

"And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also." - 2 Timothy 2:2

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Establishing and Equipping Local Churches through National Pastors

February 2014 Newsletter

"Now I beseech you, brethren, for the Lord Jesus Christ's sake, and for the love of the Spirit, that ye strive together with me in your prayers to God for me;" Romans 15:30





Tappita, Liberia



Last month, I asked you to pray with me for my trip to West Africa. It was very clear that you were *striving together with me in your prayers to God for me*, as my trip was blessed beyond what I had even hoped! Thank you all so much for your prayers! Not only did God quickly provide the finances necessary for the trip, but He put everything in order throughout my time in Liberia & Ghana.

After two years of prayer, planning, researching, meetings, emails, presentations, and changes, we praise God for the start of three Bible colleges this past August! Even with a great start, it was clear that I needed to meet with the pastors and students personally to explain our purpose, goals, and financial structure. I cannot begin to tell you what a blessing it was to see all the hard work and effort become reality as I saw the students with their workbooks and taking their final exams. Their enthusiasm and excitement was refreshing and encouraging as they talked on & on about how the DVD Bible classes were blessing them. They expressed their appreciation for us starting the colleges, as well as their overwhelming gratitude for the many churches and individuals

that have contributed financially to make this training possible. It was good to explain to them our ministry goals of evangelism, church planting, and training national pastors. Thirty-nine students began the second semester this week. Praise the Lord!

I was also blessed to see our first church plant in Liberia going strong! Once again, because of the help of many churches and individuals, we were able to purchase property and a building in a growing area outside of Monrovia. The building will act as our home and church when we move to Liberia. Another reason for my trip was to get price estimates for well, septic, water – reservoir, plumbing, electrical, flooring, doors/ windows, walls, ceilings, generator, etc. So, thankfully, we were able to get some solid numbers, while understanding that there will always be additional costs.



Wednesday evening service at Faith Baptist Church in Tinker Village, Liberia

It may be that the greatest blessing of all was to see how this empty building has grown from a simple Bible study with no chairs to now having regular church services! **My heart was full** as I reflected on how God led us to this property, provided the finances to purchase it, led Pastor Saywah to start a Bible study, provided the chairs through a gift from a church in Illinois, and now having the opportunity to preach for two rooms full of people! Words cannot express the praise and gratitude I felt toward the Lord for allowing me to be a part of His planting this new church in Tinker Village, Liberia! After months of preparation, the folks were so happy to finally have a Baptist church in their area. Before, they had been walking miles to go to church.

Each of you that gave or prayed for this ministry can rejoice as you see the fruit of your labor! This is only the beginning! There is still much to do, but God is blessing this work greatly!

Building Costs (prices include materials and labor)

- <u>Most urgent needs</u>: (These projects need to be done by the end of March and before the rainy season starts in April. If it is not done by April, it will have to wait until next January)
 - 1. Dig water well & build reservoir tower: \$6,400.00
 - 2. 1000 Gallon reservoir tank: \$450.00
 - 3. Septic system: \$1,500.00

Total Urgent Needs: \$8,350.00

• <u>Secondary needs</u>:

1. Level and tile all floors:	\$6,438.00
2. Build and install all doors:	\$973.00
3. Lumber & plywood for ceilings:	\$3,171.00
4. Wall Plastering (interior only):	\$1,675.00
5. Plumbing:	\$2,240.00
6. Electrical (240 Volt)(Does not include generator):	\$2,830.00

7. Generator: \$1,400.00

Total Secondary Needs: \$18,727.00

Total Costs (Materials & Labor): \$27,077.00

To be honest, this seems like a mountain too difficult to climb. I never imagined two years ago, when we started deputation, God would provide property, a block building, and a national pastor in answer to my great burden for this area of Liberia – but look at what HE has done! I have no doubt that HE also has a plan for climbing this mountain. Will you climb with us and see from on top what God is able to do with those who are willing to climb? Maybe your church can take on one of the phases of this project or a portion of a particular phase. Please pray for the church, the need, and your participation.

Prayer Requests:

- Continue to pray for our traveling and scheduling of meetings
- Continue to pray for the colleges and financial stability
- Continue to pray for all missionaries as they take the Word to the World!

Please pray with us and consider contributing to the completion of this building. Remember, they are meeting without any water – thus no restrooms! Above is a list of costs to complete the building for us to move in and better function as a church.

Your Missionaries to West Africa, Rick & Brenda Osborn