



Preparing Souls To Serve The Lord

Volume XXIII

April 2003

Number 9

Go Ye Into All The World

By
Ted Wheeler

Twenty years ago Renee and I decided we wanted to do "mission work" in Ghana, West Africa. We realized that in order to effectively communicate God's word there was a need for us to prepare ourselves for the work. Thus the decision was made to attend the Florida School of Preaching (1982-1984). The time that we spent, the material that we studied, and the maturity that came from two years of in-depth studies proved to be a great blessing to us in our work. Twenty years later we are still working in Ghana. At times we have planted, at times we have watered; but God has been the one to provide all the increases that we have seen and enjoyed in this work.

Mission Classes

In the fall we will begin two semesters of mission related studies. Following is some of the material that will be covered during these classes.

The Great Commission

The foundation of all missions. A study of the greatest mission ever set before man.

Mission Minded Churches

We will be looking at a number of First Century churches (Jerusalem, Antioch, Philippi, etc.). Emphasis will be placed on the methods they used, their motivation, the message they preached and the resulting spread of Christianity.

Missionaries of the Bible

This class will look at the original apostles as they began their work in Jerusalem, Judea and to the uttermost parts of the earth. Special emphasis will be made on Paul's work with the Gentiles. This class will also look at Jonah's ministry and the problems that come when an individual is forced to do a task.



Ted Wheeler

Mental and Spiritual Necessities For a Missionary

This class will set forth various personal qualities that are needed to be successful in missions. Mental stability, spiritual stability, a solid knowledge of God's word, an understanding of the work that is before us, a willingness to learn, and a love for God and the souls of men.

Choosing a Location

A person cannot go everywhere, so where should one go to do mission work? Why choose one place over another? When considering a mission field – one also needs to consider the political, economic and social climate and how it will impact one's work, family, etc.

Understanding Customs and Traditions

Paul said, "I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some" (1 Cor. 9:22). There is a need to understand one's own customs as well as the customs of those with which we are working.

Special Problems

There are a number of "family-related" problems that need to be dealt with in the mission field. There is a need to provide for your family – financially, spiritually, emotionally, education for children, health care, etc. There is a need to recognize certain moral and social pitfalls that are often unique or exaggerated in a mission field. What about language, translation, interpretation and how it effects one's communicating the gospel?

Understanding The Providence of God

God has promised, "I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee" (Heb. 13:5). Paul realized that God would "supply all your need" (Phil. 4:19) In the mission field one must have a strong reliance on the providence of God. This class will also discuss the joys of missions and some of the disappointments one might experience.

Financial Considerations

How does one go about raising funds to support a mission work? What should be considered in choosing a congregation to sponsor your work? What do you do when no sponsoring congregation is available? Where do you look when your sponsoring congregation needs help with your work? How much financial assistance is needed to support the work that you are doing? How important is communication to supporting congregations?

Goals

This class will review the life and work of the apostle Paul. Emphasis will be placed on the goals that we need to have as we approach missions. There is a need to: 1) Establish a congregation, 2) Stabilize that congregation, 3) Develop teachers and leaders to care for the congregation, and 4) Communicate with the congregations you have helped to establish and

worked with.

Materials Needed for the Field

One of the greatest tools that we have in any work are the materials we use in teaching. Bibles, study books, tracts, class materials can impact and multiply the work that we do in a great way. Computers and the internet are making an impact in world missions.

Religious Beliefs

An understanding of the religious beliefs of others can be a great help in reaching out to them with the gospel. This class will look at some of the various belief systems that are found throughout the world.

Cross-cultural Communication

A special emphasis will be made on communicating the gospel to others in light of the differences in languages, customs, traditions, religions, etc.

Ghana Campaign June 21 through July 8, 2003

On June 21st we will be leaving to conduct our annual campaign to Ghana. This year Jackie and Joyce Stearsman will be working with us on the campaign.

Jackie and I will be conducting two seminars for preachers and church leaders. The first seminar will be held at the West Coast School of Preaching in Takoradi, Ghana's oldest seaport. This seminar will be on the subject of *Eschatology*. The second seminar will be held at the Vertical Centre church of Christ in Tema. Tema is a modern city and the place that Renee and I lived from 1984 to 1989. This seminar will be on the subject of *The Occult & Demons*. Below are the schedules for the

The Harvesters

Published Monthly
Florida School of Preaching
1807 South Florida Avenue
Lakeland, Florida 33803
(863) 683-4043

Editor: Jackie M. Stearsman
Board of Directors

Gordon Methvin, President	Greg Littleton
Paul Thornhill, Vice President	E. Robert McAnally
J. H. Blackman, Jr., Secretary	Samuel J. Roney
Allen Gardner, Treasurer	John D. Smitherman
Glenn Burgess	Jackie M. Stearsman
Elmer Burgett	Dale Spung
Maurice Davis	Ted Wheeler
George K. French	

TRAINING PREACHERS SINCE 1969

seminar.

In addition to the seminars, we will be conducting gospel meetings in the evenings and preaching on Sundays; we will be doing radio preaching in Tema; Renee and Joyce will be

conducting classes for ladies in Tema, Ashaiman, Kpone and Takoradi; and Trisha and Troy will be teaching children's classes.

Seminar Schedules

ESCHATOLOGY				
West Coast School of Preaching - Takoradi, Ghana				
24-27 June, 2003				
	Tuesday, 24 June	Wednesday, 25 June	Thursday, 26 June	Friday, 27, June
8:00	Registration	Registration	Registration	Registration
8:20	Welcome, Prayer and Introduction	Welcome Prayer and Introduction	Welcome, Prayer and Introduction	Welcome, Prayer and Introduction
8:30-10:00	Understanding the First Coming of Christ, Part I	The Vision of 70 Weeks, Daniel 9	Exposition of Matthew 24, Part I	The Max King A.D. 70 Doctrine
10:00	Short Break	Short Break	Short Break	Short Break
10:45-11:45	Understanding the First Coming of Christ, Part II	The Man of Sin and The Anti-Christ	An Exposition of Matthew 24, Part II	Is Eternal Punishment Justified?
11:45-1:30	Lunch Break	Lunch Break	Lunch Break	Lunch Break
1:30-3:00	Understanding The Second Coming of Christ	The Rapture and The Great Tribulation	The 1,000 Year Reign of the Martyrs, Rev. 20	Annihilation: Implications Regarding the Nature of Man
3:00-3:15	Short Break	Short Break	Short Break	Short Break
3:15-4:45	There Will Be A Final Judgment	The Land Promise	The Resurrection of The Body	Weekly Summary Questions and Answers

THE OCCULT AND DEMONS				
Vertical Center church of Christ-Tema, Ghana				
1-4 July, 2003				
	Tuesday, 1 July	Wednesday, 2 July	Thursday, 3 July	Friday, 4 July
8:00	Registration	Registration	Registration	Registration
8:20	Welcome, Prayer and Introduction	Welcome, Prayer and Introduction	Welcome, Prayer and Introduction	Welcome, Prayer and Introduction
8:30-10:00	The Occult and Why The Study is Needed, Part I	The Bible and Occult Activities, Part I	The Devil, Part I	Demons and Evil Spirits, Part I
10:00	Short Break	Short Break	Short Break	Short Break
10:15-11:45	The Occult and Why The Study Is Needed, Part II	The Bible and Occult Activities, Part II	The Devil, Part II	Demons and Evil Spirits, Part II
1:45-1:30	Lunch Break	Lunch Break	Lunch Break	Lunch Break
1:30-3:00	The Occult and Why The Study Is Needed, Part III	The Bible and Occult Activities, Part III	The Devil, Part III	Demons and Evil Spirits, Part III
3:00	Short Break	Short Break	Short Break	Short Break
3:15-4:45	The Occult and Why The Study Is Needed, Part IV	The Bible and Occult Activities, Part IV	The Devil, Part IV	Weekly Summary Question and Answers

Director of Public Relations Report

By

Gene Burgett

I met with Board of Directors, March 11, 2003. I reported on my efforts for generating both students and funds for Florida School of Preaching.

I also detailed my speaking engagements. On March 16, I was at the Central church of Christ, Clearwater, Florida. This trip had two goals: (1) To speak to long-time supporters of the school and commend them for their support. (2) To introduce two prospective students that they may consider being roommates when they start classes in the fall, Michael Bass and Garrett Russell.

After services I had lunch with the Bass family. Michael and Garrett seemed to have many common interests and it was agreed they would share one of the houses made possible by the Orange Street congregation in Auburndale, Florida.

The Bass family will work with the congregation making some repairs to the student housing and provide some furnishings for it.

Garrett Russell will deliver the evening sermon

at the Alacua church of Christ on April 6. This will be his first effort at a full length sermon. I want to contract other congregations and if possible to arrange times for Garrett to speak. It is hoped that this will generate some of his support. Garrett's parents and the Alachua church have both agreed to support him while he attends the Florida School of Preaching.

In the near future, I will be speaking at the Shiloh church of Christ, Hazel Green Alabama. Justin Gerhardt is the local preacher there, and he like me is a graduate of the Florida School of Preaching.

The Alachua church has generously donated me office space. Though I will continue to do most of my work out of the house, the office space provides a place to set up my library.

Our Monday night extension class at High Springs is studying Genesis-Exodus, and we are grateful to the High Springs congregation for permitting us to have the class in their facilities.

Return Service Requested

WEB SITE: www.fsop.net/

E-MAIL: fsop@gte.net

FAX: 863-683-0750

PHONE (863) 683-4043 (800) 320-9780

LAKELAND, FLORIDA 33803-2653

1807 SOUTH FLORIDA AVENUE

FLORIDA SCHOOL OF PREACHING

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Lakeland, FL
PERMIT #235