

ADVANCE...

By: Lewis Nelms

Sheep and the Poor...

In a recent progress report to his sponsors, under his personal and family information, Pastor Leonardo Zakeyo candidly wrote, "To our side we are all doing fine, although we have been having some problems with malaria and hunger. The hunger problem is a result of the excessive rains during the planting season. The problem with malaria is that people are so poor that they cannot afford to buy mosquito nets." He continued, "Our cold season is less severe than yours, but it seems more serious to us because we have no electrical appliances to keep us warm, and many of us have few or no blankets."

Living in such a prosperous nation as ours, truth like this is hard to understand, or even to imagine. Yet, it is nevertheless truth and is becoming increasingly more defined. During the last century, the difference in the income per person of nations "north" of the equator compared to those to the "south", increased from a ratio of 2:1 to 70:1. That



Hunger is real. This young African boy is selling field mice by the roadside.

represents a substantial change! Poverty is no doubt a global concern, especially in the "south".

While giving instructions to the Hebrews about the Sabbatical Year, Moses wrote in Deuteronomy 15, "The poor shall never cease out of the land." Jesus reinforced this truth on at least two occasions by saying, "The poor always you have with you."

Gospelink was established for the purpose of advancing the gospel throughout the world. It is our belief that this objective can be best accomplished by assisting national preachers who are actively involved in church planting and discipleship. Through prayer and financial assistance national preachers are empowered, their evangelistic outreach is enhanced, and their church planting efforts are accelerated.

National preachers who have been selected for assistance have met all the necessary initial requisites of accountability. Their financial needs have been evaluated. Their morals, reputation, and character are exemplary. Their doctrinal beliefs are sound and their training and ministry experience are verified.

Once assistance has been initiated through Gospelink, the national preacher must continue to meet all the ongoing requisites of accountability in order to maintain this assistance. Ministry reports are submitted systematically and on-site evaluations are regularly conducted by the regional directors and Gospelink USA representatives.

Gospelink, Inc. was established as a missions organization in 1998. As such, contributions and gifts are tax-deductible. It is governed by those serving on the Board of Directors.

To learn more visit www.gospelink.org or contact us by phone at (434) 485-7007. You may also write us at: Gospelink - P.O. Box 4299 - Lynchburg, VA 24502.

HAVE YOU CONSIDERED A CAREER IN MISSIONS?

Gospelink is seeking fulltime mission personnel to live and minister at the International Bible College in Zambia, Africa.

Positions Now Available:

**Finance / Business
Academics / Administration**

Submit resume to Lewis Nelms:
lnelms@gospelink.org

ATTENTION PASTORS

Do you have a Masters Degree?

Would you enjoy teaching Bible college students who are passionate about Christ?

Would you be willing to travel to Zambia, Africa for a two-week module?

We Need Your Help!

Submit resume to Lewis Nelms:
lnelms@gospelink.org



Pastor Booker Banda is distributing some food supplies to a poor Malawian lady.

This truth of global poverty is nowhere more visible than the continent of Africa. Of the world's 40 poorest countries, 32 are in Africa. Though it is home to more than 10% of the world's population, the continent generates barely 1% of the world's earnings.

Why is there so much poverty in Africa? The reasons are many. The population growth is twice the global average. The investment in agriculture, transportation, electronic knowledge, and communications has been extremely minimal. The foreign debt, which is about 90% of the total annual earnings of the continent, is seemingly beyond repair. The list could go on and on. There is corruption in government, an AIDS pandemic, a revival of resistant strains of malaria, droughts, etc.

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THANK YOU
to those who have begun
assisting a national preacher
with a
MINISTRY SPONSORSHIP:

Judith Liddy
 Pastor Banganyigabo Fabien
 Democratic Republic of Congo

Matt and Pam Groue
 Pastor Austin Chingwalu
 Malawi

Dale and Odessa Magnus
 Pastor Paulo Hamisi
 Tanzania

Steve and Patricia Kelly
 Pastor Manuel Windo
 Mozambique

Daniel and Charity Adler
 Pastor Isaac Sui
 Tanzania

Jim and Paige Nachtigal
 Pastor Elisha Mhoja
 Tanzania

Robert and Kim Watkins
 Pastor Elisha Mhoja
 Tanzania

Craig and Megan Duerksen
 Pastor Faustino Camuliuo
 Mozambique

Rich and Carolyn Dewey
 Pastor Mateus Moises
 Mozambique

Only the Lord knows the long-term solutions for the problem of poverty. But, what about the short-term solution? What are Christians to do right now about “the poor”?

Initially, there should be an emotional response. Consider righteous Job, about whom God said there was none like him in all the earth. He wrote, “Did not I weep for him that was in trouble? Was not my soul grieved for the poor?” Is this our response? Do we have a grieved, broken heart for the poor?

As a natural outflow of this emotion, true compassion will lead us to a physical response, as well. Action will be taken!

Wise Solomon instructed us to consider the poor, to have mercy on the poor, and to give to the poor. He stated that in so doing, we are actually bringing honor to God.

Continued on page 9



Would you like to help a poor orphan with a monthly sponsorship?

THANK YOU
to those who have begun
assisting a national preacher
with an
OUTREACH SPONSORSHIP:

Jeff and Joy Gehm
Pastor Jacob Kugwile
Tanzania

Spencer and Christy Stone
Pastor Emmanuel Mhanda
Tanzania

Scott and Dawn Bieniek
Pastor Viktor Akhi
Russia

Robert and Julie Knapp
Pastor Maison Maulana
Malawi

Elizabeth Kendle
Pastor Tambula Mwanakhu
Malawi

Lewis Thompson
Pastor Emmanuel Malele
Tanzania

Jeff and Julie Rose
Pastor Lewis Musansa
Zambia

Scott and Marci Kudrna
Pastor George Nkala
Zimbabwe

Dick and Vicki Carlson
Pastor Mikle Shabronov
Russia

THE NATIONAL PREACHER SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

...linking Christians in America with national preachers across the world

WHY Gospelink helps national preachers...

National preachers have many advantages in taking the gospel to their own people. Every national preacher sponsored through Gospelink has already been trained, has helped to establish at least one church, and is actively involved in evangelism, discipleship, and church planting. Their morals, work ethic, spiritual reputation, and physical needs have all been verified. With monthly prayer and financial support, they will be able to increase their outreach and accelerate their church planting efforts.

Because the Lord's return is drawing closer and the unfinished task remains so extensive, would you pray about what part you might have in helping one of these national preachers advance the gospel in their area of the world? Whatever they accomplish will be fruit that abounds to your account, also.

HOW Gospelink helps national preachers...

Gospelink seeks to secure five sponsorships for each national preacher: three Ministry Sponsorships (\$35 per month each), one Outreach Sponsorship (\$25 per month), and one Training Sponsorship (\$15 per month).

The Ministry Sponsorship funds are used to help the preacher with the basic needs of his family, such as food, clothing, shelter, medicine, and his children's education. The Outreach Sponsorship funds are used to assist the preacher in evangelism and in providing outreach materials, such as Bibles and tracts. The Training Sponsorship funds are used to help cover the costs of national and regional training opportunities and to provide study materials and curriculum. Please look over the profiles of the preachers (located on pages 6 and 7) and pray about your involvement.

***How shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed?
And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard?
And how shall they hear without a preacher?
And how shall they preach, except they be sent?***

Romans 10:14,15



ARMANDO FAMILY

**Mozambique
(Tete Region)**

Pastor: Victor
Spouse: Zita
Child 1: Moline
Child 2: Yohani
Child 3: Manasse

(plus 1 other dependent)

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Before becoming a Christian, I was selfish and irritable. I served the false gods of the spirits of my forefathers simply because I had no knowledge of the true God. It was very difficult to find somebody who could speak about the Lord. All that I knew was to pray to gods according to the teachings of my grandparents, and I am sure they were doing it without knowledge of the right path of life. One day I became very sick and was taken to the hospital. I stayed there about three months. During that time some preachers came and told me the good news of our Lord by showing a film of His life. I was very interested in the message. Seeing the sacrifice of Jesus Christ for my sin is what led me to salvation. Reading through the Holy Scripture made me aware of my sin. I left the bad things I had been doing and followed the truth through the Lord Jesus Christ.

My wife, Zita, loved dancing and drinking before she became a Christian. She thought that what she was doing was much better than what her friends were doing. She had no knowledge about the Lord and thought that the gods she was praying to could help her. It was also while watching a film about Jesus Christ that Zita came to the knowledge that she needed to turn to the Lord Jesus for salvation. With the help of pastors and elders explaining the message, she accepted Christ as her Savior. There was a great change in her life as she left behind everything that was not good in God's eyes.

My call to the ministry came during a seminar conducted by my pastor. After receiving training for the ministry, I was appointed to lead a ministry by which many souls today are being saved. Blessed be the Lord God. It is a privilege to be serving Him.

Sponsorships needed: 3 Ministry; 1 Outreach; 1 Training

MWALE FAMILY

**Mozambique
(Tete Region)**

Pastor: Pedro
 Spouse: Nina
 Child 1: Edson
 Child 2: Claudina
 Child 3: Solene



BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Before becoming a Christian, I wouldn't pass a day without drinking. This caused difficulties with others. I was fired from where I was working as a technician because of my drinking. It was then that I began to think more about life. Shortly after this, I became sick with tuberculosis. After treatment, I began to improve, and within six months I had recovered. However, my financial problems were only worse. I had a friend who was a Christian, and I visited him often. He told me that Jesus Christ was the only One who could help me with all my difficulties. I realized that my salvation was through God's Son, Jesus Christ, and I accepted Him as my Savior. Since becoming a Christian, I have stopped drinking and live in harmony and peace with others.

My wife, Nina, had a problem with losing her temper and fighting with people. Because of this she had no friends. After attending a preaching service, she realized that she was a sinner. God began to work in her heart, and she received Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior. Her parents and other Christians helped her to understand what salvation was all about. Since her salvation, there has been a great change in Nina's life, and she is able to help other women who have similar problems.

As I began to grow in my faith, I began giving allegiance to my Lord and rejected the things of the world. I saw that it was good to share His love with others. This is what God calls us to do. After serving in my church for almost a year, I enrolled in Bible school. After I completed my studies and received my diploma, I was ordained into the ministry. It is my desire to extend my ministry into many areas so that the work of our Lord Jesus Christ will be done for His glory.

Sponsorships needed: 3 Ministry; 1 Outreach; 1 Training

I would like to CONNECT with a national preacher



through Gospelink's Sponsorship Program!

(PLEASE PRINT)

First Name: _____ Spouse: _____

Last Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Send free newsletter: via regular mail
 via email at: _____

I would like to CONNECT with a national preacher's:

- Ministry Sponsorship (#1) \$35.00 per month
- Ministry Sponsorship (#2) \$35.00 per month
- Ministry Sponsorship (#3) \$35.00 per month
- Outreach Sponsorship \$25.00 per month
- Training Sponsorship \$15.00 per month

I would like to assist the following preacher and his family:

- ARMANDO Family MWALE Family

If my preacher has already been connected with another family:

- Please assign me another national preacher.
- Please contact me for further instructions.

Please Note...

Each sponsorship for a national preacher is a monthly commitment. If a sponsor must terminate their assistance, they should try to give as much notice as possible so efforts can be made to locate another sponsor for their preacher. Sponsors will receive a profile on their preacher, prayer cards, bookmarks, quarterly ministry reports and occasional photographs. All preachers must comply with Gospelink's local, regional, national and international accountability procedures in order to maintain their sponsorship.

(If the first sponsorship donation is included, make check payable to Gospelink)

Complete and remove this page and mail it to:

GOSPELINK - P.O. BOX 4299 - LYNCHBURG, VA 24502

The early church leaders at Jerusalem instructed all Gentile believers to “remember the poor.” Jesus told the rich young ruler to “distribute to the poor.” With over 200 verses dedicated to “the poor”, the Scriptures clearly define how important these people are to heart of God.

In Matthew 24, Jesus teaches about His return and warns believers to “watch” and to “be ready”. Immediately after this, Jesus tells three parables about an absentee landlord who puts his servants in charge, a bridegroom who arrives so late many have fallen asleep, and a master who distributes talents among his servants before his departure.

These parables are followed by His teaching on the separation of the “sheep” from the “goats,” or believers from unbelievers. Notice how easily the shepherd separates the two. To the shepherd, the differences in the sheep and the goats were completely obvious. Such will be the case when the Lord separates believers from unbelievers.

Next, Jesus instructs the believers to take their inheritance but follows up with these clarifying words. He says, “For I was hungry, and you gave Me meat: I was thirsty, and you gave Me drink: I was a stranger, and you took Me in: Naked, and you clothed Me: I was sick, and you visited Me: I was in prison, and you came unto Me.”



(Above) Many Gospelink preachers keep orphans in their homes, as well as assist them in their communities. These are orphans being helped in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Malawi.

(Below) With agricultural challenges and the uncertainty of the weather, hunger is often a problem. Gospelink provides hunger relief to help those in need.



Continued on page 10

Confused, the sheep asked, "When did we feed You? When did we give You drink?" Jesus replied, "In as much as you have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, you have done it unto Me."

In explaining this passage, Bible expositor A.T. Robertson says, "Christ identifies Himself with the needy and suffering. This conduct (to those who are in need) is proof of possession of love for Christ and likeness to Him."

Following His remarks to the believers, Jesus judges the unbelievers, stressing their failure to do the actions mentioned above. Jesus said they had given Him...no meat, no drink, no clothing. A.T. Robertson said the repetition of the negative in Matthew 24:42,43 is "like falling clods on the coffin or the tomb." The absence of these benevolent deeds did not make them unbelievers, it was just a clear proof that they were.

In his book, *The Jesus I Never Knew*, Philip Yancey observes that each of these concluding parables deal with the theme of "the departed God." They refer to this centuries-long interval we live in now, the time when God seems to be absent.

Yancey explains that God is not absent, but rather, has taken on the disguise of the stranger, the sick, the prisoner, the hungry, the poor. He aptly comments, "If we cannot detect

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THANK YOU
to those who have begun
assisting a national preacher
with a
TRAINING SPONSORSHIP:

Jimmy and Tracey Salinas
Pastor Nkulu Mwepu
Democratic Republic of Congo

Ted and Tina Boggs
Pastor Kyembo Kapay
Democratic Republic of Congo

Jon Jensen
Pastor Thomas Tambula
Malawi

Jon Jensen
Pastor Anyingisyse Mwasandube
Tanzania

Scott and Mary Thompson
Pastor Jestart Kazwami
Zambia

Bill and Diane Dorton
Pastor Nsenga Mulongo
Democratic Republic of Congo

David and Laura Carmichael
Pastor Qhubumusa
Zimbabwe

Richard and Yvonne Dodson
Pastor Brasswell Nkhonjera
Malawi

Anthony and Melissa Collins
Pastor Renjitmony Chellakon
India

God's presence in the world, it may be that we have been looking in the wrong places."

Jesus knew the world He was leaving would include the sick, prisoners, the hungry, and the poor. It was no surprise to Him.

His long-range plan to solve this problem is to return to the earth in power and glory. He will establish His kingdom.

But what is His short-range plan? It is to allow believers to assist Him; it is to allow us to take His place. Jonathan Edwards, that American theologian of the Great Awakening, said that God has designated the poor to be His "receivers". By serving them, we serve Jesus.

Pastor Kabila Kasongo of the Democratic Republic of Congo recently wrote, "Because of the world economic crisis, even the way of eating has become very hard. By the time we are sick, we don't know how to get the cures (medicines). We don't know how we are going to live. We put this situation in the hands of God."

Yes, it is in God's hands, but perhaps God will use our hands as His tool. Ask yourself two questions. First, "Am I as compassionate toward the poor as I should be?" And last, "What am I doing right now to help?"

Gospelink offers a variety of ways to help those who are poor, such as orphan sponsorships, widow assistance, and hunger relief. To help, [see page 15](#).

THANK YOU
to those who have begun
assisting a national preacher
with a
MINISTRY SPONSORSHIP:

Dilan Winter
Pastor Silas Dube
Zimbabwe

Martha Jones
Pastor Simon Mnyanyi
Tanzania

Nick and Pattie Brown
Pastor Prince Nyamande
Zimbabwe

Garth and Carmen Druckenmiller
Pastor Faustine Maduhu
Tanzania

Phil and Debbie Smith
Pastor Simon Mnyanyi
Tanzania

Greg and Rhonda Richards
Pastor Charles Zhanje
Zimbabwe

Mark Cooper
Pastor Chipisani Phiri
Zambia

John and Ruth Gaskill
Pastor Francis Kasenge
Zambia

Keith and Beverly McKenzie
Pastor Faustine Maduhu
Tanzania



THE CURRENT NEED

...unto Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all we ask

Congratulations Sponsors!

We thought you might enjoy knowing that sponsors sent over \$34,000 in Christmas gifts to their preachers during quarter 3. On behalf of all the national preachers who were blessed, thank you!



Preachers' Widows Fund

Since the beginning of 2009, fourteen African preachers assisted through Gospelink have passed into eternity. Gospelink has a fund to help these widows with the difficult transition following their husbands' deaths. Through this fund, preachers' widows receive financial assistance for six months following the preachers' deaths. If you would like to help these preachers' widows, complete [page 15](#).



Vacation Bible School

Will your church be conducting a Vacation Bible School in 2010? If so, will the children be collecting funds for a mission project? Gospelink has a number of international projects for children. Would you talk to the VBS leadership at your church about helping with one of these projects? If you would like more information, complete [page 15](#).



The above photos are various gardens at the International Bible College in Zambia. Students help with the agricultural tasks as a part of their work scholarship responsibilities.

Used and New Books Needed

Do you have books in your library which are duplicates or are not being used? The International Bible College needs them!

The library at the International Bible College in Zambia will be finished in 2010. Many books will be needed. Can you help us fill up the shelves?

Some may be able to donate funds to purchase books, while others may already have good books which could be donated.

What types of books are currently needed? Study Bibles, concordances, Bible commentary sets, Bible encyclopedias and dictionaries, word study sets, and other similar books.

Do you have any Bible resource books which could be donated to the Bible college? If so, please mail these to:

**First Baptist Church
(IBC Library Books)
405 Bellevue Avenue
Dublin, GA 31021**

Direct any questions concerning donated books to Pastor Cliff Morris. He can be reached at the church (478-272-1455).

If you can make a donation to purchase library books, complete page 15.

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THANK YOU

**to those who have given to the
Preachers' Contingency
Fund**

Vivian Joanne Ivory
Ohio

Nevin and Edythe Kern
Pennsylvania

Mark S. Miller
Ohio

Laura Price
Georgia

Michael and Bonnie Schowe
New York

Larry Ball
Kansas

Robert Bothe
Florida

Herman Kramer
Minnesota

Glen and Brenda Ragsdale
Georgia

Naomi Grosvenor
Nebraska

Bonnie Downen
Illinois

Kenneth and Deborah Seigel
Indiana

Student Scholarships

The International Bible College will enroll an additional 12 students in January. Funds are needed to offset some of the costs for their food, supplies, and books. About \$5,500 is needed for 2010. If you can help in any amount, complete page 15.

Orphan Sponsorships

Orphan sponsorships are available through Gospelink. These sponsorships are \$30.00 per month. Sponsors will receive biographical information on the orphan they sponsor, as well as a quarterly letter. If you would like to assist an orphan with a sponsorship, complete page 15.

Gospel Tracts and New Testaments Needed

Gospel tracts and New Testaments are needed for the many African outreach venues scheduled for 2010. To save funds, these outreach materials will be purchased in the USA (in bulk) and shipped overseas.

The cost to purchase one gospel tract, ship it to Africa, and distribute it locally is about 12 cents.

The cost to purchase one New Testament, ship it to Africa, and distribute it locally is about \$2.50.

Thousands of gospel tracts and New Testaments are needed. If you can help, complete page 15.

Many Thanks...

**to those who have given to
two or more projects in
*The Current Need:***

Marcia Taylor
Mississippi

Jack and Harriette Baynes
Georgia

Matt and Michelle VanAlstine
Virginia

Melody Brown
Michigan

Paul and Betty Colvin
Georgia

Shelba McWha
Arizona

John and Allison Boyington
Maine

Rex and Dorothy Short
Ohio

Tammy Klea
Indiana

John and Sandra Rhoads
Michigan

Wynishia Shafer
Arizona

Dennis and Marti Giesel
Illinois

I would like to assist with...THE CURRENT NEED!



(PLEASE PRINT)

First Name: _____ Spouse: _____

Last Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: _____

I would like to help with a *Current Need* project this month:

- 01. Library Fund (IBC, Zambia) Enclosed \$ _____
- 02. Building Fund (IBC, Zambia) Enclosed \$ _____
- 03. Student Scholarships (IBC, Zambia) Enclosed \$ _____
- 04. Preachers' Widows Fund Enclosed \$ _____
- 05. Preachers' Contingency Fund Enclosed \$ _____
- 06. Hunger Relief Fund Enclosed \$ _____
- 07. Gospel Tracts (for outreach) Enclosed \$ _____
- 08. New Testaments (for outreach) Enclosed \$ _____
- 09. Wherever Needed Most Enclosed \$ _____

Please contact me with information about helping with a 2010 Vacation Bible School mission project.

I want to help an orphan with a sponsorship of \$30.00 per month, beginning in the month of _____. Please send me my sponsor materials. My preference is a: **GIRL / BOY**

Complete and remove this page.

Enclose your *Current Need* donation and mail it to:

Gospelink - P.O. Box 4299 - Lynchburg, VA 24502



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Lynchburg, VA 24502-0299**

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