

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

Dear Brethren,

Easter is a wonderful and precious time for Christians across the world, when we commemorate the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. We read in Mark 15:31: **In the same way the chief priests and the teachers of the law mocked him among themselves. “He saved others,” they said, “but he can’t save himself!**

Jesus was mocked, insulted, spat upon and whipped, not because of any wrong-doing, but for the salvation of the people of the whole world. He did not come to save Himself, because He did not come for Himself. **He came to seek and save the lost** (Luke 19:10).

We thank God for the ministry of training those whose responsibility it is to bring the Gospel message to children, so that they can be saved. After His death and resurrection, and just before He returned to heaven, Jesus gave all His disciples a command to take the Gospel to others. Those who lead many to believe in Christ will shine in heaven.

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

**PRAYER POINTS**

- Praise God for the enthusiasm of teachers in the Bvumbwe zone for teaching children the Gospel. Pray that even more who received the training in February will set up Bible clubs in their schools.
- Pray for safety and stamina as the team travels to the northern region in May to

conduct training. Pray for the seminars at Mzimba (12<sup>th</sup> May), Karonga (14<sup>th</sup>), Rumphu (17<sup>th</sup>) Mzuzu (19<sup>th</sup>) and Nkhata Bay (21<sup>st</sup>).



- Pray for insight to select the right candidates for Training for Trainers in the northern region.
- Praise God that the registration process for CFCM is now complete.
- Pray for wisdom and guidance concerning establishing a CFCM nursery school. Pray that a suitable location would come available, and that the right staff would be selected.
- Pray for Ruth MacBean as she promotes the work of CFCM within the UK: that new supporters will be found to uphold the work in prayer and in giving; that people will be inspired to help create visual aids and fund subsidised bibles; that there will be openings in schools, Sunday schools and children’s clubs for Ruth to use the work of CFCM to teach children in the UK about world mission and the Gospel message.



**A VISION FOR THE FUTURE**

It is now 15 years since Children for Christ Ministry started its work in Malawi. It recognised the need for Sunday school teachers to be properly trained in how to use age-appropriate methods to explain the message of salvation to children. It also realised there was such a need to reach the many children who do not go to Sunday school. In response CFCM started its programme of teacher training seminars and Bible clubs.

CFCM now has its legal registration certificate of incorporation, the ministry continues to grow, and more and more children are being reached with the Gospel as a result. Whilst we continue to rely on God in this faith ministry, we also seek to do our part in finding a way to support the growing work. In this bulletin we share our vision for the future of Children for Christ Ministry.

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## BVUMBWE ZONE BIBLE CLUBS

In 2017 the CFCM team started to go into the schools in Bvumbwe zone, running Bible clubs and encouraging the Christian members of staff to get involved. During the Easter three-day club at **Chisawani**, the headmaster of the school went to fetch the headmaster of the neighbouring school to see what was going on. "When are you coming to my school?" asked the second headmaster! It was also so encouraging for the team to have the support and enthusiasm of the Primary Education Adviser (PEA) of the Bvumbwe zone.



*Joseph with Standard 8 pupils at Chisawani*

This interest led to CFCM running a training in February 2018 for all Christian staff members of schools in Bvumbwe zone, which was attended by 20 teachers representing 12 different schools. There are now weekly clubs being run by teachers at **Chisawani**, **Ligowe**, **Chinguluwe** and **Chimwabvi** schools, and our staff continue to visit and encourage them twice a month. Praise God for this awakening in Bvumbwe zone, and pray that many children will hear and come to faith, as their teachers tell them about God's plan of salvation.

## REVISITING THE NORTH IN MAY

Over the last two years, CFCM has been taking its training to the north of Malawi, and discovered a huge need and desire for more. One pastor told us, "The door is always open for CFCM. We need this training." Our training course has three modules, so we are returning in May for a third time, to complete level 3 in five different centres: **Mzimba**, **Mzuzu**, **Rumphi**, **Karonga** and **Nkhata Bay**. In previous years the team travelled by car, but this year they will be using public transport (local buses, minibuses and bicycle taxis) making it a much more tiring and unpredictable tour. Do pray for the team's safety and stamina between 11<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> May. On this occasion we will be looking out for enthusiastic and able children's workers who are also potential trainers, to whom we will offer our "Training for Trainers" course later in the year. Join us in praying for guidance in choosing the right people for this – not only capable communicators, but also men and women who share CFCM's passion for reaching children with the Gospel, and with the heart and willingness to make themselves available to continue training in their own region.



*An ever-open door for CFCM at Rumphi*

## A VISION FOR THE FUTURE

These two examples demonstrate how the ministry of CFCM is growing in Malawi. But with expansion and increased activity comes the need for more funding. Most of our funding still comes from UK supporters, through **zambesi mission**, but in Malawi it is proving hard to find people to support work with children. The team has a vision for starting a nursery school as an income-generating scheme. There is much demand for nursery education, and at a CFCM nursery school we would provide daily Bible teaching as well as the usual nursery activities. If successful in one place, there is the potential to expand, and one day see CFCM training seminars being funded by CFCM nurseries – not to mention a generation of infants hearing God's Word every day!

We are excited by the possibility, and hope you will join us in prayer for the way forward. Thank God that the first hurdle has been removed - we are officially registered now! Pray that a suitable location will come available in Blantyre for our first nursery school, and that God will provide for it to be established and equipped. Pray that God will keep our vision alive, especially as we deal with the bureaucracy and detail. Thank God for the specific gifts he has given Elevate (a trained nursery teacher) and Lackson (an administrator) to enable us to go down this road. Pray that God will be preparing and leading us to the right men and women to be teachers at the nursery school. In everything, our desire is for God's will to be done, and for the children of Malawi to find salvation in Jesus Christ.