



# Ferguson Report



Vol. 3 No. 12

“Go ye unto all the world”

December 2006

## Honor to Whom Honor is Due

Within every organization there are those special people, the “core group,” the backbone and support, those who make things happen. The New Testament calls such people “doers” (James 1:22), who not only say “*be ye warmed and filled*” but who warm and fill and positively engage in Christian activities.

Without question there is no greater aspect of the Lord’s work than the duty the church has in evangelistic missions – a mission to take the gospel to over 6 billion souls! Sure, no one person or group of people can do this all by themselves, but one thing is sure, if the Lord returns within their lifetime they will be found with their sleeves rolled up doing, going, sending, spending and being spent. If someone doesn’t hear the gospel it will not be because these people were not concerned or were not trying.

At this time of the year it has become customary in this newsletter to honor these selfless people because of their faith, vision, sacrifice and so many other virtues (Romans 13:7). None of the following would ever ask for such recognition; but they are being honored here for their contribution whether financially or physically to the **Chimala Bible College** in 2006, a preacher training extension school produced by the joint venture of the Bear Valley Bible Institute of Denver and the New York Ave. church of Christ, Arlington, Texas. The following names or churches are listed alphabetically:

- Antioch church of Christ – Coldwater, MS
- Josh Barnett – Nashville, TN
- Bear Valley church of Christ – Denver, CO
- Bells church of Christ – Bells, TN
- Bishop St. church of Christ – Union City, TN
- Doris R. & Jean Brown – Alamo, TN
- Frances Bruce – Alamo, TN
- Wayne Burger – Denver, CO
- Bill & Shirley Carter – Palatka, FL
- Judy Carter – Vinton, VA
- Cairo church of Christ – Alamo, TN
- Central church of Christ – Bastrop, LA
- Jack & Mary Frances Christie – Jackson, TN

- Harold & Velma Churchwell – Jackson, TN
- Columbine church of Christ – Littleton, CO
- Fred & Cathy Cooper – Bartlett, TN
- Crossroads church of Christ – Bells, TN
- Dwayne & Joy Curtis – Jackson, TN
- Dale Ridge church of Christ – Cloverdale, VA
- Dexter Church of Christ – Dexter, MO
- Dorris Chapel church of Christ – Trenton, TN
- Theo & Martha Faulkner – Centerville, TN
- Claude & Betty Ferguson – Union City, TN
- Allan & Sherry Glidewell – Brownsville, TN
- Mack & Mary June Goode – Alamo, TN
- Dr. Stephen & Sandra Goodwin – Jackson, TN
- Michael Hite – Denver, CO
- Humboldt church of Christ – Humboldt, TN
- Denton Landon – Winston-Salem, NC
- Rachel Leath – Alamo, TN
- Paul & Mary Lewis – Brownsville, TN
- Madison County church of Christ – Jackson, TN
- Martin church of Christ – Martin, TN
- Maury City church of Christ – Maury City, TN
- Mount Olive church of Christ – Kirksey, KY
- Nance church of Christ – Alamo, TN
- New York Ave. church of Christ – Arlington, TX
- North Jackson church of Christ – Jackson, TN
- Northside church of Christ – Mayfield, KY
- Pottsville church of Christ – Hickory, KY
- Southaven church of Christ – Southaven, MS
- Joe & Jan Tate – Troutville, VA
- Canelle Threlkeld – Union City, TN
- Westside church of Christ – Brownsville, TN

Naturally, there is always the danger in running such a list that someone may have been overlooked. If so please contact me so I can correct my records. Or, if you would like to begin assisting in this work please let me know. By so doing, God will bless you, the Chimala Bible College will continue to grow, more men will be trained in the Bible, and fewer souls from East Africa will slip into eternity unprepared. With your help, the year of 2007 can and will be the best year yet in this spiritual labor. In the spirit of the Macedonian call: *Will you come and help us?* Howell

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***“Ferguson Mission”***

Monthly commitments and one-time  
donations still needed

***Bear Valley Bible Institute of  
Denver***

A work of the Bear Valley Church of  
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## When Will We Really Ever “Get It?”

Have you ever asked yourself what sacrifices are too much to offer in view of heaven? What conveniences are too precious for me to trade so that one person can have the hope you and I have? To some day live beyond the daily poverty, hardships and ignorance is just a dream in the minds of the world’s majority.

We talk of players, statistics, wins, and losses in sports with utmost precision. No amount of effort is spared to placard our modern vehicles with team messages, cheers, colors, etc. Elaborate ticket costs and locations are never too much to pay nor too far to go to watch our favorite teams during the “finals.” Our hobbies and circuses remain funded. Yet, seldom did we give it a moment’s notice that during all the fuss tens of thousands of priceless souls exited this world into a bottomless eternity unprepared – somebody’s mother, father, son or daughter, husband or wife – lost souls because we, the most prosperous people on earth, sometimes really just don’t “get it.”

Just a brief glance around us will reveal that the world is under attack by a force so sinister that makes today’s terrorism pale in comparison. Not only is Satan devouring daily innumerable souls into eternal

damnation, he is also deceiving God’s very elect into believing there’s not much we can do about it anyway, “so we might as well go to the game!” “Oh well,” says the materialistic Christian climbing into his \$\$\$ SUV, “it’s not my fault I was born in this country of prosperity and those people were born in poverty. They just need to help themselves.”

Brethren, may I be a bit blunt: there is ***no good reason*** why every single evangelistic effort – both local and abroad could not be fully and adequately funded by faithful churches of Christ today. It simply will take a re-shift of our focus and priorities (cf. Col. 3:1-2). When we finally become “*converted*” we will not only do a better job “*strengthening the brethren*” but also spreading the gospel into all the world like Jesus told us to do (Luke 22:32; Matt. 28:18-30).

When we learn to sacrifice as the early church sacrificed we will again see the church grow and spread as it did in the first century. They sold land, houses, goats and sheep to fund their efforts. Maybe we need to sell four-wheelers, guns, boats and vain frills to fund our efforts. A little less entertaining and a little more spiritual aiming is in order. Does some of this make you feel a little guilty? It does me. How about you? If so, maybe we are starting to “get it.” Either we “get it” now, or we’ll lose it later. “*What shall a man give in exchange for his soul?*” Howell