

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 Jesus Christ. On May 3rd Carolyn and I returned home from our trip to Malaysia and Singapore. We had a good trip but a very busy trip. I had the opportunity to speak 31 times while we were there. During our stay one young lady was baptized into Christ. This young lady had been in an automobile accident and at age 19 was paralyzed. Her family were Buddhists. Her mother had to quit her job to take care of her daughter. Some of the church members met this family and started visiting them and helping them with food and other items. After studying with her over one year she was baptized. We were very happy to be there and get to see this precious young lady become a New Testament Christian. Many faithful Christians showed this family what Christianity is all about by the kind deeds done to help this family. While we were in Malaysia and Singapore four of the congregations gave us funds to purchase Bibles for Africa. Brethren in a mission field giving to help other brethren in another mission field! There are so many wonderful Christians in Malaysia and Singapore! We love them so much.

While we were in Malaysia and Singapore I came down with the shingles. Shingles is not something you want to have when you are traveling. I do believe I was blessed with a mild case of shingles.

One week after arriving back home I started having problems with my legs and arms. I was losing my ability to walk and use my arms and hands. After two trips to the ER I was sent to Vanderbilt Hospital in Nashville, TN. There I was told after a few days of tests that I had Guillain-Barre Syndrome, a rare autoimmune neurological disease in which the body's immune system produces antibodies against its own nerves, resulting in damage to the nerves. After 7 days at Vanderbilt I was moved to Stallworth Rehab Hospital near Vanderbilt and was there 22 days and then moved to a nursing home about 5 minutes from our house. On Friday June 16th I came home and have been going for outpatient therapy three times per week. I am still not able to walk by myself but my legs are getting stronger and I have been able to walk some on a walker and currently am in a wheel chair. I want to thank all of you who have called and sent cards letting us know that you are praying for us. Please continue to pray that I will be able to recover soon and be back full time to the work I love so much, mission work. As bad as all this was I believe the Lord has greatly blessed me and I know it could have been much worse!

Because of my health I will not be able to go to Africa in August but the work will continue. Rusty & Laura Stark and Barry & Jodie Gilreath will be going to Malawi and Zambia and doing the work there. We are still planning to have all the Gospel meetings and purchase the Bibles and bikes, tracts and books that we listed in our budget for 2017. We are planning a large shipment in the next few weeks of Bibles, tracts, books and BCC booklets. I believe this upcoming trip will be a great trip and many souls will be led to the Lord and

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much good will be done. Please keep our brethren
in prayer as they will be departing for Africa soon.

In Christ,
Ronald D. Gilbert –
Director of IBTM

Things You Helped to Accomplish

Baptisms	8,416
Restorations	8,147
Congregations Established	165
Schools of Preaching Begun	7
BCC Students	33,637
ICOTB Students	428
Preachers Graduated	341

Jimmie B. Hill Memorial Library

Linda Hill added books in memory of

Jaracz Heather
Betty S. Howard
Ruby Dotson

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

Office News

The most shocking news I have had in a while was on May 15th when Ronald Gilbert called to say he had been taken by ambulance to Vanderbilt Hospital in Nashville because the doctors in Cookeville did not know why he was quickly becoming progressively more paralyzed. The diagnosis of GBS did not mean much since I had never heard of it, but Google revealed it to be a very rare but nasty autoimmune disorder known to sometimes follow another infection such as shingles. Typical recovery takes months to years.

Then on May 21st William Schwegler, an ICOTB staff member and longtime teacher with our online BCCs, had a heart attack and ended up in the ICU in Texas.

Both men are home now, and God gets the glory for that because both were in very serious conditions. Brother Gilbert has been told that he is actually way ahead of the typical recovery curve, which is great news. But both men still have more healing to do so I know they would greatly appreciate your continued prayers.

But having two staff members down in such scary positions put my days into quite a scramble. I am thankful that I had the help of Bronson Roper to pull together some of the things that had to be done. Sadly, one of those things was to put a temporary hold on accepting new ICOTB and postal BCC students. Hopefully, those aspects of this mission can be reinstated soon.

Please pray for our work together.

Linda Hill