

Botswana Missions Update from Ananias Moses
January 2021

May the grace and peace of God be with us. In these times of distress, I hope and pray that we can find comfort, peace, and hope in the God who has gone before us.

Though last year was so challenging and tough in many ways, we are thankful to God for a number of things. We are grateful for God's faithfulness, mercies, and love, which he showed us despite our feebleness. Last year, we had seven souls who gave their lives to Christ. Pray for their maturity in the Lord.



Thabo (second from the left) after being baptized. Thabo came to the church broken in ways. We thank God that he is gradually healing, and it is our prayers that he continues to find refuge in God and be rooted in him.

We are also grateful for God's presence and how he works in his community. Through the Church of Christ at White Station, God blessed us. With their help, we were able to donate food, sanitary pads, and toiletry items to more than twenty families. COVID-19 is exacerbating our unemployment and poverty situations; things are getting so difficult for many people. One of the families that received a donation is a 76 years old woman. She lost her only child a few years ago in a car accident and now lives with her boyfriend and grandchildren. She does not have a national identity card (ID), which she could use to get assistance from the government. Therefore, things have been tough for her. We are grateful that through this food donation, God's love and care were shown to the woman and her family.



A couple in Dutlwe receiving food donations.

Women and children continue to be victims of gender-based violence in the country, especially during lockdowns. At the end of November, we had a children's service where we celebrated and appreciated our children. Here is a Facebook link to the service: <https://www.facebook.com/103251044579125/videos/196176105298134/>



Youth during a discipleship training workshop in Oodi.

I had an opportunity to lead and organize some activities for an HIV/AIDS community committee in Oodi. Also, I was blessed to speak in a virtual chapel at HST. Here is a link to the devotion: <https://youtu.be/U1sV8wIqKTU>

We spent the Christmas holidays in Shakawe. Due to the lockdowns and restriction of movements, we could not visit our parents and the church in Shakawe for about eleven months. So, we were glad to be with them. We had our annual mentorship workshop, which focuses on generational poverty. The purpose of this workshop is to inculcate virtues in young people, educate and sensitize them about behaviors and beliefs that may lead to poverty. It is our prayer that the lives of these young people are transformed, and they break the circle of poverty in their families. We are glad that some of the young people from this group are interested in studying God's word and becoming Christians. We have started studying together.

Some of the participants at the workshop



We thank the Joint Heirs class at White Station for donating Bibles. About 30 Setswana Bibles have been given out. Through the help of the Botswana Bible Society, we have ordered about 20 Thimbukushu Bibles from Namibia. It is difficult to find Bibles in rural areas, and many people cannot afford one.



Moses handing out a Bible to Isaiah during a combined service in Shakawe.

Prayer requests:

Thank you for standing in the gap on our behalf through your prayers. Continue praying for us.

1. In many of my updates, I have asked for rain prayers. Thank you for the prayers; God has answered them. We have good rains this year, and we hope and pray there is a good harvest.
2. Pray for church leaders to model God's character as they lead God's people in these challenging times.
3. Pray for our Bible study group that we are able to finish our studies, and they can give their lives to Christ. The group is in Shakawe; therefore, we are doing our studies through the phone, which can be difficult sometimes due to poor network connections.
4. Many of our elementary and middle school students will be writing their final year exams this year. Pray for understanding and wisdom as they study.

Thank you for your love, support, and participation in the mission of God in Botswana. I pray that all may go well with you and that you may be in good health, as it goes well with your soul. May the Lord bless and keep you.

Shalom!

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