

The Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus

Department for Mission and Theology

FAMILY MINISTRY

REPORT 2004

THE FIVE YEARS OF THE
Christian Family Life Education Program
2000-2004



Teaching practice during the 4th Training of Trainers Course, September 2004

FAMILY MINISTRY REPORT 2004

THE FIVE YEARS OF FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION PROGRAM 2000-2004

- Background** The Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus (EECMY) is a rapidly growing African Church. The membership figure (20,000 in 1959 when the Church was founded) passed 4,000,000 by 2004. The Church has strongly focused on evangelism, always reaching out to new people. But experiencing rapid growth, the Church is also challenged to nurture those who are already members. One field which has clearly been forgotten during previous years is taking care of the welfare of marriages and families.
- Beginning** **The Program started** in 2000, when the Church called Sr. Anna-Kaarina and Rev. Matti Palmu, missionaries of the Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Mission (FELM), to develop the Church's work in the fields of Marriage and Family. As of September 2004 an Ethiopian couple, W/ro Aberash Tolossa and Rev. Geneti Wayessa started their work as counterparts to the Palmus. FELM is financing the Program through an earmarked grant (in 2000-2005 between 80,000 and 170,000 Ethiopian Birr annually (roughly 10-15,000 Euros / year).
- Vision** **The Vision of the Family Life Education Program** is to support Christians to live in happy and healthy marriages and families; to encourage Church workers who are happy in their marriages to spread the Good News through their life example and teaching; to improve the status of girls and women through strengthening the Christian family model; to help in the frightening situation of the AIDS pandemic through stressing the significance of faithfulness in the life of couples and families.
- Goal, target areas** **The goal of the Program** is to train as many instructors (couples) as possible. They are to act as Family Ministry teachers, while working in their respective duties. The **target areas** of the Program are all the 20 Church Units (17 Synods and 3 Work Areas), 4 theological seminaries and all the Bible schools.
- What has been done?** During 2000-2004 the Program has arranged a **Basic Marriage Course in all 20 Church Units**, and the Central Office. All students at the EECMY Theological Seminaries are getting a Family Ministry course (about 30 periods, two credit hours) during their studies. - The **Training of Trainers (TOT) courses for Family Ministry** are given in order to get Ethiopian couples as instructors for basic level teaching. At the end of 2004 some 120 people have completed the Family Ministry TOT course. After the training they have arranged teaching, not only at Synod level, but also at Parish and Congregation levels, in local languages. - **The responsibility on giving basic teaching on Family Ministry has already been transferred to the local level instructors.** Reports on their teaching have come from 14 different Church Units; the remaining 6 Units have got the TOT trained instructor during 2004. - The total number of participants taught by the Advisors in five years was 1.500, while the other trainers taught almost 24.000 people in three-years' time only! The work is spreading and being transferred to the Church Units! - The **Handbook for Family Ministry** (160+52 pages) is about to be finalized.

FLEP ACTIVITIES 2004

- If not otherwise mentioned, Sr. Anna-Kaarina Palmu and Rev. Matti Palmu have been together the facilitators, working and teaching as a team - since September, together with W/ro Aberash Tolossa and Kes Geneti Wayessa (except the MYTS Course September-December).
- The teaching method has been participatory; there has been not much of lecturing.
- See the overview of FLEP courses 2004 (Appendix)

A. TEACHING AT THE THEOLOGICAL INSTITUTIONS OF THE EECMY

- **February-March The Family Ministry part of the ‘Pastoral Care in African Christianity’ Course** at the Mekane Yesus Theological Seminary (MYTS), Degree 3 class, altogether 10 periods. The whole course consists 32 periods, thus the Family Ministry part of it was about 1/3.
 - Participants: 22 degree students of the 3rd year.
 - Throughout the course there was an active discussion on relevant questions presented by the students.
- **March 22-25 Special Course on Marriage / Family Ministry** at the Nekemte Christian Education College, Diploma classes at NCEC, Nekemte.
 - Participants: 9 Theology students of 1st year, 17 of 3rd year, total 26.
 - The course was given as an **intensive course**, basically all the daily class periods; four days, altogether **20 periods**. Language: English.
 - The FLEP contributed to the NCEC Library the following books: 1) "Questions Young People ask", 2) the same in Amharic; 3) "Answers for your Marriage", 4) the same in Amharic; 5) The Secret of Marriage (in Amharic), 6) "Family Ministry", and 7) "A Biblical Approach to Marriage and Family in Africa".
- **March 26 Course on Marriage / Family Ministry** at the Nekemte Christian Education College, Certificate level (2nd year Bible School) at NCEC, Nekemte. 3 double periods, altogether **6 periods**
 - Participants: 25 Bible School students. The course language: Amharic.
- **May-June Course on “Basics of Family Ministry”** at the Mekane Yesus Theological Seminary (MYTS), Degree 4 (evening-) class. Altogether 16 periods, in ordinary Seminary curriculum a two-periods-per-week course during one block.
 - Participants: 9 degree students of the 4th year. Language: Amharic.
- **September-December “Pastoral Care in Marriage and Family” Course** at the Mekane Yesus Theological Seminary (MYTS), Degree 4 class. Altogether 32 periods, in ordinary Seminary curriculum a two-periods-per-week course during the both two blocks of the semester.
 - Participants: 18 degree students of the 4th year. Language: English

The ideal length of Family Ministry courses at the Seminaries is five full days, i.e. 25-30 periods. The best form is an “intensive course” within a week, NOT having periods on weekly program. **The Course on Family Ministry shall be in the permanent Curriculum for 2nd or 3rd year Diploma Course and Degree 3-4 Course.**

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

- In 2000-2002 the advisors arranged a Basic Marriage Course in each and every EECMY Synod (17) and two of the three Work Areas. The Synods invited pastors, evangelists and other responsible persons to courses with their wives or husbands. The emphasis has been on **Marriage Enrichment** having the wish that participants would also teach these issues in their work or home areas. The FLEP has paid the Course cost except the cost related to transport, which is considered as Local Contribution.
- In 2004 there were only two Basic courses for couples arranged by the advisors. Since 2003 the TOT trained local people have taught the Basic courses in Synods.
- **Jan 16-20, 2004 Basic Marriage Course for couples in NEAW;**
 - Place: NEAW Office, Mekele; 4 full days (during 5 days), 28 periods.
 - Program from Friday 9.20 a.m. until Tuesday 1 p.m.
 - **13 couples**, i.e. 26 participants.
- **Oct 21-24 Basic Marriage Course for the Central Office Staff couples**
 - Place, duration: Debre Zeit, 4 Course Days, 25 periods.
 - The facilitators: The Palmus, W/ro Aberash and Kes Geneti;
 - Program from Thursday 10.35 a.m. until Sunday 3.30 p.m.
 - **15 couples**, i.e. 30 participants.

The responsibility on giving basic teaching on Family Ministry has already been transferred to the local level instructors. There are 120 people (56 couples and 8 individuals) who have participated in the Training of Trainers Course for Family Ministry. **Reports on their teaching have come from 15 different Church Units.** The remaining 6 Units have got the TOT trained instructor during 2004.

- People with various responsibilities have been invited to Family Ministry courses or other teaching occasions. Part of these have been for couples only, in many cases for a mixed audience. The instructors have taught in different languages a variety of topics of the Family Ministry Handbook.

C. TRAINING OF TRAINERS (TOT)

C.1. THE 4TH TRAINING OF TRAINERS (TOT) COURSE,

- **Date, place: August 30 - September 10, Debre Zeit**
 - 9 Course Days, 72 periods;
 - **The facilitators** were Sr. Anna-Kaarina, Kes Matti Palmu and (for the first time) W/ro Aberash Tolossa and Kes Geneti Wayessa, who started their service at EECMY-DMT-FLEP 1st of September, 2004;
 - **36 Participants** (17 couples, 2 men alone) from 9 Synods / Work Area: SWS - Arba Minch, SEAW - Dodola, SS - Dilla, SCS - Hossana, EGBS - Gambella, WGBS - Gambella, BDS - Aira, CS - Nekemte, CGS - Ijaji.
- All the participant-men of this course are **Bible School teachers** in their respective Synods.
- Program from 1st week Tuesd. 8.40 a.m. until 2nd week Thursd. 8.10 p.m.

C.2. THE 5TH TRAINING OF TRAINERS (TOT) COURSE

- 10 Course Days, 76 periods;
- Date, place: **November 1 - 13, 2004, Debre Zeit**
- **The facilitators:** The Palmus, W/ro Aberash, Kes Geneti;
- **20 Participants** (9 couples, 1 wife and 1 husband alone) from 7 Synods or Work Areas: CES - Addis Abeba, WWBS - Dembi Dollo, WS - Bodji, BGAW - Begi, SCES - Awasa, SES - Hagera Mariam and NAW - Mekele.
- Program from 1st week Tuesd. 8.40 a.m. until 2nd week Frid 5.50 p.m.

C. 3. ON 4TH AND 5TH TRAINING OF TRAINERS COURSE(S) 2004:

- The participants were all **practising as trainers** leading turn by turn various teaching sessions of the Handbook; after the Teaching Practice sessions the facilitators led turn by turn the feed back discussions;
- The participants were given the following resource books:
 - 1) Britten, "Questions Young People ask", 2) the same in Amharic; 3) Britten, "Answers for your Marriage", 4) the same in Amharic; 5) Family and Child Raising (Amh.), 6) Ingrid Trobisch, Understanding your Wife (Amh) 1. Her Ovarian cycle and Fertile days, 7) Ingrid Trobisch, Understanding your Wife; 3. Her Experience during Pregnancy (Amh.) 8) Ingrid Trobisch, Understanding your Wife 4. Her Preparation for Childbirth (Amh) 9) Ingrid Trobisch, Understanding your Wife; 2. Her Response in the Act of Love (Amh.), 10) Ingrid Trobisch, 5. Her joy in breast feeding (Amharic).
- The participants were given the "**Strengthening the Family**" - **EECMY Handbook for Family Ministry, Third Draft, June 2004**". The facilitators taught the first parts of the Handbook and turn by turn all the mornings' Bible Studies.
- The group of 4th TOT, 17 couples + 2 "singles", was definitely too big. It seems that a group of maximum 12-13 couples is ideal, since every couple (or the one who has come alone) needs time for practicing.
- It was a disappointment that the Western Synod did not send anybody to the 4th TOT and only one couple for the 5th. The formerly big Synod is thus left behind the others in Family Ministry training!
- 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. The shortening of the 4th TOT was NOT good; it made the course a bit hasty.
- The participants reported on the Family Ministry activities in their areas. There was an useful discussion on how to manage if there is no specific budget for this work, what are the target groups, the most needed courses or topics, how to train more trainers, etc.
- They were also worried about many problems on sexual life amongst our people. How to help our members in this field of Christian life?
- A problem was that some Synods failed to cover the transportation-related expenses of the participants. FLEP paid the bus-fare part of the transportation cost, but not other costs related to it.

C. 4. THE CONCLUSION OF THE TOT COURSE(S) 2004:

After the 5th TOT in November 2004 we have reached one of our goals: there is now at least one TOT trained instructor in each and every EECMY Synod or Work Area. - The next goal is much farther away: We need to train ENOUGH instructors for all the Church Units!

- There is a clear need of continuation for this training. The TOT Refresher Courses are needed, yearly or once every 2nd year after the TOT course.
- The 4th and 5th TOT Courses in Debre Zeit 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 there is a problem with the Synods or Work Areas, which do not send people for training. The big challenges in future are those, who still now do not see the necessity of Family Ministry in their areas.
- The Handbook for Family Ministry was thoroughly studied during the courses. Even more time would have been needed, but it seems that two weeks for this kind of TOT is good time.

There is a clear need of continuation for FLEP-TOT training.

In 2004 a series of TOT Refresher courses was started.

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

D. TRAINING OF TRAINERS (TOT) REFRESHER COURSES 2004:

D.1. 1st TOT-REFRESHER COURSE

- Date, Place: **March 15-19, 2004, Nekemte**; 4 Course days, 32 periods;
- **18 Participants** (9 couples) from 7 Synods: IBS - Mettu, GJS - Gimbi, CS - Nekemte, CGS - Ijaji, CES - Addis Abeba, SWS - Arba Minch and SS - Dilla.
- Program from Tuesday 8.50 a.m. until Friday 9.30 p.m.

D.2. 2nd TOT-REFRESHER COURSE

- Date, Place: **May 10-15, 2004, Awasa**; 4 Course days, 32 periods;
- **19 Participants** (9 couples, one alone) from 9 Synods: SCES - Awasa, SS - Dilla, SWS - Arba Minch, SCS - Hossana, CES - Addis Abeba, NCES - Dessie, CS - Nekemte, WWBS - Dembi Dollo and SWBS - Mizan Teferi.
- Program from Tuesday 9.10 a.m. until Friday 8.30 p.m.

D.3. Concerning both 1st and 2nd TOT - Refresher Course 2004

- The participants were given the following resource books (in addition to the 8 books they have received during the basic TOT Course):
1) Ingrid Trobisch, Understanding your Wife; 2) Her Response in the Act of Love (Amh), 2) Ingrid Trobisch, 5. Her joy in breast feeding (Amh.); 3) Walter Trobisch, I loved a girl (Amh.) 4) Walter Trobisch, I loved a young man (Amharic).
- The participants were given the revised and newly prepared 15 Bible Studies of "EECMY Handbook for Family Ministry".
- In the mornings the following 4 Bible Studies were studied:
1) Isaac and Rebekah, 2) Nabal and Abigail 3) Hosea and Gomer and 4) Manoah and Wife.
- The following Learning periods of the new, coming 3rd Draft of the Handbook were studied: 1) "Group Communication", 2) "Feelings in Communication", 3) "Forgiveness in Marriage" and 4) "Constructive Disagreement".
- Some of the participants were **practising as trainers** leading a teaching session "About feelings".

- The participants presented their oral reports on the Family Ministry activities they have been arranging in their respective Synods. There was an useful discussion on how to manage if there is no specific budget for this work, what are the target groups, the most needed courses or topics, how to train more trainers, etc.
- The atmosphere during the courses was very positive and encouraging.

E. ABOUT THE 3RD DRAFT OF THE "EECMY HANDBOOK FOR FAMILY MINISTRY"

The advisors finalized the "**Strengthening the Family**" - **EECMY Handbook for Family Ministry**, 3rd Draft, June 2004".

The Handbook includes teaching aid for 30 lessons and 15 Bible Studies, altogether 160+52= 212 pages.

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

F. OTHER ACTIVITIES (of the Advisors)

1. The advisors have been lobbying at the **EECMY Executive Committee Meetings** at the Central Office in Addis Abeba January 22-24, June 8-11, and September 14-17. During meeting breaks we held general discussions about the FLEP activities with various representatives of the Church Units.
2. June 2 **Marriage teaching for a Youth Group** at Mekanissa (one night)
3. June 12-13 The **Family Ministry Consultation** arranged by the Evangelical Churches Fellowship, Addis Abeba; about 60-80 participants; The Palmus, Kes Geneti and W/ro Aberash representing EECMY; June 12 the Palmus' presentation "The problems and challenges of Marriage worldwide".
4. In September the **Family Ministry Office was opened** in Central Office. Since October, 2003, the office had been at the Palmus' residence.
5. A new opening is **Teaching the Youth of the Deaf Community**, who are gathering in the Addis Abeba Mekane Yesus Congregation. The one-day pre-marital course is scheduled in December.
6. The advisors have been giving **Marriage Counselling** for a few times in Addis Abeba.
7. **Various duties given by FELM during the stay in Finland July-August:**
 - July 7-13 **Marriage Camp** in Kalajoki; 18 couples plus 6 leader-couples, (the participant missionary couples coming from Botswana, Nepal, Mongolia and Japan); The Palmus lecturing and leading;
 - August 2-7 in Järvenpää **Training of Trainers (TOT) on Family Ministry** for Missionaries coming from various FELM working countries; Participants (including the facilitators) 20 adults, some children, coming from 8 countries: Ethiopia, Tanzania, Namibia, Botswana, Senegal, Israel, Pakistan and Thailand; there were also some part-time participants from Finland; The Palmus lectured on EECMY-FLEP activities in Ethiopia and acted as facilitators during the course.

8. The Advisors have used considerable time **finalizing the Training Handbook and collecting materials and literature** for the FLEP Library.
9. **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.
10. **The co-operation with other Evangelical Churches in Ethiopia** concerning Family Ministry is an area where there are many positive chances to be seen. The joint Seminar in June was a positive sign of it.

G. THE NEW STAFF OF FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION PROGRAM

As of 1st of September, 2004, the FLEP Program got remarkable enforcement, as the counterparts of the Advisors started their service in the Department for Theology and Mission. **Mrs. Aberash Tolossa and Rev. Geneti Wayessa** (who earlier served as Central Ethiopia Synod Evangelism Director) have ever since been actively involved in the Family Ministry activities and planning.

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

The local instructors in Church Units have taken the role of taking care of FLEP basic level teaching. It is encouraging to see how they have taught many courses and a variety of different teaching on marriage and family life. We have received activity reports from all 15 Church Units out of 15 where there were FLEP-trained instructors during the reporting period. The remaining Units (out of all 20 Units) have got the TOT trained instructor during 2004.

The FLEP-trained instructors have taught 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,
- Marriage teaching / sermon at a Wedding,
- Repeated Pre-Sunday-service teaching in local Congregation,
- Teaching Youth groups, Choir groups, Prayer groups, etc
- Teaching at a Bible School,
- Teaching the Bible School students with their wives,
- Marriage courses for Pastors, Evangelists etc with their wives,
- Teaching at Vocational school, at High School; Etc.

Some quotations from Family Ministry instructors:

"We have lived in marriage for 27 years by now. We took part in the Basic Marriage Course some three years ago. Actually we consider our real married life to have started from that remarkable course. We praise the Lord for that - and also the people around us can witness that our life has been changed!"

"We have lived in marriage for more than 35 years. After all these years we first thought we wouldn't need to have 'a Marriage Course' at this stage. But now quite astonished we realize how many things we still have to learn. Marriage obviously is a life-long process of learning!"

I. FUTURE PROSPECTS OF EECMY FAMILY MINISTRY

- Continuous training 1) We 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.
- 2) Obviously there is also need for **Training of Trainers of Trainers!** The training structure should produce area or sector based trainers for TOT Courses. Gradually we need TOT courses for each and every Synod or Work Area! 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.
- Follow up 3) The trained ones need ongoing help, encouragement and further training for their service. Thus a **series of TOT Refresher courses** was started in 2004.
- Material production 4) **Material Production** has been under process for years. The Trainer's **Handbook** will soon be translated to Amharic and Oromo languages.
- 5) There is also a need for **handouts for the course participants**.
- 6) We need to search for suitable Family Ministry textbooks for Theological Seminaries and prepare a **textbook type teaching material Bible Schools**.
- Pre-marital teaching 7) One area of urgent need is **Pre-marital Teaching for the Youth**. In 2005 there is hope for expansion of the Family Life Education activities, when a Missionary couple starts work under Onesimos Nesib Seminary, Aira. They will serve especially in Synods in the west, focusing on pre-marital teaching.
- Marriage Counselling 8) **Marriage Counseling** is an area of crying need. There is an obvious need for kind of model of a **Counseling Center in a local Congregation**. Further on there is a crying need for **Training of Marriage & Family Counselors**.
- Gratefulness We are really encouraged when receiving the **positive feed back from various directions**. Many think Family Ministry needs to be made one of the priorities of EECMY. The happier their marriages are, the better input the Church servants can give in their respective duties. Strengthening the Christian family life also improves the status of girls and women. 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.

The program has got a good start within past five years. We thank God for that. Getting Ethiopian counterparts for the FLEP Advisors enables the growth and sustainability of Family Ministry in the Church. We are more than grateful to our God for the care, present status and expansion of the work.

Respectfully submitted, December 2, 2004

Sr. Anna-Kaarina Palmu
FLEP Advisor

Rev. Matti Palmu
FLEP Advisor

Appendices:

1. Program Description of FLEP (Appendix pages 1-2)
2. Overview of FLEP courses during 2004 (p. 3-7)
3. The list of contents of "Handbook for Family Ministry" (p. 8-9)
4. The Daily Program of a "Basic Marriage Course" in a Church Unit (p. 10)
5. Syllabus of a Family Ministry Course at Mekane Yesus Theological Seminary (p. 11)
6. The list and statistics of FLEP-TOT trained instructors (p. 12-15)
7. Past and future FLEP Activities, updated December 2004 (p. 16-17)
8. Info Leaflet of the EECMY Family Ministry (Appendix pages 18-19)

PICTURES OF FLEP ACTIVITIES 2004, page 1/3



(Above:) Men’s group work during 4th Training of Trainers in Debre Zeit, September 2004

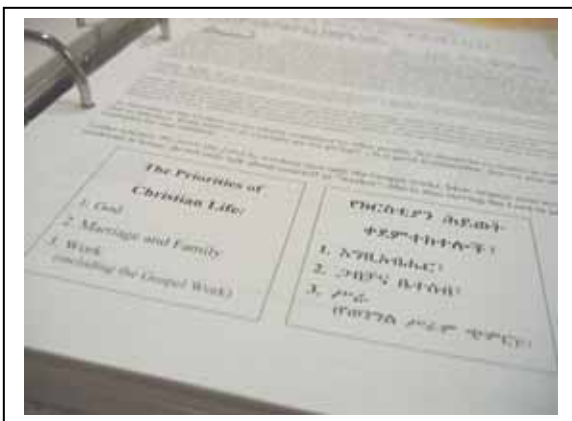


(Above:) The facilitators, Sr. Anna-Kaarina, Kes Matti Palmu and W/ro Aberash Tolossa, Kes Geneti Wayessa leading the feedback discussion after a teaching session. (4th TOT in September 2004)



(Below:) Group work of participants coming from Synods in the South, planning their future service on the field of Family Ministry. (5th TOT in Debre Zeit, November 2004)

(Above:) Group Discussion during 4th Training of Trainers in Debre Zeit, September 2004



(Above) Extract from the Handbook for Family Ministry: “The Priorities of Christian Life”



PICTURES OF FLEP ACTIVITIES 2004, page 2/3



(Beside)
The Basic Marriage Courses
always are concluded by
celebrating the Holy
Communion;
here in NAW Mekele,
January 2004

(Right) The first round of the Basic Marriage
Course for the EECMY Central Office Staff
was arranged in October, 2004. Here is the
couples' Group Discussion.



(Above) The 2nd TOT Refresher
Course was arranged in Awasa
in May, 2004. It is hot there -
outside was sometimes cooler!

(Beside) Teaching practices are
an essential part of Training of
Trainers Courses. Even the most
experienced participants have
been willing to practise for
Family Ministry. 5th TOT in
Debre Zeit, November 2004



PICTURES OF FLEP ACTIVITIES 2004, page 3/3



The 4th FLEP Training of Trainers (TOT) course in Debre Zeit August 30 - September 10, 2004



The 5th FLEP Training of Trainers (TOT) course in Debre Zeit November 1-13, 2004

By end of 2004 some 120 people have taken the Training of Trainers Course for Family Ministry.

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)

FLEP COURSES 2004, page 1 / 4
(courses 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	NAW - Mekele	NAW Hostel - Center	Jan 16-20	Fri- Tue	Basic Marriage Course for Couples for five days (28 teaching periods)	13 / 26		26
2	MYTS	Mekane Yesus Theological Seminary, A.A.	Feb 17, 28, March 9		“Family Ministry part of the ‘Pastoral Care in African Christianity’ Course at the MYTS, Degree 3 class. (10 periods, 5 double periods). The whole course consists 32 periods, thus the Family Ministry part of it is about 1/3		22	22
3	(See list beside)	NCEC, Nekemte	March 15-19 4 course days		1st TOT - Refresher Course , 4 course days, 32 periods. Participants from 7 Synods (IBS, GJS, CS, CGS, CES, SWS, SS)	9 / 18		18
4	NCEC (diploma)	NCEC, Nekemte	March 22-25 4 course days		Special Course on Marriage / Family Ministry at NCEC, Diploma 1 st and 3 rd Classes, 20 periods (18 for Dipl. 1)		26	26
5	NCEC (Bible School)	NCEC, Nekemte	March 26		Course on Marriage / Family Ministry at NCEC, Certificate level (2 nd year Bible School) Class, 6 periods		25	25
6	(See list beside)	SCES, Awasa	May 10-15		2nd TOT - Refresher Course , 4 course days, 32 periods. Participants from 9 Synods (SCES, SS, SWS, SCS, CES, NCES, CS, WWBS, SWBS)	9 / 18	1	19
7	MYTS	Mekane Yesus Theological Seminary, A.A.	May 18, 22, 25, 29; June 6	Tue, Sat.	“Basics of Family Ministry” Course at MYTS, Degree 4 (evening-) class. 16 periods (in ordinary Seminary curriculum a one-block-two-periods-per-week course)		9	9
8	(See list beside)	Debre Zeit, Bethlehem Center	Aug 30 - Sep 10, 9 days, 72 periods		The 4th training of Trainers' Course (TOT) for Family Ministry. Participants from 9 Synods (SWS, SEAW, SS, SCS, EGBS, WGBS, BDS, CS, CGS); all men Bible School teachers.	17 / 34	2	36
9	MYTS	Mekane Yesus Theological Seminary, A.A.	Sept-Dec.	Most- ly Wed/ Thu	“Pastoral Care in Marriage and Family” Course MYTS, Degree 4 class; 32 periods, (in ordinary Seminary curriculum a one- semester-two-periods-per-week course.		18	18
10	C.O.	Debre Zeit, Beth. Center	Oct 21-24, 4 days	Thu- Sun	Basic Marriage Course for the Central Office Staff couples , 25 periods	15 / 30		30
11	(See list beside)	Debre Zeit, Beth. Center	Nov 1 - 13, 10 days, 76 periods		The 5th training of Trainers' Course (TOT) for Family Ministry. Participants from 7 Synods or Work Areas (CES, WWBS, WS, BGAW, SCES, SES, NAW)	9 / 18	2	20
12	AAMY Deaf Com- munity	AAMY Congregation Church Hall	Dec 18	Sat	Course on Pre-Marital issues for the young members of the AAMY Deaf Community		50	50
					TOTAL NUMBER OF COUPLES / PARTICIPANTS DURING THE YEAR 2004	72 / 144	155	299

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TOTALS OF FIVE YEARS 2000-2004 (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
(2004) 12 courses				COUPLES / PARTICIPANTS 2004	72 / 144	155	299
TOTAL 58 COURSES	TOTAL PARTICIPANTS IN 5 YEARS:			TOTAL NUMBER OF COUPLES / PARTICIPANTS DURING 2000-2004	475 / 950	550	1.500

TOTALS OF THREE YEARS 2002-2004 (by FLEP-TOT trained people)

TOTALS of 2002 taught by FLEP-TOT trained people				COUPLES / PARTICIPANTS 2002 in the programs arranged by the Church Units	212 / 424	583	1007
TOTALS of 2003 taught by FLEP-TOT trained people				COUPLES / PARTICIPANTS 2003 in the programs arranged by the Church Units	377 / 754	8.303	9057
TOTALS of 2004 taught by FLEP-TOT trained people				COUPLES / PARTICIPANTS 2004 in the programs arranged by the Church Units	1.261 / 2.522	11.277	13.799
	TOTAL PARTICIPANTS IN 3 YEARS:			TOTAL NUMBER OF COUPLES / PARTICIPANTS DURING 2002-2004 in the programs arranged by the Church Units	1.850 / 3.700	20.163	23.863

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COURSES AND DIFFERENT KINDS OF TEACHINGS

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

Nr	Synod, School etc	Place	Date	Type of Course	Nr. of Teaching periods	Couples / Persons	Oth. participants	TOTAL participants
	BDS, Aira	Waligalte Bikir Congregation	2004	Basic Marriage Course for couples, 4 days	16	5 / 10		10
	BDS, Aira	Felemtu Dilla Congregation	2004	Pre-marital teaching for engaged couples, 1 day	4	2 / 4		4
	BDS, Aira	Felemtu Dilla Congregation	2004	Marriage teaching for congregation members	1		92	92
	BDS, Aira	Waligalte Bikir Congregation	2004	Family life teaching for husbands	1		2	2
	CES, Addis A.	Entoto Congregation	February 15, 2004	Marriage teaching for couples and singles after Sunday Service	2	14 / 28	28	56
	CES, Addis A.	TTC (Bible School)	June 7-11, 2004	Basic marriage teaching for Bible School students	30		42	42
	CES, Addis A.	Homes	4 days in 2004	Marriage teaching for pastors and their wives	24	6 / 12		12
	CES, Addis A.	Home	September 9, 2004	Marriage teaching for pastors and their wives	8	6 / 12		12
	CES, A.A.			Leaders of the Parishes, men and women			350	350
	CES, Addis A.	Mekanissa Congregation		Pre-marital teaching for engaged couples	18	8 / 16		16
	CES, Addis A.	Shano Congregation		Pre-marital teaching for engaged couples	3	1 / 2		2
	CES, Addis A.	Debre Birhan Congregation		Pre-marital teaching for engaged couples	3	1 / 2		2
	CES, Addis A.	Mekanissa Congregation		Preaching on Wedding	1		506	506
	CES, Addis A.	Shano Congregation		Preaching on Wedding	1		60	60
	CES, Addis A.	Debre Birhan Congregation		Preaching on Wedding	1		190	190
	CGS, Ijaji	Hobora Congregation	June 19, 2003	Marriage teaching for women	1		30	30
	CGS, Ijaji	Hobora Congregation	June 19-21, 2003	Marriage teaching for couples	3	8 / 16		16
	CGS, Ijaji	Hobora Congregation	June 18, 2003	Marriage teaching for youth	3	4 / 8	12	20
	GJS, Gimbi	Choli Congregation	Feb. 1, 2004	Marriage teaching at Sunday Service	1		345	345
	GJS, Gimbi	A Parish	Feb. 6, 2004	Marr. teaching for women from 20 congregations	2		95	95
	GJS, Gimbi	Maka Nejo Congregation	Feb. 8, 2004	Marriage teaching at Sunday Service	1		320	320
	GJS, Gimbi	Lalo Choli Congregation	Feb. 16, 2004	Marriage teaching for Confirmation class	2	12 / 24	20	44
	GJS, Gimbi	Choli Mikael Congregation	Feb. 27, 2004	Marriage teaching for Confirmation class	1	10 / 20	25	45
	GJS, Gimbi	Dire Sombo Congregation	Feb. 29, 2004	Marriage teaching for Women's prayer group	1		50	50
	GJS, Gimbi	Choli Mikael Congregation	March 10, 2004	Marriage teaching for Confirmation class	1		320	320
	GJS, Gimbi	Parish	March 16, 2004	Basic Marriage teaching for Parish womens' group	2		100	100
	GJS, Gimbi	Lalo Choli Congregation	March 18, 2004	Marriage teaching for Confirmation class	2	12 / 24	20	44
	GJS, Gimbi	Chuta Congregation	March 25, 2004	Marriage teaching at Sunday Service	1		460	460
	GJS, Gimbi	Kabare Congregation	March 30, 2004	Marriage teaching at Sunday Service	1		600	600
	GJS, Gimbi	Tugna Congregation	Apr 9, 2004	Marriage teaching at Sunday Service	1		290	290
	GJS, Gimbi	Lalo Choli Congregation	Apr 14, 2004	Marriage teaching at Sunday Service	1	15 / 30	140	170
	GJS, Gimbi	Wora Sole Congregation	May 9, 2004	Marriage teaching at Sunday Service	1		350	350

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COURSES AND DIFFERENT KINDS OF TEACHINGS								
arranged by different Church Units' own, FLEP-TOT-trained facilitators, continued								
Nr	Synod, School etc	Place	Date	Type of Course	Nr. of Teaching periods	Couples / Persons	Oth. participants	TOTAL participants
	GJS, Gimbi	Choli Congregation	May 14, 2004	Marriage teaching for Confirmation Class	1	5 / 10	20	30
	GJS, Gimbi	Lalo Choli Congregation	May 18, 2004	Marriage teaching for women's group	2		120	120
	GJS, Gimbi	A Parish	May 30, 2004	Marr. teaching for women from 20 congregations	1		95	95
	GJS, Gimbi	Lalo Choli Congregation	June 12, 2004	Marriage teaching for Confirmation Class	2	4 / 8	13	21
	GJS, Gimbi	Kaki Congregation	June 21, 2004	Marriage teaching at Sunday Service	1		310	310
	GJS, Gimbi	Lalo Choli Congregation	June 30, 2004	Marriage teaching for Confirmation Class	1		280	280
	GJS, Gimbi	Choli Mikael Congregation	July 17, 2004	Marriage teaching for Confirmation Class	1	10 / 20	25	45
	GJS, Gimbi	Ganji Congregation	July 26, 2004	Marriage teaching at Sunday Service	1		260	260
	GJS, Gimbi	A Parish	Aug 8, 2004	Marriage teaching for women's group	1		90	90
	GJS, Gimbi	D/Galali Congregation	Aug 15, 2004	Marriage teaching for men, women, youth	1		450	450
	GJS, Gimbi	Lalo Choli Congregation	Aug 17, 2004	Marriage teaching for Confirmation Class	1	5 / 10	20	30
	GJS, Gimbi	Choli Mikael Congregation	Sept 10, 2004	Marriage teaching for Confirmation Class	1		295	295
	IBS, Mettu	Mettu Kata Congregation	December 6, 2003	Marriage teaching for couples	11	19 / 38	1	39
	IBS, Mettu	Embe Congregation	May 28-29, 2004	Pre-marital teaching for youth, 10 girls, 15 boys, 4 elders	10		29	29
	IBS, Mettu	Amaya Congregation	December 28-29, 2003	Teaching on Marriage for two days	4	20 / 40	24	64
	IBS, Mettu	Godare Parish	February 16-17, 2004	Marriage teaching for women	4		43	43
	IBS, Mettu	Dengrech	February 19-20, 2004	Marriage teaching for women	4		4	4
	IBS, TJBS	Mettu Terfa Jarso Bible School	June 24, 2004	Marriage teaching for Bible School students and the wives of the students	3	16 / 32	27	59
	IBS, Mettu	Gore Congregation	July 21-22, 2004	Marriage teaching for women and couples	4	15 / 30	30	60
	IBS, Mettu	Algee Congregation	August 17-18, 2004	Marriage teaching for couples	14	11 / 22		22
	NCES, Dessie	Kombolcha	Starting January 24, 2004	Marriage Counseling for disagreeing couples, various learning periods during 3 weeks		4 / 8		8
	NCES, Dessie	Kombolcha	Starting March 4, 2004	Marriage Counseling for economically troubled couples, various learning periods during 2 weeks		3 / 6		6
	NCES, Dessie	Kombolcha	Starting May 29, 2004	Marriage teaching for engaged couples	3	3 / 6		6
	NCES, Dessie	Kombolcha	Starting July 17, 2004	Teaching on Marriage counseling for Bible School students	3		30	30
	SCES, Awasa	Bobochesa Congregation	October 15, 2002	Marriage teaching for Parish and Congregation leaders	2	25 / 50	30	80
	SCES, Awasa	Qatabo Parish	October 26-27, 2002	Marriage teaching for Parish leaders, married and singles	3	120 / 240	289	529
	SCES, Awasa	Boyaye Parish	November 2-3, 2002	Marriage teaching for Parish general meeting	4	154 / 308	398	706
	SCES, Awasa	Bagobacho Parish	February 1-2, 2003	Marriage teaching for Parish and Congregation leaders	5	193 / 386	810	1196
	SCES, Awasa	Beto Congregation	February 9, 2003	Marriage teaching for couples and single youth	1	47 / 94	40	134
	SCES, Awasa	Yaye Congregation	February 26, 2003	Marriage teaching for youth	1	55 / 110	80	190
	SCES, Awasa	Garanba Parish	May 31-June 1, 2003	Marriage teaching for Parish leaders, married and singles	4	123 / 246	185	431
	SCES, Awasa	Yaye Congregation	June 14, 2003	Marriage teaching for youth	1	85 / 170	250	420
	SCS, Hossana	Gimbichu Congregation	Nov 24, 2003	Marriage teaching for women's group	3		62	62

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COURSES AND DIFFERENT KINDS OF TEACHINGS

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

Nr	Synod, School Etc	Place	Date	Type of Course	Nr. of Teaching periods	Couples / Persons	Oth. participants	TOTAL participants	
	SCS, Hossana	Uyaya Congregation	Dec 3, 2003	Marriage teaching for women's group	2		52	52	
	SCS, Hossana	Dabiyago Congregation	Dec 10-13, 2003	Marriage teaching for various people	4		34	34	
	SCS, Hossana	Jajura Congregation	Dec 25-26, 2003	Marriage teaching for youth	4		216	216	
	SCS, Hossana	Ojo Congregation	Jan 1, 2004	Marriage teaching for Congregational leaders	6	2 / 4	14	18	
	SCS, Hossana	Bure Congregation	Jan 7, 2004	Marriage teaching for congregation members	2	4 / 8	18	26	
	SCS, Hossana	Uyaya Congregation	Jan 14, 2004	Marriage teaching for Congregational leaders	2	4 / 8	14	22	
	SCS, Hossana	Heba Congregation	Mar 5, 2004	Marriage teaching for congregation members	3	6 / 12	34	46	
	SCS, Hossana	Jacho Congregation	Mar 3, 2004	Marriage teaching for congregation members	2	8 / 16	50	66	
	SCS, Hossana	Bulshana Congregation	May 28, 2004	Marriage teaching for congregation members	3	2 / 4	26	30	
	SCS, Hossana	Gimbichu Congregation	Aug 31- Sept 2, 2004	Basic Marriage Course for Evangelists, Pastors and their wives, Parish level	14	18 / 36	4	40	
	SCS, Hossana	Jajura Congregation	Aug 15, 2004	Marriage teaching for Parish women	2	3 / 6	23	29	
	SEAW, Dodola	Dodola-Lenshol Congregation	August 10, 2004	Marriage teaching for couples	4	3 / 6	2	8	
	SS, Dilla	Dilla Congregation	2004	Marriage teaching for couples	12	3 / 6		6	
	SS, Dilla	Dilla Bible School	October 15, -03 - June 22, 2004	Marriage teaching for Bible School students, 1 period/week	43		20	20	
	SWBS, Mizan T.	Mizan Bethel Congregation	April 18, 2004	Preaching at Wedding Ceremony	1		1000	1000	
	SWBS, Mizan T.	Mizan Bethel Congregation		Training Marriage Counselors	72	7 / 14	1	15	
	SWBS, Mizan T.	Mizan Bethel Congregation	August 10, 2004	Pre-marital teaching for youth	1		75	75	
	SWS, Arba Minch	Arba Minch Technical School		Teaching for Technical School students (during 3 months); 48 periods; 18 male, 7 female students	48		25	25	
	SWS, Arba Minch	Arba Minch District	May 19 - April 18, 2004	Marriage teaching for the District Bible School students (during 3 months) 30 periods	30		20	20	
	WWBS, Dembi D	Gidada Bible School	The whole semester	Continuous pre-marital teaching for Bible School students, 1 female, 25 males	20		25	25	
	WWBS, Dembi D	BESS High School	The semester	Continuous pre-marital teaching for High School students, boys and girls	10		350	350	
	WWBS, Dembi D	Bethel Dhang Congregation		Continuous teaching for parents on Child raising	4	82 / 164	253	417	
	WWBS, Dembi D	Wayuu Congregation	September 25, 2004	Pre-marital teaching for youth	8		60	60	
	WWBS, Dembi D	Wayuu Congregation	September 26, 2004	Marriage teaching for couples	4	45 / 90	24	114	
	WWBS, Dembi D	Aorogi Walbata Congregation	October 15, 2004	Pre-marital teaching for youth	6		95	95	
	WWBS, Dembi D	Aorogi Walbata Congregation	October 16, 2004	Marriage teaching for couples	3	53 / 106	45	151	
	WGBS, Gambella	BBS, Baro Bible School	April, May, June 2003	Marriage teaching for Pastoral course for 3 months for people to be ordained	48		6	6	
	WGBS, Gambella	Gambella Congregation	May-August, 2003	Marriage teaching for Youth Bible Study Group, Married young women, 16 weeks, 2 periods/week	32		9	9	
	WGBS, Gambella	Gambella Congregation	May-August, 2003	Pre-marital teaching for Choir Bible Study Group, 4 months, twice a month, Single boy+girl teenagers	16		25	25	
TOTALS of 2004 taught by FLEP-TOT trained people					COUPLES / PARTICIPANTS 2004 in the programs arranged by the Church Units		1.261 / 2.522	11.277	13.799

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Finalized in 2004 (June) - 30 "Learning Periods", 89 pages; 15 Bible Studies, 60 pages; The Appendices, 52 pages.

The size of the 3rd Draft Handbook is altogether 212 pages.

- What is Family Ministry? የቤተሰብ አገልግሎት ማለት ምን ማለት ነው?
- Foreword to a Family Ministry Instructor ማሳሰቢያ ለቤተሰብ አገልግሎት አስተማሪ
- Teaching instructions for the Facilitator የአስተማሪ መመሪያ ለቤተሰብ አገልግሎት አስተማሪ

The Learning Periods:

- 1. Introduction: Why to take care of marriage? መግቢያ፣ ጋብቻን ማንከባከብ ለምን ያስፈልጋል?
- 2. Foundation of Marriage የጋብቻ መሠረት
- 3. What do I expect of Marriage? እኔስ ከጋብቻ ምን እጠበቃለሁ?
- 4. Why Marriage? ጋብቻ ለምን ?
- 5. Marriage and the Extended Family ጋብቻና ሰፊው ቤተሰብ
- 6. The need to Speak and Listen መናገርና ማዳመጥ አስፈላጊ ነው ወይ?
- 7. Speaking and Listening ስለ መናገርና ማዳመጥ
- 8. Decision making ስለ ውሳኔ አደራረግ
- 9. Constructive disagreement in Marriage የሚገነባ ጭቅጭቅ በጋብቻ
- 10. Emotions ስለ ስሜቶች
- 11. Daily Life in Marriage; Signs of Love ሰለታዊ ኑሮ በጋብቻ፣ የፍቅር መግለጫዎች
- 12. Woman and Man - different but equal ወንድና ሴት፣ ልዩ ሆኖ እኩሎች
- 13. Woman in Marriage; Man in Marriage ሴትና ጋብቻ፣ ወንድና ጋብቻ
- 14. The Troubles of Marriage: What are they? የጋብቻ እንቅፋቶች ምን ምን ናቸው?
- 15. What to do for the troubles of Marriage? ለጋብቻ እንቅፋቶች ምን ይደረግ?
- 16. Forgiveness in Marriage ይቅርታና ጋብቻ
- 17. Marriage and Harmful Traditions ጋብቻና ጎጂ ባሕሎች
- 18. Domestic Violence የቤት ሁከት (ጉልበት መጠቀም)
- 19. Living According to One's Means እንደ ዓቅም መኖር
- 20. Marriage, Family and Budgeting ጋብቻ፣ ቤተሰብና ባጀትን መስራት
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- 30. Christian Family Life የክርስቲያን የቤተሰብ ሕይወት

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- ❑ Advice for the Bible Study Leader
- ❑ Hints for Bible Study Group Members
- ❑ Hints for Bible Study Group Members
- ❑ When Did the Couples Live in the Biblical History?
- ❑ 1. Adam and Eve - The Very First, Perfect Marriage
- ❑ 2. Abraham and Sarah - Growing Together
- ❑ 3. Isaac and Rebekah - Talkative Wife and Silent Husband
- ❑ 4. Jacob and Leah - Health and Prosperity but no Love
- ❑ 5. Jacob and Rachel - No Children but Love
- ❑ 6. Manoah and his Nameless Wife - Everybody is Somebody!
- ❑ 7. Samson and the Girl of Timnah - How Not to Marry
- ❑ 8. Hannah and Elkanah - Trusting God
- ❑ 9. Nabal's and Abigail's Difficult Marriage - The Necessity of Listening
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- ❑ 11. Rev. and Mrs. Ezekiel's Last Day Together - Marriage until Death
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- ❑ 13. Mary and Joseph - Submission to God and each other
- ❑ 14. Ananias' and Sapphira's Falsehood - Money, Trust and Spirituality
- ❑ 15. Priscilla and Aquila - Serving Together as a Team

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- ❑ 1. Bible Verses in connection to Marriage and Family
- ❑ 2. Teaching on Marriage (*Col 3: 18-19*)
- ❑ 3. Teaching on Marriage (*Gal. 6:2*)
- ❑ 4. Wedding Sermon (*Rom. 12:10*)
- ❑ 5. Wedding Sermon (*Eph. 5:21, 22, 25*)
- ❑ 6. Headlines for Marriage Teaching for Youth
- ❑ 7. About Group Communication
- ❑ 8. Eight tests of True Love
- ❑ 9. Ten Commandments for a Healthy Christian Marriage
- ❑ 10. Guidelines for handling parent and in-law conflicts
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- ❑ 12. Theological Aspects of Sexuality by Dr. Eshetu Abate
- ❑ 13. EECMY Statement on Family Planning 1989 (1981 Eth. Cal.)
- ❑ 14. EECMY-SCS Brochure on Family Planning
- ❑ 15. EECMY - FLEP Program Description
- ❑ 16. EECMY - FLEP Information Brochure
- ❑ 17. "Keep reading your Bible Through" leaflet
- ❑ 18. References

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Christian Family Life Education Program (FLEP)

የባለትዳሮች ጋብቻ ኮርስ፣ የጊዜ ሠሌዳ
MARRIAGE COURSE FOR COUPLES; TIME TABLE

	ሰኞ Monday	ማክሰኞ Tuesday	ረቡዕ Wednesday	ሐሙስ Thursday	ዓርብ Friday
1.45-2.30		ቁርስ Breakfast	ቁርስ Breakfast	ቁርስ Breakfast	ቁርስ Breakfast
2.30-2.50		የጊት ጸሎት። Morning Prayer	የጊት ጸሎት። Morning Prayer	የጊት ጸሎት። Morning Prayer	የጊት ጸሎት። Morning Prayer
2.50-4.00		የኮርሱ መክፈቻ። ትውውቅ። መግቢያ ለኮርሱ አርእስቶች። Opening. Getting to know each other. 1 - Introduction of Course.	የመጽሐፍ ቅዱስ ጥናት፣ (ማሪያምና ዮሴፍ)። ሉቃ.1፣26- 38። ማቴ.1፣18-25። 2፣13-23። 5 - Bible Study (Mary&Joseph)	የመ/ቅ ጥናት፣ (ያዕቆብና ልያ) ዘፍጥ. Gen. 29፣25-35።30፣9-24 እና 43። 31፣3። 32፣22-32። 10 - Bible Study (Jacob&Leah)	የመ/ቅ ጥናት፣ (ጽርስቅላና አቁላ) ሐዋ. Acts 18፣1-4 እና 18-28። ሮሜ 16፣3-5። 1ቆሮ 16፣19። 13 Bible Study; Priscilla&Aquila
4-4.30		ቡና ወይም ሻይ Coffee or Tea	ቡና ወይም ሻይ Coffee or Tea	ቡና ወይም ሻይ Coffee or Tea	ቡና ወይም ሻይ Coffee or Tea
4.30-6.30		የመ/ቅ ጥናት (አዳምና ሔዋን) ዘፍጥ. Gen. 2፣ 18-25። 2 - Bible Study (Adam & Eve) የጋብቻ መሰረት። 3 - The Foundation of Marriage	ስለ መናገርና ማዳመጥ። 6 - Speaking and Listening	ዕለታዊ ኑሮ በጋብቻ፣ የፍቅር መግለጫዎች። 11 - Daily life in Marriage; Signs of Love	የጋብቻ እንቅፋቶች። 14 - The Troubles of Marriage
6.30-8.00		ምሳ Lunch	ምሳ Lunch	ምሳ Lunch	ምሳ Lunch
8.00-9.30		እኔስ ከጋብቻ ምን እጠብቃለሁ? 4 - What do I expect of Marriage?	ውሳኔዎች እንዴት ይደረጋሉ? 7 -How are the Decisions made?	ሀ/ ሴትና ጋብቻ። ለ/ ወንድና ጋብቻ። 12 - a) Woman in Marriage b) Man in Marriage	የወንጌል አገልጋዩና የቤተ ሰብ ኑሮው። 15 - The Church Worker's Family Life
9.30-10.00		ቡና ወይም ሻይ Coffee or Tea	ቡና ወይም ሻይ Coffee or Tea	ቡና ወይም ሻይ Coffee or Tea	ቡና ወይም ሻይ Coffee or Tea
10.00-11.30	ወደ ኮርስ ቦታ መድረስ። Arriving at Course Place	እኔስ ከጋብቻ ምን እጠብቃለሁ? (ይቀጥላል።) What do I expect... (Continued)	10.00-11.00 ስለ ስሜቶች። 8 - About Feelings 11.30-12.30 ጋብቻ በአካባቢ ባህል 9 - Marriage in the local Culture	ሴት / ወንድና ጋብቻ። (ይቀጥላል።) Woman / Man in Marriage (Continued.)	የአጠቃላይ ውይይት። መደምደሚያ። ቅዱስ ቁርባን። Final Discussion - Conclusion Holy Communion.
1.00-2.00	እራት Supper	እራት Supper	እራት Supper	እራት Supper	እራት Supper
	የምሽት ጸሎት። Prayer	የምሽት ጸሎት። Prayer	የምሽት ጸሎት። Prayer	የምሽት ጸሎት። Prayer	የምሽት ጸሎት። Prayer

በየምሽት ለኮርሶች የጸሎት ፕሮግራሞች የሚመሩ ከኮርሶች የሚመደቡ ይሆናል። The Participants will take care of the Evening Prayers

Mekane Yesus Theological Seminary

Division of Practical Theology

I. Course Title: Pastoral Care in Marriage and Family

School Year: 2004-2005
Class: Degree IV, Term I, Block A+B,
basically 2 periods (1 double period) per week,
altogether 32 periods (16 double periods)

Instructors: **Sr. Anna-Kaarina Palmu and Rev. Matti Palmu**, Advisors for Family Life Education Program (FLEP) of EECMY-DMT at the Central Office,

II. Course Description: This course builds on "*Pastoral Care in African Christianity*" studied during Degree III. The course examines the nature of Christian marriage and family life from a biblical perspective. Particular pastoral issues found in Ethiopian/African contexts are examined, sometimes using case studies, role play and discussion. The aim is to strengthen commitment to support and strengthen marriage and family life in the local congregation, and to equip with practical ideas and skills for developing such a ministry. - The course is **specially focused on Family Life Education**.

III. Learning outcomes: After the course the students should:

- see the necessity of Family Ministry in all levels of church work;
- be aware of the importance for a church worker to take care of one's own couple relationship and family;
- consider their personal chances to serve as marriage counsellors, and
- be able to apply new information in counselling activities of their future work.

IV. Course Requirements:

- a) **Reading assignments:**
 - Waruta and Kinoti, "Pastoral Care in African Christianity", pp. 101-155;
 - Joe Leonard, "Family Ministry, A practical guide for a teaching church"
 - TAG, "A Biblical Approach to Marriage and Family in Africa", chapters 8-9 (pp. 137-218)
- b) **Writing assignment:**
"What is Family Ministry?" and "Planning Family Ministry"
to be submitted on Wednesday, November 17, 2004.
- c) **Exam**
- d) **Participation** in lectures, discussions, Case Studies etc during the Class Periods.

V. Course Schedule: **Double periods 11.10-12.45 as follows:**
Thu 23/9, 30/9,
Wed 6/10, Thu 7/10, Wed 20/10,
Wed 17/11, Thu 18/11,
Wed 1/12, Thu 2/12, Wed 8/12, Thu 9/12, Wed 15/12 and Thu 16/12.
[Special program Sat 11/12 or other day (3x2 periods) Drama / Case Studies]

Addis Abeba (September 24, 2004,) updated December, 2004

Anna-Kaarina Palmu, Matti Palmu

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(Updated in December, 2004)

Synod or Work Area	Name	Nr / Year of TOT training	Year of TOT Refr. Course	Report on teaching 2002	Report on teaching 2003	Report on teaching 2004
BGAW 1-2	Kes Bacha Atomsa ቁስ ባጫ አቶምሣ W/ro Bogalech Boka ወ/ሮ ቦጋለች ቦካ EECMY-BGAW, BEGI	5 / 2004				
BDS 1-2	Kes Negesse Siyoum ቁስ ነገሠ ስዩም W/ro Gebanesh Negera ወ/ሮ ገባይነሽ ነገራ EECMY-BDS, c/o AIRA POST OFFICE	3 / 2003	2004			√
BDS 3-4	Kes Tadesse Dissassa ቁስ ታደሰ ዲሳሳ W/ro Martha Abdissa ወ/ሮ ማርታ አብዲሣ EECMY-BDS, P.O. Box 12599, ADDIS ABEBA	4 / 2004				
CES (SCS) 1	W/ro Tseganesh Ayele ወ/ሮ ጸጋነሽ አየለ ADDIS ABEBA	1 / 2002				
CES 2-3	Kes Akineda G/M ቁስ አቅነዳ ገ/መድሀን W/ro Tsehay Mekonen ወ/ሮ ጸሐይ መኮንን P.O. Box 101 833, ADDIS ABEBA	2 / 2003				√
CES 4-5	Kes Erjamo Gabora ቁስ ኤርጃም ጋቦሬ Wengelawit Tegest Beyene ወ/ሞት ትዕግስት በየነ WONJI SHEWA Postal Agent	2 / 2003				
CES 6-7	Kes Geneti Wayessa ቁስ ገነቲ ወዬሳ W/ro Aberash Tolessa ወ/ሮ አበራሽ ቶሌሳ P.O. Box 5749, ADDIS ABEBA	3 / 2003	2004			√
CES 8-9	Kes Assefa Woyessa ቁስ አሰፋ ወየሣ W/ro Bizunesh Wodneh ወ/ሮ ብዙነሽ ውድነህ P.O. Box 13427, ADDIS ABEBA	3 / 2003			√	
CES 10-11	Kes Markos Hadero ቁስ ማርቆስ ሐደሮ W/ro Ayelech Anjulo ወ/ሮ አየለች አንጁሎ AAMY, Box 30130 ADDIS ABABA	5 / 2004				
CES 12-13	Kes Shuma Aga ቁስ ሹማ አጋ W/ro Fikirte Birhanu ወ/ሮ ፍቅርተ ብርሃኑ EECMY-CES, Box 5749, ADDIS ABABA	5 / 2004				
CES 14-15	Kes Girma Dadi ቁስ ግርማ ዳዲ W/ro Asnakech Tolosa ወ/ሮ አስናቀች ቶሎሣ EECMY-CES, Box 32, FITCHE	5 / 2004				
CES 16-17	Ato Asmelash Ogbamikal አቶ አስመላሽ ዕ/ሚካኤል W/ro Hiwot Dawit ወ/ሮ ህይወት ዳዊት ADDIS ABABA	5 / 2004				
CES (WWBS) 18-19	Kes Yohannes Chawaka ቁስ ዮሐንስ ጨዋቃ W/ro Tringo Fogi ወ/ሮ ትራንጎ ፎጊ P.O. Box 16, DEMBI DOLLO	2 / 2003	2004	√	√	√
CGS 1-2	Kes Eshetu Badasa ቁስ ጳጳቱ በደሳ W/ro Kebebush Gofe ወ/ሮ ክበቡሽ ጎፌ EECMY-CGS, c/o IJAJI POST OFFICE	3 / 2003	2004			√
CGS 3-4	Kes Danboba Duguma ቁስ ደንበባ ዱጉማ W/ro Birke Ajeta ወ/ሮ ብርቁ አጀታ EECMY-CGS, c/o IJAJI POST OFFICE	3 / 2003				
CGS 5	Kes Lechissa Dufeni ቁስ ለቺሣ ዱፊኒ EECMY-CGS, IJAJI Postal Agent	4 / 2004				
CS 1-2	Kes Gilo Sia ቁስ ጊሎ ሥኦ W/ro Damitu Wakene ወ/ሮ ደሚቱ ዋኬኔ P.O. Box 7, JIMA ARJO, East Wollega	2 / 2003	2004		√	
CS 3	Kes Asfaw Terfassa ቁስ አስፋው ተርፋሳ P.O. Box 24, NEKEMTE	2 / 2003				
CS 4-5	Kes Tamiru Tuli ቁስ ታምሩ ቱሊ W/ro Mulunesh Oluma ወ/ሮ ሙሉነሽ ኦሎማ EECMY-CS, P.O.Box 24, NEKEMTE	3 / 2003	2004		√	
CS 6-7	Kes Biratu Desissa ቁስ ቢራቱ ደሲሳ W/ro Askale Agga ወ/ሮ አስካለ አጋ EECMY-CS, P.O. Box 24, NEKEMTE	4 / 2004				
CS 8-9	Kes Dhaba Motuma ቁስ ዳባ ሞቱማ W/ro Zewuditu Sori ወ/ሮ ዘውዲቱ ሦሪ CS, Chitu Erer Parish, Box 24, NEKEMTE	4 / 2004				
CS 10-11	Ato Teshome Geneti አቶ ተሾመ ገነቲ W/ro Bogalech Temesgen ወ/ሮ ቦጋለች ተመስገን EECMY-CS, Box 24, NEKEMTE	4 / 2004				

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Synod or Work Area	Name	Nr / Year of TOT training	Year of TOT Refr. Course	Report on teaching 2002	Report on teaching 2003	Report on teaching 2004
CS 12-13	Kes Fekadu Bacha ቁስ ፍቃዱ ባጫ W/ro Tadelech Geleta ወ/ሮ ታደሌች ገለታ EECMY-CS, Jarso Sire Parish, SIRE Post Office	4 / 2004				
CS 14	Ato Tesfaye Tesgara አቶ ተስፋዬ ተስገራ EECMY-CS, Nekemte Parish, Box 24, NEKEMTE	4 / 2004				
EGBS 1-2	Rev. Degu Okon ቁስ ደጉ አኮን W/ro Okwal Omot ወ/ሮ አንል አሞድ P.O. Box 6, GAMBELLA	4 / 2004				
GJS 1-2	Kes Kanara Mati ቁስ ከነራ ማቲ W/ro Melkitu Bayisa ወ/ሮ መልክቱ በይዕሳ EECMY-GJS, P.O. Box 13, GIMBI	3 / 2003	2004			√
GJS 3-4	Ato Adamu Lencha አቶ አዳሙ ሌንጫ W/ro Tolashe Negasa ወ/ሮ ቶላሽኒ ነጋሣ EECMY-GJS, P.O. Box 13, GIMBI	3 / 2003	2004		√	
IBS 1-2	Kes Demie Waggari ቁስ ደሜ ዋቅጋሪ W/ro Tenagne Kidanewold ወ/ሮ ተናኘ ኪዳነ ወልድ P.O. Box 5, METTU	2 / 2003				
IBS 3-4	Kes Girma Tefera ቁስ ግርማ ተፈራ W/ro Belaynesh Negawo ወ/ሮ በላይነሽ ነጋዎ P.O. Box 49, METTU	2 / 2003	2004			√
IBS 5-6	Kes Mabiraate Disaasaa ቁስ መብራቴ ዲሳሳ W/ro Shitaayee Firisaa ወ/ሮ ሽታዬ ፍሪሳ ALGEE Postal Agent	2 / 2003	2004			√
IBS 7-8	Kes Tilahun Mamo ቁስ ጥላሁን ማሞ W/ro Aster Mekonnen ወ/ሮ አስቴር መኮንን P.O. Box 11, METTU	2 / 2003	2004		√	√
IBS 9-10	Kes Zewde Daka ቁስ ዘውዴ ደቃ W/ro Hana Teshome ወ/ሮ ሐና ተሾመ P.O. Box 329, JIMMA	2 / 2003				
NAW 1	Evang. Kiros Desta ወ/ዋ ኪሮስ ደስታ EECMY-NAW, Box 350, MEKELE	5 / 2004				
NCES 1-2	Ev. Esaiyas Gessesse ወ/ዋ አሳይያስ ገሠሠ W/ro Nigest Zewdu ወ/ሮ ንግስት ዘውዱ P.O. Box 81, ASAITA	3 / 2003				
NCES 3-4	Ev. Nahum Teshome ወ/ዋ ናሆም ተሾመ W/ro Tigest Assefa ወ/ሮ ትዕግሽት አሳፋ P.O. Box 240, KOMBOLCHA	3 / 2003	2004		√	√
SCES 1-2	Kes Mateos Woma ቁስ ማቴዎስ ወማ W/ro Shage Kimo ወ/ሮ ሻኔ ኪሞ SCES, P.O. Box 9, AWASA	1 / 2002	2004	√		√
SCES 3-4	Kes Tessema Doyamo ቁስ ተሰማ ደያሞ W/ro Muluwork Alembo ወ/ሮ ሙሉወርቅ አለምቦ Box 549, AWASA	5 / 2004				
SCS 1	Kes Deginet Mirkano ቁስ ደግነት ምርካኖ SCS, P.O. Box 5, HOSSANA	1 / 2002				
SCS 2-3	Kes Tekle Chufamo ቁስ ተክሌ ጩፋሞ W/ro Kibenesh Tafese ወ/ሮ ክብነሽ ታፈሰ SCS, P.O. Box 5, HOSSANA	1 / 2002	2004		√	√
SCS 4-5	Kes Girma Kassa ቁስ ግርማ ካሣ W/ro Aster Ortabo ወ/ሮ አስቴር ኦርታቦ SCS, P.O. Box 5, HOSSANA	1 / 2002	2004			
SCS 6-7	Ato Workaferehu Lopiso አቶ ወርቃፈራሁ ሎጲሶ W/ro Hankore Shiferaw ወ/ሮ ሀንቆሬ ሽፈራው EECMY-HMYS, P.O. Box 55, HOSSANA	4 / 2004				
SEAW 1-2	Evan. Tesfaye Hordofa ወ/ዋ ተስፋዬ ሆርዶፋ Evan. Selamawit Geleta ወ/ዋተ ሰላማዊት ገለተ HMYS, Box 55, HOSSANA	1 / 2002		√		√
SEAW 3-4	Ato Kefelegn Negash አቶ ከፈለኝ ነጋሽ W/ro Kasech Ayele ወ/ሮ ካሠች አየለ EECMY-SEAW, P.O.Box 8, DODOLA	4 / 2004				

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Synod or Work Area	Name	Nr / Year of TOT training	Year of TOT Refr. Course	Report on teaching 2002	Report on teaching 2003	Report on teaching 2004
SES 1-2	Ato Mekonen Wako አቶ መኮንን ዋቆ W/ro Bune Kidane ወ/ሮ ቡኔ ኪዳኔ EECMY-SES, Box 22, HAGERE MARIAM	5 / 2004				
SES 3	W/ro Elsabet Gulti ወ/ሮ ኤልሳቤጥ ጉልቲ EECMY-SES, Box 22, HAGERE MARIAM	5 / 2004				
SS 1	W/ro Zerfe Tefera ወ/ሮ ዘርፌ ተፈራ South Synod, P.O. Box 17, DILLA	1 / 2002	2004	√	√	√
SS 2-3	Kes Elias Felleke ቁስ ኤልያስ ፈለቀ W/ro Fire Hiwot Mengesha ወ/ሮ ፍሬ ሕይዎት መንገሻ South Synod, P.O. Box 17, DILLA	1 / 2002	2004	√		
SS 4-5	Kes Kebede Gofare ቁስ ከበደ ጎፋሬ W/ro Tsahaynesh Boru ወ/ሮ ፀሐይነሽ ቦሩ EECMY-SS, P.O. Box 17, DILLA	4 / 2004				
SWBS 1-2	Ev. Yohannes Bolteno ወ/ዊ ዮሐንስ ቦልጠኖ W/ro Birke Chane ወ/ሮ ብርቁ ጫኔ P.O. Box 154, MIZAN TEFERI	2 / 2003	2004		√	√
SWS 1-2	Kes Tezera Kafie ቁስ ተዘራ ካሬ W/ro Tsige Zewde ወ/ሮ ጽጌ ዘውደ SWS, P.O. Box 14, ARBA MINCH	1 / 2002	2004		√	√
SWS 3-4	Kes Tarekegn Mulugeta ቁስ ታረቀኝ ሙሉጌታ W/ro Aster Solomon ወ/ሮ አስቱር ሰለሞን SWS, P.O. Box 14, ARBA MINCH	1 / 2002	2004	√	√	√
SWS 5-6	Ato Zinabu Mekonnen አቶ ዝናቡ መኮንን W/ro Wongelawit Adane ወ/ሮ ወንጌላዊት አዳነ EECMY-SWS, P.O.Box 46, ARBA MINCH	4 / 2004				
SWS 7-8	Kes Sidamo Datiko ቁስ ሲዳሞ ዳቲኮ W/ro Abrash Datanibo ወ/ሮ አበራሽ ዳታንቦ EECMY-SWS, Gidole District, Box 13, GIDOLE	4 / 2004				
SWS 9-10	Ato Teferi Koroncho አቶ ተፈሪ ኮሮንጮ W/ro Etalemahu Mamo ወ/ሮ አታለማው ማሞ EECMY-SWS, Gidole District, Box 13, GIDOLE	4 / 2004				
SWS 11-12	Kes Bedilu Fekede ቁስ በድሉ ፈቀደ W/ro Shitaye Ugo ወ/ሮ ሺታዬ ሁጎ EECMY-SWS, GERESSE Postal Agent	4 / 2004				
SWS 13-14	Ev. Kebede Feleke ወ/ዊ ከበደ ፈለቀ W/ro Birtukan Mucha ወ/ሮ ብርቱካን ሙጫ SWS, Galta District, Box 46, ARBA MINCH	4 / 2004				
SWS 15-16	Ev. G/Michael Dinku ወ/ዊ ገ/ማካኤል ድንቁ W/ro Etagegn Tamirat ወ/ሮ አታገኝ ታምራት EECMY-SWS, P.O. Box 49, South Omo, JINKA	4 / 2004				
WS 1-2	Ato Jirata Sakata አቶ ጅራታ ማቀታ W/ro Maritu Chali ወ/ሮ ማሪቱ ጫሊ EECMY-WS, Box 4, NEDJO	5 / 2004				
WWBS 1	Kes Deresa Wakjira ቁስ ደራሣ ዋቅጅራ P.O. Box 16, DEMBI DOLLO (W/ro W/ro Lulit Mekonnen ወ/ሮ ሉሊት መኮንን Died 2003)	1 / 2002		√		
WWBS 2-3	Ato Mihiretu Dhuguma አቶ ምህረቱ ዱጉማ W/ro Aregash Tuuchoo ወ/ሮ አረጋሽ ቱቾ P.O. Box 16, DEMBI DOLLO	2 / 2003				
WWBS 4-5	Kes Korssa Yadessa ቁስ ኮርሳ ያደሳ W/ro Zewditu Tasisa ወ/ሮ ዘውዲቱ ታሥሣ EECMY-WWBS, Box 16, DEMBI DOLLO	5 / 2004				
WGBS 1-2	Ato Mulugeta Ruot አቶ ሙሉጌታ ሩኦት W/ro Rebecca Nyatik ወ/ሮ ረቢቃ ንጎንቲክ P.O. Box 68, GAMBELLA	2 / 2003				√
WGBS 3-4	Rev. Stephen Pal ቁስ ስቲቬን ጨቂ Mrs. Rebeca Chuol ወ/ሮ ሬቤካ ቸኦል EECMY-WGBS, P.O. Box 68, GAMBELLA, tel. (07) 510440 (off), 510439 (dev.off), 511266 (home)	4 / 2004				
WGBS 5-6	Rev. Matthew Doleak Rom ቁስ ማተዮስ ደላክ ሮም Mrs. Martha Buk ወ/ሮ ማርታ ቡክ EECMY-WGBS, P.O. Box 68, GAMBELLA, tel. (07) 510 440 (office), 51 11 02 (home)	4 / 2004				

(The list of FLEP-TOT trained instructors in Church Units, Page 4 / 4) (Updated in December, 2004)

Statistics of the FLEP-TOT trained Family Ministry instructors in EECMY Church Units

Unit	Center	Couples	Alone (persons)	TOTAL
BGAW	Begi	1		2
BDS	Aira	2		4
CES	Addis Abeba	9	1	19
CGS	Ijaji	2	1	5
CS	Nekemte	6	2	14
EGBS	Gambella	1		2
GJS	Gimbi	2		4
IBS	Mettu	5		10
NAW	Mekele		1	1
NCES	Dessie	2		4
SCES	Awasa	2		4
SCS	Hossana	3	1	7
SEAW	Dodola	2		4
SES	Hagere Mariam	1	1	3
SS	Dilla	2	1	5
SWBS	Mizan Teferi	1		2
SWS	Arba Minch	8		16
WS	Bodji	1		2
WWBS	Dembi Dollo	2	1	5
WGBS	Gambella	3		6
TOTAL		55	9	119

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

Past and future Family Ministry activities, page 1 / 2

(Updated in December, 2004)

Past and planned activities	On Process	Done	Status / Remarks
- Arrange one 4-day Basic Marriage Course for each Synod / Working Area		√	Done in 2000-2004
- Prepare a Training Handbook for Family Ministry	√		3 rd draft done 2004
- Prepare handouts related to the Handbook for Family Ministry, to be given to participants			
- Prepare different 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
- Search for suitable Textbooks on Family Ministry for Theological Seminaries	√		
- Prepare a Textbook type teaching material for Bible Schools			
- Prepare a Training Handbook for Pre-marital teaching			This will be done possibly in co-operation with the to-be-started ONS-FLEP Program in Aira
- Arrange the first series of Training of Trainers Courses (up to now 5 courses in different areas of EECMY, i.e. in Hossana, Mettu, Nekemte, and two courses in Debre Zeit)		√	1 st TOT Course in April 2002 2 nd TOT Course in February 2003 3 rd TOT Course in April 2003 4 th TOT Course in September 2004 5 th TOT Course in November 2004
- Create a sustaining system for Training of Trainers (TOT) Courses according to the needs of the different Church Units	√		More TOT's 2005 onwards
- Arrange TOT Courses for future Teachers of TOT Courses (Training of Trainers of Trainers)			
- Create a ongoing system for TOT Refresher Courses	√		1 st TOT Refresher Course in March -04 2 nd TOT Refresher Course in May -04
- Encourage and assist the Church Units to arrange teaching / Courses on Marriage / Family Ministry	√		Going on in (at least) 14 Synods or Area Works; the remaining Units got trained instructors during 2004
- 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		√	Done in 2004

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

Past and future Family Ministry activities, page 2 / 2

(Updated in December, 2004)

Past and planned activities	On Process	Done	Status / Remarks
- Nominate a Responsible Contact Person for Family Ministry for all the Synods and Work Areas			These people are to be nominated from amongst the FLEP-TOT Trained people, in co-operation with the Units.
- 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	√		1 st Course for Central Office Staff was arranged in October, 2004 2 nd Course scheduled for 2005
- Prepare a FLEP-curriculum for EECMY Bible Schools	√		
- Arrange a FLEP-TOT Course for Bible School and Seminary teachers	√		18 Bible School teachers participated in the 4 th TOT in September, 2004; more teachers are to be trained
- Make plans for Marriage Counselling activities in co-operation with a local Congregation in Addis Abeba	√		
- Start plans for kind of Marriage Counselling Center in co-operation with a local Congregation in Addis Abeba, in order to provide more marriage counselling services and start Training of Marriage&Family Counsellors.			
- Prepare statements on fundamental issues concerning Marriage			
- Arrange a course for Social Health Co-ordinators and other key-persons in various fields of Church work			
- 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.			

MORE ABOUT FAMILY MINISTRY

Christian Family Ministry is bringing hope to Africa which is suffering an AIDS pandemic. Educational work always takes time, but it is worth doing. The Churches could well share their experiences and put in practice each other's findings and working methods.



Session at a Training of Trainers' course

The aim of EECMY Family Life Education Program is to help Church people to live in happy marriages and families. The happier the married lives are, the better service they can give in their respective duties.

Finally, the goal of the Program is to have Christian Family Life Education as an essential part of ordinary teaching in all levels of Church work.

YOUR SUPPORT IS NEEDED

Family ministry as a program is new in the Church. All the possible resources would be welcomed to strengthen this work. Please, pray for Family ministry and support it in different ways, let it be practical assistance or financial support. Let us join hands and serve the Lord together in this field!

(Updated December 2004)

Contact addresses:

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EECMY Central Office Family Ministry team 2004



**The Ethiopian
Evangelical Church
Mekane Yesus**



FAMILY MINISTRY

**Family Life Education
Program (FLEP)**

Addis Abeba 2004

BACKGROUND

The Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus (EECMY) is a rapidly growing African Church. The membership figure (20,000 in 1959 when the Church was founded) reached 4,000,000 in 2003. The Church has strongly focused on evangelism, always reaching out to new people. But experiencing rapid growth, the Church is also challenged to nurture those who are already members. One field which has clearly been forgotten during previous years is taking care of the welfare of marriages and families.

THE BEGINNINGS OF THE PROGRAM

In 2000, the Mekane Yesus Church called Sr. Anna-Kaarina Palmu and Rev. Matti Palmu, missionaries of the Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Mission (FELM), to develop the Church's work in the fields of Marriage and Family. They had been serving the Church in the years 1974-1993. As of September 2004 an Ethiopian couple, W/ro Aberash Tolessa and Rev. Geneti Wayessa started their work as counterparts to the Palmus. FELM is financing the Program through an earmarked grant (in 2000-2005 between 80,000 and 170,000 Ethiopian Birr annually (roughly 10-17,000 Euros / year). The running budget includes travel, cost of courses and other expenses (and starting 2004 also salaries of the counterparts).

FOUNDATION, AIMS AND GOALS

The EECMY Family Life Education Program is based on the Bible teaching.

Some of **the aims of the Program** are:

- to explain the Biblical and Theological Foundation of the Church's Family Ministry;
- to raise awareness amongst the leadership on the necessity of Family Ministry;
- to train Church personnel for Family Ministry;
- to arrange Marriage courses, Retriets etc.;
- to collect and create materials for Family Ministry.

The goal of the Program is to train as many instructors (couples) as possible. They are to act as Family Ministry teachers, too, while working in their respective duties. An Ethiopian couple is coordinating Family Ministry in the EECMY Central Office.

TARGET AREA: THE WHOLE CHURCH

The target areas of the Family Life Education Program are all the 20 Church Units (17 Synods and 3 Work Areas), 4 theological seminaries and all the Bible schools. Also the government-run schools could be a target group in the future. There could be many other additional target groups. When talking about expanding the work the crucial point is the training of local instructors.



Group work during Training of Trainers' course

During 2000-2004 the Program has **arranged a Basic Marriage Course in all 20 Church Units**, and the Central Office. All students at the EECMY Theological Seminaries are getting a Family Ministry course (about 30 periods, two credit hours) during their studies.

The **Training of Trainers (TOT) courses for Family Ministry are given** in order to get Ethiopian couples as instructors for basic level teaching. At the end of 2004 there were around 120 people who had completed the Family Ministry TOT course. After their training they have arranged teaching, not only at Synod level, but also at Parish and Congregation levels, in local languages.

THE VISION OF THE EECMY FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION PROGRAM :

- to support Church members to live in happy and healthy marriages and families;
- to encourage Church workers who are happy in their marriages to spread the Good News through their life example and teaching;
- to improve the status of girls and women through strengthening the Christian family model;
- to help in the frightening situation of the AIDS pandemic through stressing the significance of faithfulness in the life of couples and families.

WHAT IS "FAMILY MINISTRY"?

In an Ethiopian society it is common to think that everybody gets married sooner or later. The idea of single adults is strange here. This is why Family Ministry in this context is always thought to be related to marriage in one way or another. It is also good to remember that in Ethiopia "family" normally means the extended family, which is much larger unit than the nuclear family of western countries.

Teaching on marriage and various family related issues is **needed for a large variety of target groups:** youth (who basically will all get married, the only question is when), engaged couples, newly married couples, couples of different ages, parents, grandparents (out of whom many might be widows). One other target group is workers in the different fields of education, child raising, health etc, in addition to the Church workers.

"**Family Life Education**" includes many different features of Church work as a whole. It covers "preventive" education in the sense of teaching or instructing, but it is also related to the "curative" field of Counselling, whether pre-marital or marriage counselling. Thus "**Family Ministry**" is an appropriate overall title for this field of work.