

The Seeker

“Seeking the Souls of Men and Pointing Them to Christ”

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Dear brethren,

We are having a great year and staying very busy. During the month of February I had the privilege of visiting with three of our supporting congregations and giving a report concerning our work. It was good to get to meet and talk with some of our BCC teachers. They were very excited about their students and the progress they were making in studying the Word of God. Two of our teachers said that they believed they had students that were very close to obeying the Gospel of Christ. It was a joy to see the excitement and love for the lost souls of men and women that was demonstrated by our teachers. We are very thankful for our over 115 volunteer teachers who help with our BCC program. Our student enrollment is now over 7,000 and is growing by the hundreds each month. We appreciate sis. Linda Hill and the many hours she puts in each month helping keep our BCC program running smoothly.

We have heard from some of our distance learning students in February and they report 5 precious souls were baptized into Christ. We have had 3 new students enroll in our distance learning program. We have been able to ship over 100 pounds of Bible class literature to different churches in Malaysia and Singapore. Carolyn & I are getting excited about our upcoming trip to Malaysia and Singapore in just a few weeks. I am scheduled to conduct 5 Gospel meetings and Carolyn will be teaching some teacher's workshops. Please keep us in prayer as we make this trip. I also want to thank our sponsoring congregation, Rock Valley, for their continued support of our work. They give a great deal of our funds each year.

We had a good trip to Northwest FL. School of Biblical Studies lectureship in Pensacola, FL. recently. We recently purchased a new display board hoping to be able to visit more lectureships and set up our display. We were able to do so in Pensacola. We got to meet several new folks and talk with them about our work. We also got to meet one of our BCC teachers, sis. Ginny Green and visit with her. She was very excited about being a teacher and working with her students. It was good to get to spend some time with bro. Sidney White and bro. Ken Burleson both men I have known for many years. I appreciate the good work that is being done there training Gospel preachers.

We are still working on our Zambia mission trip. We have raised about half of our needed funds for the following things:

Purchase & ship 5,000 NKJV New Testaments.....	10,220.00
Print & ship 5,000 Tonga Song Books.....	5,074.00
Print & ship 100,000 Gospel tracts.....	5,725.00
Purchase & ship text books for Preacher School.....	3,500.00
Purchase 30 bikes for preachers in Zambia.....	3,000.00
Purchase 300 Bibles in local languages.....	2,500.00
Benevolence, food for the needy.....	1,500.00
Funds to operate Preacher School in the bush for one year.....	10,000.00

Brethren, we need your help in this good work.

In Christ,
Ronald D. Gilbert - Director

Sponsored by *Rock Valley church of Christ*

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Things You Have Helped to Accomplish

Baptisms	1,220
Restorations	1,193
New Congregations	37
New Schools of Preaching	1
Online BCC Students	7,317
ICOTB Students	218
ICOTB Graduates	45

Statistical News

In 2012 an average of 442 people came to our websites every day with 12 of them enrolling in our Bible correspondence course. Suddenly in 2013 that average has jumped to 575 visits with 16 new students daily.

Internet News

Our websites have received more than 250,000 visits in the last 2 years, but who is coming to read our Bible materials? People in cities like Accra, Nairobi, Lagos, Port of Spain, Harare, Cairo, Johannesburg, Adis Abeba, Kingston, Kampala, New Delhi, Hyderabad, Bangalore, Lusaka, Suva, Baghdad, Manila, Lahore, Paris, Oslo, Chennai, Kuala Lumpur, Istanbul, London, Dar Es Salaam, Singapore, Nassau, Jakarta, Bangkok, Calcutta, Riyadh, Quezon City, Auckland, Islamabad, Tel Aviv, Kuwait, Milan, Seoul, Damascus, Reykjavik, and Beijing just to name a few of the 5,272+ cities represented. IBTM has truly become an international work.

Valiant Volunteers



Brenda Rutherford is our No. 1 teacher . . . literally. When the IBTM website was complete Brenda was the one I asked to help test-run the system with practice students – a logical choice since we had worked together for many years at TFTW, her husband had written three of our six correspondence courses, and she was an experienced online teacher. Then I assigned Brenda the first live student who wandered onto our site. Now we have more than 115 teachers working with students, but Brenda’s name is #1 on the roster.

Brenda and her husband, Rod, are devoted to spreading the Gospel. They were full-time missionaries to both Zambia and Australia, have been on numerous campaigns, worked with four schools of preaching, and helped begin the multi-media work of Truth for the World. Currently they are working with the Gatlinburg church of Christ, but also have a small book business “Rod Rutherford Books”. Rod writes and Brenda serves as publisher and business manager. But Brenda has a book of her own as well, “Brenda’s Diary”, about their seven years in Africa. She was diagnosed with cancer in 2006, but thankfully it has been in remission for more than five years now. Rod and Brenda have three children (all faithful Christians) and eight grandchildren (the five oldest also Christians).

I asked Brenda what she liked best about online teaching. Her response: “*Being an internet teacher gives me the great privilege to teach the Gospel from my home to those in places where perhaps the Gospel has not yet gone. I try to think of each student I get as a lost soul who needs Christ. Some reject it, but some ask many questions and learn and a few thankfully obey the Gospel. Teaching online gives me great satisfaction and I love it!!!*” Then I asked for her favorite experience with an online student. “*The three that obeyed the Gospel, of course, are my best memories. What a joy I felt on the day that each one told me they had obeyed the Gospel!*”

It is a joy to have Brenda Rutherford as one of our Valiant Volunteers!

Linda Hill

Note: The Rutherford’s website is <http://www.rodutherfordbooks.com>

We CAN evangelize the entire world in OUR lifetime . . . if we work together!