

Sebsibe Alemu Birru

Serving the Lord in Ethiopia



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International Partnership Ministries
Your partner with national missionaries around the world

Dear IPM Prayer Partners and Supporters,

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Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ! We thank the Lord for you, our IPM family, and continue praying that God will keep you and bless you as you serve Him and live for Him.

WAR IN ETHIOPIA

The nation of Ethiopia is facing some very trying times right now. We haven't seen trouble of this magnitude in our lifetime. Though our surrounding area is peaceful, the war in the north of the country is still going on. Such hatred is motivated by racism, which is deeply rooted in the hearts of tribal groups and inflamed throughout the country. We pray that this situation will not hinder or affect the future work of evangelism and church ministry in the North. Please pray with us for the war to stop, for heart attitudes and behavior to change, for racially-motivated hatred to cease, and for the lives of the people to be restored to normal.

NUMERICAL GROWTH

It is such a blessing to see the work here in Debre Birhan progressing as we witness attendance growing in our Sunday services, Tuesday Bible study, Thursday prayer meeting, and Saturday discipleship program for the young people of the church. We thank God for this gradual growth in the number of people worshiping with us in our services. And, we praise Him for slowly lifting the fear of the pandemic from the hearts of the people as they come more regularly now and show interest in learning and obeying the Word of God. Praise God, they even seem more eager to talk about and hear the messages we are sharing.

EVANGELISM

While restraints are still in place due to the pandemic, God is showing His mercy on the people of our region as a whole, and we are seeing a general softening of the heart in those with whom we share the gospel. Most of our evangelism outreach occurs on the streets of Debre Birhan, where we give out gospel tracts and engage in conversation, eagerly explaining the plan of salvation. Many willingly receive the tracts and listen to the gospel message, and some have even promised to come to church. The members of our church are reaching about 100 people every week, which includes young and old from various backgrounds.

While evangelizing, we often face difficulties. Some people vent their hatred about what we are doing and sharing. They accuse us of heresy. The Orthodoxies (who are like Roman Catholics) have been doing this for many, many years. There are times when people throw stones at us in hopes of causing us physical harm. We thank God for His protection in the face of danger up until now. Please pray with us that the Lord will continue to bless our work and that many souls will be saved. Also, pray for those who received tracts and other evangelistic literature, that they will be touched by what they read, be willing to come to church to hear God's Word, and be saved by God's grace.

PASTORAL VISIT

Pastor Haileleul Emiru, from the USA, visited us twice this year. During his visit from May 21st - 23rd, many people gathered to hear the sound teaching of the Word of God. Pastor Emiru taught us the importance of prayer for a growing and evangelistic church, particularly expounding the Lord's Prayer with many applications for the life of a disciple of the Lord. On the second visit, from August 20th - 22nd, he taught us from Philippians on the Christian life: how Christians should live as light in and among an evil and wicked generation. We are encouraged and emboldened to shine the light of the gospel to those who live in darkness.

DEBRE BIRHAN BAPTIST CHURCH

Our church ministry is currently confined to a rented space that is not suitable for the work of the Lord. We tried to purchase a plot of land from the government to build our own church but to no avail. The only option we have now is to purchase an existing building in order to have our own place of worship and ministry. Please pray with us that God will provide a proper building in which we can gather, conduct our services, and disciple those who are saved. Our prayer is to be a beacon of light for the surrounding 29 districts of the North Shewa region. Our mission is to plant many churches, be a center for evangelism and training of indigenous missionaries and Sunday school teachers in order to reach the millions of children and adults in the surrounding areas and districts.

We are grateful for IPM and its families worldwide, for your prayers and for your support of the work here in Ethiopia. We continue to pray that God will strengthen you, give you good health, and increasingly use you for His glory and praise!

Our love in Christ,
Sebsibe & Sinafikish Alemu Birru

Contributions for our ministry should be made payable to IPM and sent to IPM, Inc., 100 Spring Ave., Hanover, PA 17331. Be sure to include a note designating "Birru Support" or any other special designation you may have for us. Thank you.

If you have a **NEW** email, please take a moment to contact us at office@ipmworld.org with your new email address.

Thank you.

NEWS FLASH...the IPM website has been revised and will be updated monthly with new content.

Take a moment to visit ipmworld.org