



# ETHIOPIA GOSPEL OUTREACH

**WOODWARD PARK CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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## ESTABLISHING NEW CONGREGATIONS IN WATER WELL

### AREAS:



Eight years ago 20 gospel preachers were selected and sent to preach in the areas where water wells had been completed. On the left is the Mino congregation about one year after it was established. You can see behind the members a round "tukul" church building that was under construction. On the right are three preachers; L to R, Lire Lamarego, one of the leaders at the Mino church, Bezuneh Kelbago, the water well evangelist who first went to Mino to preach and establish the Mino church and Walde Ghorghis, the

director of the Jajura School of Preaching. Standing

in the place where these pictures were taken, you can see the water well that first captured the attention of the people in the Mino area and caused them to want to know more about a people who would provide this wonderful gift for them.



Bezuneh Kelbago, left, is a graduate of the 2<sup>nd</sup> session of the Jajura School of Preaching. He also attended and graduated from the Level Two School of Preaching in Addis Ababa. Bezuneh's home congregation of 450 members is Duna Ole Wile in the Soro area. This church is where Bezuneh grew up. He was taught the gospel by his late brother, Admasu and was baptized in 1979 by Tesfaye Ashemo, right. From his childhood Bezuneh has been around great gospel preachers like Tesfaye and chose to follow in their steps. Bezuneh accepted the assignment to go into the water well areas and plant churches.



In eight years Bezuneh has established 10 new congregations. From these 10 churches, he has directed 16 men to attend the Jajura School of Preaching and all 16 went back to their home churches to preach and teach. Brother Moges recently went to the area where Bezuneh is preaching and found him in the process of establishing a new church at a place called Geseda. He had baptized seven people there and was studying with several more. He has also started teaching people in another new area called Bobicho Magobe which is a 6 hours walk one way from his home. Based on Bezuneh's history in ministry he will have a new congregation planted in that new area very soon.

The story of Bezuneh's Kingdom ministry is but one example of hundreds of preachers in rural Ethiopia that are busy doing the same thing. Pray fervently for Bezuneh and all the other Ethiopian preachers.

### BAPTISM OF YODIT GEBREGEZABEHER:



Tamiru, second from right in the picture on the left, grew up in our orphanage in Addis Ababa. He attended our Mekanissa School for the Deaf for 10 years and then went on to finish the 12<sup>th</sup> grade. He graduated from the Teacher Training Institute and became one of our teachers. He taught at our Nekemte School for the Deaf and then transferred back to teach at our school in Addis Ababa. He is in his late 20's

and it is time to marry. He chose Yodit Gebregezabeher as his future bride, but he knew she needed to be a Christian like him. He and Brother Abebe studied with her and she made the decision to obey the gospel message and be baptized. On the right, Brother Abebe is teaching from the bible what is about to take place in Yodit's life. The picture on the left, Yodit and Tamiru stand together following her baptism. Moges, left and Abebe, right, share this moment with them. It is very satisfying to take a little child, teach them for many years, help them with a place to live and food to eat, educate them and then watch them come back home and give back so that others can have the same opportunity they were given. Then to watch them put God first as they select a mate and enter their new life as one in Christ.

### **SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS FOR THE DEAF:**



Brother Nebayehu is pictured on the left teaching the Sunday bible class for the older deaf members who attend the Mekanissa Church of Christ. Bro. Nebayehu is deaf and was raised in our school. He went to Kenya to attend college and following his graduation he returned and became the minister of the deaf at the Mekanissa congregation. He and his family live on the school compound and he is very active in the work. He attends all bible classes taught for the hearing if he isn't teaching. There are many on the compound who are hearing and also speak sign language and they interpret for him. He is a great Christian brother.

### **UPDATE ON THE WATER WELL PROJECT:**

The 20 new wells have been drilled. 14 of them were shallow (less than 180 feet) and pumps have been installed and water is flowing. 5 of them were too deep for the shallow well pumps and the government water bureau will install India Mark 2 pumps on them. One assigned well was dry. The starters on the drilling rig and the compressor engine burned out as the final wells were drilled and replacements have been ordered. Don Wilson, a volunteer mechanic will take them, along with one large hydraluc hose, to Ethiopia in January and work with the crew in getting all the equipment serviced, repaired and ready to drill wells in the next agreement.

2016 will soon be history. It has been a good year in all the ministries being accomplished in Ethiopia. Your prayers, encouragement and financial participation have been very important and appreciated. God has provided all of us the opportunity to lift up the lives of thousands in Ethiopia, physically and eternally. We will continue to pray for you and the work as we enter 2017 in His service.

Kevin and John Ed Clark