

The Seeker

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

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

August/September 2016

Volume 5, Number 6

Dear brethren,

Greetings to you all in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. We have just returned from Africa and we had a wonderful mission trip! On Sunday night August 14th we departed for Zambia. In Atlanta I met up with Rusty & Laura Stark for our trip. Due to some health issues Carolyn did not get to go with us this year. After spending the night in Johannesburg, South Africa we arrived in Livingstone, Zambia on Tuesday August 16th. We had a day and a half to get ready to go to the bush for our first Gospel meeting at Siamafumba.

On Thursday August 18th we loaded the truck and started out around 8 am. We stopped in Livingstone to purchase a gas powered generator for the school at Siamafumba. The road was bad but it has been worse. Around 1pm we arrived at Siamafumba. We got unpacked and found a welcome addition for our stay, we had real beds and mattresses to sleep on this year!

We had no cell service so I could not call home during our 4 days there.



We ship thousands of tracts, Bibles, and other gospel materials to campaign locations months before leaving so they are waiting on arrival.



One of the 88 baptisms during this year's campaign.

Last year I brought a portable baptistery that was purchased in China so that we did not need to go to the river for baptisms. This was nice and saved us much travel time to and from the river. We had good attendance for the meeting. Thursday 655, Friday 1,750, Saturday 1,987 and Sunday we had 2,016 present for the last day. There were 63 different congregations present and 63 were baptized into Christ and 105 were restored. This year due to a donation from the USA we were able to drill a well for the school at Siamafumba. The brethren were so thankful to have good clean water there at the school.

Sponsored by *Rock Valley church of Christ*

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

The new church building that we are helping build suffered some setbacks due to heavy rains and foundation issues. They have made the repairs and we hope to finish the church building during the next few months.

We got back to Livingstone Sunday night. Due to a change of schedule there were no students at ZSOBS for us to teach. The new students will be there in January. Next year when we arrive we will have students to teach. During our stay in Livingstone we found that there were several scheduled power outages and a few unscheduled ones as well! While we were there a niece of one of the instructors at ZSOBS, Peter Masiya, was bitten by a puff adder and had to be taken to the hospital and she did recover we are thankful to report.



The unfinished church building at Siamafumba

We spent a few days getting ready for the next Gospel meeting at Misika. On Thursday August 25th we packed the truck and started to Misika about a 4 hour drive over some very bad roads. One of the instructors Peter went with us to Misika along with Webby another instructor at ZSOBS. These men are very good Gospel preachers and teachers at the school in Livingstone. We had lessons from about 7am to about 9pm during the meeting. On Friday we had 702 present and Saturday we had 902 which was the largest crowd during the meeting. We had 14 baptized into Christ and 51 restored. There were 24 different congregations present for the meeting. The local brethren at all our meetings gave a large portion of the items needed for the meeting. We arrived back in Livingstone late Sunday.



The future home of the Ngwezi School of Preaching

Also while we were there the well driller came to drill the well at the school there. We were able to get some pictures and watch them drill the well. This was our third meeting to hold at Ngwezi and the attendance was 373 with 7 baptized and 7 restored. We arrived back in Livingston Sunday night.

We next started getting ready for our next Gospel meeting at Ngwezi. On Thursday September 1st we started for Ngwezi. Last year we helped start a new preacher school at Ngwezi. This year we are helping build a new school building there.



Well drilling is a messy business, but having clean, safe water will be a great blessing for this new school

On Monday September 5th we made a trip to Kazungula. The brethren there are building a much needed church building. The church where Rusty preaches in Benton Harbor, MI. is helping them get their new building. Webby was wanting to do some welding on the beams for the roof and some other things as well. On Wednesday September 7th I was up early getting packed to fly to Malawi. I had to spend the night in South Africa and fly to Malawi the next day. Webby also came to Malawi for this meeting and to recruit students for

ZSOBS. On Friday September 9th we went to a radio station and I was interviewed concerning the meeting. The station covers all of Malawi and some of the neighboring nations. We arrived at the school where the meeting had been planned around 3 pm.

They were expecting a large crowd for the meeting but thought that the Friday number would be around 400 or so. They had cooked for about 400. At supper time a count was done and it was discovered that the number was around 1,500 so we continued preaching till around 9pm before eating our supper. When we left to go back to the guest house for the night they were still in line to eat. There were several people present from Mozambique during our meeting. On Saturday morning we had over 2,000 present with people coming all day long. The number continued to grow all day Saturday and on Sunday September 11th we had 3,010 present for the meeting. During this meeting we had 31 baptized into Christ and 26 restored.



Some of the 3,010 people who attended the meeting in Malawi



Jomex Mtali, Ronald D. Gilbert, Gomezgani Kamanga

One of our BCC students that obeyed the Gospel was at this meeting. Gomezgani Kamanga who desired to be baptized into Christ some time back and we sent one of our ICOTB students Jomex Mtali to baptize him. Jomex was also at this meeting. It was good to get to meet both of these men. Gomezgani plans to be a student at ZSOBS in Livingstone in January of 2017. We had about 10 men at the meeting who want to be students at ZSOBS in January of 2017. I hope they will all be able to come to the school.



Ronald D. Gilbert with the 3 instructors for the new Lilongwe School of Biblical Studies

We have been talking with the brethren in Malawi for the past few years about starting a part time preacher school there in Lilongwe which is the capital of Malawi. There are 3 good men who have graduated from ZSOBS that we hope will be able to start teaching at this school in January of 2017. We plan to help these brethren rent a house to start this new school. Hopefully land can be purchased and a school building built at a later date.

During our stay in Africa this year we had a total of 88 baptisms and 189 restored and preached to a combined crowd of 6,301. We had a great mission trip! We were also able to help with the following items:

- 2 wells drilled
- 44 bikes for preachers
- \$2,000.00 for Bibles different languages
- \$3,000.00 for relief food for drought

International Bible Teaching Ministries
c/o Rock Valley Church of Christ
PO Box 49494
Cookeville, TN 38506

Non-Profit Org
U.S. Postage Paid
Cookeville, TN
Permit No 15

We gave over \$6,000 to different preacher schools for repairs and building new buildings. We had a great mission trip this year to Africa. Our thanks to everyone who helped make this trip a success. Please continue to pray for our work and help us as you can to take the Gospel of Christ *“into all the world”*.

Ronald D. Gilbert
Director of IBTM

Jimmie B. Hill Memorial Library

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

Mr. & Mrs. Marlin Howard added books in memory of ***Norman Pettigrew***

Linda Hill added books in memory of
Gladys Ruth Barnes Hill
Jewell Mooneyham Agee

Donations to this library should be sent to:
New Hope Road Church of Christ
PO Box 1334 • Dacula, GA 30019



It was August 2010 that I began spending incredibly long days uploading IBTM's Bible correspondence courses and other materials to our website. It was almost 6 months before we were ready for visitors, but we have had more than a million since. It was August 2012 that Jimmie B. Hill, Co-Director of IBTM and the reason I started

learning how to manage a website, passed into eternity. I am so thankful that the mission work he loved has continued, and pleased that a new aspect of that work has grown out of his death – the Jimmie B. Hill Memorial Library.

IBTM has shipped almost 21,000 books to provide Bible students with good teaching materials. It has set up small lending libraries in locations where there are several ICOTB students and established larger school libraries in eleven foreign schools of preaching – but more is needed. New students are enrolling and new schools are starting soon. You can be a part of this effort through this memorial library. Some people donate books, their own or from a loved one who has passed. Others donate money for IBTM to buy the books needed. Either way a plaque is put inside each book showing that it was given in memory of someone special.

Jimmie's greatest love was teaching the Bible. I am pleased that through this library he continues to do that.

Linda Hill

Things You Have Helped to Accomplish

Baptisms	7,502
Restorations	7,840
New Congregations	156
New Schools of Preaching	6
BCC Students	27,350
ICOTB Students	407
ICOTB Graduates	83