



The Gambia Partnership

Supporting the work of the Gospel in the Gambia

<http://www.thegambiapartnership.co.uk>

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Dear friends, supporters and encouragers,

Calvary greetings in the name of our Lord and savior Jesus Christ from The Smiling coast of West Africa.

The mission of the church it has being said is 'missions'. The mission of the Gambia partnership I must add is 'mission' amidst all other charitable endeavors. In the month of September we've been on the road spreading the Good news of Christ's saving work to those who will hear it. I go not merely as a job but as a commission from our commander in chief whose marching orders I must follow. It's a pity that 'believers who have the Gospel keep mumbling it over and over to themselves. Meanwhile, millions who have never heard it once fall into the flames of eternal hell without ever hearing the salvation story'. We spend a lot of time talking about the second coming of Christ, rightly so, but sadly many have not heard about the first coming and His mission. "How then will they call on Him in whom they have not believed? How will they believe in Him whom they have not heard? And how will they hear without a preacher?" (Romans 10:14). We are the means the sovereign God chose to use to spread his Good news to all. I go on missions knowing all men are sinners and apart from Christ, men are hell bound. Charles Spurgeon had commented that in **"In Hell there is no hope. They have not even the hope of dying"**.

Living in a country with so much spiritual lostness, I could see my call as a missionary as one which was in God's mind for such a time as this. And so I go not out of compulsion but because of obedience to God and love for souls.

I give God the glory for all your prayers and support for the work in the Gambia. The work in kabekel has been going on to the glory of God. Many are getting to hear the Good news and we trust God to make it effectual in their hearts and

minds. We've been looking at the person of Jesus and his uniqueness in history building a case for his divinity and his humanity from Holy Scripture at our theology class. We've also been looking at creation, sin, God's scheme of redemption etc and the classes have been very interactive. What a joy it is for these young people to understand and appreciate biblical truth. With the re-opening of schools, some have left the village but our classes have not been hindered.



Recently, the village hosted a football tournament and it was well attended by neighbouring villages. We used the opportunity to provide food and spread the Gospel giving out reading materials to some. It turned out that one of the team (Sanyang village) with whom I spent much of my time teaching and praying won the tournament. These young guys were very excited about the Gospel message and asked for us to be praying for them. Some of them from Muslim backgrounds mostly hostile to the Gospel message asked that we remember their families in prayer too.





The Theology class in town has been going on successfully despite the heavy rains that have hindered it sometimes. After completing a series on Christian biographies looking at the lives of David Livingstone, William Carey, Charles Spurgeon, Martyn Lloyd Jones, George whitfield, Wiliam Tyndale etc we begun a new teaching series by Rev. Kenneth Stewart titled 'Christ the King'. The classes are projected on screen every Tuesday.



The Pastors Fellowship has been a source of constant joy for me. Seeing pastors coming together to pray and listen to lectures as taught by Dr. Joel Beeke has been a great achievement for our mission in the Gambia. We having been handing out reading materials for the pastors and they are looking forward to receiving Dabney's systematic theology through the generosity of the Banner of Truth. These pastors have been very grateful for the lectures on 'Reformed Experiential preaching' and they have been praying for the partners in Scotland and the work in the Gambia. See below some of their testimonials:

“Reformed Experiential preaching has transformed my preaching in terms of who I’m speaking to, my own life in relation to the message, the application of the spirit’s work in the heart of the people and always looking for the application of the text.”- Pastor Sylvester Konteh

“Regarding to the pastors fellowship and the teachings on reformed experiential preaching, it has been great in my life as a matter of fact it has changed my approach and method of preaching. It is an eye-opener to me. I love the teaching so much, and more so it has helped me to commit my whole life to Jesus as a preacher. I say a big thanks to you all again for bringing that sound biblical teaching to us here in the Gambia. Our challenge here over the years has being lack of sound theological accuracy as a result of lack of theological material”- Pastor Felix Obuikem Johnson

“We are tremendously gaining in this Reformed Experiential Preaching lectures. We are sharpening our preaching knowledge through the experiences of great servants of God like Bullinger, Beza, Calvin, the puritans etc”- Pastor Joshua Bakary Dibba

“The teachings are very inspiring” –Pastor Martin Bockarie

“We are in full support of the program”- Pastor Tony Caulker

“As you fulfill the great commission through reformed theology, God shall reward you abundantly” –Pastor Emmanuel Oneli



The responses from these servants of God have motivated me so much. Most of

them wouldn't miss a day for class. They extend their prayers for Scotland as we all seek to bring the church to those ancient paths wherein is truth.

My one on one evangelism has been met with both good news and bad news. Some have openly told me that a friendly chat or book about the Gospel between us has served as a true blessing to their souls. They cheer you on to keep the good work. Many professing Christians here don't even know the basic teachings of the faith. This becomes clear as I spend time talking to them. Many see the Gospel as old news which they've heard many times over. Our Christian booklets, video and audio teachings have however blessed many whom the Holy Spirit has led into an understanding of the Scriptures.

Muslims want to engage in discussions about Jesus Christ whom they claim to believe as a prophet and messiah but not as Christians claim in the Gospel. Their objections against the Christian claims have been lovingly refuted from Scriptures and sometimes even using the Quran not as an inspired source but to make a point. As an Evangelist I have immersed myself in the reading of the Quran, the hadiths and sunnahs of the Islamic faith. This has helped me to engage in discussions with them without misrepresenting their beliefs while affirming the Christian faith and the exclusivity of salvation in Christ alone.

In such engagements, Some have retorted that "You cannot make me become a Christian in such a short time because I was born a Muslim". My response has been as that of the Apostle Paul to King Agrippa "...I would wish to God that whether in a short or long time, not only you, but also all who hear me this day, might become such as I am..." (Acts 26:29).

At a school recently, a Muslim boy told me "You Christians believe Jesus died for your sins but he didn't die for mine. I don't believe that. The Bible has been corrupted". Of course that objection was refuted. It is my prayer that the word will bear saving fruits in his life.

Some people I have talked to have ignored my message on the basis of what they claim 'Christians' are doing today. 'If this is what Christianity is about' they say 'I don't want to be a Christian'. It's a case of Mahatma Ghandi saying "I love your

Christ but not Christians. Christians are so unlike their Christ". Such people have come to equate Christianity as a mere profession of faith or going to church devoid of any Gospel fruits.

Objections like that though based on a false premise have made me to reflect on my own life as missionary. My prayer has been God ' I want to live a life stamped with divine authenticity; I want my life to be a transcript of my message'.

Though staggering I find this quote from John Owen very helpful "If a man teach uprightly and walk crookedly, more will fall down in the night of his life than he built up in the day of his doctrine"

Knowing that I cannot make anyone believe the Gospel which is certainly the province of the Holy Spirit, I don't let negative comments deter me from faithfully proclaiming the Gospel. I preach the gospel to all who will hear it and pray that the Holy Spirit will bring about their salvation in a short time or long.

Schools have just resumed for a new academic year. I will be visiting various schools in October to engage students in Bible studies and if allowed using their Christian religious studies curriculum to teach on scheduled days. Pray for all the students I will be meeting that God will bring them home through the faithful proclamation of the Gospel.

As always your prayers are needed for all the mission doors God has opened and will open because this is a spiritual work and by my strength alone, I can do nothing. Pray especially for the village of Kabekel that God will make his word blessed to them. The pastors here who are praying for the brethren in Scotland also need your prayers as Gambia desperately needs a spiritual reformation.

"Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling, and to make you stand in the presence of his glory blameless with great joy, to the only God our savior, through Jesus Christ our lord, be Glory, majesty, dominion and authority before all time and now forever. Amen" -Jude 25

God bless you all.

“We have our marching orders, and because our commander in chief is not absent, but with us, the impossible becomes not only practical but imperative”-

A Wesley

“If you take missions out of the Bible, you won’t have anything left but the covers.” - N. Gunter

Yours in His service,

Philip A. senessie.