

## Robert Gideon of the CFCM Committee writes

Dear Brethren,

We read in John 1:41- 42b that the first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, '**We have found the Messiah**'. And he brought him to Jesus.

When the names of Jesus' disciples are mentioned in the gospels, it is Simon Peter who is mentioned first. But he was not the one who first encountered the Lord. It was his brother Andrew who met the Lord first, and did a commendable job of bringing Simon to meet the Lord. We need to be mission-minded like Andrew in bringing those who are close to us to Jesus. For people to hear the gospel message, they need to be told by those of us who have already encountered Christ.

It is my prayer that the Lord would help us to bring lost people to Christ, '**For there is more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents**' (Luke 15:7). Amen!

## FOR PRAISE

- Thank God for new links into churches in Malawi following our Church Co-ordinators' meeting back in March.
- Praise God for the successful 5-day Club held at Khombwe at Easter, and that a regular club at the school will result.
- Thank God for the teachers trained at Dedza, Mchinji, Tchoda and Blantyre over the last 3 months.

## FOR PRAYER

- Pray for Joseph and his family. Ask God to continue guiding, equipping and blessing Joseph as he follows God's plan for his life.
- Seminars are planned for Mzuzu (14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> May), Rumphi (16<sup>th</sup> May), Neno (28<sup>th</sup> May) and Muona (25<sup>th</sup> June). Pray for safe travel, and for many teachers to attend.
- Pray for the Day Camp we will be holding for children at our Tchoda clubs on 23<sup>rd</sup> July.
- Pray for Elevate Mizinga sitting MSCE (secondary school) exams in June.
- Pray for Ruth MacBean travelling in the Northern Region with her husband, Myles, throughout May, and for Joseph and Elevate joining them from 14<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> May for CFCM seminars in Mzuzu and Rumphi.

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 [cfcmoffice@gmail.com](mailto:cfcmoffice@gmail.com).

**CHILDREN FOR  
CHRIST MINISTRY  
May – July 2016**

**EQUIPPED FOR SERVICE**



As regular followers of CFCM will know, in our mission to reach more and more of Malawi's children with the Gospel, a core activity is facilitating seminars for Sunday school teachers and children's workers across Malawi. Earlier this year, Joseph Jeke, supported by Zambesi Mission, went to South Africa to attend Instructors of Teachers Training run by Child Evangelism Fellowship. In this issue we focus on Joseph's story, and how God saved, guided, equipped and provided for this young man with such passion for children's ministry.



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



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## Joseph's Story

Joseph spent the first few years of his life in Mozambique, where his father, a pastor, was ministering. At the age of 7, now living in Malawi, young Joseph sometimes accompanied his father to the Mozambican refugee camps, and listened as his father evangelized and gave a word of hope to dispersed Mozambicans. Growing up, he went through all the motions of being a good pastor's son, knowing the Scriptures well, and serving as a children's worker and youth leader in his father's church. However it was all a sham, and by the age of 21, he was secretly getting in with the wrong crowd and smoking and drinking.



His younger brother, who had finished his schooling and had a business in Blantyre, visited home and challenged Joseph's lifestyle. He encouraged Joseph to have a time of prayer and fasting to seek God's face. When his brother returned to Blantyre, Joseph went to a mountaintop and prayed, repented and studied God's Word. He kept getting drawn to Exodus 3 and felt that he was being set apart like Moses for a new work. He knew Jesus was in his heart, was speaking clearly to him, and would stay

with him forever. Immediately on returning to his village he started to witness to his peers, and to everyone he met.



After telling his family of the change in his heart, Joseph's father encouraged him to widen his mission-field and start a work among the youth, not just in his own church, but in churches of all denominations in Nchutche village and the surrounding area. He established the "United Reviving Youth Group", and went around evangelizing the youth. He loved his work, but by now he was married with young children, and the youth work alone did not support his family. Reluctantly he went to the town to get work, but eventually returned to his village to be a farmer.

Trying to combine farming and youth work did not work out either. His younger brother, now training to be a pastor, helped him pay the fare to Blantyre to go for a job interview. He failed to get the job – but God had something better planned. While in Blantyre, a friend introduced him to a Canadian missionary, and she gave Joseph work as a gateman and gardener. At the mission station he became involved with the

youth group, and helped initiate a children's club. Seeing his obvious gifting and enthusiasm, the missionary paid for Joseph to receive a week's training in children's ministry. This short course empowered him – and introduced him to the work of Child Evangelism Fellowship in Malawi. He received CEF sponsorship to go to South Africa to do intensive training. On returning to Malawi and meeting with all those who had helped him get this far, it was decided that he should be in full-time children's ministry.



Joseph divides his time between CEF and CFCM, as well as leading the youth work in his own church. He and Mary have 3 children – Chisomo (15), Esther (12) and Melyna (5) (nearest the front in the photograph). Although he has few material resources, and providing for his family is still a daily struggle, Joseph always has time to help those around him in greater need, in particular the street-children. His long-term dream is to open a home for less privileged children, including those children who have been dismissed from the reformatory system of Malawi and often end up back on the streets.