

The Seeker

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

May 2025

Vol. 14 no. 5

Dear brethren,

Greetings to you all in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. April was a great month for us at IBTM. We had 253 baptisms reported, 19 restored and one new congregation started. Our radio programs in Africa are doing great. The one in Malawi continues to reach many with the Gospel. Dzaleka Refugee Camp in Malawi has around 57,000 refugees from the Congo being cared for in this camp. Our brethren are going into this camp preaching the Gospel of Christ to the people of the Congo. Recently 8 were baptized into Christ. Malawi recently had a youth meeting with several congregations supporting this effort. The meeting was held at the Area 36 congregation. They had 907 in attendance. This church building was built with funds raised by IBTM. Over the Easter weekend there were 21 prisoners released early and from this number 9 of them were men who had obeyed the Gospel from the prison ministry conducted by the brethren in Malawi.

We are hoping to raise funds for more radio programs. In Zambia we have one program that is doing good and hope to start another soon. This program will be a one hour slot each week. They plan to do the program live and have questions & answers at the end of each program. The program in Tanzania will cost \$44.00 for each 30 minutes per week. One of the radio stations in Kenya wants \$60.00 for a 30 minute program. It looks like the average cost for a 30 minute radio program will be \$50.00 per week or \$200.00 per month. We want to try these radio programs for 6 months and see what the results will be. So far everywhere we have a radio program they are reaching many with the Gospel. Can you help us by paying for one month or more radio time so the Gospel of Christ can be preached in Africa?

In Tanzania during month of April several seminars and meetings were held and resulted in 32 baptisms. In Kenya 4 Gospel meetings were conducted and they gave out 105 Bibles. We are still waiting to hear the results from these meetings.

The booklet God & Man has been translated into Chichewa and the brethren in Malawi are having good success with this booklet. There have been 9 baptized in South Africa and 16 in Mozambique recently using this book. This book is available in English at www.God-and-man.com

Our mission trip in August will soon be here. We are still \$10,000.00 short of the needed funds for this trip. In addition to our airfare, hotel, food and gas and other expenses for this trip we are seeking to raise \$10,000.00 to print in Africa 200,000 Gospel tracts and several booklets. We are also seeking to raise \$10,000.00 to purchase Bibles in local languages, \$3,000.00 for bikes for local preachers, we sent funds recently to purchase 5 of these needed bikes. We also need \$4,000.00 to help with the Gospel meetings we have planned while we are there. We are planning a Gospel meeting in Malawi. Last year we had over 12,000 in attendance for this meeting and they say even more will be there this year. We have a Gospel meeting planned at Siamafumba and we are expecting 5,000 since this is the number we had last year. Other Gospel meetings will be conducted at Livingstone, Ngwezi and one day seminars at other locations in Zambia.

Another program we are working on is to get copy machines at the preacher schools in Africa so they can print their own Gospel tracts and classroom materials. There will soon be a new print building at the school in Livingstone, Zambia. They will be able to print thousands of Gospel tracts each month for the Livingstone area and other areas in Zambia. We hope to have the ability to print tracts and materials in Solwezi, Tanzania and Kenya in the next few months. We need brethren to help us purchase these copy machines and build small buildings for printing.

Sympathy is extended to the family of Edith Sullins who passed away recently. Edith was the wife and co-worker of Jerry R. Sullins long time missionaries in Africa. Sympathy also extended to the family of Judy Harrison in Madisonville, KY. Judy was the wife of Bob Harrison who served as an elder at the Madisonville congregation for many years. Bob passed away about 3 months ago.

We are thankful for your prayers and support of our work at IBTM. With your help many good things are being accomplished for the Lord in several African nations. In many African nations "the fields are white already to harvest," Jn.4:35. Please help us as you can to take the Gospel of Christ "into all the world". Ronald D. Gilbert-Director, IBTM

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FISHING FOR THE MASTER

We have our campaign in Africa coming up in a few months and I need to raise 5k for expenses. If you can assist me with this important need, please let me know. My contact information is listed below.

In this issue I wanted to share a piece that I have had in my files for some time. I do not know the original author, and for the sake of brevity, I offer this edited version for your consideration.

Now it came to pass that a group existed who called themselves fishermen. And lo, there were many fish in the waters all around. In fact, the whole area was surrounded by streams and lakes filled with fish. And the fish were hungry. Week after week these who called themselves fishermen met in meetings and talked about their responsibility to fish, the abundance of fish, and how they might go about fishing. Year after year they carefully defined what it meant to fish, defended fishing as an occupation, and declared that fishing is always to be a primary task of fisherman.

They sponsored fishing seminars and promoted fishing, new fishing equipment, fish calls, and any new bait discovered. These fishermen built large, beautiful buildings. The plea in their assemblies was that every fisherman should fish. One thing they didn't do, however; they didn't fish. They built large printing houses to publish fishing guides. Presses were kept busy day and night to produce materials devoted to fishing methods, equipment, and programs to encourage fishing. Then after one stirring meeting one person fished! The next day he reported that he had caught a fish. He was honored for his catch and scheduled to visit all the big meetings to tell how he did it. So, he quit his fishing to tell others about fishing. Imagine how hurt some were when one day a person suggested that those who didn't fish were not fishermen, no matter how much they claimed to be. Yet it did sound correct. Is a person a fisherman if he never gets around to fishing? Something to think about. Let's go fishing for the Master!

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Things You Helped Accomplish

Baptisms.....	53,615
Restored.....	47,165
New Congregations Started.....	968
ICOTB Students Enrolled.....	566
Preachers to Graduate.....	1,018