

# Ghana Mission Report

## Northern Region

### Aug-Sept 2012

by Lowell Maxey

**Lowell Maxey**  
**Journal**  
**Ghana**  
**8-15-12 to 9-13-12**

Arrived at Abilene International Airport about noon for 1:30 flight to DFW. Left DFW about 5pm for London. Normal layover in London and arrived at Kotoka Airport, Accra about 9pm on the 16. Got to “hotel” about 10pm. Bro. Ralph Ofori met me at the airport and took me to the hotel. I really appreciated that!

At the hotel I met my driver Mensah and his mate, Michael, who is his nephew. Greeting me at the hotel was Stephen Ashcraft and Kojo Acquah, who preaches at Swedru. Left for Kuwani about 5am the 17th of August. At the ferry I met an old denominational friend, David, who told us of some bad roads not to take. He introduced us to a man going most of our way who offered to guide us (as our driver did not know the roads). I became good friends with his children, Jennifer and Joel. Arrived at Kuwani at 9pm. All three of us will be staying with Samson.

Started teaching at 9pm in Kuwani on Influence and Encouragement. Then taught on How to Become a Christian. There were 4 baptisms. At 12:30 we took a break because of signs of a coming rain, but at 2pm we started again and I spoke on Church Government.

Later that day George Dassah, a preacher from Tamale, who has a farm at Knaamu, and works with the church when there, came by to see me. A bit later

Sammie Quarshie, one of the preachers at Chinderi came over to visit. The people told me they enjoyed my speaking because it was the first rain they had in five weeks! Thereafter I was known as the short white man who brought rain.

I continued on the subject of Church Government the following Sunday.

Also met one of our new preachers, Isaac Moakel. His wife is Comfort and child is Edna. He works with the churches at Kpajah, with average attendance of 30, Kpabinkando, average attendance of 15, and Wajado, with average attendance of 10-11. His cell is 026 260 5676. Has English, but go slow. Took two pictures; one in my room and the other at the corner of Samson’s house.

Attendance from:

	Kuwani	Lafamado
Men	32	5
Women	32	4
Kids	26	3
Total	90	12
4 baptisms		

The next day I found out I was going to the village of Tenado.

Before leaving I was standing on Samson’s front porch and two girls, teenagers, came saying they wanted to be baptized. Through Samson I asked several questions. I thought the answer to one question was quite revealing. The question was “What are some things that a Christian should not do?” Their answer was fornicate, steal and lie.

Attendance at Tenado was:

Men	Women	Kids	Total
20	25	42	91

There were 4 visitors.

Talked about false teachers and false healers. Primary verses were II Corinthians 2:17; 4:2; Philippians 1:18, and then back to II Corinthians 4:5.

There were 6 baptisms, 5 ladies, 1 man. The first four baptisms were girls. Counting the 2 girls at Kuwani who were baptized, this brings total baptisms to 12.

Again speaking on baptism; the Who, Why and What. Class started at 8:45 and the “sermon” ended at 11:30.

After the Lord’s Supper they wanted more teaching so I spoke on Noah, “Everything I Need to Know I Learned From Noah’s Ark.”

<b>ONE:</b>	Don’t miss the boat.
<b>TWO:</b>	Remember that we are all in the same boat!
<b>THREE:</b>	Plan ahead. It wasn’t raining when Noah built the Ark.
<b>FOUR:</b>	Stay fit. When you’re 60 years old, someone may ask you to do something really big.
<b>FIVE:</b>	Don’t listen to critics; just get on with the job that needs to be done.
<b>SIX:</b>	Build your future on high ground.
<b>SEVEN:</b>	For safety’s sake, travel in pairs.
<b>EIGHT:</b>	Speed isn’t always an advantage. The snails were on board with the cheetahs.
<b>NINE:</b>	When you’re stressed, float awhile.
<b>TEN:</b>	Remember, the Ark was built by amateurs; the Titanic by professionals.
<b>ELEVEN:</b>	No matter the storm, when you are with God, there’s <u>always</u> a rainbow waiting.

You will notice as I continue that I shamelessly use good material prepared by others.

Found out I was speaking Sunday night at Kuwani. Also found out that 3 were baptized today at Kuwani, the 2 young ladies, and one young man. This brings the total baptisms to 13. Tonight I spoke from Luke, chapter 15, God’s Care for the Lost and

Four Kinds of Lostness. Have read that the theme of the chapter is: The Joy of Being Lost is Being Found. Attendance:

Men	Women	Kids	Total
31	33	36	100

Back in room by 8pm.

Just as a side comment the van I have this time is the best van ever. It is a Mercedes and fairly new. The odometer and speedometer actually work! You will remember we left Accra at 5am, had a stop in Ho to exchange money, and a two hour wait for the ferry before arrive at Kuwani at 9pm. The distance: 248 miles. How long would it take us to cover that distance here in Texas?

One interesting comment on worship at Tenado. Both our driver and his mate are Roman (that is how Roman Catholics are called.) They both attended our services, declined communion, but both contributed. More to say about them later.

Four congregations joined together for the beginning of my next day. Kumaabui, Nbawuso, Gachedo, and Kayeresu. I started teaching about 9am (one hour drive to location) and stopped at 2pm with a 30 minute break. Again speaking on Church Government. After speaking I was presented with a rooster and a dozen yams. There was a long discussion involving church government; specifically the paying of a preacher. How, what, if farmers had a bad year, etc.

Attendance:

Men	Women	Kids	Total
50	54	72	176

One baptism. New total now 14.

Our van took Samson’s mother to the hospital in Salaga. She was given medicine and returned.

Only thing I ate today was crackers.

Went to bed before 9pm.

Now at a congregation that was planted by Kuwani, Mariche. Took picture of Stephen and Solomon, their leading men.

From 9 until 11 I spoke on Proverbs 6:16ff and II Timothy 3:1-6 and various other associated verses. This afternoon I will speak on the Church. We meet in a school building, as they have none of their own.

At the invitation 6 rose, but someone said one was sleeping with her boyfriend. Then some questioning and comments.

1. One sleeping with boyfriend
2. One marriage not consummated
3. One woman understood what was said and wanted to be baptized, but her husband has an infection, and until he has money to cure the infection he prohibits her from being baptized. She too has infection. The man also had a child with another woman when he married this woman. And, he did not have her parents permission to marry.
4. There were two more ladies who stood and said they were Christians. Samson talked with one of them and she said her husband was not there and she had to have his permission to be baptized. In Ghana the husband rules.

In Ghana there is something one needs to understand. When one stands to be baptized, comments concerning them will instantly be made, if needed. If you are not a Christian and do not stand up then you will be pointed out to be visited with. In addition to that when you ask for prayers, you stand in the services and detail your request, whether it be sickness or infidelity.

Anyway, there were 3 baptized, now bringing the new total to 17.

Attendance:

Men	Women	Kids	Total
27	20	33	80

A new day begins with my alarm clock (a rooster) sounding off. Samson comes to check on me. Thomas comes to tell me that both the driver and mate are ill, but do not want to go to the clinic in Salaga. We are going into Isaac’s territory this morning and need to leave by 7:30am.

It is 1½ hours to Kpabinkodo and we pick up people at Wajado on the way. At Kpabinkodo some years ago we baptized 100 people. 20 have moved away. That leaves 80. The high winds blew the roof off their building and they started meeting under a mango tree close to a Presby (Presbyterian) church. Their signs seem to always abbreviate the word hence the name. The noise from the Presby church, drums, etc., drove 77 of the 80 away. That

leaves 3. The entire 80 came to hear me and the 77 promised to come back. Note: I did not count this as 77 restorations.

The church at Wajado has other physical problems. They had a lot purchased and someone else built upon it. So they need to secure another building site. Both have some zinc roofing left and that is good as it will help reduce their cost of rebuilding.

Attendance:

Men	Women	Kids	Total
22	30	22	74

I taught an abbreviated lesson at Kuwani this evening. It had rained (remember the short white man who brings rain) and the farmers got a late start. I talked on Mark 8:35-37.

We did end up taking the driver and mate to the clinic.

Another factor you need to consider is that there is electricity....sometimes.

Left at 8am, picked up Owusu and Isaac and the people from one village. The 22 passenger van had 33 or 35 plus babies in it. The two congregations are Butin and Dogojinbo. I spoke for about an hour and we took a 25 minute break, then I started again and we took questions. After closing questions we had 5 baptisms, new total now 22.

I started talking on Assurance. From there went to the Church, Christians, Heaven and Hell and How to Get to Heaven. Boy, did the questions fly! Some of the questions were:

- Can you be baptized again if you sin?
- What about the three heavens and purgatory?
- Pentecostal people immerse. Is that sufficient for the church of Christ?
- Then concerning marriage, divorce, and remarriage.
- Can God, will God hear the prayer of denominational people?

I was presented one rooster and several yams.

Just told that I am to speak again at Kuwani tomorrow night.

Attendance:

Men	Women	Kids	Total
25	30	47	102

A new day dawns, and up with the chickens, literally.

Think I will approach this morning from the standpoint of Abiding In Christ, and tonight look at the book of Jude.

Left early again and picked up people at Sunguai on the way to Kpajai (Paa-jai), which is one hour from base.

Attendance:

Men	Women	Kids	Total
25	30	54	109

14 youngsters were baptized, bringing total to 36.

Went to Salaga (the old slave capital of the North) in the afternoon for fuel. As we came through Tenado they gave us a pan full of yams for being with them on Sunday.

After talking from Jude there were some questions.

1. Where God put angels out of heaven...will this happen again?
2. You mentioned the Great Commission. I can't read so what do I do?
3. God is a loving God. Then why did he create hell?

Found out tonight I was to teach and preach at Kuwani on Sunday.

They generally meet from 9 to 12 on Sunday, but this Sunday they will start at 8am to give me sufficient time. Ha.

Also, Samson wishes me to talk on Giving during the class. I plan on speaking on Four Rules of Discipleship from Luke, chapter 12 for the "sermon".

To bed by 10pm.

I don't like to eat chicken, but I am beginning to have ideas about the rooster just outside my window each morning.

Think I will approach the morning subject by talking about the Blood of Jesus. More meditation needed to make the subject of Giving palatable.

Today will be a combination of the congregations of Kulpi and of Loloto. Our Catholic driver Mensah, come to most of the talks. As far as Michael, the mate, I give him scriptures each day to study. For a Catholic he is well versed in Scripture. He just graduated from Senior Hi (SSS), and with excellent grades.

Some of the questions today were:

1. Since the blood of Christ cleansed us from sin, what do we do?

2. What kind of baptism are we talking about?
3. If I sin how will I tell Christ to tell God to forgive my sin?
4. If I send someone to the person with whom I have trouble, and he comes back saying all is OK, does God know it?
5. If someone is here and not baptized, what will happen?
6. Muslims say different. Whom should I believe?
7. If I have 3 wives, what should I do? And each has children.
8. We go to church because we are sinners. Some say, no sin, no church. What about them?
9. What about using mike's etc., Is that not adding an instrument?
10. At denominational funerals where instruments are used, should we go? Should we dance with them?
11. Where there is no church of Christ can I attend a denomination?
12. If I take herbs to cure my illness, am I sinning?
13. Knowing now there is only one church and that I was baptized in a denomination, can I, should I, be baptized again.
14. The church of Christ partakes of the Lord's Supper on the first day of the week. The Roman Catholics do so at funerals. Can I?
15. The lady who talked about being baptized in a denomination spoke again and Thomas talked to her personally, but in the presence of all. She was baptized in the Pentecostal Church but now wishes to be baptized into the body of Christ.

Had my picture made with another chicken, a dozen or so yams, and with the two leaders from Loloto.

Two more baptisms. New Total is 38.

Attendance:

Men	Women	Kids	Total
21	19	13	53

During the time I was speaking, Thomas interpreted into Twi for Mensah, as he does not understand Konkomba. I pray for this effort.

Electricity out on our return.

Up the next day, still with no electricity.

Church begins at 8am. Many questions. 104 at worship.

- Kuwani has 30 congregations in its area.
- Chinderi has 15 congregations.
- Kpandai has 21 congregations.

After services Thomas, Samson and I shared prayer and we left for Chinderi.

Quarshie met us at Banda and led us to Chinderi, arriving a little after 2pm. We all will be staying with the people Quarshie rents from. No charge as we will be in space he rents. He gave me his room, a fan, and a bed. The entrance way to the room is shorter than I am. Mensah and Michael not happy with their space. I told them I had the same and heard nothing more from them. The facilities here are crude.

Visited with Shadrach who wants a lap top. I told him to save his money and buy one.

Didn't sleep well. Had some wild dream about me and Obama.

Now you think the rooster at Kuwani was bad, but this one has him beat and he and the first Muslim call to prayer both start at 4am.

First working day at Chinderi. Left at 8am for Becheri and picked up people on the way. Started raining when we arrived.

Talked on Assurance. Perhaps a few not members; one man certainly not.

Attendance:

Men	Women	Kids	Total
16	13	78	107

Not sure why so many children.

Mark Karo Yeboah heard I was here and came from Wiae to see me. We visited and then I went to take a nap and with the fan it was OK. I woke up when the electricity and fan stopped. Mark is a 2011 graduate of the Tamale Bible College. Last year when I was at Kpandai I bought him a bicycle for transportation. Wiae is his home. He has already planted a new congregation.

Learned that there are two kinds of cassava; one edible, the other not. You tell by the leaf. On the edible you peel, cut longwise, get all seeds out, and cut up and cook. It is mixed with yam.

Also saw what was called "garden eggs". Looks like a small green tomato. Can eat raw or put in stew.

Went to sleep by 9pm and didn't awaken until 6am. Even missed rooster and Muslim call to prayer.

Mark stayed with us. Noticed that Moses Nador almost always wears knit mittens. Mark is going with us today. Moses brother Peter came this morning. They are both from Bowado (bow-way-do). We are now at Grubi. The building is large but unfinished. Doors and windows need to be installed, and it needs plastering inside and outside. Floor is dirt. Probably needs a ditch around it to guide water away.

The van has gone to get people from another village. While waiting some of the men, those who could read, were looking in their Bibles. I asked Quarshie to ask them what their favorite scriptures were: Matthew 5:14-17 and Matthew 5:7.

The village of Damado is now here. There is a new baby in the home next to us and we "had" to visit. The parents asked me if I wanted to name the child but I suggested the names I knew might be unfamiliar to them and it would be good for them to name their child. Fortunately, they agreed.

Attendance:

Men	Women	Kids	Total
19	21	33	73

There were two new-born babies they wanted us to pray for. And they wanted me to give them words of advice. So I did. My wife would have loved to be a fly on the wall. This took up our break time.

After break we asked for more questions. I answered more then extended the invitation and 4 responded. Now 42 baptisms.

More questions on Marriage, Idols, the different version Bibles, more than one wife, wanting to become a Christian, and miracle healing.

Then I visited with the Grubi leaders. They needed 650 GHC to plaster inside and outside of building, as well as the floor. They had saved up half of the money, so out of the gift money trusted to me I gave them the other half, emphasizing that it was from Christians, not me. At 3pm we headed back to Chinderi. As usual I went to sleep on the way.

At our base the ladies in the "courtyard" were at work with their mortar and pestle, and yams, and to their amusement, I relieved one of them. Imagine they are still laughing.

Stayed in the courtyard and visited with the preachers.

Wednesday, August 29, 2012. Managed again to sleep through the Muslim call to prayer and woke at 6am.

The Muslim is called to prayer five times a day. The call to prayer is heard at dawn, at the midday, about the middle of the afternoon, just after sunset, and at night fall about two hours after sunset.

Saw a van with the words "Nmane Nte". Means, "With God Nothing". Mark and I took an early morning walk. Also was shown a small yam called a "cocoa yam". They mix it and plantains with regular yams. Cocoa yams grow in the forest area.

Yesterday my little temperature gadget told me it was 102.4 F inside the church building.

Now we are at the village of Biposu (bee-poss-o). This congregation has recently been resurrected.

Attendance:

Men	Women	Kids	Total
37	33	66	125

There were 16 baptisms in the Volta Lake. New Total 58.

We had to drive a long way to the Volta for baptizing water.

One man here, a Christian, needed a lot more information on the correct baptism.

Another man said he was an idol worshipper. For four years he and his wife unsuccessfully wanted a child. Then he prayed to his idol and she conceived. We told him the idol didn't have any sperm, plus a lot more. Preacher John from Banda was a former idol worshipper and good in his explanation. Don't know that it did any good, but at least the man heard the truth.

Michael, the mate, and I have been studying. He is Roman. He says he will be baptized when he gets home as there is a large Church of Christ there.

John, Mark and Moses were studying "waiting on the Lord" and I joined them. Then the men started signing and I joined them as it was in English. I remember the melodies to many of their Konkomba and Twi hymns, but not necessarily the words.

Now it is Thursday, August 30th. Believe Daniel is going with me to Accra so we can purchase Bibles at the Challenge Book Store. That will be good because it will help the driver know the correct way.

It is difficult for me to do anything by myself. Can't carry my backpack, my water bottle, my Bible.

Someone always has to carry them. Most of the time it is a young person. At one village a young girl, I would guess about 6, came, took my hand and walked with me to the meeting place. It's hard not to appreciate a people who show so much consideration and have such an interest in the Bible.

Moses Nador's brother-in-law, John Bibebuya, showed me a Nelson Study Bible presented to him from Richard and Paula Riley and dated 26 July 2001. Took pictures and will send them to Paula.

7:35 AM and raining. The preachers were heating water for their morning Milo (hot chocolate) over a small hot coal heater and I went over and fanned it for them to get the water hot. Besides the Milo Quarshie is having a pea (avocado) sandwich and Shadrach an avocado for breakfast. They had to move the palm nuts out of the rain that were drying.

Always before setting out in the van and upon our return there is prayer. Normally there is singing in the van, and Michael, the 20 year old Roman, was singing full voice with the men. His uncle, our driver Mensah, is having trouble facing up to baptism.

Bintim and Zongo Macheri are two combo villages this morning. They have a completed building. Bintim is where Quarshie and James Walker came some years ago. Took front and side views of the church building with the doors propped open. A "note" in the cement floor indicated that part was done on August 15, 2006. The building itself is aprx 18' X 30'.

Spoke from James. Almost always I try to have a short general lesson which is a direct lead to church membership. This morning there were questions.

1. There was a general question about the devil.
2. Then a question about mis-interpreting a statement and replying wrong.
3. Question about the Word, the implanted Word.
4. Then about One God but many churches?

After James I went into the plan of salvation.

Two came forward for baptism. The new total is 60.

That afternoon I went to Proverbs 6:16-19 and Galatians 5:22-26.

Attendance:

Men	Women	Kids	Total
4	4	7	15

After closing Menseh, Michael and myself took Mark home to Wiae. As I believe already mentioned he is a graduate from Tamale Bible College, is in his hometown, and with no outside support. It was a pretty drive. He is a farmer and a preacher.

John Bibebuya, Moses' brother-in-law, had been supported by brethren from the Naples, FL church of Christ, but in June, 2011, he was notified that the ones providing the support were no longer able to contribute to his fund, and Naples dropped him. He works with a number of churches, a couple fairly large (70's), and has two brothers who are successful farmers. I would suppose this is where his living comes from. I do my best sometimes to stay clear of discussing money.

Quarshie and John have been singing for an hour, John in falsetto.

Now at Bowardo building. Took picture. Building blocks at side of structure. Took picture of lad bringing benches. Size is aprx 18' X 24". The church building has a cement base around the bottom to protect from running water.

Intend to begin today to I Timothy 2:1-6, then to chapter 4:7-11, and then to blood of Christ.

Noticed on their blackboard (took picture) that on August 20th, the men participating in the services were Peter, Jacob, Paul, Timothy, Abednego, Gideon, Daniel, Mark, and Emmanuel.

Had Moses write down questions asked and I will try to interpret them.

1. The denominational churches pray and people fall down, say that if churches of Christ pray and people do not fall down then they do not have the Holy Spirit. Is that true or false?
2. Is it necessary that every sick person should fall to be healed when he is prayed for?
3. The Bible says there should not be impartiality of respect in the church. So, when we disrespect any of the offices or persons have we sinned?
4. Is anointing baptism acceptable?
5. Some denominations celebrate the crucifixion of Jesus during Easter. Why doesn't the church of Christ do this?

Two came forward for baptism. The River Daka is close by. New total is 62.

Attendance:

Men	Women	Kids	Total
19	21	34	74

Small delay, but good. The church members (ladies) at Bowardo are preparing food for the people from Kanado. After eating the van will take them to their village and then return for us.

Bowardo presented us with several yams.

Now September 1st. 6:30am. John is falsetto singing and studying his Bible. Quarshie is studying his Bible. From their comments they are in Hebrews 11 and 12. We have morning and evening stops today.

Now at the village of Dwadwae. (dry-dry). Mud blocked building with 2 windows and three doors. Not plastered in or out. Dirt floor. Building aprx 18' X 27'. They have planted flowers on each side of the path leading to the front door and have recently cleaned the area surrounding the building.

Questions:

1. Can we worship with any denominational church when there is no church of Christ available?
2. Many people do not want to involve themselves in our worship because of no instrumental music. Should we be practicing with instruments? What should we tell them?

Two came forward for baptism. New total is 64.

Met with leaders who need financial assistance in plastering, floor, doors and windows. They have 150 GHC saved toward a cost of 615GHC. I told them we would provide half when they reached half.

Challenged the leaders to bring one visitor to worship each month, beginning now. Suggested that the others in the congregation would see and perhaps follow their example.

Attendance:

Men	Women	Kids	Total
7	6	25	38

Now at Kalaiko (calico).

Questions:

1. As a Christian do you have to go and find herbal drugs for your parents when they are sick?

2. As a Christ what will you do when your Father, who is a drunkard, sends you to go and buy him drink?

16 more baptisms in the Volta. New Total is 80.

Attendance:

Men	Women	Kids	Total
14	20	66	100

We had baptized the group and started back (a fair distance) when we came to a boy who wanted to be baptized, but we had left him behind. He hitched a ride and walked. Of course, we took him on board, turned around and went back to the Volta for his baptism.

I also met with the leaders at Kalaiko and challenged them as I had the other congregations.

After returning to the base Michael, the mate, came by and asked me if I believed that God talked to us today. I know he had been discussing the same question with Moses and John.

Returned by 4pm and to bed by 9pm.

September 2, 2012. Started raining about 3am. 6am and still raining. Couldn't I sell this in West Texas! You can imagine the sound of rain on thin tin roofing. They call it "zinc". There is galvanized and non-galvanized zinc. It is easy to tell the difference as the non rusts quickly.

I thought it had rained too much that the roads would be impassable, but, after starting a couple of hours late, found out I was wrong. By the way, it stopped raining at 8am.

Now we are at Kwajifour. Kaliko and Dwadwae coming to join us. Talked to Quarshie about him learning Konkomba but found that the majority here also understood Twi. Shadrach's sister is married and lives in this village.

Our class was on Luke 12-4 Rules for Discipleship. There were questions after it.

1. If we are expected to give, should we expect something back?
2. Should I keep on giving to an individual time after time? Or tell him to find a job?

Questions continued for about 30 minutes, then we started singing and progressed into the morning service which was on Luke 15 – Four Kinds of Lostness.

Attendance:

Men	Women	Kids	Total
26	41	53	120

Seven came forward to be baptized in the Volta. New total now 87.

Met with leaders at Kwaifour. They had purchased land for their building at a cost of 300 GHC and were ready to start on the walls.

Eight more came to be baptized. This makes 95 new Christians.

Good attendance this morning but some parents told their children they had to stay and work in the field.

Moses told me there are two Konkomba tribes. Moses told he has 4 brothers, all Christians. Father died years ago. Two are farmers, one in poly and one in SS. Moses is oldest.

Visited with two men from Menpeasem.

Met Mohammad, who lives next door to Quarshie. He is an assemblyman. Describes himself as a Christian Muslim. As an assemblyman the government furnishes him a Korean 125 Better motorcycle. Gave him my e-mail address and some scriptures to read. He said he would communicate.

Finally to bed about 11pm.

Monday, Sept 3rd. Up at 5am. Visited with John. Brother-in-law of Moses. John has been singing Tempted and Tried in falsetto voice. John also told me that the two Konkomba tribes have slightly different pronouncing of words. Tribes are Bichabob and Bimokpen (bim-mo-pom). The Konkomba Bible is in Bichabob.

Somehow I didn't write down the name of the village nor the exact subject. Either Moses or Shadrach wrote down some of the questions.

1. Is it in the church of Christ than one gets salvation?
2. If a church of Christ member sins can they enter the kingdom of God?
3. If a sinner who was crucified with Jesus can have salvation when accepted Jesus on a cross, why can't members in denominations have it when they accept Christ?
4. Those church (denominations) who use drums; are they sinning and doing good or evil?

5. What if they did not stop drumming in their church; what will happen to them on Judgment Day?

6. Is it a sin when drums are used to praise god? 3 to be baptized. New Total is 98.

Attendance:

Men	Women	Kids	Total
13	9	14	36

Visited with two men from Becheri concerning their building.

Preachers desire 30 Konkomba Bibles and 15 English Bibles.

This morning a toddler came over to me and held his arms out to be picked up. He sat in my lap for several minutes. While John was leading signing, with his arm going up and down, I took the little boy's arm and mimed John. Later the little boy was in front of John miming him.

Moses brought his brother John to see me. John lost his support last year from Naples, FL., doesn't not have the money to buy land or to buy yam seed. Is working with churches in six villages. I praised him for his dedication, but made him no financial, nor other, commitment.

All preachers, with the exception of Shadrach who had gone home, went to the owners of the house where we stayed, and thanked them for their hospitality.

Had trouble going to sleep but the Ghanaian boogie-woogie music stopped shortly after 9pm and all was well.

September 4th. Leaving Chinderi. Daniel was 35 minutes late, which normally doesn't bother me, but I wanted us to be in the front of the line for the ferry, as this was market day. As it was, they loaded 4 busses first and our van was one of the last loaded. The ferry took us over to Dumbai and the road was good. If we had missed the ferry it would have added several hours to our trip.

We made it to Accra by 4pm. Exceptional. Too late to get downtown for the Bibles. Not too late to get a good meal. Found the bookstore the next morning and secured the Bibles needed. Daniel going to take them back and distribute. Helped him with transportation.

Made it to my next village, Osino in late afternoon. Had a good night's rest.

Woke early and shaved in the dark as electricity was still off. For the next few days we go walk-about in different villages. Three preachers are to accompany me.

The woman who is putting us up has a son named Wisdom. Thought he was away at school, but he was home. Found out that he had finished his schooling and that it would take the government up to a year to assign work to him, and that work would not necessarily be in his field of study. Sounds like all governments are much the same.

Prof. John Atta-Mills, the President of Ghana recently died. I was told that it was said both on radio and TV that he had gone directly to Heaven and replaced Jesus on God's right hand.

Everyone here calls me "the old man".

First walk-about village is Juaso (Ga-so). The first two studies were with Pentecostal's. The first said they would come to church of Christ on Sunday, but made no other commitment. The second, Dorothy, was from Accra and just there visiting in-laws. She would come to church Sunday but wait until returning to Accra to be baptized. Alex knew the preacher at the closest church, called him and informed him of the lady, and gave her directions to the church. Directions in Ghana are not by street, they are by location. In this case: next to the Police Station.

The third study was a riot. Studied with Mercy and one of her daughters. She had 9 kids but three died. The remaining 6 have given her 50 grandchildren. And she said the grandchildren are producing another crop that she cannot number. I asked her if she could name her grandchildren. She started, stumbled, stopped, and said she got confused. She is a member of the Paradise Church. She did understand what was said and said she would be at the Church of Christ the next Sunday. She is 78 years old.

The fourth study was with Salina. She is Methodist, but after studying said she would be at the Church of Christ next Sunday and be baptized. She has studied to be a hairdresser and the preachers said they would help her find a suitable place to start her business in Osino.

Now it is 3pm and the farmers are all coming in, and tired. No use to continue today. The three preachers with me are Alex, John, and Daniel.

Took of pictures of a government gold mine in the distance. Back to base and the evening meal and my bucket bath.

Friday, September 7th, Woke up at 6am and it started raining at that time also. Lights went out at 6:01am. Anytime it rains the electricity goes out. Vida, the lady of the house, is filling all buckets she has from her overflowing rain barrels. Stopped raining about 8am.

Our walk-about today and first study is in Hamang. From the first study one is to be baptized next Sunday, one restoration, and one from Kumasi to visit with the Church of Christ there. There were four other Christians that joined the study.

Second study of the day was with a 70 year old Presby who went and got her baptismal certificate to show us. She was baptized when she was 4 years old. Didn't make any headway. Note: Most of the Presbyterian buildings have abbreviated the word so they are just called "Presbys". Also, baptismal certificates are important in Ghana as a source of verification or validation.

Third study – 2 more say they will be baptized this coming Sunday.

98	Baptisms
1	Restoration
2	Will attend church this coming Sunday
4	To be baptized this coming Sunday
2	To be baptized at their homes in Accra and Kumasi

After returning I ate and then, as usual, Alex came and talked. He talks, I listen and learn.

September 8th. Left at 8am for Muoso (mor-so). 45 minute drive. Talked on Temptation.

Questions:

1. What does the Bible mean, spirit willing, flesh weak?
2. Why does God permit sin when he has power to abolish it?
3. Why all so many churches and all things going on?

Questions continued until 10:45. A short walk away we studied with Mary, who was baptized

young as a Presby. She listened as we began with John 4 and consented to be baptized. We will go back next Monday.

Alex, one of the preachers, was originally a member of a Pentecostal like church. To gain membership there was an unusual ritual which I will not go into. Sufficient to say is it including beating.

Now on Sunday I am to preach and teach 5 times. Fortunately for me they are at two different places so the morning classes and lesson and be repeated. At Osino I taught on Temptation and then Church Division.

Attendance:

Men & Women	Kids	Total
46	9	55

Then at New Jejeti the same lessons with two questions.

1. Can the devil make us do anything?
2. About JuJu men (black magic, voodoo).

Attendance:

Adults	Kids	Total	Baptisms
94	20	114	4

New total 102.

Came back to base and took a 3 hour nap!

More baptisms:

Juaso	3
Hamang	3
Muoso	1
New baptism total	7

New baptism total is 109.

Now September 10th. Monday. Back to Juaso. Had one study with a Methodist woman. She comes from the one God, many churches side of the fence. Study was short because she has cancer and was leaving for the doctor in Accra.

Had another study, and an appointment that wasn't kept, along with prayer for an elderly woman who said she would be baptized when she was well. I'm sorta dubious.

Bought 14 Twi Bible at two difference locations.

Now Tuesday, September 11th. Back to Adasewase, the "waterfall" town. Spoke to some of the church members on John 4 – Seven Principles of Personal Evangelism. It was a workday and many

were at work. Six of their members, three preachers, and me had a Bible study with a Pentecostal man and his Methodist wife. He said he would be baptized the next Sunday. His wife had just given birth and said she would be baptized when she gained strength. He was utterly surprised to find that the Bible said there was only one church.

Promised people at Adasewase that if they got the walls up I would get the money for roofing and plastering.

Now September 12th and heading for Accra to depart for home.

Alex reported to me that after my leaving there were an additional 20 baptisms, making the total baptisms for my trip 129.

There are many humbling experiences that one comes across while on a trip like this. I guess the one that I remember most of all is the exactness that Christians tried to take down what I was saying. Many times I spoke in "outline" form, and especially then were brethren copying my words.

One needs to remember that what I was not saying were "my" words but words from the Scriptures. I wouldn't have been surprised if some in the various audiences were not more familiar with the Bible than I.

Humility is hard to come by and I continue down this road. It is certainly appropriate that I thank our Lord and Savior for permitting me to make another trip to Ghana and this one toward the end of my 75th year.