



# GEMS

GLOBAL EVANGELISM MINISTRY SERVICES

Issue #1

## First Quarter 2019





# God's Plan for the Redemption of Man

## Michael Williams Family

A Biblical principle that God has been teaching me of late is that He has a plan for the Redemption of Man and He is looking for those who are willing to follow His plan. When my son Grant and I travelled to Ghana in January that concept continued to manifest itself. I was absolutely thrilled to see how the Josh Brown family was being used of God in His plan of redeeming the villages of Lake Bosomtwe, Ghana, to Himself. It was exciting and humbling to see what God was doing through them. It was very obvious that the men of the churches had grown significantly in Jesus Christ. It was a privilege to partner with Bro. Josh, Pastor Hooker and others in ordaining Bro. Nicholas. It was precious to get to watch Bro. Josh and his family be instrumental in the starting of another church. It was awe inspiring to watch Deaf-Missionary Rocky Hall teach the deaf in that same village how to say the name of Jesus for the first time in sign language. I could go on and on, but suffice it to say, I thank God that Bro. Josh was willing to fall into God's plan for the redemption of man!!! God is doing what He has wanted to do for a long time in the Lake Bosomtwe area.

After a few amazing weeks in Ghana, Grant and I flew to Bucharest, Romania, where we joined Brooke and Brett to spend a few days with our new GEMS missionaries to Romania, the Roy Thompson family. I was thrilled to see what God is doing in Bro. Roy's family and ministry. We were able to be with them on their second Sunday since he had taken over as Pastor of a small local independent Baptist church. It was a thrill to preach to the church, watch Bro. Roy and his family interact with the people, and even sing many songs in Romanian. I am thrilled Bro. Roy was willing to fall into God's plan for the redemption of man in Romania.

From Romania we flew to England where we had the privilege of visiting missionary Justin Williams and his family; we had the privilege to preach, teach and sing in their church, and so enjoyed the opportunity to fellowship with believers there. It was obvious that God is doing a work in England through the Williams family.

It was great, upon returning to America, to speak with Bro. Patrick Ndjaboue and hear about the miracles God is doing for them as they continue on the journey of faith travelling to represent GEMS Germany. I'm so thankful Patrick is willing to fall into God's plan for the redemption of man.

As we returned home to GEMS headquarters at Calvary Baptist in Memphis, TN, I was excited to see that what God had done in the hearts of those who travelled to Ghana had caused some to seek how they could get into God's plan for the redemption of man!

Let me challenge you, when seeking for God's will for your life, to seek God and He will show you where and how you can fall into His plan for the redemption of man.

# BY FAITH

The funds to send to Ghana were short one week so my family and I chose to send what money we had to Ghana. Within two weeks God put it on the heart of the church to pay for our family's housing. Wow!

On another week when funds were low my family and I again sent our money to Ghana - within days a church in Arkansas took up a special love offering for us to put towards the purchase of a vehicle to replace the one we had lost in a car accident. We serve a mighty God!



## Patrick and Christelle Ndjaboue

Pastor Files, Mrs. Christelle, and Bro. Patrick

Dear pastors and praying friends,

Thank you for your prayers. We thank the Lord for many new supporting churches that He brought our way. We have seen God continue to provide meetings miraculously. It is wonderful to cast our burdens on Him, and watch Him turn the hearts of men.

**January:** I was visiting door-to-door with a brother in Christ, when we met a Marine veteran named Mike. We asked him about his soul's condition and Mike invited us for a conversation inside his apartment. Upon entering the home, we were introduced to his wife who also indicated that she was unsure about eternity. Beginning at Romans 3:23, I shared the gospel with this couple, and they both seemed to understand their sinful condition and God's offer of salvation in Christ. But as I inquired whether they were willing to commit their souls to the Lord Jesus, the lady surprisingly told us that she had already received Christ as her Savior, though she could not tell us exactly how that came about. Taking her at her words, I assumed she was one of the sheep of our Lord, and then turned to her husband and inquired about his desire to trust Christ for salvation.

But before Mike could answer, his wife interrupted the conversation and said that her husband did not like to be put on the spot and that he would never answer our questions. Surprised by her statement, I asked the supposed "sheep" if she wanted her husband to go to heaven. She nodded in the affirmative. So I turned again to her husband and asked him if he wanted to be saved. Mike said, "yes." A few moments later, we all bowed our heads and Mike called on Jesus to save his soul. Glory to God! As soon as we finished praying, the supposed "sheep," instead of rejoicing over the salvation of her husband, asked us to leave the premises immediately, for she did not (according to her own words) like what we had just done with her husband. We hearkened, yet praising the Lord for the work of His grace in Mike's heart.



**February:** For almost two weeks, I served in the Philippines with my home pastor. Though long and strenuous, it was such a rewarding trip! We preached the gospel of Christ in schools and churches and rejoiced over the many who were brought into the kingdom of God.

*“For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD.” (Isaiah 55)*

The Lord also surprised us, by moving upon the hearts of two Filipino churches to take us on for support. Though their generous offering appears small for a work in Germany, I was reminded of the poor lady about whom the Lord said: “this poor widow hath cast more in, than all they which have cast into the treasury: For all they did cast in of their abundance; but she of her want did cast in all that she had, even all her living.”

It challenges us to see churches in the Philippines getting involved in the work of the Lord in Germany.

While in the Philippines, I met a group of three Germans who were staying in our hotel; we had breakfast together, and I had the opportunity to share the Gospel of Christ with one of them.

#### **Prayer Requests:**

Please continue to pray for travel mercies, and God’s hand upon this ministry. During the months of March and April, we will be travelling in Florida, SC, and in the Memphis, TN area. Would you also pray for the salvation of Andy, Sven and Dennis? These are the Germans I met in the Philippines.

We also received a large gift toward the purchase of an autoharp, which we will put to use in the church music ministry in Germany.



## Josh and Emily Brown



*"So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it." Isaiah 55:11*

We thank our Lord for His powerful never-failing Word and the opportunity to bear God's "Precious Seed" to the people of the Lake Bosomtwe Region in Ghana, West Africa! God is still using His Word to accomplish His good pleasure in saving souls and changing lives. Praise the Lord!

### Annual Prayer Camp

In January we held our 6th annual Prayer Camp. Prayer Camp is a time where members of our churches are invited to leave the care and concerns of daily life and be immersed in the preaching and teaching of God's Word. At the conclusion of each service all members are encouraged to spend time alone in prayer. It began as Men's Prayer Camp; this year we were able to invite ladies as well. We were blessed as the Spirit of God worked in the hearts of those who attended and many decisions were made. Please pray that the truths taught and received during the camp will grow and bring forth much fruit!



### New Church coming soon!

After Prayer Camp was ended, we had the opportunity to hold a crusade in the village of Ankaase. A crusade is an open-air meeting in which the Gospel is clearly presented. Praise the Lord, there was a good turnout and many responded to the Gospel! We have had many in the town, including the chief, request for us to start a church in Ankaase.

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**GEMS (Global Evangelism Ministry Services)** is a ministry out of Calvary Baptist Church, 3812 Kirby Parkway, Memphis, TN 38115-5288. These ministry updates are published at least four times a year and may be requested at no cost by mailing to the above address or by going to our website at <http://www.gems4christ.com>

There are even those who are faithfully walking two hours to attend our church in the village of Dompaa! God has revealed to us that we should start a church in this town! Currently we are meeting in the town on Tuesdays and have partnered with Missionary Rocky Hall as he is reaching the deaf community. Please pray for both the Ministry of GEMS and for Brother Hall as we share the Gospel. We are now in the process of making arrangements to begin Sunday Services. Please pray as we continue the work in the village of Ankaase.



### Ordination!

As the church of Apewu turns five, God has raised up a man to lead the church going forward. Brother Nicholas has been a faithful leader with a desire to please and honor the Savior. God has made it clear that His hand is on Brother Nicholas and that it was time to ordain him to preach and soon he will become the national pastor of the church. God's timing is perfect! As He calls Brother Nicholas, He is leading us to start another church in the village of Ankaase. Please pray for Brother Nicholas as he steps into the pastoral role.



### Provision

We continue to thank God for His provision as we were able to come to Ghana with three months' notice and without going on deputation. We have now been in Ghana for nine months and He has faithfully provided for our needs (spiritual, physical and emotional).

Here is an example of God's provision: our children were in need of dental work and we were also in need of repairs on the car. We did not communicate the needs to anyone but our Father.

The day before we were planning to go to the city to make arrangements to care for these things, we were informed that a church took up a love offering and the amount given covered the need for both the dentist and the car! Praise the Lord for His faithfulness!

### Prayer Requests

- The members of the churches as they continue to grow in knowledge and grace.
- Building programs in Apewu and Dompaa. Please pray as for God's guidance and provision.
- The founding of the new church in Ankaase. Please pray the people will continue to be open to the Gospel and will grow spiritually.
- Please pray that God will continue to guide and protect me and my family as we continue the work in Ghana.

*In Christ,*

*Joshua L. Brown*



## Roy and Lois Thompson

We have assumed care for Lois' father as much as 4 days per week since he was found in a local city hospital, disoriented and exhausted. Our ministry to the Ploiești church continues to be simply Sunday morning services with the addition of a mid-March fellowship meal. We continue to work through government bureaucracy for residency permits and (still!) auto registration.

### Praise & Thanksgiving

1. Lois' father has shown 100% improvement under our home care for his diet and exercise needs.
2. We are increasing involvement with Lois' brothers and sisters, most recently with a city park pizza and cake celebration for Naomi's 7th birthday.
3. We found an excellent English-speaking architect who is enabling house and grounds changes for home bible studies, fellowship gatherings, and a youth basketball ministry.



### Prayer Requests:

1. Wisdom and guidance as to how much to involve ourselves in care for Lois' father. We are looking for a caregiver for his daily monitoring and exercise in a collaborative effort with her mother. Remaining in the city 2 nights has proven impractical. Having him our home is extremely time consuming and seems nearly overwhelming.

2. Wisdom and guidance in the role of interim pastor.

3. Wisdom to train our children well as they are our most important ministry.

Thanks for your prayerful support,

Roy Thompson  
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**Foreign Missions**

The purpose of GEMS is to get missionaries in the countries God has called them to reach. Once on the field, these missionaries work with an established GEMS missionary to train national pastors and plant churches.

**Faith**

With the modern business mentality, we often want to see where we are going to land before we step out by faith. However, this is not the example that we have of great men in the Bible. When things are done in faith, God gets all the glory; We focus on God and not man. GEMS' motto is "BY FAITH".

**Medical Aid**

Many of the people in remote villages cannot travel the distance to hospitals or cannot afford care. With the Life Reach Medical Clinic ministry, we bring that care to their own doorstep.

**Missions Trips**

One of the best ways to ignite the burden for missions is to take a mission trip. From working in remote areas with national pastors, to supporting medical aid campaigns, with helping with literature distribution, allow GEMS to help you plan your next trip.

**Missions Conferences**

Our desire is to challenge and strengthen the churches in the areas of Missions and Faith. God has used such meetings to enlarge the heart of the churches, and to raise up laborers for His harvest.

**Do you desire to become a Missionary?**

The old missionaries saw God move in miraculous ways and we are committed to follow their example. Our missionary Training program provides on-field training to prospective missionaries. The student receives the opportunity to look at missions not from a cultural perspective, but from an unbiased Biblical perspective. He thereby acquires skills that will help him down the road.

**Support**

1. GEMS missionaries don't actively seek personal support but seek to represent the mission.
2. GEMS missionaries don't tell their needs to man but to God alone.
3. GEMS missionaries go to the field by faith without the promise of full support from GEMS, but trusting in God alone to provide for their needs. Since our missionaries make known their needs to God alone, we cheerfully rely on God to move upon the hearts of His people to finance His glorious work.

As a registered 501(c3) all contributions to GEMS missions are tax deductible

“Depend on it. God's work done in God's way will never lack God's supply.”  
- Hudson Taylor