

The Seeker

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

A Publication of
International Bible Teaching Ministries
International College of the Bible

September 2014

Volume 3, Number 7

Dear brethren,

Greetings to you all in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. On Monday August 4, 2014, 8 Christians left from 5 different cities and met up in Chicago for this mission trip. Rusty & Laura Stark started from Chicago. Rusty &



Laura are veteran missionaries and always a pleasure to work with. Barry Gilreath, Jr. departed from Florence, AL. Barry has made several trips with us to Zambia. Barry is a good man to have on mission trips and we enjoy working with him. This year Barry brought his daughter Hannah and nephew Seth Weaver to Zambia. These 2 young Christians are college students and they were a joy to work with and to get to know. Also joining us on this trip was Charlie Hannah from Pikeville, TN. In addition to preaching Charlie helps teach counseling classes with ICOTB. He also taught some classes in Zambia on counseling. We had a great team of Christian men & women to work with on this trip.

**The IBTM campaign team in front of ZSOBS.
(Rusty Stark not pictured.)**

We arrived in Livingstone, Zambia on Wednesday August 6th. After a day and a half to get ready we departed on Friday

August 8th for our first meeting and trip to the bush. This meeting was at the Misika congregation, where several graduates of preacher schools live and work. One of the local brethren there opened his house for us to stay which is a big improvement from the past where we slept in straw huts or on the floor of the church building. We slept in real beds! During our first day at Misika we had 802 present and on Saturday 918 and the largest crowd for the meeting on Sunday of 1,012 in attendance. There were 29 baptisms and 60 restored during this meeting. During the afternoon sessions we divided up in classes, Rusty taught a men's class, Laura taught a ladies class, Seth taught a teen class, Hannah taught a children's class and I taught a class of ICOTB students. Coming back from Misika we had a breakdown and were delayed several hours and finally one vehicle had to tow the other. We arrived back in Livingstone around 9:00PM to find we had no power and no hot water. It was also too late to go out and get any dinner so we had snacks.

The next day we began teaching classes at Zambia School of Biblical Studies in Livingstone. We taught classes on Matthew, Acts and Christian counseling. The men also took turns speaking in chapel each morning.

Sponsored by *Rock Valley church of Christ*

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On Thursday August 14th Rusty & Laura and Carolyn & I along with Webby & Jane departed for our second trip to the bush at Siamafumba. Webby is one of the instructors at ZSOBS a very fine Gospel Preacher and a good mechanic. Barry, Seth, Charlie and Hannah stayed at Livingstone to teach and speak in chapel as they were also scheduled to return back to the USA that weekend. We planned to depart Livingstone that morning at 8:00AM, but due to getting some work done on the van it was 1:30PM when we departed. In Africa you must learn to be flexible things don't always go as you plan. We arrived by way of one of the many "short cuts" around 5:30PM. I met with the 5 instructors at Siamafumba School of Biblical Studies and gave them the funds send by the Rock Valley congregation for operation of the school for six months and funds to finish the new church building that was under construction there as well. Then we began our preaching sessions.



The new church building is under construction on the left. SSOBS is on the right.



While we were at Siamafumba we also had an ICOTB graduation. The 5 instructors there at the preacher training school each received their MA degree in Bible from ICOTB.

About 10:00PM that night we got around to giving Rusty & Laura their anniversary card that Carolyn had made for them. For the past several years we have had 2 celebrations during our meeting in the bush at Siamafumba, Rusty & Laura's anniversary and Carolyn's birthday. On Saturday we had 1,084 in attendance and Sunday there were 1,315 present. There were 17 baptisms and 45 restorations during the meeting. People from 68 different congregations were present for the meeting. We provided 2 lap top computers for the school, several suits, ties and other items. Each of the 7 men who will graduate in November got a new bike and the 5 instructors also got new bikes for their travel back and forth from their homes to the school. Next year the brethren at SSOBS hope to take in 20 new students at the school.

After the meeting on Sunday we drove back to Livingstone in about 3 and one half hours with no breakdowns. When we arrived back in Livingstone we were tired, dirty and hungry and again we had no water! On Monday we were back to our schedule of teaching at ZSOBS in Livingstone.

On Thursday August 21st, Carolyn & I along with Webby & Jane started out on a very long trip to Solwezi in the Copper belt. We drove 2 hard days, 16 hours the first day over some of the worst roads you can imagine. We arrived on Friday the 22nd. around midnight. There are 4 brethren there who plan to start a preacher training school in Solwezi opening in 2015. We gave them a lap top computer for the school and took several suits and ties and other items for them. We gave them funds to purchase 10 tables for the school and a book case for the books we have sent them and more we plan to send. Each of the 4 instructors there also received a bike for transportation. We also were able to purchase some Bibles in the local languages there. We purchases 20 in Luvale, 32 in Kaonde and 20 in Lunda at a cost of \$742.00.



This was certainly not the worst road we drove on this trip but it was typical of driving conditions.

We are in need of finding a church that is willing to help sponsor the preacher school in Solwezi. The school plans to start with a budget of \$500.00 per month. I hope there is a congregation that reads this that would like to get involved in training Gospel preachers in Africa and can help with part or all of this monthly amount for this school.

While we were in Solwezi Rusty was conducting a Gospel meeting at the Highland congregation back in Livingstone. They had 1 baptism and 4 restored during the meeting.

On Sunday August 24th we departed Solwezi headed for Mbeya, Tanzania. This was also a long hard trip. We arrived in Mbeya on Wednesday August 27th just after midnight. We had a very hard time getting across the border on the Tanzania side. It seemed that many of the border officials were looking for a bribe and delayed us in every way they could, but no bribes were paid! There were police check points at the entrance of just about every small town and more than once the police tried to get a bribe from us. It is sad to see such corruption among the police and government officials.



Some of those attending the seminar at the Tanzania School of Bible Studies.

One lady came forward stating she had learned that she had been baptized for the wrong reason and that she was in the wrong church! It is very encouraging to see people with good honest hearts willing to change when they learn the truth of God's Word! Willy Yudah and 2 other faithful preachers are conducting a preacher training school there and is doing a great work. We gave funds to provide bikes for the 3 instructors there at the school. We are sending books, Bibles, tracts and other materials for the school there. We gave them funds to purchase desks for the school and supplies such as notebooks, pens and other needed items.

In Tanzania we had 55 of our BCC students gathered for a seminar. Webby and I took turns preaching first principle lessons.



Willy Yudah assisting Tumaini, one of our BCC students. 3 of our BCC students put on Christ during the seminar.

On Friday August 29th about 1:30 PM we started our long trip back to Livingstone. It took 2 days of hard driving to get back to Livingstone. We stopped in Lusaka trying to purchase Tonga Bibles. The Bible Society had no Tonga Bibles but said they would have them by September 20th. We left \$2,000.00 with the men at ZSOBS and they will go to Lusaka and get them when they are back in print. When we arrived back in Livingstone Rusty & Laura had returned back to the USA. On Sunday August 31st I spoke at the Highland congregation and there were 3 baptized into Christ. The next day we spent getting ready to return back home.

On Tuesday September 2nd I spoke in chapel at ZSOBS and we visited with the teachers there waiting to be taken to the airport around 11:00AM. We had a great mission trip to Zambia and Tanzania! There were 53 baptized into Christ and 109 were restored. We were able to purchase 36 bikes for preachers this year. We plan to ship the remaining NKJV New Testaments to Africa in the next few weeks. We will be shipping more hard

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copies of our BCC lessons also and more books to the 10 different preacher schools we are working with.

There is much to do brethren and we need more help in our work! There is still power in the Gospel of Christ! Our thanks to those who went with us this year on our mission trip and to the congregations and individuals who gave fund to make this trip possible, thank you, brethren for your love and concern for lost souls.

In Christ,
Ronald D. Gilbert-Director

Things You Have Helped to Accomplish

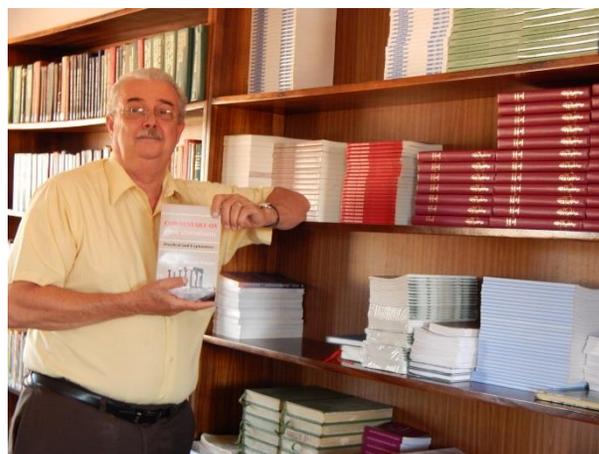
Baptisms	2,517
Restorations	3,296
New Congregations	81
New Schools of Preaching	3
Online BCC Students	14,569
ICOTB Students	336
ICOTB Graduates	60

Internet News

August was a busy month for IBTM in cyberspace as well as Africa. We had a record number of people coming to our websites to read the gospel materials – an average of more than 850 visits per day! 530 of them enrolled in our online Bible study program – another new record for a month! If this pace continues – and I hope that it does – then we could really use some additional teachers. If you

would like to do mission work but can't manage the exhausting travel of campaigns, then "***go into all the world***" by the Internet. You can teach students via email with our online courses. If you are interested then send me a message at info@IBTMinistries.org about getting started.

Linda Hill



Some of the many books we have shipped to Africa to be used by our students and preacher schools. Books are needed to train gospel preachers, a vital tool that will last for many years. With a donation of \$25 you can add a book in honor of a loved one to one of the Jimmie B. Hill Memorial Libraries now established in 10 different schools.

Jimmie B. Hill Memorial Library

Linda Hill added books in memory of
Jimmie B. Hill

Donations to this library should be sent to:
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