



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 <http://www.discipleshipministries.ca/>)

Aug-2006

Ministry Update...

We thank our God for the many ministry opportunities He has open to us in Canada this summer. Although the travels have been a bit wearisome, the scenery of Ontario during the summer months has been a delightful diversion during the long hours on the road. One of the great blessings of ministry is to be used of God to touch hearts with His truth. One Bible conference attendee wrote these encouraging words: "I have had my eyes and heart opened and refreshed. I've known these truths from Romans for years but they really became meaningful to me this week." Another couple wrote: "We were at Victory Baptist Church for your recent visit there. We are a retired Christian couple in our mid 60's who would like to go on a volunteer mission to Africa... If you can help us in any way with information that could assist us in our search, we would really appreciate it." It is responses such as these that cause Kathi and I to rejoice in the Lord and to return to you, our supporters, our heartfelt gratitude for being a vital part of the "Home Front" side of our ministry.

Africa Calls...

Here is the testimony of church leader Harrison Sammy Kotoh: "I was born in a village called Adoklu Helekpe, in the Volta region of Ghana. My parents are pagans and I also worshipped idols with them. At the age of 19 I joined the E. P. Christian church of Ghana. In 2001 a missionary by the name of Pastor Harry Root came to our village. He taught about salvation and from him I learned that we cannot go to heaven by doing good works or by obeying the law. I learned from him that Christ would have died in vain if we could go to heaven by good works. I joined the Baptist church and now I know that I am saved because Jesus died for my sins. I am a deacon in my church in the village. Amen!" ...Africa call.



Please pray with us...

1. For continued Mission Presentation Meetings at churches in Canada and the U.S.A.
2. For travel safety.
3. For wisdom as Earl labours with a team to put together a curriculum for the West Africa Baptist Theological Schools.
4. For wisdom as Earl continues to write College Courses and Study Guides.
5. For the Lord to provide the remainder of our committed support which now stands at about 96%.
6. For God's blessing as Earl teaches the Word in Africa and in churches & schools across Canada & the U.S.A. while representing ABWE.
7. For Kathi as she gears up for another year of teaching at Muskoka Christian School.

Present Itinerary:

Aug 2 - Calvary Gospel - Blind River, ON
 Aug 6 - Marathon Baptist, Marathon, ON
 Aug 10-11 - Windsor - officiate at a wedding
 Aug 13 - Fellowship Baptist, Bobcaygeon.
 Aug 27 - Riverside Baptist, Huntsville.
 Sept 1-6 - Pensacola trip (Earl is returning David to school).
 Sept. 5- Back to school for Kathi
 Sept 9 - Home BBQ for local supporters.
 Sept. 17 - Calvary Gospel - Blind River, ON

Sept 22-24 - First Baptist, Timmins, ON - Leadership Seminars.
 Oct 22 - Central Baptist, Brantford, ON
 Oct 27-28 - Men of Honour Conference, First Baptist Church, Waterloo, ON
 Oct 29 - First Baptist Anniversary Services, Waterloo.
 Nov. 3 - Dec. 4 - teaching in Africa
 Dec. 10 - Otterville Baptist, Otterville, ON

Here's a Word in Season from Earl

A popular song years ago stated "What the world needs now is love, sweet love, it's the only thing that there is just too little of." Although I wouldn't agree that it's the only thing there is too little of, I would agree that love is desperately lacking. This is especially apparent among Christians, considering that Christ spoke so importantly of it: "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself." (Luke 10:27). "But I say unto you which hear, Love your enemies, do good to them which hate you" (Luke 6:27).

Perhaps its time to remind ourselves as believers and followers of Christ that ordinary words were not enough to describe the affection the first Christians felt for one another. So God took the old word "agape," a term that had fallen into disuse, dusted it off and infused it with new meaning. The apostle Paul was led to write these great truths about this "agape" love: "Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails" (1 Corinthians 13).

Others as well have seen the uniqueness of Christian love: "Love is the one ingredient of which our world never tires and of which there is never an abundance. It is needed in the marketplace and in the mansions. It is needed in the ghettos and in the governments. It is needed in homes, in hospitals, and in individual hearts. The world will never outgrow its need for love" (C. Neil Strait).

Love is the one treasure that multiplies by division. It is the one gift that grows bigger the more you take from it. It is the one business in which it pays to be an absolute spendthrift. You can give it away, throw it away, empty your pockets, shake the basket, turn the glass upside down, and tomorrow you will have more than ever. "Nothing is sweeter than love, nothing stronger, nothing higher, nothing wider, nothing more pleasant, nothing fuller or better in heaven or on earth.... A lover flies, runs, rejoices.... Love often knows no limits but is fervent beyond measure. Love feels no burden, thinks nothing of labors, attempts what is above its strength, pleads no excuse of impossibility.... Though wearied, it is not tired; though pressed, it is not straitened; though alarmed, it is not confounded; but as a lively flame and burning torch, it forces its way upwards and passes securely through all" (Thomas À Kempis).

The joy of the Christian experience is that God Himself produces this love in a life: "The fruit of the Spirit is love..." (Galatians 5). Christian friend, how unique is your love?

Publications



Earl's book "Pain of Mind" is now in print. Here is a description of the book: "*Depression is the common cold of emotional struggle. The high incident of debilitating emotional struggles among believers, the broad use of the term depression, and the apparent problem of confusing and conflicting approaches to depression have created a need for a Biblical perspective of depression among the Christian community. This book addresses that need. By implementing the results of this study, pastors and Christian counsellors can be more specific in giving Bible-based counsel with the comfort of defined Biblical authority. Also, by providing clear Biblical direction for suffering believers, the apparent confusion can be addressed. This study affirms to the suffering the fact that Scriptures have the answers for life. By relating appropriate Bible truths regarding emotional despondency, and thus providing Biblical tools, this study promotes the ministry of the body of Christ by addressing the emotional needs of its members.*" A short excerpt is available at

<http://www.DiscipleshipMinistries.ca/pubs.shtml> . The book can be ordered at

<http://www.earlcoopersbook.com/> , <http://www.amazon.com/> , <http://www.amazon.ca/> , and

should be available soon (without mailing fees) at your local Christian book store. Our prayer is that God would use this study to help the body of Christ in the common struggle of depression.

Air Miles Assistance

Thanks to air miles assistance we are 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.

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