



The Urban Ministry Herald

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Moving Forward

I was mesmerized by the singing of more than 100 children at the Evangelical Lutheran Church congregation in Asmara this last month. The message of one of the songs is "stay firm in the Word of God, for the enemies who want your soul are many." You get the point.

St Paul, inspired by the Holy Spirit, says, "For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms," (Eph 6:12. It is essential for all Christians to keep these words of St. Paul in mind as we journey in Life on this side of heaven. When and if we think the enemy is "us," we have already lost the war. The Enemy is the serpent of the old time and the roaring lion of today, who is sprawling to devour us. Standing firm on the Word is how we stand against the enemy!

Christians are at their best when their eyes are fixed on the cross of Christ, on which death and the powers of darkness were once and for all defeated. When the accuser then begins to whisper his lies and tempts us to take our eyes off the cross of Christ and look at our deeds to justify ourselves, we would join Jesus to rebuke Him through the Word to get behind us, for we are moving on and moving forward to follow the Truth, the Way, and the Life.

Dear friend, thank you for your support. People like me, who are on the frontline of the mission, would not do what we do if it were not for the prayers of the faithful. Please keep praying for our missionaries, church planters, pastors, DCEs and DCOs, Teachers, and evangelists who answer the call daily to go where the Lord leads.

I would also like to thank you for your financial support. Thank you to those who have committed to supporting the Eritrean Mission project financially; you may send funds to:

**Urban Ministry Associates International, 941 W. Bedford-Eules Rd,
Hurst, TX 76053.**

May the Good Lord bless you and all yours as you continue to serve faithfully!

Your partner in the Gospel,
Pastor Yohannes Mengsteab, PhD

Teaching at the Beleza Bible School - Evangelical Lutheran Church of Eritrea

The school has nine men preparing to become pastors in the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Eritrea. I taught an intensive course in February and will return to Eritrea in May to teach their last two classes. They will finish their coursework in June. These are very spiritual, mission-minded, and dedicated men. I hope to be there at their graduation and ordination services in June.

A new cohort of 19-20 students is planned to begin in September. In addition, the church plans to develop continuing education for all the current pastors. As the population's education level increases, training the pastors to answer the young generation's questions is critical. I will be involved in designing and implementing the continuing education program.

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