



Support EFSL News

December 2022

<https://supportefsl.org>

Dear praying friends,

Recently my wife and I were walking along the coast path in Cornwall and at the next headland came to a National Coastwatch Institution building. The NCI is a charity whose volunteers, in the words of their website, "provide the eyes and ears along the coast... and provide a listening watch in poor visibility. When people get into trouble, we are there to... direct the appropriate rescue services to the casualty." At Christmas we are reminded of our Saviour's birth, but we are also thankful that through his death and resurrection Jesus has rescued each one of us when we were lost and helpless and at just the right time! Hallelujah!

'You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly... God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.' Romans 5:6,8.

Support EFSL Trustees visit EFSL and participate in three Travelling Bible Schools

Rev Gadiru Bassie welcomes Support EFSL Chairman Rev Ken Wiebe and Support EFSL Trustees Kevin Wiebe and Harry Stevens to the EFSL HQ, where they also met with Muslim Background Believers Regina, Mary, and Kadija. These three young women, all continuing to walk with Jesus and pursuing career education, are among several other former Muslims who have needed outside help to overcome the obstacles placed in their way because of their persistence in living for the Lord. It was a delight for Ken to see the progress Kadija and Regina have made in the years since he last saw them.



The time spent with Pastor Gadiru and the EFSL staff was valuable. It enabled EFSL staff and the visiting Support EFSL trustees to deepen their relationship, and for each to better understand the challenges the other faces. It was also so helpful to see firsthand the ministries and projects that EFSL are doing with your help!

Visiting a Chapel International Ministry church at Regent

One EFSL priority that Support EFSL helps sponsor is the provision of roofing materials for rural churches. Ken and Kevin visited Chapel International's newly roofed church on a Sunday so they could fellowship with the congregation that meets there. They also visited another church which runs a primary school under its new roof.



Travelling Bible School

Sierra Leone has many rural pastors who carry out their ministries in remote, Muslim-dominated communities. The aim of EFSL's Travelling Bible School (TBS) is to provide teaching, encouragement, and a rare opportunity for peer-to-peer fellowship for these under-resourced pastors. Last month, Support EFSL had the privilege to co-sponsor and take part in three TBS seminars.

At Bonthe, Sherbro Island



The seminar on beautiful Sherbro Island was very well attended, and the delegates responsive and appreciative of our effort to come, *by boat*, to such a remote town. 50 delegates had been invited, but 60 turned up. Kevin and Harry led morning devotions; Ken, and Pastors Joseph and Michael (EFSL staff), shared the teaching sessions.



At Grafton and Mile 91



The Grafton TBS seminar surprised with its readiness for discussion and feedback. Grafton is on the outskirts of Freetown, so it is to be expected that more delegates have formal Bible training and might be keen to interact on the topics.



As in the other seminars, Pastor Joseph taught on 'Evangelism & Discipleship', Pastor Michael (pictured) on 'Church Management', and Ken's topics were 'Servant Leadership' and 'Christian Marriage.'

Fifty-seven delegates attended the TBS at Mile 91. The hosting pastor expressed his pleasure, as there has been a tendency in the town for the various Christian leaders to keep to themselves. There was discussion on cultural practises/secret societies, a subject often feared to be spoken of. Some still suffer 'effects' from being initiated as children. Two of the older women showed up early the next day and expressed thanks for the teaching on this topic.

Matters for praise and prayer:

- **The attendance and positive engagement of rural pastors and other delegates at the TBS seminars; pray that they will take back to their churches the things they have learned.**
- **Wisdom and vision for General Secretary Rev Gadiru Bassie and his EFSL staff as they continue to serve the churches and people of Sierra Leone.**

Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always to the very end of the age." Matthew 28:18-20.