

**READER'S
Corner**

We would love to hear from you. Please write us with your comments, suggestions or just words of encouragement to share with our readers.

"I appreciate your ministry and your willingness to give me a place in your newsletter and present our ministry activities for your readers. I was encouraged by Sam's article, "We Serve A Mighty God", in the last newsletter. It is exciting to hear of the accomplishments of your ministry and to hear of Gospel For All's vision for the future."

—Tsega-ab Bekele

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Make Checks
Payable to:

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

PRAISE & PRAYER

PRAISE GOD FOR....



- ◆ His continued protection over the evangelists and their families.
- ◆ The souls that continue to come to Christ.
- ◆ The faithful prayer support of many around the world.

PRAYER REQUESTS

- ◆ Pray for RAIN. The drought throughout the Borana region has affected most of areas in which the evangelists are working. Many families have been displaced as a direct result of the drought.
- ◆ Pray that educational materials will be made available to the evangelists. This includes material for the literacy program that Elias and Yaikob have started as well as health related materials in the areas of family health and hygiene and HIV/AIDS prevention.
- ◆ Pray that Bibles will be made available to distribute to the Borana people in their own language.
- ◆ Pray for the *Hand of Hope* project that is reaching out to children orphaned — some of which are a direct result of HIV/Aids
- ◆ Pray for the physical safety of the evangelists and their families.
- ◆ Pray that places of worship would be made available.
- ◆ Pray for the leadership team of Gospel For All that they would have wisdom as they lead this organization for the Glory of God.
- ◆ Pray for the necessary finances to continue to come in to carry out this ministry.



THANK YOU

To all of you who faithfully pray for the evangelists by name.

We encourage you to adopt an evangelist and pray for him daily.

Let us know who you are praying for and we will pass this on to the evangelist. This will be a great encouragement to know that his name is being lifted up every day to our Father.

Special Requests From Borana Outreach Project Leadership Team

- Pray that we would diligently work at obtaining a license for this ministry in Ethiopia
- Pray that God would provide an individual for us to hire to serve as administrator of our ministry.
- Pray that we would run the ministry wisely and according to the leading of the Holy Spirit.

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

A Sacrifice of Love

by: Vivian H. Dersu

Inside this issue:

A Sacrifice of Love 1

Our Dream Has Become A Reality 2

Gospel For Unreached Nations 3

Hand of Hope 4

Two Testimonies of God at Work 5

Ministry Updates 6

Praise & Prayer 8

I was looking forward to worshipping with the congregation meeting in Deeda Jaarsa under the leadership of Dimtu. Dimtu is an evangelist working among the Borana people in the area of Deeda Jaarsa just outside of Mega, Ethiopia. Dimtu is an elderly lady who is among one of the first of the Borana people to accept Christ as Savior more than thirty years ago.

We left Mega Sunday morning on our way to Deeda Jaarsa. Several kilometers outside of Mega, we turned off on a small road that didn't look like it was going anywhere. The road wasn't paved and looked more like a path. Our skilled driver maneuvered the vehicle through the countryside for several kilometers until we came upon a small group of huts. These huts made up the village of Deeda Jaarsa.

Off to one side stood a small hut that looked like all of the others around, except this one was special...it was the church. I learned that Dimtu had built this church with her very own hands. You see, in the Borana culture, it is the woman's responsibility to build a house — putting all of the sticks together to build the frame, making the mud walls and creating the thatched roof.

I stood speechless as I looked at this house of worship — made of straw, sticks, mud walls and a dirt floor. It was obvious that Dimtu had put much love and care in building this house of worship for her Lord. There was one simple

doorway leading into the round church. As I stepped inside, just a few rays of sunlight were able to make their way inside. A pole stood in the middle of the floor supporting the thatched roof. There were no chairs inside, but a bench was built in going all the way around the circumference of the room. This bench had been carefully crafted with mud.

As I continued to take it all in, I noticed that the walls were painted. They were painted a beautiful rust color. I learned that it is quite a task to make this paint. There are various types of clay soil throughout the country which you can get to by digging very deep down into the ground. The soil is then mixed with water to make the paint. Once I learned the process, I realized that this had been no simple task. Dimtu was determined to do whatever necessary to make this house of worship the best that she possibly could.

Before long, people started arriving from what seemed like nowhere. They walked for several kilometers to gather together for Sunday services. Many of them traveled with small children and many of them walked barefoot because they didn't have any shoes. What I did notice was the smiles on their faces and their colorful clothes. The Borana women wear long, loose

fitting dresses, many times with a tie around the middle and a scarf wrapped around their head or draped over their shoulders. Their clothes are colorful and bright and they wear beautiful bracelets, similar to bangles made of different types of metal.

What followed was one of the most precious times of worship I have ever witnessed. The time of worship was filled with singing, dancing and clapping. There were no instruments, only the pure voices of this lovely group of believers. I could feel God's presence among us.

It has been nearly two years since I was in Deeda Jaarsa, but the memories are as clear as if it were yesterday. I have fond memories of the precious worship service, held in a simple hut, in what seemed like the middle of nowhere. I can still hear the voices singing and praising God!

I saw many sacrifices of love that day...the one that is forever etched in my mind is Dimtu's hut — the beautiful house of worship in Deeda Jaarsa.



Our Dream Has Become A Reality

by: Solomon Yohannes

It has been more than half a century since Christianity was introduced to the Borana and surrounding region of southern Ethiopia; however, there has not been great results in terms of the number of converts. There are many factors which have contributed to the low growth, but I do not want to deal with these at this time. Over the last ten years, the Borana people have been more open to the message of the Gospel than ever before. They have been asking for missionaries to come to their area and have asked church leaders to send evangelists to them. Financial and technical issues have made it impossible for this request to be fulfilled.

Indigenous and foreign missionaries have tried to reach the Borana with the Gospel for many years. In spite of many challenges, they have managed to establish churches in different areas. They have faithfully ministered to the Borana people for several decades – patiently waiting for the harvest and finally decided that it was time to move on. The vast Borana region has a number of unreached people and the churches established in the Borana region are not yet strong enough to carry out the much needed evangelistic work on their own.

There is both good news and bad news regarding the Borana area. The good news is that the people are responding to the message of the Gospel to a greater extent than ever before. The bad news is that the financial resources previously available for outreach through mission agencies has been reduced and the Borana people are no longer a priority for the missionary work in Ethiopia. While the people are open to accepting Christ, the mission activity has been reduced. Schools, clinics and other institutions set up and run by mission agencies have been handed over to the Ethiopian government. The churches established in the region do not have the resources to take over and run the outreach programs and social work at large.

At the same time the Islamic movement has been focusing on this area. Over the last 10 years the Islamic movement in this area has been increasing their activities on a wide spread scale throughout the region. Their aim is to revitalize traditional Islam and convert those following the traditional Borana religion. Islamic movements are doing exactly what protestant missionaries have been doing for a long time in the area. They build schools, mosques and hostels. In addition, they are sending groups of people to the remote country-side in order to reach people with the message of Allah. The aim of all these approaches is to convert the traditional Borana to Islam.

A few years ago, when I saw all of this happening in my area it broke my heart. I was so worried that our area would be totally Islamized. With the intense efforts of the Islamic movement focusing on this region, the conversion of people to Islam was something seemingly inevitable in the long run. I presented my concern to the EECMY (Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus) as well as the NLM (Norwegian Lutheran Mission) who have worked for many years in this region; however, no one responded to my concerns. I also went to the Guddinna Tumsa Foundation (a non profit agency whose mission is to care for the physical, mental, moral and spiritual well-being of deprived people) and to the Evangelical Church Miseret Kristus (Mennonite Church). Nothing happened. I then spoke to the South Ethiopian Synod of the EECMY, but except for a few individuals there was not much of a reaction.

These challenges triggered me to start the Borana Project which is the foundation of Gospel For All. I shared what I felt God had put on my heart with Fikadu Haile, a fellow believer whose father had worked as an evangelist among the Borana for many years. He told me that he had the same vision. He was the first person I met who shared my burden. Fikadu told me that he was already supporting two evangelists in the Negelle area; however, he wanted to do something more and didn't know exactly what to do. Together we went to Reverend Dawit Yohannes and then to Simret Tuffa. They both shared our burden and were willing to join with us to reach out to the Borana people with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Soon after, we were joined by Darara Timotewos who was a university student with a strong zeal to share the Gospel with his community – the Borana. Since then, several individuals from the district and the synod have joined together with us. I am thankful to God who has helped us to join hands and stand together in this commitment.

There have been many who have been opposed to the Borana Project from the beginning. Along the way there have been many challenges and I have seen that God's kingdom is at war with Satan. From the early church until present it has never been easy to carry out God's work. In spite of all of the challenges we have faced, God has helped us to found the Borana Project which today has developed into Gospel For All. God's hand has been with us and thus everything has gone above and beyond our expectations. Our dream of reaching out to the unreached Borana has been realized and our prayers have been heard. We continue to pray that many more of the Borana, as well as other unreached people groups will be reached by the Gospel.

Solomon Yohannes is the founder of Borana Outreach Ministry. It was through his determination to reach the lost for Christ that led us to found Gospel For All. Solomon and his wife Noora presently reside Oslo, Norway. They have one son.



Yaikob

Yaikob continues to faithfully serve in Bulbulla. This is an area with a heavy Muslim population and it is very difficult to spread the gospel.

Pray for Yaikob as he continues to work with new converts and focuses on getting them grounded in the Word of God.

Please pray for God's continued protection over him in this hostile Muslim area.



Teshome

Teshome continues to work in the areas surrounding Mega. He continues his group evangelism program by forming groups of believers to go out on short evangelistic trips into this area. Recently there have been several individuals who have come back into fellowship with Christ after having drifted away. In addition, God continue to use Teshome to bring more souls into the Kingdom. Praise God!!

Continue to pray for wisdom as Teshome continues to find ways to effectively minister through group evangelism.

Taadi

The past few months have been difficult for Taadi. He has been ministering in the Magado area for some time now, but due to the serious drought that this area is experiencing, many residents were forced to leave their homes and move to different area. The Borana people are a nomadic people and are accustomed to moving from place to place, Please pray that God's hand of protection will be over them and that believers not drift away from God. Pray for relief to come to this area.

Wario



Wario continues to serve as the coordinator of our evangelists. In addition to his responsibilities as coordinator, he also ministers in Dembi. Recently there have been 14 new converts and Wario has been able to share the gospel with many more. This area is a heavily populated Muslim area and is very difficult to spread the gospel.

Please pray for these new believers as they follow Christ. Pray also for their protection as they take a stand for Christ. Continue to pray for Wario's protection and for more doors of ministry to open up for him.

Dimtu



Dimtu continues to serve in Deeda Jaarsa . God continues to use her to bring souls into the Kingdom. This area is also experiencing a severe drought that has resulted in a massive displacement of residents throughout the area.

Please pray for God's protection and for relief to come to this area.



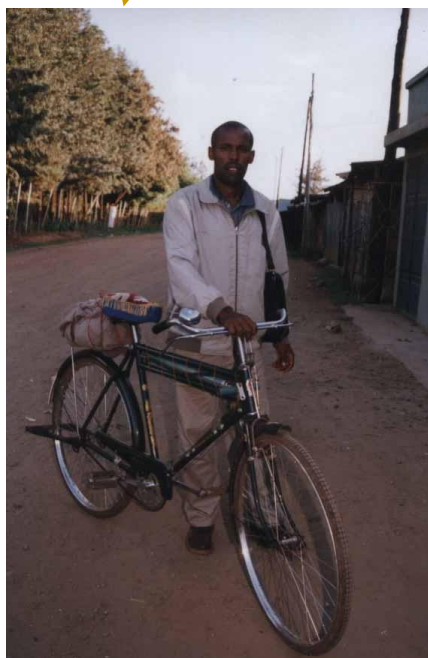
Meet our 2
New
Evangelists!

Guyo

Guyo recently joined our team as an additional evangelist to serve in the surrounding areas of Moyale. Guyo was born in the village of Tuqqa which is near Moyale. Moyale is a border town — half of which is in Ethiopia, the other half in Kenya. Guyo grew up following traditional Borana religious beliefs until he came to know Christ in 2001. Guyo is 25 years old and unmarried. Since his conversion, Guyo has been serving the Lord by singing in the choir and preaching the gospel. He loves Christ and is determined to serve and follow Him.



Guyo is ministering in Dembi which near Moyale in southern Ethiopia. He is working together with Wario who started working in this heavily populated Muslim area several months ago. Please pray for Guyo as he follows God's leading in



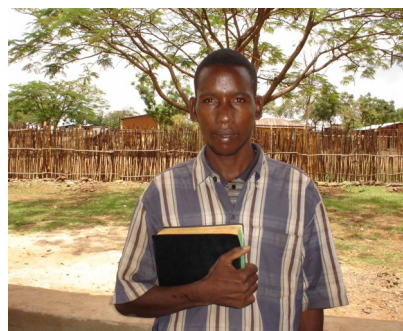
Malicha

Malicha is the evangelist we hired to replace Elias in the Negelle area. Malicha came to know Christ at a young age and has served God for many years working closely with the Mekane Yesus Church. He has planted churches and served as an evangelist for many years. We are happy to have him join our team working in the Negelle area.

Malicha is married and has six children. Please pray for him as he works in the difficult region of Negelle.

Ministry Updates

Dida & Boba



Boba and Dida have been working in the village of Gandelle. The Discipleship Training Course they are guiding new believers through continues to have new members join! Praise God for the souls that are coming to know Him!!

Recently three members of the same family accepted Christ as their Savior. Praise God!!

Please pray for these two young evangelists as they guide new Christians in the Gandelle church.



Gospel For Unreached Nations — Evangelist Tsega-ab Bekele

Tsega-ab continues to walk through whatever door of ministry that opens before him. God continues to bless his ministry as he continues to serve ministers of the gospel by providing them with training and encouragement.

In January God provided the way for Tsega-ab to go to Nairobi, Kenya to participate in the International Leader of Leaders Conference. Ministers of the gospel from all around the world participated in this conference. God used this conference to refresh, energize and minister to Tsega-ab.

Tsega-ab was able to arrive in Nairobi a few days before the conference and minister to Ethiopian refugees in Nairobi. God was able to work through Him and he blessed many lives during the few days he was with them.

In February, Tsega-ab traveled to Mega to be a part of the dedication ceremony of the newly built church in Mega. Here is what he had to say in a letter he wrote to Gospel For All:

"When I was in Mega for the inaugural ceremony for the Mega church, my heart was touched when hearing the living testimonies about you and other children of God who together made it possible to erect such an incredible building in the neglected and under-privileged town of Mega. I saw more than just a building - I saw this as the age when there will be a great harvest of souls throughout the entire Borana Land."

Tsega-ab's ministry requires him to spend a lot of time away from his family. During March he was able to spend an ex-

tended period of time with his family. During the last week of March he was in the capital city of Addis Ababa to conduct some training for evangelists.

The month of April was full with various training seminars held for pastors as well as another session of the Yavello Ministry School.

During May Tsega-ab will be involved with a youth conference as well as traveling to the northwest corner of Ethiopia and ministering at the Sudan border. He will also be conducting a 2 day seminar for the evangelists affiliated with Gospel For All. He will spend time teaching as well as encouraging them.

Tsega-ab's schedule remains filled through the end of 2006. Please pray for the many conferences, seminars and additional sessions of the School of Ministry.



Tsega-ab with his wife, Tiya and their 2 daughters, Tihut & Ruth

"For God is not unjust to forget your work and labor of love which you have shown toward His name, in that you have ministered to the saints, and do minister" (Heb. 6:10).



Preaching the Word after inaugural ceremony. Tsega-ab reports that "It was one of the greatest times that I have ever experienced the real, sweet presence of God in my life. God confirmed His Word by touching His people. All glory and honor to Jesus!!!"

Gospel For All partially supports Tsega-ab's ministry. Please pray for additional supporters to join his team. Continue to pray for Evangelist Tsega-ab as he continues to minister full-time. Pray for God's continued protection over him and his family.

Hand of Hope

Our Hand of Hope project was introduced in the previous newsletter. Over the past few months we have been working to get the program underway and are pleased to announce that we have our first 2 children which we are sponsoring.

Hand of Hope is a program that we believe will be on-going and expand. Through this program we identify children throughout the region where our evangelists are working who have been orphaned. Many of these children have been orphaned due to HIV/Aids and have been left to be raised by family members or families in the community. In many of these areas healthcare is not easily accessible so in many instances it is difficult to verify whether the death of a parent was actually a direct result of HIV/Aids. In addition, when healthcare is available, most individuals will not get tested for HIV/Aids due to the stigma attached to this dreaded disease and as a result get no diagnosis or treatment. Please pray for Hand of Hope as it works to reach out to the many innocent children left behind.

Children sponsored through the Hand of Hope project will be from areas where our evangelists are currently serving, and therefore our evangelists will be able to be in contact with them and be available to meet their spiritual needs.

If you would like to make a difference in the life of a child... please send a gift to Gospel For All and specify that it should be used for the Hand of Hope project!

Meet Kabale & Kaliti

Kabale & Kaliti Galma were born in the southern region of Ethiopia. Their father, Galma passed away in 1999 and then their mother passed away in 2005 after being sick for more than two years. Kabale is 12 years old and Kaliti is 8. They have an older brother who is in the city of Yavello, about 100 kilometers north of Mega. He lives in a church run hostel for orphans.



Kabale, age 12

Unfortunately, after the death of their mother, the girls were separated. Kabale went to live with her uncle in Mega. Kaliti lives with her maternal grandmother in the country side of Dukisa Ukele. Up until now, Kaliti has not been able to attend school; however with the assistance received through Hand of Hope, she will be enrolled in school and begin her education!

The Hand of Hope project requires that any child receiving assistance must attend school regularly. We believe this is a key to giving them a hope for a better future. Through this program both Kabale and Kaliti will be able to receive an education. In addition they will be assured of receiving medical care when necessary. Please pray that Hand of Hope will make a positive impact on the quality of life for these two girls.

We praise God for the family who provided the funds to support Kabale and Kaliti for the next two years!



Kaliti, age 8

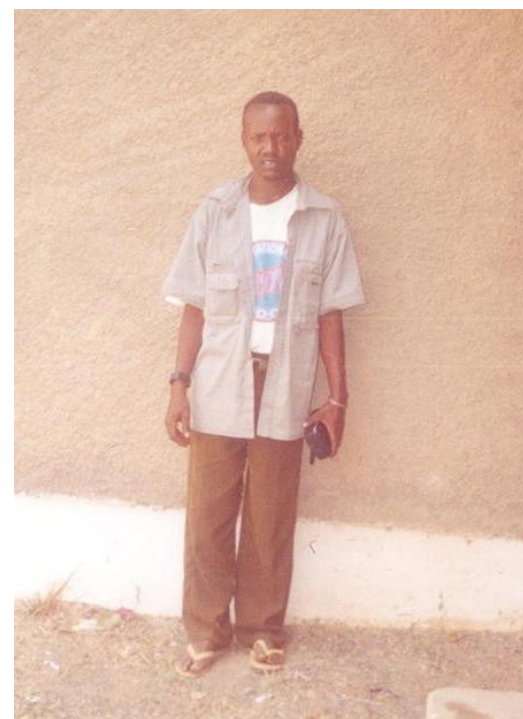
Hand of Hope currently has enough funds to support Kabale and Kaliti for two years. We will not make a commitment to help a child unless we have the funds available to cover the necessary assistance for at least one full year. Our dream is to assist more children as funds become available.

Two Testimonies of God at Work

Testimony of Duba Gababa

Duba Gababa used to be one of the Muslim leaders in the Dembi area. He was in charge of leading the area Muslims in their daily prayers. Through the ministry of Wario, sharing the Gospel in this Muslim dominated area, Duba accepted Christ as his Savior!

Praise God! We pray that others will follow Duba and accept Christ as their Savior. Please pray for Duba as he starts his new life following Christ. He will face much opposition and the road will be difficult. Pray for him to grow spiritually and be strong in the Lord.



Duba Gababa

"But for you who fear my name, the Sun of Righteousness will rise with healing in his wings. And you will go free, leaping with joy like calves let out to pasture."

Malachi 4:2

Testimony of Bonaya Figecha

Bonaya Figecha was born in Dembi village in southern Ethiopia close to the city of Moyale. Moyale borders Ethiopia and Kenya. Bonaya is 28 years old and unmarried. Bonaya was born healthy and remained in good health until he was 19 years old. When he was 19, he was possessed with an evil spirit and lost his mind.

His family took him to various places where they thought he could get treatment, but nothing worked and they were told there was no cure for him. He was also suffering from sleeplessness and was barely able to get any sleep.

In August of 2005, his life was changed when a group of missionaries, organized and led by one of our evangelists, Wario, came to proclaim the good news to people living in and around Dembi village. During these meetings, the Lord miraculously set Bonaya free and he is now in perfect health! His mind is clear and he is whole.

Thank God for his miraculous intervention into the life of this young man. Many villagers saw the miraculous transformation in Bonaya and decided to follow Jesus Christ and accept Him as their Lord and Savior! Praise God!!



Bonaya Figecha (left) with Evangelist Wario