



# THE WIDENER FAMILY

## GHANA, AFRICA

*“Taking the Gospel to the Gold Coast”*



OCTOBER 2006

Greetings to our Co-laborers!

We want to thank you for your faithful prayers and support for the mission work in Cape Coast! The work is making slow but steady progress in the faith. We have almost completed a fourteen-week series of discipleship lessons on Basic Bible Truths for new believers. There are currently eight deaf people and fifteen hearing people taking the course. It includes a daily Bible reading and answering questions covering the doctrinal topic of the week. On Sunday afternoon's we will discuss the lesson together as a group. The subjects we have completed are: the Bible, God, Salvation, Prayer, Eternal Security, Heaven and Hell, Baptism, the Church, Pastors and Deacons, and the Lord's Supper. We are working on lessons on Missions, God's Plan for Giving, Rewards and Chastisement, and Baptist History & Distinctives.

On Saturday's we go for evangelism in Cape Coast and surrounding villages. There are over 100,000 people in this area, which once served as the former Capital of Ghana. We are averaging eight people going out for evangelism. This past week we were able to visit three student hostel's where student's from outside Cape Coast board while going to school. At each place we would gather a group together and preach the Gospel to them. So far, one student has visited our services. Cape Coast is a University town with several colleges and polytechnic schools. This is an open door to reach many students who are away from home and train them to go back to their villages with the Gospel. Pray with us about this opportunity to spread the Gospel to various regions of Ghana.

The deaf school just reopened for classes after a two month holiday. The student's were glad to see us this past Friday as I preached the chapel service. I am working on a Bible correspondence course to be used in the deaf schools for the junior high level and up. I believe we can make a huge impact in the years to come through a Bible correspondence program for the deaf. In 1957, a deaf Afro-American named Rev. Andrew Jackson Foster, started the first deaf school in Ghana. He was the first to introduce sign language to the deaf in Ghana. If it were not for this man, it is possible that the deaf in Ghana would still be uneducated and without sign language today. What a impact this man made on the deaf in this country. Now, there are 10 deaf schools in Ghana teaching the deaf sign language and English. Because of what this man started, we can preach the Gospel to the deaf. Think of the impact a Bible correspondence course can have on the deaf in five or ten years down the road.

Last month, I was privileged to lead a 15 year boy named Victor Kworonu to the Lord Jesus Christ. Our family befriended him after arriving in Ghana a year ago. He has been faithful to attend church with us and finally his eyes have been opened to the truth of the Gospel! What a joy to see this soul saved after much labor. We hope to have our first baptismal service in a few weeks with about eight ready to be baptized.

We have finally located a house in Cape Coast that will be suitable to our needs. But we have yet to sign a contract on the house. Continue to pray with us that everything will work out and that we will be able to move by December. Though we are not looking forward to another move, we are excited about being near the people that God has called us to labor among. Thank you again for all that you have done for us!

Grateful for His Grace,

*Bro. Johnny Widener*

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