



GOSPEL NEWS

IN AFRICA



January — March 2005

A news magazine of The Apostolic Faith Church in Africa

Vol. 6 No. 1



A Students' Rally was held at Faith City, Igbesa, between December 27 and 30, 2004, for students from higher institutions of learning in Nigeria. As part of the activities, teams of workers were sent to three neighbouring villages for evangelistic outreach, and many people were saved. The response of the villagers to the outreach, gave the Church a strong urge to do an immediate follow-up. Hence, a one-week revival programme was organised to cover all the villages around Faith City. Dozens of villages were grouped into seven centres. The revival meetings were preceded by a one-week campaign to inform the villagers of the forthcoming week of blessings.

On January 16, 2005, Ministers and Workers from the 29 branch churches in Lagos State converged at Faith City at 4 pm, to start off the revival services with a prayer session. Initially, five teams were set up, each made up of ministers, altar workers, choristers, ushers and technical crew who operated mobile electronic gadgets, generators, lighting and public address systems, for the five centres.

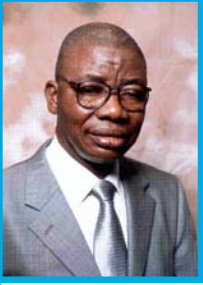
Each day, revival services were conducted in four centres and a film was shown at the fifth centre. The revival services took the form of the usual church evangelistic service. As the revival progressed, more villages requested that the revival services be held in their areas. In response to this *Macedonian call*, two more centres were created with all the necessary resources provided. The seven revival centres were: Idoye, Ago Iboro, Odugbe, Akinwunmi, Alapoti, Adu-aju and Asokere.

The peak attendance in these centres was 507 and souls were saved on a daily basis. Of particular note was the first centre where 10 souls were saved in one meeting. The meetings featured reviving songs, inspiring testimonies and sim-

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From the Africa Overseer

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Let us imagine what will happen if every person in every home in our city is saved from his sins, what type of society shall we have? The answer is not far fetched. We will have a society of saints, where the devil and sin have no room to dwell in, and no heart to corrupt.

Some people may think that this situation is utopian, but the desire of Jesus is that everybody would be saved. He commanded His

disciples including all saints today: **“Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature” (Mark 16:15).**

In Matthew 28:19, 20, He also says: **“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen”.**

Today, the world is drifting away from God and the devil and sin are deceiving men and drafting them into a lost eternity.

God is looking for people to make up the hedge and stand in the gap before Him for the land, so that He would not destroy it and turn the people to hell.

Many are answering this call to stand in the gap and warn the people of an impending doom that will soon overtake the world. Ministers and workers from our churches in Lagos State, carried out an aggressive village evangelism to wrest people out of the shackles of the devil and sin.

In this edition, you will read of a one-week village evangelism that was carried out in seven villages near Faith City, the new campground. God manifested Himself in an unprecedented way in these villages, so much that many souls were saved, sanctified and baptised with the Holy Ghost and fire. Many were healed including a lunatic who had been in chains for many years.

Our prayer for you as you go through these pages, is that God will help you to be part of the group that will fulfill the Great Commission.

P. O. Akazue



Ministers and choristers in a village

ple salvation messages. The people listened with rapt attention. Some village heads and chiefs also attended. Some people brought seats from their houses and sat around the venue.

At the close of each meeting, many people came to the altars of prayer and tarried till late in the night. The Gospel teams rallied round to pray with the seekers and would not leave until the last person at the altar rose from prayers.

The joy in the camp knew no bounds when the various teams returned each night and converged at the prayer room, to give reports of what happened at the centres. At a centre, there was a man who had had mental disorder for over 20 years. At a certain stage, he became a problem to the society such that his hands and feet had to be chained and padlocked. His hair was bushy, he was heavily bearded and he was a nuisance to the community. When the revival started, he was sitting under a mango tree near the venue of the meeting. This man, on two consecutive occasions, came crawling on his buttocks to the meeting. He listened attentively to the Word of God, prayed, and God touched him. Gospel workers pled that he might be unchained. He then was washed and cleaned up. To the consternation of everybody, the power of God came down and he regained his senses, as the case was with the Gadarene demoniac of old. He was saved on the Saturday of the revival week.

A pastor who was in attendance promised to surrender everything, including his church building to The Apostolic Faith. Another man who attended a service was so elated that he wanted the Church to start a Bible Study centre in his village. He promised to provide accommodation for the centre.

The revival meetings were mightily blessed. Only God has the full details of the number of souls blessed. However, from the record, 108 people were saved, 17 sanctified, 4 baptised with the Holy Spirit, while many received healing. Truly, the Lord visited His people. The revival meetings came to a close on Sunday, January 23, 2005.

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GOSPEL NEWS IN AFRICA is a quarterly publication of THE APOSTOLIC FAITH, Africa Headquarters, Anthony Village, Lagos, NIGERIA. Telephone: 234 -1- 4963883. E-mail: afm@apostolicfaith-ng.org ISSN 1596-0412

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GOSPEL TOUR OF NIGER REPUBLIC

On Wednesday, January 12, 2005, the Africa Overseer, Brother Paul Oge Akazue, undertook a missionary journey to Niger Republic. In his entourage were Brothers Marcellin Hounmenou, the Overseer of The Apostolic Faith work in Benin Republic and David Kindoho. They went by road from Cotonou, Republic of Benin, to Niamey, the capital of Niger Republic. They had to go to the motor park to take a bus as early as 2 am and travelled for about 18 hours.

Though the time of their arrival was not known, some members of the congregation in Niamey waited at the bus terminal, to welcome the team with songs and a bouquet of flowers.

The first port of call was The Apostolic Faith Church, Niamey, where the congregation gathered in a rented apartment. During the visit, foundation stones for permanent church buildings were laid at two different locations. At the second location, Uji, southwards of Niamey, there was also a parcel of land for siting a school.

The team held Sunday School, a devotional service and evangelistic revival services during the visit. The congregation greatly appreciated the missionary visit, and they invited their neighbours and friends from other denominations to the services. In spite of the difficult circumstances under which they are operating in Niamey, the brethren are doing their best to spread the



Left to Right: David Kindoho, Jean Kindoho (Overseer of the work in Niger Republic), Albert Gnahoui, a photographer, Brother Akazue and Na-Allah Ousseini, studying a land survey.

Gospel.

Through the visit, the team was better acquainted with the problems which the brethren in Niger Republic are facing in propagating the Gospel.

The team returned on Wednesday, January 19, 2005. Though tough and risky, the journey was very rewarding.

CAMP MEETING IN COTE D'IVOIRE

The Annual Camp Meeting in Cote d'Ivoire took place between February 20 and 27, 2005. The theme was **Africa Must Be Saved**. There was a musical concert on Saturday, February 19, at 7 pm, which was attended by about 1000 people.

The Overseer of The Apostolic Faith work in Ghana, Brother Kwasi Badu-Debra, and a brother from the Republic of Benin, came for the camp meeting.

There were Bible teachings on: **Salvation, Sanctification and Baptism of the Holy Ghost; Di-**

vine Healing; and Holy Marriage. The topics of the sermons for the two Sundays of the camp meeting were: **Africa Must be Saved** and **The Wisdom of God**. There was a Youth Forum on Saturday presided over by Brother Kwasi Badu-Debra.

The average attendance at the meetings was 600. The Lord blessed the meetings in a very wonderful way. From available records, 36 people were saved, 24 sanctified, 13 baptised with the Holy Ghost and fire and 6 healed. One of those healed was a man who had been paralysed for 18 years. He now walks about perfectly. Glory be to God.

... AND CAMEROON

The Annual Camp Meeting was held between December 19, 2004, and January 2, 2005.

Delegates came from five of the ten provinces, that is: North-West, Littoral, Central, West and South-West Provinces.

Peak attendance during the services stood at four hundred and eighty (480) people. There were inspiring Bible teachings and sermons on the following topics: **The Three Steps; Prayer; Tithes and Offerings; The Value of Faith; Perseverance; Satisfaction; The Christian Race; The Garment of Humility; and Christian Forgiveness.** Before the camp meeting started, there was a Ministers and Workers' Conference on **The Bible on Marriage.**

Blessings received during the camp meeting were as follows: 42 souls saved, 25 sanctified, 11 baptised with the Holy Ghost and fire, and 15 people healed from various ailments. 34 people were baptised in water by immersion.

across nigeria

IKOT ENWANG DISTRICT AKWA IBOM STATE

We are grateful to God for His blessings.

In December 2004, 26 people were saved, 12 sanctified, 6 baptised with the Holy Ghost and 8 people healed.

Three brethren who had backslidden, returned to the fold. The Lord cured a brother of internal heat. Another brother was healed of blindness through the prayer of the saints. During the musical concert, a village chief testified that he was surprised that church music could pull such a huge crowd. He prayed that God would make it possible for him and others, to join the Heavenly Choir.

CROSS RIVER STATE

In December 2004, at Akampa, God was greatly magnified when an insane man who was brought to the Church in chains from Uyo, stood up, totally healed, and testified in both English and Efik languages. He also requested to render a song titled *There is Victory for me*, as a duet with his mother. This they did in English and Efik. The whole congregation joined in the song, and Heaven came down as everyone received their share of blessings joyfully.

On December 4, 2004, at Calabar, long span roofing sheets were laid on the main auditorium, making the place more conducive for worship. In the same month, the Overseer preached on **The value of the soul**. He read from Ezekiel 33:7 and exhorted the saints, as watchmen, to go to the nooks and crannies of the state to preach the Gospel.

There was also a two-week revival from December 5-19, 2004. Many souls were saved, sanctified, baptised with the Holy Spirit and healed.

OYO/OSUN DISTRICT

We are grateful to God for His manifestation in our midst. All our meetings were blessed by God: 26 people were saved, 8 sanctified, 3 baptised with the Holy Ghost and 5 people healed. There were evangelistic visits to hospitals, schools, prisons and the aged. These efforts are yielding results in all branch churches in the district.

A seminar on **Food and Nutrition** was held at Oke-Ado Church, Ibadan. Participants were enlightened on the importance of fruits and vegetables to enhance good health. They were also advised to eat balanced diet and obey the rules of hygiene.

Idi Ape branch church, Ibadan, has moved to her permanent site, after many years of worshipping on a leased land.

ONDO /EKITI DISTRICT

A commendation service was held in honour of the Oluyin of Iyin-Ekiti, Late Oba Julius Adeniyi Owolabi, on October 29, 2004. The Late King was the first traditional ruler to attend music concerts at The Apostolic Faith Church in Ondo/Ekiti Dis-



Apostolic Faith Church, Itaogbolu

trict. He became regular in the concerts since he first attended in 1984.

In March 2004, the Oluyin invited The Apostolic Faith to evangelise his community. A week-long revival meetings were held in the Town Hall, which he made available for the purpose. Thus, The Apostolic Faith was embraced at Iyin Ekiti. The Chiefs in the town whole-heartedly supported the Oba in his bid to bring the Light of the Gospel into his domain.

On November 1, 2004, the foundation laying ceremony of the church building at Iyin Ekiti took place at 10 am. Many people including the traditional chiefs were in attendance.

At Itaogbolu, a new church building was dedicated on October 22, 2004, at 2 pm. One-week revival services followed the dedication. 37 people were saved, 11 sanctified and 3 baptised with the Holy Spirit.

OGUN STATE

God abundantly blessed us in December 2004. 9 people were saved, 4 sanctified and 3 baptised with the Holy Ghost. There were also testimonies of healing. A sister called on God for the healing of her brother-in-law, who had been carried from one hospital to the other without result, and God healed him.

The building project at Oke-Abetu has steadily progressed and God recently provided recording equipment for the Church. The Itori-Oke branch church also procured a new organ.

The post new year revival meetings that started in January, continued into the month of February, with many souls being born into the kingdom of God. 197 people were saved, 81 sanctified, 20 filled with the Holy Spirit and 24 healed.

An aged woman came to Church and prayed through to salvation and sanctification. Shortly after this, she had an attack of stroke in her left side. Her neck was twisted to one side, her speech impaired and she could not use her left arm and leg. She refused all entreaties by her relations for medical assistance. She kept on reciting memory verses. God honoured her faith and healed her completely. There is power in the Word of God!

Living Witness

Brother Moses Adebiji Omotosho is an example of a Christian who has implicit faith in the Living God. For many years he was afflicted in his legs. Throughout his ordeal, he remained with God and refused to trust the arm of flesh. Like Job, all his riches vanished and there seemed to be no hope. God revisited him and started him on another business. Today, unexpectedly, God has provided for him tremendously. In the testimony below, he recounts how the Lord saved him.

My heart praises and magnifies the King of Glory for He is God alone. Although my parents taught their children the Word of God from the Bible, they were nominal Christians and could not show us the way of salvation. We regularly went to church, read Psalms and prayers from prayer books. We conducted harvest ceremonies and bazaars. We also paid collections and pastoral dues.

One afternoon in 1939, at the age of ten years, I heard the call of God. God told me that if I would pray to Him, He would hear my prayers. Without understanding what to say, I kept trying to pray. In June 1953, when God led the late Brother Samuel Ajayi to invite me to The Apostolic Faith Church. He wanted me to come and see how Jesus could save a sinner like me.

Although I told him I was not a sinner, I followed him to the Church at Oke-Bola, Ibadan. There, I heard Rev. Lucas Obakoya preach from 1 John 3: 8, 9. I had never heard such preaching before. I told an Usher that I wanted to see the preacher so as to know where he read in the Bible. I was taken to him, and he opened the chapter. Since that

night, I started coming to the Church regularly.

I prayed through to salvation on March 6, 1956. I was surprised that confessing my sins



with faith in Jesus' Blood brought salvation. I could not fight, steal or envy again. There was no more hatred or malice. I loved everybody with all my heart. I fell in love with the Bible and Sunday School books with all the teachings. In 1958, I was sanctified and baptised with the Holy Ghost and fire.

God gave me the privilege of becoming a member of the choir in 1959, and later I became a Sunday School teacher and minister.

I got my first real taste of grief when God took away our one-year old son in January 1968. Three months later, my wife who had a threatened abortion suddenly lost consciousness in the toilet. Although I was alone with her, I continued to call on the name of Jesus and she was miraculously revived. The issue of blood continued for a period of 24 months. Due to the prayers of the saints of God, the Lord took absolute control and delivered her of a baby girl.

Satan obstructed me, by putting afflictions on my two feet from 1975 to 2004. Psalm 103:1-5 says,

"BLESS the Lord, O my soul and all that is within me, bless His holy name..."

Though I cannot work openly as before, I am able to pray. This God is my God and He shall continue to be my God for ever.

God Did it For Me

GOD MET ME IN MY BATHROOM



I was born into a Moslem family. When in primary school, I attended Koranic school in the evenings and before the end of my primary education,

I completed the learning of Koran in Arabic language. I later attended a Christian school where we were taught the Word of God, but I was always arguing with my teachers to the extent that I was asked not to attend Bible lessons again.

I used to fast for 30 days during the month of Ramadan, and I prayed five times daily right from my primary school days. In the secondary school, I became more zealous to the extent that I was appointed the prayer caller (Ladan). I could argue from morning till evening. But each time I left the mosque, something would ask me that if I died, was I sure I would make Heaven? I would think in my mind that since I had just left the mosque, definitely I would make Heaven, but I had a fear and condemnation in my heart.

I was in this situation for many years. Later I bought a Koran written in both English and Arabic, so I was able to compare notes on the stories of Jesus in both the Koran and the Bible. I also discovered that many of the stories told me about Jesus were not even in the Koran. But right from my youth, I loved the truth and all along, I thought I was doing the right thing.

My life was full of problems, I got sick very often, the fear of witches and wizards filled my heart and I was not doing well again in my studies. I used to be very brilliant, but it became the reverse right from 'A' level classes to the University. I was coming last in my class; my life was full of bad dreams and anxieties. But glory be to God that

on one glorious morning, precisely April 10, 1977, I went to the bathroom to take my bath and the Spirit of God told me to kneel down and pray in the name of Jesus. I heard the Voice but I did not see anybody. I told the Voice that I had never prayed in that name before. I felt hands on my shoulders as if somebody was begging a child.

I knelt down and prayed. I did not know what to say but I remembered what I said. I said, "Jesus, please forgive me because I have been rebelling against you". Immediately, joy filled my heart, condemnation fled away. After taking my bath, I went to borrow a Bible and I started reading it. I threw away the entire juju I was keeping for protection.

I started making restitution to my parents, relatives and friends. I sent tracts to all known people. I wrote the church in my village that they were not showing us the light as the Bible commands, because we knew them for drunkenness, fornication, adultery and quarrelling. I told them that if they had been light, many of us would have known Jesus.

I started looking for a church. Each Sunday, I attended a different church because I was never satisfied with the mode of worship, neither was I satisfied with their way of life. I did this for eight months. I thought I would not attend any church again but would read my Bible and pray on my own.

However, a brother from my village invited me to The Apostolic Faith Church and told me about the December retreat in Lagos. Meanwhile, my people had forsaken me and asked me not to come to them again. I went to the Church at Ogbomoso for a prayer meeting. I enjoyed the prayer session and told the brother. He told me that was just a foretaste.

When we got to Lagos and entered the tabernacle, the Spirit of God told me

that was my church. Meanwhile, I did not know that the experience I had earlier in the bathroom was salvation. I knew it as joy and each time I did not feel it again, I would pray and tell God to restore the joy. I was later sanctified and baptised with the Holy Ghost.

When I became a born-again Christian, everything changed for the better. In my educational career, God restored my brilliance, I was coming first in the class. Before I was saved, there was a time I was attacked by witches in the night when I was in the secondary school. My father, who was a herbalist, told me that no herbalist had power over witches but they only appeased them. However, when I was saved in the bathroom, I was delivered from the fear of witches. I wrote to my father that Jesus was the cure for witches and wizards.

Later, I learnt about the healing power of God. I got married and God blessed us with children. God has been healing us without medication. All my children were attacked by measles, one of them also had yellow fever and cholera, Jesus healed them. Satan wanted to maim one of my daughters, but Jesus healed her completely. None of my children has been subjected to medication. My wife, children and I depend on the Blood of Jesus for our healing.

Jesus has been protecting us. He delivered us from the hands of armed robbers. They broke four *Coca-Cola* bottles on my head but I thank God, He spared my life. He has been providing for me and my family. He bought cars and built a house for us.

In January, 2003 God sent me to Iseyin as a pastor. There, He built a church for us and He is adding to the congregation. My wife, children and I are joyfully serving the Lord. Whether long or short, I give my life to Jesus.

Silas Adeoye Ajibade

Iseyin, Oyo State, Nigeria

JESUS, MY ALL IN ALL



I thank the Almighty God for making me part and parcel of this glorious Gospel. I am one of the many fortunate children born and bred in the Gospel. If there was any book that remained constantly opened in our family then, it was the Bible. Thank God that even after the death of my parents, the Bible is still constantly open.

I was saved between the ages of four and five during one of our evening family altar services right in my mother's arms. But as I grew older, I lost it.

I thank God for my parents who did not relent in their efforts to bring me up in the nurture and admonition of God. They did their best to instill the Word, love and fear of God in my heart while I was still small. I was taken regularly to Sunday School, and sometimes to open air services to recite memory verses and sing songs to my friends' hearing. One of these unforgettable memory verses was **"All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth"**. I thank God that His Word in Proverbs 22:6 was fulfilled in me.

When our Church was suspended, we were kids. God in His infinite mercy and wisdom gave our parents courage, perseverance and wisdom to teach us His Word. Times without number, we were taken into the heart of the forest to seek God's mercy. We were often woken up from our beds in the middle of the night and during the wee hours of the morning for Sunday School teachings and admonitions.

Although I had not gone into outbroken sins, I was a sinner who needed salvation. I knew I needed to be saved, but I was comfortable with the prayers of my parents, especially the Overseer, who was my uncle. Incidentally, in 1982, while my uncle was going to Lagos, Nigeria for camp meeting, God called him to Glory.

It was a bitter pill for me to swallow at such a tender age. Thank God that his tragic death did not send me away

from God rather it united me to Him. I made up my mind to pray through to salvation in order to see my beloved uncle again. God saved me a few months after the incident. One night, when Brother Thomas Ekane came to visit us, as he was talking to me, God fixed my eyes on an inscription in an almanac that said: "Jesus is Coming Soon". It seemed the word came from the lips of Jesus in the almanac. As the words re-echoed in my ears, my heart melted. I went to my room and knelt down in front of my small bed, pleading for God's mercy. Within 15 minutes, God saved, sanctified and baptised me with the Holy Ghost. This happened 22 years ago.

Two years later, we, the children born in the Gospel, felt an urge to talk to God about the restoration of the Church in Cameroon. We had the yearning to worship God, but there was no church where we could pour out our hearts to Him. We chose the long vacation period for prayers and none of us went out for holidays.

As we talked to God, He also talked to us and granted our request. God is ever faithful to His Word. Today, Cameroon is enjoying once more the freedom of worship.

Satan was not happy with our move. A few months after the restoration of the Church, as five of us went to pray, *Gendarmes* came, arrested and jailed us for five days. In the jail, God gave me a song:

*"In the days of early youth, none can help like Jesus,
He will give you sweetest rest,
All who trust in Him are blessed,
None can help like Jesus, no! None like Jesus"*

With these words we were strengthened. As if that were not enough, I was falsely charged to court for not having an identity card. God discharged and acquitted me. Since Jesus saved me, He has been everything to me. He healed me from paralysis and eye problem. Despite my not having parents, He saw me through my education up to the University level, and gave me a job in a wonderful way.

Like Paul, I say: 'What will separate me from the love of God'. Satan may fight, I am persuaded that God is able to keep that which I have committed unto Him against that day. I love Jesus and I owe Him the balance of my life.

Sengue Epie Martha
Douala, Cameroon

IDOLATER FINDS JESUS



I thank God for His love to me. I really appreciate God for the marvelous things He did in my life. I was a rotten sinner, but while in sin, the Helper of the help-

less came and pulled me out. Many people testify of having Christian parents who brought them up in a godly way, but my case was different. My father was an idolatrous man and he quickly introduced me to his cult when I was about 15 years old. I grew up to believe that unless one became a member of the cult, one could not be great in life.

It was while in that way of life, that I met ministers of God from The Apostolic Faith, They shared with me the Word of God which I had never heard before. One of the ministers who befriended me, told me to pray for the salvation of my soul. One day, this man invited me to a service in The Apostolic Faith Church. After the service, I prayed, confessed my sins and asked for mercy. Immediately, God saved my soul. He also sanctified and baptised me with the Holy Ghost and fire.

God later led me to make some restitution. After my salvation, the first thing God brought to my mind was the money I stole from the purse of one man in our village. I went to the man and told him that I used to steal money from his purse and that he should forgive me. The money amounted to about 5 Cameroonian shillings. The man did not hesitate to laugh and tell me that I had been forgiven. I went home rejoicing and praising God. God has also delivered me from several accidents. I give Him the rest of my life.

Nduge Emmanuel Nkwelle
Ngusi-Tombel, Cameroon

SUPERINTENDENT-GENERAL VISITS NIGERIA

The Superintendent-General of The Apostolic Faith world-wide, Brother Darrel D. Lee with his wife Debbie, and Brother and Sister Cliff Paulsen, arrived Nigeria on February 10, 2005. Apart from Lagos Headquarters where they were thrilled to an evening of music, they also visited Jos; Abuja, the Federal capital; Ikot Enwang; Aba; Port Harcourt; Ibadan and Abeokuta. Services were held in most of these locations. The team departed for the USA on February 24.



Apostolic Faith Secondary School students, welcoming the visitors



The Executive Secretary to the NUC, Professor Peter Okebukola with the Lees at Crawford University, Faith City, Igbesa



With saints in Lagos



... and Port Harcourt



Attend camp meeting at:

Kinshasa, Congo - June 26-July 17

London, UK—July 23—31

Portland, Oregon, USA—July 3—17

Faith City, Nigeria—July 31— Aug. 21