

Robert Gideon of the CFCM Committee writes:

Dear Brethren,

Our God loves and values children very much. Their lives are precious to Him.

In Mark 10:13-14 we read: **“and they were bringing children to Him that He might touch them, and the disciples rebuked them. But when Jesus saw it He was indignant and said to them ‘Let the little children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the Kingdom of God’”**.

And so today, children need to have their lives touched by the Lord Jesus Christ, for the Kingdom of God belongs to them as well. We use Bible clubs as points of contact, where children from different religious backgrounds encounter Jesus.

Children are seen by Jesus as potential members of His Kingdom and, as such, they need to be directed to Him. We thank God for the transformation of children’s lives when they accept Christ as Lord and Saviour through the ministry of Bible clubs.

It is my prayer that children are not hindered as they seek to come to the Saviour. Let us establish as many avenues as possible for children to encounter Christ.

May the Lord make His face shine upon you. Amen

PRAYER POINTS

- Praise God for the open doors into Malawi’s schools for the Gospel to be presented to children. We do not know when the doors to

the schools will close to the ministry of the Gospel in Malawi. So let us pray that, while they remain open, many children will enter into a life-long relationship with the Lord Jesus.

- Praise God for the men and women throughout Malawi who have taken up the challenge to establish local community Bible clubs to reach out to church and non-church children with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Pray that these teachers will be faithful to scripture and clear in explaining the way of salvation. Pray also that they will be strong when working alone and will never give up.
- Remember the many children affected by the recent floods: in particular, the children from the Mpassa and Muhike Bible clubs, who are now homeless and living in camps.
- Pray that, one day, the team might have their own transport so that they can run more clubs on the same day. Demand for clubs is high, especially since CFCM became registered. Reliance on public transport makes it difficult to commit to running more.

**CHILDREN FOR
CHRIST MINISTRY
May - July 2019**



**THOUSANDS OF CHILDREN IN WEEKLY
CFCM BIBLE CLUBS**

The eager faces of children listening to the Word of God being taught – it is a most precious thing. Even at the best of times, life is difficult for many children in Malawi. But they have suffered greatly from the heavy rains and floods that swept through the country. Many have lost their homes and the little that they had - and are now reduced to eating just one meal a day.

Despite the extra transport and communication difficulties as a result of the floods, the CFCM team have kept up their weekly Bible clubs around Blantyre. They remind the children that God loves them whatever their circumstances; so much so that He gave up His only Son so that they might have life, and life to the full.

In this bulletin we give an overview of all the Bible clubs currently being run by our own staff and by others who have been trained by CFCM over recent years. Over 3,500 children are hearing the Gospel every week in these clubs.



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and His church in Malawi and northern Mozambique



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BIBLE CLUBS IN AND AROUND BLANTYRE

Most CFCM Bible clubs are run at schools during term time. One of the problems that the team faces is that they have no transport of their own. This means that a lot of time is spent travelling to each club by minibus, bicycle taxi or on foot. It is also difficult to coordinate different clubs when several schools want to hold theirs on the same day. Some schools prefer it to be held at the end of the school day, making it impossible for the team to get back to Blantyre before dusk (it gets dark around 6pm all year round in Malawi). Consequently Elevate, Joseph and Lackson visit seven Bible clubs fortnightly, with teachers continuing the clubs every other week. We have tried to find out the number of children attending each club, to help give a picture of how many children are hearing the Gospel every week at CFCM Bible clubs.

The Bible clubs at Chitakale (85) and Mitsidi (130) primary schools have been run by our staff since 2015, when CFCM focussed on the schools in the Khombwe zone. In the same zone, teachers run their own Bible clubs at Chimembe (200) and Khombwe (170) primary schools. Students involved in children's ministry at the Evangelical Bible College of Malawi (EBCoM) help to run the CFCM Bible clubs at Mulunguzi (110), Likubula (160) and Starlight (170) primary schools. Some of the students run a club for children at the EBCoM campus (45), while others visit Beit CURE to run a Bible club for any children in the hospital (30, can be different children each week).

Links with Aquaid Lifeline started in 2015, when the team began a regular Saturday Bible club

for the orphaned children in Namisu Children's Village. This changed to a weekday club in 2016, so that CFCM could reach all the children who attend Aquaid's day school and not just the orphans. This club continues (200), and earlier this year Aquaid invited the team to start a new club at another orphanage, Ntenjera (100). Three further Bible clubs run by CFCM staff are in Bvumbwe, at Ligowe (80), Chisawani (90) and Chinguluwe (70) primary schools.



FURTHER AFIELD

A successful series of CFCM Sunday school teacher training seminars was held in Mchinji in 2016. Some men who attended saw the potential to reach children who did not go to church. They were encouraged to start Bible clubs as well as teach in Sunday school. It is very encouraging to hear about the clubs that they run at Chandawe (50), Waliranji (60) and Changata (40) primary schools, as well as in Waliranji community centre (50) and Mchinji Baptist centre (60).

Dula, who was trained by CFCM in Nsanama back in 2012, attended the first ever Training of

Trainers day in 2015. He received a bicycle from CFCM to help with his widespread ministry. Dula supports three Bible clubs in this Muslim majority area. These are the clubs in Chikwewu (70), Nakusupa (85) and Mpunga (95).

The response to training in Phalombe has been amazing, with the teachers taking the initiative of setting up seminars themselves. We receive regular updates of Bible clubs at community centres in Makumbi (100), Operiwa (90), Nakunkhu (120), Chilaweni (75), Mpasu (50) and Muhike (30), as well as a number of clubs in Phalombe boma (140). This area has been hard hit by the recent floods, and the clubs at Mpasu and Muhike have been affected. Children whose families have lost their homes are being housed in temporary camps. Let us pray that God's Word will still reach them.

Bible clubs in Tchoda have been running for many years, and recently we heard of three new clubs, making a total of 11 clubs in this area (we estimate at least 500 children).

Finally, in the northern region, where CFCM held its Training of Trainers course in 2018, it is great to hear that a number of Bible clubs have now been established. There are clubs at Mzimba boma (75), Bolero (120), Nkhata Bay community centre (45) and Karonga primary school (150).

These are just the clubs that CFCM is aware of. We are sure that there are many more, given how many teachers have been trained over the years and encouraged to establish Bible clubs. Let us pray that every single child who hears the Gospel will trust in Jesus as their Saviour.