

12 NEW CHRISTIANS

The Evangelism Program at SBS for August and September was very productive. Our goal of seeking the lost continues to be among the top priorities of each of our students. Even with the excitement of moving into our two dormitories and the start of classes, our students were able to study and baptize 12 souls into Christ! Eight of these were among our new students. Indeed, their coming to SBS is a great spiritual blessing from enrollment to salvation!



While being a Christian is very important to all our new students, it is not a requirement for enrollment at SBS. Each student is required to meet our academic qualifications and have a recommendation from a congregation before being interviewed and approved by our admission committee. The committee is made up of our teaching staff.

57 NEW STUDENTS

The School of Biblical Studies, Jos, admitted 57 new students for our 2017-2018 session. This year 100 students applied for entry. Our testing and interview process reduced the number to 57 being admitted. This year's class consisted of thirty-eight male and nineteen female students. Among the group were one widow, six married, and fifty single students. Our three international students this year are from Chad, Sierra Leone, and Zimbabwe. All the other students are from 16 of the 36 states of Nigeria.



Thirty-seven were admitted into one of the two-degree programs we offer, (15 in the B.A. Ministry and 21 in the B.A. CRS. Program). Seven chose the Diploma Program while thirteen enrolled in our Certificate Program.

WELCOME SOLOMON & TOM

Dr. Solomon Aguh and Dr. Udoh Tom Ekpote, arrived in Gadsden, Alabama, in early September. After a meeting with the Gadsden elders, Steve Worley, and Adam Cox they departed Gadsden on a schedule to visit with some of the supporters of SBS. Tom was scheduled to stay for one month while Solomon was scheduled for two months. Solomon drove one of the elder's cars while visiting 28 congregations in 10 states. They would visit with a congregation on Sunday morning and another each Sunday night. Then it was to a different congregation each Wednesday night.

Having learned to drive on Nigerian roads, which are the most dangerous in the world, I know they enjoyed our highways, especially with a GPS guiding them along their way. Tom said they stayed with the brethren whenever possible. They especially enjoyed the food and fellowship. On behalf of Solomon and Tom, I want to thank all of you for the kind Christian welcome and hospitality you extended to these brethren.



A Taste of America

The School of Biblical Studies is located in Jos, Nigeria. SBS began in 1989 and is under the oversight of the elders at the Gadsden Church of Christ in Gadsden, Alabama. Dr. Solomon I Aguh is The President of SBS. SBS has a 4, 3, and 2 year curriculum in Bible, plus a 4-year degree program. We have recently added a 2 year Extension Program and a 2 year Agricultural Program. The student body presently numbers 137 full-time students with more than 200 graduates now in the field.

School of Biblical Studies Jos

Training to Serve
Since 1989

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Mission: To train men and women to teach and preach the Gospel and be responsible citizens and effective leaders in the church of the Lord, in order to aid the spread of the Gospel to the entire world.

YOU ARE INVITED TO BECOME A JOS PARTNER !

Our goal is to have 500 Christians giving \$10 monthly to provide a stable operating income for the School. If you or your Bible class are thinking about becoming a Jos Partner, we urge you to do so! The small amount of just \$10 monthly, when combined with that of others, will make a huge difference. Just fill in the coupon below, and mail it with your check to:

Gadsden Church of Christ
P.O. Box 967
Gadsden, AL 35902

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

A FUTURE GOAL

On September 18, 2017, Dr. Solomon Aguh, Dr. Tom Udoh, Dr. Earl Edwards, Adam Cox, and Steve Worley, met with Dr. Mark Blackwelder, the Director of the Graduate School of Theology, Freed Hardeman University in Henderson, Tennessee. We discussed the progress of our plans to start a Master's Degree Program, in affiliation with Freed Hardeman University, on the campus of the School of Biblical Studies, Jos, Plateau State, Nigeria.

We agreed that we would continue to work towards starting a Master's Degree Program on the campus of SBS that would start in January of 2019. For this goal to be reached we will need to accomplish the following tasks. (1) Brother Cox will investigate the feasibility of having an internet system that would allow students to attend FHU online classes at SBS. We agreed that the only classes that would require an internet connection are the language courses and that would only be necessary until Brother James Ikwulono completes his PhD at the University of Jos. (2) Dr. Tom agreed to send the academic records of the SBS teachers who plan to be involved in the program to Dr. Blackwelder's office.

(3) Dr. Blackwelder agreed to investigate the possibility of SBS teachers teaching classes under the supervision of Dr. Tom who has a PhD. (4) Dr. Earl Edwards expressed his willingness to teach classes in our program.

When we obtain this goal anyone who has a good knowledge of the English language will be able to complete their formal education in Bible without traveling to the U.S.



Left to Right S Worley, A. Cox, M. Blackwelder, S. Aguh, E. Edwards, and T. Udoh.

PERSECUTION CONTINUES

The Lord's church meeting in Mubi, Adamawa State, has suffered for 8 years at the hands of the Boko Haram and the local Muslim community. Its preacher was killed and its church building partially destroyed, causing some members to move to the major refugee camp in Yola. Over two million Nigerians are living in camps now. This year the Church of Christ meeting on Grant Street in Decatur, Alabama, sent its full-time evangelist, Brother Phillip Mshelia, to Mubi. He was to meet with the brethren and see the security situation in the city. Brother Philip reported the presence of many Nigerian Army troops, then he asked permission to move to the area and preach the gospel. The Lord needs more brave evangelists like Philip in His Kingdom. Please add Brother Phillip to your prayer list.



A NEW DAWN

Like a prophecy fulfilled and a dream come true, the female students of the School of Biblical Studies, Jos, have at last moved in to occupy the former male hostel, while the male students are now occupying the new one situated behind the school library. It was and is still a moment of unprecedented joy and excitement for both sexes to be on campus. While twenty female students are currently occupying their hostel, with many more intending to move in next semester, there are seventy-five male students in the new hostel.

This new development is, however, not without challenges especially on the part of the female students. There is need for adequate security around the female hostel, hence the need for a fence to limit access. Apart from that, the female students need bunk beds to sleep on as they are currently lying on the floor; a situation not conducive to their health due to the cold weather here in Jos during the Rainey Season. In addition to that, there is a need to have a matron who will be monitoring their movements and activities in the hostel. Both hostels need reading tables and chairs to enable the students to do well in their academic activities outside their classes. Generous and well-wishers touched by these needs can help to prepare these young men and women to take the gospel to the dying world.

Joseph Azembeh, Dean of Students



GARDENING ON CAMPUS

All first and second year students are enrolled in our two-year Agriculture Program. Brother Bala Turgong is the head of this department. Each student is required to cultivate a raised garden bed over a compost trench. Water to the raised bed is supplied from a five-gallon bucket through two drip hoses. This type of farming is designed to provide a family of seven with all the vegetables they need for one year. This is accomplished using the drip hoses, and planting four times a year instead of one. The crops planted are corn, peas, green beans, peppers, tomatoes, and uguw vegetables.

The students start in the classroom and then progress to the fields to apply their knowledge on their personal garden plots. This program includes the method above plus fish farming and a working snail farm. SBS has no central feeding program so this is a very popular program for each student.

Our major challenges are acute water shortage during the Dry Season and inadequate farm tools, due to the increase in the number of students. SBS has six fish ponds presently, but due to the acute water shortage, we can only make use of one pond to raise fish. Our plans are to purchase a water tanker truck to solve one problem and find the funds to purchase more farming tools. Please partner with us to help support this very beneficial program.



Corn Plants



Students on the Farm



Pepper Plants

RAYMOND BUSH EVANGELISM CENTERS UPDATE

The correspondence course offices in Jos and Abuja are continuing to increase their number of students. I wanted to take this time to update everyone on the progress of the courses so far by including some numbers that I have received from Dauda Bago in the Jos office and from Jingfa Nancwat in the Abuja office. I hope you find this interesting.

Dauda reports that during the month of August he received and returned 308 courses and currently has 1605 total students. He also reports that there were 2 baptisms during the month of August.

Jingfa reports that since the course opened in June, they have distributed between 150 and 200 courses per month. This has resulted in 7 baptisms so far as people continue to work their way through the courses. When I left Nigeria in June we had our office stocked with courses. Since that time we have had to reprint twice. This means that the courses are getting out and into the hands of potential students.

I also wanted to inform you about how the process works. I will use Dauda as an example and explain how we have designed the courses to work. So here we go... Dauda works to distribute these courses to area preachers. These area preachers distribute them to the congregation. The congregation distributes the courses to potential students. The students who chose to enroll in the courses then return the courses to the local church and they are mailed to Dauda, or if he is near, he may pick them up in person. He grades the courses and then they are returned to the preachers. They return the courses to the students. This is the basic process that we follow in both offices. It allows us to grade and return the courses without mailing them overseas and allows for close contact between our man in the course office and the local preachers who are involved in evangelism. There is also a relationship developed between the local preachers and church members with the course students. We try to keep the local congregations supplied with the course material to use in their evangelism outings. This allows us to serve the church and teach the gospel through these courses.

I pray that you will consider helping us in this effort. Currently, hundreds of people are learning the gospel in a comprehensive way in their own homes each month because of the help we receive from donors. If you would consider helping, then please contact me for more information via email coxadamh@gmail.com or phone 256-762-2438 or 731-925-2810. Thanks and God Bless!!