

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. As we send out this Newsletter IBTM just completed 8 years of work and begins year number 9. Our thanks to our supporters and helpers that make this work possible.

We just returned from Africa a few days ago from a very successful mission trip. In a few days we will be sending out a financial report to those who helped with this trip. On Monday August 3, Carolyn and I and Charlie Hannah departed from Nashville, TN to Atlanta where we met up with Rusty & Laura Stark and Clinton Douglas. We had a good flight from Atlanta to Johannesburg, all but the fact of it being a 15 hour flight! We spent the night in Johannesburg because there were no flights going to Livingstone till morning. We arrived in Livingstone on Wednesday August 5th around 1pm. We had the remaining part of the day to get ready to depart for our first Gospel meeting on Thursday.

On Thursday August 6th we arrived at Siamafumba for the first meeting. We had over 1,000 people in attendance for this meeting. On Saturday Rusty & Laura and some of the other brethren traveled to Kafwambila to conduct another Gospel meeting. These two meetings resulted in 36 baptisms and 58 restored. At Siamafumba we had the opportunity to meet with the teachers at the preacher school that we helped start and that Rock Valley fully funds. We discussed the plans for the school for 2016. We returned back to Livingstone on Sunday night August 9th.

On Monday August the 10th we started our schedule at Zambia School of Biblical Studies in Livingstone. We were speaking in chapel each day at 8 am and teaching for 6 hours each day on the Parables of Jesus. On Thursday August 13th we were back to the bush for another Gospel meeting, this time at the Misika congregation. We had over 1,000 present for this meeting also. There were 25 baptisms and 42 restored at the Misika meeting. During the Misika meeting we had a graduation for 2 of our ICOTB students receiving their BA in Bible. On Sunday night August 16th we returned back to Livingstone.



Students at Siamafumba School of Biblical Studies

Sponsored by *Rock Valley church of Christ*

www.IBTMinistries.org • www.ICOTB.org • ronalddgilbert.blogspot.com • hillmission.blogspot.com
RDG@IBTMministries.org • rdgmissions@charter.net • info@IBTMministries.org



Packing up the truck for a gospel meeting.

On Friday August 21st Carolyn and I accompanied by one of the teachers at ZSOBS and his wife, Webby & Jane, went back to the bush to Ngweze for another Gospel meeting. We had over 300 present with 16 congregations represented. There were 6 baptisms and 1 restored at Ngweze. While we were in Ngweze Rusty and Laura were at the border of Zambia and Botswana with another congregation. During our stay there we had another graduation with one receiving his MA in Bible and 5 receiving their BA degrees in Bible. During these Gospel meetings Carolyn & Laura taught ladies classes.



Students at the new Ngweze School of Preaching

the Buyimini church of Christ. They are currently building a new church building having out grown the old building. On Tuesday September 1st we traveled to the Kenya-Uganda border which was about 2 miles from the hotel where we were staying. After going through to the Kenya side we were met by bro Benard Kagaga and one of the teachers at Kalimindi School of Preaching.

On Monday August 17th Clinton had to return back to the USA, Charlie had departed a few days earlier. On Monday August 17th we resumed our schedule at ZSOBS teaching the Parables. One of the real blessings of this trip was driving the Nissan 4x4 king cab truck that brethren here in the USA gave funds to purchase. We did not get stuck in the sand one time! And what a blessing it was to have air conditioning on these trips!



With every campaign we utilize the tracts and materials shipped over in advance.

John Simwiza has been teaching ICOTB classes for us and we have been talking with him about starting a part time preacher school in his area. The Ngweze School of Preaching is now meeting at the church building where John preaches. We will try to build a small class room for this school during the next few months.

On Monday August 24th Carolyn and I departed Zambia and flew to Uganda where we were met at the airport by Alex Ouma one of the teachers at East Africa School of Biblical Studies near Busia, Uganda. I taught the book of Hebrews at the preacher school. On Sunday August 30th I preached at the congregation where bro Alex preaches,



Staff and Students at EASOBS



Ronald D. Gilbert and Charles Ogutu

On the way to Benard’s house we made a brief stop at Sigomre, Kenya where we meet up with bro Charles Ogutu who serves as director for Christians For Kenya School of Preaching. I had the opportunity to speak for a few minutes to the students and teachers. This is one of the schools we help by sending books, Bibles and tracts.

We stayed in the home of Benard and Dorothy during our stay in Kenya. I taught at the Preacher school for a few days both morning and evening on the book of Acts. Carolyn taught the ladies classes. On Thursday September 3rd the Gospel meeting started at the Kalimindi congregation. We had 2 baptisms, one was a lady who was currently serving as the preacher for a Seven Day Adventist church.

On Sunday September 6th after the worship service we had another graduation. There were 6 men receiving their BA degree in Bible from ICOTB and 12 men were graduating from Kalimindi School of Preaching.



The graduates at Kalimindi, Kenya

On Monday September 7th we drove back to the border and crossed back into Uganda. On Tuesday September 8th we drove to Kampala and spent the night then on to Entebbe and departed Wednesday September 9th. We arrived back home on Thursday September 10th about 6pm.

Some things that were accomplished by this trip:

- We sent 200,000 Gospel tracts in different languages.
- We sent 3,000 song books in Luo language
- Several boxes of books for preacher schools.
- Purchased 62 bikes for preachers
- Purchased 518 Bibles in different languages
- Purchased 21.37 tons of maize for those in need
- Gave 2 lap tops
- Left funds at 6 preacher schools to help the work
- We had 15 ICOTB students to graduate
- 27 men graduated from preacher schools
- 69 baptisms
- 103 restorations



One of the 69 baptisms during this campaign.

We had a great trip with wonderful success. Our thanks to

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those who went with us to help and for the churches and individuals who gave the funds to make this trip a great success.

In just a few months we will start our preparation for the 2016 trip. One of the things we need to do is to print several thousand BCC lessons to send to Africa. The brethren there are having good success with our BCC lessons. We have been shipping them to several of the preacher schools we are working with and they hand them out to the faithful congregations in their area. When the students complete them they hand carry them back to the teacher for grading. This keeps them from paying postage. Currently we have requests for several thousand of them for shipping to Africa. We need help in getting these BCC lessons printed and shipped to Africa.

In Christ,
Ronald D. Gilbert - Director of IBTM

Things You Have Helped to Accomplish

Baptisms	5,495
Restorations	6,605
New Congregations	135
New Schools of Preaching	5
BCC Students	20,513
ICOTB Students	372
ICOTB Graduates	78

Jimmie B. Hill Memorial Library

Cole, Jasper & Henry Roper added books in memory of *Jimmie B. Hill*

Ronald & Carolyn Gilbert added books in memory of *Jessie Perkins*

Donations to this library should be sent to:

**New Hope Road Church of Christ
PO Box 1334 • Dacula, GA 30019**

Currently we have libraries established in ten schools of preaching located in Botswana, Ghana, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia. These books will help train men to preach the gospel for many years to come. With a \$25 donation you can add a book in honor of a loved one.

Internet News

Did you notice those newest stats? September marks 8 years since this mission work began and already almost 5,500 souls have put on Christ as a result. Also, a few weeks ago we enrolled our 20,000th student in the Bible correspondence course program. Those 2 statistics alone amaze me! But I am also very happy about the number 3 right now. In the last few days 3 of our online correspondence students have told their teachers about being baptized for the remission of their sins because of what they are learning with them. That is always exciting news!

In Christ,
Linda Hill