

**Robert Gideon of the CFCM Committee writes:**

Dear Brethren,

Greetings in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

The Apostle Paul wrote to Timothy, **Nevertheless, God's solid foundation stands firm, sealed with this inscription: "The Lord knows those who are His," and "Everyone who confesses the name of the Lord must turn away from wickedness."** (2 Timothy 2: 19)

God is holy (1 Peter 1: 16) and He expects those who confess His name to be holy as well.

**Without holiness no one will see the Lord** (Hebrews 12: 14). So one cannot claim to have an intimate personal knowledge of God while he or she walks in wickedness. Those who are known by God as His children must be characterized by righteousness and holiness.

May the Lord help those who walk in wickedness to turn from the same and practice holiness.



**Blessed are the pure in spirit, for they will see God** (Matthew 5:8).

May the good Lord make His face shine upon you. Amen!

**PRAYER POINTS**

- Praise God that we have now been able to supply 15 Bibles to the teachers who helped with the 5-day club in Ruhono.
- Pray that the children and teachers who came to Christ during our 5-day club will receive good Bible teaching and will continue to grow in their faith.

- Thank God for Blessings Kachale and his children's ministry in Ruhono. He runs so many Bible clubs. Pray that he will be given the strength to keep going and that many children will respond to the Gospel.
- Pray for our staff team and volunteer trainers all over Malawi. Thank God for their passion to bring the Gospel to children.
- CFCM has been able to pay for several children from child-headed families featured in previous bulletins to attend school next year. We thank God for those who contributed to our fund.
- Pray for guidance as CFCM explore ways they can deepen the faith of those teaching children, especially matrons and patrons of Bible clubs.
- Pray that CFCM's safeguarding training will encourage the church in Malawi to play its part in protecting children from abuse and exploitation.



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**REACHING CHILDREN ALL AROUND MALAWI**

The CFCM staff team in Blantyre - Elevate Mizinga, Joseph Jeke and Lackson Makawa - have the joy of teaching many children at Bible clubs in schools around their area. The Sunday school teachers they train across Malawi are encouraged to start similar clubs in their local schools and communities. It is wonderful when we hear about new Bible clubs starting up further afield.

CFCM is now starting to see the fruits of having volunteer trainers in remote parts of the country. Not only is their Sunday school teacher training reaching into far-flung corners, but children's work is also being invigorated in these places. CFCM witnessed the fruits of one trainer's ministry when they travelled to Ruhono earlier this year. Read more in this bulletin about how CFCM were able to bring encouragement and support to Blessings Kachale.

Blessings is just one of 20 volunteer trainers, through whom CFCM's training ministry and Bible clubs are being extended into places where children need to hear the Good News.

## The CFCM Syllabus - Modules 2 and 3



In the last bulletin we described what the teachers learn in module 1 at a CFCM seminar.

Many teachers return for modules 2 and 3, so that they can learn more about being effective Sunday school teachers.

In module 2 they go deeper into Bible lesson preparation. Then they learn how to counsel a child who wants to become a Christian, ensuring that they fully understand the step they are taking, and helping them to pray for forgiveness and salvation. There is also training on maintaining discipline and dealing with troubled children. In a session on music, teachers learn that singing scriptural songs can be a real aid to children's learning and understanding, and we show them how to create their own songs based on Scripture.

In module 3 we give teachers encouragement and guidance on setting up Bible clubs in their communities, so that they reach unchurched children. But this module is mainly a practical session. Each teacher is given time to prepare a memory verse and a Bible story in which they explain the Gospel message. The CFCM facilitators assess each teacher's presentation, giving actionable feedback that helps them to improve.

Finally, successful candidates receive a certificate to show that they have completed all three modules. Some of these teachers will go on to become future trainers themselves. As a result, CFCM's work of training Sunday school teachers and Bible club leaders is multiplied.

## Blessings Kachale

One of the teachers who received training at our seminars in Rumphu in 2016-18, and returned to be trained as a trainer in September 2018, is Blessings Kachale (pictured below alongside Joseph Jeke). He lives in a very remote part of northern Malawi close to the Zambian border. Over the last two years Blessings has established 12 Bible clubs in and around Ruhono. He has passed on the training he has received from CFCM to about 15 Sunday school teachers from different churches. As a result, many children in this remote region are now hearing the Gospel every week.



## Easter 5-Day Club in Ruhono

Hearing of the wonderful work Blessings has been doing, CFCM decided to go the distance and help boost his ministry by running their annual Easter 5-Day club in Ruhono. They were glad of CFCM's car to get them to this area which is only served by rough dirt tracks and no public transport. There were no guest houses, but the Village Chief had arranged accommodation for the CFCM team and other teachers who were helping. To get a phone signal to contact their families they had to climb a hill. And once their phones had run out of power, there was no electricity to recharge. They really were off-grid!

However, one thing they did not lack was children. The number coming grew steadily day by day, as more and more children heard what was going on. Lackson Makawa and some of the other teachers started a parallel club in a nearby centre called Masere, since it was too far for the children to walk to Ruhono each day. On average, 200 children came to the clubs and heard the Gospel every day. Many of them made commitments to follow Christ; even some of the teachers were saved after hearing and understanding the message of salvation for the first time.

The clubs ran in the afternoons, leaving the mornings free for Elevate, Joseph and Lackson to give further training to the teachers. This is really important, because if those children who made commitments to Christ at the 5-day club are to grow in their new-found faith and their knowledge of God, they need to be well taught. The work of these Sunday school teachers is so vital. And yet we discovered that only three of them owned a Bible! How we wished that we had brought Bibles to leave with them.



Please join with us in praying that He who began a good work in these children will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus (Philippians 1: 6), and that no-one or nothing will snatch them from His hand (John 10: 28).