



SOW News Update – December 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, we are delighted to share with you some news from The Gambia, and to ask for your continued support in prayer.



Saturday December 8th was the date for the graduation of all the students who completed their studies last year. There was a good turnout of over one hundred people, the new library & reading room was officially named and opened, and ...

a Tailoring School was launched (*there's a 'SOW' pun in there somewhere, waiting to have you in stitches*) thanks to a generous donation of twelve sowing machines. More on the Tailoring School another time, but there is already a lot of interest from the village, so let's pray that it will be fruitful in building relationships with the community.





SERVANTS OF THE WORD

The preaching course has continued at Tubakuta, this term the four residential students have been studying Ephesians, Exodus, Mark's Gospel, Bible Overview, and Discipleship training, alongside Principles of Preaching and regular Preaching Practice opportunities. Bible Overview and Discipleship studies take place at the Fajara centre two nights a week, and there has been a further module for the group of trainee Christian Religious Education (CRE) teachers. In addition, the Tubakuta students have been taking English classes on Wednesday evenings, which are proving really helpful.

Farming God's Way has focused on the groundnut harvest, and the battle continues to try to limit damage to the crops from monkeys, rats, and other pests. A new water tank has been installed on the farmland to help irrigation, and looking forward to the next growing season, fencing is being put up around a further two hectares of farmland, after which it can be cleared and start to be cultivated.

It has been very encouraging to hear that Charles, who completed the SOW course in July 2021, is now pastoring a church near the coast in Kartong, and having been fully assessed by the Evangelical Churches of the Gambia (ECG), will be ordained as an ECG pastor.



One of our current students is a young man from the Kartong church. He applied having seen the difference the training made to Charles's preaching and teaching, and decided he also wanted to benefit from the same training. Let's pray for many more stories like this one.

Please pray with us:

- Steven has been unwell for since the summer and has undergone some medical tests in Dakar, Senegal. Please pray for his health, for good diagnoses and treatment, and for him to be able to return to teaching at Tubakuta, and to church ministry.
- For the students who have completed the course this year and in previous years, that God would continue to grow them in their faith, and give them opportunities to serve the church by teaching the truth faithfully.
- We are very thankful for JJ and Oliver, two godly Christian Gambians, who are currently participating in the preaching classes at Tubakuta with the goal of joining the faculty in the future.
- That the good Lord will have mercy on the land of The Gambia, and turn many hearts and lives to faith in Jesus.

Many thanks for your partnership with us.

Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas from all the staff, students and directors of Servants of the Word, The Gambia

"I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now" (Philippians 1:3-5).