



Support EFSL News

July 2023

<https://supportefsl.org>

Dear praying friends,

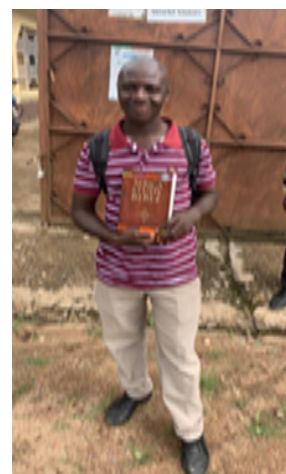
As well as providing news of the recent work of EFSL, in this newsletter we also want to share the plans being made, with God's help, for the future support of EFSL this year. As Christians we can all draw strength that no matter what the future holds, it is in God's hands, and He has the victory. It will not be easy, but we can take hold of Jesus' promise: **'In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.'** Matthew 16:33b. Also, no matter what the future holds, we can never be separated from the love of God. The apostle Paul reminds us of this great truth in his letter to the Romans: **'Who shall separate from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus.'** Romans 8:35,37-39.

Study Bibles for Pastors



Thank you for your support in prayer and giving in response to the request in the last newsletter to provide more study Bibles. As a result, EFSL has bought and distributed study Bibles to 10 Pastors in hard-to-reach rural communities: Madina Seibureh and Torma Bum (Bonthe district), Fiana, Kombayede and Kaikondoh (Kono district), Bafodia and Kumala (Koinadugu district), and Mongo and Kamaron (Falaba District).

The photos show Pastor Mondeh of Fiana and Pastor Kpakima of Kombayende respectively after receiving the study Bible from EFSL. Both Fiana and Kombayende are hard-to-reach communities in Kono. Pastors in these communities do not have study aids such as Bible dictionaries and concordances. After receiving the Bible, Pastors Mondeh and Kpakima joyfully said the study Bibles will aid them in preparing sermons.



... And Sewing Machines

EFSL also provided seven women with sewing machines procured with funding from Support EFSL. This activity aims to help beneficiaries to generate income for improved wellbeing. Below are three of the ladies who have received sewing machines this year.



Betty Lahai is a Christian young lady who has been trained as a seamstress and has served as an apprentice for two years in one of the local tailor's shops. According to Betty she has always prayed to God for money to buy a sewing machine. She said often customers come to me with clothes for sewing, but because I don't have access to a sewing machine, I missed the opportunity.

Elizabeth 'Finda' Essah is a single, young woman who has completed her studies in dressmaking. Despite her knowledge and skill, she was finding it difficult to make ends meet. Before the provision of the



sewing machine, she spent her days helping male dressmakers who had their own machines. Her experiences were not pleasant; in most cases she reported being paid very little for her work. After receiving the sewing machine Elizabeth declared, "With this machine I can now establish my own business and develop a client base. To God be the glory."



Isata Bundor is 35 years old and married with three children. She and her family live in the crowded East End of Freetown. Isata is a Christian and had always desired to learn a trade in which she could be self-employed and contribute financially to the upkeep of her home. She made that dream a reality by enrolling in a home management course at a technical vocational school in Freetown, specialising in dressmaking.

After completing the course, she still needed a sewing machine to effectively ply her trade. Unfortunately, after two years she had still not been able to buy one. So, as she puts it, "I take everything to God prayer. All these years, I prayed to God for a sewing machine, and finally today I have got one through EFSL." Isata thanks God and donors for their support.

Other Ministries Aided by Support EFSL

Regular monthly funding from Support EFSL ensures that the Evangelical Fellowship's evangelism department and its activities remain sustainable. Our support also serves as the major income stream for three rural Pastors – Pastor Robert Conteh (Komoye Village), Pastor James Coker (Morwagor Village, Mattru Jong), and Pastor Joseph Sorsorwah. It helps these rural pastors pay not only for basic needs, but also for their children's education and health care. Please continue to prayer for these pastors and for the work of the evangelism department.

Plans for the rest of 2023

Support EFSL Chairman Ken Wiebe is awaiting confirmation of target communities and other details for another Travelling Bible School in November. He is projecting for at least 50 pastors and other church leaders to enrol for a three-day seminar in each of three separate rural centres. He also wants to ensure that the pastor of each church represented receives a study Bible.

Matters for Praise and Prayer

EFSL General Secretary, Rev Gadiru Bassie has specifically asked that we:

- Pray that God would heal and deliver Sierra Leone from any form of setback.
- Pray against the devices of the enemy to hinder the growth of the economy of Sierra Leone.
- Sierra Leone is experiencing political tension. Please pray for peace to reign in our nation.
- Pray for our leaders of government, parastatals, and judiciary... for wisdom to rule and govern the people of Sierra Leone well.

Also please pray

- For continued protection for the churches and believers in Sierra Leone, particular those converted from Muslim backgrounds.
- That God will direct, guide, and protect all those involved in planning for, and participating in, the Travelling Bible Schools being held in November 2023.
- That Support EFSL will be able to fund one study Bible for each church leader attending the Travelling Bible School... and to meet the ongoing need for sewing machines.

God's richest blessings,

Steve Manktelow

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