



TO ALL NATIONS

INTERNATIONAL GOSPEL OUTREACH

January - March 2009

Photo at left is a young Ethiopian Orthodox Priest walking in procession during a ceremony

Photo by IGO Missionary Cindi Holland

A Call to Ethiopia

Ethiopia has been eclipsed by other 10/40 window nations because it has been so inaccessible. IGO Missionaries **Anthony & Cindi Holland** can testify to this fact from personal experiences. As missionaries living in Kenya, they have had a goal to reach beyond Kenya to all the surrounding nations to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ and take the ministry of discipleship to the people.

Ethiopia will be a big challenge; it has a large number of hard to access un-reached people groups. Its people are oppressed by Orthodox "religion." Ethiopia has terrain that is so tough you can only travel by foot. Most importantly, there are very few workers for our Lord.

Anthony and Cindi's Ethiopian journey began when they met an Ethiopian refugee telling of his horrific story of persecution from official religious leaders. The man

had escaped with his life, his wife and two children from *hammer men* after they destroyed his business, his home and caused him to sneak away and seek refuge in Kenya.

The Hollands tell us; "We met **Tilahun** immediately after he arrived in Kenya and our relationship with this man has taken us on a journey to fulfill one of our heart's desires — to penetrate spiritually hardened and hardly evangelized people of Ethiopia with Christ's message of hope, love and salvation."

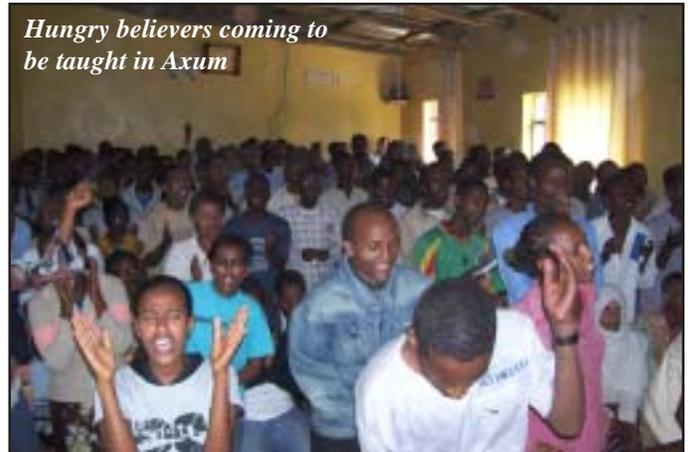
Tilahun, who is now living peacefully with his family in the USA, connected us with a close brother in the Lord who carries the same desire as the Hollands (His name is withheld for security reasons). Since meeting this brother, their involvement in Ethiopia has expanded. For the past 4 years they have traveled with IGO board member, **Wes Mott**, into the interior regions of Ethiopia to teach, evangelize and encourage the church.

Entering and spying out the land as tourists in 2006, the Hollands focused on building relationships and staying close to their host in his city.

In 2007, they conducted a REAP discipleship training camp in the city of **Bahar Dar**, followed by carefully planned trips into the interior to gather info on how to connect with the people. From **Bahar Dar** they visited **Gondar**

(known as the Camelot of Africa), then **Lalibela** (known for the amazing rock-hewn churches) and then to **Axum**. While in Axum in the far northern hinterland, a man approached them in their hotel and said: "You are Christians are you not? Would you please come and minister in our church?" Catching the Hollands completely by surprise.

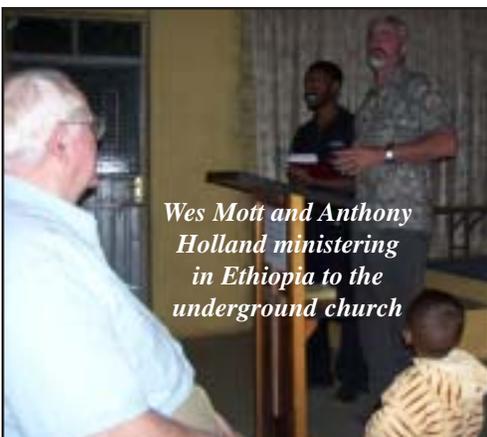
As a result, later that evening, under the cover of night, they took passage and were escorted into a Muslim community and



Hungry believers coming to be taught in Axum

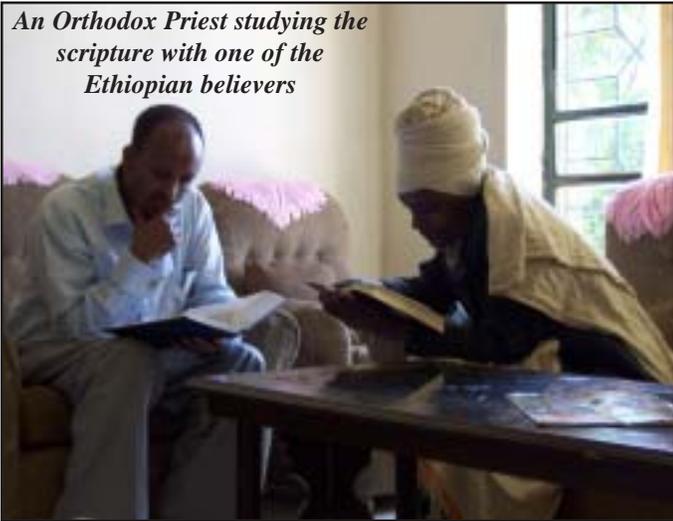
stepped into the only bit of LIGHT in the entire town! God's church had newly emerged from underground months earlier after being planted in the heart of this spiritual darkness. The church was small — maybe 20 members or so, *but they were serious!* Being serious about God is a fact of life when persecution is a high possibility. The group worshipped and prayed together each in their own mother tongue. It was such a rich experience. The Axumite believers were touched to learn that others are actually praying for them. *They didn't know anyone cared!*

In 2008, they met underground church leaders and ministered God's word in several cities. In Axum, the three day



Wes Mott and Anthony Holland ministering in Ethiopia to the underground church

An Orthodox Priest studying the scripture with one of the Ethiopian believers



seminar for what was thought would be a handful had become hundreds of hungry, seeking believers. It brought such a personal understanding to the scripture: “*And the Lord added to their numbers daily those who were being saved*” (Acts 16:5)

Cindi writes in her report: “*The building was bursting its seams with believers. It was a sight to behold in itself; but to witness the worship was even greater. We were humbled to tears thinking that we had been asked to minister to them when in reality, it was they who ministered to us! We offered the Word and they gave back wide-eyed devotion to being taught the things of God. It was a teacher’s dream.*”

Anthony and Cindi plan to return in 2009 for more time in Axum to build on God’s plan for reaching the people of this nation, directing their attention on the many university students from all parts of Ethiopia. “*It is our desire to train these eager students to take the truth and the*

Gospel wherever they go – hallelujah!”

A window of opportunity in Ethiopia is now at hand. Workers are ready to take on the unfinished task of reaching their own people for Christ. Ethiopian believer, **Tekle**, and his group of growing disciples are currently in the process of teaching **Ethiopian Orthodox Priests** the word of God and

bringing them into a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. However, these priests remain **inside** Orthodox seminaries and churches undercover so that they reach others with the truth. Walking a fine line, they discreetly travel on foot for days to reach villages to be taught. They must continue to function as Orthodox priests until they find a safe time to escape the religious stronghold of orthodoxy.

The Hollands need your prayers as they plan for their next Ethiopian trip (later this year). Pray also for Tekle and those he disciples. Pray for the Ethiopian people receiving salvation; and for the blinders to be taken off the eyes and hearts of those

who have not yet heard or received the gospel. Your prayers and support enable us to go, and to help our Ethiopian counterparts survive as they take the Gospel to their own people.

If you would like to be a part of helping teach, strengthen and encourage the underground church in Ethiopia, you can do so

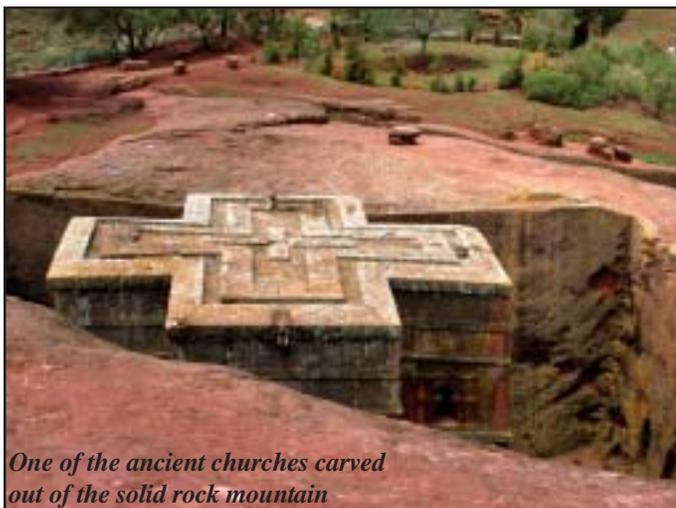
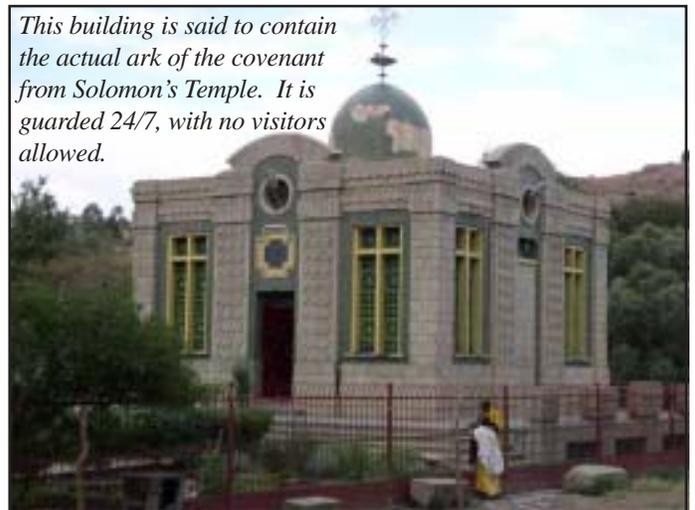
by praying over the teams as they go in, and/or by helping them go with your financial support. Plans are now in the works to take several teams in before the end of 2009, and spend concentrated time teaching in churches, and taking Ethiopian Bibles in to distribute. Many believers have never even seen a bible, and to have one to own would be a dream come true.

Thanks to Anthony & Cindi Holland and Wes Mott for the content in the article. The work unfolding in Ethiopia is worthy of your investment. I encourage you to pray about helping them minister the Gospel and make disciples through your prayer support and financial gifts.

*Dr. James G. Graham
President of
International Gospel
Outreach*



This building is said to contain the actual ark of the covenant from Solomon’s Temple. It is guarded 24/7, with no visitors allowed.



One of the ancient churches carved out of the solid rock mountain



Hudson Taylor

“God isn’t looking for people of great faith, but for individuals ready to follow Him”

IWM Update

From **Randy Seals**
the Director of
**The Institute for
World Ministry.**



The 2009 IWM classes here at IGO are progressing with great expectations for our students. We are now in our third quarter of studies with graduation set for June 5th.



In March of this year, Charlotte and I drove to Norman, Oklahoma, where **John and Joyce Stitt** are pastors of **Riverside Church**. **Jason Ikner**, an IWM alumni and associate pastor at Riverside, asked us to come and help him set up a mission school there. We were delighted. 24 students, including the pastor and his wife were signed up and ready to go. We ordered all the books, loaded them up in our van, and headed for Oklahoma. We had a fantastic time. Those “Sooners” know how to make you feel right at home.

This is the eleventh class for Charlotte and I to oversee. They just keep getting better as speakers from Globe International and our own teachers bring a lot of great training to our school.

The partnership with Globe International (Pensacola, Florida) has been a tremendous blessing to us. Their mission school is going strong with 22 students in attendance. The schools at IGO and Globe share the same speakers, curriculum and schedule. **Glenn and Phyllis Hatcher** are in their third year of running the school at Globe, and they just get better at it as time passes.



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The new correspondence courses have gone beyond my expectations. We graduated our first student, **Eric Burnette**, this year and he is now an IGO missionary heading up IGO's short term trips department called “**World Incursion**.” A second student, **Terry Heisman** has just returned from Thailand on a mission trip and will be completing his courses soon. He too will become an IGO missionary as he finishes up the induction process. Terry was able to fly in from Iowa and spend a week with us to work on his paperwork and spend time strengthening his relationship with the folks at IGO.

While we were there, we met a bunch of folks hungry for God and a heart for missions. They are using our IWM videos and Jason is teaching some of the classes using our teacher notes and outlines. They are on a “fast track,” meeting every Monday night and all day Saturday. We will be going back for graduation the end of May.

Thank goodness for my associate **Bill Anderson** in Mobile who is doing an outstanding job keeping the classes and students going while I am traveling.



If you are interested in learning more about missions, we have classes taught here at IGO available on DVD. If you live too far to drive to Mobile or Pensacola, we can set you up right in your living room or as close as your computer. I am a phone call or an e-mail away. *Remember we are all called – some to stay and pray, others to support those on the field and even others to GO!*

Randy Seals

Famine in Kenya

IGO National Pastor **Patrick Ndirangu** reported in early April that a drought has deeply affected central Kenya. The central highlands of Kenya are generally lush and green, supplied with ample rain all year, however this year, the rains have not come. In some cases, crops were planted and never broke ground. People and animals are starving and dying, leaving families without food resources entirely.

The **Church of Restoration Group** is working diligently to make sure that there is food available, but resources are limited. Plans are currently under way to purchase bulk quantities of rice and beans for distribution in the hardest hit areas. If you would like to help feed those who are starving, you may send your gift to IGO, and include a note telling us you want to help with the Kenya Famine Project.

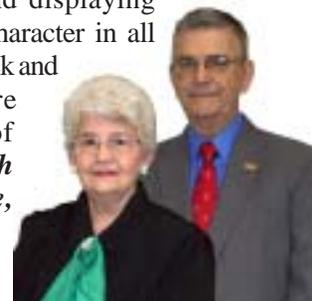


Milestones

RETIRED:

Chuck and Donna Cross have worked in the IGO Home office for eight years. Donna has served as the librarian, managing the IGO Library and Resource Center, while Chuck has overseen the continuing education program at IGO. In addition, Chuck served on the IGO Board of elders.

Our hearts go out to them in gratitude for many years of friendship, excellence in ministry and displaying Christlike character in all things. Chuck and Donna are members of **Life Church of Mobile, AL**.



2009 Global Fellowship Conference Registration

June 16 - 19, 2009

Registration for 2009 Conference- \$50.00 per person

After April 15, Registration will be \$65.00 per person

Please send your completed registration form and fee to IGO

PLEASE NOTE:

No reservations will be made without a deposit.

You can pay for your Room & Board by Cash, Check or Credit Card at the conference.

There are 60 non smoking rooms available, Rooms will be reserved on a first come - first serve basis.

Room and Board Costs (In addition to Registration)

1 room - 1 person.....\$315.88 total for one person

1 room - 2 people.....\$210.91 total for each person

1 room - 3 people.....\$178.75 total for each person

1 room - 4 people.....\$162.85 total for each person

Children ages 0-10 years old are 65.00 per child (This covers their meals & room for entire conference)

Price includes:

Room for Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday Nights, and meals on Tuesday Night, Breakfast, lunch and supper on Wednesday and Thursday and Breakfast on Friday - including all gratuities.

No pets allowed at the conference center

Child care is available



J. Lee Grady

J. Lee Grady is the editor of *Charisma*, an internationally distributed magazine serving the Christian community. He is also the author of two books, *10 Lies the Church Tells Women* and *25 Tough Questions about Women and the Church*.

An award-winning journalist, ordained minister and conference speaker, he challenges the church to be bold in its apostolic mission. He

has a special burden to see women freed from bondage and released into ministry. In 2005 he established a ministry called The Mordecai Project to equip the church for this task. He has taken his message of liberation to several other countries including *Nigeria, Holland, India, Mexico, Ukraine, El Salvador, Canada, Egypt, Malaysia, Indonesia and Guatemala*. Lee lives in the Orlando, Florida, area with his wife, Deborah, and their four daughters.

Register early to make sure you get a room on site

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Other Phone: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Ages 0 - 10 Years (65.00 Covers room and board) _____

Adults 11 Years or older _____

Total people that will be attending with you? _____

Amount enclosed for deposit @ \$50 per person. \$ _____

International Gospel Outreach

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