

# The Seeker

*"Seeking the Souls of Men and Pointing Them to Christ"*

December 2025

Vol. 14 no. 11

Dear brethren,

Greetings to you all in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. In October we started our 19<sup>th</sup> year at IBTM. When we started this work it was just 2 of us Carolyn and myself. The Lord has greatly blessed our work. He has blessed me with the health to be able to do mission work for over 45 years making 55 overseas mission trips. During the past 18 years IBTM has seen over 50,000 baptisms, 985 new congregations established, six preacher schools started and 1,043 preachers to graduate from preacher schools. We give God the glory and praise for the increase (I Cor. 3:6). These preacher schools are doing a great work. Three are located in Zambia, one on Tanzania, one in Kenya and one in Malawi. We are also working with 10 other preacher schools helping provide funds for bikes, Bibles, tracts, Gospel meetings, relief food due to droughts and other needed items. A special thanks to Earl Alverson in Sparta, TN. who has helped for many years raising funds for food relief. So far in 2025 we have sent \$15,500.00 to several different nations to help with food relief.

There are many new projects we hope to accomplish in 2026 we will inform our readers in the January Newsletter of these projects. We will be contacting our preachers in Africa soon to see how their work progressed in 2025. They will be reporting on the number of baptisms and other things concerning their work.

We had graduations at 2 of our preacher schools this year. Solwezi had 16 to graduate in Zambia and Ngwezi had 7 to graduate also in Zambia. Three other schools that we work with and help provide resource materials had graduations. We purchased bikes for some of these men and portable PA systems for some of them so they could do street preaching. These 3 schools graduated 32 men.

There is a refugee camp in Malawi with around 53,000 refugees from the African Congo. The school in Malawi recently started an evangelist effort in this camp. We had 26 of the preacher students from the school in Lilongwe to conduct a 2 week door-knocking effort and Bible studies. During this time there were 29 baptisms and they found 9 Christians who had not been worshipping and they were restored. During the 2 week door-knocking session they gave out 43,000 Gospel tracts that were printed at the preacher school. We rented a house for the students to stay during their 2 week session at the camp. On the first night during their stay at this rental house 2 of the preachers found poisonous snakes in their sleeping bags during the night. No one was bitten. It was rainy and cool and the snakes were looking for warmth. The roof was also leaking so they moved to another rental house. They have had other baptisms since then. A new congregation of around 45 is now meeting just outside the camp in a house that we have rented.

International Bible Teaching Ministries  
C/O Rock Valley church of Christ  
PO Box 49494  
Cookeville, TN 38506-0494

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We also hired a young preacher to move just outside the camp and we have agreed to pay him for one year to work with the people at the camp. The school also started a 2 hour radio program once per week at a station near the camp. They are getting many good contacts from the radio program. Recently after one program 89 people contacted them for Bible studies.

The brethren in Malawi have been working with a prison for many years. They arranged to have a one day Gospel meeting inside the prison. There are 3,500 male inmates at this prison. They had 2,000 attend the meeting. There were 42 baptisms and more Bible studies were set up.

Printing tracts in Africa has been a great help with our work. We were able to print just over 500,000 tracts in Africa in 2025. This is the most we have ever printed in one year. Many of these tracts were in different African languages but some were in English. We hope to be able to purchase 2 more printing machines in 2026 so we can print even more tracts next year. It would be great if we could print one million tracts per year in Africa and get them into the hands of people who are searching for the truth.

Our Gospel meetings in Africa are very successful. In 2025 there were 126 Gospel meetings costing \$300.00 each for a total of \$37,800.00. There were hundreds of baptisms from these meetings. We hope next year to be able to sponsor 200 meetings in Africa.

So many good things are happening in Africa for the cause of Christ. Please pray for our work and consider putting our work in your budget for 2026 or sending a onetime donation. From all of us here at IBTM we hope you have a wonderful holiday season with your family and a wonderful new year.

Ronald D. Gilbert-Director IBTM

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Websites: [www.ibtministries.org](http://www.ibtministries.org) [www.icotb.org](http://www.icotb.org)  
Contact: [rdg@ibtministries.org](mailto:rdg@ibtministries.org)

#### Things You Helped Accomplish

Baptisms.....	56,392
Restored/confessed sins.....	48,380
New congregations started.....	995
Preachers to graduate from schools.....	1,098