



Ferguson Report



Vol. 3 No. 4

“Go ye unto all the world”

April 2006

Denver Extension Staff Meeting

Part of growth and leadership is facing reality even with all of its troubles. But instead of allowing problems from stopping forward movement, difficulties can become opportunities for positive growth and development. Adjustment to existing goals and the birth of new ideas are frequently on the heels of the converging of like-minds. Once a year, a meeting is hosted by the Bear Valley Bible Institute of Denver involving both the Denver and the extension faculty where we share information about our respective works. This month, a second meeting was hosted by the BVBID involving primarily the foreign extension staff.

While the current work of each extension preaching school is exciting, and we certainly did not hesitate telling about the good things, we took this opportunity to look more closely at the trouble areas—where our hands get a little dirtier. As a result, I



Wayne Burger “negotiating” for a pot.

believe each member of the extension staff has come away from this meeting with a better and more realistic expectation of the challenges and responsibilities these schools present.

Every school has its particular set of challenges. India is...well...India. Anyone who has ever worked in that nation of 1.5 billion souls knows all too well of the exploding evangelistic potential and equally-volatile trouble spots. Our extension staff knows that we must be ready to make adjustments to win Indians to Christ in this rapidly-budding superpower.

In Arusha, the Andrew Connally School of Preaching continues to serve as a “model” foreign extension school. At the able hands of TZ2000 coordinator, Cy Stafford and BVBID coordinator, Gary Fallis, the ACSOP is doing a phenomenal job training preachers with a current enrolment of approximately 40 preacher students.



Michael Hite teaching at CBC.

Also in East Africa is the Chimala Bible College. Factor in its remote location in the African “bush” country as well as the fact that this school is still in its “infancy,” and you have some rather unique challenges. It is also difficult to keep missionaries in that area—not just anyone is willing to live cut off from “civilization.” We are, however, making some progress in improving communication access. Heath Stapleton reported this month that he received his first e-mail from Chimala from his brother Darrin with the use of a new cellular phone technology. This is not the route we initially anticipated, but it may have to do until more funds become available.

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“Ferguson Mission”

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Back in February, two men from the Denver staff, Wayne Burger and Michael Hite, traveled to Tanzania to teach short courses at CBC. When they returned I heard only a small part of their comments about their trip to Chimala. So when we all met in Denver for the extension staff meeting, Wayne and Michael gave a fuller report of their experiences. Being the marketing “guru” that he is, Michael took over 900 pictures and gave a fabulous slide presentation.

The Kramatorsk School of Biblical Studies continues to do an exceptional job educating men and women in the Bible. In fact, the school has done so well that they have lost count of the number of new members and new congregations established. Furthermore, graduates of that school are teaching nearly all of the courses so that it is almost unnecessary for us to send men from the States. This is the goal we pray to attain for all of our extension schools.

We have two schools in Central and South America. The Bible School of the Americas in Panama City, Panama continues to do a great job training men in the ministry. Denton Landon who is the stateside coordinator for that school as well as for the Bible School of the Americas in Lima, Peru stays very busy teaching and coordinating other men to teach in those

schools. In fact, when all the extension staff met in Denver April 15th, Denton had just completed teaching a course on Church Growth in Panama and connected flights from Panama to Denver before being able to come home. Shortly before that, Denton taught Genesis and Exodus in Lima, and is scheduled to teach classes in other schools throughout the year. If I might add a plea in his behalf, Denton has made great sacrifices traveling around the world for the extension schools but is still lacking in his personal and work fund support. I know he would greatly appreciate any assistance that could be given. Denton can be reached in the evenings at (336) 659-6816.

One final work I want to mention in closing is the potential for a BVBID extension school in Cambodia. Our extension director, David Hamrick and Keith Kasarjian just recently returned from that country with a report of the condition of things there. David gave a slide presentation that stirred our desire to pursue the placement of a school there, and also brought tears to our eyes as we saw sample photographs of those who were tortured and killed during the reign of communist leader Pol Pot. Logistics and the lack of a key “inside” man are obstacles that will have to be overcome. But if God is willing we are able. Please keep all these present and future BVBID schools in your prayers. Howell