



## Mustard Seed *African School* Ministries

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"Teaching the Bible Around the World" Matthew 13:31-32

January 2021

Dear Friends of the Great Commission,

Usually, these monthly letters are just small excerpts from the weekly radio ministry, as it is today. On the radio we have been going through the book of Acts, chapter by chapter and verse by verse. We have seen several occasions in which new believers have evidenced their salvation by speaking in tongues, or other languages. When Peter spoke to the household of Cornelius about Christ, he preached the crucifixion, resurrection, and deity of Christ, and they believed. The new believers began to speak in other languages; not an ecstatic utterance, but other languages. That's speaking in tongues in the Bible, languages, not an unknown tongue and not an ecstatic utterance. The time came when the gift of tongues ceased in the first century of Christianity. When the canon of scripture was complete, i.e., when the last book of the Bible was written, the gift of tongues was no longer a valid spiritual gift. First Corinthians 13:8 tells us when the gift of tongues will cease. First Corinthians 13:8 says, "whether there are tongues, they will cease;" Verse 10 tells us when tongues will cease. Verse 10 says, "But when that which is perfect has come, then that which is in part will be done away." That which is perfect is not the second coming of Christ, but is the completion of the Bible. The New Testament was complete and there was no more need for speaking in tongues or other languages. If you will note in verse 8, foretelling the future and special knowledge (teaching doctrine which was not available yet in written form) ceased also, with completion of the Bible. Read the rest of the chapter to see the great benefit of the completed Bible.

Your friend in ministry,

Russ Medley, President, Mustard Seed African School Ministries (MSASM)

**Summary of 2020:** Last year, our eleven in-country ministers continued to visit as many schools as were allowed when in session during this unprecedented Covid-19 pandemic. At other times, they continued to minister to small groups in homes. Two Bible teaching training events were held in Mzimba, Malawi to benefit the teachers who lead the Bible clubs in the schools. Abraham Somba and Charles Malekano were the principle teachers.

The first one was conducted in January and the second one was held in May after Covid invaded the region. 48 teachers were trained during the first conference, and 120 teachers attended the second conference. We were thankful to get permission from the Board of Education to proceed. Masks and hand sanitizer were required and provided by MSASM. Abraham reported, "These

teachers were hungry to hear the word more fully explained and some accepted the message of salvation.”

Today, January 18, the spread of the virus has accelerated and more schools closings are reported due to students testing positive. In Malawi, schools are closed for three more weeks. Please pray that the vaccine will make its way to the poorer countries of the world before many other lives are lost. In an effort to help our Christian brothers in dire need in Lusaka, Zambia, MSASM is helping with a feeding program under the direction of Dickson Kasonga.

Dickson has asked that we help support a feeding ministry for the hungry in his area of Lusaka. Pictured is one family who benefited from his efforts to supply needs. He has requested for any funds available to help with this program that his church hopes to manage.

Some individuals responded to this need and \$480 was sent to feed 24 orphans for one month. This is not a part of the MSASM budget, but designated gifts are sent over to help.



Two of our men were spared injury when the automobile they were riding in hit a pothole, blew out the tire, and flipped several times. God granted His grace and protection in the situation! They were in traffic at the time. We are exploring ways to get the car back in service.



Looking for an easy way to donate to the ministry? Scan with your smart phone to connect with donation site on the webpage. Or go to [www.mustardseedafricanschoolministries.com](http://www.mustardseedafricanschoolministries.com) and look for the donate button.