



# West Africa Mission Happenings



“... Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature – Mark 16:15”

*A work of the church of Christ*

*Fulfilling the Great Commission*

**G**reetings to all of our friends and brethren throughout the world. Our Lord is on His way, and we are laboring diligently in the white fields of Africa as we anxiously prepare for His arrival. With your help the church is becoming larger and more mature here in this part of the world. We thank you all for your partnership in this effort!

## **Barriers to Preaching the Gospel**

Boko Haram, ethnic conflicts, malaria, polygamy, idolatry, Islam, denominationalism, many different languages, poverty, political upheaval, corruption, dangerous roads, and bandits. These are only some of the many barriers that we face as we attempt to spread the gospel throughout West Africa. The list could go on and on. Two recent happenings that are making the work more challenging are the Ebola virus raging through Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea, and the recent military coup in the country of Burkina Faso. These are two areas where plans were being made for evangelistic and training programs that have now been put on hold. Borders have been closed, transportation has been limited, and the interaction between the local people has been curtailed. However whatever the challenges and barriers, we must continue to preach the gospel and fulfill the Great Commission!

## **Bear Valley Preaching Schools**

The work is flourishing at all of the Bear Valley extension preaching schools located in West Africa. We are training leaders for the Lord's church, preaching the gospel to the community, and bringing many souls to Christ as a result of our efforts. With your help, the church is expanding

and maturing in this part of the world! In the following section, we will describe some of the happenings at each of these schools.

The **Southern Institute of Biblical Studies located in Doboro/Nsawam** is making progress. Brother Kojo Aquah Beenyi is a welcome addition to the group of full-time instructors at the Institute. Brother Ralph Williams with the Bear Valley Master's program was able to visit Ghana for two weeks for another period of short course training. The students have been divided into four groups for the purpose of doing evangelism during their training, and the local congregation that was planted by the school earlier this year in Doboro is growing in both number and maturity.

Many wonderful happenings can be found for the **Cameroon Bible Institute of Wotutu** on the Bear Valley Bible Institute website. The school has been actively distributing the tracts that were received from Mission Printing earlier this year. They are a wonderful tool for evangelism and edification. The church in Wotutu started a training program for ladies to help them in the children's classes, and this has generated a lot of interest. The evangelistic zeal of the staff and students at the Institute in Cameroon is an inspiration to us all! Please keep them in your prayers.

The **Center for Biblical Studies in Kpalime Togo** continues to train evangelists and church leaders in French speaking West Africa. During the period, a van complete with a driver, PA system and projection equipment was placed into service in Togo, and has already been used for a number of evangelistic campaigns. The church is also continuing their preaching on the radio, and using

## Preaching Schools (Cont)

other methods to bring the gospel to the community. With your help, each of the students was given a Thompson Chain Reference Study Bible in the French language to help with their studies. You can read more about all the works taking place in Kpalime Togo on the Bear Valley website.

The **West Coast School of Preaching near Takoradi Ghana** is moving towards their upcoming graduation that will be taking place at the end of November. The school is continuing their regular "Campaigns for Christ" with a recent campaign in the village of Sofokrom resulting in two baptisms and a number of additional Bible studies being set up. The annual seminar by the Howe church of Christ was originally scheduled for September, but had to be cancelled due to the present Ebola crisis taking place in West Africa. Brother Daniel Ampadu Asiamah continues to need our prayers as he goes through the rehabilitation process from the stroke he had late last year.

The **Southwest School of Evangelism near Ibadan Nigeria** celebrated their twelfth annual graduation and lectureship during the month of August. Nine graduates completed the two year Bear Valley program, and received Certificates of Biblical Studies. Another twelve completed the one year needed for a Diploma in Theology, and three were recognized for their attendance. Since the schools inception twelve years ago, over 100 men have graduated from the program, and over 50 congregations have been planted through the efforts of the school. Please keep this work in your prayers.

The **Tamale Institute of Biblical Studies in Ghana** continues to edify our Lord's church in northern Ghana. We thank God that many of the challenges such as Ebola, radical Islam, political upheavals, and ethnic conflicts have not been prevalent in the area around Tamale. We pray that this relative peace continues so the work can move forward. The school and church in Tamale have been active in evangelism with some new congregations planted over the past few months. Plans are being put in place to expand the evangelistic efforts throughout northern Ghana.

Plans are also being made to set up a radio station in the area around Tamale. The living quarters for the onsite director have now been completed.

With over 100 students presently being trained in the various full-time residential programs throughout West Africa, the impact on the church in this part of the world can be immense. We thank each and every one of you for your sacrifice that makes this work possible.

Additional information can be found for all of the schools on the Bear Valley website at this address:

[www.wetrainpreachers.com/extension-schools/](http://www.wetrainpreachers.com/extension-schools/)

## Financial Support

We want to thank all of the supporters for their contributions to this exciting work in West Africa. Without you, this effort would not be possible.

Contributions by check need to **be made payable to:**

Mountain Home church of Christ  
For: West Africa Mission

### Mailed to:

Mountain Home church of Christ  
380 North College Street  
Mountain Home, AR 72653

Any questions can be directed to the church office at **870-425-4330**.

### Or you can contact Steven at:

Email: [samtnhome@yahoo.com](mailto:samtnhome@yahoo.com)  
USA Phone: **971-270-8535**

**Please email Steven if you would like to receive this newsletter by email.**

*Thanks So Much,  
With Christian Love*

*Steven Ashcraft*

**Some New Christians in West Africa  
The Kingdom is Expanding!**



## The Ebola Crisis in West Africa Nimba County, Liberia



We are helping our brethren in Liberia with bleach, buckets, and faucets to make portable sanitizing stations to slow the spread of the Ebola virus. This is really helping!



Food is being distributed by the church to those in quarantine, and to others during this crisis. It is bad enough to be in continual fear of the disease without being hungry also!



This is a photo of one of the congregations of the Lord's church in Nimba County Liberia distributing relief aids to the County Health Team.



One of our Preaching school graduates who now works in Liberia is using the radio to inform others about the Ebola virus, and what is needed to control the outbreak.

**Southern Institute of Biblical Studies  
Eastern Region - Doboro, Ghana**



**Brother Ralph Williams with Bear Valley is seen here with the director of SIBS, brother Seth Larbi. Ralph was recently in Ghana teaching for the Masters Program.**



**Brother E. Amoo-Gyimah is one of the instructors, and also serves as the assistant to the director at SIBS. We are blessed with many mature Christian teachers at the school.**



**Students from all over Ghana are participating in the advanced Masters level classes. This is an opportunity for seasoned preachers to increase their Bible knowledge.**

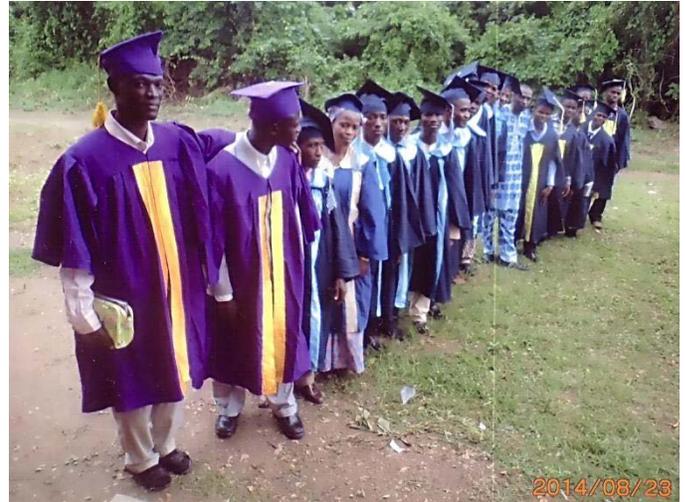


**Here one of the instructors is seen with eight of the twelve regular students at the Southern Institute of Biblical Studies. We thank God for their sacrifice!**

## Southwest School of Evangelism Ibadan, Nigeria



The SWSE had the honor of celebrating their twelfth annual lectureship and graduation. This is a wonderful time for fellowship and rejoicing over their sacrifices.



The Southwest School of Evangelism recently graduated another class of students. Here they are lined up ready to receive recognition for the training that they have received.



No event in West Africa would be complete without food. While we may go to the grocery store to buy our meat, they many times butcher it right on the spot.



Please keep brother Makinde, the director of the school in Nigeria, in your prayers as he deals with some health issues related to asthma. Here he is seen at the hospital.

## Tamale Institute of Biblical Studies Tamale, Ghana



Here is a photo of the tract room at the Tamale Institute of Biblical Studies. Preachers and church leaders from throughout Northern Ghana can utilize these materials.



We need faithful Christian men to teach at all of our preaching schools. Brother Adjei Mensah in Tamale is one of those men. He is seen here preaching on the radio in Tamale.



Tamale is a large city full of Muslims and motorbikes. With your help, we are doing our small part to make sure the gospel is there also.



Here the students at the Tamale Institute of Biblical Studies are deep into their studies. Each of these men will be able to go back to their homes and teach others the truth!

## Cameroon Bible Institute of Wotutu Wotutu, Cameroon



The staff and students at the Cameroon Bible Institute in Wotutu are very active in evangelism. Here brother Elangwe is handing out tracts after Sunday worship.



Mission Printing is doing a wonderful job of getting tracts to West Africa. Their labor and sacrifice is not in vain as many are benefiting from this ministry.



The church in Wotutu is active in training women to be effective Bible class teachers for their children. Seven different congregations are represented during this class.

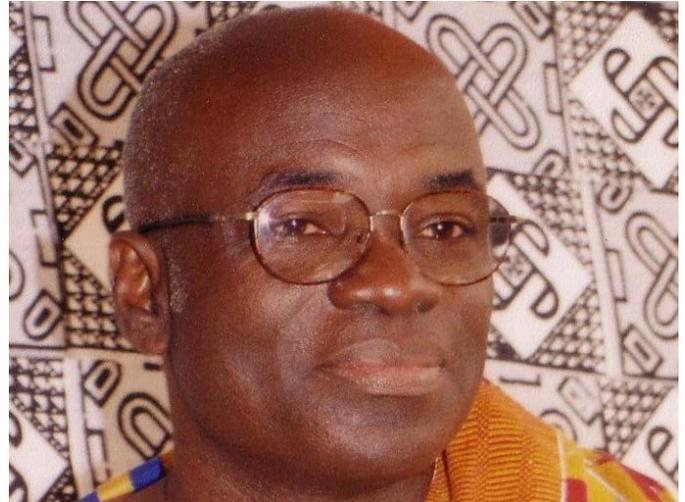


Another precious soul is baptized into Christ as a result of the efforts of our brethren in Cameroon. Their "Back to the Bible" open air radio is showing wonderful results!

**West Coast School of Preaching  
Takoradi, Ghana**



**The school recently held a campaign at the village of Sofokrom that resulted in two baptisms and many ongoing Bible studies. We thank God for these new Christians!**



**Daniel Ampadu Asiamah continues to need our prayers as he recovers from the stroke he suffered late last year. Our brother is a great inspiration to all who love the truth!**



**One of our students studies the word of God with some ladies on a recent campaign. We need more preachers and teachers to bring the truth to the world.**



**Brother Joshua Aidoo is seen here with his family. Joshua is a very busy man as he teaches at the WCSOP, and is continually preaching the word of God.**

**Center for Biblical Studies  
Kpalime, Togo**



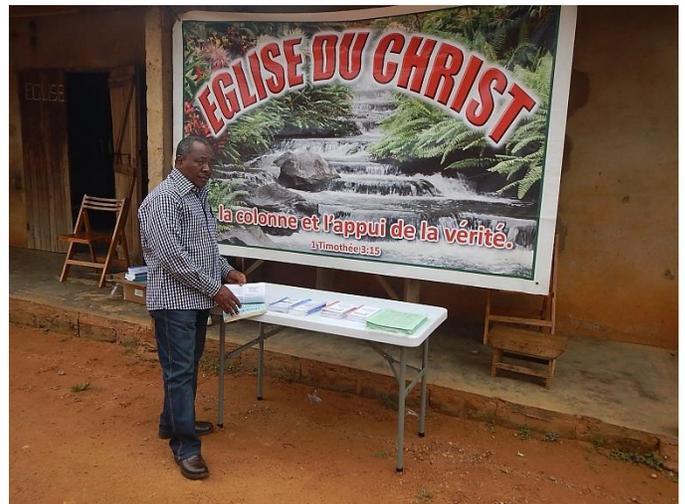
**Classes continue at the Center for Biblical Studies in Kpalime Togo. Eighteen students are training to be evangelists in the French speaking country.**



**Another way to preach the gospel is over the radio. Many of our preaching schools also have radio programs. Here our brethren in Kpalime are preaching the gospel!**



**One way to increase your audience when preaching the gospel is to increase the volume. Here our Togolese brethren are setting up loud speakers to do just that!**



**If you know French, then you can read this sign, Church of Christ. Tracts from Mission Printing in Arlington Texas are being distributed during a campaign.**

Some Pictures of the Children



