



APRIL - RESURRECTION SUNDAY

For the second year in a row we went all out for Resurrection Sunday; however, this year we changed the location from the church in Apewu to the new church in Dompaa. Finding it very effective in the villages to teach about the blood sacrifice of Jesus Christ we did a small re-enactment of the sacrifice of the Passover Lamb showing the connecting picture of the sacrificial lamb of the Old Testament and the New Testament's Jesus of Nazareth who came to be our Passover Lamb.

The festivities began on Saturday morning as the church men slaughtered two young male sheep and one young male goat. The church ladies then cooked up the meat as well as prepared rice and stew. We all had a great time of fellowship preparing the meal for the churches and getting ready for the visitors who would come the next day. Last year we had really worked hard to invite visitors so they could hear the gospel, but we only had a handful show up. This year we chose not to focus on visitors, but rather on celebrating His Resurrection; yet, an amazing thing happened - the church was overflowing! We had over 50 adult visitors and were not even able to count the visiting teens and children. At the invitation, several people raised their hands to accept the blood sacrifice of the "Lamb of God, which taketh away the sins of the world". A whole family, plus others have been added to the church because of what God did on that day!



APRIL-CAMP

In April, we were able to take the faithful teens of the two churches to Teen Camp. Those that had memorized at least ten verses in the previous three months had the privilege of going and getting to be a part of the Teen Camp organized by Pastor Charles Osgood of Fundamental Baptist Church in Kumasi and Pastor Rexford Aning of Fundamental Baptist Church in Sunyani. This was a first for our teens and they soaked it up. At first, they were a little intimidated by the city kids, but as the week went on they enjoyed it more and more. They all made decisions to be disciples of Christ, and I can honestly say that several of them have been different ever since.



MAY - EVANGELISM TRAINING WEEK

In May, we had the great privilege to host Pastor Rexford and his family for a mini-conference of Personal Evangelism Training. Pastor Rexford is a national pastor from Sunyani whom I invited to the First Baptist Church of Kumasi back in 2007. He came to church the Wednesday night I invited him and upon receiving Christ became faithful to church and eventually enrolled in, attended faithfully and graduated from Hyles-Anderson College of West Africa. Five years ago, Pastor Rexford started the Fundamental Baptist Church of Sunyani and has been pastoring there ever since.

The mini-conference in the villages consisted of two days of meetings in each church - Apewu and Dompaa - with an afternoon session and an evening session each day. We had great attendance in both places especially considering the ones who came to the services in Dompaa had to battle heavy rains each evening and listening was difficult because of the pounding storms on the tin roof. As a result of this special week of concentrated teaching time, we have had nine people join active training each week to become soul winners in the two churches with each church

meeting once a week to learn, practice, and witness. Bro. John Walters, who has become my main translator, has since led his first soul to Christ!



BY FAITH

JUNE – ANSWERS TO PRAYER

The year 2016 was a truly wearying year as we faced many battles, discouragements, trials, and a lot of extra physical exertion. Brooke and I called it, "The Year of the Night". When 2017 dawned, I told Brooke I hoped 2017 would be "The Year of the Light." While there has definitely been light shed on us by our Lord, I found that as the year progressed my wife, physically weakened, just couldn't seem to get back on top side. It seemed no matter what we tried we just couldn't get her over the hill to full strength and she was becoming more and more drained as time went on. As I prayed about the answer, God did some amazing things:

1.) in the U.S. God touched someone's heart to donate \$1125.00 for whatever was needed. Upon receiving an email from the donor on a Sunday evening, the first thought that came to my mind - as it had been something I had been praying about - was to fly my mother-in-law, Mrs. Hooker, to Ghana to help give my wife rest both physically and spiritually (allow her much time to pray, read, rest, etc.); it would also comfort her heart to have another lady in the house to talk to since she lives a bit secluded and in a male dominated environment 😊. We had wanted to bring Mrs. Hooker to Ghana since the beginning of the year, but it just hadn't been possible financially; but now, as I looked up plane tickets from Memphis to Ghana, I found that it would cost just twenty more dollars than what had just been donated! At the very same time, but unknown to either of us, Pastor Hooker felt the need to send his wife and had said to a church member that same afternoon, "I feel the Lord wants Jo to go to Ghana, and I need to send her now!" Little did he know that God had provided for just the very thing! Within days she was in Ghana helping with schooling, cooking, washing, cleaning and giving my wife the rest she so desperately needed. Wow, can we say that God cares and works all things together for good? We absolutely can! We were so privileged to have Mrs. Hooker with us for two weeks and are so thankful to Bro. Hooker for allowing her to come. We were so uplifted by the presence of a truly Spirit-filled lady.

2.) During the same time the above was taking place, funds were also sent to us specifically for the purpose of purchasing an air conditioner, which was amazing to me as this was also something God had shown me was a financial priority as it would really help my wife's health. We have since had the air conditioner installed in our bedroom and she has been able to cool off and rest well. We praise the Lord for this provision and are so grateful to the one who was willing to be used by Him to meet this need. God is, has been and will always be "An Awesome God"; He truly is our Shepherd and we shall not want andHis timing is always impeccable.



LIFEREACH MEDICAL

(Reaching Across Borders because every Life matters)

LifeReach is a vital part of GEMS Ghana Mission as we can show the love of Christ to others by: giving medical supplies to villages, helping those who need first aid, providing transportation to hospitals, and funding medical care through this program. The following example will help you to understand what we do through our program

LifeReach:



While visiting a church member I realized her mom had a serious infection on her finger as a result of a boil. I talked to her about going to the local clinic. When after several weeks there was no improvement it was obvious that it was time to send her for some thorough treatment.



For His Glory,

Michael Williams
Pastoral Director
GEMS Ghana Mission



GEMS

GLOBAL EVANGELISM MINISTRY SERVICES