

The Seeker

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

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International College of the Bible

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Dear brethren,

Greetings to you all in the name of our Lord. Summer is here and many congregations are having their annual Gospel meetings. In most areas Gospel meetings are not attended as they were 30 to 50 years ago and there are many reasons for this. Gospel meetings are still worthwhile! Anytime the Gospel is preached and brethren are encouraged only good can come from such events.

I am writing this article not to discuss your local Gospel meeting for this year but to encourage you to consider having “another Gospel meeting”. This extra Gospel meeting would be in Africa working with one of the 12 different preacher schools that we are working with. Instructors from one of the schools would go out in different areas with some of the students with them and conduct 3 to 5 day Gospel meeting with preaching all day and ending about 9pm each night. There would be 20 to 30 hours of Gospel preaching and question and answer sessions. These meetings are usually well attended and souls are added to the Lord and unfaithful Christians are restored. For the past few years we have been sending funds to Africa in different locations to have such Gospel meetings. We send \$300.00 per Gospel meeting. These funds help purchase fuel for the travel and food for those going to preach and sometimes there is enough left over to purchase some maize to help feed the people who attend the meetings. It is not uncommon to get reports back from such meetings that 10 to 15 obeyed the Gospel and 20 or more were restored. Our schools in Africa would do more Gospel meetings if they had the funds. We are working with 12 preacher schools if each of these schools could conduct 3 Gospel meetings during the remaining months of 2019 that would be 36 Gospel meetings and at \$300.00 per meeting that would be \$10,800.00. If we could fund these 36 Gospel meetings I believe that many souls would be added to the Lord. If you or your congregation would like to sponsor one or more of these Gospel meetings make your checks to IBTM and send to Rock Valley church of Christ, PO Box 49494, Cookeville, TN. 38506 and mark for “Gospel meeting-Africa.” We will send you the details of the meeting that you sponsor and the results when the meeting is completed. It just might be one of the most exciting and prosperous Gospel meetings you have been a part of in a long time. Please help us have these Gospel meetings in Africa.

We are happy to report that the 2 new preacher schools in Africa are finishing up. In Malawi we have completed the first building and now started on the second building. This building will house the classroom and the library. We believe this second building can be completed for around \$40,000.00 and we have raised the first \$10,000.00 toward this project. We need to hear from other brethren who are willing to help build this building. If you or your congregation could send us \$1,000.00 or \$5,000.00 or even more this would be a great help. The Jackson Heights congregation is the sponsoring congregation for this preacher school. You could send your checks to them at 1031 Hermitage Dr., Florence, AL. 35630 and mark for “Malawi preacher school” or you can send it to us here at IBTM and we will wire it to Malawi. We will be in Malawi in August for a big Gospel meeting and to teach some at the preacher school. For the past 2 years we have had over 5,000 present for this Gospel meeting in Malawi. We hope the new building will be under roof when we arrive in August. Please help us build this preacher school building to train faithful Gospel preachers in Africa. This is very much the Great Commission being carried out, be a part of it!

We are in need of a few sets of the Jule Miller DVD’S not the old ones used in a VCR or even older ones that were used in a projector but the DVD’S. If you or your congregation has a set that you are not using or that you would donate to mission work please send them to us here at IBTM. We need some for the preacher schools in Africa and some for our brethren in Malaysia.

We are getting things together for our mission trip to Africa in just a few weeks. There will be 4 men and 4 women going on this trip, the most we have had going with us in some time. We look forward to this trip and the good that can be done in Malawi and Zambia. It is not too late to help us with this trip. We can always use more funds for Bibles in local languages and this year we are helping our brethren in a drought area where many are suffering from hunger. Thanks for your help. Please keep us in prayer and help us take the Gospel of Christ *“into all the world”*.

In Christ, **Ronald D. Gilbert**, Director of IBTM

Sponsored by *Rock Valley church of Christ*

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Things You Helped to Accomplish

Baptisms	12,900
Restorations	9,957
Congregations Established	300
Schools of Preaching Begun	7
BCC Students	45,321
ICOTB Students	485
Preachers Graduated	475

Jimmie B. Hill Memorial Library

Donations to this library should be sent to:
New Hope Road Church of Christ
PO Box 1334 • Dacula, GA 30019

Office News

It was exciting to learn that another 51 of our Bible correspondence students have been baptized in Africa.

Brother Gilbert's mention of Jule Miller's Visualized Bible Study brought back memories. Watching the Jule Miller filmstrips was how I was converted. And during my first foreign campaign to Ghana in 1983 the men used the filmstrips in their street preaching. We would start by singing some hymns then after a crowd gathered someone would project the slides on the side of a building so they were as big as a movie screen while the men preached. It made for great, graphic lessons. I know the DVDs would still be wonderful teaching tools and much easier to use than the old filmstrips. I hope we can get some of these into the hands of our brethren.



Valiant Volunteers

I have counted Doris Smith as a friend for many years . . . yet, I have never actually met her. My husband, Jimmie, began doing Bible correspondence course mission work in 1998, but by then Doris was already a veteran postal teacher. So in 2005 when Jimmie and I were traveling through West Virginia we visited the Otsego congregation just to meet Doris. But the surprise was on us because Doris and her husband, Milton, were traveling that weekend, too. Still, I have spoken with Doris by phone many times over the years, especially since 2012 when she got her first computer primarily so she could teach via the Internet. In the more than 35 years that Doris has done mission work with both postal and online Bible correspondence courses she has worked with approximately 1,200 students around the world. Wow!

Doris certainly understands the need for Bible study. She and her 7 siblings grew up on a farm in southern North Carolina. As Doris tells it, *"My family had never heard of the true church, we were a part of the Southern Baptist denomination. By Mom's own personal study of the Bible she realized the Baptist was wrong and she recognized the truth when she heard it. Obeying the truth has been the best decision I ever made for this life, and for eternity."* After high school Doris moved to Memphis, TN to be with her brother who was attending the Memphis School of Preaching – and met her future husband, Milton, there. They have now been married for 46 years and have 2 sons, one of whom also preaches.

I asked Doris if she has a favorite memory in teaching online students. She responded, *"It is those students who really want to know the truth. They seem to have a hunger for knowing the truth."* I know one of my favorite memories about working with Doris as a teacher. On December 1, 2017, Doris had to have one of her legs amputated, then spent more than 9 months in a rehab center due to various infections that kept slowing down her recovery. But through it all Doris was upbeat. I never heard an instant of self-pity. And she went right on working with her online students. Her students are blessed to have such a dedicated teacher. And IBTM is blessed to have her as one of our *Valiant Volunteers*.

Linda Hill