

January 2013

Pastor Ben's Call to Ministry

Dear Friends,

Most of you know me as Pastor Ben, First Lutheran's missionary in Ghana. Long before I met any of you, the Lord Jesus Christ called me to teach others about HIM. My call to ministry manifested itself in stages. I first heard the Lord's call at a summer Scripture Union Camp in 1970. That was when I was 'born again' and gave my heart and life to Jesus. I felt the deep calling of God on my life to do something specific for Him. This became very clear when I participated in several Scripture Union Evangelistic Crusades.

By 1973, I was in my third (of five) years of senior high school. I was 19 years old and so strongly felt the call to start preaching that I considered leaving high school. I went to my Scripture Union Patron for counsel. The Patron strongly advised me to complete my five years of high school, with a certificate, so that I would have the adequate education and credibility to teach the Gospel. It dawned on me that the 'gift of salvation' needed to be shown to others by bringing them to the Lord Jesus Christ. I joined the Evangelism Team of the Scripture Union, whose objective was to reach the villages near my school. At that point, going to Seminary was far from my mind. The exuberance and strong urge to preach the Gospel were all that I thought of. After five years of high school I decided to become a certified teacher so that the prospects for admission to Seminary would be enhanced. While I was in Teacher Training College, I continued my evangelistic activities by helping in the formation of "Prayer Cells" in the neighborhood I lived in.

Please look for the February Lectern, where Part Two of my Call To Ministry article will be printed.

Blessings, Pastor Ben