



# Support EFSL News

<https://supportefsl.org>

April 2021

## Dear praying friends,

I recently attended (virtually) the funeral of a friend who died from Covid. He attended the Boy's Brigade most of his life, as man and boy for nearly 50 years, becoming a Christian when he was 18. Many of you will know that the Boy's Brigade motto is 'Sure and Steadfast'. This is taken from **Hebrews 6:19: 'We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure.'** Christ has "anchored" our hope of "refuge" in the very presence of God: the "inner place." As the hymn says: **'We have an anchor that keeps the soul, steadfast and sure while the billows roll. Fastened to the Rock which cannot move. Grounded firm and deep in the Saviour's love.'** My friend's hope was anchored in the Saviour's love, may you continue to ensure your hope is also grounded firm and deep in the Saviour's love in these unsettled times. The Message translation of Hebrews 6 verse 19 puts it like this: **'It's an unbreakable spiritual lifeline, reaching past all appearances right to the very presence of God.'** Let us not forsake our spiritual lifeline and help others to grasp that lifeline that reaches to the very presence of God.

## EFSL Strategy for 2021-2025

EFSL has now completed its strategy for 2021-2025 which identifies 7 main goals. It is important to reflect, review, and reaffirm before God the aims and priorities of EFSL, and with His guidance to confirm that these are in tune with His plan. Some of the goals may seem a little dry, as they focus on projects which can be readily supported by sponsoring NGOs, but Support EFSL is especially well positioned to help with Goal number 6: "Mobilising and equipping of the church for evangelism, discipleship, and leadership in Sierra Leone."

1. Food security and quality of life for rural people
2. Quality education and empowerment of young people in Sierra Leone
3. Gender equality and child development in Sierra Leone
4. A safe environment for families, and eradication of sexual and gender-based violence
5. Resources mobilisation for the development and operations of EFSL
6. **Mobilisation and equipping of the church for evangelism, discipleship, and leadership in Sierra Leone**
7. Disaster management preparedness

Support EFSL can directly help EFSL achieve two of its objectives in Goal 6: to provide roofs for 25 rural churches between 2021 and 2025, and to develop the capacity of at least 120 rural pastors to promote evangelism, discipleship, and leadership skills.

## 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Support EFSL: 2011 - 2021

The Support EFSL Trustees want to say **a BIG thank you** to each and every one of you for your faithful support over these last 10 years and more.

I am reminded of the words of Paul to the Corinthians, **'I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God made it grow. So, neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow.'** **I Cor 3: 6-7.** So, we give God all the praise for what He has done through Support EFSL and pray that He will continue to bless His Church in Sierra Leone!



2011 – Epilepsy Association of Sierra Leone - Monthly clinic



2012 – Study Bibles



2013 – Micro credit scheme



2014 – Deputation Tours



2015 – Ebola orphans



2016 – EFSL Church Empowerment & Advocacy Dept.



2017 – Freetown mudslide



2018 – MBB Safe House



2019 – Bicycles for pastors



2020 – Sewing machines



2021 – Church roofs



## Please continue to pray and give thanks for:

- **Ongoing guidance, wisdom, and unity for Rev Jonathan Titus-Williams and all the leaders of EFSL, as they implement the EFSL strategy for 2021-2025.**
- **Encouragement for and equipping of rural pastors as they continue to spread the Good News.**
- **All involved in the EFSL radio ministry, and that through it more people will come to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.**
- **Ongoing protection for Muslim Background Believers as they continue to study, work and witness.**
- **Continued low levels of Covid-19 and its eradication from Sierra Leone, and the protection of the Church in Sierra Leone at this time.**
- **Continued health and strength for Bill and Jan Roberts and their family.**

**'Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness.' Lamentations 3:22-23**

**Steve Manktelow**

*Support EFSL Treasurer*

*In addition to your prayers, if you want to give to EFSL so that it can continue to support the churches and people in Sierra Leone, please send your gifts to the Support EFSL Treasurer: **Steve Manktelow**, Blackdown Cottage, Willand, Devon, EX15 2QH.*

*E-mail: [manktelowsteve@gmail.com](mailto:manktelowsteve@gmail.com). Cheques can be made out to **Support EFSL (no.1141005)**.*

*Or, you can donate instantly through the website: [Donate Now](#).*