



NEWS FROM THE FIELDS



A Life and Death Struggle

The ER Home Office Staff

Yes, we believe it! Some may call us fanatics, but we truly believe that Jesus is the only way to heaven (John 14:6; Acts 4:12). That's why we're determined to do everything we can to reach as many as possible with the love of God and His offer of salvation (1 Cor. 9:22b).

Because we believe it's a matter of life and death (Romans 6:23) Evangelism Resources is doing everything possible to make disciples (Matt. 28:19-20)

who will make other disciples (2 Timothy 2:2) where the need is greatest (2 Cor. 10:16).

In 2023 we helped fund the training of over 51,000 witnesses to take Christ's salvation to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8). Half of those, 25,500, were trained in Portable Bible Schools, ER's two-months course for raising up pastors for house churches and small village congregations. Another 1,200 were trained in our nine-month Schools of Evangelism, about 1,600 in the Mobile Schools of Evangelism, and over 19,000 in Great Commission Challenge Camps for youth.

We'd like to do it again this year—or even more if God enables. Will you please help us help our overseas partners in this new year to raise up more witnesses, evangelists, missionaries, and church planters to take His gospel of the kingdom to all nations (Matt. 24:14)?

Even so, come quickly, Lord Jesus (Rev. 22:20)!

WHAT'S INSIDE?

P.2 Ministry in Ethiopia

Launching Portable Bible Schools and the Women's Impact Network in Ethiopia

P.3 Prayer Ministry

How you can pray with us—and how we can pray for you

P.4 Missions Statistics

A brief report on world religions and the Church's progress in completing the Great Commission



ENTERING ETHIOPIA

By Elnathan & Mirna Nyamuke

Rev. Elnathan Nyamuke is ER's Africa Coordinator. He and Mirna live in Kinshasa, Congo with their three children.

Addis Ababa is considered one of the most strategic cities on the African continent. Following the example of the Apostle Paul—who was very intentional and strategic, launching gospel movements from big cities as hubs—Mirna and I have been blessed to be instruments of the Lord to come alongside Dr. Nega and his team to launch ER ministries in Ethiopia, from October 31 to November 5, 2023, through the PBS Teacher Training Seminar and a Women's Impact Network (WIN) conference for women leaders.



the gospel further, responding to “the call to go” that comes from above (Isaiah 6:8), from below (Luke 16:27-28), from outside (Acts 16:9), and from inside (1 Corinthians 9:16). We remember them in our prayers, asking the Lord to open their eyes to see the places where the fields are ready for harvest.

The women of Ethiopia were diligent, and the Holy Spirit visited us during our teaching times as well as during the prayer times that followed. Each morning, a short moment of devotion, praise and adoration allowed us to get our days off to a good start. On the closing day, in an atmosphere of joy, we gave each woman

We were impressed by the kindness and friendliness of the Ethiopian people in general, and of our brothers and sisters in the faith in particular. With the intention of taking the PBS movement across the country, thirty-five pastors, evangelists, and church leaders came from various regions of Ethiopia. They were responding not only to Dr. Nega's invitation, but also to the call of the Lord for this season of the Church in Ethiopia.

As stated by one, "The flock of God is hungry, and the PBS program [came] at the right time to equip hundreds of pastors and lay pastors." We thank God for their desire to own the PBS and take

“The flock of God is hungry, and the PBS program [came] at the right time to equip hundreds of pastors and lay pastors.”

a set of WIN manuals and a certificate. I was moved by the enthusiasm of the women, and they were touched by the word of God and felt encouraged by the fellowship and group discussions.

WIN teachings are up-to-date and allow for solid training during these End Times we are living in. They help us, as women, to stand firm and remain steadfast in Christ, in order to be more intentional and win other women effectively. We pray that through these women a new wind will begin with the women of Ethiopia, because when the Lord speaks a word, there are many messengers of the good news.

We would like to thank the ER family all over the world for praying for us, for the conferences and for our children left

behind in Kinshasa. God blessed that week, and He will certainly continue to support Dr. Nega and his wife, as well as his entire dynamic team. ■



Memorial & Honorary Gifts

Contributions were received...

In memory of Robert (Bob) Bickert of Wilmore, Kentucky from Janice Tuckerman of Pittsford, Michigan;

In memory of Daniel De Freval of Ouray, Colorado from his wife, Jamie De Freval, of Ouray, Colorado;

In honor of Jim Pepperl of Lexington, Kentucky from Mike and Pam Pepper, also of Lexington.

Do You Need Prayer?

You can call ER Monday through Friday, between 2:00 and 4:00 p.m. ET, and ask for **Ralph**. Ralph Yoder is a prayer warrior who would love to pray with and for you! Call (859) 858-0777, ext. 3, or email him at ralph@erinfo.org.

We are so convinced that God answers prayer that we devote 40 minutes every morning (except Sunday) to pray online for our ministries with board members and others. Almost every day at least one of our overseas partners joins us, and it's always a tremendous privilege to pray with and for them! Let us know if you'd like to join us online in prayer and we'll be happy to send you the Zoom link.





The Great Commission: How are We Doing?

By Mike Braun

Mike Braun is the son of ER President Paul Braun. He and his wife, Meredith, and their two children live in Somerset, KY, where he serves as the President of International Missions at Science Hill Church of the Nazarene. The following article is from the November 12, 2023 issue of their publication *Missions Minutes*.

I'm going to throw a bunch of stats at you. Some of these are wild...

• There are about 2.6 billion Christians in the world today, but in 1950 there were only 2.5 billion people in the world, total. With this in mind, we can't measure our evangelism efforts by just talking numbers (quantities); we need to talk worldwide percentages.

• In 1900 about 34.5% of the world was Christian, by 2000 it had dropped to 32.3%, and today it's estimated to be between 29% and 31%. So the number of Christians in the world is growing, but not as fast as the world population, therefore the percent of Christians is declining. Not good.

• Christianity is the most prevalent religion in the world, but Islam is growing at a faster rate¹. This growth is due in part to birthrates; Muslim families are having more children than Christian families.

• In the Global North (North America, Europe, and Russia) the growth rate of Christianity is slowing. But in the Global South (Africa, South Asia, and Latin America) the growth rate is increasing.

• About 3 billion people, or 40% of the world, are unreached; they haven't heard the Gospel. Only 3% of missionaries work with

unreached people groups. And only about 1% of church budgets, worldwide, go to reaching the unreached people groups. This is called, "The Great Imbalance."

Sources: www.is-there-a-god.info, <https://goodfaithmedia.org>, <https://radical.net>

We've got plenty to pray for. Would you take some time this week to focus on the Great Commission? Lord, God, I'm grateful that you are in control. Bless the work of those who have dedicated their lives to spreading the gospel. Give them courage, tenacity, creativity, patience, and success!

Religious Affiliation¹

