



# ETHIOPIA GOSPEL OUTREACH

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## YOUTH CONFERENCE IN JAJURA:



A three day youth conference for high school and college age students was held at the Jajura Preacher Training facility in early May. Students came from many different congregations in the Soro area. Many of them attend private and government universities located in the major towns in the Hydia Region and return home during what we call "Spring Break" in America. It is very encouraging to see these kinds of activities. These young members of the church will be different from the last generation. Many of their parents and grandparents are illiterate and didn't have an opportunity to go even to grade school because when they became old

enough to help on their family farm, they had to stay home and work. Many of us who are older can relate to those times in our own lives. But now they understand that a higher education is one of the opportunities in life that can lead them out of the cycle of destitute poverty the generation before them lived through. An important part of this new way of life is these young people will be employed in many different areas of Ethiopia and where they go they will take the message of Jesus and His Church with them. (Acts 8:4) In the above pictures, top left is an assembly in the Jajura church auditorium. Center, another assembly in the auditorium. Right: a gathering of young ladies in the home of brother Walde Ghorghis. Left: One of many bible classes conducted by preachers and the Jajura preaching school staff during the afternoons and evenings of the conference. Churches in the Jajura area provided the food for all the participants and the ladies from those congregations prepared the food. It was a great blessing for everyone.

## WATER WELL PROJECT COMPLETED:



Our water well drilling crew (left) completed drilling 32 wells. 26 of the wells were producing. They started drilling the 33<sup>rd</sup> well, when the engine on the rig broke down and will probably need replacing. These 26 good wells will supply water for many thousands of people in the Wollietta and Kambatta Districts. The church is strong in these areas and the wells will bless them.



The total number of wells we have completed is 682; however, in this number probably 10% are not producing wells. We drill where the government geologist chooses the sites. Most of the people in rural Ethiopia obtain their water from rainwater collection ponds like the one pictured on the left. Others use small rivers or natural springs; these sources dry up in the long dry season and finding water becomes a much more difficult task. Cattle and other animals use these sources for water and the water becomes contaminated

with all kinds of water borne diseases and these can be life threatening to the young and the elderly. The wells are a blessing to the multiplied thousands who come to draw water. Please pray the rig engine can be replaced and ready to drill again when the rains stop in late October or early November.

### **REPORTS FROM PREACHERS IN THE SOUTHERN AND WESTERN REGIONS:**



Every three months, preachers and church leaders gather together in their home areas to study God's word and report on the activities of their local churches. Pictured left are a number of preachers from the Arbegona area. In reports received from five of the areas, a total of 241 baptisms were reported. Brother Moges sent local reports that we will share with you. It is a wonderful blessing to know of the work being accomplished by our Ethiopian brethren.

The Wille congregation is located in Duna Ole area of Soro. It has 450 members. Two months ago, they hosted an area preacher's conference for three days. Each day more than 700 brethren from different churches in the area attended the conference. At the gathering, a need was expressed for help to construct a new building at a newly established church in a place called "Belesa". A collection was taken and a total of \$857 was received. This doesn't sound like much to us; but to them this amount is triple the yearly income of most of the participants and most members are very poor and totally dependent on the crops they raise on their 3 or 4 acre farms. They sent an appeal to the brethren in Addis Ababa asking for assistance to purchase corrugated metal sheets for the roof. A fund is maintained in Addis Ababa for that purpose. This will be an unbelievable blessing for the new church as they go among the people teaching and preaching the saving message of Jesus!

The Duna congregation, also in the Soro area, hosted a three day preacher's conference in April. Preachers, church leaders and members participated. Over 1000 attended each day, representing 41 congregations from the area.

These are only two reports received and they reveal to us the vast amount of kingdom related activity going on continually. The church is busy and growing in Ethiopia! All of you involved in this great ministry are a definite part of this wonderful work. God is using your involvement to provide the means to train preachers, lift up the lives of people, providing a wonderful education for deaf and destitute children, providing pure clean water that saves thousands of lives each year and all the outreaches that shine as a bright light in a dark world. We pray that God will allow you and us to continue to serve Him and the people of Ethiopia!

**THE DEAF SCHOOLS AND KINDERGARTENS** continue moving forward. Many changes are being demanded by the government. One noticeable change will be starting next term our KG's will go to a three year program instead of two. Changes like this are sometimes confusing and not well explained. However, we do know this change involves construction of an additional classroom at the three schools and adding another teacher next term. Pray for our brethren as they face these changes and have to deal with them continually! We pray for all of you each day. Thank you for your faithfulness.

Kevin and John Ed Clark