



Thanks from the mountains, desert and distant lands

Thank-you letters have been pouring into GNM's offices. They came from all over Africa – from people wishing to express their gratitude for the wonderful work which our donors have made possible.

*Thank you from **Botswana***

Deon Snyders has a passion for the gospel. He regularly criss-crosses Botswana in order to spread the Word of God. Deon also trains and empowers local people, so that they are able to do so themselves. This they do with the help of GNM's famous "Plastic Preacher" audio player and picture sets.



Deon chats to Onkemetse, a Christian worker.



Two more Christian workers with colourful names can be seen on the photo (left). They are Chairman and Rasta, busy telling a group of kids about God.

After a recent outreach in Botswana, Deon wrote to GNM about the profound gratitude of people who can't read or write - but who have become acquainted with the Word of God through GNM.

"Dear Dalene,

Thank you so much for what you're doing to enable geographically isolated people to hear the Word of God in their own languages, in their own homes, under their own shady trees.

Thanks also go to each and every donor who enabled GNM to donate aids (such as the Biblical picture sets and "Plastic Preacher" audio player) to these people. They will now be able to tell other people of Jesus' love. So many people are willing to reach out to others with the gospel - but are kept from doing so because they don't have the money or the resources. Finally, thank you to the donors who enable us to make GNM's aids available to them. You are so precious to Abba.

*Greetings and peace.
Deon."*



One person who refuses to let language barriers get her down is **Judith, the German missionary**. See photo above. She uses GNM's materials, as well as a Tswana translator to spread the Word of God.

Thank you from Malawi

A lot of spiritual growth is taking place in Malawi. At the end of last year Bible Media agreed to cooperate with *Fishers, Trainers & Senders* (FTS) in Malawi. Louise Laubscher is at the head of this organisation.



Louise sits alongside a precious piece of Malawi's future.

Local training focuses on the following:

MINISTRY TO CHILDREN: Dallion Chitekwere is the head of the ministry to children. He is involved with various children's groups, and has already trained a lot of child-care workers. Thanks to the new agreement, FTS workers can now use GNM's Biblical aids free of charge.

Dallion Chitekwere (extreme left, back row) and some child-care workers smile proudly for the camera.



GROUPS OF ADULT DISCIPLES: FTS has 16 groups of adult disciples in 10 different parts of Malawi. They require 43 sets of GNM's Bible study material. The first "Plastic Preacher" audio player and accompanying Biblical picture sets were tested in the Dedza area. According to Louise, people now use it a few times per week.

PARTNER: FTS networks on a small scale with the organisation *Farming God's Way*. They want to place six sets of GNM products on farms, and test the results.

RETREATS: FTS holds annual retreats. Anyone who has the need for Bible instruction, can attend. Fifty four people attended last year's retreat. Of them, only seven completed basic school, whilst 16 were completely illiterate. The people are eager to learn more about the Bible and eventually want to spread the glad tidings in their own villages.

GNM PARTNER: In the future FTS will facilitate GNM's activities in Malawi. FTS will use some of our aids in their training programmes, and incorporate them in the curriculum. They will handle orders as well as all individual enquiries about GNM products from Malawi; they will also follow up contacts, evaluate the need of candidates for further education, identify languages for possible use in further productions and assist with language research.

Thank you from the desert



Reverend Eric van Zyl is busy winning hearts and souls in Namibia. Rev Eric, who originally hails from Wellington, is currently attached to the organisation *Kunene for Christ*, in Outjo. He wrote about this exciting venture in a recent letter.

Kunene for Christ has been using GNM's audio-visual picture sets in Kaokoland for the past

15 years. Even more impressive is the fact that they are still using the very first "Plastic Preacher" audio players! This will change soon, when they get the latest model, the "Saber".

At the end of last year, Rev Eric visited a group of Christians in Otumongo, a hamlet on the Kunene River. Rev Eric gave the local Christian leader a *Look, Listen & Live* gift pack. It consists of eight full-colour picture sets, a "Plastic Preacher" audio player, and tapes that explain the meaning of the picture sets.



Thank you from Mozambique

Kobus and Nana Eksteen wrote a beautiful thank you letter from their base in Mozambique. In the letter they tell of a dramatic visit to the congregation of Natanje in 2008. A missionary, Danie Murray, accompanied Kobus on this visit.

The aim was to visit the Mitete bush church. The church, together with 10 other small bush churches, make up the Natanje congregation. The little church is the picture of humility. It's built of clay and has a thatched roof. Come Sunday, 30 people gather here in order to follow the sermon which is delivered by a church elder.

Danie and Kobus started off their visit by going to the local chief. Little did they know what was waiting for them. The chief, who was also a church elder, was on his deathbed, and had received no medical help. He had gone to the hospital for help, and been told that nothing was wrong with him!

On a lighter note, Danie and Kobus were able to give the deacon Sukali a brand-new "Plastic Preacher" audio player. This gift was made possible by one of GNM's wonderful donors.

According to Danie's letter, Sukali was over the moon with gratitude. Danie writes: "Sukali ran so that his shirt tail fluttered in the wind behind him."



PS: According to the latest statistics, only 20% of Mozambicans are literate. Even if they were to get all the Bibles in the world in their mother tongue, it would remain a closed book to them.

1



2



3



4



Thank you from the Mountain Kingdom

Danie Liebenberg wrote to us about his inspiring visit to the isolated Ha Makara in Lesotho. To get to his destination, Danie had to cross two rivers and descend steep mountain slopes on horseback (see photos 1 and 2).

Danie writes of the experience: "I was privileged to share the gospel with the school's 151 pupils. During the four-day visit, GNM's picture sets performed miracles with the children. With the help of my translator, Peter, I was able to complete 10 pages of the GNM picture sets in three sessions. It's now up to the teachers to teach the remaining 30 lessons in GNM's first phase programme to the children" (see photos 3 and 4).

* Good News Media has developed a follow-up series. The *Look, Listen and Live* series contains more in-depth teaching from the Old and New Testament. It follows the same method of education, as well as the same sequence, to fit in with the first phase programme.

Wellington moms are on the ball

Wellington has a lot of dynamic moms. They mobilise care groups that look after underprivileged children. Their priorities are to nurture body and soul.

Stephanie Henderson writes about this in detail in her letter:

"In April last year we started giving Jesus lessons for young children. We divided the children into different age groups. (Our focus is on children between the ages of one and seven.) At our meetings we tell the children about Jesus, his love and power; we also sing to our hearts' delight. At the end of the meetings the children are given snacks and drinks. At the moment approximately 150-200 children attend the daily meetings.

Getting the children to pay attention is a challenge, as they're so young. The materials which GNM gave us, enable us to spread the Word of God in a practical way - one that children find understandable. It's a big blessing and privilege to have GNM's support. We've come to realise that the need and hunger for spiritual sustenance is just as large amongst the children's parents. That's why we are now also including them in our ministry. We plan on being more involved on both a practical and spiritual level with the parents this year. We want to assist them in caring for their children, and providing them with a good education. However, our focus remains the children. We're



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so eager about what God plans for us and for the many children who so badly want to study in 2009!

We welcome any material which can be used for Bible study, or by groups of parents (especially the moms). There is a big hunger for this, and it's come to our knowledge that few parents own Bibles.

Thank you so much for your time and efforts. It has enabled us to spread the Word of God."

Use our one stop service



Bible Media's distribution department is as busy as a hive of bees! Some days things get so hectic they have to take more than one bakkie-load of orders to the post office.

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