

over the past three months - lowest since 2000. After much prayer in October we had to drop WOAI in San Antonio, TX and WSM in Nashville, TN for lack of funds, and we've been unable to order Bibles since August until just this month. Thanks for your checks designated for Bibles and postage. Thanks to the Individuals and Churches that have provided us with truck loads of clothes and shoes throughout this year. Thank you for your faithful gifts, we can't carry on this monumental work with a budget of over half million WITHOUT YOUR HELP! Have a wonderful holiday season and remember that, "Jesus is the Reason for the Season."

UNDER THE TREE HAPPY BIRTHDAY, JESUS

December the twenty-fifth is the birthday of the Lord. It should not be necessary but it needs to be pointed out that we don't know what day the Lord was born. He didn't tell us in His word. But He was born and it might as well have been December the 25th as any other day of the year.

People usually receive gifts on their birthday so we need to give the Lord a gift on His birthday. Then there is an additional element when we think of Christmas - there is the matter of the tree. If you are going to give a gift to the Lord on His birthday, put the present under the tree.

Put it under the tree that Peter talked about. Peter said in Acts the fifth chapter, "whom also they slew hanging Him on a tree." Paul said in Galatians the third chapter in speaking of the crucifixion, "Cursed is everyone that hangeth on a tree." You see, the real TREE is the CROSS. Personally I can think of no better way to celebrate the birthday of the Lord than by placing a generous check at the foot of the cross. Sending that check to the GOD IS JUST A PRAYER AWAY radio broadcast is one way to put your present under the tree, and know exactly where it's going, because you can listen every Sunday and 24/7 at www.gijapa.org.

'Twas The Night Before Jesus Came'

'Twas the night before Jesus came and all through the house

Not a creature was praying, not one in the house. Their Bibles were lain on the shelf without care In hopes that Jesus would not come there. The children were dressing to crawl into bed. Not once ever kneeling or bowing a head. And Mom in her rocker with baby on her lap Was watching the Late Show while I took a nap. When out of the East there arose such a clatter. I sprang to my feet to see what was the matter. Away to the window I flew like a flash, Tore open the shutters and threw up the sash! When what to my wondering eyes should appear But angels proclaiming that Jesus was here. With a light like the sun sending forth a bright ray I knew in a moment this must be THE DAY! The light of His face made me cover my head

It was Jesus! returning just like He had said. And though I possessed worldly wisdom and wealth, I cried when I saw Him in spite of myself. In the Book of Life which He held in His hand Was written the name of every saved man. He spoke not a word as He searched for my name; When He said "it's not here" my head hung in shame. The people whose names had been written with love He gathered to take to His Father above. With those who were ready He rose without a sound. While all the rest were left standing around. I fell to my knees, but it was too late; I had waited too long and thus sealed my fate. I stood and I cried as they rose out of sight; Oh, if only I had been ready tonight. In the words of this poem the meaning is clear; The coming of Jesus is drawing near. There's only one life and when comes the last call We'll find that the Bible was true after all! Author Unknown

My Drayer For A Merry Christmas And A Happy New Year

O Lord God, Thy Son came into the world the first time at Bethlehem of Judea. And I believe His promise, Heavenly Father that He will come again.

Heavenly Father, Thy servant Simon Peter said, regarding the coming of that day, that the heavens will pass away with a great noise and the elements shall melt with a fervent heat and the earth and all things therein shall be burned up.

And then Lord, I remember the words of another of Thy Son's own Apostles, whose name is Paul. He said, "We look for the blessed hope and appearing of the great God our Saviour." And in another place He said that He would come in flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God and who have not obeyed the gospel.

Then Lord, I also remember that almost the last thing that the Apostle John said in the New Testament was, "Come, Lord Jesus." O Lord, Thy servant does take note that Peter said we should earnestly desire the coming of that day, and Paul said we look for His appearing and John prayed for it to happen.

O Lord, Thy servant takes note of the violence in America and the view of elected officials regarding abortion and same sex marriage. And Lord, Thy servant is overwhelmed by the madness of American people who have made sports their god, and worship at the shrine of the Hall of Fame.

O Lord, I cannot help but remember in Thy word how You rained fire and brimstone on Sodom and Gomorrah, cities that were not nearly as out of line with Thy will as many in America today. Thy son Jesus Himself said that it would be more tolerable for Sodom and Gomorrah in the Judgment than for some of those who were privileged to hear His word.

"And now Father, in view of the promise of Jesus that He has gone to prepare a place for us, we pray that the promise will soon be fulfilled when the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, and with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall arise first; and they who are left alive, that are left, shall together with them be caught up in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air, and so shall we ever be with the Lord. This is my prayer in Jesus name, Amen."

Greetings from Ike & Lee,

Our aim is to win more souls for Christ and by the grace of God; we have achieved that in abundance. Amen! Thank God THE TRUTH/GIJAPA collaboration is a success with several souls been won with another congregation been planted. At least we have been able to realize our dream to plant more Church of Christ congregations in the rural areas of Ghana.

According to the list on our desk (if we did our records well) says we baptized 121 souls in different towns, villages and cities into different congregations across the country. This number is big considering the proliferation of churches in our world today with the majority of the people looking for miraculous signs before they join our church, but we are not satisfied with it and we would like to do more than this next year.

The Agona Nkwanta Church has still not been started because of lack of funds, so all the souls won there travel every Sunday to worship with us at Park Side Church of Christ. The brethren are very enthusiastic and attend church service every Sunday in their numbers. Lee and I keep encouraging them and visit them and treat them as new born babies in the Lord.

The Fianko Church of Christ is a church we never thought would stand because when we started working there, the brethren who were worshiping with us told us that most churches planted in the village collapse so we should forget about it. But with prayers and persistency, the church was planted and today it is over one year old and still growing with a total active membership of 115. Ekow Richard is the leader of this congregation. He is doing a tremendous work there with Richard Akyene assisting.

The Akokwaa Church of Christ is the unexpected church and it is because this is a church planted accidentally. Lee and I made a trip to this village one day to preach the Gospel to people in this village. We had people listening to us under a tree. At the end of it all we had people who confessed to worship with us with some being baptized. The following week when we went back to see how they were doing and to strengthen them, the brethren had already met under the tree and they told us they worshiped the previous Sunday but they did not partake of the Lord's Supper but gave (their tithe). Hallelujah! To make the long story short, today we have a congregation of the Lord's church in this village who need to have a meeting place urgently after the government's directives for churches to quit worshiping in public school classrooms.

The Bible Correspondence courses from GIJAPA are a very good tool for soul winning. Today several people are reading the Bible and are worshiping God through His church because of the lessons. More people are enrolling in the course and we are receiving more lessons from students daily. Our translation of Ed's sermons is doing very well by the grace of God and it is the number one tool that is winning more souls than all our strategic tools for soul winning. We thank Ed and Naomi for the CDs and tapes that we use for our work.

Several thousands of Bibles have been distributed to thousands of people and we are proud to see people using Bibles donated to them by GIJAPA. God bless you. But of late, Bible money is not forth coming due to the economic hardship in US but we pray that next year is going to be a year of abundance. Thank you and see you again next year January 2009 when we shall say, HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Dear Ed Bousman,

Greetings to you all at GIJAPA. My name is Habtom T. from Asmara Eritrea. I had been your student since 2003 by air mail and received 2 diplomas from your ministry. It is fact that I had no contact with you since 2006. This is because, I moved to Sudan because of persecution and prison in my country. From my arrival to Sudan I have had very bad situation in my life. The situation of mine in Sudan is granted and accepted refugee from the UNHCR. When I came to Sudan life becomes challenge and hard to live that is why had no contact with you even by email. You can check me at your students list I was one of the active students in your ministry. I am still with Christ. God helped me in all my arrivals where I moved illegally from my lovely country and my families. Dear brothers and sisters I am now at Sudan. I really need help spiritually and financially. As I told you here the country is Muslims. Here life is so hard. Everywhere there is satanic works witch craft is born here. No freedom, no work, and no schooling. Please I need to continue my teachings from you and as well as I need to continue my education as I had 12+2. That is why I escaped from Eritrea to help myself spiritually and financially and to continue my education. Still here I will be your minister in Sudan. Even though there is no appropriate address of P.O. Box allowed for immigrants, I would like to work with you in any thing you wanted. I wanted to open the doors of ministry with you in Sudan. For more information we will contact by email and I would like to tell you that I am not fraud. Am a good Christian that fears God and I wanted to do my part in the ministry of the Lord? Thanks and God bless you.

Yours truly in Christ Habtom nationality Eritrea but am now in Sudan Khartoum as refugee

I just listened to you on 1090 KAAY Little Rock, AR by way of the internet. I have heard you on the radio different times before and I have enjoyed listening.

Thank You. Wallace H. Redwood Falls, MN

Dear Ed and Naomi.

Greetings from Mike and the Churches of Christ in Liberia. Thank you for the case of eye glasses and a cartoon of shoes your Ministry sent for my Ministry last month. These gifts may appear little to you but they are accomplishing great things for the brethren in my Wartorn country. More souls are been won to Christ by these gifts. Keep the good work in the Lord Jesus Christ.

I will be leaving Liberia on November 3, 2008 to fellowship with the brethren in Sierra Leone. Please pray for travel mercies and that lost souls will be won to Christ our Lord. I reserved one cartoon of your Bibles previously sent to me to be given to all who will graciously accept the gospel of our Lord in Sierra Leone.

In Christ. Mike Foday, evangelist Triumph Church of Christ, Monrovia, Liberia

May the grace of our Lord be with you. I have been taking your courses since 2002 but due to change of place I can not complete it. I am now in Sudan pasturing in a Church and I found your courses very helpful for my flock. If you don't mind and are able to do it, send me your first courses - Studies in the Bible - for about 25 students that I can guide them and contact you with their results and answers. I serve the Lord in Kingdom of God Apostolic International Church under our senior pastor Simon. I can teach them the course that I took under you and we also need Bibles.

Thank you in His Glory. Brother Robel, Khartoum, Sudan.

Ed, thanks again for maintaining this special ministry! (email prayer chain).

Primarily, however, I thank God for you and your faithfulness to the Word through the years that we have known each other.

Your emphasis on Acts 2:38 is really appreciated. I do not think Peter made any mistakes when he gave those first instructions on how to become a member of Christ's kingdom, and that is the way you preach it. One radio preacher supposedly said that he wished Acts 2:38 was not in the Bible, for it confuses people. It is that preacher who is confused, not Peter.

Thank you, brother, for the stand that you have always had!

Y&H, Lloyd M. Pelfrey, Central Christian College

Dearest Ed Bousman,

First and foremost I would like to extend my sincerest gratitude unto the Lord God who uphold the entire universe with his powerful word. Bro, no doubt you are aware of the ongoing situation in our nation. The enemy is trying to wipe out Christendom of this nation unfortunately his plans are futile. God is in complete control. No matter how impossible situations seem, God's ill turn out them for our good and for our advantage. Mr. Bousman, I have a tremendous amount of respect on the call of God in your life, your ministry is helping and touching millions of lives in this glove. Here there are many brethren in need of clothes and shoes many of who are unemployed. The chief reason for their unemployment is they have calling to serve their nation wholeheartedly our number here in this congregation reaches 50 including ladies, boys older men and women. Please do your utmost to help this congregation with Bibles as well as clothes and shoes. Please send solely two Bibles per month under two postal addresses. That means one Bible in one box. I will give you the address this is owing to the current persecution we are facing from our government. Please don't enclose any letters with the clothes. Since the postal authorities will open the pocket to find out its contents. Don't send the Bibles in boxes but simply in normal paper. Because if they are in boxes they may detect them but if they are wrapped in paper no problem at all, otherwise they will be taken from us and we will not receive them. Pray for us.

Yonas H. from Eritrea E. Africa

Hi Ed,

The Bible Correspondence course whereby I gained the certificate during my study as a college student enriched my knowledge of the scripture. Greetings to you in the name of Our Lord and saviour Jesus Christ. This has been so much and is still such perfect manual for spiritual growth and moral discipline.

Although technological advance in transport in the west, people still travel 2 to 4 miles and back to shop in super markets. The Lord of hosts is on our side. We are sure to win the day. The victor of the cross and tomb is seated now on high - we will fling our banner to the breeze and Maranatha cry.

Now brothers about times and dates we do not know need to write to you for you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. While people are saying peace and safety destruction will come on them suddenly as labour of pain to a pregnant woman as we read in I Thessalonians 5:1-4.

This letter is to inform you that I have been evicted in the term of the law to leave the property that belongs to Birmingham City Council but then as someone who has been a part time student in Social Sciences, Social Problem and Social Welfare we were advised to leave the radio on 24 hours - living on welfare by Jeremy Seabrook. The construction builder came in the house and changed the door lock so everything is locked in the house blocking access to some of the educational materials that would help in social work.

The place where I have taken refuge is a homeless unit that means one is offered a three months tenancy with the hope of moving to a permanent accommodation. Pray for me to get my passport that I use as birth certificate and the language Project by Adult Education Modern languages for Holidays and the "A" level and GAP year students especially the Prospect Finalist. I was once advised to cut and keep in a safe place career guide so you've done the impossible, graduated, and gained a position with a higher than average starting salary and a bright future. The battle of recruitment has been won, but now comes the war of lasting employment. I hope one day I shall be able to have a proper storage of my personal belongings including the certificate for course completion sent by GIJAPA - God Is Just A Prayer Away. God bless and I shall write again soon.

Dr. Okello Social Worker from W. Midland, United Kingdom

Dear Evang. Bousman,

I listen to your programme every time it is on the air on Radio Africa on Monday 7 PM. It has strengthened me through some of the most bitter experiences as a human being can go through. May the Lord reward you for your labour in saving lost souls. What I need for this fellowship are some inspirational books, study materials and Bible used or new. I hope to hear from you soon.

Your Servant, Albert from Ghana, W. Africa

Dear Evangelist Bousman,

Greetings to you in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. I know you through your radio agent who introduced your program called GOD IS JUST A PRAYER AWAY to me. I listen to your program and I converted to Christ and I want you to help me grow by sending me a Holy Bible for me and my family. I hope you will also assist us with correspondence course to study as you announced on your Radio Africa broadcast.

God bless, Ndoko from Nigeria, W. Africa



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