

## **REPORT ON THE TRIP TO MERU ON THE 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> of January**

The trip to Meru was a good one. The Lord was indeed with us every step of the way. We travelled safely to Meru and back while using public means. The church here in Nairobi provided for us well enough for the trip and we were grateful for that. There were three of us from TBC Nairobi who went, Gaitano Mbatia, Martha Wangare and myself.

The purpose for the trip was primarily to meet up with the brethren from Kenya Methodist University (KeMU) who gather for a Bible study on Sundays since they cannot fellowship in the School's Christian Union and they do not have a local church that they would attend. They would want to go to TBC Miathene but then it would be expensive for them since they are students and so they visit the church once in a while.

I got to meet with them during my one-month internship at TBC Miathene and they are young people who would want to submit to the Scriptures as much as God would require them. So, the plan was to visit them at least once a month just to encourage them to continue in the Word of God and to keep the Bible Study alive.

Our stay was fine we were hosted by one of the brothers there and the leader of the Bible study whose name is Rono and our sister Martha was hosted by a lady friend of one of the young men there who is a classmate to the young man. We had good and edifying conversations with them and we were grateful to God to see young people who are zealous for truth and who desire to know it and to be transformed by it.

They were handling the topic of prayer and looking at it from Matthew 6 we were able to fellowship together over that. We looked at how prayer has been misused and the right approach to it as Christ taught in Matthew 6. I would say they need much encouragement and we thank the Lord that we were able to be there with them. Their Bible study would be way better if they did one book after another instead of doing a topic and looking for different passages on that topic. That method is usually dangerous because the context is not always considered in all the passages as opposed to doing a book and getting the context of it as a whole.

The planning of the visit could have been better since we did not spend some good amount of time with them and I do not think they were all aware that we

were going there. Seeing the number of people in the Bible study i.e. around 12 members, there would be a need to go plant a church in Meru where they would fellowship. Rono the Bible study leader expressed the need for that.

We also got a chance to fellowship at TBC Miathene on Sunday and we went with two of the Bible study members. Gaitano Mbatu preached there from Colossians 1:16-17 and he did justice to it by showing the Preeminence of Christ there and the necessity of salvation by that Man. We found the brethren there safe although again because of the poor planning and communications they were not aware that we would be there but we had an edifying time together. They have introduced the keyboard there which I found to be very distracting since the person assigned to play has no knowledge on how to do it and so it was so noisy hence in my opinion distracting the congregation and so I shared with pastor Joseph Mucheru but I do not know if they will choose not to use it for now. We had a blessed time. The issue of time management is still a problem and I would be praying for them with regards to that. Pastor Joshua Kairithia was not around since he had gone to the church plant at Muthara. I did enquire about that and I was told that they are going on well although they are still struggling in terms of having an Elder who lives around that area and having midweek meetings like prayer meetings and Bible study. I will continue to be in much prayer for them with regard to that.

I think the church there also needs much strengthening so that they would be more and more dependent on the Gospel. Nonetheless it is still encouraging to know that we have brothers and sisters in those areas who are also keeping the faith and looking to Jesus everyday and seeking to proclaim Him. I would like to get a chance to go to Meru this year for at least two to three months so as to be of ministry to the churches there.

In Christ's Service,

Eric Kahure.