



HOPE HORIZONS

Volume XXXV

September/October 2012

No. 6

“A CUP OF COLD WATER” UPDATE!!



www.office.microsoft.com

Thank you for your generous response to the “Cup of Cold Water” alert in the previous *Hope Horizons*! To date, we have received \$23,082.00 in designated gifts. This has filled the need for the Nepali program and the overflow is being designated for other international broadcast costs.

One international broadcast that will benefit from your generosity is the Oromo language broadcast to Ethiopia. A recent report gave this letter from a listener.

“Your HOH Oromo program is our church in our Islam dominated area; you understand what I am saying. I got this through a friend in 2010 and since then I am a regular listener. I get so enriched spiritually by the Herald because of the rich content it has. I get inspired and my prayer life has changed for the better. I have joined with my two friends and now meet at our local church during late hours, every Wednesday and some others when need be, to pray. This is taking us to new avenues of the spiritual realm. I cannot afford to miss this program.”

HOH Fall Programs!

Wed. Sept. 12	@ 7:30pm	<i>Living Water Mennonite Fellowship</i>	Reinholds, PA
Sun. Sept. 23	@ 9:30am	<i>Skyline Mennonite Church</i>	Canon City, CO
Sun. Sept. 23	@ 6:00pm	<i>High Country Mennonite Church</i>	Westcliffe, CO

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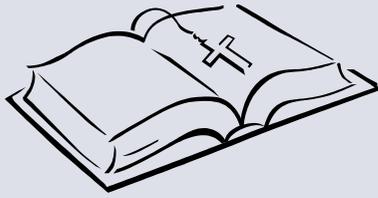


While you're online don't forget to "like" us on facebook!

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BIBLE THANK YOU!



COMMENTS OF APPRECIATION FOR BIBLES IN NIGERIA:

- "... It is easy to carry."
- "... It is simple and beautiful."
- "... Improves and encourages evangelism."
- "... Good and readable."
- "... Most wonderful treasure, I love it."

"... The Word of God is new every day. The breaking down of subtitles makes it easier to read. The inclusion of how to use the Bible makes it fantastic and I am more eager to read all the time."



Greetings to you Brethren of Heralds of Hope,

I cannot express the number of souls that has been won since the Hope Bibles were distributed to Benin City, Nigeria area pastors. Testimonies abound that souls are won in these pastors churches. As for Pastor Kalu, he got twelve Bibles during the distribution. Also he is a bricklayer. He is the pastors' group meeting treasurer. Thanks.

- Pastor Aigbefoh Sunday

HOPE Bible Blesses a Church in Malawi!

All of us here thank you very much for the Holy Bibles you are sending plus books and tracts. We have established this service because of English Holy Bibles. Our services takes place on every Sunday at Community Hall Church. At present the attendance comes to 40-70 members. Many people enjoy these services because many people do not know our home language ("chitumbuka"), so they are pleased to start this service. Here, many people spend their long life in USA, UK, and other countries. They come here with their wives and children who don't know our language.

On behalf of our church here, I write to thank you very much and believe that God will give you more Bibles so that you can send us more Holy Bibles.

Bodies, Buildings, and Brotherhood cont.

It is in this setting that we can blend our gifts, personality, etc. with our brothers and sisters in order to fulfill God's larger purpose. That purpose is twofold; first, to help us learn how to subordinate our own desires to Christ's headship and to learn to welcome, value, and affirm the gifts and person of our brothers and sisters. As we learn to "esteem others better than ourselves" Phil. 2:3, we also learn "not to think more highly of ourselves than we ought to think" Rom. 12:3.

The second purpose of this blending is to present to the world a picture of who Jesus is and how He lives through us in our daily relationships. "Weeping with those who weep, and rejoicing with those who rejoice" becomes a daily reality as we "bear each other's burdens in fulfilling the law of Christ, Gal. 6:2.

I urge you to take some time to meditate on these thoughts

from the Holy Scripture. Think about your life and what priority you place on bodies, buildings, and brotherhood. One way to take inventory is to analyze how much time you spend on each of them. Give the Holy Spirit permission to show you what He sees and what others see in your life. Then receive His grace – the desire and power to do what is right – and allow Him to "fit you into" the body and building you are a part of.

Sincerely in HOPE of the Gospel,

J. Mark Horst, President

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The President's View

Bodies, Buildings, and Brotherhood

Our world is infatuated with bodies and buildings. That infatuation has spilled over into the church. If you don't believe me, visit the typical church on Sunday morning and observe how much shape, skin, paint, and tan is visible on the bodies in attendance.

Then, look at budgets and observe how much is spent on buildings/property and how much is dedicated to missions. You will discover that the vast majority of churches spend a miniscule portion of their budget on Jesus' first priority – evangelism/discipleship. No doubt, there are some outstanding exceptions to this picture and hopefully, your congregation is one of them.

Talk of bodies and buildings will fuel many conversations, but mention brotherhood and you may get a blank look. Or, you may get the response; “We’ve heard a lot of talk about it, but we’ve never seen it in action.” So just what does brotherhood look like?

The word, brotherhood, in its original Greek form (*adelphotes*), is used only twice in the KJV. **“Love the brotherhood”** I Peter 2:17, and I Peter 5:9 “...*knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.*” However, the concept of brotherhood is illustrated by the Apostle Paul’s metaphors. “Now you are the body of Christ, and members in particular” I Cor. 12:27; and “...you are God’s building” I Cor. 3:9.

We know that bodies and buildings are made up of many parts, both similar and disparate. Those parts must be different enough to fulfill their unique function (a lintel vs. a block, or a knee vs. a shin bone) yet similar enough to be joined in useful, productive ways. Paul’s metaphors show us this is how the church (the brotherhood) should function.

Instead, we often have the ridiculous scenario outlined in I Cor. 12 where individual members of the physical body want to go their own way and do their own thing. A human body could never function under those circumstances; neither can a spiritual body. There must be a working together of all of the parts in order to accomplish God’s goal for the body – both physical and spiritual. Paul reminds us that all the members of the body should have the same care for each other, I Cor. 12:25.

Similarly, windows, doors, or roof trusses by themselves are quite useless. The “lively stones” of I Peter 2:5 must be “built together” Eph. 2:22, to become the collective dwelling place of the Spirit of God. This means we find our fullest identity, not in our individualism, but rather within the structure of our collective “temple” i.e. our local congregation.

Stewardship

Encouraging Prayer

In this column I am sharing parts of an encouraging card we received recently from a Church Prayer line. It expresses so beautifully our prayer for each one of you, our Partners in Ministry, as you daily walk with Jesus and face the challenges of life.

“Dear Friend,

What another glorious and wonderful day the Lord has made! As we face the uncertain future in the political arena, the world wide economy and the every day challenges of life, we can still have PEACE--because God said so.

“Be anxious for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.” Phil. 4:6-7

With these two verses we can take a moment from the stresses of life and know that everything will be okay. It humbles us to know that as unworthy as we are, God loves us that much.

I pray that the peace of God engulfs you, gives you grace and joyful rest. You are in our hearts and prayers.

May God bless you always and keep you in His loving embrace”

Let’s be faithful to God; praying for each other, not fainting by the way!

Prayerfully, Bob Kauffman

Continued on opposite page.

“Hungry for the Word”

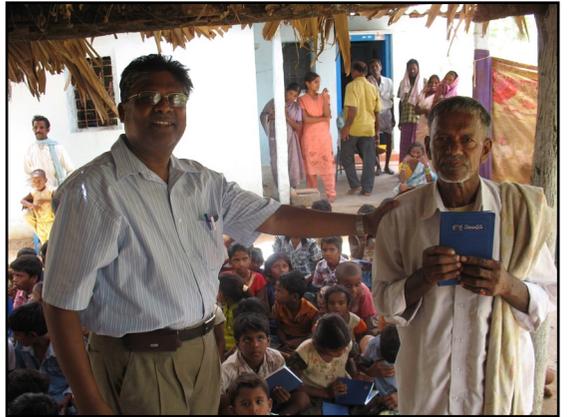
BIBLES TO INDIA VIA HOPE OUTREACH MINISTRIES

May the Lord bless each of the HOH family who were moved by the Lord’s Spirit for meeting the needs of the Bible Training Institute. Our eyes continue to look to the Lord for these needs. It was through the Bible Training Institute that our Pastors and trainees received a burden from the Lord to hold Outreach Children’s Camps in several unreached villages. Due to not having funds, we could not start the Bible Training Institute in June, but by faith, we are starting now, after the summer vacation.

The Bibles that you purchased through the generosity of the Amish Bible Fund have been very helpful. We have used up all the stock of the Bibles as hundreds of children and adults in the villages were hungry for the Word of God. It has been a deep longing in their hearts to own a copy of the Bible. Now it has just come into their hands as a gift. **Here are a couple testimonies from those who have been blessed by a gift of the Bible.**

This is a testimony from an 67-year-old illiterate, Sadayya.

“My name is Sadayya. This is my first time coming to the Church because my grandson, Chandu, asked me to come. The singing attracted me. The memory verse touched my heart. I said to myself I need to think where will I go when I die. When the Word was said that Jesus is the only way to heaven, **I trusted Jesus and accepted Him as my personal Savior.** And I wanted to know more about this new-found Savior. I asked Pastor Vijay for a Bible and he gave it to me. My grandson is reading the Bible to me everyday. I could not contain my joy after hearing about the love of God and I shared with my neighbors and acquaintances in the village. They are showing interest in the Lord Jesus Christ and four people went to Church with me! Pray that they too might find the joy that I found.”



These are the words of Rajitha after she received the Bible:

“My name is Rajitha. I am 12 years old. I walk 4 miles every day to go to my school. I am happy that I could go to school so I can read and write.

My father is a wood cutter, carrying the wood to the village with a bullock cart to make our family living. He got addicted to alcohol since I was a small child. I have always wanted to see my father stop drinking and stop beating my mother every day in our small little hut. He used to beat me up too some times. I came to know through a friend in the school that the God of Christians changes the lives of people.

When I heard about the Children’s camp in my village, I felt like going in there. Once I came in, I heard children singing. There was joy on the faces of those who led the singing and words that were taught from the Bible were touching my heart from John 3:16. I thought, if only I can read this to my father he would be changed.

When I received a copy of the Bible, I was thrilled and took it home. I began to read it to my father. As I did it every day, a few days later, **he asked me to read from the Bible over and over again. Now he is totally changed.** He does not buy alcohol any more but listens to the Bible reading and buys good nutritious food for the family. He said since he heard me read the Bible his heart began to cling to it and soon his sinful desires of alcohol, smoking, and other vices were dying. There is a desire in his heart now to think about eternal values. Thank you so much for bringing light of life into my family and transformation in my father by giving me the Word of God. Now there is joy, peace, and hope in our family. It is because of the Bible that you gave me! **I have no words to thank you for this most precious gift I have ever received in my life.”**



Surely we have sown eternal seed in the interior villages of Telangana, the most unreached part of this state. We know that the Word of God shall never return void. It shall bear eternal fruit and many will stand in heaven and say, “We know the Lord Jesus Christ because of the Bibles you gave to us.” We deeply appreciate this gesture of Heralds of Hope and the Amish Bible Fund.

Yours in His BLESSED HOPE, Pastor Vijay & Sukanya