



Son-rise in Africa Newsletter

ASSOCIATION OF BAPTISTS FOR WORLD EVANGELISM
CHURCH PLANTING THROUGH THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION

Report by EARL & KATHI COOPER

April 2006

Ministry Update...

God is good – all the time. I have heard this statement many times in the past year and its truth never fades! God has affirmed this truth for us again in April as He blessed us with good health and wonderful ministry opportunities. I [Earl] received an excellent report from the surgeon. He confirmed that pathology tests indicated all cancer was removed and I was free to minister as much as I felt like it (provided I get adequate rest when needed). There are no restrictions on ministry or travel. We praise God for His goodness and grace. I have spent much of my office time this month planning for May's teaching tour in Africa and preparing weekend ministry (Easter Sunday was busy with four separate messages at two church locations). Time was also spent on creating a website for the ministry resources God has enabled Kathi and me to build. Our website: www.discipleshipministries.ca provides information about our *Son-rise in Africa* ministry, allows interested folks to keep track of our activities, access our publications, and will when completed (within a few weeks) provide daily "Word in Season" devotional thoughts and biweekly "Moment of Meditation" audio devotions. We are grateful to God for providing Ken Wilson - a brother in Christ, with the skills, resources, interest and committed time to put a website together with us. We invite you to check our website out and let us know what you think.

Africa Calls

Here is the testimony of Mathetes Institute student Togbe Amomeeha III: "My parents were unbelievers although they hated wrong doing and tried to mention the names of God, always teaching us their children. Since my childhood in my dreams up to today, I knew very well that God was doing something in my life. In the year 1998 Togbe Dzegbladey, the chief of Kodzobi, led Pastor Jim Plunkett to Dzakpo. They came to my house. They shared the Word of God with me. From that day they started to come to Dzakpo regularly. Before them, during my schooling Scripture was among my best subjects. In the years 1966-69 during my apprenticeship Jehovah Witness people gave me scripture booklets to learn. The reason why I did not join any church from the beginning was that my uncle was a member of the Roman Catholic church and I wanted to join his church. However all the places where I lived had no R.C. churches. I tried to join the E.P. church of Ghana but that also failed. God's time is the best. So during the time Togbe Dzegbladey and Pastor Jim Plunkett shared the Word of God with me, immediately I accepted Jesus Christ as my Saviour. I was baptized 25/8/1999. Today I can say that I am the first man to be baptized in the Dzakpo Baptist Church. I thank God that Christ died for my sins and that through Him my sin is forgiven. Amen!" Africa calls...



Kathi's Notes The arrival of loons, Canada geese, mergansers and other waterfowl on Healey Lake give evidence that spring has arrived in Muskoka. When the ice goes off the lake and we once again have open water, I know that winter's grasp is broken. How wonderful that God faithfully orders our world so that we can count on spring following winter each year! He is so faithful in His promises to us. The Bible memory verse my JK class has in April, Romans 8:28, is an 'anchor verse' for me - "We know that all things work together for good to them that love God, ..." When uncertainty approaches, I pull up this verse and rest in the sureness of His promise.

Here's a Word in Season from Earl

I recently drove past a number of strikers who were picketing their respective places of employment. This led me to contemplate the stress within our province between the commitment to reduce costs and the desire to find security. Each has been approached from the perspective of man at the centre of the arguments. Such an approach to life (focusing on ourselves and pooling human wisdom to find answers) is defined as secular humanism.

In his book "The Battle for the Mind", Tim LaHaye makes some interesting observations about humanism: "Humanism seems so credible and logical to the man who does not understand God's wisdom that it is adopted readily by the masses -- much to their own peril. Today's wave of crime and violence in our streets, promiscuity, divorce, shattered dreams and broken hearts can be laid right at the door of secular humanism. As the Scriptures teach, "Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools" (Romans 1:22). Unless our nation's leaders and a sufficient

number of American citizens become aware of the truth about humanism, it will ultimately lead to anarchy, and our culture will be destroyed. Dr. Francis Schaeffer has warned that the ultimate end of humanism is always chaos.

Simply defined, humanism is man's attempt to solve his problems independently of God. Moral conditions have become worse in direct proportion to humanism's influence. This influence has moved our country from a biblically based society to an amoral, "democratic" society during the past forty years. One would think that humanists would realize the futility of their position. To the contrary, they treacherously refuse to face the reality of their failures, blaming them instead on traditional religion or ignorance or capitalism or religious superstitions."

God has much to say about human relationships and conflict resolution in His Word. What a different work environment it would be if employees and employers began with God's call to mutual respect and integrity: "Servants (employees), obey your earthly masters (employers) with respect and fear, and with sincerity of heart, just as you would obey Christ. Obey them not only to win their favour when their eye is on you, but like slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from your heart. Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not men... And masters (employers), treat your servants (employees) in the same way. Do not threaten them, since you know that he who is both their Master and yours is in heaven, and there is no favouritism with him" (Ephesians 6 NIV).

This kind of treatment of our fellowman comes with this predetermined Christian ethic: "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many" (Mark 10:45). Herein is God's call to Christian's, on whatever "side" (employer or employee) they fall: "By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another" (John 13:35 NIV).

Please pray with us...

1. For continued good medical reports following Earl's cancer surgery.
2. For continued Mission Presentation Meetings at churches in Canada and the U.S.A.
3. For travel safety (Early in May, Earl goes to FL to bring David home for the summer).
4. For wisdom as Earl labours with a team to put together a curriculum for the West Africa Baptist Theological Schools.
5. For wisdom as Earl continues to write College Courses and Study Guides.
6. For Kathi as she finishes the school year at Muskoka Christian School as well as prepares for ministry assignments.
7. For the Lord to provide the remainder of our committed support (only \$350/month).
8. For God's blessing as Earl teaches the Word in Africa and in churches & schools across Canada & the U.S.A. while representing ABWE.

Present Itinerary:

April 30 – Fenelon Falls Baptist.

May 7 – Louisville Baptist.

May 14 – Fellowship Baptist, Courtland

May 25 – June 26 – teaching & stewardship seminars in Africa.

July 9 – Lyndock Baptist, Eganville.

July 16 – Pinegrove Baptist, Bracebridge.

July 23 – 27 – Triple C Bible Conference

July 30 – Central Baptist Satellite, Waterford

July 30 – Emmanuel Bible, Simcoe (p.m.).

Aug 6 – Marathon Baptist .

Aug 13 – Fellowship Baptist, Bobcaygeon.

Aug 27 – Riverside Baptist, Huntsville.

Sept 3 – Alta Vista, Ottawa - Men's Canoe Trip (tentative).

Sept 22-24 – First Baptist, Timmins - Leadership Seminars.

Oct 22 – Central Baptist, Brantford.

Oct 27-28 – Men of Honour Conference, First Baptist Church, Waterloo.

Oct 29 – Otterville Baptist – a.m.

Oct 29 – First Baptist, Waterloo, p.m.

Nov. 3 – Dec. 4 – teaching in Africa

Air Miles Assistance

Thanks to air miles assistance we are very close to gaining a free trip to West Africa. For those who have passed on your earned air miles to us, we thank you. You can help our travel costs by using our Air Miles number. This is a practical way of supporting our ministry travel costs.

We thank you for your consideration.

Cooper Air Miles
No.
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