

The Harvest Times

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The Day of Salvation By Samuel Arthur, National Director in Ghana

One Sunday afternoon, the weather was hot, the sun scorching. In order to feel cool, people found themselves relaxing in the shade of trees. Church service in Sogla was over, and I decided to go visit some people in the community.

Under a tree a man was dozing, and seeing me approach, he welcomed me nicely and asked me to sit on a big stone lying by him. He asked his wife to give me water to drink. After quenching my thirst, I told him I had come to share the Word of God with him.

He gladly paid attention and was so happy to hear what Jesus has done for him. He asked, "If Jesus did something like this for a marginalized person and half-blind man like me, why did this gospel take so long to get to me?" According to him, he had moved from place to place and shrine to shrine to make sacrifices to appease the gods and to obtain local medicines. Early on, some people had told him he was being punished by the gods. He was hopeless.

He accepted Christ that very afternoon, and this was what he said: "My son, God sent you to give me water and food for my soul this day. I am satisfied inside now, and even though I cannot see well physically, I feel light and sight within me."



Pastor George (left) with the new convert

I remembered how the coming of Christ into the life or heart of an individual is a personal relationship between Christ and the one receiving Him. For this man in Sogla, I believe this was what the Lord Jesus was saying: "In an acceptable time I have heard you, and in the day of salvation I have helped you. Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation," (2 Cor. 6:2).



The Sogla congregation first met under a tree.

"I am satisfied inside now, and even though I cannot see well physically,
I feel light and sight within me."







Phone: 913.432.0303

PO Box 4711 Overland Park, KS 66204

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AROUND THE WORLD

BOLIVIA

Isaac Quino pastors the 9 de Abril church in Bolivia. He was one of five candidates ordained at the National Convention in January this year, passing an eight-page written exam and an oral exam with his wife.

The Bolivian Church has set goals for growth. As former missionary Paul Confer explained, the Church's goals are "that every established church must begin and present a viable daughter church 1 time every 4 years. There are approximately 165 churches now and they are pushing for a 16% growth annually."

Churches are springing up in new neighborhoods in the Cochabamba and Santa Cruz areas.

In the last 72 years, many faithful missionaries have served in Bolivia. And today the Church continues to march ahead under Bolivian leadership. Thank you for your continued prayers for our brothers and sisters in Bolivia!

HOME OFFICE

Have you missed us? This is our first newsletter since January because Administrative Assistant Ashlee Englund began six weeks of maternity leave the end of the month. During that time, Ashlee had limited duties, and Director Mark continued his busy schedule of traveling to represent World Missions and communicating with the mission fields.

Thank you for your patience with some delayed responses during this time. Ashlee is back to full responsibilities with her new sidekick, baby Elise. Thanks to all who faithfully pray for us in the home office.