

GATEWAY INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS REPORT

“A Passion for Souls”

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Pastor Israel Conducting a Large Baptismal Service
In Lake Kivu In The DR Congo



Dear Beloved GIMI Friends and Team Members,

Blessed early summer greetings to you in the precious name of Jesus! I pray that as this year seems to be moving by so quickly, that you are enjoying your relationship with Jesus, and that you are faithfully serving Him wherever you are. I believe every born-again child of God should understand that after we get saved, it is God's will that He be first in our lives. In other words, we need to come to grips with the seriousness of understanding why God saved us through His death, burial, and resurrection. He did not save us just to go to heaven when we die. He saved each of us to find or discover His perfect will for our lives. When we do find His perfect will, and we begin to live and walk in it, we will discover that God's plan for all of us is to do what Jesus said in **Matthew 6:33**, where He told His disciples and us today the following words; **"But seek ye first the Kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things will be added unto you."** Today, as I was looking through my Bible for some wonderful words for our newsletter, I saw another

verse that is so very important to every one of us who is genuinely saved. These words are found in **Luke 2:49**, **"And He said unto them, how is it that ye sought me? Did you not know that I must be about my Father's business?"** These are profound words coming from the lips of our Savior, and especially because His parents had brought Him to Jerusalem at the age of 12 to dedicate Him to God, which would have been a lasting vow of thanksgiving and worship. But yet, it is obvious that Mary and Joseph had forgotten that He came to fulfill the promise of the coming Messiah, and therefore, just as the time for their young boy came to be dedicated to God for His upcoming 33 plus years of ministry while here on earth, His parents had forgotten that the Angel Gabriel had even told them that Jesus would be the Messiah. It is very clear that Mary and Joseph had gone up to Jerusalem with the right motive to dedicate Jesus to God, and to fulfill God's promise that when He had been dedicated to God for His upcoming ministry, He would be serving in obedience to His Father's plan and purpose for His ministry.



GIMI Pastor Israel sharing Jesus and gifts with refugee children in the war-torn DR Congo.

Then, after 33 ½ years of earthly living and work, He would ultimately die on the cross for the sins of the entire world, and then rise from the dead to bring eternal life to every born-again believer. His parents were doing what the Jewish Law required, but in just about 21 years from the age of 12, Jesus would die on the cross and arise from the grave. You see folks, the purpose for Jesus to leave heaven and come down to earth to die in the place of every sinner was to be about God the Father's business. Can I tell you readers something? This same Jesus came to seek and to save those who are lost (**Luke 19:10**). Therefore, we will never be more like Jesus than when we are going after the lost in order to see them get saved. This is what GIMI is all about! Every believer should desire to be just like Jesus. And, if we do this, our primary reason for being here on earth, is to follow Jesus in having a life of worship and praise, and to go after lost souls to rescue them from the devil's hell! Now, I would like

to ask you dear GIMI Team members a couple precise questions. First, do you know for certain that you are indeed saved? Secondly, if you know for sure that you are saved, then the main thing in your life is to put everything else behind, and to follow Jesus' command to go after every lost soul. Thirdly, you will never reach the plan or purpose for your life, which God has created you for, until you are totally or completely surrendered to Jesus. If you are not there by now, let me beg every one of you Christian believers to stop reading this article and get with Jesus and report for duty! If you will do this, you will then be in God's army, not on the back pew of the church! I pray that we all will totally surrender to God to fulfill His perfect will for our lives. If we fail in finding God's will for our lives, we will never find out why we are even here on this earth, or why God even created us!

The Fields Continue To Be White Unto Harvest For GIMI!

Beloved brothers and sisters, every time I write my articles for our newsletter, I truly get broken, and sometimes shed tears due to what God has chosen to do through this small ministry in the past 24 years. Without a doubt, God has His hand upon the way we do missions, how we gather the harvest, and so many other areas where we are witnessing Him move majestically in our 12 countries in Africa, through our radio ministry in Africa and in America, and especially, through our ministry in the prisons and schools. I know that sometimes our readers don't believe the huge results we are telling that is happening every month, but we do our best to follow up on all of the people who have asked Jesus to come into their hearts. Of course, as I have told you before, in the parable of the sower there were four kinds of soil mentioned in the parable, but only one kind was genuine. So, based upon this, we probably are seeing some that make professions of faith, but their decision is not genuine. And of course, as I always say, "probably only one fourth of church members are genuinely saved people. Therefore, just like in the Bible preaching churches, we continue to preach the Gospel of our Lord Jesus. But, all of the work in the churches is done by only about 25% of the people. Beloved GIMI Team members, we must keep going on to present the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ to as many people as possible, even if many of the decisions are not real. As one great leader here in America used to say, "it is only our responsibility to present the Gospel in the power of the Holy Spirit, and leave the results to God." No greater statement could ever be said than this statement. Thus, we must move on with the proclamation of the Gospel to win as many people as possible here just before the time when Jesus is coming again! **As I have told you before, during the past 24 years since my wife and I took over this ministry, we have shared the Gospel with over 36 million people, with just over 6.5 million of these people making first-time professions of faith in our Lord Jesus. And beloved team members, I know you will rejoice with us in knowing that from January-March of this year, we have been able to share the Gospel with over 339,876 people. And from these large numbers, just over 76,092 people have made their first-time professions of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ! Could you please join us in saying, "Praise God, Hallelujah to our Lord Jesus Christ, and Amen! Amen!**

Are You Presently Living In The Perfect Will Of God?

Beloved brothers and sisters in Christ, "what is your answer to this question?" I have been in fulltime Christian ministry for many years. I have been the pastor of several thousand people in eleven churches. Therefore, I think I might have the credentials to make a very strong statement of truth concerning what I am about to share with you. During all of these years as a pastor, evangelist, teacher, and missionary, the major absence that I see in most all of our churches is that almost all professing believers never find the "Lost Treasure Of God's Perfect Will" for their individual lives. It seems to me as an older pastor that very few people are ever searching for God's Perfect Will for their lives, simply because they live in fear that they are not equipped to surrender to God's perfect will, and then, they are not ready to make the will of God their primary emphasis in their lives. To illustrate this, many years ago, I was called to pastor a church in Lynchburg, Virginia near Liberty University. During our four years at that church, we had at least 15 young men that surrendered to the ministry, and started their education to prepare them to take the Gospel to the lost world. But pay attention, to my knowledge, there were only two of the fifteen young men that ever became a fulltime servant of God. And, having talked to all of these young ministry candidates, I believe the reason that almost all of them did not make it to fulltime Christ ministry was because they could not say for sure that God had called them, and, that they were living in the perfect will of God.

Then, let me tell you that not only did I see 15 young men struggling to find the perfect will of God for their lives in the Lynchburg church, but down through my years, I have witnessed another large number of "preacher wantabees," who were never ready to find the perfect will of God for their lives, and then pay the price to get the training, to grow and develop, to put Jesus on the throne in their hearts, and be willing to give up many worldly enticements. Then also, I cannot tell you how many young "preacher wantabees," that I have seen who started to find God's perfect will and surrender everything to Him, but their wives stepped in and hindered the husband from going through with the call of God. Personally, I know of a large number of these "preacher wantabees," that are just obeying the desires of their wives, instead of the desires of the Lord for surrendering to Jesus, and then, paying the price to sacrifice many things in order to surrender to the call of God. So, my beloved GIMI Team Members, I am going to include in this newsletter my manuscript sermon on how any truly saved person, man or woman, can discover the perfect will of God for his or her life, and then go on and surrender to the total call of God forever. If you might happen to be one of these people who is running from the perfect will of God, and also, the call of God, I hope God will use this written sermon to help guide you to a life of fulfillment, peace, fruitfulness, and, that you will have on your heart what Jesus has on His **(Luke 19:10)**

"Finding The Lost Treasure Of God's Perfect Will"

"An Expository Study From The Book Of Romans"

Scripture: Romans 12:1-2



Introduction

Have you ever dreamed of going treasure hunting? Have you ever thought about what it would be like if you or one of your family members discovered a lost treasure and suddenly got rich? Well, I am not sure that I have ever dreamed much about a sudden discover of lost treasure, but I can honestly tell you that just over 52 years ago I was diligently seeking the lost treasure of God's perfect will for my life, and with the precious illumination of the Holy Spirit of God's Word, counsel from godly men and women, and with the special support from JoAnne whom I had just married, I discovered the remarkable treasure of God's perfect will for my life and future ministry serving God. It was truly a scary thing for this young eighteen-year-old young man with very little spiritual guidance and almost no mentoring to actually believe that God's perfect will for my life was to preach the Word of God and to take the Good News of the Gospel to a lost world. I almost shiver even now when I think about where I was when God showed me the treasure of spending my entire life serving Him. I would never have believed that God's will was to help proclaim the Gospel of the Kingdom to the lost world, but truthfully, this discovery in my life could only be placed third in value in line behind my personal salvation and the discovery of my sweet wife JoAnne. I must tell you that these past many years of faithfully trying to serve Christ in His work have been remarkable years in spite of the many hardships and difficulties. Yet, as ever treasure hunter will tell you, it is not always easy and the job of treasure hunting requires a huge amount of patience and an enormous amount of hard work. But we know that when we finally find the treasure so sought after and longed for, the effort will be rewarded with what we find in the treasure.

In **Matthew 13:44**, we find these wonderful words. **"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth**

that field." In this parable our Lord gave, this man that found the hidden treasure in the field, covered the treasure back up and went just as quickly as he could to sell everything he owned in order to get the money to purchase the field where he discovered the treasure. In other words, he was willing to give up everything in order to find and enjoy an even greater treasure.

May I say to you that this should be the attitude of every born-again child of God. We must be ready to sell all and get rid of everything we might own in order to find the treasure of God's perfect will for our lives. This will probably require us to give up stuff, turn away from many of our worldly attachments, sever ties with friends and probably even some family members, and pursue the will of God for our lives to the extent that when we find this awesome treasure given by our awesome God, we will be ready to surrender our lives totally to His will, give what He wants us to give, go where He wants us to go, and sacrificially leave everything else to live in the perfect will of God.

But, How Do We Discover the Treasure Of God's Perfect Will?

Well, my friends, I am so happy you asked this question because I know God is more ready to show us His perfect will than we are to pay the price to find and fulfill the perfect will of God for our lives. There are no short cuts, no roads without curves and bumps, and no easy way to get in the will of God and then, stay there. But, finding the will of God and living there the best you can every day of your life is the greatest and most peaceful thing that any human being could ever achieve. So now, I want to share with you some Biblical steps to finding God's perfect will, and then in living in His will every day of your life. Will you come treasure hunting with me right now? I surely hope you will, and if so, you will be richly blessed!

Let's Look at The Plan to Discover the Treasure!

When Paul the Apostle wrote the letter to the Romans, he had never been to Rome. It is believed he was in Corinth on this third stop there when he wrote the Roman believers. It is truly believed that Paul wrote this letter to encourage the suffering and persecuted believers who were facing many unbelievable trials and even martyrdom. In the first half of the sixteen chapters Paul talks about the believers' position and possessions in Christ. These chapters are some of the greatest inspired words in all of the Bible describing most all of the Bible doctrines of the Christian faith. The last eight chapters of this doctrinal treatise, Paul explicitly shared the believer's responsibilities as born-again children of God. He goes so far as to tell the Roman Christians that the only way they would be able to endure the persecution and suffering they were going through was to discover God's perfect will for their lives and live everyday carrying out that will. They would indeed suffer and may even be killed. But, if they had perfect peace in their hearts because they were in the will of God, they could face whatever they had to face.

I must tell you today that like Paul's instructions for the Romans, the only way for us modern believers to have peace, joy, longsuffering, gentleness, self-control, love, moderation in behavior and patience is to find the treasure of God's perfect will for our lives and then, live in His will as long as we live and until He calls us home to heaven or comes in the rapture. Also, there will be no personal fulfillment in the Christian life if we try to live outside the will of God. And, I need to tell you that after serving Jesus for over 52 years in full-time Christian service, I must confess that I see very few believers in the modern church who show much evidence of living and serving in God's perfect will. I do want to tell you that it is my sincere desire that this written manuscript sermon might be very effective of causing you readers to seek and find the treasure you are looking for.

The Scripture for this study is **Romans 12:1-2**, which explicitly states, **"I beseech ye therefore; brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God."** In all the thousands of sermons which I have preached in hundreds of churches and places of ministry, I have probably preached these two verses more than any other text. And thank God, I can readily attest that I have seen more people come to Christ and get their lives changed through this passage of Scripture more than any of the other hundreds of passages I have preached and taught. Therefore, I believe these short two verses are some of the most important verses in the Word of God. You might say that these two verses which provide three basic steps for discovering the perfect will of God are the verses which God wants to use to change all of our lives for Him and toward Him. So my friends, let me admonish you the readers to please pay attention to the following main three principles which are the beginning steps to discovering God's treasure of His perfect will for our lives. Now, let's carefully look at these steps to finding God's perfect will.

I. THE FIRST REQUIRED STEP IS PERSONAL PRESENTATION. v. 1

It won't be but a couple months before we celebrate Christmas once again. Every year at Christmas we ponder the best present and gift that was ever given to humanity, and that of course was our Lord Jesus Christ. And too, we usually concern ourselves with giving a lot of presents to our family members and our friends. These gifts are usually given from a heart of love and compassion for those who are to receive them. Therefore, as we move forward with this study of the perfect will of God for our lives, let's meditate upon God's marvelous gift of salvation which Jesus brought down from heaven on that first Christmas morning in the manger. He came down to this earth to give Himself as the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and He most assuredly paid that great blood sacrifice for our redemption when He died on the cross. Then, on the third day He gloriously

arose from the dead to provide eternal life for all of us. Now the question is, "what gift will we give back to Him to show our appreciation for what He did for us?" This is what I want us to think about as we ponder this personal presentation.

A. There are reasons for this presentation. v. 1

1. There is the reason of Divine fellowship.

In beginning of verse one, Paul says, "**I beseech you therefore, brethren.**" What the apostle is saying here is that he desires the Roman Christians to come and stop and pay attention to his words because they are coming from his heart. The word beseech is described in the Greek as a term where two ship captains who notify each other to bring their ship alongside the other close enough for them to talk seriously from one vessel to the other. Paul is almost begging the Romans to listen carefully to His words, and then put into practice this presentation of themselves to Christ.

Paul tells the believers that they are all a part of the same fellowship of God's children, and that they should love one another enough to pay attention to his words because he was appealing to them to do so because Jesus had put them in the same family. You might say that Paul was talking about family or fellowship privileges and responsibilities to give Christ their lives because of the family He had placed them in. So my friends, I am appealing to you in the same family of God to use your position in the fellowship of believers as an impetus to present yourselves completely to Christ. To do otherwise would be a negative expression of ingratitude to Him for what He has done for you.

2. There is the reason of Divine favor.

In the second part of verse one, Paul says the following. "**.....by the mercies of God.**" This statement revealed to the Romans and to us today is that we have been Divinely favored by God. This means that we have been given the freedom from hell because of the extended mercies of God revealed at Calvary. And because of God's wonderful mercy and amazing grace, we should voluntarily present our lives totally and completely to Jesus because of our love for and our appreciation to Him. May I say that surely, it is only reasonable that we do this because He gave us the best gift ever, Himself!

B. There are rules for this presentation.

As we look further into verse one, we see that Paul tells the Roman believers that there are some rules that must be followed in the presentation of ourselves to Christ. Of course, I know that most people are so self-sufficient that they don't want to hear anything about rules and regulations, especially if they come from somebody else. Yet, Paul says that every believer has a God-given plan for the way we give God our lives as His gift. Let's look at this plan.

1. First, there must be a peculiar presentation.

The next part of this wonderful verse tells us that in order to discover the perfect will of God for one's life, this person must initially give himself or herself to Christ in a peculiar way. This gift starts at the moment a person gets saved and gives his or her heart to the Savior by child-like faith. This is the beginning of an eternal relationship that can never be severed, not even by Satan himself. Yet, multitudes of people who get gloriously saved never reach their God-give potential just simply because they never discover the treasure of God's perfect will. So, my friends, have you presented your life, body, soul, and spirit, to the Lord Jesus Christ resulting in your salvation? If you have not, then you will never be able to find God's will or purpose for your life. Please get saved, even today as you read this article.

And, I must mention one more thing. We need to emphatically remember that genuine salvation is not the result of mentally believing in or embracing the concept that God exists. Many people seem to believe this today, but they have in fact never prayed to receive Christ personally and transformationally. They just believe that because they embrace the idea that God does exist and He is the man upstairs that this makes them a Christian. But my friends, this does not bring salvation. Salvation begins with a spiritual new birth when a person puts their faith and trust in Christ, repent of their sins, and is transformed by the Holy Spirit. After this experience, then there will be a change in direction as the result of repentance. We must make sure that we have the real thing and not be a religious phony.

2. Second, there must be a priestly presentation.

In the second part of verse one, Paul tells the Roman believers that they must present their bodies as a living sacrifice to Christ if they are going to discover the perfect will of God for their lives. Of course, most of us know that in the Bible days, it was the priest who offered up the sacrifices unto Jehovah God in the Tabernacle and then later in the Temple. In order for these sacrifices made by the priests to be acceptable unto God, they had to be without blemish and prepared according to God's prescribed conditions for the sacrifices. Any sacrifice or offering that was not prepared and offered in the way God had demanded was not accepted by God. Yet, all of us should know that our Lord Jesus Christ later became the perfect sacrifice for us as sinners in fulfillment of these prototype sacrifices made in the Tabernacle and Temple. There was no need to question the perfection or condition of Jesus being the acceptable sacrifice to God the Father on our behalf. Why? Because He was the sinless perfect son of God Who had come down to this earth voluntarily to pay our sin debt. The major difference was that every year in the month of October, the High Priest of Israel had to offer another sacrificial animal without blemish in order to purchase the atonement (covering) for sin for another year. But we know that when the perfect son of God died the sacrificial death for our sins, it was a once and forever act of consecration.

Therefore, when we get saved by God's grace through faith and repentance, we must daily present our lives to Christ

through sacrificial surrender of our lives to Him. This sacrificial act requires us to die to sin and to self, and give Jesus first place in our lives. Then, as we become more and more dedicated to Christ, the easier it is for us to discover His perfect will for our lives and ministry. In fact, I believe that it is impossible for a child of God to ever find God's perfect will if there isn't complete and total surrender. And probably the greatest requirement to finding God's perfect will is to deny self and seek only to please Jesus in everything. This may sound utterly ridiculous to some in this modern generation of Christians, but was never ridiculous to the early church.

3. Third, there must be a pure presentation.

The third rule for truly presenting our lives to Christ in order to discover His perfect will for our lives is that we must live a holy life that daily magnifies the Lord and provides a convincing testimony to the world around us. Now, I know that preaching holiness in this modern church age is blasphemous to some of those who have made grace a law unto itself, but the Holy Spirit of God who indwells every believer is not going to illuminate the Word of God and show the believer what God's will is for his or her life if there is not a pure or holy lifestyle. And truthfully, just like the sacrifice in Bible days when the animal that was sacrificed had to be without blemish, so must our presentation to Christ be as pure and holy as possible. Therefore, we must live a holy lifestyle trying our very best to live without succumbing to temptation from Satan, and we need to remove from our lives any sinful practice and sinful attitude that would negate the influence of God's Holy Spirit within us. The Bible calls this "grieving the Holy Spirit".

So now, let me ask you, "Do you want to discover God's perfect will for your life?" If so, you must make the sacrifice of giving up and refraining from anything that is impure in thought or practice. I must tell you that if you do clean up your life and begin to practice holiness, you will experience the sweet presence of the Holy Spirit, and you will be enlightened to new and wonderful things about God's will for your life. And, once you discover the perfect will of God, this new treasure will bring joy and fulfillment, which you have never experienced before. In other words, there is no happier or more fulfilled life than living in God's perfect will.

4. Fourth, there must be a pleasing presentation.

The last part of this glorious verse tells us that if we want to truly bring pleasure to the heart of God, we must present our bodies, souls, and spirits to Him in complete surrender. And, we need to understand that to do less will never be accepted or even tolerated by our Lord. I am not talking here about positional acceptance because in **Ephesians 1:6**, Paul said, **"To the praise of the glory of His grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved."** Thus, we have an accepted position in the family of God, which has been given to us by grace. But we also should be deeply concerned about living such a life of dedication so that our works and actions will be accepted by God. We need to make sure that our works are not hay, wood, and stubble, but instead, that they be works like gold, silver, and precious stones. Therefore, we must always remember that our works will never bring pleasure to the heart of God unless they are the products of a life totally and completely presented to Christ as a gift. What about it friends? Are your works pleasing unto God? If not, today would be the right time to present your life of works totally and completely surrendered to Jesus.

II. THE SECOND REQUIRED STEP IS A PATTERNED SEPARATION. v. 2a

As we continue this study on discovering the treasure of the perfect will of God, we come to the first part of verse two which provides for us the second required step to find God's will for our lives. This requirement is the step of a patterned separation. Please pay attention to the first part of this verse. Here is what Paul stated to the Roman believers. **"And be not conformed to this world:"** The word "conformed" in Strong's Concordance is defined as someone aligning their character, their mind, or their behavior to the pattern set by another. Of course, what Paul is telling us is that if we are really saved, then we should not allow others to demand that we follow their worldly examples and habits, but instead, we are to align our lives with the pattern set by our Lord Jesus Christ. In other words, we are to come out from the world and be separated as progressively sanctified saints, and we are to dedicate ourselves to righteous and holy living. So, in order for us to be separated (not isolated) from the world, we are to make the necessary changes by doing voluntarily and willfully the two following things. Let's take a close look at these two following ingredients for living a life of Biblical separation.

A. This separation demands a rejection of worldly pressure.

Being separated from the pressure of the world means exactly like Jesus prayed for His disciples in His great Lord's Prayer in **John 17:15**. Pay attention to this wonderful verse. **"I pray not that thou should take them out of the world, but that thou should keep them from the evil."** Jesus was saying that He wanted His Heavenly Father to protect His disciples and yes, even us today from the pressure of Satan and his followers who constantly try so hard to get us to conform to their sinful ways. Read the following verses from **I John 2:15-17**, wherein John admonished the early believers to live their lives in such a separated way that they can influence others to follow Christ, but not allow the world to mold them. Here are these marvelous verses. **"Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world is passing away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of**

God abides forever."

These three verses remind us that just as Jesus was tempted in these same three ways, we are to follow His pattern and say no to Satan and the world, and keep ourselves clean and holy before the Lord. In other words, we are to live in the world but not of the world. Thus, we are not to allow this world and its system to control or pressure our lives. Instead, we are to be insulated from the world by the word of God and the indwelling Holy Spirit, and we are not to allow the world to pressure us to follow its patterns in any part of our lives.

So, the first question we should ask before we say anything, do anything, and before we make any decision, is simply, "What would Jesus have me to do in this matter?" We should only live as Christ would have us live, and His will should take precedence in the recreation we involve ourselves, the places we go, the clothing that we wear, the conduct of our bodies, the things we purchase, etc. The point is that if we are truly seeking to find or discover God's perfect will, then we must seek His will first and foremost before we ever do anything. It will not be difficult to discover God's perfect will for your life and ministry if Jesus is the One you consult and not the world. Now, the question I want to ask is, "Who determines the decisions you make, the world or our wonderful Lord Jesus?" Surely you know!

B. This separation demands a re-alignment with Godly principles.

The second point of this patterned separation is that we must carefully realign our lives with the principles of God's Word, and we must rearrange our lives until Christ and spiritual principles take precedence in every decision we make, in every deed we perform, and in the priorities we have in our daily lives. When we truly separate ourselves from worldliness in order to live righteously, then life takes on a new meaning, we receive a new peace, and we will experience fulfillment like we have never known before. You might say that when we separate ourselves from the worldly principles, then Jesus enlightens or illuminates God's perfect will for us and we really begin to see what He has in store for us. As I stated in the introduction, when we truly uncover God's perfect will, it will truly seem that we have uncovered a great treasure which we would have never found if we had not decided to align ourselves with Godly principles. Simply put, separation from the world demands that we put many worldly things out of our lives, and in their place we must put the principles of God's Word. When we do this, we will truly remove the dirt from the treasure of God's perfect will!

III. THE THIRD STEP REQUIRED IS A POWERFUL TRANSFORMATION. v. 2b

In the last part of verse two, Paul admonishes the Roman believers to not only separate themselves from the world, but to also allow Jesus to transform our minds until we truly have the mind of Christ. Then, when we have the mind of Christ, it will not be difficult to discern the will of God. As we allow God's Holy Spirit to transform our minds, then we begin to live in such a spiritual way as to give proof by our lifestyles that we surely do belong to Christ. And, when we provide this proof that we are genuinely saved, then we bring pleasure to the heart of God and He is proud to call us His own children by His acceptance. Even if it sounds simplistic, the truth Paul is trying to get across to the Romans is that unless we give validity to our profession by our faithful works and show others that we are truly in Christ, then we will not provide credible evidence that God is our true heavenly Father.

It is very important that we come to understand that no professing child of God will ever be able to discern or discover the perfect will of God for his or her life unless there is a transformation of the mind which makes spiritual matters easy to understand. Now, it is very important that we take a further look at this transformation in order to clearly understand what this powerful transformation is truly all about.

A. This is a miraculous transformation.

I want to share with you that although this transformation refers to a progressive change of a person's mind, we must understand that it begins with an instantaneous born-again experience. Pay attention to the following verse. **"Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new (II Cor. 5:17).** This verse tells us that no transformation can occur until the old person becomes a new person in and through the new birth. Then, when a person gets gloriously saved, then he or she will have a new spiritual nature implanted by the entrance of the Holy Spirit into one's being, and then, instead of just having the old nature of sin which lives to sin, the new nature will make it possible for the Holy Spirit to carry out the process of progressive sanctification which will last until the person goes to heaven, or until the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. This marvelous transformation begins with the miraculous work of Christ in one's life whereby the old person becomes a new creature.

And, I must tell you that when we get the new transformed mind, we still will we retain the old nature which makes us susceptible to temptation. The old nature is not is not eradicated or erased as some modern-day pastors preach and teach, but it will still be inside of us to continually dog us until we are delivered from these sinful bodies. Therefore, we must understand that because of the old fleshly nature, we must continually work on allowing God to transform our minds which started when we first got saved.

B. This is a mental transformation.

I believe it is extremely important to know that what we do in our bodies is the result of what we believe in with our minds. Therefore, this miraculous transformation of our minds, which takes place at the time of our salvation, must continue on through daily presentation of our lives to Christ as I mentioned earlier in this article. At the moment of our salvation, believe it or not, we become saints, which means that we have been redeemed by Jesus through His sacrificial death on the cross, and He has set us apart for Himself from that day on. Thus, we become saints and will continue to become more saintly as our minds become more and more transformed by the work of the Holy Spirit as He illuminates the blessed Word of God. This is why we must daily read and study God's Word in order to become more and more mentally transformed. What we do in our bodies will be determined by what is in our minds. Just stop and think about this!

C. This is a metamorphoses transformation.

The Greek word for transformation is "Metamorphoo" from which we get our word metamorphoses. Those of you who have studied biology should know what this means. It literally means that a person is changed into another form like Jesus was transformed on the Mount of Transfiguration into a person resplendent with a divine brightness (**Matthew 17:2**). In biology this might mean for a plant to change into another form. Sometimes this process is called mutation. Mutation has been defined by Webster's Dictionary as a change in the genes of a plant or animal that causes physical characteristics that are different from what is normal. For instance, a cat might be born with a short tail as the result of mutation. In other words, what is seen on the outside is because of the genetic mutation on the inside.

I believe one of the greatest illustrations ever given of this transformation is the caterpillar and the butterfly. When the caterpillar is hatched from the egg of a moth (butterfly), the larva continues to grow and becomes the worm. Then, the worm grows and eventually weaves a cocoon around itself. And then, through the process of metamorphoses, the worm becomes a beautiful moth or butterfly. In other words, the worm dies and is resurrected a beautifully transformed creature.

This is exactly what must happen to the person who gets saved and, in the process, receives a transformed mind which now is enlightened to spiritual truth from God's Word, whereby before, the person could not even understand the Bible when he or she read it, but now, the truth of God comes to life! Praise the Lord!

So my dear readers, in order for us to be being transformed, there has to be a complete surrender or presentation and a patterned separation. No wonder a person becomes a new creature when this wonderful miraculous process starts with salvation and then continues on until one dies. My questions for you are, "Have you really become a new creature in Christ? And secondly, have you yet discovered the perfect will of God for your life?" If the answer to these questions is no, then you need to go to your pastor and ask his help in coming to know Christ for sure. There will never be transformation until there is salvation.

Conclusion

In coming to the conclusion of this article on "Discovering The Treasure Of The Perfect Will Of God For Your Life," I would like to ask you some questions very pertinent to what we have been discussing. Please pay attention to these questions and see if you need to go back to the time you professed Christ and make sure of your eternal salvation. Please know that the lights will never come on for transformation until you know you are saved for sure!

1. Do you know what the perfect will of God is for your life personally?
2. Are you presently living in the perfect will of God?
3. If you are not living in the perfect will of God, do you know how to discover the perfect will of God for your life and Christian service?
4. Do you parents and grandparents know how to show your children or grandchildren how to discover the perfect will of God for their lives?

If not, I believe you have some work to do lest these precious gifts from God end up in the world lost and wasting their lives. Believe me, I know about wasted lives because I have worked in prisons for over 40 years. Over and over again, I have seen young men and young women who have thrown away their God-given potential just because of some wrong choice or decision. If only they had gotten saved and discovered the treasure of God's perfect will for their lives, they may not have wasted their opportunities to serve God and be fruitful. I plead with everyone reading this article to not make the same mistake. God has a wonderful plan for your life, but this plan will never be discovered until you present your body, soul, and spirit to Jesus. After this, you must separate yourself from the wicked world and live a holy life. When this occurs, then the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit continues to transform the believer's mind until that person thinks like Jesus, acts like Jesus, talks like Jesus, and lives like Jesus totally and completely.

Therefore finally, let's resolve in our hearts that we will be like Jesus and just enjoy the meat of doing the Father's will and completing the work that He has given us to do. Truly, there is no greater way to live with peace and fulfillment than to live in the perfect will of God. If you have not yet found this treasure, let's go forth to do diligent treasure hunting!

Make Your Plans For Our Celebration Banquet Scheduled For Friday evening, June 7, 2024!

Before closing my large article in this edition of our newsletter, I want to extend a personal invitation to all of you faithful prayer warriors and regular contributors to come and attend our 24th year Harvest Banquet and Celebration, scheduled for Friday evening, June 7, 2024. We are really looking forward to a wonderful evening with a delicious dinner, music concert by Brother Wade Spencer, some beautiful songs by Carson and Madison Edwards, and a challenging message from God's Word by Dr. David Gallamore, pastor of the great Rock Springs Baptist Church in Easley, SC. We surely would love to have every one of you attend with your family and friends if it is at all possible.

Last year we had 70 people attend at our headquarters here between Taylorsville and Hickory, NC, near Lake Hickory. This year if we have more than our worship center can accommodate, we will conduct the banquet and special evening at a nearby church. I am praying that we will have the largest attendance that we have ever had down through our 24 years. There is no cost for the meal or celebration. But we must have your name, your address, and the number of people you will bring with you, so that we will know how many meals to provide. Just contact our main office and give your information to T.J. Patton, our new Office Manager. Then too, I want all of you GIMI Board Members to attend the celebration evening, and of course, our annual GIMI Board Meeting on Saturday morning, June 8, 2024, as well. My wife and I really look forward to seeing all of you for the Harvest Celebration, and to seeing all of you GIMI Board Members for the board meeting! If you have any questions, please let us know

Well, I believe that by now, you believe it is time for me to stop writing. Therefore, I am stopping, although I would love to go on writing for a long time to talk about the glorious privilege God has given to my precious wife and me to be a part of this marvelous ministry for so long. Surely, God has had His hand upon this work since its very beginning. And, I pray that He will continue to do so indefinitely! Please know that JoAnne and I love you so very much!!

Still in the King's service,
Dr. Stan Frye
President of GIMI,
Matt. 9:35-38

LOVING GIFTS GIVEN TO GIMI IN HONOR & MEMORY OF OTHERS

IN HONOR OF:

**Tricia Frye-Pastor's Wife Appreciation
Stan and JoAnne Frye
Pam Lance
President Trump
Oma Lee Johnston**

GIVEN BY:

**Tracy & TJ Patton
Michael and Kathy Bowles
Kathleen Karriker
Barbara Cole
Link and Imogene Osborne**

IN MEMORY OF:

**Terry Hedrick
Randall Wood
Brent Sanders
Taffy Norwood**

GIVEN BY:

**Kathy Hedrick
Debra Wood
Billy and Patsy Sanders
Joey and Lissa Holsclaw**



A PASSION FOR SOULS IN CAMEROON



Pastor Emmanuel Serving Food
From GIMI To Cameroon Prisoners



Pastor Emmanuel Sharing the Gospel
With Prisoners in Cameroon



More Prisoners Being Served Food From GIMI



Prisoners In Cameroon Praying
To Receive Christ



Many Humanitarian Items for Prisoners in Cameroon



One of 124 Saved Prisoners Being Baptized in Cameroon



A PASSION FOR SOULS IN CAMEROON



A Huge Amount Of Food From GIMI
For Prisoners in Cameroon



More Inmates Praying To Receive
Jesus In Cameroon



Sister Mary Giving New Testaments
To Prisoners In Cameroon



Bibles From GIMI On Their Way
To Prisoners In Cameroon



Inmates With Many Gifts From GIMI
Praying To Receive Christ In Cameroon



A PASSION FOR SOULS IN CAMEROON



Pastor Emmanuel Sharing Gospel Tracts With Inmates In Cameroon



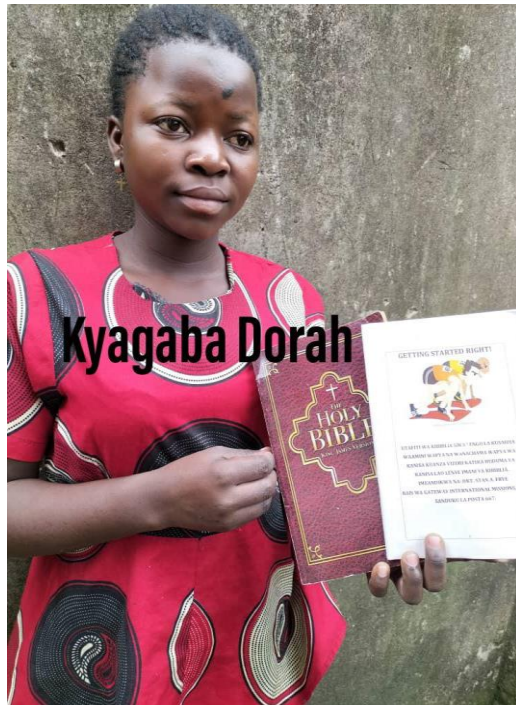
Pastor Emmanuel Praying With More Prisoners To Get Saved In Cameroon



The Prisoners Came For Salvation In A Cameroon Prison

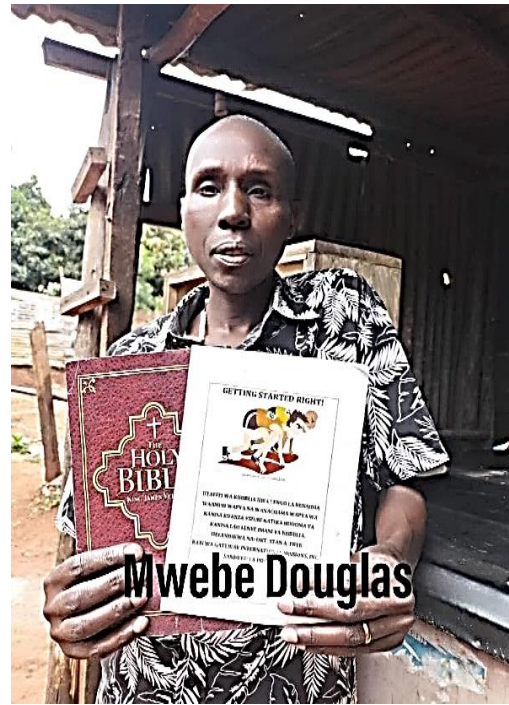


A PASSION FOR SOULS IN UGANDA



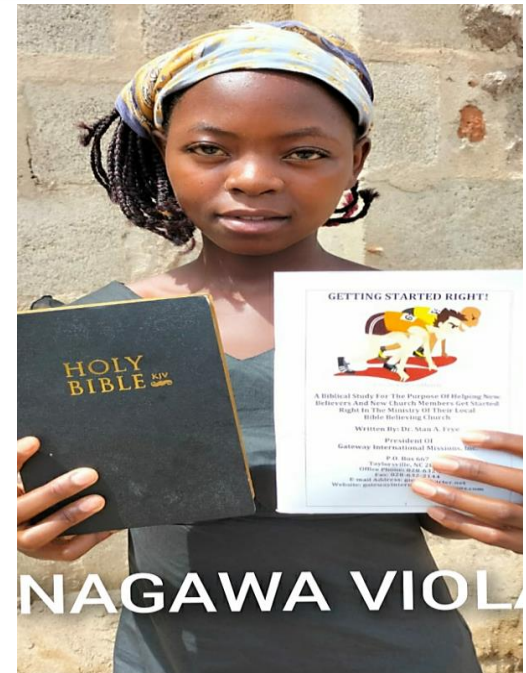
Kyagaba Dorah

Dorah Is Now Saved Through Our GIMI Radio Broadcast In Uganda



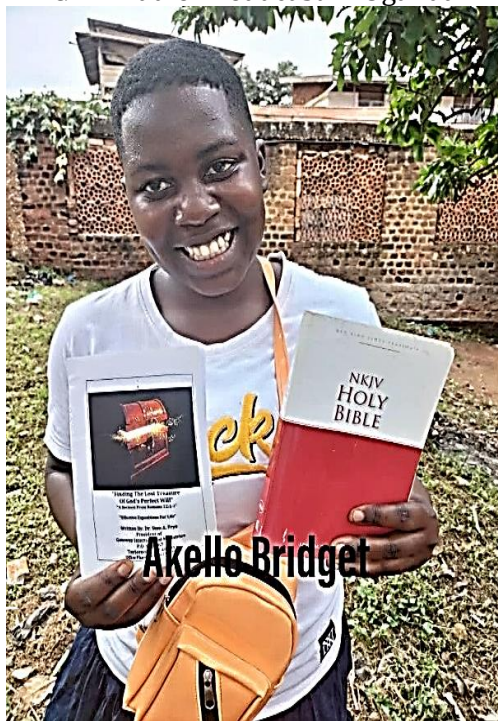
Mwebe Douglas

Douglas Is Now Saved Through Our GIMI Radio Broadcast In Uganda



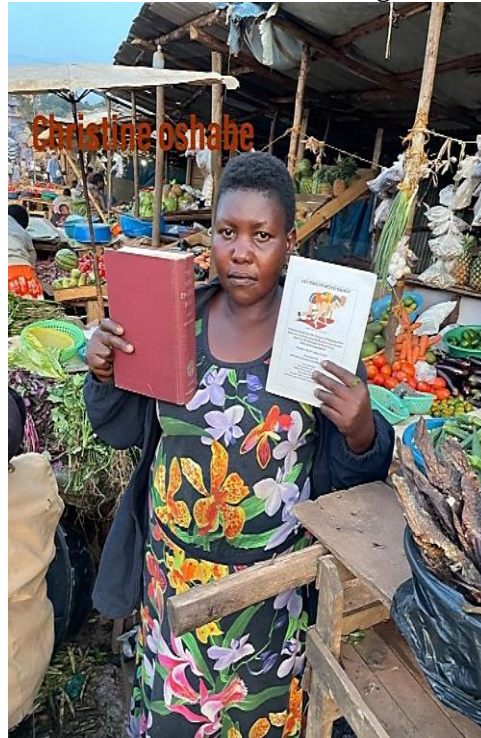
NAGAWA VIOLA

Viola Is Now Saved Through Our GIMI Radio Broadcast



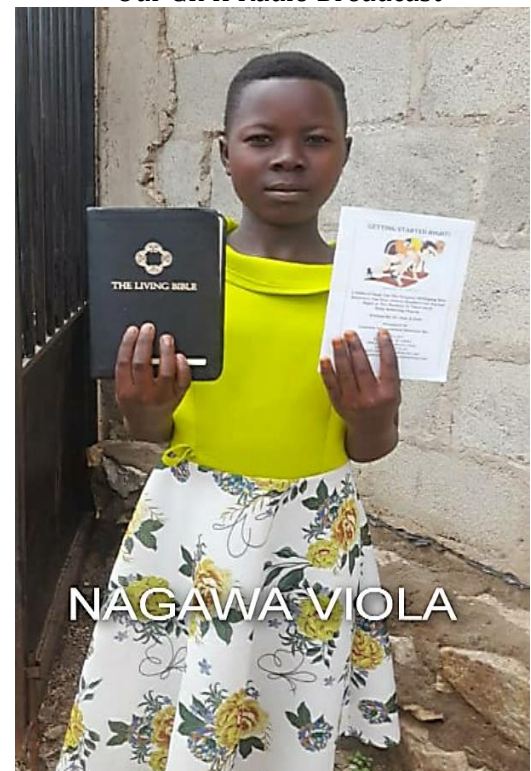
Akello Bridget

Bridget Is Now Saved Through Our GIMI Radio Broadcast In Uganda



Christine Oshabe

Christine Is Now Saved Through Our GIMI Radio Broadcast In Uganda

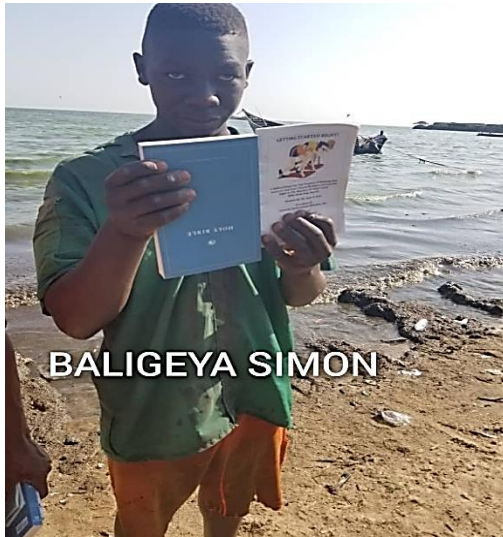


NAGAWA VIOLA

Another Viola Is Saved Through Our GIMI Radio Broadcast In Uganda

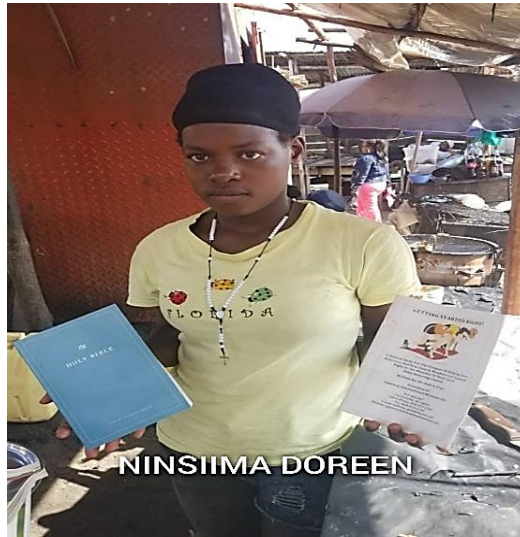


A PASSION FOR SOULS IN UGANDA



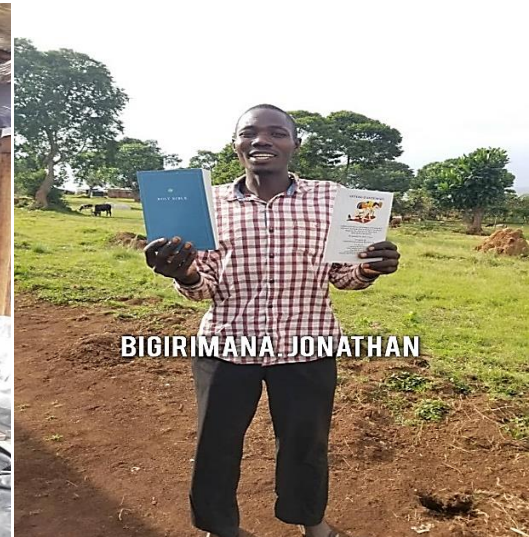
BALIGEYA SIMON

Simon Is Now Saved Through Our
GIMI Radio Broadcast



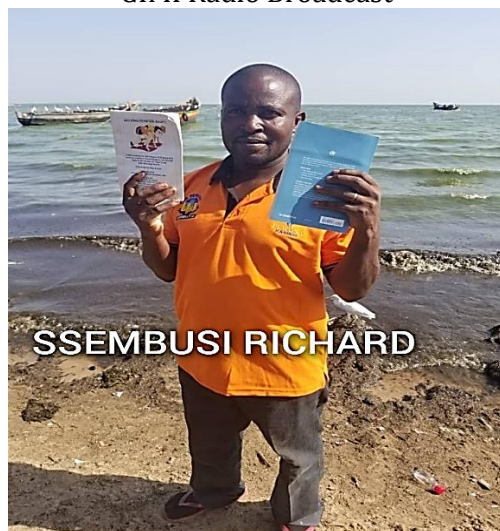
NINSIIMA DOREEN

Doreen Is Now Saved Through Our GIMI
Radio Broadcast In Uganda



BIGIRIMANA JONATHAN

Jonathan Is Now Saved Through Our
GIMI Radio Broadcast In Uganda



SSEMBUSI RICHARD

Richard Is Now Saved Through Our
GIMI Radio Broadcast

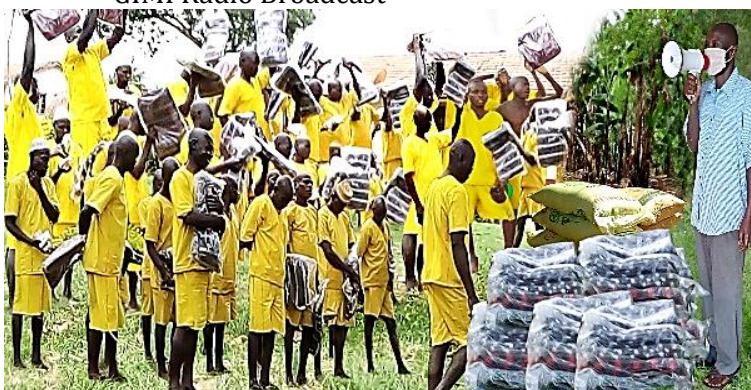


NAKIMBUGWE.RITAH

Ritah Is Now Saved Through Our GIMI
Radio Broadcast In Uganda



**Pastor Joel Sharing Jesus With The
Students At Shipero School Recently**



**Uganda Prisoners Rejoicing
With Their New Blankets From GIMI**



**Prisoners In Uganda
With their Gospel Tract Given By GIMI**



A PASSION FOR SOULS IN UGANDA



Uganda Prisoners Coming Forward
To Get Saved
At The Close Of The Service



Pastor Gerald Kibuule Praying
With Prisoners
To Get Saved In Uganda



Pastor Gerald Kibuule Praying
With Prisoners To Get Saved In Uganda



Some Prisoners In Uganda Doing
A Tribal Dance Of Joy



Pastor John Sharing The Gospel
With Prisoners In Uganda



GIMI Staff From Several Countries
In A Training Seminar In Uganda

Did you know that you can receive the newsletter electronically?
If you would prefer to change to an electronic copy in place of paper,
contact TJ Patton at office@gatewayinternationalmissions.com or 828-632-2344.



A PASSION FOR SOULS IN UGANDA



Many Lady Prisoners With Their Children
In A Prison In Uganda.



Pastor Fred Giving New Testaments
To Students In Uganda



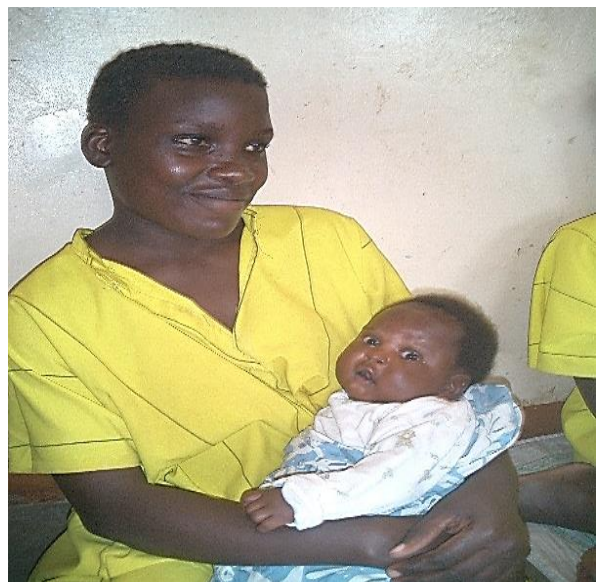
A Crowded Classroom At Shiperoi School
The Children Receiving Gospel Tracts



More Mothers With Their Children In Another Uganda Prison



Another Photo Of Shiperoi Children
GIMI Helps Sponsor This School



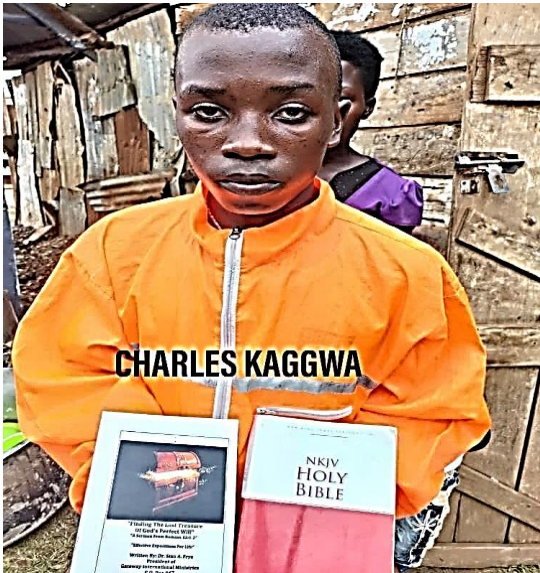
A Prison Mother With Her Beautiful
Child In A Uganda Prison



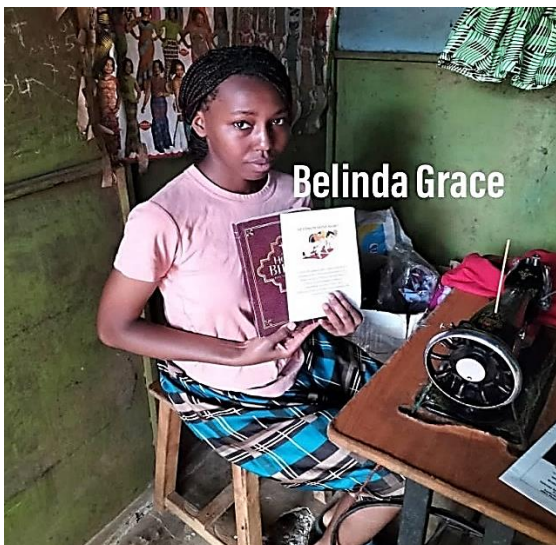
A PASSION FOR SOULS IN UGANDA



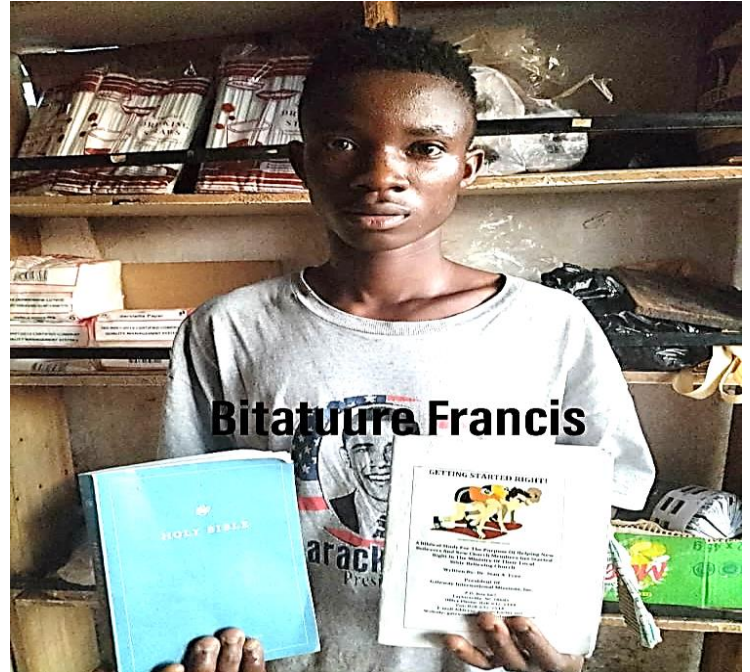
Dr. Stan recording a radio broadcast.
Some Recent Radio Converts
Out Of Hundreds and Hundreds of Converts



A Recent Convert Through Radio



A Young Lady Gave Her Heart To Jesus



Francis Gave His Heart To Jesus!



Patrick, A Former DJ In A Night Club
In Uganda Got Gloriously Saved!



A PASSION FOR SOULS IN LIBERIA



Pastor Kamanda Preaching
In An Outside Crusade at Night in Liberia



Pastor Kamanda Bringing Gifts
From GIMI to Prisoners in Liberia



Many People Raising Their Hands
To Get Saved at The Night Crusade



Prisoners Raising Their Hands to Get Saved in Liberia



Pastor Kamanda Bringing Many Gifts
To Prisoners in Liberia



Pastor Kamanda Johnson Bringing Many Gifts
From GIMI To Invalids in Liberia



A PASSION FOR SOULS IN LIBERIA



Invalid People Praying
To Get Saved In Liberia



Pastor Kamanda Sharing Many Gifts
From GIMI With Sunday School Children



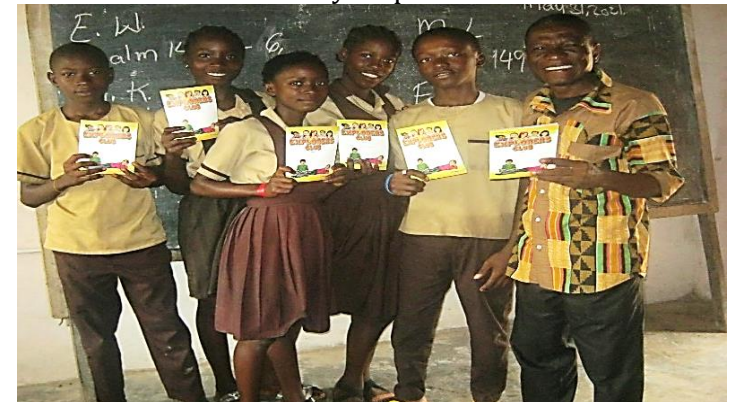
Many Prisoners in Another Prison Getting
Saved In Liberia with Gifts From GIMI



Pastor Arthur With Many Displaced Families in Liberia



Pastor Kamanda Sharing the Gospel
At Night with Refugees in Liberia



Pastor Arthur Giving Bible Booklets
To School Students In Liberia



Pastor Kamanda Sharing The Love
Of Jesus with Children in Sunday School



Pastor Arthur Bringing Gifts
From GIMI To Prisoners in Liberia



A PASSION FOR SOULS IN DR CONGO



Refugee Ladies Receiving Cloth
From GIMI To Make Dresses



More Refugee Ladies Excited
About Their New Dress Material



Pastor Israel Giving Much Medicine
To Prisoners in the DR Congo



GIMI Pastor Benjamin With Baptismal
Candidates Ready To Be Baptized



Pastor Benjamin Baptizing Many
In A Lake In The DR Congo



Pastor Robert Sharing Jesus
With Hundreds of Displaced Students



Many Displaced Children Praying
To Receive Jesus As Their Savior



A PASSION FOR SOULS IN DR CONGO



A Few Students Out Of 49 New Converts Being Baptized In the DR Congo



Pastor Robert Preaching In The Large Kyeshero Church In The DR Congo



Many Family Members Watching The 49 Children Being Baptized



Pastor Israel Feeding Orphan Children In The Troubled DR Congo



Prisoners Praying To Get Saved In A DR Congo Prison



Pastor Israel Sharing Jesus And Feeding Women In A DR Congo Prison



A Newly Saved Prisoner Getting Baptized In A Prison In The DR Congo.



Pastor Israel Sharing The Gospel With Prisoners In The DR Congo



A PASSION FOR SOULS IN SIERRA LEONE



Women Prisoners Receiving Gifts
From GIMI In Sierra Leone



Pastor Kassim Bring Many Gifts
and Bibles From GIMI To Prisoners



Poor Suffering Prisoners Half Clad
In A Prison In Sierra Leone.



Another Terrible Prison In Sierra Leone
Where GIMI Is Sharing The Gospel



GIMI Pastor Kassim Sharing The Gospel
With Prisoners In Sierra Leone



Prisoners In Sierra Leone Receiving
New Bibles From GIMI



Pastor Kassim Bringing Bibles
To Prisoners In Sierra Leone



A PASSION FOR SOULS IN KENYA



Pastor Sammy Bringing Gifts
From GIMI To A Rehabilitation Center



GIMI Giving Prisoners In Kenya
Copies Of John and Romans



Pastor Sammy Sharing The Gospel
In Thika Main Prison, Kenya



Kenya Prisoners Came Forward
To Give Their Hearts To Jesus!



Women Prisoners Were Blessed
Back At Christmas Time



Pastor Sammy With Alicia, A Long Time Prisoner
From South Africa Who Got Saved Through GIMI



A PASSION FOR SOULS IN KENYA



Turkana Children In Northern Kenya
Need The Love of Jesus



More Turkana Children In Northern
Kenya In Need Of The Love Of Jesus



Pastor Sammy Bringing Blankets
From GIMI To Invalid Senior Citizens



GIMI Pastor Philip Sharing Jesus
In An Outdoor Meeting In Kenya



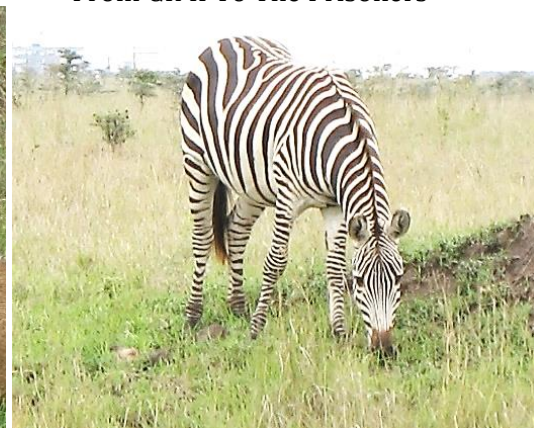
Pastors Sammy And Michael
Bringing Many Gifts
From GIMI To The Prisoners



I Am Not Lion! We Really Do
Work In Africa! Trust Me!



This Lady Lion Is Looking For
A Buddy To Go On A Safari In Kenya



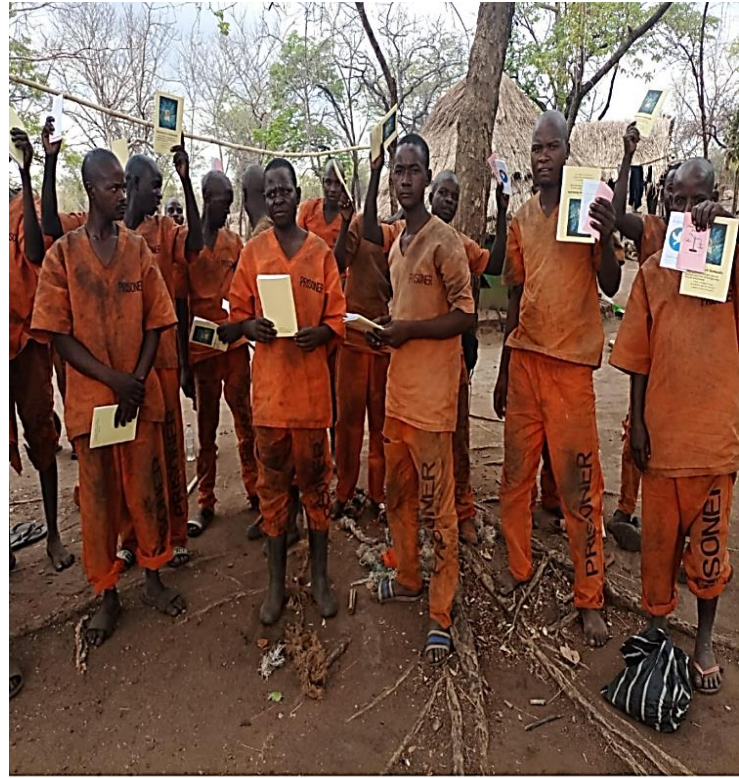
Believe It Or Not, This Beautiful Zebra Is
Not Wearing Prison Stripes!



A PASSION FOR SOULS IN ZAMBIA



GIMI Sharing Jesus with Many Orphans In Zambia



Prisoners Receiving Bible Booklets From GIMI In Zambia



Villagers On Their Faces In Prayer In Zambia After Listening To God's Word



Pastor Stephen Giving Corn Meal To Widow Ladies in Zambia



Christian Ladies Feeding Orphans with Food From GIMI On a Street in Zambia



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Lady Prisoners In Liberia Receiving Gifts From GIMI