

Robert Gideon of the CFCM Committee writes

Dear Brethren,

We read in Proverbs 14:14, "The faithless will be fully repaid for their ways, and the good rewarded for theirs." There is a day coming when both young and old will appear before the throne of God to receive what is due to them, for the things done during their stay here on this planet earth.

It is against this background that CFCM embarks on the ministry of reaching out to children in Bible clubs, and equipping Sunday school teachers through teacher training seminars, so that children can believe in Jesus Christ, and teachers can effectively communicate the gospel message.

For a child to believe in Jesus Christ, and receive Him as Lord and Saviour of his / her life, there is a need for others to hear that sense of calling to this neglected and noble harvest field (children's ministry).

It is my prayer that the Lord would help believers to play their different roles (i.e. sending, going and supporting), so that the faithless people can be turned into faithful believers, and be rewarded as God's children.

God bless you. Amen!

NEW FACEBOOK PAGE

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PRAYER POINTS

- Praise God for the wonderful response we are seeing to our training seminars across the country. Thank Him for the co-operation of pastors' fraternals in the organisation and promotion of the seminars, and the commitment of the teachers to give up their time and attend training.
- Pray that Sunday school teaching will be impacted, and that many new Bible clubs will be established as a result of the seminars, so that children who do not attend church will also be reached with the Gospel.
- Thank God for blessing us with safe travel in all the miles that have been covered by our team. This included a trip to Mozambique in July.
- Pray that all the CFCM Bible clubs, most of which will have been suspended over the school holiday, will get off to a good start in September, that teachers will be motivated, and children will continue to attend.

**CHILDREN FOR
CHRIST MINISTRY**
August - October 2017



CFCM GOING THE DISTANCE

Malawi is a country roughly the same length as the UK. Blantyre, where CFCM is based, is right in the southern part of the country. Most of the teacher training seminars we conduct are in the southern region. But there is a huge need for training in the northern region, and no-one else seems to be providing our kind of training there.

So in May this year, CFCM travelled to the opposite end of the country to run a series of 5 seminars. The distance from Blantyre to our farthest destination, Karonga, is roughly equivalent to going from London to Inverness. Teachers gathered in churches, schools and the open air, in groups as small as 3 and as big as 78, to be trained by CFCM. Was it necessary? Was it worth it? Would we do it again?



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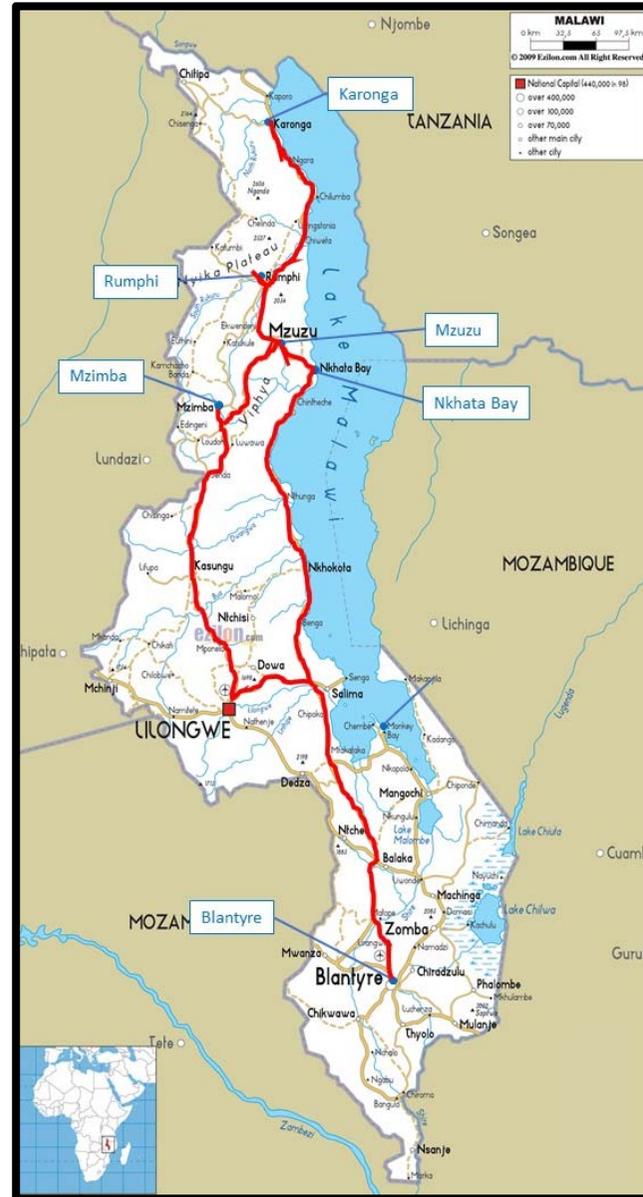
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WAS IT NECESSARY?

Yes! CFCM's focus is really in the south of the country, since that is where we are based, and there is plenty of need for training all around us. But the north of Malawi suffers from being very remote and much more mountainous, with long distances between centres. Transport costs are therefore an issue and a deterrent for most. And yet there is great need for Sunday school teacher training.



Most Sunday school teachers we met in the north have never received any training, or seen good modelling of how to use age-appropriate materials. Some have been faithfully telling the children Bible stories, but never realised how important it is that children hear the message of salvation while they are young, and did not know how to explain that to children. Some said they have received a training of sorts, but never before had they heard the emphasis that CFCM places on teaching the Gospel message to children. CFCM training not only helped to equip them for their work as Sunday school teachers, but helped them see their own value and worth within the church.



You can trace our route from Blantyre (via Salima, Lilongwe and Kasungu) to our 5 training seminars held at Mzimba, Mzuzu, Rumpi, Karonga and Nkhata Bay. We covered almost 2,000km door to door.

WAS IT WORTH IT?

Yes! Whether our seminar was on a Saturday, or a public holiday Monday, or during the working week, Sunday school teachers turned out in great numbers for the training. A total of 279 were trained across the 5 seminars, and the response was very encouraging. At Mzuzu, 8 teachers were attending for Level 3, and we were so pleased to see their desire to keep learning and improving, and develop children's ministry in the north.



It was a particular blessing to see the way in which the pastors' fraternals had organised and promoted the seminars. They had prepared well and you could tell that they really saw its benefit to the churches.

WOULD WE DO IT AGAIN?

Yes! At each venue we were urged to return again and we feel very committed to these teachers who have shown such a desire to help us reach the children of Malawi with the Gospel. We plan to return in 2018, and also to encourage some of them to train as trainers to help us in the Northern Region.