



ETHIOPIA GOSPEL OUTREACH

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NEWS UPDATE FROM ETHIOPIA:

There are three problems confronting the people of Ethiopia today. Of course, Covid 19 is one of them. The variants attack them in the same way they have in America. All the recommended government guidelines there are the same as we have here. We are very thankful it hasn't gone into the countryside population where medical assistance is scarce. The second issue is the ongoing conflicts in the north. News about this can be found online and what you read there causes the same struggle we have here. You don't know what the truth is, we can only know it is a tragic situation. We need to pray fervently for a peaceful solution to be found soon. The third issue is the rising inflation. In August according to a Trading Economics report it was 30.4%. We can understand what this means to the average citizen in Ethiopia because in America it is much lower than this, but we still are feeling the effects of inflation. The 200% plus increase in many basic food prices is devastating families, especially those living in the urban areas.

The good news is the church and all the ministries lifting up the lives of people are doing well! Covid has not invaded the church anywhere in the countryside. Only three cases have been reported among our members. One in Addis Ababa and two in Hawassa. These three recovered quickly and we are thankful. Churches are meeting and in this newsletter we will include some of the events reported to us by our brethren.

AREAWIDE MEETINGS AT THE 2ND HIDA AND THE WOYAMO CONGREGATIONS:



Thirty preachers and a number of members from eleven congregations from the Dale area in Sidama gathered for a two day Bible Seminar at the 2nd Hida church. Eight of those congregations reported there had been 36 baptisms among their churches in the last month. Some of the preachers are pictured here. Many of these brethren have been preachers over 30 years. Before they gathered they spent time praying about the topics they needed to study. Bro. Seyum was invited to come and speak at the Woyamo congregation at their midweek bible study. The preachers for this church use the Sunset International Bible Institute solar players to raise the interest of people and then teach them more deeply the word of God. Three brothers from this church have graduated from the Preacher Training Schools. One of them named Alemu Simano graduated in 1968 from the school in Addis Ababa and has been preaching since that time. It is good to know our brethren there are deeply involved in ministry.

ANOTHER ADDITION TO THE CHURCH IN SHENO:



Pictured left is Fikadu Dade, Brother Abebe, and Dinka Dingeta. In our June 2021 newsletter we reported about Dinka's baptism. He was the first convert at the newly planted church in Sheno. Dinka had been taught the gospel through the Oromo World Bible School correspondence courses. This month Dinka brought Fikadu to Addis Ababa to study with Brother Abebe. Fikadu was also a WBS student. In the center picture Abebe is shown during one of the studies with Fikadu in Addis. On the right is pictured Fikadu being baptized into Christ.

The Sheno church was planted through the growing faith developed as the people there studied the gospel through the World Bible School courses. This church was established after a new congregation in Guder was organized (April 2020). They are many miles apart, but connected through a common language and a common interest in knowing and obeying God's word. This outreach came as a result of Brother Belay Kebede sending WBS lessons into both areas.

BROTHER DEMERE CHERNET:



Bro. Demere Chernet, center, recovered once again from pneumonia and was able to attend morning worship on September 12th. He caught Covid during 2020 while he was hospitalized the first time pneumonia came and was able to recover from both. Then pneumonia returned, but he couldn't be admitted into the hospital because all the beds were occupied with Covid patients. Everyone was very concerned for him and he was able to recover once again. Pneumonia returned for the third time and once again we were all concerned even more. He recovered again!! Demere is the oldest member of the church in Ethiopia. He is 85 and there are members older than him, but they haven't been a Christian as long as Demere has. He was taught and baptized in 1962 just one year after Carl Thompson arrived as the first missionary in Ethiopia. Demere was first a teacher in the School for the Deaf. In 1969 he became the director of the school and served in that position for 50 years. Demere was considered by the Ministry of Education to be the expert on deaf education in that country. He developed the Amharic sign language and authored a book and teaching manual that is still used today. Demere has served as an elder in the church, instructor in the Schools of Preaching, gospel preacher and a master bible teacher. He has been a "rock" and example to hundreds of other preachers and church leaders. Pictured with him are Brother Alemayehu, left and Brother Bekele, right.

May God continue His blessings on you all as you serve Him. Thank you for your prayers and support for the Lord's work in Ethiopia. Kevin and John Ed Clark