

SPREADING THE
LOVE OF JESUS
CHRIST TO
UNREACHED PEOPLE
GROUPS AROUND THE
WORLD.

Gospel For All

Summer / Fall 2005 Issue

September 2005

Inside this issue:

Lonely Eyes Left Behind by HIV/Aids	1
HIV/Aids — What Part Can We Play?	1
Borana Outreach: Reaching the Lost for Christ	2
I Witnessed God at Work!	3
Through the eyes of a child.....My Summer Vacation in Mega	4
Testimony of Wario Galgallo	5
Gospel For Unreached Nations: Evangelist Tsega-ab Bekele	5
Meet Our New Evangelists	6
Ministry Updates	7
Praise & Prayer	8
Evangelism & HIV/Aids: Workshop For Evangelists	8

Lonely Eyes Left Behind by HIV/Aids

by: Vivian H. Dersu

Little did I know that a brief encounter of maybe five minutes would leave a lasting impression on my mind. The little boy was no more than 6 years old and had one of the sweetest faces I have ever seen in my life...but it wasn't the face that caught my attention, it was the eyes. His dark brown eyes said it all...he was lonely, sad and unsure of the future.

Liben is an orphan living with his grandmother in southern Ethiopia. He tragically lost his mother and then his father to HIV/Aids. He is one of an ever growing population of children orphaned in Ethiopia as a result of HIV/Aids.

According to an April 2005 report by the Kaiser Daily HIV/AIDS Report, there could be as many as 1.8 million Aids related deaths in Ethiopia by 2008. It is estimated that one-third of all adult deaths in Ethiopia is due to HIV/Aids. There is believed to be at least 2 million HIV-positive people living in Ethiopia today.

With these statistics, the harsh

reality of life for many Ethiopians hits hard, especially those in rural areas with little knowledge or education of how to prevent this deadly disease.

My brief encounter with Liben made a significant impact on my life. My heart broke not only for him, but also for the thousands of other children left orphaned by this terrible disease. I found myself looking into the eyes of the many children I passed on the street and in the market place wondering how many of them had lost a mother, father or possibly both to Aids.

The ministry of Gospel For All is not only about meeting the spiritual needs of people, but we also strive to meet their physical needs as well. That is why we are reaching out and providing our evangelists with some much needed education in the area of basic HIV/Aids prevention. Our evangelists minister among the Borana people. The Borana are a semi-nomadic people spread

throughout southern Ethiopia and northern Kenya. Due to traditional cultural practices it is acceptable to have multiple partners. As you can imagine, with this type lifestyle HIV/Aids can spread very rapidly. Many of the Borana are uneducated and have no idea that there is a way to prevent the spread of this deadly disease. Through our evangelists, Gospel For All's desire is to give hope to the Borana.

Liben planted the seed in my heart and made me realize the importance of playing a part in preventing the spread of HIV/Aids among the Borana. He will always have a part of my heart and the look in his eyes will forever be in my mind. If Gospel For All can help prevent even one child from being orphaned by HIV/Aids, then Liben's loss will not have been in vain. Liben does not know the impact he made on my life, maybe one day he will.

HIV/Aids — What Part Can We Play?

by: Vivian H. Dersu

HIV/Aids poses a tremendous threat to over a million people in Ethiopia today. The threat is even greater in rural areas where there is relatively little information about HIV/Aids and how it is transmitted. It is critical to educate those living in these rural areas of the dangers of HIV/Aids.

The majority of evangelists supported by Gospel For All are situated in rural areas and therefore are in the unique position to make a significant impact on the lives of these people. Our goal is for the

evangelists to teach people about HIV/Aids as they share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with them. With proper training and resources, our evangelists can effectively provide valuable education about HIV/Aids.

One of the biggest challenges faced in the struggle against preventing the spread of HIV/Aids is the stigma associated with it. Providing our evangelists with the proper Biblical teaching on loving and caring for

the sick will help them to understand the importance of loving and caring for people living with HIV/Aids.

Gospel For All **can** play a role in preventing the spread of HIV/Aids among the many people living in the rural areas where are evangelists minister.

(see page 6 for plans already in motion for carrying out our role in HIV/Aids ministry)

Borana Outreach: Reaching the Lost For Christ

by: Simret Tuffa

I decided to join the Borana Outreach when Solomon Yohannes, founder of this ministry, shared with me his vision of reaching the Borana people for Christ. His ideas on reaching the Borana people excited me a lot.

“The Gospel is the most important heritage we can pass on to the next generation.”

Missionaries first came to the Borana about half a century ago, yet the majority of the people still do not believe in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. To make the matter worse, Muslims have targeted the Borana in order to convert them to Islam. The Spirit of the Lord has filled me with a passion to reach the Borana

people for Christ before they are converted to Islam. The primary goal of the Borana Outreach Ministry is to preach the Gospel in areas targeted by Muslims.

In retrospect, I now understand how the Lord has been using me and other ministers to save souls in spite of facing many challenges.

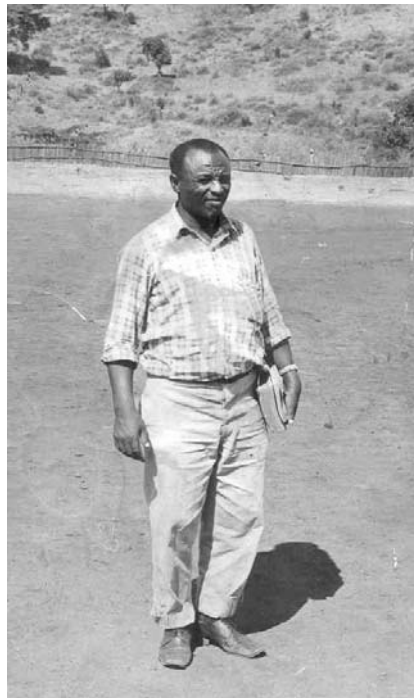
May God bless all of you who are partners in this ministry through Gospel For All. I know that no one can do the

work of God unless he or she is blessed by God.

I pray that the Lord will help you to do more than what you are presently doing for the sake of the Gospel. The Gospel is the most important heritage we can pass on to the next generation. The Gospel, not material wealth or achievements, is the most enduring impact we can leave on earth.



Simret Tuffa is a member of the leadership team of the Borana Outreach Ministry. She is a business woman, wife and mother of five children. Simret is also the daughter of one of the first evangelists who came to minister in the Borana area in the 1950's (pictured to the left).



“Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.”

1 Corinthians 15:58

I Witnessed God at Work!!

by: Solomon Damtew

After six years in the USA, I returned to Ethiopia this past summer for a visit with family and friends. During my visit, I was able to see three churches and visit with two evangelists currently supported by **Gospel For All**. I was left with a lot of unforgettable memories after visiting various churches.

One of church that I visited was in southern Ethiopia. It is in a very small town where my father-in-law and mother-in law live. It was a good experience to see that church. The church building is very small, but the building was overflowing with people sitting outside the church to worship and listen to the word of God without any complaining. What an amazing thing to see! Here in the USA, I have a lot of choices, but they don't. They gave all things to God. On top of this, this congregation is building a new church building by bringing in their talent, time and the small amount of money they have. God has miraculously provided the funds needed to complete the church building. When I saw all of this, I was reminded of Nehemiah in the Bible. Nehemiah told the people to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem and he said, "The God of heaven would give us success". He started with faith and succeeded. In Mega, I saw a church that had the same faith. How wonderful it is to trust God! I would like to say "God bless you all who support this church."

I did get an opportunity to visit with Teshome and Taadi, two of the evangelists supported by **Gospel For All**. I interviewed them about their ministry. Teshome said that he is serving in Mega and the surrounding area by working together with the church I spoke about earlier. He said that in the surrounding areas outside of Mega there have recently been forty-six people accept Christ as Savior and were baptized. These people need a church where they can gather together and worship God. They are in need of support to build a church.

Taadi is serving in the village of Harbale. This village is far from Mega -- he said it takes ten to twelve hours to get there by foot. It is hard to tell how many miles, I would guess it's anywhere from twenty to thirty miles. Can you imagine how hard it is to walk all day to get there?

These evangelists face a lot of hardships, but they committed to serve God. It is wonderful to see what God is doing through His people. This was a wonderful opportunity for me along with my entire family to see what God is doing. I praise God for all He is doing and what He has done!

God bless you,

Solomon Damtew is the son of the late Haile Damtew who was one of the first evangelists among the Borana people in the 1950's. Solomon serves on the Board of Directors of Gospel For All and currently resides in Schaumburg, IL with his wife and 3 daughters.



Above Left:

The nearly completed new church in Mega, Ethiopia that I was able to see. Evangelist Teshome works out of this church and into the surrounding area of Mega. Since my visit this summer, the church has been completed (Above Right).

Praise God!!

Through the eyes of a child...

My Summer Vacation in Mega

by: Eiftu Solomon

Eiftu is the eldest daughter of Solomon Damtew who is on the Board of Directors of Gospel For All

Going to Mega was an experience I will never forget. In Mega there are so many beautiful sites. The mountains are set in front of a blue sky. The weather in Mega is colder than most of Ethiopia because it is in the middle of two mountains. There are lots of kids in Mega. If you are new to the town they will either follow you or try to talk to you in English. It's fun for a short time, but then it starts to bug you. One time, a bunch of kids started to say things like "what is your name?" or "where are the monkeys?" When I ignored them, they kept at it. I started to feel bad.

When I visited the church in Mega, I was amazed. How could such a little town have such big faith? Even though I couldn't really understand the language, I could tell they loved the Lord. They even had translators to translate Amharic to Oromo. There were also missionaries who preached to the people. Even the kids were singing and praying. Later on I thought about this. So many kids in America don't come to church because they think it's boring. Some kids only come to church because their parents make them. The children in Mega enjoyed coming to church. This was something I would always think about.

On the last day we were in Mega, I finally got to know the kids. I played soccer with the boys. I don't think I was supposed to do that because all of the girls were looking at me awkwardly. When I went to one of my friends, Gadisay, she said, "Why are you playing with those guys?" The game stopped after that. Instead, we played hide and seek. It was so much fun running on the red earth of Mega. I can't believe I put off playing with these kids until my last day. They're great! Maybe I'll see them in the near future.

Mega is a wonderful place to go for vacation. It has a great atmosphere, the people are friendly, and life is smooth. In my opinion, Mega adds a special touch to Ethiopia!

The Testimony of Wario Galgallo

by: Wario Galgallo

I came to Christ when I was a young man. I was baptized and taught the basics of Christianity through confirmation courses at the Hidi Lola Mekane Yesus Church.

I came to the town of Hidi Lola from my village in order to go to school. Friends of mine told me about Christ and took me to church. That is how I came to know Christ.

I began my ministry in the choir and then started preaching. I continued serving the Lord as I pursued my education. During

this time the love of God was growing in my heart day by day. When I finished my education I entered into full-time ministry.

I received Bible training from the Timothy Bible Institute which is based out of South Africa. I continue to take Bible courses today.

My goal for the future is to expand the kingdom of the Lord. I have no other plans for the future except to serve God in whatever way He chooses to use me.

I have been serving in full-time Christian ministry for five years and currently I am working in Moyale and the surrounding area.

—Wario Galgallo is married with one child. He serves with the Borana Outreach Ministry as Coordinator of the evangelists. Along with his coordinator duties, he is also involved in evangelistic work and is currently assigned to work in Dembi. This is a Muslim dominated area located close to the border of Ethiopia and Kenya. This area is unreached with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and is a potentially difficult area in which to work. Please pray for the Lord to give Wario a breakthrough as he ministers in this area.



Wario Galgallo

Gospel For Unreached Nations: Evangelist Tsega-ab Bekele

by: Vivian H. Dersu



Evangelist Tsega-ab (far left) with pastors and evangelists who attended a seminar in Hosanna, Ethiopia. These pastors and evangelists work in heavily populated Muslim areas.

Last issue we introduced you to Evangelist Tsega-ab Bekele who God allowed to cross our path in July of 2004 in Ethiopia. We continue to be excited and encouraged as we receive regular updates from Tsega-ab regarding the ministry that God has opened up before him. Tsega-ab has a gift for evangelism and training. His heart for evangelism has led him to start a 'traveling' school of ministry. He travels to different areas and conducts training seminars for pastors and evangelists in the area. These are intense classes that require a lot of commitment from participants. The training takes place one week out of every month over a three year period.

who were fighting, backbiting and having no communication with each other were brought together through Tsega-ab's ministry school. Today, these pastors are together in one class with a common goal of gaining further insight into God's Word. The fighting and backbiting have been replaced by a true love and respect for each other. For the first time they are inviting each other to share their church pulpit and together are planning for an area wide outreach. God is using this ministry to break down walls!

This past June, the ministry school in Yavello opened. Participants came from various surrounding areas. More than fifty students have joined the program. God is working through this ministry. Pastors from various churches

Pastor Eshetu is enrolled in the Yavello ministry school that opened the summer of 2005. Following, he shares a little bit of how this ministry has affected his life: "I had prayed for more than ten years that God would make a way for me to receive Biblical training in order to know Christ more and be more effective in my ministry. I did not expect the answer to come to me here in the area I am working. I am enjoying the student centered classes, practical heart to heart teaching, openness of the teacher and the presence of the Holy Spirit. I am so grateful and words can not express how this ministry school is impacting my life. God has used the two classes I have taken so far to totally revolutionize my life as well as the people in my church. The ministry school brings people from different denominations together in the true spirit of love and unity. Only God can make this possible in the midst of the wilderness in which we are living. God is using Brother Tsega-ab to positively influence my life and ministry. I am old enough for him to be my son. I know of his humble upbringing in this remote area, but today because of God's hand on his life, I am able to be one of his students. I praise God for Tsega-ab's life and ministry."

God is using Tsega-ab's ministry to touch many lives. God is using his simple approach to allow students enrolled in his ministry schools to experience a transformation and personal encounter with the living God through His word and the Holy Spirit.

Please pray for Tsega-ab as he continues to conduct these classes and opens new schools of ministry as funds are made available.

Meet Our New Evangelists



Dida Barako

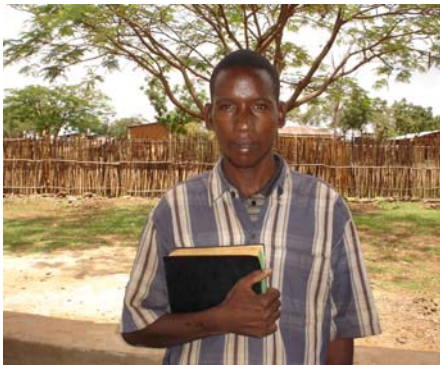
Dida Barako was born in Teltelle in 1975. He attended school up through the sixth grade, but then dropped out due to pressure from his family who saw no value in education.

Dida received Christ as his personal Savior in 1991, but he fell back into a secular lifestyle. During this time, Dida got caught up in a lifestyle that included smoking, drinking alcohol and chewing *chat* (a common drug in East Africa). He was not on good terms with people and he worshiped many gods.

God used the Great Commission Ministry of Campus Crusade International to bring Dida back to Christ. He repented and has been a changed man since.

After coming back to Christ, Dida recognized his need for a Christian brother to help him grow and strengthen his relationship with Christ. Shortly thereafter, Evangelist Taadi, who serves with the Borana Outreach Ministry, started a work in the Gandelle area where Dida was living. It was through Taadi's ministry that Dida received the encouragement and accountability that he had been praying for.

Dida's desire is to serve the Lord who set him free from the sin that held him so tightly in bondage. He completed a two month Bible training program in Mega before being employed by the Borana Outreach Ministry to serve as an evangelist.



Boba Guyo

Boba Guyo was born in Teltelle in 1967. His father was killed by a neighbor when Boba was a child. When Boba became an adult and would tell others the story of how his father was killed, he always shared his determination to find revenge on the man who was responsible for his father's death. He was consumed by the spirit of revenge.

Boba accepted Christ in 1997 through a ministry of the Mekane Yesus Church. Accepting Christ transformed Boba's entire life. He no longer seeks revenge against the man who killed his father and considers him a friend. It is amazing what the power of the Holy Spirit can do in one's life!

Boba does not have any formal education, but he is able to read both Amharic (the national language of Ethiopia) and Oromo (his tribal language). Once he decided to go into evangelistic work, he went to the city of Mega and completed a two month Bible training program. After he completed this training, he was employed by the Borana Outreach Ministry to serve as an evangelist.

Boba is single and looking forward to what God has in store for him as he carries out the call God placed on his life to serve in evangelism.

"For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God."

I Corinthians 1:18

Ministry Update

Both Boba Guyo and Dida Barako are working in Gandelle. They took over the ministry that Taadi started in this area.

Boba and Dida have been working in Gandelle for about three months. They spend their time evangelizing as well as encouraging members of a church that was recently established in this area.

Four souls have come to Christ so far through Boba and Dida's ministry. Please pray that God would continue to bless their ministry and that many more souls would be added to the Kingdom. Pray that God would encourage these two young evangelists as they are still new in the ministry.

Ministry Updates....

Teshome

Evangelist Teshome continues to minister in Mega and the surrounding areas. Recently, Teshome has seen the mighty hand of God in his ministry. The majority of people living in the villages where he ministers are possessed with evil spirits. Through Teshome's teaching of the gospel and through prayer, the evil spirit's stronghold is disintegrating. Teshome asks for all Christians to join him in prayer as he continues to work in these villages.

Pray for Teshome's protection spiritually, mentally and physically as he presses on in this area.

Work in this area is difficult, but one by one people are coming to Christ. Over the past six months one individual came to Christ and many others promised to think about salvation. Pray that God would continue to work in their hearts and bring them to repentance and a relationship with Christ.

In addition to the work in villages, Teshome serves in the Mega Mekane Yesus Church. He strengthens and encourages believers through house-to-house services. He is also leading a confirmation course for 27 young Christians who are joining the church.



Teshome with the one of the bicycles purchased by Gospel For All



Taadi (L) and Dimtu

Taadi

For the past few years Taadi has been ministering in Gandelle, Teltelle District. God blessed and Taadi was able to win many souls to Christ as well as plant a church in this area. The ministry in Gandelle has been turned over to our two new evangelists, Dida and Boba.

Taadi has moved on to serve in Harbale which is in the Mega district. He is ministering in many small villages in this area.

Please pray for Taadi as he works to establish a work in this new area. Pray that God would strengthen the 2 individuals who accepted Christ over the past six month and that they would grow in the Lord.

Dimtu

Dimtu continues her ministry in Deeda Jaarsa. She continues to encourage and worship together with a group of Christians in Deeda Jaarsa. Dimtu's age is catching up with her and she is no longer able to serve as actively as in the past. She has requested that an evangelist be sent to Deeda Jaarsa to assist in expanding this ministry. Please pray for an evangelist to be lifted up to help Dimtu.

Elias & Yaikob

Elias and Yaikob both continue to minister in the Negelle region. They have been focusing on building up new believers and getting them grounded in the Word of God. Please pray that these new converts would be strong in their faith and grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord, Jesus, Christ.

Elias continues to serve in Adessa and Yaikob continues to labor in Bulbulla. Please pray for the 13 people who recently accepted Christ through Yaikob's ministry in Bulbulla. Continue to lift up Elias and Yaikob as they continue to serve God in this heavily Muslim populated area.



Coordinator, Wario Galgallo with bicycles (purchased by Gospel For All) ready to deliver to Elias and Yaikob ministering in Negelle.

Gospel For All

P.O. Box 293341
Nashville, TN 37229
U.S.A.

Fax:
615-213-0479

Email:
GospelForAll@tds.net

Website:
www.GospelForAll.org

PLEASE PRAY for the Evangelism & HIV/ Aids

1-Week Workshop

**October 10 ~ 15, 2005
Awassa, Ethiopia**

Program Outline

- Reality of HIV/Aids in Ethiopia
- Basic Facts about HIV/Aids and modes of transmission
- Role of Christians in fighting HIV/Aids
- Relationship between evangelism and culture (specifically Borana)
- Methods of evangelism and church planting
- Evangelization with passion
- Holistic Ministry's role in reaching people for Christ

Total Cost of \$1,000 covers the following:

- Transportation to bring 7 evangelists and 1 coordinator to Awassa.
- Housing/Food
- Materials
- Meeting Room Rental
- Trainer's Fees

If you would like to help off-set the cost for this workshop — please send check or money order to Gospel For All and make a notation of 'Workshop Fund' in the memo field.

If this proves to be a suc-

PRAISE & PRAYER

PRAISE GOD FOR....



- ◆ Providing bicycles for the evangelists! Priest Lake Christian Fellowship in Nashville, TN donated \$700 which enabled us to reach our goal of raising a total of \$1000!! A total of 5 bicycles have been purchased and delivered to evangelists.
- ◆ The two new evangelists (Dida Barako and Boba Guyo) who have been added to our team of evangelists.
- ◆ Wario Galgallo who is serving as our coordinator
- ◆ His continued protection over our evangelists.



PRAYER REQUESTS

- ◆ Pray that educational materials will be made available to the evangelists. This includes material for the literacy program that Elias and Yaikob are starting as well as health related materials in the areas of family health and hygiene and HIV/AIDS prevention.
- ◆ Pray that funds will be available to provide training for evangelists in the area of HIV/Aids prevention.
- ◆ Pray that Bibles will be made available to distribute to the Borana people in their own language.
- ◆ Pray for God to supply a tape recorder operated by a crank for Dimtu.
- ◆ There is a need for posters depicting Jesus' life. This is particularly useful among the many illiterate people the evangelists are ministering to.



Evangelism & HIV/Aids: Workshop For Evangelists

The threat posed by HIV/Aids to the well being of the Borana people is immense, particularly in rural areas where there is relatively no information about HIV/Aids. Many of the people in these areas have no idea how this terrible disease is spread or any hope of preventing the spread. They must be educated with the basics and reminded of the danger of HIV/Aids.

Most all of the evangelists supported by Gospel For All are situated in these rural areas and their efforts can have a significant impact. In order for them to effectively minister and make a significant contribution in dealing with HIV/Aids, they must be equipped with the knowledge as to how best to communicate to these people about HIV/Aids. Providing this type of basic training to the evangelists will boost their

capacity in communicating information to those they are ministering to.

With all of this in mind, Gospel For All in conjunction with the Borana Outreach Ministry plans to provide a one week workshop to bring all of the evangelists together to receive training from qualified professionals who are currently involved with HIV/Aids in Ethiopia.

The training will focus on basic HIV/Aids prevention methods along with Biblical teaching on loving and caring for the sick. It is important for our evangelists to fully understand the Biblical teaching on loving and care for the sick in order for them to personally be able to genuinely love and care for those living with HIV/Aids. With this attitude, they will be able to help shape the society's outlook on HIV/Aids.

A major benefit of this week long workshop will be the opportunity it provides to bring the evangelists together to be able to get to know each other, share experiences and encourage each other. In addition, it will allow for the leadership committee to give a detailed account to the evangelists of how the ministry is being run and the objectives of the ministry.

The first week-long workshop is scheduled to be held October 10 ~ 15, 2005 in Awassa, which is where the leadership team of the Borana Outreach Ministry resides.

After this initial workshop, we will evaluate the success of this workshop and consider whether it will be beneficial to make this an annual event.