

## Chapter 6

# Bahamas

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On an archipelago of 700 islands and Cays, stretched across 100,000 square miles in the Atlantic Ocean, located 50 miles off the Florida coast, is a place called The Bahamas. Because of its proximity to the United States, this Island nation hosts millions of tourists annually. The major industry is tourism, followed closely by banking.

With a growing population of over 400,000, the Bahamas has a Westminster-style of democracy and can boast of having one of the most stable governments in the world.



PRIMARY SCHOOL MINISTRY

Enshrined in their constitution are these principles of faith that govern their conduct which are:

- \* Recognizing the supremacy of God
- \* Democratic Sovereign Nation founded on Biblical Spiritual Values
- \* Creation under God of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas.

The Bahamas is a very religious country where most people believe they will get to heaven by good works. Many imported and local religious groups compound this philosophy by focusing on a social gospel rather than the true gospel found in the Bible.



TED THOMPSON MINISTERING AT THE PALMDALE PRIMARY SCHOOL IN NASSAU

OAC Bahamas is led by Ted Thompson as the national director and was founded through the efforts of Keith Phillips and David Wilson. Ted and his wife, Cynthia, began this work in Nassau, the capital of New Providence, in 2008. The government granted registration on August 10, 2010, establishing this OAC branch

with a team of ten trustees and staff evangelists. OAC Bahamas exists as a ministry of evangelism committed to preaching the gospel to the unreached through open-air and other outreaches in partnership with the church, which includes training evangelists of all ages in using sketchboard messages. From time to time, other OAC staff travel to this country to assist with outreach.

In 2019, Hurricane Dorian hit us as a most devastating Category 5 storm. After it was all over, many opportunities for ministry opened up for our staff in this branch. Ted and Cynthia opened up their home in Nassau, which became a shelter and place of lodging. God has opened the door for OAC Bahamas to minister in conjunction with the Kiwanis Club in providing Christmas gifts to the children of inmates and youth. Ted was able to use his sketchboard during these times, and the Lord has blessed.

OAC Bahamas voluntary workers have included Sandy Knowles, Ethel Moss, Felice Moss, Marcia Moss, Anthony Sands, Randolph Deleveaux, Jeannie Lotmore, and Andy Cartwright.



**BOARD OF TRUSTEES: JERRY (BARBARA) SAWYER, SARAAN KNOWLES, KIRKLAND (MARSHA) SMITH, TED (CYNTHIA) THOMPSON AND ETHEL MOSS.**

**DIRECTORS: ANTHONY (GLADYS) SANDS, GEOFFREY (HEATHER) WOOD, FELICE MOSS, MARCIA MOSS**

**STAFF EVANGELISTS: LAVERN STURRUP AND FAMILIES.**

**ALSO IN THE PHOTO ABOVE IS FOUNDER, KEITH (BEV) PHILLIPS (JAMAICA) AND CHIP WELTON (CANADA)**



**TRAINING LEFT TO RIGHT: TED THOMPSON, JEFF COOPER, VERNELL BUTLER, JULIE DUNCANSON WITH HER PARENTS EUDENE AND BARTON, AND GEOFFREY WOOD**



**USING THE SKETCHBOARD IS VERY EFFECTIVE**





TED AND GEOFF TEAMED UP WITH KURT AND SHOSHANAH SCHAFLI (WYOMING) TO MINISTER TO ALL RESIDENTS IN PRESENTING THE GOSPEL TO MANY PEOPLE - THOSE WHO CAME FROM OTHER SETTLEMENTS WERE CHALLENGED AND BLESSED AND SOME RECEIVED JESUS



BOARD MEMBER ETHEL MOSS AND FELICE MOSS AT A CHILDREN'S RALLY



TED THOMPSON AT GOVERNMENT HIGH SCHOOL, NASSAU



TED LEADS A DEVOTIONAL ALONG WITH VERNELL BUTLER AT STEPHEN DILLET SCHOOL



ANDROS ISLAND OUTREACH





PHOTO TAKEN AT THE OACI CONFERENCE IN GUADALAJARA MEXICO: LtoR: ROBERT SIAKIMOTU, KIRKLAND SMITH, KEITH PHILLIPS, TED THOMPSON, ROB GEORGE, DAVID WILSON



TEAM MEMBERS SANDY AND JEANNIE PRESENTED THE GOSPEL USING THE CHEMICAL CROSS AT CHRISTIAN HERITAGE SCHOOL



ANNUAL EVANGELISM TRAINING TAKES PLACE IN THE FORM OF YOUTH MISSIONARY EVANGELISM EDUCATION (YMEE)



ROB GEORGE AT HILLCREST ACADEMY SCHOOL



DEVOTIONAL AT C. H. REEVES SCHOOL



