



GNM and Project Mozambique – a healthy partnership

The partnership between GNM and the co-workers of Project Mozambique is indeed a healthy one. The co-workers in Beira are responsible for administering the stock of GNM material. This administration is beneficial since local distribution is done in a much more cost-effective way.

Mozambique is still regarded as the country with the highest number of illiteracy in Southern Africa. With this fact kept in mind, special attempts have been made to distribute more GNM material in this country.

A few MP3 player highlights:

- Immense joy and very positive feedback on receipt and distribution of the players in Mozambique.
- Bush churches and communities in the countryside received the new players with exceptional delight.
- It is gratifying to see the enthusiasm and sensible usage with which the people of the bush churches are using the players.

Missionaries who are using the material have started teaching and training local evangelists to use these in the most effective way. Some of these evangelists and pastors then travelled far distances on bicycles to reach remote communities and supply them with the material.

Possible translations in sight!

Languages that are considered for translation include, amongst others, Chuabo, Nyungwe and possibly also Makonde. With the cooperation of the Summer Institute of Linguistics (SIL), good progress has already been made with the translation into Chuabo.

GNM and Project Mozambique are working together in a very constructive way. This type of cooperation is of great importance for the expansion and growth of the work in Mozambique.

Chris Hemborough, one of the project leaders, is very excited about the work being done and says the following:

“We have had the joy of seeing the huge potential of the GNM materials and the fruit that they produce. We look forward to building on our relationship with GNM so that we can do more for the people of Mozambique, and so enable more people here to have greater access to God’s Word. The material of GNM has helped many people to find Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour and grow in God’s Word”.

Local leaders are being equipped with sets of audio-visual picture chart books and soundtracks in the Saber MP3 format. God’s Word can now be brought to their communities with the help of these instruments.



Free booklet with renewal letters!

GNM received a gift (booklets) from a publishing company. We have decided to give most of it to you – our loyal donors.

ZAMBIA PARTNERSHIP THRIVES

Since last year, GNM has formed a strong bond with James and Jess Lucas who live and work in Mongu, Zambia. In July 2009 we informed you about their vision for discipleship and the base they had started in Mongu.

Since then they have started a research and translation programme together with Wolf and Hildegard Seiler – two consultants of Wycliffe Bible Translators. The Seilers have done Bible translations in Northwest Alaska in the past and have quite a lot of experience of consultation work in Northeast Nigeria. They bring 40 years' experience to this project. They are now planning to train people in Zambia of different language groups, who have never had the Bible available in their own language, to become translators.



Above: James and Jess Lucas (left) with Wolf and Hildegard Seiler of Wycliffe Bible Translators

The team in Zambia is very excited about the GNM evangelism material. With the help of personal supporters, James Lucas was able to purchase more than R20 000 worth of GNM material for this project.

This year GNM is able to support this project by sponsoring almost R12 000 worth of GNM material. The team now also handles individual enquiries for GNM products, especially from the western parts of Zambia. We are extremely grateful for this team's ministry as well as potential users of our material, since this form of more personal orientation and contact will lead to the GNM material being used more effectively.

The local people's excitement over the material and the price thereof is reflected in the testimony recently sent to us by James Lucas:

"I send this picture (right coner) of one of our church leaders, Mwangala, receiving the MP3 player and *Look, Listen and Live* 1 flipchart.

"Mwangala is an amazing young lady from the Sioma Community in western Zambia. She gave her life to the Lord about five years ago after waiting in a prayer line when she was sick. She had a great encounter with a

caring prayer helper and committed her life completely to the Lord. She loves kids and later became the children's church leader.

"When her pastor died last year, she was found to be the most committed Christian and capable person to lead this young church. In the past three years, Mwangala has received death threats from witchdoctors. Despite experiencing some fear at their threats, she felt that if serving the Lord meant dying, it would be better to 'die in the Lord than outside (of His love)'. The church building in the background is being built mainly as a result of Mwangala's persistence.

"She has a shop at the market and each month she devotes some of her earnings to purchasing poles for the structure. **Her rural church invested about R70 in purchasing their MP3 player, which was subsidised by a caring church from SA.** They are excited about it. They believe it will help greatly. Many of the people they reach out to are not able to read the Bible for themselves. The young men on either side of her are Michael and Prosper, two new church members. They are attending the only high school in the Shangombo district (home to more than 80 000 people)."



Children in one of the small congregations are studying the new pictures through which they can now learn more about the Bible.

Zimbabwe



GNM's friends and partners of many years' standing, Myburgh and Mattie Verster (above), decided to make a temporary move to Ireland! This is where Mattie's forefathers are from. They are not sure whether they are going to stay there permanently. Since Africa is in their blood, it is still their dream to travel through southern Africa with GNM material. Goodbye, till we meet again!

In the meantime, Gerhard Breytenbach and Webster Gwanzura will continue with GNM's work in Zimbabwe. Below is Gerhard, standing behind Webster (left), while



Bert Roorbach is teaching Webster how to service the tape recorders. This photo was taken shortly after Webster became involved in the work.

Webster is very excited about the work. He writes in a recent report:

"Since Chaplain P. F. drew our attention to the prisons, he has helped us getting opportunities to preach to inmates and to share views with leading officers. We have since donated one full set of 9 flipcharts, 15 cassettes, 1 Messenger and other helpful CAVA books to each prison, including the prison farm in Chinhoyi. The donated parcels have been highly appreciated by both officers and inmates."

Intercession for Zimbabwe:

- That the Lord will provide for Webster and Gerhard.
- That new pathways will be cut open along which more of GNM's material may be brought to people.
- That their hearts will soften for the Lord's Word.

Malawi... the MP3 player takes the message further

Roughly 1 054 people in Malawi have been reached through the MP3 players left at the following areas by *Fishers, Trainers & Senders (FTS)* a few months ago: Nkhotakota, Nkhata-Bay, Ntchisi, Mtakatika and Blantyre. But since the feedback system is not functioning at its best everywhere, there is a possibility that the amount of people, who had access to the messages, was far more.

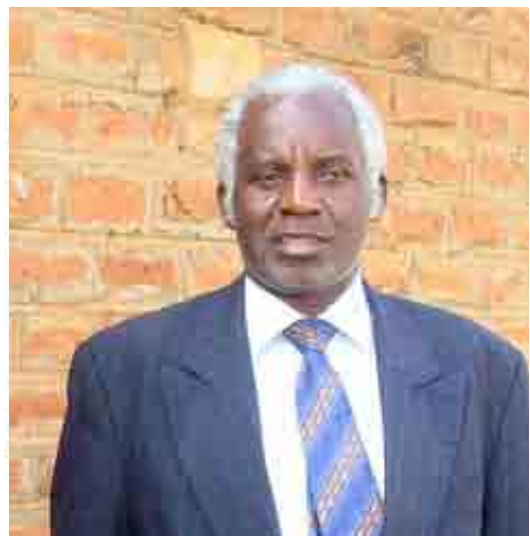
The Nkhoma Synod provided one MP3 player to the northern part of Mozambique, where 947 people have the opportunity to listen to the lessons. *FTS* also acquired MP3 players for their children's ministry and follow-up programmes.

Most popular languages?

Chichewa is without a doubt chosen as the most popular language – even in those areas where people speak Sena, Lomwe and Yao as a first language. GNM will therefore use the Sena, Lomwe and Yao languages mainly for work in the north-western parts of Mozambique. The local church does in fact send missionaries across the borders to these language areas.

Plans for the future?

- To increase the frequency at which the MP3 players are being used in churches, schools and children's groups.
- To deliver 100 MP3 players to remote communities in Malawi.
- To incorporate the MP3 players and other GNM material in the training of and equipment used by *FTS* students.



Chairman of the *FTS* Board, Lester Chikoya..

Why the Look, Listen and Live picture sets?

Questions commonly asked:

- What is so special about these eight picture chart books?
- What distinguishes these from all the other similar products?
- Why is the structure as it is?

The books are **effective resources** in spreading the Gospel to Africa because:

1. The precept is not confrontational – it merely tells the Bible stories, and lessons are learnt from mistakes made by characters in the third person. Those who are familiar with the African culture will know that this is the best way to educate.
2. It contains balanced edification about the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
3. It covers the Old and New Testaments. It is important that the entire Bible's message be passed on to others.
4. According to John Mcwain it is important that the contents are chronological rather than logical (the more Western approach).

The **titles of the picture chart sets** (below) demonstrate more than just a chronological presentation of the Bible's contents.

Old Testament

1. Beginning with God (the Father) – everything begins with God. We should also start with Him.
2. Mighty Men of God (the Father) – we should grow and become strong in our faith.
3. Victory through God (the Father) – we need to be conquered.
4. Servants of God (the Father) – we cannot be victorious if we are not willing to serve.
5. On trial with God (the Father) – it is practically impossible to be victorious and serve without experiencing prosecution in one form or another.



New Testament

6. and 7. Jesus (the Son) set the perfect example. We should follow Him only.
8. We cannot achieve 1–5 or follow Jesus without the Holy Spirit being involved. In Book 8 we learn more about the Holy Spirit. The lives of Peter and Paul are being studied as examples from the young church.



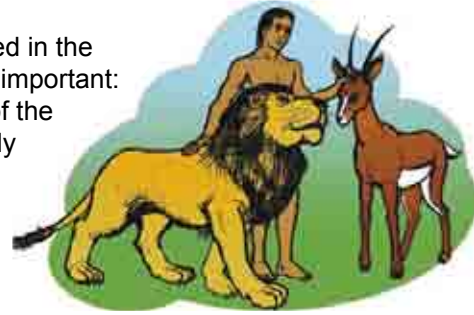
The sets of picture charts explain the Gospel in an uncomplicated manner. Even though everything is not spelled out in the script, the description or paraphrase as set out above, is the 'picture' that listeners form in their minds after they have worked through the *Look, Listen and Live* picture series. Each listener is given the opportunity to make an educated decision by himself.

The feedback received from excited co-workers emphasises the uniqueness and effectiveness of this product.

The pictures as such: style and technique are important

The approach being used in the pictures as such is also important:

- The thick outer lines of the pictures are specifically done in this way to ensure the non-reader, who is not used to differentiating and identifying two-dimensions from one another, can recognise and identify them.
- The bright contrasting colours in the pictures also help the non-reader, who cannot always see depth in two-dimensional artwork, to differentiate between different elements in the right proportion to one another.
- The pictures contain no unnecessary detail which could make it difficult to understand them.
- The images and elements used in the pictures are not controversial in any culture. Any feedback in this regard is still of great importance to GNM. Any suggestions will be given through to *GRN (Global Recording Network)* to make adjustments in the reprints, where possible.



Soundtracks of the *Look, Listen and Live* picture series are currently available in

35 southern African languages. For more information, please send us an e-mail at gnm@bmedia.co.za or phone us on +27 21 864 8276.

Dalene Joubert



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