

REBUILDERS



igniting personal
and social transformation™

Spring 2007
Volume II

At the start of New Zealand's first Business Leadership Intensive in April, there were 40 people signed up. The conference room in Wellington had the capacity for 65 people, seated at tables.

By the end of the 3-day conference, it was standing room only. Those who had signed up had gone and invited friends, and many who had planned on coming for only one session decided to stay for the entire conference. More than 50 people enrolled in the Business Leadership School (BLS) at the event, and an additional 10 have since signed up.

"We are now challenged with how to facilitate all of them, but that is a good problem to have," said Bruce Billington, President of SCS Pacific and co-pastor of Christian Fellowship in Upper Hutt. Before the conference, 15 people were trained as facilitators. Prayer is needed for God to add more potential facilitators, and for our current facilitators, who are now carrying a significant load.

The conference theme was "Doing Business God's Way," and the format was similar to Intensives held in the

United States. Speakers included SCS President Dennis Peacocke, Bruce and his son Carl, and Auckland businessman Trevor Yaxley. Bruce talked about the correlation between the American Civil War Battle of Little Round Top, where soldiers were told to hold the line at all costs, and the business climate, where Christians must both withstand the attacks of the enemy and move forward to take enemy territory. Dennis spoke about several of God's building principles, both economically and relationally, in the stewardship of our businesses. Trevor discussed ways that God's truths can impact our businesses. Carl's topic was the creativity of God, and how to apply that to our every day lives and businesses. Amanda Weaver facilitated two workshops which helped ground the material through student participation.

"We felt the Spirit of God in the place and we all wanted more. No one wanted to go," Bruce said.

Bruce and others have wanted to bring the BLS to New Zealand for nearly 10 years. The door opened when friends Andrew and Amanda Weaver expressed the desire to go

through the 2-year BLS course, get the word out, and do the legwork to make it available in their country.

The thriving economy in New Zealand and the significant role small businesses play in the country's success have led to a business community that is starving for the tools the BLS provides, Bruce said. They are not getting this kind of teaching in their churches. The emphasis is often on being evangelistic in the workplace. While that is good, many Christians are looking for training that will enable them to apply God's principles in their every day business.

God Loves Work

"We had several people coming up to us saying, 'I've been in business all my life, and have never heard anything like this. Why haven't we heard this before?' " Bruce said. "They did hear the sound and they realized that they can get more of this in the BLS materials and start from the ground up that way."

God is truly meeting those in New Zealand who have been willing to give Him something to work with.



The SCS vision continues...

Around the world, SCS impacts thousands of believers by equipping their leadership through our schools, seminars, educational materials, and personal interaction. Since 1979 we have endeavored to serve those who are seeing God's Kingdom and seeking to express it in the whole of human life and culture.

SPIRIT TO SPIRIT

In southwestern France lies the ancient city of Auch. Surrounded by rolling hills of farmland, forests and occasional castles, this is the home of Jon Marc Potenti and his extended family. Raised in a godly home, his spiritual foundations have been used by God to build one of the largest apostolic networks in France. The network also reaches throughout North Africa and the French speaking world beyond.

This month some one hundred pastors and elders gathered there for three days of sessions, six of which I taught on strategic living and building. Seldom have I felt a greater presence of the Holy Spirit working with us. We were honored to have the opportunity to serve Jon Marc's ministry network, which is partnering with us, and invest in their success.

As the leaders left to return to their churches and ministries throughout France, Corsica and Africa, I was thrilled knowing that they were now entering into a new phase of strategic building and effectiveness.

France has historically been a place of great spiritual energy and conflict. The Protestant Reformation "exploded" there and was met with great resistance by the Catholic Counter Reformation. Thousands of precious saints lost their lives for Christ and invested their blood in the spiritual future of the nation.

It appears that their investment is bearing fruit. Something is brewing in the Spirit in France and I thank God we are involved for the sake of God's Kingdom! Keep France in your prayers.

Business Leadership School in Latin America

As word gets out in Mexico and Central America, the Lord continues to add more people and new nations to the business school. This March people came from Guatemala, Mexico, Nicaragua and Costa Rica to the 2nd annual Business Leadership Intensive in San Jose, Costa Rica's capitol. Out of the 75 attendees, 50 people signed up to begin the Business Leadership School, and 23 were returning students who will soon begin the second year materials. Prior to the conference, those 23 students also underwent training to become facilitators. This is a big jump from last year's Intensive, where there were 8 trained facilitators.

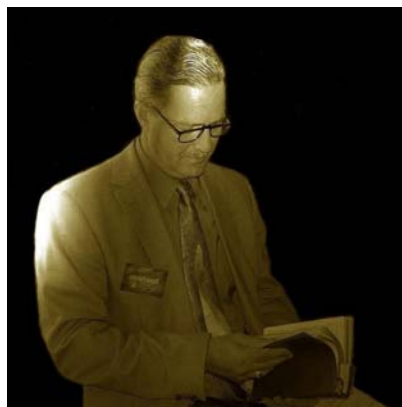
"I just have to worship the Lord for what He is doing," said Ronnie Diaz, a pastor in Costa Rica and SCS Director for Latin America. "God is touching people and bringing those who are thirsty for the message and also open to learn."

As a result of the Intensive, there are now nearly 18 students going through the Business Leadership School (BLS) in Guatemala. Talks are underway with Carlos Orellana and other colleagues in Guatemala to have an Intensive there next year. Leaders in Nicaragua and Monterrey, Mexico, have also expressed an interest in having an Intensive in their countries. As students begin to grasp the materials, the focus is to train them to become facilitators, and thus reach more people in their countries.

This year's Intensive differed from last year in that attendees were more prepared to receive the teaching and embrace a new level of training, said Tom Burtness, SCS Training Director. The theme of the 3-day conference was, "God's Vision for Business," and speakers included Tom, Ronnie, SCS President Dennis Peacocke and local businessman Jose Miguel Campos. "The foundation has been laid and it was clear that the participants were really seeing that they can impact their nations," Tom said.

Ronnie requests prayer for facilitators and new students who are dealing with major paradigm shifts. He also requests prayer for translation efforts, as they continue to progress in making all of SCS materials available in Spanish. "I am hearing so many testimonies of people who were conducting their business a certain way and then during or after the business school, they began to change the way they make their decisions," Ronnie said.

We praise God for expanding the BLS and drawing in new people to receive training and truths that will impact their lives, businesses and nations for His glory.



PRAYER & EVENTS

Please pray for the effectiveness of our web project, BLS and SLT Schools in spreading the message of the Kingdom of God.

CALENDAR

- **WEB PROJECT PHASE II**
- **AN ADMINISTRATOR FOR SCS SCHOOLS**

MAY

Ontario, Canada:

BLS Regional: 17-20

Fort Collins, Florida:

Chamber of Commerce 21-22

Biel, Switzerland:

Jahu Family Camp: 24-31

Middlefield, Ohio

SLT Regional 13-17

JUNE

South Africa:

BLS Intensive: 1-14

SEPTEMBER

Massachusetts, USA

SLT Intensive: 4-8

Seattle, WA:

SLT Intensive: 16-23

*DRIVE THY BUSINESS;
LET IT NOT DRIVE THEE*

-BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

Rebuilders Newsletter published by:

Strategic Christian Services
2425 Mendocino Avenue
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

tel: 707-578-7700

orders: 800-700-0605

fax: 707-578-1168

email: info@gostrategic.org

Make your donations online at: www.gostrategic.org