

CROSSLINKS PROJECTS



Equipping people to take the gospel to their own people

Quarterly News and Prayer Update

Winter 2009

Resources for Evangelism in The Gambia

We thank God for:

- The completion in January of the buildings of the GamFES Evangelism Resource Centre. They now have a large seminar and training room to hold 50, a resource library, an office and a multi-purpose open concrete floored area.



- God's gracious provision of Bibles and other resources.
- People in the UK partnering with this work - supplying physical resources, financial and prayer support.

- The Moore Course tutorials that Steven Musa-Kormayea has been able to run - equipping church leaders to teach the Bible faithfully.

- A month long period of rural outreach in Soma. Several people made a commitment to Christ though some cannot yet confess Him publicly for fear of family response.

We pray for:

- God to provide the £8000 necessary to support the Evangelism Resource Centre until the end of 2010.

- The provision of Bibles, evangelistic tracts and Bible reading notes for the Resource Centre.

GamFES is the Federation of Evangelical Students in The Gambia.

"Producing biblically faithful, contextually relevant and locally accessible resources for evangelism in The Gambia"

Ben Shikwati - Serving in South Africa

With Ben we praise God for his goodness over the last year: for the encouragement he has received from Muizenberg community church and the gospel focus and Christian fellowship of the George Whitefield College faculty and students.

Ben is currently writing the third chapter of his PhD thesis on Biblical bereavement counselling and healing in the African context. Ben thanks God for his supervisors and the progress that he has been able to make. He also tutors undergraduate students in the college.



Ben is spending Christmas at home in Kenya, where he will also be carrying out research.

Please pray for Ben's safety as he travels, for his studies and tutoring at George Whitefield College and for the work of the African Institute of Contemporary Mission and Research (AICMAR) in Kenya where he used to work. Ben hopes to return to Kenya when he has finished his PhD in South Africa in order to train many more gospel workers for Africa.

Women Equipped for Ministry in Zimbabwe

This year has seen 21 women take up the challenge of becoming equipped for leadership roles within the Zimbabwean church.

Some current second year students said 'It has helped me to understand the way we interpret scripture correctly'; 'I have learned to be organised and have gained confidence in facing challenges that come my way as a widow'; 'I thank God for the lessons we have in African Traditional Religions - there are some things we do not know even though we come from an African background'.

16 women have graduated over the last two years. Each one has returned to their church family better equipped to understand and teach the Bible and ably fulfil the leadership roles that they are given.



Gospel Work Under the Radar



'Somewhere in Asia' a Crosslinks Project has much to give thanks for! Running for the last seven years, supported by Crosslinks since the start of 2008 we praise the Lord for:

100+ women's leaders trained for church ministry; 6,500 baptisms since 2002; and many many church planters and leaders trained. 100+ informal primary schools have been established, providing education for 6,000 children and over 80 wells have been dug - providing clean drinking water for entire communities.

They ask that you join with them in praying Psalm 90:17, 'May the favour of the Lord our God rest upon us; establish the work of our hands for us - yes, establish the work of our hands.'

Please pray for the team running this work to be utterly God-focussed and those being trained to become effective kingdom servants.

From Peckham to Port Elizabeth - Former Crosslinks Apprentices now Bible teachers in South Africa

Former Crosslinks Apprentices Simon and Lindiwe Banda have now been back in South Africa for three months. Having re-connected with friends and family, and had a well-earned break in KwaZulu Natal, the Bandas are ready and poised for work in Port Elizabeth (PE).

New to PE, the Bandas have been warmly welcomed by long term Mission Partners James and Helen Read and the staff and students of the Bible Institute of the Eastern Cape (BIEC).

Simon and Lindiwe were able to partner with students in outreach missions to the Kwazakhele and Walmer Townships. They engaged in open-air preaching and door to door evangelism, and were able to connect with Christians in the area.

Now in the midst of the final semester of 2009 at BIEC, Simon and Lindiwe are preparing for the courses they will begin teaching in 2010.



A view of KwaZulu Natal

Please thank the Lord for:

- The safe arrival of the Banda's possessions and God's provision of a flat close to BIEC.
- Opportunities to preach and teach in churches in Port Elizabeth.

Please pray for:

- Simon and Lindiwe as they adjust to life in Port Elizabeth, getting to know staff and students and their new church family.
- Preparation for the courses that the Bandas will be teaching in 2010, for wisdom, proper use of time, and dependence on God as they prepare for classes.

Breaking News! New Crosslinks Projects starting in 2010

Being Crystal Clear about Christ in Cuba



Equipo Impacto (lit. 'Impact Team') are a Cuban led, Havana based organisation.

Realising the absolute necessity of expository Bible preaching, Equipo Impacto (EI) want to share that amazing vision with the 4,000 untrained pastors of Cuba.

The church in Cuba grew rapidly in the 1990s and 2000s, but the number of pastors who have received any training has not increased proportionally! There is an urgent need to equip these men to teach God's word faithfully, so his voice can be heard clearly.

EI run travelling Bible Schools, regular training in Bible handling skills and annual conferences for pastors and evangelists. They also aim to produce culturally relevant, Biblically faithful resources for the Cuban church. Due to the prohibitions on publishing there are very few books available in Cuba.

Please pray for finances for this work. Please also pray for the principal workers Elio and Alexis,

that they would be godly and wise as they seek to establish this new and exciting ministry.

Teaching Truth in Sierra Leone

Prosperity gospels are rife, and Islam is gaining an increasing foothold in Sierra Leone.

In this context **Truth Mission** seeks to teach Bible teachers how to understand what the Bible truly says.

Christopher Jonah and his team at Truth Mission long to see the Sierra Leonean church filled with lifelong disciples of Christ who have a firm understanding of Jesus' work on the cross and deep assurance of forgiveness - unshaken by either sickness or hardship.

Through regular weekly training, travelling Bible schools, conferences for church leaders, radio broadcasts and literature publications Truth Mission longs to see God's kingdom grow in Sierra Leone.

Please pray for many to hear the Bible teaching radio broadcasts and to desire to hear expository teaching on a regular basis. Pray too for the pastors to learn how to handle God's word faithfully. In order for this ministry to grow, Truth Mission needs additional foreign financial support. Please ask God to provide.

Farewell...

With the end of 2009 comes the end of Crosslinks' formal support for **Advancing Ministries of the Gospel** in Uganda, the **Arctic Research Grant** (based in the UK with work in Northern Canada), **BUILD the Church Uganda**, **Kampala Evangelical School of Theology** in Uganda, **Victor Owuor** in South Africa, **Benoit Ahonsou** in Togo and **Timothy Mazimpaka** in Kenya.

Your generosity in Christ has enabled children, young people, students and adults to hear the message of saving grace, and be equipped to explain it to others.

Thank you for your faithfulness in prayer and your financial generosity.

We continue to be fully supportive of the work of all of these individuals and organisations.

Please **join with us in praying** to the same God who provided manna in the wilderness to provide all that is needed for each of these works to continue and prosper.



One of the participants in the BUILD the Church Uganda training programme

And other News

The **selection meeting for new Crosslinks Projects** (beginning in 2011) will be held in late March 2010. Please pray for the right people to apply supplying all the necessary information, and godly wisdom for the selection team.

Supporters are urgently needed for all of the Projects mentioned on this newsletter. Please contact Crosslinks for more information about how to partner with these gospel ministries either through prayer or financial gift.



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