



## PTI Prayer & News – February-April 2008

*'As for God, His way is perfect.'* (Psalm 18:30)

Dear praying friends,

These words from Psalm 18 sum up our confidence in the Lord. You will see from this letter that we are facing some major decisions and we need to know the Lord's way for us very clearly. The last few weeks have shown us how wonderfully the Lord provides for us. We have had some wonderful gifts which have enabled us to go forward in our ministry. We thank him for his gracious goodness to us.

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## SIERRA LEONE

Our conferences for 2008 begin in Sierra Leone this month with Alan Levy returning to the four centres he visited last year. Alan flies out on 15th February and begins the first conference at Makeni on the following Monday, moving on at the end of the week to Kenema, then to Bo, and ending the four-week trip in Freetown. He has opportunities on most Sundays for preaching, and he has also been asked to speak at the Grace and Truth Bible Institute on Saturday 16th Feb, Friday evening 7th and Saturday 8th March. He flies home on the evening of Friday 14th March.

### Sierra Leone itinerary:

- Makeni, 18<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> Feb
- Kenema, 25<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> Feb
- Bo, 3<sup>rd</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> Mar
- Freetown, 10<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> Mar



Alan has asked us to pray for the following matters:

- Safety in all his travelling.
- Physical health and strength – he says it is likely to be hotter this year than last year.
- Grace and wisdom as he speaks.
- That the pastors may have a receptive heart as they listen.

With the guidance of Mike Webb who has invited us, we have chosen and posted books for each of those attending the conferences. They were posted in December and a few in early January. Please pray for their safe arrival and great usefulness in the lives and ministries of the pastors receiving them. A few of the pastors who attended last year's conference have been writing to us and one man has given evidence of growth in his life and ministry as a result of attending and studying the additional books that he has received.

## MYANMAR

Shortly after Alan leaves, **Kenneth Brownell** will be departing for Myanmar. He leaves for Yangon via Bangkok on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February, arriving the next day. He will be speaking at a preaching conference, meeting with various people on the Friday and Saturday, and possibly preaching on the Sunday. Ken is then due to fly to Chiang Mai in Thailand via Bangkok, where he will spend four days teaching 'Barefoot Doctors' (Burmese pastors and evangelists being given basic medical training) at the Frontier Labourers for Christ Training Centre. The ministry here will be on Acts.

Ken asks prayer for the following points:

- A peaceful situation in Myanmar.
- The conference, meetings, and Sunday preaching in Yangon.
- Teaching in Chiang Mai.
- Discussions with Daniel Kalnin of FLC about future training opportunities at the FLC Centre.

## OTHER CONFERENCE PLANS FOR 2008

### Zimbabwe

Our friends at the Evangelical Theological College of Zimbabwe have invited us back to Bulawayo in August and are encouraging us to consider three other conference centres, at Gwanda, Victoria Falls area, and the Blanket and Vubachike Mines area.

Again, please pray that we receive much clear wisdom from the Lord about moving forward with this invitation.

### Zambia

We are working with our friends in Zambia towards four more conferences in this country. Alan Levy is hoping to conduct a second conference in Mongu. (Many pastors who attended the conference last year have completed the reading and have worked through *'What the Scriptures Teach'*. We have also received many testimonies about the benefit of the conference.) Alan also hopes to visit Mansa in the Northern area of the country the following week.

In the South East, Peter Seccombe hopes to visit Chipata and then move into the Copperbelt, possibly at Solwezi. The teaching will be shared with friends from Zambia. The visits to Mansa, Chipata and Solwezi will be the first of a series of three conferences that we hope to conduct in each centre.

### Ethiopia

At the invitation of friends in the Christian Brethren church, we are planning to re-visit Ethiopia in October. Ken McIntosh and David Sercombe are preparing to lead the ministry again, at conferences in Addis Ababa and Ginchi.

Please pray that the planning for all these conferences would proceed well.

## WAREHOUSING FOR THE BOOKS

As we mentioned in our last letter, this is our major prayer need. Space is becoming increasingly cramped at Milford. We have been exploring possibilities, but can say nothing further until the directors have met on 18<sup>th</sup> Feb. Some of the following items will give more indication about the need for this to be settled as soon as possible.

### Books

The books that we use most frequently at our conferences and in our mentoring ministry have all had to be purchased again in the last 6 months.

- *'Pastors and Teachers'* – we bought 3,000 copies last autumn.
- *'The Christian Handbook'* and *'Workbook'* – 2,000 copies of each have just arrived.
- *'Bible Answers'* – 1,000 arrived in January.
- *'Preach the Word'* – 3,000 copies ordered.
- *'What the Scriptures Teach'* – 5,000 copies ordered.

We thank our gracious God for providing finances to meet all these needs, and for the publishers who have so willingly worked in close fellowship with us.

### Myanmar & Thailand itinerary:

- Yangon conference, 27<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> Feb
- Visiting Christians & preaching in Yangon, 29<sup>th</sup> Feb-2<sup>nd</sup> Mar
- Chiang Mai (Thailand) 'Barefoot Doctors' conference, 4<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> Mar.



We have also bought 28,000 French books which were offered to us recently. This has come at a very opportune time because we have a growing number of French speaking applications to share in our ministry. Later in February a brother from Chad is visiting the Central African Republic and will be taking a number of French books with him. Please pray that we would know wisdom from the Lord about making the best use of these.

## **MAKING PTI MORE WIDELY KNOWN**

Because we are still quite a new ministry, we are concerned that we should become more widely known.

- We had a stall at the Carey Conference in January, which provided the opportunity to speak with pastors about our ministry.
- We have been invited to have a similar stall at the Banner of Truth ministers' conference in early April, and to exhibit again during the Evangelical Movement of Wales conference in August.
- Evangelical Times recently carried an article about our visit to Ethiopia last year.
- We do have occasional opportunities to speak to churches about our work.
- Work is currently underway on a new publicity leaflet which we would like to have available by the end of March.

Please pray that all these means would be used to stir up interest in the work.

## **PASTORS' LETTERS AND COMMENTS**

Almost every day we receive emails and letters from pastors, speaking of the value that they receive from our books. This is a most encouraging aspect of our ministry.

We made an agreement to help each year with the cost of sending books to help pastors in Cuba. This is done through our friends in Spain at *Editorial Peregrino*. They recently received the following from a pastor in Cuba called Israel Perez:

*"You'll never be able to imagine how much good you do when some of the materials you publish get into the hands of a Cuban pastor or believer who wants to divide rightly the Word of Truth... Our people love reading but for many years evangelicals here haven't got Christian publishing houses... We send our deepest gratitude to the Peregrino team."*

From Ndola in Zambia:

*"We had a wonderful conference for PTI this year. It was a wonderful time with our teacher Peter Seccombe and his wife, our mother. He was very accurate prolific in the way he taught the book of Philippians... we have benefited a lot. Our eyes are opening. The books we have received at the conference were very wonderful, very educative."*

While writing this prayer letter the following arrive from Kenya:

*"Thank you for books you sent to me. The book which discussed the problem Habakkuk had has really ministered to me even in this time when our country is undergoing trials. I have really maintained right perspective and been able to have focused prayers. The other one which handles Isaiah 40 has really opened my eyes to the perfect plan of salvation and how God revealed it to the prophets. The author is really a gifted man and he has used a simple language to convey his messages. The last book is a masterpiece of Christian doctrine. It is really helping me to add meat to the fundamental teachings of the Bible, it is a great reference tool."*

*"I am very thankful for your ministry to me. I have really grown spiritually since I begun to receive the books from you. My preaching has really grown and this has enabled me to minister effectively to the flock I am overseeing, God is doing great things among us. Keep up the Good work."*

A new applicant from Ghana wrote:

*"A colleague pastor gave me one of your fantastic books, after reading, it was really superb. In our part of the world one finds it difficult to get such books. I will be very happy and also appeal to your humble office to send me some of your books to upgrade my knowledge in my pastoral ministry."*

From the far north of Zambia:

*"Thank you for the books I received. I have gone through them, they are very good and very encouraging. Please! Please! Never give up sending more teaching and guide books. You know here in rural areas we are very behind with many things, no cell phones, post offices are far away so please continue sending more and more teaching materials."*

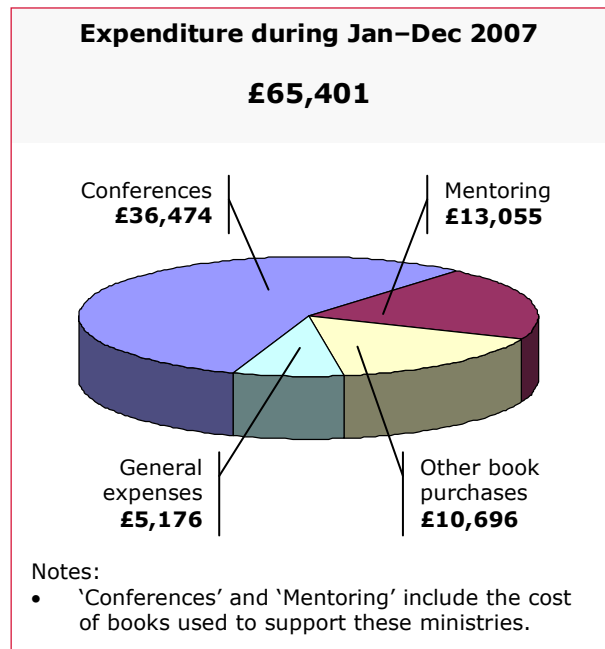
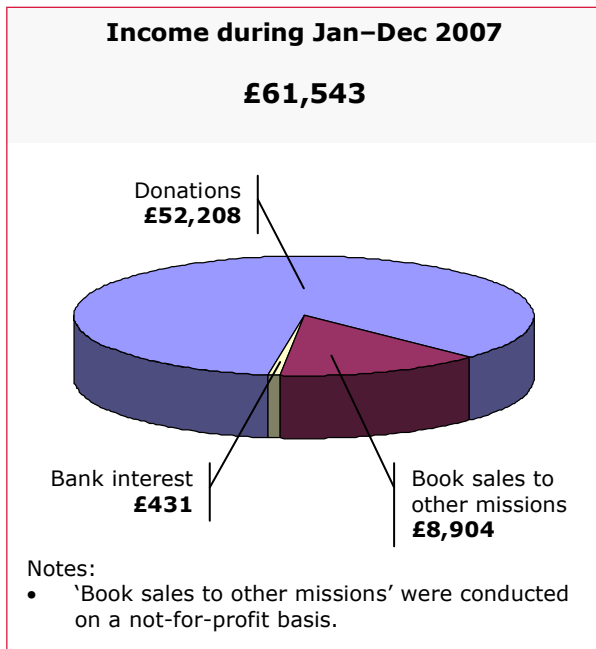
Many pastors use our books to form a church library and to help train other leaders, as these comments from Zimbabwe and Zambia show:

*"The Bible Book by Book has helped us in equipping the men whom we are training to work in the Lord's Vineyard and now we have a strong understanding of the true background and meaning each book... The literature we are receiving from you is the only one that is in our library."*

*"I use these books for training others who would set off a chain reaction of multiplication that would cause the gospel to be spread quickly... I use the books to train other leaders. We have a teachers' seminar (2 Timothy 2:2) because the leader's job is to train and equip the members of the church who have leadership potential."*

## FINANCIAL SUMMARY FOR 2007

We give thanks to God for meeting all the financial needs of the charity during the last year. The following unaudited summary sets out the income and expenditure during 2007. Please contact us if you would like any further details.



We are grateful for your encouragement in standing with us in this vital prayer fellowship,

Gordon Oram – PTI Editorial Board

*"We'll praise him for all that is past  
And trust him for all that's to come."*