

## Robert Gideon of the CFCM Committee writes

Dear Brethren,

The Word of God in Proverbs 14:26 reads, "He who fears the Lord has a secure fortress, and for his children it will be a refuge."

The fear of the Lord should begin with us the parents or the elderly, so that children may emulate us.

The fear of Lord will, in turn, protect the children from the desires of the flesh, free them from the snare of the devil, and act as a fortress.

God is looking for a generation which fears Him, and it is the responsibility of those who fear Him to teach the younger generation.

May the Lord make His face shine upon you all. Amen.

## FOR PRAISE

- Hundreds of teachers trained at Mzuzu, Mzimba, Rumphu, Thyolo, Neno, Muona and Chikwawa in recent months.
- Safe travel for CFCM trainers as they have moved about the country.
- EBCoM students putting into practice what they have learnt from our seminars and from assisting with CFCM clubs in Blantyre.
- Children's clubs visited and encouraged in Tchoda and Ntaja during July.
- Approximately 550 Sunday school teachers have been able to buy their first bible, thanks to gifts designated for this purpose.

## FOR PRAYER

- That many teachers from the Khombwe zone will attend the seminar in August and will be motivated to start weekly clubs in their schools in September.
- Other seminars this quarter are at Mchinji (6<sup>th</sup> Aug) Phalombe (27<sup>th</sup> Aug), Neno (24<sup>th</sup> Sept) and Malosa (29<sup>th</sup> Oct).
- Our CFCM chairman, Saul Mateyu, starting a new job at an orphanage in Zomba.
- Changes to the administration/reporting structure of CFCM.
- Plans to start new Bible clubs in September, and to focus our efforts on a new school zone.

Remember, you do not have to wait 3 months to find out how these things are progressing – be informed monthly by joining our prayer network. Contact us at [cfcmsite@gmail.com](mailto:cfcmsite@gmail.com).



**zambesi mission**  
and His church in Malawi and northern Mozambique



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**CHILDREN FOR  
CHRIST MINISTRY  
August-October 2016**

**SPREADING THE WORD**



This is the busiest training season for Children for Christ Ministry, running seminars in all corners of Malawi to train Sunday school teachers on how to effectively communicate the Gospel to children. In recent months we have held seminars in the north and west, and over the next few months will touch the south and east. We have also had the opportunity to observe how students from the Bible college in Blantyre are taking and using the CFCM training they have received at college, and bringing life to Sunday schools in remote places, by modelling and passing on what they have learnt.

## Seminars in the North

It is a long way from Blantyre in the south to Mzuzu in the north, but in May CFCM ran its first ever seminars for the northern region. Although the name of CFCM was not known in the north, and we were unable to travel in person in advance to promote the seminars at the pastors' fraternals, we were encouraged by the numbers of teachers and pastors who attended. For most it was their first opportunity to receive any guidance on how to conduct children's ministry, and they were hungry to learn.



Our first training was in **Mzuzu** itself, where 40 teachers attended, representing many of the city's churches. One comment was "we have only been telling Bible stories – we had no idea how to turn those stories into lessons about salvation." We had only planned and budgeted for teaching level 1 at Mzuzu, but the teachers themselves asked us to use our free Sunday afternoon to continue training them in level 2. One church provided their premises free of charge – and drinks for every participant. 17 teachers came to this impromptu seminar, and

they used the opportunity to discuss key challenges they face.



Running out of time for the final session on how to use music effectively, Ruth MacBean offered to come back midweek for those interested in learning how to create scripture songs for children – and subsequently 6 teachers took time out of their working week to attend this afternoon workshop.

From Mzuzu, we travelled to **Mzimba** and again found that the seminar had been well publicised and that teachers from many of the town's churches were eager to receive some training. 30 teachers attended, and a further 28 at our final seminar in **Rumphi**. As well as attentively absorbing all the teaching, teachers also took advantage of our subsidised Bibles and visual aids – using up our entire stock of both. We were urged to come again to train them further, and they were disappointed to hear that the earliest time we can return will be 2017! It showed to us the huge need and desire for training in the north of Malawi, and we have only scratched the surface.

However, although CFCM is a small team, we are encouraged that the training we give to students at the Evangelical Bible College of

Malawi in Blantyre can affect children's ministry going on in places we cannot reach ourselves. On her return journey south, Ruth visited a church at **Dwangwa**, and met one of the students who had recently completed CFCM training on placement at this church; he was inspiring and training other Sunday school teachers by demonstrating what he had learnt.



As the college term has just ended, final year students and their wives will be moving to churches all over Malawi, impressed by the urgent need to evangelise children, equipped to teach effectively, and urging others to do so too.

## Next stage in Khombwe zone outreach

During June we revisited all the schools in the **Khombwe** zone where we have demonstrated Bible clubs throughout the school year. Now we have invited teachers who share our concern for the spiritual life of the children to attend training on 18<sup>th</sup> August where we will teach them how to run a school Bible club, and encourage them to start a regular activity in their own schools.