



Support EFSL News

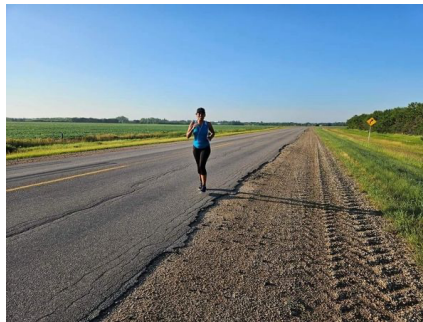
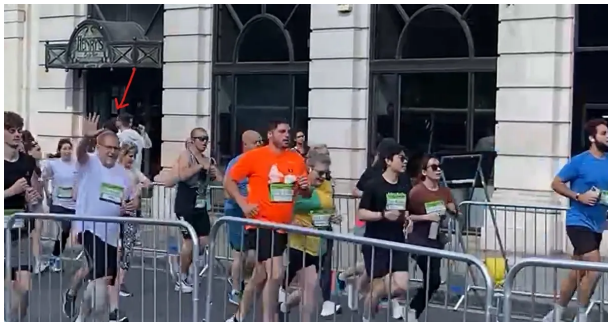
December 2024

<https://supportefsl.org>

Dear praying friends,

How time flies! Once again December is upon us, another year nearly past, and Christmas approaches. Time again to be reminded of God's greatest gift to us in the form of the baby Jesus and we like Simeon can praise God and say, **"For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all people." Luke 2:30-31.** In these troubled times around the world, I am comforted by the certainty of the second coming of Jesus, this time not as a baby, but instead He will come in great power and glory. Jesus' disciples asked him, **"...what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?" Matthew 24:3b.** Jesus replied to them (and us), **"They (the nations of the earth) will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky, with power and great glory." Matthew 24:30b.** Praise God for His plan of salvation and that Jesus will return again! I pray that we will all be ready for that day. Jesus himself said, **"You also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him." Luke 12:40.**

10K Run



On July 14th three Support EFSL trustees each ran 10km to raise funds for three projects: a Travelling Bible School focussing on marriage and family relationships, new church roofs, and Jesus Film backpack projectors. Ken took part in the London 10K Run, while Antoinette in Manitoba ran 10 km to 'the Centre of Canada', and I ran 10 km from my church in the Blackdown Hills in Devon to my home. We would all like to thank those of you who took pity on our efforts and made donations to Support EFSL! Together we raised over £3100. This will enable us to fund one church roof and one Jesus Film projector, and contribute towards the cost of the TBS.

Marriage Travelling Bible Schools

EFSL continues to plan for TBS seminars in four towns in February 2025, focusing on marriage and family relationships. These will take place at Bo, Kenema, Kono, and Makeni. Pastors/leaders have been specifically invited to attend with their spouses. An assessment carried out by EFSL among 150 pastors found that more than 2/3 of marriages are struggling and many even failing. The teaching that the EFSL team is preparing will help improve understanding of Christian marital principles and provide tools to help these leadership couples strengthen their marriages and build happy homes. What they learn and put into practice will not only bless their own lives, but be examples to the believers in their congregations and a light to their communities.

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 backpack projector

We are in the process of ordering one projector backpack with the Jesus Film pre-installed with local Sierra Leonean languages. The portable system will greatly assist EFSL's efforts to share the Gospel in remote villages and plant churches in rural communities. In time, we hope to provide more of these projectors.

Yambama Community Church



Yambama Community Church continues to be salt and light in their community and is growing numerically and spiritually. The Church has developed a strong evangelism team that is reaching out with the gospel to villagers in their homes and farms, and this has contributed to their growth. The average attendance is now 200 worshippers, and the church continues to welcome new people during Sunday, all night, and mid-week services.

Pastor Joseph Sorsorwah and his team provide baptismal and discipleship classes to help new members grow in the things of the Lord. Recently 14 people gave their lives to Christ and were baptized. Glory to God!

Muslim Background Believers (MBBs)

Support EFSL continues to fund 10 MBBs. EFSL has recently sent an update on the progress of three of the MBBs, which are copied below. Please continue to pray them.

- Kadijatu** – Kadijatu continues to grow spiritually. Based on her testimony, she is now at peace with her father who was initially against her conversion to Christianity and going to church. Kadijatu is very active in her local congregation and is doing well at college. **Prayer point: Kadijatu requests prayer for her father and other family members to accept Christ as their Lord and Saviour.**
- Cecelia** – Cecilia's uncle died last month, and she has relocated to Freetown where she continues to actively attend church. **Prayer Point: For Cecilia to grow spiritually and not be distracted from her new-found faith.**
- Haja** – Haja is finding it difficult to attend church because she has returned to her parents, and they are against her being a Christian. **Prayer Point: For revival to occur in Haja's family, and that God will soften her parents' hearts and allow her to go to church.**

Radio Outreach



EFSL weekly programmes are educating the general public in the Western Area and Makeni on the subject of excellent homes/families, and also the negative effects of early child marriage. In the Western Area – including Freetown – the program was aired on two radio stations (FM 92.5 Redeemer Radio Network and the FM 96.5 VOPAD radio station). The radio panelists in the Western Area discussed that an ideal Christian home is built on God's principles and serves as a model for others. In Makeni the programme on the effects of early child marriage was aired on Radio New Song. The feedback from listeners revealed that the topic was relevant and appropriate because it spoke to the issues affecting people in northern part of Sierra Leone, and also in the Western Area.

Further Matters for Praise and Prayer

- The 2025 Biennial General Assembly and Strategic planning process for 2026-2031. Please pray for wisdom and God's guidance as EFSL member bodies meet for fellowship, reporting, and to develop a new strategic plan that fits the current context and challenges.
- Freetown 5 Mile project – The project aims to organise a yearly 5-mile run in Freetown to raise money for various charities in and for Sierra Leone. Please pray for stakeholder engagement, planning, and implementation of this fundraising event, and for new donors to support EFSL's various ministries.

On behalf of all the Trustees I wish you a joyful and peaceful Christmas and God's richest blessings for 2025!

Steve Manktelow

Support EFSL Treasurer