

03/29/2022

Newsletter March - Greetings from Sri Lanka, Colombia, Mozambique and Zimbabwe!



Dear Mission Friends!

The world is slowly recovering from the shock of the pandemic. It feels like we are still reeling and trying to find our way back to some form of normalcy. Whether we will fully achieve this remains to be seen, as both the war in Ukraine and economic uncertainties have emerged as new sources of concern. Clearly, we have awoken to a much tougher reality as we entered the 2020s. I receive reports from friends around the world that people are facing significant challenges after two years of crisis. Therefore, I believe Focus Business School will be more crucial than ever in helping people through these difficulties. God's principles apply in both good times and bad!

**Thank you to all who make this work possible with your donations and prayers!**

### **Asia**

In Sri Lanka, our work is progressing, and we are gaining good momentum. We consistently have 3-5 courses running concurrently. New teachers are joining us, and we might have a new missionary couple from Sweden moving to the country to assist with the work. I will provide more details about this in a future letter. We have also recently received the piece of land that was promised to us. It consists of two hectares and several larger buildings. We are currently exploring how to upgrade the buildings and seeking God's guidance on how we should use this space.

The first weekend in April will see our inaugural conference in India. We hope and pray that this will open new doors for us in the country. The conference will be held digitally and is organized in collaboration with ICCC. Our next major focus in Asia will be India, and we believe that in time, B-Å and Annika Svensson will relocate their primary operations there from Sri Lanka.

We are also working on translations into Thai and Khmer. Although we have faced many challenges with this, progress is being made. We look forward to traveling there soon to begin training and establish connections.



### **Our Local Representatives José and Gustavo in Colombia**

#### **Colombia**

Last Friday, I had a conversation with some of our team members, Gustavo and José, in Colombia, and it was very encouraging to hear their updates. New schools are on the horizon, and there were inspiring testimonies about how people have made miraculous transformations in their lives. One woman, who had lived in extreme poverty, attended our school and received a vision to start a business. Within a couple of years, she has earned 3.5 million SEK! For us, wealth is not an end in itself; we want people to become good stewards with godly hearts, but this is a testament to the miraculous power of finding God's principles for one's life!

#### **Mozambique**

Our contact in Mozambique is in discussions with journalism education programs in the country about incorporating FBS as part of their curriculum. The reason for this is that significantly more people are trained than there are permanent jobs available. Therefore, many journalists must start their own freelance businesses. We have already conducted an FBS course for journalists in Tanzania for the same reason.

FBS has been an elective in high schools in the country and has become the most popular subject where it is used. However, we are a bit concerned that the new 2023 curriculum will not include entrepreneurship as a subject. Please pray about this decision by the Ministry of Education so that we can continue to give the younger generation hope for a future in the country.

#### **Zimbabwe**

We are currently discussing the possibility of making FBS an integral part of the pastoral training within Assemblies of God. Pastors are struggling severely under the economic conditions in the

country, having lost about 90% of their purchasing power under the Marxist regime and the pandemic. If this decision is made, it could also lead to more countries in Southern Africa integrating FBS into their pastoral training programs.

**All God's Blessings,**

**Prayer Requests:**

- That God will raise up a strong team for FBS, both in Sweden and in every country we work in.
- That we reach a younger generation with our courses and bring them in as leaders in the work.
- That we receive a new wave of grace from God to lift people out of poverty around the world.
- That we maintain good financial health.

Marco Strömberg