



Ebenezer International Ministries, Inc

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From our Missionary (Brother Haile)

The Corona virus has truly changed the landscape of Ethiopia. It has affected our planned meetings and closed the school at Crosspointe for at least three weeks. It's not clear how many people in Ethiopia are infected, but since the country does not have a seaport and with many airlines not flying, we are having many troubles getting goods in our country. We have though been able to print over 1500 new testaments to give out for follow up at discipleship programs. During this time, we ask the Ebenezer family to humble themselves before almighty God and pray for the world, the nation of Ethiopia, and our generation. Psalm 46:1,2 tells us "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble". Please continue to pray for us as we are praying for you every day.

From the Chairman (Brother Jeff)

For most people around the world this is a time of great uneasiness because the virus, COVID-19. For many of us life as we know it has come to a grinding halt and "social distancing" is the newest and most used term in our vocabulary. We have had to find new ways to go about daily task, and something as simple as worshipping at church with our friends and family looks quite different than it did a month ago. Many people, concerned for their future, are hiding and hoarding looking out for them and theirs. What an opportunity for believers, the body of Christ, to step up and show the world what it looks like to have the "Spirit of power, love, and a sound mind", rather than live in fear.

We may become so wrapped up in events in the U.S., that we lose sight of all that is going on around the world. As brother Haile shared above, Crosspoint Christian Academy has shut down at the behest of the Ethiopian government for at least three weeks. Sounds familiar to what we are experiencing here, but without the income from the students, payroll for the employees at the school can not be met. Praise the Lord for the generosity of his people which has allowed Ebenezer to meet the nearly \$9500 payroll for this past month. Pray with us that the Lord will make a way for this need to be met as we go forward.

We also want to share that there is a campaign under way to raise \$40,000 to purchase a container of paper to print Bibles in Amharic to distribute during our Evangelistic trips. We are truly grateful to Brother Leon Hawks pastor of Crosspointe Baptist Church in Concord for spearheading these efforts and Brother Chris Hawks of Second Baptist Hamlet for their gifts that has put us well over \$10,000 toward seeing this goal met. How the precious people of Ethiopia long to have their own copy of God's word.

Along with the school closing at least one of the upcoming evangelistic trips and possibly a second will be postponed. This means the gospel won't be preached in the marketplaces, pastors won't be trained to disciple new believers, open air crusades will have to be cancelled, and the training of nearly 200 evangelists will have to wait. As discouraging as this all sounds, I am reminded of Paul's words to the church at Rome, "all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose". The Father isn't sitting in Heaven in a panic over COVID-19, so neither will I allow panic to overcome me. As children of the Most High God let's take what the Satan means for bad and make it something beautiful, both where we are and for the wonderful people of Ethiopia.

May God our Father richly bless each of you.

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