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The Ghana Report

Dewayne D. Davenport

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the Ghana Report

"The Gospel for Ghana"

earth. 19 ¶ Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit: 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.

The Ghana Mission
Dewayne Davenport, Missionary
Madison Church of Christ
Madison, Tennessee

GHANA REPORT

Vol. IV

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No. 6

A HISTORY OF THE GHANA MISSION WORK



On August 31, 1961, the Davenports and Reynolds left Philadelphia, the plane heading for Ghana. These missionaries were the first resident missionaries of the Church of Christ to enter Ghana.



"Dewayne Davenport in native cloth and sandals."

"Jane Davenport in native cloth-Name of Cloth, "Oh tree, you have killed my brother."

Following is a brief history of the work in Ghana since the arrival of the Davenports and the Reynolds.

We began by advertising the church and our first meeting in the newspaper. Also, thousands of handbills were passed out to announce our first meeting at the YMCA in Kumasi. Not many people came to the "Y" and it was soon decided to move from the "Y."

All the time we have been distributing literature and the tract, "Back To The Bible," had come to the hands of a preacher in Old Tafo and his friend Joseph Owusu. After study Owusu was baptized and the first congregation in Kumasi began meeting at Old Tafo. The church has grown numerically and spiritually. They partially support their preacher.

In November a contact of the late John Gaidoo came to visit us. He was Samuel Young who was working with the Department of Agriculture in the Eastern Region. Young became our first convert in Ghana and upon going back to his town he established a congregation in his town immediately. Thus Oworobong and Old Tafo became our first two churches.

By December of 1961 we had baptized around 25 people. In December Bro. B. O. Samuel, a Ghanaian preacher, who had been studying in the Bible School at Ukpong, Nigeria, returned to Ghana to help in the work. We now had a full-time interpreter and the work began to grow more rapidly. Also, in the first year Isaac Gaidoo, son of the late Bro. John Gaidoo was baptized.

In January of 1962, the second Kumasi congregation was established at Amakom. The month of February saw the opening of the Ghana Bible College at Old Tafo. Since then the College has graduated its first class of six preachers. From Old Tafo the School was moved to Amakom and now the School meets in a house adjoining Bro. Derr's home. The School presents a great opportunity for training the native preachers. The native preachers are the key to the future of the Ghanaian work.

From the very first the Bible Correspondence Course has been operated and has had a large enrollment. Few people have been baptized as a direct result of the course, but thousands have studied from the true Gospel for the first time via the Correspondence Course. We believe that the Word of God will not return void, therefore, we are using every means to get the Word before the people.

By the time our first anniversary in October 1962, there had been 250 baptized. Five or six congregations were also meeting.

One of the most effective tools in the work has been the outdoor preaching. By preaching in the market places, street corners, etc., we have been able to reach over 50,000 in less than three years. People will stand listening for long periods of time and then ask questions. Most of our contacts have come through this method and the Correspondence Courses.

Tracts and leaflets, literally thousands, have been distributed in Ghana. Tracts have a way of never dying and we receive inquiries from all corners of Ghana as a result of a friend passing on a tract.

In July 1963 the Reynolds returned to the States. The Davenports carried on the work alone until September when the Harold Derr family arrived to replace the Reynolds, being supported by the Wilmington Church. We regret that no replacement has volunteered for the Davenports, at present.

One very effective tool has been the Vacation Bible School. Our first Vacation Bible School was conducted in September 1963. There have been three schools and each one a success with an average of over 150 children daily.

A Bible Correspondence Course in Twi, the native language has been completed. It is the first course by any church in the native language. The future looks bright for the church in Ghana. We have five beautiful acres in Kumasi for future buildings when the need and opportunity arrives. The Government has officially recognized us by granting a quota for the missionaries.

During this tour Bro. Davenport has visited six West African Nations other than Ghana. They are: Nigeria, Cameroon, Dahomey, Togo, Ivory Coast and Upper Volta. The prospects are bright for missionary work in all these nations.

All this work for the Lord has been made possible by your support. The Lord willing, and with your help we plan to return to Ghana by July of 1965. Our new address will be: 4101 Cromwell Road, Chattanooga, Tennessee, 37411. Let us hear from you.

Yours in Christ, Dewayne and Jane Davenport

GHANA CONTRIBUTIONS SINCE LAST REPORT

Billy & Freda Webber, Paterson, N. J. ---	9.00	Mrs. Hiram Stubblefield, McM'Ville --	3.00
Ridgedale C of C, Chattanooga, Tenn--	25.00	S/Sgt. L. H. Lang, 2634, S. Fr'isco, Calif.-	3.00
Collingswood C of C, Collinsw'd, N. J.-	90.00	Mrs. Ruth Holmes, Montgomery, Ala.---	3.00
J. W. O'Banion, Swifton, Ark. -----	10.00	Russell Watson, Nashville, Tenn. ----	3.00
Mrs. W. P. Jones, Nashville, Tenn.-----	5.00	Mrs. Lizzie Roney, McM'Ville, Tenn.--	3.00
Floyd & Esther King, Langhorne, Pa. ---	6.00	C. D. Shiplett, St. Louis, Mo.-----	12.50
Carl & Vena Kulp, W, Chester, Pa. -----	15.00	Crowder C of C, Bell City, Mo. -----	25.00
Lynda H. Walker, New Egypt, N. J. -----	3.00	Danny Killian, McM'ville, Tenn. -----	2.00
Mrs. Sam Evans, Decatur, Ala. -----	10.00	Brainerd C of C, Chattanooga, Tenn.---	100.00
Crowder C of C, Bell City, Mo. -----	25.00	Ch. of Christ, Box 454, Somerset, Pa.--	9.00
E. J. Alexander, Trion, Ga.-----	1.00	Walcott C of C, Paragould, Ark. -----	10.00
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Hallie Mitchell, College -----	3.00	Liberty C of C, Hope Hull, Ala. -----	25.00
Jno. W. Nute, Stewart AFB, N. Y. -----	3.00	East Lake C of C, Chattanooga, Tenn.--	25.00
Ola Thornthwaite, Huntsville, Ala.-----	3.00	Mr. & Mrs. H. C. Furline, Nashville, Tenn.	6.00
Westwood C of C, McM'ville, Tenn.---	50.00	Highland Gardens C of C, Montg'ry, A.	25.00
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Mr. & Mrs. D. E. Daugherty, H'tsv'ille, Ala.	12.00	Mrs. Bessie S. Colville, McM'ville, T.-	5.00
J. L. Chambers, McM'Ville, Tenn.-----	3.00	Floyd & Esther King, Langhorne, Pa. ---	9.00
Lee W. Reid, Scranton, Pa. -----	3.00	Ola Thornthwaite, Huntsville, Ala. ---	3.00

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