



Support EFSL News

June 2024

<https://supportefsl.org>

Dear praying friends,

As I write, we in the UK are about to have a general election. It is a chance for everyone who has the right to vote to decide who they want to form the next Government, and who they want serving them and speaking for them as their local member of Parliament. Many prospective candidates are waiting to see if they will be elected, but for Christians, who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, we have already been elected by God! Peter declares, *"But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light."* 1 Peter 2:9. Jesus himself confirms this. In the Gospel of John He says, *"You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit – fruit that will last."* John 15:16a.

Peter declares, *"God's divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and goodness."* 2 Peter 1:3. And Peter goes on to urge us to *"Be all the more eager to make your calling and election sure. For if you do these things you will never fall, and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ."* 2 Peter 1:10 & 11. So, at this time of political elections, let us also remember to value and protect our own election by God.

So far in 2024

The work of EFSL funded by Support EFSL continues apace. Already in 2024 more Travelling Bible School seminars were held in February at Bo and Kenema. They were led by Pastor Bajoe. Support EFSL Chairman Rev Ken Wiebe, EFSL General Secretary Pastor Gadiru Bassie, and Rev Steve Cleary from London completed the teaching team. The topics covered were: Ministerial Ethics (Gadiru), Servant Leadership (Ken; Jesus our example, who washed the feet of his disciples and who died for us), Evangelism (Bajoe), and Introduction to Marriage (Ken). Steve taught from John 15 each day. Ken taught his second session just before lunch. By then, everyone was starting to wilt in the heat (36°C!) and needed refreshment, so the lunch of rice and cassava leaf stew went down well!



Pastor Bajoe teaching



Ken teaching



Delegates during a break

EFSL Radio Ministry

In April, a national emergency was declared in Sierra Leone over the rising use of 'kush', a synthetic mixture of marijuana, fentanyl, and tramadol. EFSL has joined the campaign against youth drug and substance abuse and has held eight radio discussion programmes on the impact of drug use, particularly among



Christian youth. It also used some of its Support EFSL funding to pay for the services of a journalist to cover and report on the campaign against drug and substance abuse in Freetown and Makeni. The resulting media coverage gave the campaign wider publicity across the country. The radio programme and face-to-face engagement has helped EFSL to reach over 200 drug addicts with the message of salvation, and nine of the addicts gave their lives to Jesus Christ. Pray for them as they continue their rehabilitation.

Future projects in 2024

Marriage TBSs

In addition to the regular support that you provide to EFSL, we hope with your help to provide additional funding to EFSL for four Travelling Bible School seminars on building strong marriages and developing healthy relationships. EFSL plans to hold these seminars at Bo, Kenema, Kono, and Makeni in November and they will be especially for pastors and their spouses. EFSL has identified a real need in this area and the seminars will aim to provide support, teaching, and counselling to all those who attend.

Church roofs

There is an ongoing need to provide funding for new church roofs, and we aim with your help to provide funding for two churches in the Waterloo and Western Rural areas.

Jesus Film backpacks

As part of its initiative to plant churches in rural communities and share the Gospel in hard-to-reach areas of Sierra Leone, EFSL has recently asked if Support EFSL could provide funding for Jesus Film backpacks. The backpack contains a compact projector, collapsible screen, tripod, microphone, amplifier, and a car/moto charger, enabling the team to go anywhere with the Good News and reach up to 300 persons per showing.



10K Run

On July 14th the Support EFSL Trustees will be running 10 km to raise funds for Support EFSL and especially for this year's projects. Two trustees (Ken and Harry) will be taking part in the London 10K Run, while others will run locally in Manchester, Devon, and in Manitoba, Canada! We hope you will be able to support them. For more details, please visit our website at <https://supportefsl.org/>. Also, a JustGiving page has been set up for anyone who would like to support a particular trustee:



<https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/supportefsl-2024-10k>

Matters for Praise and Prayer

- Continued unity, peace, and political stability in SL and protection for the churches and believers in SL.
- God's direction, guidance and protection for all who will be involved in the upcoming Marriage Travelling Bible Schools.
- God's protection for all those believers who have converted from Muslim backgrounds.

"Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and His understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint." Isaiah 40:28-31.

May that be your experience as well as for those Trustees running on the 14th! God's richest blessings!

Steve Manktelow, Support EFSL Treasurer