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MISSIONARIES TO ETHIOPIA

CMF INTERNATIONAL PRAYER NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2011

WE'RE ON OUR WAY!

Approval has been granted, tickets have been purchased, and boxes are being packed. On March 29, we will depart from Columbia, South Carolina, and begin our journey back to Ethiopia. Our hearts are ready for this new season of ministry. Even Caeden is beginning to talk a lot about our return. He remembers so many things about Ethiopia, and his high expectations are flooding out onto his sister. Reeghan doesn't recall too many things about Ethiopia, but she is sharing the excitement with us. As for Andwynne, she is just happy to go where her family goes.

REJOICING IN THE FRUIT

While we had many discouraging times in our first four years, there are also some great things to which we return. While we have been away in the United States, the Oromo have planted 14 new churches! Continue to pray for more church growth of this kind.



Nigatu and Dessalyng continue to disciple church leaders in their home regions. They have really taken on the leadership role of training trainers. Continue to pray for these men and for Bekele who has not expressed much desire to pass on what he has learned.

Most encouraging to us is the request that came from the Oromo church leaders. A desire has been

growing in their hearts to minister to college students in the city of Nekemte. The church leaders have asked Doretha and me to lead that ministry. We consider it a great blessing and a challenge of faith to partner with church leaders in this effort.

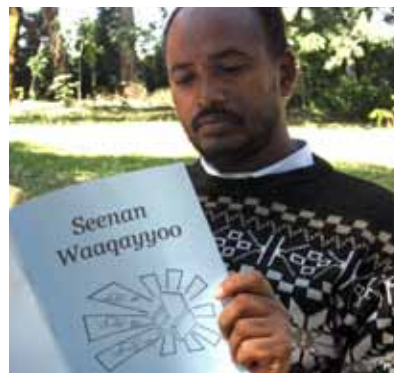
A STRATEGIC NEW PARTNERSHIP

Nekemte lies a few hours south of KIRAMU. It is a city of more than 125,000 people, which includes well over 25,000 university, college, and preparatory school students.



These students will one day live and work throughout the nation of Ethiopia. Some will find themselves in other nations for work or further education. There is no better time than now to launch a college ministry in Nekemte.

Our first priority will be to identify young men and women who desire to be trained to use small groups to reach their peers. These groups will be a place for Bible study, prayer, basic discipleship, life-to-life ministry and evangelism. We pray that these young leaders will feel compelled to multiply God's truth into others and replicate themselves as group leaders. How else could a handful of young men and women



reach and disciple the thousands? Pray for wisdom in the selection of these young leaders.

As soon as we see the fruit of these groups begin to emerge, we will launch a weekly service focused on college students. This service will be filled with worship, preaching, and fellowship with a style and content that speak to the hearts of these students.

There are many believing students in the city who are hungry for this kind of teaching. They are longing to be fed the truths of scripture in a way that applies to their rapidly changing culture. There are also far too many students without the hope of Christ. These students are longing to understand life and make sense of their future. We want to bring them that hope! Pray for thousands to come to Christ.

A third course of action for this ministry depends heavily on another missionary family or several single missionaries joining us in Nekemte. The poverty, brokenness, sickness, and harsh realities of sin stand between many Ethiopians and Jesus. They need physical help as well as spiritual help. CMF has long known the value of an approach to holistic ministry called Community Health Evangelism (CHE). CHE seeks to transform communities through disease prevention, evangelism, and community development. In this ministry model, nationals are trained to assess community needs, provide basic health or development training to local families and mobilize them to find and implement solutions. Every health or development lesson is taught in parallel with a

spiritual lesson. Not surprisingly, when people find their general standard of living improving they are very interested to know more about Jesus, in whose name the help has come.

Pray that God will lead some teammates to Nekemte who can cast vision and provide training for these college students in order that they bring real change to their city through a gospel of both words and deeds. What an exciting way for God to use the university training of these students to transform lives!

PLEASE BE PRAYING FOR:

- God to guard our kids' hearts through another transition.
- A term of good health for our family.
- Significant language acquisition.
- Our transition from life and ministry in the countryside to that of the city.
- God to help us identify the best young men and women to begin this ministry.
- Continued spiritual growth for our family.
- Teammates to lead the CHE portion of this ministry.

May God bless you as He has blessed us,

Steve and Doretha Limiero



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