

Dear Mission Partner!

We are now entering a new year with fresh hopes and faith in what God will do. We ended 2024 with a teacher training in Ukraine and are starting the new year by soon concluding a course in Thailand and beginning a course in Sri Lanka.

Ukraine

In early December, my son Samuel and I traveled to Ukraine for a teacher training session. A pastor in western Ukraine gathered over 40 people to be trained in FBS outside Kyiv. The participants ranged from pastors to elderly entrepreneurs and young, curious adults. This trip was a powerful reminder of why we do what we do. God desires to restore His people and nations from poverty, leading them into biblical stewardship, creativity, and drive. Ukraine needs time to rebuild its economy to become a stable country, and the church can be part of the solution to the nation's challenges. This spring, three courses will be launched across the country.

There were also several wonderful testimonies that you can listen to on our Instagram account: [focusbusinessschool_intl](https://www.instagram.com/focusbusinessschool_intl).

Additionally, we have now arranged for them to receive books in Russian about Kingdom business.



Thailand

In January, a course in Ubon, Thailand, was completed with about 10 to 15 students, and the teachers were eager to share their knowledge. Some students took the course to start their own businesses, while others aimed to inspire others to start theirs. One of the students was a 77-year-old woman who wanted to learn Christian principles in the workplace. She and her family have now renovated an old house that has been in their family for generations, and it was inaugurated on January 22 with great joy. They can now rent out two apartments in their residential building, serving as a strong testimony that it is never too late to achieve your dreams and goals.



Sri Lanka

In Sri Lanka, a course has started with a group of young people, structured as a hybrid between online and in-person classroom teaching. It is a 10-week course running until March, covering all 48 lessons. They attend three lessons on-site every Saturday and two lessons online every Tuesday—an approach currently being tested. The students in this course already run their own businesses and are incredibly passionate about learning.

When someone commits wholeheartedly to something, it brings motivation and drive that help them move forward. One of the challenges is ensuring that students truly apply the course content in their lives. B-Å and Annika have begun reaching out to former students to follow up on their progress—how their finances are going, whether anyone has started a business, and how existing businesses are developing. Our younger students seem to be doing very well, and we hope they will contribute to FBS in the future.

Prayer Requests

- Pray for the ToT in Burundi and Rwanda (February 3–7 in Burundi and February 12–14 in Rwanda).
- We had planned a course in Bukavu in mid-February, but due to the war, we have had to postpone it for a few months. Pray for a successful course when it takes place.
- God's presence in the lessons in Sri Lanka.
- Connecting with former students in Sri Lanka.
- That we will be able to launch a course in Pakistan.
- Planning for a new course in Laos.
- For our new leadership in Brazil.

God's blessings!

Marco Strömberg