

Expanding the Work of the Lord in South Africa

Jan/Feb 2013

Greetings to All.

The weeks seem to gain speed as they pass by this year, a constant reminder that the fields are white to harvest and there is much for us to do. In spite of our failings God's love and care for us is constant and indeed we have been grateful recipients of His Love and Mercy. I apologize for not having this newsletter out sooner. Last year closed with a soft BANG and this year has exploded with good consequences of that bang.

After **PATRICK'S** return from a successful trip around the Sates many things have opened up and giving us wonderful opportunities to spread the **GOODS NEWS**. The months of December 2011 and January of this year we know of at least **47 baptisms** that took place at **IMOM, Sebokeng**, our original training center.



BAPTISMS AT IMOM

We know that there were several other conversations but have no official record of them. We try to keep accurate records on conversions but can only be certain of those that happen at Sebokeng. We have recently tried to equip our evangelists with digital cameras so that we can have evidence of other baptisms, but to date have no pictures.

IMOM (Sebokeng)

The IMOM Wednesday leader classes have increased in numbers from December. Attendance last year averaged about 40, By the end of January 2013 **62 people** had visited the offices to register for classes. Many of these folk cannot attend on the weekend due to other commitments and part time job opportunities. There is still a need to have these WBS books in the various, more prevalent, official languages, probably South Sotho, Xhosa and Zulu languages.



PORTABLE BAPTISRY IN USE

There has been a great resurgence of the prison ministry. We have one portable baptistry left, it needs a new lining, we need an additional 3 due to the increase in our training centers. (cost \$300.00 each)

On the 17th January we held a special meeting on the campus. Summarizing the idea of a "map" for life from the WBS Introduction lesson, an invitation was drawn up with this motif. Existing WBS students were asked to give the invitation to 5 of their friends. On the day just over **200 people attended** the meeting. **EIGHT** teachers, each took 27 visitors and discussed with them the concept of the "map".

Thank you for partnering with us in this incredible work God has given us in South Africa.
Blessings
Jeff



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17 people responded to the Lord's invitation to be born again that day. What was tremendous was that 3 of them were leaders we had taught the previous year. Sometimes you never know when our Lord will convict those who seek Him!

This year we have added and additional 5 training centers, giving us a total of 6 with another 2 possible areas. These areas are: *Ironsyde; Evaton; Evaton North; Lawley; Small Farms; Sharpeville; Orange Farm and Denneysville*. On average, there are 15 students in each of these areas. We are still praying and trying to ascertain where God wants us to be teaching, as there are too many areas. It is a good problem to have. The classes at IMOM will commence on 2 February, with the other areas opening in the weeks to follow. As I pen this newsletter we have a total of 120 church leaders enrolled in our Sebokeng Leadership Centers. This number will change as we enroll others and count those from Soweto.

PRESCHOOL at IMOM

Last year we lost our cook and our primary Teacher due to lack of funds and some personal reasons. However, God provides. This year started with a new (old) teacher, who was with us 4 years previously – **BEAUTY**. Our new cook is **KHETHIWE NDLOVU**, a Zimbabwean who is living on the premises with her family as they are foreigners who cannot access any government funding at this time. Building of the proposed new school in Tsephong has not yet materialized, but we are confident that it will be completed within the next 3-4 months. Access to the donated land has finally been cleared and we have clear title, the architect plans drawn, quotes for all the building materials and builders expenses are in, but TIA (this is Africa). Please pray for this project as the people in the community have been asking us when is the school going to be ready for their children? The proposed school has effectively decreased the number of children coming to our older preschool in Ironsyde. Our decision is to keep the school at **IRONSIDE** open as a school for severely disadvantaged children. Presently we have 15 children enrolled, but this usually increases drastically as the year progresses. We will be equipped to accommodate up to 35 children. One of our new students is **SINALO NGWENDUNA**.

SINALO was born on 14th January 2008 to a destitute family in the new low cost/high density residential area of Tshephong. Neither of her parents have employment, and she shares the house with her 10 year old brother. The family struggles to survive on the government child support grants for their children. (about \$80 per child/month). This is a common predicament for more than 70% of the residents in this housing complex. All compounded by the HIV/AIDS epidemic. **SINALO** is a very bright energetic young student who loves to come to school. She is eager to learn and please her teacher during class time.



SINALO IN PINK, WITH TWO CLASS MATES.

SOWETO

A shortage of WBS literature has caused us some concern. We are confident that God will allow us to make a plan! **NAYISON'S** ministry has not slowed down. This year he has conducted 3 weddings and presided at a number of funerals. One of our future plans is to use the Nomad team to film an informative series on death and funerals (from a Christian perspective). This will be taught by brother **NAYISON**, and will be an excellent teaching tool for all in the future. There are lots of misconceptions developed by traditional beliefs that bring incredible hardships amongst the township "Christians" with reference to this phase of life. **NAYISON** will also be travelling to Zimbabwe and Zambia later this year to conduct teaching conferences in various congregations who will be sponsoring his travels.

COMPUTER CENTER for advanced Leadership Center - SOWETO

Before **PATRICK** made his trip to the States we had been equipping and encouraging our evangelists to prayerfully consider starting Leadership equipping centers in other areas. This was precipitated due to

several reasons including distance and transport issues together with the growing number of people who wanted to be a part of our “ministry”. **Prayer was answered** as a local company contacted us and has donated 10 computers for us to start up an advanced training center. This center will cater for those students who have shown good academic skills and will be enrolled with Nations University (out of Nashville TN.) This will be an additional responsibility for **NAYISON** to co-ordinate and oversee. Students will have the option to enroll in either an accredited or non-accredited degree program. Lord willing we will have this center fully operational by the end of May this year.

OUTREACH

One of the areas of outreach the Leadership training team is ministering in is Eatonside. Although it is adjacent to the campus (outreach center) it is classified as a rural community. Over the past 4 years it has been selected for developed into one of the many high density housing areas. Locally this is known as a RDP (reconstruction and development) community. People well below the poverty level, who are destitute and earn less than \$400 per month are allocated a free RDP house. On average there is a 45-60% national unemployment rate in South Africa. In these RDP areas unemployment is as high as 80-90%. With outreach there is an added challenge that the people are comprised of a great variety of language groups and cultures (South Africa has 11 official languages).

In this community of high HIV/AIDS, TB and unemployment our God has touched the life of people like **SIMON MOTSENENG**. **SIMON** is a 70 year old widower who has opened his small RDP house to host a home bible group of 15 people. He is a member of the Lord’s body and is serious about sharing the Good News with his 5 married children and neighbors. His desire is to serve His God faithfully until his last breath on this earth. He is an inspiration to us all. This small group is impacting the lives of this growing community. 2 more from this group were baptized on the 17 December 2012 at the IMOM campus. Such decisions have strengthened and spurred the other home bible group members to a renewed determination to reach out.

The group is being lead through an in-depth study of the WBS book **The Family of God**. This is an extremely useful and excellent study guide as it deals extensively with the book of **Ephesians** and covers many foundational doctrines and church family life. We have also decided to use it as a foundational study guide book for all of our leader training groups in the Sebokeng area.

With the home group of Simon, our aim is to equip all of the members to such a degree that at the completion of their studies they will be instrumental in starting new groups, **2 Tim.2:2** principle.

Due to the financial increase and expansion of opportunities God is giving us ,we are currently praying God will lead us to a congregation that will be willing to oversee the following areas of ministry. **Leadership Training and Development**. **Medical Mission** . We have been donated land to build a medical clinic together with the Pre-school we are currently building and would like to partner with someone in developing our Medical mission. PLEASE prayerfully consider these options and contact Jeff Kenee

for additional information at **314-330-9544** or email at jeffkenee@yahoo.com



PATRICK & JEFF KENEE

Thank you so much for the prayers and support you have given us in 2012 . May God Bless you as much as He bless us.

Blessings to All

Patrick and Jeff and all at R & T ministries