



# News & Views

## Ethiopian Outreach Ministry

July-Sept. 2016

### Purpose of Ethiopian Outreach Ministry

- ◆ Reach unreached Ethiopians with the gospel of Jesus Christ.
- ◆ Teach and encourage Ethiopian believers to be strong in their faith and help them grow in the knowledge of Jesus Christ and the scriptures.
- ◆ Prepare Ethiopians for various ministries in churches and fellowships.
- ◆ Help Ethiopians in their efforts of church planting in different countries.
- ◆ Produce printed materials of Christian education and Bible studies, audio resources, and radio programs.
- ◆ Conduct seminars.
- ◆ Train and develop future church leaders and teachers.



### Praise and Prayer Corner

- Praise God for His faithfulness.
- Praise God for our volunteers who dedicate their time for Jesus.
- Pray for our financial situation.
- Pray for the Leadership Training Center project.
- Pray for the leader of the underground church in Eritrea and his family.
- Pray for the persecuted church around the world. For more information go to [www.worthynews.com](http://www.worthynews.com)



### Are We Growing?

*But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be glory both now and forever! Amen.* (2 Peter 3:18)

In this verse, Peter writes about growth—*not* physical growth, but spiritual growth. Today we hear a lot of talk about church growth and building bigger and bigger churches with more and more people. Yes, we all agree that aspect of growth is essential; however, it is more essential for Christians to grow in their spiritual lives. Once we are born again, every Christian begins the process of spiritual growth. Spiritual growth can be attained only when one fully gives his or her entire life to the leading of the Holy Spirit and to His unique will, purpose, and plan. But to live within the will and purpose of God is entirely up to the individual's will and choice.

Every Christian desires to grow and mature in his or her walk with Christ, but our desire does not often match with our reality. A 4-year-old child once came to his father with a question: "Daddy, what are you going to be when you grow up?" I don't think this child is out of line in asking his father this kind of thought-provoking question. We all need to ask ourselves what we want to be when we grow up. It is never too late to grow up, especially in terms of Christian faith and growing in the Lord.

For a Christian, spiritual growth is as essential as physical growth is in the life of a child. The Apostle Peter ended his practical letter in 2 Peter

with an exhortation for Christians to grow: "*But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be glory both now and forever! Amen*" (2 Peter 3:18). As one matures in the Christian life, one becomes more conscious and sensitive to the knowledge of God's will and purposes in one's life.

But as I said earlier, to live within the will and purposes of God is entirely up to the individual. One could choose not to be seriously concerned about whether his or her life is lived according to what God has planned and purposed, but that person would soon realize that all the labor and accumulation of treasures is nothing but vanity without God.

So, here are some points we need to know about spiritual growth. First, spiritual growth has nothing to do with time. Some people have been Christians for a long time, but have grown little. On the other hand, some people have been Christians for a short period of time and have grown much spiritually. Spiritual maturity cannot be measured by the calendar.

Second, spiritual growth has nothing to do with knowledge. Some Christians think that they have grown spiritually because they have knowledge. The issue is not about acquiring knowledge but what we do with what we know. The Bible says that "*knowledge puffs up*" (1 Cor. 8:1). Knowledge actually could make us proud and retard our spiritual growth unless we allow it to conform us to the image of Christ, thereby showing our spiritual growth.

Third, spiritual growth is not necessarily related to religious activities. Some people think that they have grown spiritually because they have served on a committee, sung in the choir, or been active in the church. Again, this is not an indication of spiritual growth or maturity.

Finally, spiritual growth has nothing to do with prosperity. Some Christians believe that they have prospered because they have God's favor. If they possess much, they think that God

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Ethiopian Outreach Ministry  
Evangelizing, Teaching, Equipping

has blessed them because they are such wonderful Christians. God may have blessed them, but that isn't necessarily an indication that they are spiritually mature.

Spiritual growth is simply matching our practice with our position in Christ. We only grow when we have a closer relationship with the Lord. God alone is our resource and all growth comes by grace through Him, but we are responsible to make the choice to obey (2 Peter 1:5-8).

 *Melese Wogu*



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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

## Don't Forget!

October 1, 2016

EOM's  
Biannual Banquet

There are three different ways you can participate:

- ◆ By Coming
- ◆ By Praying
- ◆ By Giving

Or you can do them all!

We look forward to hearing from you!

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### LETTER

Greetings beloved Dr. Melese Wogu,

How are you? My name is Pastor Cherinet Samuel and I serve at the church here in South Africa. Over the years, I have used your books very well. I finished, "Cross-less Christianity" and currently, I am reading, "God Told Me... Truth or Hallucination?"

We live in a time where you question yourself whether you are right, especially when listening to the Prosperity Gospel teachings. Your book shows what the true gospel is about. I have been so blessed that I bought and gave the book to two leaders that I love.

Reading "Cross-less Christianity" has made

### ~ Financial Corner ~

**For this quarter reporting, our year-to-date budget is \$185,281 and our year-to-date receipts total \$180,456.**



me keep my mouth shut about what I consider to be "my persecution." Instead, it helped me accept minor criticisms, for the sake of Christ, with joy.

This book is an answer to the materialism gospel that has inundated the media. Our hungry souls search TV channels hoping to hear the true Gospel preached. Yet, what we find is cross-less gospel. How then can those who are eager to learn be able to redeem the times? This book is the answer and it would be worth the sacrifice to put it on TV. It would lead many to righteousness.

~Pastor Cherinet Samuel