

Bethany Christian Services Ministry Observation Trip to Ethiopia



Nov 1 & 2 Arrival

We depart the United States and arrive in Ethiopia (we lose one day to time/date changes). After we settle into our hotel in Addis Ababa we will enjoy dinner at a local restaurant.



Nov 3 BCS Ethiopia / Gelgela / Milkiyas' Home / Family Visits

During breakfast at the hotel Bethany will share our history in Ethiopia, an overview of our programs, and our dreams for future services.



After breakfast we will visit the Gelgela Integrated Orphans and Destitute Family Support Association (GIODFSA), which cares for abandoned children, orphans, and destitute families. Bethany has an agreement with this Christian ministry to place children through adoption. Gelgela is interested in expanding their social services with Bethany's help. If time permits, we will visit Gelgela's center for street women, and a center they run for children struggling with HIV.



Mr. Milkiyas Karato is the Program Director for Bethany Social Services in Ethiopia. Milkiyas' wife, Fanaye Wogaso, works for Bethany as an office manager. They have four children (3 girls, 1 boy). Milkiyas' family will graciously host us for lunch, providing traditional Ethiopian food.



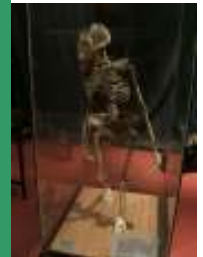
Children and families are the focus of Bethany's ministry in Ethiopia and around the world. We will split into two groups, each visiting a family who is receiving, or has received, support from services provided by Bethany Ethiopia staff.

Dinner will be followed by an evening at the National Theater watching a performance of cultural dance.

Nov 4 BCS Ethiopia Office / Coffee Break / Mt. Entoto / St. Mary Orthodox Church Museum

We will visit Bethany's office and meet the dedicated staff who are "making things happen". We will also spend time with children in Bethany's program.

A mid-morning coffee break will be served at the homes of two families who receive support from Bethany. Again, we will be divided into two groups for this.



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We will have lunch at the Blue Tops Restaurant followed by a tour of St. Mary Orthodox Church / Museum. Mount Entoto is the best location to observe the panoramic view of Addis Ababa both day and night.

The evening is free.

Nov 5: Orphanage Center / Yezelalem Minch / Bethany's Women's Ministry

After breakfast at the hotel we will visit a government run Orphanage Center.

We will have lunch with Nesibu, the Director of Yezelalem Minch. Yezelalem Minch is a community-based Christian Ministry. After lunch we will visit with families and see ministries offered by Yezelalem Minch. (We will visit their orphanage center on Saturday).

The afternoon will be spent visiting with the women in Bethany's Ministry at Bethany's office. These women (many of them single mothers) are sponsored by Bethany and are participating in a life-skills training program that is giving them and their families a chance at self-sufficiency and independency.

Dinner will be followed by a celebration of Ethiopia's rich culture.

Nov 6 Tour of Addis Ababa / Open Market

Friday will be spent touring Addis Ababa, visiting an open market and shopping for souvenirs. Lunch will be "on the road".

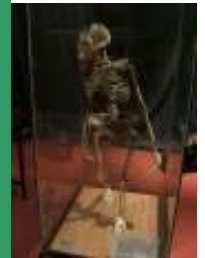
Dinner will be followed by an evening out or just relaxing.

Nov 7 Yezelalem Minch Orphanage Center and Ministries / Depart for USA

After breakfast at the hotel we will visit the Yezelalem Minch Orphan Center. Their children's center provides care for older children; but their primary work is supporting families and children in the community, helping families build the community's capacity to care for their own. They are interested in receiving Bethany's help to expand their services.

We will enjoy our last dinner together as a group and prepare for home.

Nov 8 Arrive Home



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