



**MISSIONARIES TO ETHIOPIA**



CMF INTERNATIONAL PRAYER NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2010

**UPDATE FROM ADDIS ABABA**

It has been around 5 months since we left our team in Addis Ababa to head back to the United States to complete the support-raising part of the ministry. We have talked with scores of wonderful prayer and financial partners over these past 5 months, and would like to share with you some of what God is doing in Ethiopia.

First some sad news. We had spoken with many of you about the families we visited in January. One of these dear women, Tadilech, recently succumbed to AIDS. Here is a short update from our teammate Shelly. "Tadilech died last week. I had to go to Alert Hospital, buy the coffin, and pick up her body at the morgue. The girls seem to be doing OK now, but it is still really hard. They had no money to bury her, no money to feed the people [at the funeral], and no money to rent the taxicabs to transport the people to the cemetery. We were able to help bury their mother and provide for the funeral. On the way to the cemetery we played a song called 'Peace,' which is very powerful in Amharic. I thought to myself: if Tadilech could hear the song, she would be praising God for what He did in her life."



That, to me, is why this ministry is so important. Instead of despair, there is now hope in Addis Ababa. Instead of 2 more orphans among millions of other orphans, there is now a church family to care for Tadilech's two daughters. And most importantly, Tadilech got to know Jesus Christ before passing away. God really does work through any situation for good.

**URBAN POOR UPDATE**

There are some exciting things to report from the field. Our urban poor team recently assisted in the first Perspectives on the World Christian Movement course ever held in Ethiopia. We had over 50 graduates complete the course. As the concept of Christian missions takes hold in the hearts and minds of believers in Addis Ababa, there will be an ever-growing movement to reach out across cultural, religious, and tribal differences to bring Jesus and His love to places that still have not heard about Him.



**COMMUNITY HEALTH EVANGELISM**

As you may know, our focus on the team in Addis Ababa will be in Community Health Evangelism. If you would like more information about Community Health Evangelism, we will be posting an extended outline of how CHE transforms lives and communities on our website soon. The first Community Health Evangelism Vision Seminar was just held in Kore (a sub city of Addis Ababa). It will be followed up with a training session in July for community leaders. There is a palpable hunger for Christ and the messages in CHE that bridge both religious and cultural differences. Please pray that these ongoing classes will be successful, that the message of how Christ can bring hope where there is now despair will be seen and that more people will give their lives to Jesus as a result of these classes.





### EYESUS TAWEQALEH?

That is Amharic for “Do you know Jesus?” Hopefully, it will be a phrase we will use early and often. When we arrive in Addis Ababa either late this year or early next year, we will immediately dive into language and culture studies. In the interim, we have made some Ethiopian friends in Boise, Idaho, and hope to pick up some Amharic along the way.

If you would like to hear about God in the Amharic language or just hear this ancient Semitic language, check out this link: <http://globalrecordings.net/program/C20760>. It just goes to show the Good News sounds great in any language.

### UPDATE FROM IDAHO

God has been using these past few months to teach us about patience, humility, and trust. Patience, because every day as we go to work our hearts are in Africa and we wish we were already there. Humility, because when we think we know best how to finish the support raising, He intervenes with better ideas. Trust, because in our human nature we want to control things when in reality this is God’s mission not ours, and we need to continue to give the control to Him.

We have made some wonderful new friends through the support process. We especially want to praise God for two wonderful families. Mike and Faith Robinett have graciously opened their home for us to have prayer partners meetings, presentations, and dinners. They have been just the “lift” that we need from time to time. Also, I can’t say enough about Justen Stryker.



He is a computer guru, but more importantly he is also a gift from God. He has helped with all computer issues, electronic media, graphics, pictures, video editing, blogs, and countless other things, and has agreed to do it for the foreseeable future (unless I tire him out from overwork). Thanks so much for being such great partners.

Speaking of blogs ... our website is nearly complete. Please check out and bookmark (<http://tjbertleson.cmfmissionary.org/>). As it is completed, we will have monthly picture updates and video updates so you can join with us visually in the ministry. You can also sign up to get future newsletters via email so we can save a few trees. Check it out and feel free to stay in touch there too. Pass the link on to friends and family who have an interest in missions.

### PRAYER NEEDS OR PRAYER REQUESTS

- *Praise to God for opening so many doors in Addis Ababa. Praise Him for the hunger for spiritual things that is so tangible there right now.*
- *Pray for the urban poor team already in Addis Ababa that they will be effective in sharing Christ through Community Health Evangelism. Pray that community leaders will rise up from the July teaching sessions so that the love of Christ can be multiplied.*
- *Pray for patience and openness as we continue the support-raising process, that we will be open to where the Spirit leads.*
- *Pray that God will provide partners needed to bring in the remaining support. Since we are unable to leave for the field until we have raised 100% of our support, pray that God will impress supporters with a sense of urgency about His work in Ethiopia.*
- *Pray for our daughters – Annelise and Karina – in their new jobs, with their future plans, and on their individual spiritual journeys.*


In Him,

*Ted + Jennifer*

Ted and Jennifer Bertleson



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