



# ETHIOPIA GOSPEL OUTREACH

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## A NEW YEAR:

Each new year, words are chosen by Universities and dictionaries that best describe the year that just ended. Pandemic is a word found on every list this year! We can relate to that word because we have all felt its consequences. One word that isn't on any of the lists is the word "opportunity"! When there are no answers in the world, you and I can be the people of opportunity! We can be the "light" and help the lost world understand that faith in our Lord and a response to that faith is the answer! (Matthew 5:13-16, Proverbs 4:12, John 8:12) Never in my lifetime have I seen the need greater than now. We are blessed of God.....let's show it and tell the world! (John 13:34-35, Galatians 6:2, 9-10) 2021 holds the promise of great opportunity! In our families, our congregations, our communities, in Ethiopia and in the entire world. Pray that God will use all of us more than ever before!

Let's continue to be a part of the answer our world is desperately seeking!

Please Note: All of you involved in the Ethiopia Gospel Outreach are already lifting up the lives of the poor, the lost, the desperate children and providing the saving message of Jesus to countless thousands all over the great land of Ethiopia!

## RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL IN A DISTANT PLACE:



The Modi congregation is located in the Dawro area of southern Ethiopia. Moges described Dawro as a distant place. Several years ago the government opened up this area to resettle people living in densely populated areas where the land was unable to support them. Many of our brethren were moved to that new area. When it happened a preacher named Brother Yosef saw that several of our congregations were torn apart. He along with his son, Behailu, decided they must also move to the Dawro area with the purpose of "regrouping" these divided churches. They succeeded and also established several other congregations in the process. They still live and work in that area. Many



members from the Dawro churches have been sent to the Jajura School of Preaching and are now preaching and teaching all over that area. The pictures were taken at one of the local churches in a place called Modi. Moges and Brother Wolde Ghorghis visited there and left their 4x4 vehicle where they could no longer drive it and then walked for three hours to reach Modi! On the left is a picture of Behailu Yosef when he attended the preaching school. The

Modi church has grown and has constructed its own building that you can see in the pictures. These were taken at a recent Gospel meeting held at the Modi congregation. This is an example of real mission outreach! May God help us all to appreciate the opportunity we have been blessed with by being involved in reaching into distant places with the Gospel!

### **PREACHING THE GOSPEL OF JESUS IN A MUSLIM AREA:**



Two years ago Mitiku Mekonnen and Areb Hassen had returned to the city of Jimma following their graduation from the Nekemte School of Preaching. They had been taught the gospel by Brother Degu, the minister of the Jimma Congregation. Following their graduation Mitiku, left, chose to remain and work with Degu at the Jimma church. Areb, right, chose to relocate in a small town named Seka located 22 miles away from Jimma. Both Jimma and Seka are heavily populated by Muslims and ministries can be very difficult and even dangerous when others respond to the gospel message. At that time I remember thinking about Areb going to Seka and wondering if his faith was strong enough to face the consequences that might come. He is still working in Seka!

This month he reported to Moges he had taught and baptized two more into Christ at the Seka church. Ethiopia is like America; freedom of religion is one of their constitutional rights. But religious freedom isn't without problems as we have witnessed during our present virus pandemic! Religious freedom in Ethiopia becomes a veiled "right" in a Muslim population. Areb's strong faith has been blessed by God and he continues a successful ministry in a difficult place. Continue to pray for him.

### **MAKANISSA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF RETURNS TO CLASSES:**



Our school in Addis Ababa has reopened as the Covid pandemic continues. Half of the students meet in the morning and the other half in the afternoon. They practice social distancing, wear face masks and have hand washing stations. The pandemic reports tell that the cases of virus in the country continue to rise.

Thanks to all of you for your faithfulness and prayers.

Kevin and John Ed Clark