

## News Update – Easter 2008



Dear Friends,

I hope this letter finds you well and that you are resting well in the wonderful love of our Lord and Savior. Much activity has surrounded Grace and Light this last month, and are in continual need of your prayers for our ministry.

As the ministry has grown larger, our difficulties and responsibilities have increased as well. The extent of our HIV testing has increased significantly after we decided to give free testing to the churches on Sundays. This decision was reached because there are many organizations testing today unlike when we began and a lot of people would rather go to a distant area and have their test done with more in transportation than give a token to do at their door step. These days when we share vision, most of the congregation would participate in the testing. Praise the Lord for so many opportunities to share his love and mercy with others. Please pray for us however, that our resources would be enough to provide for our increased need of supplies and staff/volunteers.

We are also beginning to face difficulties in relation to hospital referral for our participants that have tested positive. Some medical centers have begun to resent the large amount of patients that we refer to them for confirmatory testing and medical consultation. Please pray that the Lord would soothe the difficulties in this area. However, may his name be praised for the growth that our ministry has seen so far, and once again, your prayers and support are greatly appreciated.

From the 14<sup>th</sup> to the 17<sup>th</sup> of February we were in Katsina-ala in Benue state training volunteers which turned out to be quite successful. I give you my sincerest thanks for all your prayers, as God's goodness has been evidenced through this training. 29 new volunteers were trained and that Sunday we were able to share vision in two churches. Out of which around 150 tested, 8 were positive. Please keep those people in your prayers, as it is always difficult to discover one's positive status.

Our expatriate volunteers are settling in well, and both Monica and Chris joined us in our ministry to Katsina-ala. Two more new volunteers from Canada (Janina) and UK (Hannah) arrived on the 14<sup>th</sup> February and 2<sup>nd</sup> March respectively. Janina is a recent college graduate and will be staying with us for 13 months total until next March; Hannah is a student and will be with us for the Month of March. We thank the Lord sincerely for providing us with such talented interns to work with Grace & Light. Pray for their safety and productivity.

We seem to always keep busy here no matter what time of the year, and this March we have many plans already lined up; this includes monitoring visits which will be made around Nigeria, in house-training, Prayer meetings are also a continuing monthly occurrence please allow me to remind you how important it is to join in your own local prayer meetings if you are around a team, Organizational Development (OD) evaluation is another event coming up this March, we couldn't hold our Annual General Meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup> March because of the Local Government elections in Plateau State, we are planning and praying towards 5<sup>th</sup> April, 2008.

Please pray that the Lord will provide for all our needs financially so that we may continue to minister to those that are in need of Christ's tender love and care through the ministry of HIV.

May I leave you now with God's blessings as we each continue to pursue God's purpose in life, and may we all bask in the comfort of his unfailing love.

Much Love in Christ

Tassie Ghata  
Coordinator  
Grace and Light International Ministry