



**Bridging the Gap with Delight, Florence and Ezechi Iwuagwu**

**January - March 2017**

Dear Friends,

We are immensely thankful to you for your prayers for us, especially in the wake of the Fulani Islamists' attacks and your continued support and gospel partnership.

A major distinctive mark of Jesus' life and ministry as he walked the streets of the earth, doing good, was the manifest presence of God; as Peter succinctly puts it as **"...God was with him."** (Acts 10:38). The greatest good was his dying on the cross for our sins. The Almighty God was actively involved effecting his resurrection. He was able to carry out God's agenda: **salvation of all through faith in his death and resurrection** (Acts 19:43)! Today, God is present with the believer by his Spirit (John. 14:15-17).

God was present with the Apostles, by his Spirit, to bring about saving faith through their gospel ministry. But how different is it for us in the church today where wonders and diverse manifestations are flaunted as supposed pointers to the presence of God. Church ministers and television preachers try to out-do each other in these performances. God's agenda is the clear offer of the gospel of salvation to all persons through faith in Jesus' death and resurrection, and God's presence will bring about "His good."

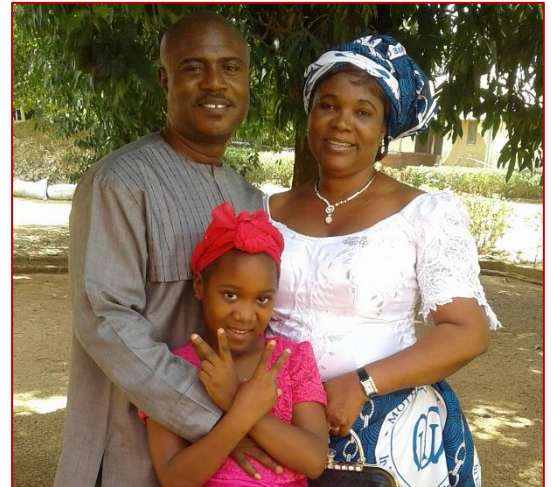
As we celebrate the Easter events, may we commit to holding out the gospel to a needy world, and to keeping our eyes on the victorious Christ, always seeking the daily infilling of the Holy Spirit, knowing that we can do nothing of eternal value, without his presence. **Absolutely nothing** can replace his presence in our lives and ministries! *Happy Easter!*

### *Family News*

**Ezechi** is going strong and is very thankful for God's grace in his teachings these past three months and for the guest lecturers that also taught alongside him. Southern Kaduna has not had any Fulani attacks throughout March; God indeed has heard our prayers. Ezechi turned 50 on 3 March and Florence baked a huge cake as we celebrated with a few friends and the ABC students. God has been most gracious to us. Thanks for praying.

**Florence** is coping well so far in the administration as well as making progress in the course. She comes out sometimes, after working all night on a passage, complaining, "I am not yet clear on the big Idea of this passage!" Yet she perseveres. Her determination and progress is fascinating! We celebrated Florence and all the women in our lives on mothers' day, for the blessings they are and pray that God would bless them beyond what our words can convey. We took the picture above with Florence in Mothers' Union uniform.

**Delight** is doing well. God rescued her from very severe (nearly fatal) adverse drug reaction during a mass vaccination exercise sponsored by an NGO. She missed school for a while and had to complete her term



### *Reflections*

*He went about doing good . . . God was with him*  
*"... how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him." Acts 10:38*

exams at a later date. She has well recovered and to our amazement, her results were better than the previous term. Isn't God wonderful?!

## College News

### Introducing Paul Udoh

Paul Udoh is one of the earlier alumnus of Abuja Bible College and is married to Ceraphine. They are blessed with a son, Iboro. He is from Akwa Ibom State of South-South Nigeria, but was born and raised in Cameroon. He obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in Journalism and Mass Communication from the University of Buea, Cameroon. Upon graduation he moved to Nigeria to study at ABC and did very well. Subsequently, he was employed by the Nigeria Fellowship of Evangelical Students (NIFES) as the Training Secretary for Kafanchan Zone. He moved on from NIFES to join us at ABC as a Teaching Assistant. Do join me in welcoming Paul. Pray for wisdom as he joins the teaching crew and pray that his coming would enrich the students and the staff team.



## Students' Profile

### Zakariya Idris

He is married to Gloria and have two children, Salima and Salim. He has just concluded his Bachelors of Arts degree in Theology from the ECWA Theological Seminary, Kagoro. He is from Katsina State. Katsina is one of the Strongly Islamic states in Northern Nigeria where Christians suffer persecution and oppression, where bearing a bible or English name could deny one admission into a tertiary institution or government employment. He says, "before, I didn't care about the genre, whether the text was OT narrative or Wisdom or Prophecy. I have now been helped to consider the various contexts of the text and also questions in the literary context like, 'who is speaking in the text? To whom is he speaking?'



### Adriano Mbackeh

Adriano is from The Gambia and a member of the Mennonite church. Before coming to Abuja Bible College, he attended Farim Bible College, Guinea Bissau for three months of missionary training. He returned to The Gambia and was assigned to be an apprentice at the local Assembly, assisting the Pastor. He was enrolled on the 'Servants of the Word' (SOW) ministry Training Course. Adriano has been in Christian ministry in different forms since 2011.



Adriano says his highpoint of the Training has been the preaching practice sessions because of the feedback he receives after his sermons. He says that this helps him to work harder on his preparations. He has learnt that in studying a text, he should consider the various contexts and be sensitive to the genre of the passage as he strives to arrive at the main insight or the big idea.

### *Praise God with us for the following:*

- ❖ The students' steady progress in their training.
- ❖ That there has not been Islamist attacks through the month of March!
- ❖ All the guest lecturers who come out to teach for us.

### *Please pray for:*

- ❖ The peace and security in Southern Kaduna to continue.
- ❖ The recruitment of students for 2017/2018, as people are afraid to come to Southern Kaduna.
- ❖ Safety as the students travel for the Easter holidays.
- ❖ More stable health for Ezechi, and strength and wisdom for him and the guest lecturers.
- ❖ Financial resources for students who are struggling with their finances due to the economic recession.
- ❖ Students to continue to make progress as we resume for the last term in late April.

**For enquiries or partnership, call or e-mail;**

+44 2086 916 111; [projects@crosslinks.org](mailto:projects@crosslinks.org) +2348170453654; [ezechiek@gmail.com](mailto:ezechiek@gmail.com)

**Please contact your local Crosslinks office to change your contact details**

Crosslinks, 251 Lewisham Way, London SE4 1XF Tel: 020 8691 6111 [pletters@crosslinks.org](mailto:pletters@crosslinks.org)  
Crosslinks, 32 Montgomery Road, Belfast, Co. Antrim BT6 9HL Northern Ireland Tel: +44 (0) 28 9079 6028