



# GEMS

## GLOBAL EVANGELISM MINISTRY SERVICES

### First Quarter 2025

While in Ghana, I considered how God has given us the power, in His name, to conquer the forces of darkness. Psalm 44:5 "...through thy name we will tread them under that rise up against us." I began to write His name...God the Father-Jehovah (one of many) God the Son-Jesus (one of many) God the Holy Spirit-It was then I realized there is no name for the Holy Spirit; titles such as Comforter, but not a specific name. Why would the Holy Spirit NOT have a name? John 16:13-14 "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth; for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak; and he will shew you things to come. He shall glorify me; for he shall receive of mine and shall shew it unto you." The Father and Son have names because they are to be glorified. The Holy Spirit does not have a name because rather than be glorified, he is to glorify Jesus. Therefore, as a Christian, the more I am filled with the Spirit, the less I want to glorify myself because my goal will be to glorify HIS name! Secondly, I realized that while we have the Kingdom of God and the Kingdom of Heaven mentioned in Scripture it seems the Spirit's job is to build the Kingdom of Heaven but without personal fanfare as He seeks to glorify the Son. Therefore, The more I am filled with the Spirit, the more I seek to build God's Kingdom and glorify His name rather than mine own. Lastly, we see in Scripture the Throne of God and the Throne of the Son, but no throne ascribed to the Spirit. Revelation 3:21 "To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne." The more we are filled with the Spirit, the more we understand that we have—No Name, No Kingdom, No Throne. Our goal is to build His Kingdom, in His Name, for His Glory. Truly all things are "of Him, through Him, and to Him." All the glory belongs to Jesus!

### Family News/Travels

In January, I was privileged to speak at the Yooper Youth Rally at Northstar Baptist Church, McMillan, Michigan alongside Pastor Jay Goldsborough. While the scheduled speaker was unable to attend due to a snowstorm, God, not being bound by weather, moved mightily. Fruit is still being seen. I was also blessed to be a part of Snow Camp hosted by Pastor Drew Rogers and Rogers City Baptist Church. As always, it was a wonderful time of fellowship. In February, we travelled to a missions conference at Grace Independent Baptist Church in Pennsylvania. We had a great time being with Pastor Higgins and his family. We attended a missions conference at Faith Baptist Church in Vernon, Indiana with Pastor Ryan Marsh. It was an honor to see what God had done since last year's conference. A container for the Congo had been started last year and by this year's conference it was on its way! Amazing! In March, we had a great time with the youth at Boon Baptist Church. Thankful for the opportunity to speak at their Youth Rally. On March 22, a group of twenty-two men met in Mackinaw City, Michigan for a prayer meeting. What a blessed time.

## Ghana, West Africa

Pages could be written of all God accomplished on our trip to Ghana in March. It was a fantastic time travelling with Pastor Jay Goldsborough and Bro. Josh Brown. We saw miracles of God in His orchestration of time and circumstances. What a thrill to see some taken from the power of Satan and turned onto the power of God; to see spiritual investments from decades ago now bearing fruit and to see a young man far from God, turn his heart back and recommit his life to Christ. The new chief of Dompaa told me he would do all he could to help us because of the many rides we had given him when we lived in Ghana. I was seeing fruit from the countless times my family was crammed in the seven-seater vehicle with a half a dozen folks or more receiving rides so they could see the love of God. We were able to encourage churches; navigate them through difficult circumstances; help them to understand that we are in a spiritual war and that missionaries are normal people who can be wounded in spiritual battle just like soldiers wounded in physical battle. We encouraged them to not to give up, but to continue the fight. The churches responded with determination to fight the enemy, so the Gospel continues forward. We followed the pattern God showed us by spending much time with Him and watched Him take the time that was left and multiply it. He did miraculous things! We were invited by believers from another village to start a Baptist Church there; to get lights for the church in Apewu and to meet about building a church in Dompaa. The construction for that church has begun since our return! One sad, yet pertinent, story to relate is that while the young men who trusted Christ on our previous trip to Ghana (approx. six months ago) are still faithfully attending church, one of those young men died in a motorcycle accident shortly after our departure. If we hadn't taken the opportunity to share the Gospel and lead him to Christ, his eternity would look very different now. Thank God for the power of the gospel.

### Ghana Trip-Pastor Jay Goldsborough

I was thrilled to visit the GEMS Ghana missions. Our purpose involved strengthening the churches near Lake Bosumtwi and furthering their building projects in the villages Apewu and Dompaa. I was especially excited to survey the land God has provided in Dompaa and to meet with the new village chief to ensure the proper documentation as we planned to break ground on the new church building. Additionally, we discussed the potential for additional housing structures where we might train men and women in the future. It has been more than 8 years since I was last in Ghana and it was a joy to see churches and pastors remaining faithful! One midweek service in a village where a new church was being planted, I taught a group of children that continued to grow through the evening until the room was just busting at the seams. After sharing the Gospel, many prayed to receive God's gift of salvation. Our last Sunday, I baptized a young man in whom the Lord is doing a mighty work.

He is learning Chinese as a third language and is asking God to use him for His Kingdom. Community Baptist Church, whom I pastor, is blessed to be financial partners with GEMS. We encourage as many other who will, to join this investment opportunity in reaching Ghana and the World with the Gospel of Christ.

### Faith Haven

Since a Bible Collating machine has been donated to our mission, we arrived at the conclusion that Faith Haven's garage was the best place for it as the cement floor can sufficiently hold its weight. We were shocked to find that the garage also had plenty of amperage to run the equipment! God had already prepared a place. Remodeling work to prepare for this equipment will begin in June.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

June 10<sup>th</sup> Speaking at Pastors fellowship in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan

June 13<sup>th</sup> Ignite Youth Missions Outreach in Deerborn, Michigan

June 26-28 Prayer Camp



June 29<sup>th</sup> Missions Sunday at Community Baptist Church in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan

GAP (GEMS apprenticeship)

\*Grant has been invited to South Africa & Zimbabwe in early July, along with Marcus, to help in some local works and deliver some audio Bibles for Bro Paul to take to the pygmies in the Congo

\*Brett has been taking Chinese lessons and doing a Bible Study with his instructor for some unbelieving Chinese.

Thank you for your love and support!

*Michael Williams*

The Michael Williams Family

