

## Setors' Update- February 2011

Dear Family and Friends,  
Greetings from us to you all! We hope you and yours are well and enjoying the good favor of the Lord. The first couple of months of the year have been quite busy on different fronts in ministry. Let's share a few with you for your information and prayers. Pastoral and related church responsibilities at Solid Rock Baptist Church (a Ghana Baptist Convention church) in Denver seem to take a big slice of our time.

*Grace and newly recruited youth teachers→*



Grace has embarked on a rigorous exercise to recruit potential children and youth workers within the church and to train them to teach. She and a good friend of hers (who led a team from Denver to Malawi in 2008 to train children workers) have been working together to get needed children and youth materials for the church. Grace is so excited about this great ministry opportunity and you can feel her excitement.

For her personal spiritual development, Grace is enrolled in a women's Precepts Bible study class at one of our supporting churches and spends hours to prepare for the class because of the intensity of the studies. She says it is a 'mini-seminary' and she is learning a lot and enjoys her fellowship with the other women who have become a family to her. Grace and Bob have also been asked to mentor a missionary candidate couple who are seeking to serve in Kenya. We are thrilled to help in preparing these prospective missionaries to go to Africa.

On his part, Bob's ongoing duties at Solid Rock church range from mentoring a young pastor, preaching, teaching to developing job descriptions and policy guidelines for the various committees and departments of the church. One particular task that has become a major preoccupation for Bob is the strengthening of the committees and auxiliary groups of the church. In the past, these structures seem to exist just in name and have only been shadows of themselves. Making these groups function efficiently and effectively is crucial to the health of the body of Christ at Solid Rock and it is a significant undertaking. It means teaching the people to do things differently; for we cannot continue to do things the same way and expect different results. This is where the concept of 'change' rears its ugly head and as you know; no change comes without a resistance. But change we must or we die. Many have embraced the change but a few are plodding along to jump on the change bandwagon. We pray that we will leave behind in the church strong structures, godly men and women who are eager to use their spiritual gifts within those structures for the advancement of the gospel. One of the church's 2011 goals is "Influence one person for the Lord" and the mission statement that Bob has helped the church to develop and it has adopted is "To Glorify God Under the Leadership of the Holy Spirit by Building a Transformed Community of Influence" It is our fervent hope that this church will truly become a transformed people of God in order to influence others for Christ. We are already seeing some results- sixteen new members joined the church last year and a



number of them were new believers.

← A cross section of new members

Apart from local church responsibilities, the national association of the Ghana Baptist Convention churches in North America asked Bob earlier this month to lead a ministerial delegation to help a hurting church in Virginia. It was quite a tough mission but in the end it all went well. The pastor has stepped down and the church can move forward. Bob is due back there in March to conduct a leadership seminar for the leaders and to spend a weekend with the church.

*Bob in Virginia →*

As for Isaac, he is determined to head off to High School next year with good grades and seems to be working hard at it. He is still learning to play the guitar and looking forward to getting back to competitive soccer again after a break during the winter. His team did so well last season. Isaac continues to enjoy his youth group at a supporting church in south Denver. His parents are still considering whether or not to continue to feed him since he is growing so tall and even taller than them.



#### **Prayer Points:**

1. Pray that the current efforts at Solid Rock to strengthen the organizational structures of the church will yield the desired results.
2. Pray for spiritual growth among members, especially, the new believers.
3. Pray also that all members will be committed to reaching out to those within their various spheres of influence during the year.
4. Pray that the potential teachers being recruited by Grace for training will be committed to the task of teaching the youth and children in the church.
5. Please, pray for the hurting church in Virginia as efforts are under way to find an interim pastor.
6. Please, pray that we will soon hear favorably from the US government concerning our green card and a soon return to Malawi. Please, keep praying!!

Together in His service,  
*Bob, Grace and Isaac Sotor*

