



# ETHIOPIA GOSPEL OUTREACH

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February 24, 2021

## **UPDATES FROM ETHIOPIA:**

Good news first: Church leaders and preachers continue to report they are back to normal in their assemblies and the church is doing well in all areas. Our Schools for the Deaf are open with normal social distancing and mask policies in place. Half of the students come in the mornings and the other half in the afternoons. The water well drilling has started again and 25 new wells are being drilled in the Sidama Region at this time and should be completed within four weeks. Travel on the highways has opened up except in the areas in northern Ethiopia. The Gospel Outreach ministries are in the southern regions.

Other news: Covid 19 is still a problem, especially in population centers. At this writing there are 175,000 reported cases. Churches in the countryside continue to report none of their members have been infected. The war in the Tigray region seems to be decreasing in its intensity. The new Grand Renaissance Dam in northwest Ethiopia continues to be filled and that will take five or more years. It is located on the Blue Nile River about 25 miles from the border of Sudan. Intense negotiations are going on between Ethiopia, Sudan and Egypt. It is the largest dam in Africa and the 7<sup>th</sup> largest in the world. Hopefully the electricity generated will benefit people throughout Ethiopia.

## **NEW WELLS WILL BLESS A MINIMUM OF 25,000 PEOPLE WITH CLEAN WATER:**



These two pictures were sent to us by our drilling crew. They were taken at one of the 25 sites the government selected in the Sidama Region. We have the right to reject a site, but not to choose them. They have a master plan of where wells are needed and it is our ministry to help fill those needs. This area of Sidama is very peaceful, but up until very recently the road we had to travel to get there wasn't safe. Brother Habtu believes the Water Bureau in the Southern Region will grant us an amendment to add another 20-25

wells to our present agreement. Pure clean water is a lifesaving blessing for the people, but what happens next is even more important. Our preaching team will go into those areas and teach the loving message of Jesus and many will respond and new churches will be established. Your continued assistance is appreciated and needed.

## **BRO. MOGES VISITS JIMMA AND MAKES PLANS FOR NEW CONGREGATION:**



Moges was able to fly Ethiopian Airlines to Jimma the first week of February. On his first day there he met with the staff members of the Kindergarten and the Jimma congregation. Members of the new congregation in Seka came to visit while Moges was there and to participate in two bible study sessions at the Kindergarten compound. In last month's newsletter we reported about the establishment of the church in Seka, a town that is almost 100% Muslim. They now have 20 members. The two pictures above are three members of the Seka church who came to the studies, two brothers (left) Awol and Alamudin Amin and Hussen Abadiga (center). On the right they take time out for an afternoon coffee ceremony break. An important event in Ethiopia! That afternoon Moges met with four members of the church in Jimma that are planning to establish a new work in downtown Jimma. He also met with them the next day to discuss several issues they will need to do as they lead the new congregation. That meeting concluded at 8:00 in the evening. The leaders of the planned congregation made sure Moges promised to return and teach more after the new church starts meeting in their chosen public building. Moges returned to Addis Ababa the next morning after a very profitable trip helping spread the Kingdom in a difficult area.

## **A GOSPEL MEETING AT THE CHURCH IN ARBEGONA:**



Churches all over rural Ethiopia are able to continue to have their assemblies and other regular congregational activities. One of the preachers in Arbegona took these pictures with his cell phone and they were forwarded on to us. The two pictures on the left show each side of the same assembly. I was amused to notice they still culturally have the ladies sit on one side and the men on the other. On the right several members sit on the grass as ladies prepare lunch for everyone. This time of the year is beautiful in southern Ethiopia. It is also a beautiful sight to see the church busy with the Lord's work of edification.

Our prayers go up to God for all of you as this difficult period continues. Jesus concluded a parable in Luke 18:8 “**...when the Son of Man comes, will He find faith on the earth?**” The answer today is a resounding, Yes!! May God continue to bless you all!!!  
Kevin and John Ed Clark