

## EVANGELICAL FELLOWSHIP OF SIERRA LEONE NEWSLETTER

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### EFSL Travelling Bible School empowers Pastors

In February 2024, EFSL equipped 102 Pastors (83 males and 19 females) to be efficient in their ministries. The 102 Participants were drawn from thirty-two (32) Evangelical Fellowship of Sierra Leone member churches from Bo in the southern and Kenema in the eastern regions. The training covered the following topics; servant Leadership, Ministerial ethic and Church planting and evangelism. The training facilitators were Rev. Kenneth Wiebe, Rev. Steve Clearly, Rev. Gadiru Bassie and Rev. Joseph Baio. Rev. Kenneth Wiebe (*in the photos below*), facilitated the sessions on Servant leadership and Christian Marriages. While discussing Servants leadership, he



told participants that Jesus Christ introduced the concept of Servant Leadership through his teachings. He cited Matthew 20:20-28 (especially verse 26) and Mark 10:35-45 as examples of Jesus' teachings that point to Servant leadership and secondly Jesus introduced Servant leadership through his examples – John 13:1-17 (especially vv 14-17).



In the session on Christian marriage, Rev. Kenneth Wiebe and Participants discussed the following topics, Marriage from Genesis, Purity of Marriage according to Hebrew( Hebrew 13:4) and foundation of Marriage according to Ephesians(Ephesians 5:15-21) and Challenges for Wives in Ephesians( Ephesians 5:22-24), The Challenges for Husbands in Ephesians 5:25-33a) and The Challenges for Fathers in Ephesians(Ephesians 6:4). Rev. Joseph S. Baio facilitated the session on Evangelism and Church planting and covered the following topics; the great commission and Church Planting wheel. During a ministerial ethics lecture, Rev. Gadiru Bassie, General Secretary of EFSL, stressed the importance of Pastors being mindful of their conduct and words in both public and private.



*Photos above show Rev. Steve Clearly teaching Pastors on how to be fruitful in Ministry*

## EFSL Holds First Quarter Prayer Summit



The Evangelical Fellowship of Sierra Leone (EFSL) held a two-day National Prayer Summit on March 14th and 15th, 2024, in Freetown and other parts of Sierra Leone. The summit aimed to bring member churches together to pray for the country, churches, and EFSL. The General Secretary, Rev Gadiru Bassie, emphasized the importance of prayer as a core value of EFSL. In Freetown, the event took place at the Church of Pentecost and focused on the theme "CALL ON JESUS" from Jeremiah 33:3. Rev. Mrs. Yarie Kabia highlighted the importance and power of prayer for Christians. Apostle Morie Sanpha also thanked EFSL for catching the vision of prayer, and emphasized that prayer is a powerful tool for Christians. He mentioned that God can be called upon at any time regardless of the place, time, challenges or situation, which was the theme of the National Prayer Summit.

## THE IMPACT OF VILLAGE SAVINGS AND LOAN SCHEME ON BENEFICIARIES (TESTIMONIAL)



EFSL is implementing Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs) to improve access to finance in rural Sierra Leone. The initiative began in 2018 in Samabu village Bonthe District. Mr. Jex Aruna, a 49-year-old unqualified teacher and animal rearer, joined the VSLA scheme in 2018. He took loans to start a business, buying domestic animals at lower prices and selling them in the markets. The profits helped him pay his loans, settle family problems, and even buy shares in the association. Over five years, VSLA helped him pay tuition fees at Freetown Teacher College (Now Freetown Polytechnic). The VSLA has helped him to become a qualified teacher, and own a goat pen. The scheme also continue to help him pay medical expenses for family members. Aruna is grateful to God and EFSL for their timely intervention, giving hope for the future.

*(Photo on the left shows Mr. Aruna and Children).*

## EFSL provides women with Sewing Machines.

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With funds from Support EFSL UK, we empowered Nine (9) women with sewing machines. These women had gone through training, but were struggling to acquire machines to put into practice the tailoring skill and to raise income that will help them come out from hardship.

The sewing machines empowered the beneficiaries to restore dignity and to improve their economic status. The post distribution report revealed that all of the women who received the sewing machines were using it to generate income to support their homes and their respective churches. Income generated from the sewing is contributing to improved well-being for the Women and their families.



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## PRAYER POINTS

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- 1. Pray for unity, peace and political stability in Sierra Leone.**
- 2. Pray for cooperation between EFSL and partners for the successful implementation of the EFSL Strategic Plan 2021-2025.**
- 3. Pray for financial provision and partners who would work and support EFSL to undertake a research on the status of the church and the unreached people's group in Sierra Leone.**

### **UPCOMING EVENTS FOR EFSL**

**EFSL YOUTH IMPACT SUMMIT- 17- 20 APRIL 2024**

**NATIONAL PRAYER SUMMIT- JUNE 2024**

**COUNCIL MEETING- TBD**

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