entertainment for them is simply intolerable... No one with common human feeling will object to the simple pleasures of life ... as may help to relax the nerves and refresh the mind exhausted by toil. Such things if used with discretion may be a blessing along the way. That is one thing. The all-out devotion to entertainment as a major activity for which and by which men live is definitely something else again.

The abuse of harmless things is the essence of sin. The growth of the amusement phase of human life... has been built into a multimillion dollar racket with greater power over human minds and human character than any other educational influence on earth... She (the church) appears to have decided that if she cannot conquer the great god Entertainment she may as well join forces... Religious entertainment is in many places crowding out the serious things of God. Many churches these days have become little more than theatres... It is a strange thing and a wonder that the professed followers of Christ should be giving themselves up to religious amusements? That at an hour when mature saints are so deeply needed vast numbers of believers should revert to spiritual childhood and clamour for religious toys."

Christians who clamour for entertainment allow their lives to become entangled and dull, and their witness to become ineffective. In order to become the die-hard fishers of men God intended, there is need to hear again God's words: "As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do" (1 Peter 1:113-14).

Africa Calls...

Africa calls.... "When I was a child, siblings and I like going to church regularly but we don't know anything about salvation. Unfortunately, our parents were not Christians and they were poor as well. One day as we went to church our pastor talked about salvation and the Holy Spirit helped my brother and I accept Jesus Christ as our Saviour. After church I and my brother went to our parents. My brother preach to them about salvation, the Holy Spirit helped them that day and our parents also accepted Jesus Christ as Saviour. After the study of the Bible I said to myself that I would attend a Bible School to do the work of God. During the time I was preparing to go to Bible School my father died. Even though this happened I was able to come to Bible church at Ho. May God help me to do his work."



...Africa calls

Our Support

We now stand at 72% of our committed support needs. We are grateful that the Lord has provided some new commitments this month, but the decrease in the Canadian dollar has kept us at the same percentage. Please continue to pray for God to use us as He wills during pre-field ministry and that He will give the hearts of His people a burden for training pastors in West Africa.

Present Itinerary:

April 24 – Fenelon Falls Baptist, Fenelon Falls, ON

May 1 – Bethel Baptist, Orillia, ON

May 8-15 – travel to Pensacola Christian College in Pensacola, FL for graduation ceremonies on May 11 and return with our son David for his summer employment in Muskoka

May 18 – First Baptist Church, Waterloo, ON

May 22 – Sinclairville Baptist Church, Sinclairville, NY

May 24-26 – ABWE 2005 Edge Seminars - Situational Leadership, Harrisburg, PA

May 29 – First Baptist Church, Sherman, NY

June 5 a.m. – Alta Vista Baptist Church, Ottawa, ON

June 5 p.m. – Lyndock Baptist Church, Eganville, ON

June 12 – Bethel Baptist Church, Orillia, ON

June – August – Teaching tour in Togo & Ghana, West Africa.

August 21-25 – Triple C Bible Camp, Simcoe, ON

August 28 – Berean Baptist Church, London, ON

Email Newsletter Service:

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Air Miles Assistance

For those who have passed on your earned air miles to us, we thank you. If Air Miles have not interested you and yet you have occasion to receive Air Miles by shopping at such places as A&P Grocers, Shell Gas Stations, etc., you can help our travel costs by giving the attendant our Air Miles No. This is a completely legitimate way of supporting our ministry travel costs. We thank you for your consideration.

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