

HIGHLIGHTS

Open Your Eyes & LOOK:

Jesus said, "I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest" —John 4:35

Throughout the Bible, God endeavors to help His people see, to open their eyes and engage reality. Scriptures are filled with calls to "behold", to "look", to "see". Life is different than we expect. God is doing things we are not aware of.

"Look at the nations and watch... for I am going to do something in your days that you would not believe..." - Habakkuk 1:5

Careful reflection and analysis are essential for followers of Jesus who desire to faithfully serve His mission today.

Not looking is dangerous. At Bread For Life, we seek to help the indigenous church to look and, look again - seeing the world of mission as it really is, seeing needs and opportunities for the gospel, seeing what God is doing and how His people can best join Him.

In a region where almost 70% of the population is under the age of 24 and where more than 50% of the workforce is unemployed, we must look again. One of the areas we have been looking at is the rural areas, where life is characterized by brevity, poverty, disease and limited opportunities. Eighty percent of Cameroon's population live in the rural areas and are engaged in subsistence farming.

Sadly, there is a growing trend of rural exodus: Folks leaving villages to the cities for a "better life." Unfortunately, most young people are discovering this is an illusion. During the last 'election' campaigns in Cameroon, the government announced the creation of "25,000 new jobs." More than two million young people lined up to apply!

For a number of years, in addition to our work in urban areas, we have focused a number of our outreaches

in the rural areas. Recently, we took a major step of not just teaching, but developing bases for our outreaches. Part of these bases will be used for our experimental farms, which in addition to teaching, will provide ministry and hands on opportunities, create jobs and simultaneously generate revenue for continuity. We are

presently acquiring more than 500 acres of land in the town of Dimako and the village of Muambong.

Our agricultural ministries have a four pronged objective:

1. **Spiritual:** To have a spiritual impact in the communities we serve through personal relationships and evangelistic activities.
2. **Nutritional:** Ameliorate food supply to the population, increase food variety, and ensure a balanced diet.
3. **Socio-cultural:** To revitalize agricultural activities in rural communities and create job opportunities among the jobless, thus preventing rural exodus. To help bring modern agricultural techniques to rural farmers and especially young people.
4. **Economic:** Help generate funds to meet ministry objectives.

Thank you for joining with us in this aspect of reaching a rapidly changing continent with the unchanging message of Jesus Christ through words and deeds. May we always do it to the glory of the One who came so we may have *Bread for Life*.

For Christ & His kingdom,

E. W. Chabe



"We cannot always build the future for our youth, but we can build our youth for the future."

— Franklin D. Roosevelt

BEYOND CHARITY & Towards Sustainability

In the last fifty years, Africa is said to have received more than 2,000 billion dollars in aid, yet the number of people living in poverty has increased. Why is the continent still so poor? Tons of books have been written about this, more are being written. Within the next year or so, we will be producing a book, *THE CHALLENGE OF AFRICA: moving from rhetoric to action*.

Our goal is to use the book to highlight the many challenges Africa faces (Leadership, Religion & Pseudo-Christianity, Youth, Aid etc.) and also suggest ways it can be improved.

In our estimation, one of the most critical challenges of development in Africa and indeed the 'third world' is the lack of sustainability. Programs and projects are often ill conceived, ill designed and ill deployed. The people for whom these projects are designed for are often not consulted and where they are, their inputs are not seriously considered as integral to the development success. It is against this backdrop that projects are initiated but never completed or successful. It is no surprise; Africa has become a grave yard of failed projects.

2 Many projects and programs have been started which made no difference in the lives of

Africa has 30% of the world's natural resources and some of the best climate, rainfall and soils in the world. Africa has an abundance of arable land. Yet, 35% of the population is chronically undernourished and the whole continent of Africa only contributes 1.3% to the world's produce - it has the same GDP of a small country like Mexico."

— Kofi Annan – World Economic Forum on Africa, February 2008

those for whom they were intended. This is often because the initiators of these projects are not really interested in the end users. On the contrary, the projects are designed to benefit the so call sponsors, like the UN. This is how the HUGE amount of aid pumped into Africa has often ended up in administrative fees by the donors and their

development partners.

There is, therefore, the need to adopt a participatory rather than a paternalistic approach in development when working with rural people and indigenous organizations.

Firsthand experience and observation has proven that caring for the needy and poor of the world requires more than just doing things for them. The Welfare reform of 1996 is a classic example that we must reexamine and in some cases change our methods.

The best of intentions to provide for the underprivileged fall flat and our efforts to alleviate the poverty in our world will be useless until we connect with the "felt needs" of the poor. Our Lord illustrated this important truth in coming to live among us (see John 1:14; Hebrews 4:15).

Moving "beyond charity" therefore, entails acting towards the poor with more than just a spirit of good will and giving them quick fixes. To move beyond charity will mean seeking long-term and creative solutions for the poor. This perhaps is the unique and urgent call of the church today!



Veteran BFL short term missionary, Gene Leclair of Florida poses with farmers in Muambong after an agricultural outreach



BFL Agricultural farm manager, Godlove Nsuli lecture over 400 farmers during an agricultural outreach in Dimako.



Short term missionaries (Dr. Roxanne Cheek, Gene Leclair & Melanie Davies) visit with Godlove on our newly cultivate farm in Dimako



Gifts from your brothers & sisters in the USA! Dr. Roxanne Cheek hands out matchettes after the outreach in Dimako



Despite the initial challenges of cultivating our first two and a half acres of land, we have started harvesting tomatoes from the Dimako farm.



Marketing: Trucking tomatoes to the Market.

Bridging the gaps. Changing mindsets. Transforming our culture... to the standard of Christ!

Agricultural & Sustainable Development: From RHETORIC to ACTION

One of the reasons the green revolution flourished in Asia back in the 1960s and 1970s was that it focused on just a couple of crops--rice and wheat. But Africa is a much more diverse place and depends on dozens of crops.

Our Dimako ministry base will strategically focus on perennial and long term cash crops. Almost four months ago our agricultural team began preparing one hectare (2.5 acres) of land to plant tomatoes. Our focus in 2013 will be on the Dimako experimental farm and ministry base. We will subsequently move our focus to the Muambong and Tombel ministry bases, if Jesus tarries in 2014 and beyond. Will you join us in this innovation of moving from rhetoric to action?

INNOVATIVE

"I am delighted to comment about the impacting work of Bread For Life. Their practical integration of agricultural training with the message of the gospel is very innovative. Farmers in our local community do not only learn sustainable techniques in agriculture, but also have the opportunity to hear the gospel of Jesus Christ."

BFL's trained team of agricultural evangelists carry a hoe for physical seed in one hand and the bible for spiritual seed in the other hand, a wonderful combination. Local farmers have testified increase in their yields as a result of this ministry..."

—Rev. Daniel Mbiwan, President
MPE –Mission du Plein Evangile

CHALLENGING

"Despite the merits of the dual functions of its vision, Bread For Life ministry does not yet receive the material support it needs in their crusade to implement the lofty ideals of 'Agricultural Evangelism.' This vision deserves the total support of those of us committed to the cause of the Great Commission of our Lord."

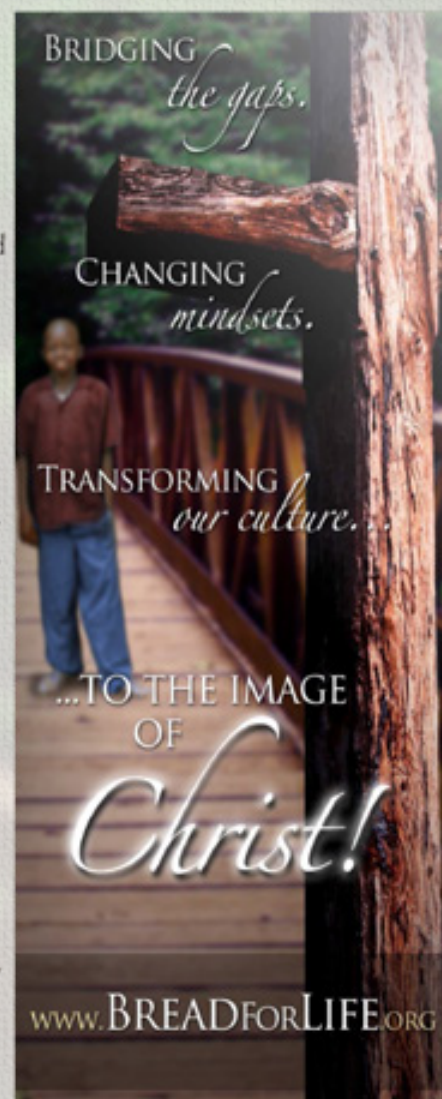
—Prof Beban Chumbow, PhD
Former President of the University of Yaoundé

NEEDS For DIMAKO MINISTRY BASE

- Monthly support so more Agricultural Engineers are brought on BFL staff to increase the effectiveness of our rural outreaches (average monthly stipend for each staff range from \$200 to \$600 depending on qualification, location and family size).
- Bobtail truck (about \$12,000) to be used to transport produce from farm to market. This truck can also be used to carry evangelistic crusade and outreach

equipment to various areas and as a stage during evangelistic outreaches and mass training rallies.

- Two public address systems for training and evangelism (one for an indoor audience ranging from 100 to 1,00 and another for an outdoor audience ranging from 5,000 to over 20,000)
- \$15,000 to compensate the village and villagers of Dimako for land and for fees and taxes in getting legal land papers from the government.
- \$10,000 to help in shipping and clearing a donated pickup truck and other farm related equipment as well as chairs that have been donated towards a new church plant in the heart of the University of Buea.



WHY SUPPORT BFL:

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| ⇒ Identification | ⇒ Continuity |
| ⇒ Contextualization | ⇒ Economics |
| ⇒ Access and receptivity | ⇒ Maximum Impact |

Gifts to Bread for Life are Tax deductible, please send all gifts to:

Commission to Every Nation

PO Box 291307
Kerrville, TX 78029
(830)896 8326

www.breadforlife.org

Please do not reduce your level of giving to your local church in order to support this ministry

Get Involved - Get Others Involved

You've all been a vital part of the ministries of Bread for Life. That is why I have taken this time to share the vision and needs of BFL with you. My prayer in sharing this is that God will move in your heart as He has in ours and that together we'll be used by Him to accomplish more than we can imagine.



Cover of our soon to be published tri-annual bilingual Magazine

I believe some of our top priorities for BFL in 2013 are:

- ◆ **Agricultural Evangelism**
- ◆ **Publication of Bilingual Christian Magazine**
- ◆ **Staff stipend & Team Building**
- ◆ **Church planting & Leadership Formation.**
- ◆ **Children's Ministry in Buea through After School Programs & in Yaoundé with Awana Curriculum**
- ◆ **Prison Outreach**
- ◆ **Small business initiatives (Samaritan Enterprise)**
- ◆ **Short term & Vision trips**

In the coming months & in subsequent newsletters, we'll be sharing with you the various ways God is using these ministries to advance the Gospel in Cameroon.

I know you care about evangelism. I believe discipleship is near to your heart as it is to mine. That's why I'm confident to write and ask for your prayerful support.

Here are a few ways you can be involved with us in 2013:

SHORT TERM & VISION TRIPS

The Great Commission communicates a present and urgent call on the life of every Christian. In the long tradition from Abraham, we are all blessed to be a blessing, richly blessed in order that we might be a blessing to others. The single greatest blessing we have to share is the gift of eternal life given freely to us, a gift for which there is no shortage of need.

Whether sharing the Good News of God's love with kids in an After School Program, painting a new classroom, helping build a new Children's Home, or using your medical training in a clinic – you can be sure

a BFL mission trip will provide you with the experience of a lifetime! Call or email us about a mission or vision trip. Send emails to: ernestehabe@gmail.com.

BECOME A BFL REP

Our work has been built mostly around volunteers and ministry advocates - those who share our passion, believe in what the ministry stands for and are willing to involve others.

Anyone with a voice or a pen can serve as a Bread For Life Ministry Representative in their community and among their sphere of influence. Simply identify an issue you are passionate about (transformational Church plants, poverty alleviation, Evangelistic Outreach, Literature, HIV/AIDS, Orphans, Agriculture, Leadership etc) and volunteer in your area. Bread For Life will furnish you with its literature and help to point you to other resources to help your effectiveness. You may also want to consider:

Hosting A Cottage Meeting

Invite friends to your home for dinner or dessert to learn about this ministry (through our ministry video/ DVD or with a ministry Rep). This is a great networking opportunity for new folks to hear about the work of BFL and get involved.

Introduce Us To Other Church Leaders & Business Owners

It is our desire to spread our vision to other church bodies and to the Business Community. A word of introduction/endorsement from you goes a long way in opening doors.



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