

# **TRUTH FOR TODAY** WORLD MISSION SCHOOL

# March 2013 Newsletter

# Fulfilling Jesus' Dream for the World

"And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, 'All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age" (Matthew 28:18–20).

The early disciples were driven from Jerusalem by severe persecution. They went in every direction, preaching the gospel to everyone they met. The seed of the kingdom was scattered throughout the Roman Empire (Acts 8:4). The early Christians preached and taught to such an extent that Paul later indicated that their words had gone into all the world.



A Man Is Baptized into Christ in Uganda

How is Truth for Today World Mission School (TFTWMS) reaching out to the world in our time? This mission team is sending Bible-teaching literature and publications to thousands of preachers and teachers in 146 nations and territories. The national servants who receive this help are scattered out in at least 75% of the populated land area of the earth. Many have been receiving valuable instructions in the Scriptures from TFTWMS since 1989. Let us rejoice that the

efforts of evangelizing the entire world are growing and expanding. Through the generosity of many brethren and the development of new technology for evangelism and edification, the future glows with promise. We are optimistic that we will be able to reach out to more people with a greater consistency and depth than ever before.

## Needed: Good Stewardship for the Work of Evangelism

TFTWMS seeks to use the missionary dollar as efficiently as possible. Three strategies now being used illustrate this truth:

#### Reading-based School of Biblical Studies:

The *RSBS* program provides a quality Bible education for students throughout the world. Learners study through the Bible in a detailed way. The schools are inexpensive, portable, and comparable in depth to the finest Christian university Bible courses.

#### **Reaching into India:**

Each month, teaching and preaching materials are sent to 26,000 Indian preachers or teachers. Books have been translated into seven of the twenty-six major languages of India.

#### Leadership Endowment:

A fund is being put into place to provide the kind of continual leadership that such a mission work as this will require. This funding will sustain TFTWMS for many years to come.

# Reading-based School of Biblical Studies



RSBS Student and Eddie Cloer

Truth for Today World Mission School began providing a worldwide, written "through the Bible" school to preaching and teaching students in the summer of 2011. The Reading-based School of Biblical Studies (RSBS) is a rigorous 14-semester, 7-year biblical education program using the Truth for Today Commentary series. A student who is competent in English can have a textbook and curriculum in his hands for \$25 a month. Students overseas receive the text and curriculum for free as long as they maintain a 70% grade average during the semester. The cost of the school is financed by contributions to TFTWMS designated for RSBS.

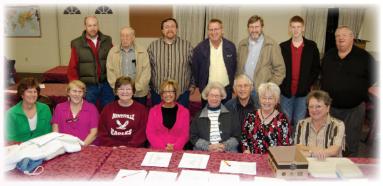
# A Valued On-Site School

Experience has shown that a student brought to America for biblical education often does not want to return to his homeland. Maintaining a preacher/teacher school abroad is costly in facilities, faculty, and logistics. Sometimes a student cannot leave his hard-to-find job for full-time study, or he is unable to leave his family for extended periods of time. The RSBS program takes the school to the student where he lives, almost anyplace in the world. RSBS provides the student with several advantages. What does he need? He requires (1) a schedule that meets the demands of his situation in life, (2) a greater depth of Bible study than is currently available to him, and (3) development as an indigenous preacher or teacher.

The national student is already culturally oriented as he begins to preach and teach to his own people. Friends and contacts are readily available. He will approach his community as one of them.

RSBS is available for study at the home of anyone desiring to be a preacher or a teacher. When the student's job is over for the day, he can then enter into these studies on the side. In this way, he can get his education as he continues his regular work.

Each school is organized locally by one person who acts as the dean. A common place to meet for testing is determined. Study guides, tests, and answer keys are downloaded from the TFTWMS website. Test grades are e-mailed to TFTWMS, where a record of them is kept. Students receive certification for successful completion of each year of study. Currently, 283 students in 8 countries actively participate in RSBS.



Huntsville Reading-based School of Biblical Studies

RSBS is also flourishing in America. In a congregation of the church of Christ in Huntsville, Arkansas, eighteen members are enrolled. The Mars Hill congregation in Vilonia, Arkansas, has been one of the leaders in using this school. The program has grown to several schools in different parts of the US. The schools purchase their books but receive all guidance and testing materials online. All materials other than the required books are free to those who are conducting a school. Fellowship is enhanced as participants attain universitylevel Bible knowledge together.

# Mumbai Seminar: Indian Translations



December 20–21, 2012, marked the occasion for a "Truth for Today" Translation Workshop in Mumbai, India. Translators across India had the opportunity to meet Eddie Cloer, the director of Truth for Today World Mission School, and his wife, Susan. Most of these men had never attended a translation conference. They were challenged to strive for the highest quality of translation.

The workshop's theme was "Embracing the Dream," which grew out of the ambition to take the gospel message into every part of the nation of India. TFTWMS plans to add more languages to the seven that are presently being utilized in the printing of biblical literature for India.



Workshop Displays Provided Additional Instruction

In the learning sessions, the theme "The Ideal Translation Center" was examined. Without a doubt, we can say that the Son of God is the "Ideal Translator," and that God has fully communicated His message to us through the Spirit. This conference offered a time of instruction, planning, reflection, and fellowship for translators who share the dream of reaching into all of India with the saving message of Jesus Christ.



Brethren at the Mumbai Translation Workshop

The Christian men who attended the conference were taught the importance of assembling a team of qualified workers who can produce books that meet the standards of TFTWMS. Sessions guided participants through the various stages in the translation process and emphasized qualities that individual translators and teams must possess in order to produce excellent translations. This was an uplifting time of togetherness for those who share the common goal of fulfilling Christ's Great Commission.

Translators were reminded of the value of the printed word: "A speech lives a little while; a book lives a long while. A book has an enduring life; it can go where the author cannot go, and it has an incredible faithfulness to the author's message. A book not only can cross cultures, but it also can cross generations, and it incurs less expense than sending a missionary." They also learned the three traits of a quality translation: "accuracy, readability, and beauty."

When three or four more languages are added, TFTWMS will be providing a nationwide coverage of India, *something that has never been done on a regular basis in the history of Christianity.* This massive goal of covering all parts of India in ten or eleven of its major languages will only be made possible through consistent giving for this project by the brethren. Last year, approximately 300,000 individual books of excellent Bible-study materials were mailed into India by TFTWMS. Let us join together and add the three or four translations that are needed.



Return Service Requested

### What Is the Leadership Endowment Fund?

In 1989, Truth for Today World Mission School, in connection with several World Bible School teachers, began sending biblical literature to those who desired

to share the gospel with the people in their communities. From that time to this, the outreach has continued to grow and expand.

With the progress that has been made, TFTWMS has grown into a far-reaching, global mission effort. Eddie Cloer, as the director of the program, has provided the needed leadership for TFTWMS while also serving as a fulltime Bible professor at Harding University.

His donated guidance has been sufficient to develop this ministry to the worldwide scope it has today.

The elders of the Champions church of Christ in Houston, the congregation that has overseen TFTWMS from its inception, have deemed it wise to set aside a

### YOU CAN HELP WITH THIS GREAT WORK!

Will you make a financial contribution to TFTWMS for this fund that must be put into place? The generosity of the brethren has made possible the extensive production and distribution of biblical literature. We ask you to continue to give so that this ministry may continue to flourish in its attempt to assist gospel preachers and teachers in the evangelism that is taking place throughout the world.

Many congregations support TFTWMS through their budgets. Elders, would you consider this pos-

leadership fund. This endowment fund is being created for the time when Eddie is unable to continue his current leadership role. The new director will train

> with Eddie for some time before he assumes the task of leading this vast undertaking to an even higher level. The fund is designed to provide perpetual support for this position.

> Eddie said, "I plan to work with TFTWMS as long as God may will. What a wonderful privilege it has been to be deeply involved with shaping the future of such a needed evangelistic and edifying mission! God has

blessed this endeavor beyond anything we could have imagined. I am hoping that our brotherhood will join hands with us as we try to make TFTWMS a permanent work in this world. The endowment fund is essential for the fulfillment of this goal."

sibility? Share this information with your friends, and direct them to the website below.

An annuity gift might be pledged. This would allow the donor to continue receiving interest on the gift until his/her death. Also, you may wish to consider TFTWMS in your estate planning, so that you can continue influencing others for the Lord for generations after this lifetime is past. Your prayers are especially needed in this global effort. Your benevolence for this cause is greatly

appreciated.



www.biblecourses.com

