



### October 2021 Newsletter

Greetings fellow prayer warriors,

During the months of January and May of this year, I had the privilege of joining a team of AIPM supporters from Life Baptist Church of Las Vegas in Ethiopia. During our time there, we visited many churches and AIPM missionaries in the field. Below is a report written by Zelalem Mengistu (Zel) after his two visits to the AIPM mission field.

*Ethiopia's 10-40 Window,*

*The 10/40 Window is the rectangular area of North Africa, the Middle East, and Far East between 10- and 40-degrees latitude of the northern hemisphere. Often called 'The Resistant Belt' and includes the majority of the world's Muslims, Hindus, and Buddhists.*

*We have our own pocket regions in Ethiopia I dub, 'our 10-40 window.' Almost 10 years ago, more than 50 Evangelical churches were burned down by radical Muslims in Jimma and Asendabo areas. Sporadic and organized attacks broke out and systematic persecutions happened in different parts of Ethiopia where Muslims are the majority. History shows us that Jihad has three different stages (Stealth, Defensive and Offensive). In many countries, Ethiopia included, it is in its second stage.*

*The Ethiopian Orthodox Church is the oldest Christian presence in in the country. Very rich in tradition. With passage of years and centuries, the gospel is lost in the liturgy, ceremonies, and intricate extra biblical nuances of the church. The EOC, however, is still the majority religious entity in the country. Except sporadic reforms in different segments across the church, it is still a religion of nominal Christianity.*

*What do these two have to do with this newsletter? Our last two trips to Ethiopia with AIPM were in January 2020 and May 2021. In January 2020, just as COVID-19 was breaking out, we were in Bahir Dar and Dorze, among a few more other places. Bahir Dar is located in the north, in the EOC hinterland, the region of oldest monasteries and religious schools of thought. It was a heart-warming experience to spend a couple of days with born again priests taking discipleship training.*

*Then we flew back to Addis and drove south to Dorze, a tightly knitted people, just as their traditional huts, staunch Orthodox and very resistant to the gospel. The Dorze people group is like an island surrounded by a sea of people groups reached by the gospel of Jesus Christ and positively impacted. The stark difference between the Dorzes and the neighboring Gamos is very visible. We appreciated the two tireless AIPM evangelists Bedru and Tesfayesus, toiling among the Dorzes.*

*Our May 2021 trip was in the Ethiopian 10-20 window. Our first stop was at Arsi Negelle, in the Arsi zone on May 13. Outside the town proper, of the population of nearly 100 thousand, more than 95% are Muslim. The testimonies we heard from the Evangelists Mustaffa, Abraham, Tarekegn, and Tesfaye were amazing and filled with optimism.*

*The next few days were in Robe, Goba, Meliyu and Goro of Bale region. The last two are among the bastions of folk Islam in Ethiopia. The Sof Omar caves and the Sheik Housain pilgrimage centers are in the vicinity. We are encouraged to hear the gospel is making inroads, advancing, and taking roots in this area.*

*One of our last stops was Sanbatte Shalla, one of the very first evangelistic outposts of AIPM. A small unassuming town, a little larger than a village. Termed as, 'the Mecca of Ethiopia,' Sanbatte Shalla is a town of portentous significance. In that small town there are no less than half a dozen of big modern mosques.*

*One of the testimonies we heard astounded me for days. Getachew and Worke (a couple among the first fruits of the village) gave the land where the church is built. The Muslim youth of the town went to their other corn farm and carried away the produce and destroyed the rest. That farm was their means of living. They had nothing else, and nothing left to live on. As new believers, they gave thanks to the Lord, gleaned the left-over harvest, and prayed that God would bless it. They lived on the gleanings that whole year. We serve a God of miracles! Despite all odds, the church is growing. Ethiopia's 10-40 window is a real challenge. God has prepared matching challengers. The harvest is plenty, and the Lord of the harvest has no lack of dedicated workers. AIPM is a ministry right in the middle of the harvest. It is a ministry that needs and deserves our continued prayers and support.*

The church at Sanbatte Shalla. A huge mosque is seen at the background. The house next to the fence belongs to a witch doctor who couldn't function as she hoped, obviously due to a Christian presence, and asked the church to buy the property and make it part of the church.

*Zelalem Mengistu (Zel)  
Global Impact missionary  
Life Baptist Church, Las Vegas, NV.*

Many thanks' to Zel for writing this article for our newsletter. Zel is currently serving as a missionary with Life Baptist Church, building partnerships with indigenes missionaries serving throughout Africa.

Please pray for the AIPM Staff and the 250 AIPM missionaries serving throughout Ethiopia. Pray for the Country of Ethiopia. Persecution is prevalent in many areas of the country. Pray for our team from the USA that will be serving this month in Durame, assisting with the annual missionary conference and training for missionaries. Pray that God will touch the hearts of Christians here in the USA and Canada to help by supporting missionaries in prayer and finances. Support for an Ethiopia Missionary family is only \$300.00 per month.

Blessings,  
Bob Hogarth  
AIPM USA

**Your donations to AIPM are always appreciated. All donations go directly to the support of missionaries unless designated for our building project. Please contact me directly if you have any questions at [info@aipmusa.org](mailto:info@aipmusa.org)**

**You can give online at [www.aipmusa.org](http://www.aipmusa.org)**

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