

The Seeker

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

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International Bible Teaching Ministries
International College of the Bible

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Dear brethren,

Greetings to you all in the name of our Lord Jesus. We have had a busy month in November. We were able to send good resource books to six different preacher schools in Africa. The books and postage were over \$1,000.00. We also had a request from one of our distance learning students for gospel tracts. He was having a problem in his area with a certain denominational group and needed materials to help him in his evangelism efforts. We were happy to send him 3,000 Gospel tracts and a few books for his work. We also had the opportunity to send two large boxes of children's Bible class literature to churches in Malaysia. We are planning to send several more boxes of literature in the next few weeks. We are currently working to get the 5,000 Tonga song books printed and ready to ship out around the first of the year. We will start soon printing the 100,000 gospel tracts that we print each year for our mission trip to Zambia in August.

Each year in January we decide the dates and who all will be going on the trip and try to get the fundraising letters out in January. We try to purchase our tickets about the end of February or the first part of March. We have ordered 3,000 of the 5,000 NKJV New Testaments we plan to send to Africa this year. The brethren at Rock Valley church of Christ are planning a work session on Sunday December 9th to put the two gospel tracts in each New Testament. A tract on *God's Plan of Salvation* goes in the front and one on *How To Identify The True Church* goes in the back of each New Testament and Bible that we send. I want to personally thank the Rock Valley congregation where I preach in Tompkinsville, KY for all the things they do. These good brethren do so much to support and help in our efforts to take the Gospel of Christ into all the world. They allow me to be away several Sundays and Wednesdays for trips and for reporting and fund raising. They also are the largest contributor to our work and we thank God for these good brethren.

As we come to the end of the year many Christians who own businesses will be making extra donations to charitable groups for tax purposes. We would like for you to consider making a donation to IBTM and help us with the Bibles, tracts and Tonga Song books. Your checks can be made to IBTM or to Rock Valley church of Christ, Attn: Ronald D. Gilbert, P.O. Box 49494, Cookeville, TN 38506. We will send you a receipt for you tax records. Please continue to pray for our work and help us as you can.

In Christ,

Ronald D. Gilbert

Sponsored by *Rock Valley church of Christ*

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A Message to Elders and Church Leaders

Many of you are planning your budget for the new year. We want to encourage you to consider putting IBTM "Work Fund" in your new budget. We are currently about \$1,000.00 per month short of our needed funds. The "Work Fund" is used for the day to day operation of IBTM which includes sending Bibles, tracts, text books, Bible class literature, postage, printing, office supplies and a host of other things as well. Brethren, if your congregation could give \$50.00 or \$100.00 per month this would be a great help. We also are asking individual Christians to consider giving \$25.00 or \$50.00 per month or more if they can to help us in this work. If you have questions about our work or if your congregation would consider letting me come some Wednesday or Sunday night I would be happy to give a slide presentation at your congregation concerning our mission efforts around the world.

Things You Have Helped to Accomplish

Baptisms	1,203
Restorations	1,193
New Congregations	37
New Schools of Preaching	1
Online BCC Students	6,042
ICOTB Students	209
ICOTB Graduates	44

Internet News

Did you know that the nation of Turkey is slightly bigger than our state of Texas? It is filled with Biblical history from the time Noah's ark landed on Mt. Ararat to the days when Paul ministered there and our Lord instructed John to write a letter to 7 of its churches. Yet today 99.8% of the 80 million people who live there are Muslim. So, when we enrolled our first online student from Turkey in November, I was thrilled.

When I talk about our Internet work I tend to focus on the IBTM online correspondence courses. Naturally, I'm excited that we now have more than 6,000 students enrolled and the traffic to the site is increasing at a phenomenal rate. But the International College of the Bible site is also soaring, showing brethren around the world there is still a Bible education available when a local classroom is not an option. Currently we have 209 men and women from 18 different nations who have either started college level studies, or have already graduated with an AA (4), BA (28) or MA (12) degree. Ronald Gilbert juggles students, assignments, grading, curriculum and everything else, so I am definitely impressed. My small corner of this work (other than maintaining the website and fielding countless emails from prospective students) is the Resource page. I have put together online study aids for our students who may not have a library readily available either. Please, take a look.

In Christian love,
Linda Hill

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