

Dear Pastor and Brethren,



April 2023

Receive our warm greetings in the glorious name of our Lord. We are always thrilled to give an update on the Lord's work around here. We thank you for being part of this work. We are giving all the glory to the Lord for the increase He provides. Very often what we tell you about the work we are doing on the field has to do with facts. In this Prayer Letter, we offer to talk about **strategy and means**.

As you know, our work on the field mainly has to do with: (1) bringing people to the Lord; (2) baptizing them; (3) building up their faith in Christ; and (4) building the temples. Achieving all this, involves (1) human resources; (2) material resources; (3) financial resources; (4) and above all, spiritual resources.

In terms of human resources, we are serving as a team. Our team is made up of men we call co-workers. We staunchly believe in team work for it is from the Bible and it is effective. With team work, much can be done in a short time and the time is redeemed. With team work, you actually enjoy fellowship with others in the Lord's work. With the team work the credit is given to the whole team and all the glory goes to God.

Team work however is not without challenges and even problems. In 18 years' time, we lost six men of our team because they were no more qualified for the work. Behind the expression "no more qualified" hide many troubles to solve. Solving troubles apart, replacing a coworker is never an easy task. You have to find the right person, share the vision with him and get involved in the whole process of his training.

For many years, we have been prayerfully looking for a man who went to a Bible School to serve fulltime as our coworker at Conqueror Baptist Church without success. We are still praying for such a man. We are now looking for faithful and capable young men willing to be trained at the Bible Institute for God's work. It looks like young men are no more interested in God's fulltime work. Please be in prayer with us that "the Lord of the harvest" sends forth "labourers in his harvest" here.

As the Lord's instruments, we are doing our best to plant sound and solid autonomous Baptist Churches. To this effect, the criteria the churches are to meet in order to become autonomous or independent are: (1) own a good portion of land; (2) construct a church temple; (3) be self-governing; (4) be self-supporting, (5) be self-reproductive. At this point, only Savior BC (our missions-based church) and Good News BC met these criteria and accordingly became independent. The next church that is most likely to become autonomous is Good Shepherd BC.

Purchasing a piece of land for a church and constructing a church building are the most material and financial resources consuming. At this point, the Lord has made it possible for us to own church property for each one of our mission's churches. To God be the glory for that! We are still working on legal papers for most of them.

We have come to the point where most of our mission's churches are in the construction work process. We need financial and material resources as never before. Please be in prayer with us for all these construction works.

The Way of Heaven Baptist Church at Kétao, my home town, is the only church at the embryonic stage at this time. For the meantime, we hold the Sunday morning and Friday evening church

meetings in a room that is large enough to contain about 30 people. A good number of people here claim to be Catholics whereas they still worship idols. We are asking the Lord to provide for a building so that we get to the stage of an established church. God willing, Bro. Raphael will be baptizing the very first new convert here on May 28.

Without spiritual resources there will be no spiritual result. Without the Gospel of Christ, “the power of God unto salvation” and the work of the Holy Spirit, no soul would be saved. We want to be able to preach the Gospel effectively and gain more and more souls for the Lord. It is our prayer that each one of us on the team be enabled to preach the Gospel effectively for more salvation decisions to be made. Very often, we need the Lord’s guidance to do things at the right time, in the right way before we get the right result.



Our coworkers and their wives



Church temple construction work progress at Good Shepherd BC: Special services devoted to thanksgiving



The temple construction work progress at Conqueror BC: the concrete planned to be made by December



The temple construction work progress at Faith BT: Roof planned to be put in 2024



The temple construction work progress at Redeemer BC: concrete planned to be made in 2025



March 26, bro. David baptized 5 new converts at Rock BC



Cement blocks being made for the church building work at Way of Heaven BC

Thank you very much for your faithful support!

The Laodima Family