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Focus Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2022

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Praise the Lord!
76 ZEBS students
@ Katlehong today
20 August 2022

MY BLESSED EXPERIENCE AS A ZEB'S TEACHER

BY GODFREY MASEKO



Godfrey Maseko teaches at:

**SOWETO
RUSTENBURG
DIEPSLOOT
NIHOROANE
STANDERTON
KATLEHONG
TEMBISA
SPRINGS**

They are all within 2 hours of Johannesburg

First, I would like to thank our Heavenly Father God for the glorious opportunity He has given me to be of service to Him for His wonderful Kingdom (Heaven). I was born 79 years ago to a Christian family. My grandfather was one of a few Pastors in Johannesburg, South Africa to have had the privilege of meeting with missionaries that were sent to our country from Zion City near Chicago, Illinois, USA. My grandfather accepted the Gospel of the Triune God. "God is a Spirit, infinite, eternal and unchangeable, in His being, in wisdom, power, holiness, justice, goodness and truth." The teachings of God and His glorious kingdom were at that time revived and supplied to our country through a newsletter called "The Leaves of Healing" that was sent once every month. That was a great blessing to our churches. This communication of the true Gospel from the "Mother Church" in America helped me a lot as I grew to understand who God is and how He purposed humankind to behave as they were created in His image.

Second, growing up in a Christian environment helped me a lot during my later years. As I began to understand more about God and how He became "flesh" as the son to save humankind, by dying on the cross for our sins, the desire to know more about God grew much stronger. As my desire to know Him grew stronger, God was also working out a wonderful plan for me in serving Him in my church which showed some positive results. I served God in my church and also in the ZEFA organization which was making a great impact in the lives of those that were fortunate to be a part of it. During the years that ZEFA grew much stronger, God blessed us by providing the idea of establishing a much-needed Bible school. The beginning of the "Zion Evangelical Bible School" brought about more blessings from God:

1. Training and equipping teachers with a chance to go to college.
2. Reaching out to so many with the true Gospel.
3. The growth and positive testimonies from students who are excited to receive the Good News.

I also would like to thank God for having afforded me the opportunity to meet with some of my brothers and sisters from Zion City abroad, such as Overseer Roger Ottersen, the Pastor of the headquarters church in Zion and administrative head of the church as General Overseer. Later I was fortunate to meet with Overseer and Administrative Head Pastor Langley and his son and son's wife, Stephen and Jessica Langley, and many other youth leaders and groups who visited my home and had a great time.

The Impact that ZEB'S Made in the Teacher's Lives and Their Communities by Godfrey Maseko

The beginning of Zion Evangelical Bible School made a great impact in our lives as ZEB'S teachers in the sense that it made the following changes:

1. After training, the teachers became confident to rise and teach the true Gospel.
2. The teachers enjoyed the respect and love from their communities.
3. The growth of the numbers attending ZEB'S give the teachers the pride and satisfaction of doing a great service to God.
4. The testimonies given by the students at all the graduation sessions are always heart warming and touching the teachers.

TESTIMONIES

FROM ZEB'S TEACHERS AND STUDENTS



Michael Bandi

MEET REVEREND MICHAEL BANDI - ONE OF THE FIRST ZEB'S TEACHERS

I am a born again Christian. I was borne in Eastern Cape Maclear South Africa. Born to a father that was not a Christian and a mother who was Anglican Christian. I began my knowledge of religion in Presbyterian catechism class and later moved to my mother's side where I was baptized by the Anglican Church. In 1976, I received the Lord Jesus Christ as my Messiah (there was an evangelist from CCAC preaching the gospel of salvation and I repented and was baptized). After that I grew in the Lord, maturing a little bit. In 1984 I met my wife Daniso Priscilla, also a born again Christian, and we married. We have been blessed with 7 children, unfortunately only 4 are alive.

My church always encouraged young members to go to school, so in 2004 I attend a theological college where I earned my 3rd year diploma in 2007. In 2008 I started at the Bible institute of South Africa. When I finished at African theological college, I learned a lot and it was different from what I knew growing up. That was my mistake. When I got out of college I wanted to help other amaZioni colleagues. I start searching for what I could do. I phoned America, Mike McDowell (USA Missions Director) answered the phone and I spoke to him about my ability to help others. He told me about ZEB'S and Timothy Kuehl working in Joberg and Luaan Goosen in the Eastern Cape and gave me their details so I called both of them. In 2008 Luaan came down to Cape Town and I organized a meeting of amaZioni church leaders. We started our meeting with 68 church leaders who accepted this vision. Luaan came in 2008, 2009, and 2010 to teach. In 2011 he had me begin leading teaching and would come in at the second mass to tell me how I was doing. From there our ministry has never stopped. My wife Priscilla was making lunch she cooked for students and that is where I started to manage all of the school notes, registration, and fees. I was also looking for the best teachers to help us which is how I started managing the school.



Reverend Michael Bandi, Mark Hugo and Reverend Sogwago

When we began with Luaan in 2008 we had lots of challenges. By 2011 we opened three more of these schools. Reverend Sogwago was a product of this ZEB'S and I used him to help me. Unfortunately circumstances arose that required we close 2 of those schools. In western South Africa we tried to cancel the class but the students kept begging us to go. I finally agreed with them that we would open but we would need more numbers because petrol is so expensive. God was playing a big role there!



Reverend Sogwago

MEET REVEREND SOGWAGO - FORMER STUDENT OF MICHAEL BANDI AND CURRENT ZEB'S TEACHER

Sogwago began his biblical education with Voice of Prophecy correspondence school. Once he completed his courses in December of 2008 he came to learn at ZEB'S using the This We Believe curriculum under the teaching of Michael Bandi and earned a 3 year diploma at ZEB'S. He began teaching at ZEB'S in 2012 and was inspired to take up other studies from the Global Bible College where he studied for a Bachelor in Theology degree in 2021. Reverend Sogwago currently teaches ZEB'S.

MEET QUEENIE - CURRENT STUDENT OF REVEREND SOGWAGO

(not pictured)

Queenie is a fourth year ZEB'S student. Reverend Sogwago has been her teacher all four years. This is her testimony:

"He (Sogwago) was teaching there when I started. When I first met him, I met a teacher who was willing to teach any time and was a good, good teacher of the parables. He was so good that today I am excited to read my bible. Anytime I have a problem about the lesson he is available to explain it to me. I am one of the top learners. I am proud about my teacher, he is a very intelligent teacher, he will teach you and gives examples for you to understand the lesson. He will tell you all of the names when he teaches the generations. He is very good and I am so happy that he is teaching me. I am also sad it is my last year."



CHECK! IT OUT!

WE HAVE A NEW DONATION ADDRESS

Our donation address has changed.

Our new address is:

ZEMA PO Box 62337

Colorado Springs, CO 80962-2337

Do not be concerned if you already sent your monthly donation to our old address. All mail is being forwarded to our new donation address. Feel free to contact our office via text or phone call at (847)872-7363 or email us at zema@zema.org if you have any questions or concerns.



Our first Annual Zion Bible Teachers Conference August 2022

OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE

zema.org

CAMPING MINISTRY

ZEMA

Is God Calling You?

Z.E.M.A. is looking for a couple to join the ongoing ministry at Sunbury Christian Camp, a conference and retreat center owned by Z.E.M.A. and located in KZN, South Africa. Sunbury serves as a venue for Z.E.M.A. related events (Bible and Leadership training). It also serves as a retreat center for churches and Christian groups when not in use by Z.E.M.A.

If you have skills or an interest in hospitality and facility management (including administration, bookkeeping, maintenance, and staff management) and would enjoy working cross-culturally to further the gospel, please contact Z.E.M.A. to further discuss how you can be a part of this work.



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September 2022 Newsletter