



Support EFSL News

March 2022

<https://supportefsl.org>

Dear praying friends,

As children of God we are never alone. When the feelings of futility flood in, when it feels like life is passing us by, when relationships go sour, when the fallenness of the world closes in on us and makes us want to throw in the towel, we have a Friend who knows exactly what such testing is like, sits close to us and embraces us. As the puritan John Owen put it, Christ “is inclined from his own heart and affections to give... us help and relief... and he is inwardly moved during our sufferings and trials with a sense and fellow-feeling of them.” What a Saviour we have! **Hebrews 4:15,16: For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathise with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.**

Wellington Fire Disaster Impact Mitigation Project

(report from Pastor Gadiru, EFSL General Secretary)

On the 5th of November 2021, a fire disaster broke out at Old Wharf Junction in Wellington, Freetown as a result of an explosion following a fuel tanker accident. Over 100 people died in the inferno, while over 100 others were left injured and were being treated at various hospitals in Freetown. Some agencies, individuals, and groups have been providing assistance in terms of food and non-food items, medical treatment, and psychosocial support to the survivors. It was against this backdrop that EFSL and its partner SEFSL [responded]... to address the urgent need of 30 households that lost breadwinners and... properties (house, business, etc.) in the fire.

Visitation and psychosocial support: [Immediately following the disaster], an EFSL Disaster Response team was mobilized and assigned duties on Monday the 8th of November to visit the scene for a rapid appraisal of the situation, and to provide psychosocial support [and prayer] to the affected persons.... On the 9th and 10th the team [visited three local hospitals] to pray and give psychosocial and spiritual support to those who suffered severe burns from the explosion. Their immediate needs were also assessed to help determine EFSL’s intervention in addressing them.

Food and non-food distribution: On 10th December, the EFSL disaster response team distributed food and non-food items to a total of 30 affected households in the Old Wharf community. The distribution was done at the Old Wharf Baptist Church. Each household received food items comprising a 50kg bag of rice, a bag of onions, 20L of cooking oil, 6 packets of Maggi and a bag of iodized salt. Additionally, each head of household received a plastic bucket and three large tubes of toothpaste.





Encouraging and praying with beneficiaries



Fire victims after receiving their supplies



The latest news on the Muslim-Background Believers supported by Support EFSL

The Muslim Background Believers have grown in their faith and are doing well in their academic pursuit.

- **Mohamed Conteh** is working hard and praying to get into university, as he will be the first educated person in his family. He has been fortunate to enter Njala University (Bo) to study political science.
- **Sani Elba** and her daughter **Khadija** continue to do well and to serve the Lord. They have moved fellowship to a new church, Winners Chapel, in their area. Khadija is doing very well at Fourah Bay College as an engineering student.
- **Michaela Jimmy** has taken her final exams for a Diploma in Banking and Finance at the Institute of Public Administration (IPAM) and is awaiting results. She intends to further her studies for a BSc degree after graduation. She is doing well and serves in the choir of her local church.
- **Jane Ganda** is doing well and growing in her faith. She successfully passed her exams and is waiting to enter the Mattru School of Nursing in Bonthe District.
- **Martha Kabba** is progressing with her studies and is now in her third year for a BSc in Business Administration at the Institute of Public Administration. She is also doing well in her faith as a Christian.
- **Regina Moriba** is now a final year student in the Faculty of Nursing at the College of Medicine. She is an outstanding student who got the best result to promote to 3rd year.



Khadija with matriculation gown



Regina receives an award at Central Hospital

Please continue to pray and give thanks for:

- EFSL and other organisations as they continue to bring aid and relief to all those affected by the Wellington fire disaster.
- Ongoing protection and provision for Muslim Background Believers as they continue to study, work and witness.
- The continued strengthening and equipping of rural pastors as they continue to faithfully spread the Gospel across Sierra Leone.
- The ongoing work of the EFSL radio ministry, as it continues to help people to learn more about the love of Jesus Christ.
- The continued health and strength for Bill and Jan Roberts and their family.

“A new command I give to you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.” John 13:34-35.

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