

## News Update – February 2008



Dear Friends

I am very sorry for the silence which does not mean we are idle or you have been forgotten. You are very much in my thought and prayers for many of you. As I have been saying I will continue to say, thank you so much for being there for us through the years by praying and supporting us in different ways. Our plan of action last year was achieved. We were able to touch lives despite our limitations on what we think are challenges as you know.

Something happened at the end of the year which, although a sad situation, brought some praises to the Lord. One of our members was to marry a week after, when we went to their Church for a repeat visit and the lady decided to test again with the young man (groom) whom according to him had tested negative earlier, she tested negative but unfortunately the man tested positive. The wedding was postponed till "further notice" for both to decide what is best for them but a lot of the people who knew praised the Lord. We have continued to be in contact with the Man as a follow up counseling.

The best part of our work is sitting down with people every Sunday in counseling to share their lives and see them turn around with excitement for God as a result of test carried out or because one has shared the true meaning of life in Christ. In the past year we were able to do that with 11,240 people testing for HIV and 9,824 shared their results in openness and joined the life sharing groups (accountability) in our church branches (264) where 332 tested positive to HIV and have lead them to further checks in hospitals and /or HIV drugs. May His name be praised.

Thank you for praying for my trip in January to UK. It was a good experience speaking to pupils of Oakham School and to answer those questions that seemed easy but difficult at the same time.

We remain grateful to the Chevertons who introduced Grace & Light there and the Chaplains – Alex and John who agreed with the arrangements.

After that I had a beautiful break at the home of Chris and Sandra Lemming (Yorkshire) with few meetings. It was a blessing to me.



Our work plan this year is full and we have started working already; some activities done were all night Team leaders meeting where we brought all the leaders of the different teams from 15 States in Nigeria to the head office in Jos for a meeting, the Auditing of our Accounts was just concluded, we had Pastors/Action Committee workshop too. We have also done some ministry monitoring visits to some teams, and many other in-house things. We are blessed with 2 expatriate Volunteers from USA, Christine and Monica. They have already started; please pray that they will settle in easily and find their time with us productive. We will be traveling to Katsina-ala in Benue State to train a volunteer Team from the 14<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> of this Month; pray that God will raise men after His heart and also for journey mercies.

To many, the end of last year has not been that sweet, for some, the beginning of this year is not that sweet either. Please allow me to conclude by these encouraging words by Ruth Moyer Gilmour "when all seems lost and the future dim, the Lord will help just turn to Him; when dreams are gone and you can't cope, God's endless love will give you hope; He knows your needs he will show the way to meet your problem day by the day; just let Him in His light shine through; trust in God, He's always there to hold you in His loving care."

In His Love,

Tassie Ghata  
Grace and Light International