

The Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus

Hossana Mekane Yesus Seminary / Gospel Ministries Department

## Christian Family Life Education Program



Drawing: Ato Assefa Guta

# **ANNUAL REPORT OF YEAR 2003**

**(THE FOURTH YEAR OF THE PROGRAM)**

## Christian Family Life Education Program (FLEP)

# REPORT 2003

### Summary

#### Background

Mekane Yesus Church has always been strongly outreach-oriented. Sometimes the existing members have not got the needed care and help in their Christian life. In the growing Church many people have family related questions, some even acute problems. Only a few church workers have knowledge or experience in Family Ministry to help those members.

Therefore the EECMY started in 2000 a program in order to strengthen Family Ministry. The Advisors of the Program have been Sr. Anna-Kaarina and Rev. Matti Palmu, sent by the Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Mission (FELM), which also has granted the FLEP Budget (ETB 130.000 for 2003).

The Program was started under the framework of the Hossana Mekane Yesus Seminary (HMYS). Following the original plan the Program was transferred to the EECMY Gospel Ministries Department (GMD) at the end of 2003.

The first four years of the program show the **need for teaching and training additional teachers for Family Ministry** on different levels of Church work.

#### Basic Training:

A) **"Basic Marriage Courses" for couples:** The Advisors have arranged a Basic Marriage Course in each and every EECMY Synod (17) and two of the three Work Areas (Mekele is scheduled for January, 2004). The emphasis has been on Marriage Enrichment, helping couples in their own family life.

**The responsibility on giving basic teaching on Family Ministry has already been transferred to the local level instructors.** There are 63 people (29 couples and 5 individuals) who have participated the Training of Trainers' Course for Family Ministry. Reports on their teaching have come from 12 different Church Units.

B) **Courses in Theological institutions** of the Church: There is a plan to teach a full week's intensive course on Family Ministry for each graduating class on degree-level (MYTS in Addis Abeba) and diploma-level (HMYS-Hossana, ONS-Aira and NCEC-Nekemte). In 2003 this course was held at HMYS. The emphasis is on the Christian understanding of Marriage & Family.

The total number of participants taught by the Advisors in four years was 1200, while the other trainers taught 10.000 people in two-years' time only! This shows how the work is spreading and being transferred to the Church Units!

#### Training of Trainers: (TOT)

The Family Life Education Program must be integrated into ordinary church activities on all levels of the church. The crucial question is sustainability!

The 1st Training of Trainers' Course (TOT) for Family Ministry was held in 2002. The 2nd and 3rd TOT's were held in 2003. The trained people need the necessary ongoing training to encourage them in their valuable service.

## FLEP ACTIVITIES DURING THE YEAR 2003

- If not otherwise mentioned, Sr. Anna-Kaarina Palmu and Rev. Matti Palmu have been together the facilitators, working and teaching as a team.
- The teaching method was participatory; there has been not much of lecturing.
- See the overview of FLEP courses 2003 (Appendix)

### A. TEACHING AT THE THEOLOGICAL INSTITUTIONS OF THE EECMY

- **Mar 31 - April 3: Special Course on Family Ministry at the Hossana Mekane Yesus Seminary (HMYS), Diploma Classes 2 and 3.**
  - 26 Participants; Theology students, 14 of 2nd year, 12 of 3rd year.
  - The course was given as an **intensive course**, all the 6(-8) daily class periods, four days, and **26 periods**. Course language: Amharic.
  - Throughout the course was an active discussion on relevant questions presented by the students.

The Course proved too short for this important target group in order to cover the extensive material on Family Ministry. This course needs a full week, i.e. five full days.

**In future the Intensive Course on Family Ministry should be added to the permanent Curriculum for 2nd or 3rd year Diploma Course.**

- The FLEP contributed to the HMYS Library the following books (1-4 by Bruce and Carol Britten) 1) "Questions Young People ask", 2) the same in Amharic: በወጣቶች የሚነሱ ጥያቄዎች; 3) "Answers for your Marriage", 4) the same in Amharic: የጋብቻ እንቅስቃሴዎች እና መፍትሔዎቻቸው; 5) Dr. Alemu Beeftu "የትዳር ምስጢር" (The Secret of Marriage), 6) Joe Leonard, "Family Ministry", and 7) "A Biblical Approach to Marriage and Family in Africa", prepared by the Theological Advisory Group (TAG), Scott Theological College, Kenya

### B. TEACHING ON MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE IN THE EECMY SYNODS

- In 2003 the local people who have participated the FLEP Training of Trainers' Course taught the Basic courses. There were no Basic courses for couples arranged by the advisors.
- In 2000-2002 the advisors arranged a Basic Marriage Course in each and every EECMY Synod (17) and two of the three Work Areas (Mekele is scheduled for January, 2004).

**The responsibility on giving basic teaching on Family Ministry has already been transferred to the local level instructors.** There are 63 people (29 couples and 5 individuals) who have participated the Training of Trainers' Course for Family Ministry. **Reports on their teaching have come from 12 different Church Units.**

- Different responsible people have been invited to many types of courses or other teaching occasions. Part of the teaching has been for couples only; in many occasions there has been a mixed audience. The instructors have taught in different languages a variety of topics presented in the Family Ministry Handbook.

## C. THE TRAINING OF TRAINERS (TOT) COURSES

- **C.1. THE SECOND TRAINING OF TRAINERS (TOT) COURSE,**
  - **Date: Feb 18-28, 2003; Place: Mettu** (Terfa Jarso Bible School)
  - 10 course days, 76 periods;
  - **25 Participants** (12 couples and 1 without his wife) from 6 Synods: SWBS - Mizan Teferi, WGBS - Gambella, IBS - Mettu, WWBS - Dembi Dollo, CS - Nekemte and CES - Addis Abeba.
  - One couple came from Wenji Shewa, a distance of 720 kilometres!
  - Ato Yonas Deressa, the IBS President, opened the course; Kes Mersha Seyum, the IBS General Secretary, held a Bible Study in the first morning; Ato Salamu, the IBS Social Health Coordinator, arranged a video presentation on HIV/AIDS and on Family planning.
- **C. 2. THE THIRD TRAINING OF TRAINERS (TOT) COURSE,**
  - **Date: April 8-18, 2003 ; Place: Nekemte** (NCEC College facilities)
  - 10 course days, 76 periods;
  - **20 Participants** (10 couples) from 6 Synods: BDS - Aira, GJS- Gimbi, CS - Nekemte, CGS - Ijaji, CES - Addis Abeba and NCEC - Dessie.
  - One couple came from Asayta of Afar region, a distance of 1.030 kilometres!
  - Kes Teshome Tesfaye, the CS President, opened and closed the course; Kes Asfaw Terfassa, the NCEC Principal, took care of all practical arrangements hosting very kindly the course;
  - It was a great shock to the course people that Kes Asfaw Ofga'a, who should have taken part in this course, suddenly died after the second course day. The participants were present at the funeral.

### C. 3. ON BOTH TRAINING OF TRAINERS' COURSE(S) 2003:

- It was a disappointment that four Synods / Area Work (SES, EGBS, WS and BGAW) have not send anybody to Training of Trainers courses. This will affect the future Family Ministry work in those Synods/Area Work.
- The SES (South Ethiopia Synod, Hagere Mariam), which did not send anybody for TOT 2002, was offered a repeated quota this year (either in Mettu or in Nekemte). The Synod did neither send anybody nor inform about reasons for not sending participants.
- The EGBS (East Gambella Bethel Synod), WS (Western Synod) and the BGAW (Begi Gidami Area Work) did neither send anybody nor inform about reasons for not sending participants.
- The participants were given the following resource books:
  - 1) "Questions Young People ask", 2) the same in Amharic: በወጣቶች የሚነሱ ጥያቄዎች); 3) "Answers for your Marriage", 4) the same in Amharic: የጋብቻ እንቅስቃሴዎች እና መፍትሔዎቻቸው, 5) ቤተሰብና የልጆች አስተዳደግ (Family and Child Raising), 6) የሚስትህን ባሕርያ ተፈጥሮ ዕውቅ (Ingrid Trobisch: Understanding your Wife; 1. Her Ovarian cycle and Fertile days), 7) የሚስትህን ባሕርያ ተፈጥሮ ዕውቅ (Ingrid Trobisch: Understanding your Wife; 3. Her Experience during Pregnancy) and 8) የሚስትህን ባሕርያ ተፈጥሮ ዕውቅ (Ingrid Trobisch: Understanding your Wife; 4. Her Preparation for Childbirth).

- The participants were given the "**EECMY Handbook for Family Ministry**, Second Draft, February 2003". They were all **practising as trainers** leading turn by turn various teaching sessions.
- The participants reported on the Family Ministry activities in their respective Synods. There was a thorough and very useful discussion on how to arrange Christian Family Life Education in different areas, how to manage if there is no specific budget for this work, who could be the target groups, which kind of courses should be the most needed, what are the most needed topics, how to train more trainers for this work, etc
- The participants expressed that there are quite many questions on sexual life amongst our Christians everywhere.
- The participants were especially active and many of them seem to have special interest and call to serve in Family Ministry in their work areas.
- The participants were very punctual and in all means positive for the whole course. In Mettu there were very little absences during the two weeks; in Nekemte six participants were sick, each for at least one day. One reason might be the severe water problem in the CS Compound during the course.
- Some time was reserved for private Marriage Counselling based on the feedback from previous courses.

#### **C. 4. THE CONCLUSION OF THE TOT COURSE(S) 2003:**

- The courses in Mettu and Nekemte were very encouraging. The participants were very active. The EECMY Family Ministry has bright future, if we can train more people like these!
- Quite clearly the problem are the Synods or Work Areas, which do not send people for training. The big challenge in future is to help all the Church Units to see the necessity of Family Ministry in their areas.
- The Handbook for Family Ministry was thoroughly studied during the course. Even more time would have been needed, but it seems that two weeks for this kind of TOT is good time.
- One problem was that some Synods - against what they had agreed on - did not carry their responsibility on taking care of the transportation expenses of the participants.

**There is a clear need of continuation for this training.** In 2004 we will start a series of TOT Refresher courses.

**In future there should be yearly a) a TOT Course, and b) one or several Refresher courses for Family Ministry.**

#### **D. ABOUT THE 2nd DRAFT OF THE "EECMY HANDBOOK FOR FAMILY MINISTRY"**

**The advisors before the 2nd TOT finalized the 2nd Draft of "EECMY Handbook for Family Ministry", 130 pages,** in February. The Handbook includes teaching aid for 20 lessons and 10 Bible Studies.

The List of Contents of "Handbook for Family Ministry" is attached as an appendix of this report.

## E. OTHER ACTIVITIES (of the Advisors)

1. The advisors have been lobbying the **EECMY Executive Committee Meeting** at the Central Office in Addis Abeba January 20-24, and October 21-24. During the meeting breaks we have held general discussions about the FLEP Activities with various representatives of the Church Units.
2. **Various duties given by FELM during the Furlough-stay in Finland June-September, 2003:**
  - July 9-15 **Marriage Camp** in Kalajoki; altogether 23 couples (out of it eight missionary couples coming from Zambia, Namibia, Ethiopia, Senegal and Tanzania);
  - August 5-9 in Järvenpää **Training of Trainers' (TOT) on Family Ministry** for Missionaries coming from various countries where Finnish Missions are working: Namibia, Botswana, Senegal, Nepal, Pakistan, Russia, Japan, France and Ethiopia; Participants (including the facilitators) 19 adults, 6 children; The Palmus lectured on EECMY-FLEP activities in Ethiopia and acted as facilitators during the course.
3. The Advisors have used considerable time **preparing the Training Handbook and collecting materials and literature** for the FLEP Library.
4. **The search for Key Persons to promote the Family Ministry in the EECMY** is one of the main objectives of the FLEP. The Advisors have used various opportunities in order to raise awareness for the need of Family Ministry in Church and Society and to identify capable and interested persons to promote the FLEP.

## F. ON ACTIVITY OF THE FLEP-TRAINED INSTRUCTORS IN CHURCH UNITS

The local instructors in various Church Units have considerably taken the role of taking care of FLEP basic level teaching. It is encouraging to see how they have taught many different courses and a variety of different teaching on marriage and family life. We have received activity reports from 12 Church Units out of 15 where there are FLEP-trained instructors. In five Units there are no such instructors yet. Thus reports from three Units are missing.

The FLEP-trained instructors have taught on following kinds of occasions, or for following target groups:

- Pre-marital teaching for young people,
- Pre-marital teaching for engaged couples,
- Teaching in connection to Confirmation class,
- Marriage courses for couples,
- Women's courses and meetings,
- Teaching for Congregational and Parish leaders,
- Repeated Pre-Sunday-service teaching in local Congregation,
- Teaching the Bible study groups,
- Teaching at a Bible School,
- Teaching at a Vocational school,
- Teaching at a high school,
- Etc.

## G. FUTURE PROSPECTS OF EECMY FAMILY MINISTRY

The feedback from Church Units is very positive and encouraging. There is a great need to give Family ministry a strong focus in the work of EECMY.

The happier their marriages are, the better input the Church servants can give in their respective duties. When the Christian family life is strengthened also the status of girls and women is improving. As the AIDS pandemic is still worsening the teaching on Christian family life and faithful partnership with one spouse only is an important part of fight against AIDS.

Some quotations from letters of FLEP-trained instructors:

*"We have started giving emphasis on Family Ministry in our congregation. It is amazing how many people are now recommending that we (the Evangelist and his wife) would concentrate more on this area. We are grateful that our congregation has accepted our suggestion to make Family ministry, which has been neglected and forgotten, as one area of our service."*

*"After we came back from TOT Course we tried much to get pastors, evangelists and church administrators to arrange this teaching for concerned church servants, and we succeeded. Now we are getting many reports that the teaching is helping the affected Christian families."*

Follow up and continuous training

The FLEP Advisors plan to expand the Training of Trainers' courses in order to have enough instructors in all the Church Units. This seems to be the only way to fulfil the tremendous challenge in strengthening the Family Ministry of the Church. The trained ones also need ongoing help, encouragement and further training for their service. Therefore a series of TOT Refresher courses is to be started in 2004.

In the long run the aim is to have Christian Family Life Education as an essential part of ordinary teaching in all levels of Church work.

Need for a counterpart for FLEP Advisors

The program has got a good start within past four years. We thank God for that. It is obvious that the FLEP Advisors, the Missionary couple, need soon an Ethiopian counterpart couple to enable the growth and sustainability of Family ministry in Mekane Yesus Church. We are seeking the Lord's guidance on this.

Respectfully submitted,  
December 10, 2003

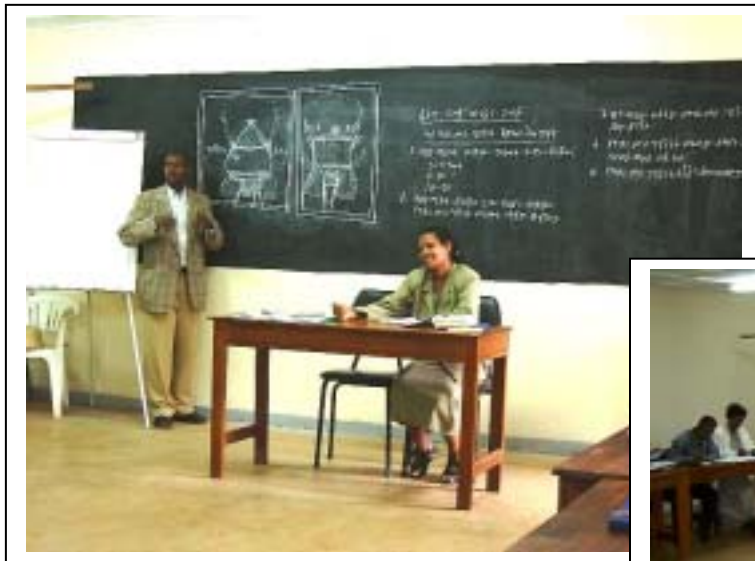
Sr. Anna-Kaarina Palmu  
FLEP Advisor

Rev. Matti Palmu  
FLEP Advisor

Appendices:

1. Program Description of FLEP
2. Overview of FLEP courses during 2003
3. Outline of the Special course on Family Ministry (at a Regional seminary)
4. The list of contents of "Handbook for Family Ministry"
5. The list of FLEP-TOT trained instructors
6. Future FLEP Activities, updated December 2003.

### PICTURES OF FLEP ACTIVITIES DURING THE YEAR 2003



(Above:) W/ro Aster Mekonnen and Kes Tilahun Mamo explaining the difference between woman and man during their teaching practice.  
(FLEP-TOT in Mettu, February, 2003)



(Above:) Sr. Anna-Kaarina Palmu and Kes Matti Palmu leading the feedback discussion after the teaching period of W/ro Aster and Kes Tilahun.  
(FLEP-TOT in Mettu, February, 2003)



(Above:) Kes Geneti Wayessa and W/ro Aberash Tolessa demonstrating the difference between woman and man during their teaching practice.  
(FLEP-TOT in Nekemte, April 2003)



(Below:) Group discussion of participants coming from Central Synod, planning their future service on the field of Family Ministry.  
(FLEP-TOT in Nekemte, April 2003)

## PICTURES OF FLEP ACTIVITIES DURING THE YEAR 2003



The second FLEP Training of Trainers (TOT) course in Mettu, February 18-28, 2003



The third FLEP Training of Trainers (TOT) course in Nekemte, April 8-18, 2003

The Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus (EECMY)

# Christian Family Life Education Program (FLEP)

## P R O G R A M   D E S C R I P T I O N

### 1. General Background

The Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus (EECMY) was constituted into a national church in 1959. The Church, being originally a mission-based association, has always stressed the importance of Outreach activities. The EECMY has also tried to focus on Christian Education ministries to nurture her members.

Much has been done on the basics of faith teaching for adult members, women, youth and children. However, very little has been done when it comes to focus on Christian family ministry, including parenting, family relations, couple communication, marriage counseling etc. In 1970-ies there was a trial to arrange "Christian Family Week Programs", but there was no continuation in that field.

Family is the foundation of the society. Consequently one can say that a congregation starts from a family. Christian families are the basic units of the church. The church is an assembly of family members.

If the church members feel happy in their marriages and families they are free to worship in their congregations. Likewise, if the church workers, paid and voluntary ones, live in joyful and healthy marriages and families they have a good starting point for their service in the church. Vice versa, if our people are troubled in their marriages and families this affects their worship and service, too.

The EECMY has been growing at least at a rate of 5-10 % every year for the last 30 years. Many of the new members come with many questions of family relations, some even have acute problems. Still most of the pastors and evangelists of the church do not have either the knowledge or experience in Christian family ministry to help these members.

### 2. Purpose of the Program

- 2.1. To explain the Biblical and Theological Foundation of the EECMY concerning Marriage and Family life;
- 2.2. To prepare the Church policy on Christian Marriage and Family life;
- 2.3. To raise awareness on Family issues;
- 2.4. To promote Christian Family Life Ministry, and
- 2.5. To finally achieve the goal of having Christian Family Life Education as an essential part of ordinary teaching in all the Church Units.

### 3. Objectives of the Program

- 3.1. To promote Christian Family Life Ministry through conducting awareness raising seminars and workshops etc.;
- 3.2. To educate church workers on Family issues including pre-marital teaching;
- 3.3. To offer the church workers an opportunity to renew their partnership in Marriage during a retreat-type of gathering;
- 3.4. To search for Key Persons to promote the Family Life Ministry in the EECMY;
- 3.5. To collect materials and create new materials on Marriage and Family life, and
- 3.6. To strengthen the Family Counseling activities in the Church.

4. Plan of Activities                      To achieve the above mentioned objectives through

- 4.1. Collecting materials for a Family Life Library in order to have a resource center for concerned church workers;
- 4.2. Promoting teaching on Family and Counseling issues in different Seminars and Bible Schools;
- 4.3. Conducting awareness raising seminars and workshops in different Church Units;
- 4.4. Running Marriage Courses and Retreats for different groups of Church workers;
- 4.5. Working on the Biblical and Theological Foundation and the Church policy on Christian Marriage and Family life;
- 4.6. Producing leaflets and booklets in order to raise awareness on family issues;
- 4.7. Creating materials including teaching aids for Christian Family Life Ministry;
- 4.8. Creating structures for Family Counseling activities in congregations;
- 4.9. Arranging program for Family Counseling in a local congregation, and
- 4.10. Producing a Training Handbook for the Christian Family Life Ministry;

5. Framework and the workers of the Program

In the beginning the program will be run under the framework of Hossana Mekane Yesus Seminary (HMYS). The working area, however, is the whole Church in close cooperation with the EECMY Gospel Ministry Department.

The Missionary Couple, who have been called for this service, shall be stationed in Hossana and teach according to special arrangements periodically in HMYS. As teachers of HMYS they shall also plan and act for the Christian Family Life Program in any Church Units.

One of the main objectives of the Program is to search for Key Persons in different Church units. These Ethiopians, whether Church workers or voluntary ones, will participate in teaching and otherwise act as resource persons for the Program. They should gradually take responsibility of promoting the Christian Family Life Program in their respective working areas. The idea is not to employ new people but to integrate Christian Family Life Ministry to the existing Church activities.

In the long run the program is to be run under the EECMY Gospel Ministry Department.

6. The Duration of the Program

The aim is to have Christian Family Life Education as an essential part of ordinary teaching in all the Church Units. To achieve this aim the Program is to be run for several years to support different Church Units in continuing it as part of their ordinary work.

7. The Budget, Administration and the Equipment of the Program

The annual Budgets and any administrative or financial procedures will be under the HMYS until the Program is transferred to the Central Office of the EECMY. Any equipment purchased for the Program shall follow the Program when it is transferred to the EECMY Gospel Ministry Department.

*(Text approved by the EECMY-HMYS Board June 3, 2000)*

### COURSES 2003 (by the FLEP Advisors)

Num ber of cour- ses	Synod, School etc	Place	Date	Days of the Week	Type of Course	Coup- les / Per- sons	Oth. par- tici- pants	TOTAL par- tici- pants
1	SWBS, WGBS, WWBS, IBS, CS, CES	Mettu, Terfa Jarso Bible School	Feb. 18-28, 10 course days, total of 76 periods	Tue- Sat; Mon- Fri	<b>The 2nd Training of Trainers' Course (TOT) for Family Ministry.</b> Participants from 6 Synods.	12 / 24	1	25
2	HMYS	Hossana Mekane Yesus Seminary	Mar 31 - April 3, four days, 26 periods		Special Course on Marriage / Family Ministry at the HMYS, Diploma Classes, 2nd and 3rd year		26	26
3	BDS, GJS, CS, CGS, CES, NCES	Nekemte Christian Education College	Apr. 8-18, 10 course days, total of 76 periods	Tue- Sat; Mon- Fri	<b>The 3rd training of Trainers' Course (TOT) for Family Ministry.</b> Participants from 6 Synods.	10 / 20		20
<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF COUPLES / PARTICIPANTS DURING THE YEAR 2003</b>						<b>22 / 44</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>71</b>

### TOTALS OF 2000-2003 (by the FLEP Advisors)

(2000) 17 courses					COUPLES / PARTICIPANTS 2000	97 / 194	191	385
(2001) 15 courses					COUPLES / PARTICIPANTS 2001	157 / 314	107	421
(2002) 11 courses					COUPLES / PARTICIPANTS 2002	127 / 254	70	324
(2003) 3 courses					COUPLES / PARTICIPANTS 2003	22 / 44	27	71
<b>TOTAL 46 COURSES</b>	<b>TOTAL PARTICIPANTS IN 3 YEARS:</b>				<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF COUPLES / PARTICIPANTS DURING 2000-2003</b>	<b>403 / 806</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>1.201</b>

### TOTALS OF 2002-2003 (by FLEP-TOT trained people)

TOTALS of <b>2002</b> taught by FLEP-TOT trained people					COUPLES / PARTICIPANTS 2002 in the programs arranged by the Church Units	212 / 424	583	1007
TOTALS of <b>2003</b> taught by FLEP-TOT trained people					COUPLES / PARTICIPANTS 2003 in the programs arranged by the Church Units	377 / 754	8303	9057
	<b>TOTAL PARTICIPANTS IN 2 YEARS:</b>				<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF COUPLES / PARTICIPANTS DURING 2002-2003 in the programs arranged by the Church Units</b>	<b>589 / 1178</b>	<b>8886</b>	<b>10.064</b>

## COURSES AND DIFFERENT KINDS OF TEACHINGS

arranged by different Church Units' own, FLEP-TOT-trained facilitators

Nr	Synod, School etc	Place	Date	Days of the Week	Type of Course	Couples / Persons	Oth. participants	TOTAL participants
	SWS, Arba Minch	Arba Minch Congregation	June - October 2002	Sundays	Teaching on Sunday mornings before Sunday Service (five times)		1520	1520
	SWS, Arba Minch	Arba Minch Congregation	May - December 2002	Weekdays	Teaching in local Bible Study Groups (eight different groups, altogether 32 gatherings)		1174	1174
	SWS, Arba Minch	Arba Minch Congregation	November 2002	Friday	Evening Service (one time)		85	85
	SWS, Arba Minch	Arba Minch Congregation	November - December 2002	Tuesdays	Evening Program for Youth (two times)		434	434
	SWBS, Mizan Teferi	Mizan Teferi Beth Congregation	March - April 2003	Sundays	Pre-Marital Teaching for Youth (four days, eight periods), estimated nr. of people		400	400
	SWBS, Mizan Teferi	Mizan Teferi Beth Congregation	June 1, 2003	Sunday	Teaching at Wedding during the Sunday Service, estimated nr. of people		400	400
	SWBS, Mizan Teferi	Mizan Teferi Beth Congregation	Rainy Season 2003	For one month daily!	<b>A one month Marriage Course</b> , all Learning Periods of the Family Ministry Handbook; 30 x 2 periods = 60	7 / 14		14
	SWBS, Mizan Teferi	Mizan Teferi Beth Congregation	August 2003	Saturday-Sunday	Conference on Family Issues, two days, estimated 500 people, 6 periods + Sunday Service		500	500
	SCS, Gimbichu	Uyaya Congregation	October 2002	Friday-Saturday	Women's Course, two days, 6 periods		68	68
	SCS, Gimbichu	Uyaya Congregation	November 2002	Friday-Saturday	Marriage teaching for couples, two days, 5 periods	14 / 28	4	32
	SCS, Gimbichu	Uyaya Congregation	May 23, 2003	Friday	Women's Meeting, two periods		41	41
	SCS, Gimbichu	Uyaya Congregation	December 13-14, 2002	Friday-Saturday	Course for Congregational Leaders, two days, 3 periods		11	11
	SCS, Gimbichu	Hundibira Congregation	October 18, 2002	Friday	Marriage teaching for couples, one day, 2 periods	6 / 12		12
	SCS, Gimbichu	Gimbichu Congregation	October 25, 2002	Friday	Women's Course, one day, 2 periods		58	58
	SCS, Gimbichu	Gimbichu Congregation	April 18, 2003	Friday	Women's Meeting, two periods		84	84
	SCS, Gimbichu	Jajura Congregation	November 3, 2002	Sunday	Marriage teaching for couples, one day, 2 periods	8 / 16		16
	SCS, Gimbichu	Jajura Congregation	May 2, 2003	Friday	Women's Meeting, two periods		78	78
	SCS, Gimbichu	Jajura Parish	December 6-7, 2002	Friday-Saturday	Course for Parish Leaders, two days, 6 periods		18	18
	SCS, Gimbichu	Sogeda Congregation	January 17, 2003	Friday	Women's Meeting, two periods		24	24
	SCS, Gimbichu	Sonde Congregation	Jan 31 - Feb 1, 2003	Friday-Saturday	Women's Course, two days, 5 periods		36	36
	SCS, Gimbichu	Chefa Congregation	Feb 25, 2003	Tuesday	Women's Meeting, two periods		52	52
	SCS, Gimbichu	Sundusa Congregation	March 21, 2003	Friday	Women's Meeting, two periods		32	32
	SCS, Gimbichu	Bure Congregation	April 4, 2003	Friday	Women's Meeting, two periods		104	104
	SCS, Gimbichu	Burye Parish	June 6, 2003	Friday	Course for Parish Leaders		16	16
	SCS, Gimbichu	Dabiyago Congregation	June 27, 2003	Friday	Women's Meeting, two periods		22	22
	SCS, Gimbichu	West-Soro Parish	August 29, 2003	Friday	Course for Parish Leaders and Women, one day, two periods		50	50
	SCS, Gimbichu	Wagabata Congregation	September 5, 2003	Friday	Women's Meeting, two periods		82	82
	IBS, Mettu	Synod Center	February - April, 2003	Diff. days	Marriage teaching within the Women's training course arranged by the Women's Section; 3 days, 6 periods		24	24
	IBS, Mettu	Synod Center	June 26, 2003	Thursday	Marriage teaching within the Course for Bible School students and their wives; one day, 4 periods	28 / 56	8	64
	WWBS - Dembi Dollo	Dulii Congregation	March 16, 2003	Thursday	Marriage teaching for Couples, women and men, 3 periods	41 / 82	40	122
	WWBS - Dembi Dollo	Dembi Dollo Congregation	April 13, 20, 27, 2003	Sundays	Pre-Marital teaching for High School Christian Fellowship, three days, 3 x 3 periods		450	450
					TOTALS carried to page 2	104 / 208	5815	6023

Nr	Synod, School etc	Place	Date	Days of the Week	Type of Course	Couples / Persons	Oth. participants	TOTAL participants	
					TOTALS brought from page 2	104 / 208	5815	6023	
	WWBS - Dembi Dollo	Dembi Dollo Congregation	July 13, 20, 27, 2003	Sundays	Pre-Marital teaching for girls and boys, three days, 4 + 4 + 3 periods		481	481	
	WWBS - Dembi Dollo	Alega Tabor Congregation	August 2, 2003	Saturday	Pre-Marital teaching for girls and boys; one full day, 6 periods		212	212	
	WWBS - Dembi Dollo	Wayu Suphe Congregation	August 30, 2003	Saturday	Marriage teaching for Couples, women and men, 5 periods	52 / 104	70	174	
	GJS-Gimbi	Gimbi Congregation	August - October 2003	Once a week	<b>Marriage Course for couples</b> , one day per week for three months, two periods per day, 12 x 2 periods = 24	13 / 26		26	
	GJS-Gimbi	Gimbi Congregation	October 2003	One day	Marriage teaching for youth, one period		250	250	
	GJS-Gimbi	Kabana Congregation	October, November 2003	Two days	Marriage teaching for youth, two days, one period each		396	396	
	GJS-Gimbi	Gimbi Adventist Hospital	2003		Marriage teaching for youth, two periods				
	SWS, Arba Minch	Arba Minch Congregation	March-April 2003	Saturdays	Marriage teaching for Confirmation Class participants, three days, two periods each time		55	55	
	SWS, Arba Minch	Arba Minch Shecha Congreg.	July 2003	Sundays	Teaching on Sunday mornings before Sunday Service (two times)		533	533	
	SWS, Arba Minch	Arba Minch Distr Birbir Congreg.	August 2003	Mon-Wed.	Teaching for Church leaders and members (three days, two periods each day)	10 / 20	14	34	
	SWS, Arba Minch	Genta Parish	September 2003	Friday-Sunday	Teaching for Parish leaders and youth (three days, two periods each day)		65	65	
	SWS, Arba Minch	Arba Minch Technical School	March - April 2003	School days	Teaching for Technical School students (two days per week, two periods each time); 44 male, 11 female stud.		55	55	
	CS, Nekemte	Arjo Parish	28 March - 2 April, 2003	Friday-Wedn.	<b>Marriage Course for Pastors and Evangelists with their wives</b> , 15 periods within a week	18 / 36	1	37	
	CS, Nekemte	Arjo Parish	11-15 July, 2003	Friday-Tuesd.	<b>Marriage Course for Voluntary workers with their wives</b> , 18 periods within a week	13 / 26	3	29	
	CS, Nekemte	A congregation in Arjo Parish	25-26 June, 2003	Wedn.-Thursd	Marriage teaching for congregation members, two days, five periods	15 / 30	10	40	
	CS, Nekemte	A congregation in Arjo Parish	11-12 July, 2003	Friday-Saturd.	Marriage teaching for congregation members, two days, five periods	10 / 20	8	28	
	CS, Nekemte	A congregation in Arjo Parish	16-17 July, 2003	Wedn.-Thursd	Marriage teaching for congregation members, two days, five periods	40 / 80	12	92	
	CS, Nekemte	A congregation in Arjo Parish	19-20 July, 2003	Saturd-Sunday	Marriage teaching for congregation members, two days, five periods	25 / 50	9	59	
	CS, Nekemte	A congregation in Arjo Parish	22-24 July, 2003	Tuesd.-Thursd	Marriage teaching for congregation members, three days, seven periods	43 / 86	11	97	
	CS, Nekemte	Galika Congreg. in Burgat Parish	26 July, 2003	Saturday	Marriage teaching for youth, two periods		55	55	
	CS, Nekemte	Goto Congreg. in Burgat Parish	15 August, 2003	Friday	Marriage teaching for youth, three periods		125	125	
	SS, Dilla	Dilla Synod Cent, Women's Work	24 September - 14 October	Weekdays	Marriage teaching as part of three weeks' Women's Course, 5 x 3 periods = 15 periods		37	37	
	SS, Dilla	Dilla Synod Bible School	Starting October 2003	Weekdays	Marriage teaching as part of one year's Bible School Course, 1 period each week		12	12	
	NCES	Kombolcha Congregarion	April - June 2003	Weekdays	Teaching on Marriage for active congregation members, three days, one period each day	28 / 56	39	95	
	CES	Fransay Congregation	2003		Teaching for engaged couples, eight times, one period each time	6 / 12		12	
	CES	Fransay Congregation	2003		Teaching on marriage young people and women, six times, one period each time		15	15	
	CES	Fransay Congregation	2003		Teaching on marriage at Confirmation class, five times, one period each time		20	20	
<b>TOTALS of 2003 taught by FLEP-TOT trained people</b>						<b>COUPLES / PARTICIPANTS 2003 in the programs arranged by the Church Units</b>	<b>377 / 754</b>	<b>8303</b>	<b>9057</b>

EECMY Hossana Mekane Yesus Seminary (HMYS)  
Christian Family Life Education Program (FLEP)

**SPECIAL COURSE ON MARRIAGE / FAMILY MINISTRY**  
as part of 2nd and 3rd year Diploma Courses at the Hossana Mekane Yesus Seminary (HMYS)

**March 31 - April 3, 2003**

Facilitators: Sr. Anna-Kaarina and Kes Matti Palmu

**Monday - Thursday, March 31 - April 3, 2003**

- Why Marriage?  
My expectations concerning Marriage?
- What is Marriage?  
The foundation of Marriage
- Forgiveness and Marriage?  
Our Christian witness in Marriage and Family
- Youth and Marriage  
Preparations for Marriage; Wedding Ceremonies etc
- Sexual relationships before and during Marriage;  
Why should one wait until Marriage?
- Man/woman in Marriage, Issue of Equality  
Men and women are different
- Taking care of one's Marriage:  
Spiritual and other aspects of Marriage;  
Speaking and listening; Decision-making; Signs of Love; Sharing
- HIV - AIDS  
How to prevent? What is the role of the Church concerning HIV-AIDS?
- Problems concerning Marriage  
What about Disagreements, Violence, Unfaithfulness, Female circumcision, Role of relatives, etc?
- Divorce and Remarriage?
- Family planning  
Children are the gift of God - what does it mean?
- The role of the Church concerning Marriage?  
The EECMY "Christian Family Life Education Program" (FLEP)
- What can I do for Marriage in my service?

The Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus (EECMY)  
Christian Family Life Education Program (FLEP)

**HANDBOOK FOR FAMILY MINISTRY ( 2ND DRAFT, FEBRUARY 2003 )**

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(Cover Page Drawing: Ato Assefa Guta)



The Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus  
Christian Family Life Education Program (FLEP)

**The list of FLEP-TOT trained instructors in Church Units:**

(Updated in December, 2003)

Synod or Work Area	Name	Nr / Year of TOT training	Report on teaching 2002	Report on teaching 2003
WWBS	1. Kes Deresa Wakjira ቁስ ደሬሳ ዋቅጅራ P.O. Box 16, DEMBI DOLLO	1 / 2002	√	
SEAW	2. Evan. Tesfaye Hordofa ወ/ዊ ተስፋዬ ሆርዶፋ 3. Evan. Selamawit Geleta ወ/ዊተ ሰላማዊት ገለተ HMYS, Box 55, HOSSANA	1 / 2002	√	
SCES	4. Kes Mateos Woma ቁስ ማቴዎስ ወማ 5. W/ro Shage Kimo ወ/ሮ ሻጌ ኪሞ SCES, P.O. Box 9, AWASA	1 / 2002	√	
SS	6. W/ro Zerfe Tefera ወ/ሮ ዘርፌ ተፈራ South Synod, P.O. Box 17, DILLA	1 / 2002	√	√
SS	7. Kes Elias Felleke ቁስ ኤልያስ ፈለቀ 8. W/ro Fire Hiwot Mengesha ወ/ሮ ፍሬ ከይዎት መንገሻ South Synod, P.O. Box 17, DILLA	1 / 2002	√	
SWS	9. Kes Tezera Kafie ቁስ ተዘራ ካፌ 10. W/ro Tsige Zewde ወ/ሮ ጽጌ ዘውደ SWS, P.O. Box 14, ARBA MINCH	1 / 2002		√
SWS	11. Kes Tarekegn Mulugeta ቁስ ታረቀኝ ሙሉጌታ 12. W/ro Aster Solomon ወ/ሮ አስቴር ሰለሞን SWS, P.O. Box 14, ARBA MINCH	1 / 2002	√	√
SCS	13. Kes Deginet Mirkano ቁስ ደግነት ምርካኖ SCS, P.O. Box 5, HOSSANA	1 / 2002		
SCS	14. Kes Tekle Chufamo ቁስ ተክሌ ጨፋሞ 15. W/ro Kibenesh Tafese ወ/ሮ ክብነሽ ታፈሰ SCS, P.O. Box 5, HOSSANA	1 / 2002		√
SCS	16. Kes Girma Kassa ቁስ ግርማ ካሣ 17. W/ro Aster Ortabo ወ/ሮ አስቴር አርታቦ SCS, P.O. Box 5, HOSSANA	1 / 2002		
SCS	18. W/ro Tseganesh Ayele ወ/ሮ ጸጋነሽ አየለ P.O. Box 51, HOSSANA	1 / 2002		
IBS	19. Kes Demie Wakgari ቁስ ደሜ ዋቅጋሪ 20. W/ro Tenagne Kidanewold ወ/ሮ ተናኘ ኪዳነ ወልድ P.O. Box 5, METTU	2 / 2003		
IBS	21. Kes Girma Tefera ቁስ ግርማ ተፈራ 22. W/ro Belaynesh Negawo ወ/ሮ በላይነሽ ነጋዎ P.O. Box 49, METTU	2 / 2003		
IBS	23. Kes Mabiraate Disaasaa ቁስ መብራቱ ዲሳሳ 24. W/ro Shitaayee Firisaa ወ/ሮ ሽታዩ ፍሪሳ ALGEE Postal Agent	2 / 2003		
IBS	25. Kes Tilahun Mamo ቁስ ጥላሁን ማሞ 26. W/ro Aster Mekonnen ወ/ሮ አስቴር መኮንን P.O. Box 11, METTU	2 / 2003		√
IBS	27. Kes Zewde Daka ቁስ ዘውዴ ደቃ 28. W/ro Hana Teshome ወ/ሮ ሐና ተሾመ P.O. Box 329, JIMMA	2 / 2003		
SWBS	29. Ev. Yohannes Bolteno ወ/ዊ ዮሐንስ ቦልጠኖ 30. W/ro Birke Chane ወ/ሮ ብርቁ ጫኔ P.O. Box 154, MIZAN TEFERI	2 / 2003		√
WGBS	31. Ato Mulugeta Ruot አቶ ሙሉጌታ ሩኦት 32. W/ro Rebecca Nyatik ወ/ሮ ረቢቃ ናንቲክ P.O. Box 68, GAMBELLA	2 / 2003		

**The list of FLEP-TOT trained instructors in Church Units, page 2**

Synod or Work Area	Name	Nr / Year of TOT training	Report on teaching 2002	Report on teaching 2003
WWBS	33. Kes Yohannes Chawaka ቁስ የሐንስ ጨዋታ 34. W/ro Tringo Fogi ወ/ሮ ትራንጎ ፎጊ P.O. Box 16, DEMBI DOLLO	2 / 2003	√	√
WWBS	35. Ato Mihiretu Dhuguma አቶ ምህረቱ ዱጉማ 36. W/ro Aregash Tuuchoo ወ/ሮ አረጋሽ ቱቾ P.O. Box 16, DEMBI DOLLO	2 / 2003		
CES	37. Kes Akineda G/M ቁስ አቅነዳ ገ/መድሀን 38. W/ro Tsehay Mekonen ወ/ሮ ጸሐይ መኮንን P.O. Box 101 833, ADDIS ABEBA	2 / 2003		
CES	39. Kes Erjamo Gabora ቁስ ኤርጃሞ ጋበሬ 40. Wengelawit Tegest Beyene ወ/ሞት ትዕግስት በየነ WONJI SHEWA Postal Agent	2 / 2003		
CS	41. Kes Gilo Sia ቁስ ጊሎ ሥኦ 42. W/ro Damitu Wakene ወ/ሮ ደሚቱ ዋኬኔ P.O. Box 7, JIMA ARJO, East Wollega	2 / 2003		√
CS	43. Kes Asfaw Terfassa ቁስ አስፋው ተርፋሳ P.O. Box 24, NEKEMTE	2 / 2003		
NCES	44. Ev. Esaiyas Gessesse ወ/ሞ ኢሳይያስ ገሠሠ 45. W/ro Nigest Zewdu ወ/ሮ ንግስት ዘውዱ P.O. Box 81, ASAITA	3 / 2003		
NCES	46. Ev. Nahum Teshome ወ/ሞ ናሆም ተሾመ 47. W/ro Tigest Assefa ወ/ሮ ትዕግስት አሳፋ P.O. Box 240, KOMBOLCHA	3 / 2003		√
CES	48. Kes Geneti Wayessa ቁስ ገነቲ ወዩሳ 49. W/ro Aberash Tolessa ወ/ሮ አበራሽ ቶሌሳ P.O. Box 5749, ADDIS ABEBA	3 / 2003		
CES	50. Kes Assefa Woyessa ቁስ አስፋ ወየሣ 51. W/ro Bizunesh Wodneh ወ/ሮ ብዙነሽ ወድነህ P.O. Box 13427, ADDIS ABEBA	3 / 2003		√
CGS	52. Kes Eshetu Badasa ቁስ ኧሾቱ በደሳ 53. W/ro Kebebush Gofe ወ/ሮ ከበቡሽ ጎሬ EECMY-CGS, c/o IJAJI POST OFFICE	3 / 2003		
CGS	54. Kes Danboba Duguma ቁስ ደንበባ ዱጉማ 55. W/ro Birke Ajeta ወ/ሮ ብርቁ አጆታ EECMY-CGS, c/o IJAJI POST OFFICE	3 / 2003		
CS	56. Kes Tamiru Tuli ቁስ ታምሩ ቱሊ 57. W/ro Mulunesh Oluma ወ/ሮ ሙሉነሽ ኦሎማ EECMY-CS, P.O.Box 24, NEKEMTE	3 / 2003		√
GJS	58. Kes Kanara Mati ቁስ ከነራ ማቲ 59. W/ro Melkitu Bayisa ወ/ሮ መልክቱ በይዕሳ EECMY-GJS, P.O. Box 13, GIMBI	3 / 2003		
GJS	60. Ato Adamu Lencha አቶ አዳሙ ሊንጫ 61. W/ro Tolashe Negasa ወ/ሮ ቶላሽኒ ነጋሣ EECMY-GJS, P.O. Box 13, GIMBI	3 / 2003		√
BDS	62. Kes Negesse Siyoum ቁስ ነገሠ ስዩም 63. W/ro Gebanesh Negera ወ/ሮ ገባይነሽ ነገራ EECMY-BDS, c/o AIRA POST OFFICE	3 / 2003		

The Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus  
Christian Family Life Education Program (FLEP)

**Future FLEP activities:** (Updated in December, 2003)

	On Process	Status
- Arrange one 4-day Basic Marriage Course for each Synod / Working Area	√	19/20 done, Mekele scheduled in January 2004
- Prepare a Training Handbook for Family Ministry	√	2nd draft done 2003
- Prepare teaching materials for teaching on marriage for various groups (e.g. Youth groups, Couples getting married soon, Newly married couples, Elderly couples, etc)	√	Only partly included in the Handbook for Family Ministry
- Arrange the first series of Training of Trainers Courses (3 groups in different areas of EECMY, i.e. in Hossana, Mettu and Nekemte, one to three couples from each unit)	√	1st in April 2002 2nd in February 2003 3rd in April 2003
- Start a sustaining system for Training of Trainers (TOT) Courses according to the needs of the different Church Units	√	More TOT's 2004 onwards
- Create a ongoing system for TOT Refresher Courses	√	The first ones in March and May 2004
- Encourage and assist the Church Units to arrange teaching / Courses on Marriage / Family Ministry	√	Going on in (at least) 12 Synods or Area Works
- Arrange Special Course on Family Ministry for all the Theological Seminaries (at least one course for each graduating class, during their years of study)	√	Done yearly at MYTS, once every two or three years at HMYS, ONS, NCEC
- Prepare a FLEP-curriculum for MYTS and EECMY Regional Seminaries	√	
- Build up a Library on Marriage / Family Ministry, in Amharic and English	√	
- Prepare a list of available books on Marriage / Family Ministry	√	
- Encourage the Synods to provide for sale books on Marriage / Family Ministry	√	
- Arrange two Basic Marriage Courses for EECMY Central Office staff	√	Scheduled for 2004
- Prepare a FLEP-curriculum for EECMY Bible Schools		
- Arrange a training course for Bible School and Seminary teachers		
- Arrange a course for Social Health Co-ordinators and other key-persons in various fields of Church work		
- Prepare statements on fundamental issues concerning Marriage		
- Arrange Family Ministry Consultations for concerned target groups (Youth Work, Student Ministry, Women's Work, Social Health Co-ordinators, Bible Schools' & Seminaries' staff, DASSC staff, Synod / Area Work leadership, etc.		