



Son-rise in Africa Newsletter

ASSOCIATION OF BAPTISTS FOR WORLD EVANGELISM
CHURCH PLANTING THROUGH THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION

Report by EARL & KATHI COOPER

(for Newsletter Archives go to www.discipleshipministries.ca)

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Ministry Update...

We publish a bit early this month as Earl is on his way to Africa on the 25th. The month of May was spent with weekend ministries and final preparations for teaching overseas as well as a trip to Pensacola to pick up our son David from college. David joined us in ministering at Courtland and Hanover, sharing his testimony and relating some of his school experiences. Last weekend's trip to Hanover came with surprising snow flurries which made life interesting for David after 85 degree Florida weather.

We praise God for His continued supply evident particularly this month in the completed translation of the stewardship manual to go along with the seminars planned in various locations in Togo and Ghana this trip. Paul Rondeau, our French translator, worked diligently to give us time to copy out and bind the manuals. Earl will be transporting over 100 of these stewardship manuals to Africa for the church leaders to follow up the seminars with. He is also teaching two courses on Pneumatology (The doctrine of the Holy Spirit) - one at institute and one at college level. These were cancelled last summer due to his early return to Canada for health reasons.

Africa Calls

Here is the testimony of Mathetes Institute student Emmanuel Gbebu: "I was born in the village called Dzakpo. My parents were pagans. When I was at the age of twenty I joined an E. P. church. I learned from the church that by doing good works and obeying the laws I would be saved. While I tried to obey the law, the more I offended them. In 1998 a missionary named Pastor Jim Plunkett came to our village. He taught about salvation and from him I learned we cannot go to heaven by doing good works or by obeying the laws. He taught that in the Bible, by saying if we can go to heaven by the law then Christ died in vain. Galatians 2:21. I joined the Baptist church and now I know that I am saved because Jesus died for my sins - today and tomorrow, Amen! I am a deacon at my church in the village" Africa calls...



Kathi's Notes We've had such good times visiting at supporting churches recently. It is almost like 'going home' when we see familiar faces. Many times we meet people new to these churches and it is great to discover common interests or acquaintances. It was most encouraging this past Sunday in Hanover, to witness the commissioning of Derek and Sarah, newlyweds, to missionary work in Indonesia. Sarah is the daughter of New Tribes missionaries, John & Dian Schmidt, whom we have known for many years. God continues to be faithful in sending a witness to His people around the world. 1 Thessalonians 5:24 tells us, "Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it."

Here's a Word in Season from Earl

Each morning during the seven days of the feast, at the time of the sacrifice, a priest proceeded to the fountain of Siloah with a golden pitcher, filled it with water and, accompanied by a solemn procession, bore it to the alter of burnt sacrifice, pouring the water, together with the contents of a pitcher of wine from the drink offering, into two perforated flat bowls. The trumpets sounded, and the people sang Isaiah 12:3 "Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation."

Into that scene entered Jesus with an invitation that stands to this day: "In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, 'If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water' (John 7:37-38). This is an invitation to satisfaction, an invitation to find Jesus, the Son of God, as the source and sustainer of eternal life. This eternal life is not a form of experience separate from other experiences, rather, it is the transformation of the whole of life experience. So radical a transformation is the receiving of eternal life that Jesus described it as being "born again."

This wonderful transformation takes place upon faith in Jesus as personal Saviour: "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16). The result of that transformation is the Holy Spirit taking up residence in the believer, providing an "on the

scene” ministry of comfort, care, guidance and encouragement, and building into the life of a believer the true character of God: “...the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.” Nothing brings greater satisfaction in life than the “flowing water” of the ministry of God’s Spirit in life.

The Amazon River is the largest river in the world. The mouth is 90 miles across. There is enough water to exceed the combined flow of the Yangtze, Mississippi, and Nile Rivers. So much water comes from the Amazon that they can detect its currents 200 miles out in the Atlantic Ocean. One irony of ancient navigation is that sailors in ancient times died for lack of water--caught in windless waters of the South Atlantic. They were adrift, helpless, dying of thirst. Sometimes other ships from South America who knew the area would come alongside and call out, "What is your problem?" And they would exclaim, "Can you spare us some water? Our sailors are dying of thirst!" And from the other ship would come the cry, "Just lower your buckets. You are in the mouth of the mighty Amazon River." The irony of ancient Israel and the tragedy around us today is that God, the fountain of living water, is right here and people dying of spiritual thirst don't recognize Him! Have you?

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
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.
9. Please pray that the Lord will open the minds and hearts of the African believers to the principles of Biblical Stewardship being taught by Earl through local church seminars throughout Ghana and Togo this May-June tour.

Present Itinerary:

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

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 – First Baptist Anniversary Services, Waterloo.

Nov. 3 – Dec. 4 – teaching in Africa

Dec. 10 – Otterville Baptist, Otterville.

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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