

# FCE news

July 2011

Foundation for Cross-cultural Education  
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6830

## Dear Prayer Supporters

A few recent events caused renewed speculation and reflection by people all over the world regarding the end times. *“And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places.” (Matt. 24:7)*. This sounds like the news at 7. *“For many will come in My name, saying, ‘I am the Christ’, and will deceive many.” (Matt. 24:5)* Nobody could miss the billboards all over the place, announcing that the Second Coming would be on 21 May 2011!

There were groups who lived as if Harold Camping’s prediction was a fact, and who spent everything they had during these ‘last days’. Others were typical fence-sitters who kept all options open and who were ready for whatever might happen. Then there were those who were cynical, indifferent or unbelieving, living their lives unperturbed as if the second coming were a myth.



Personally, I was confronted again with the knowledge that the second coming of Christ is a reality. The day will dawn when Christ is coming back on the clouds.

# Will

- I be able to recognise the signs of the times?
- I stand strong enough against deception?
- I keep my faith in Jesus Christ as my Redeemer and as the Righteous Judge?
- I recognise Him, or is my image of Him so distorted that He will be unrecognisable to me?
- the expectations that I have of Him at his second coming, correspond with who He really is?

Therefore I have purposed to search the Scriptures once again, to take my personal relationship with my Lord seriously and to pray that by His grace I will be able “to persevere to the end.” God has the course of history in His hands. Through Christ He will conquer all his enemies and Satan in the end. Those who remain faithful to Him will inherit the new heaven and the new earth. Jesus exhorted his disciples to *“watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming”, to “be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect” and “Blessed is that servant whom his master, when he comes, will find so doing.” (Matt.24)*

Martin Luther said: *“If I knew that Jesus would be coming tonight, I would still plant an apple tree today.”* FCE has received the mandate to make disciples. FCE’s prayer supporters are our co-workers in accomplishing this task, so that when Jesus comes again, He will find us busy with the commission He has entrusted to us. Let us “continue in the faith” while we *“go out to meet the Bridegroom with our lamps filled with oil!” (Matt. 25)*

# persevere to the end

Needs .....





## National Christian Teachers' Convention

The teachers in our country need us. Let us stand together to encourage and motivate them to regard their task as educators as a calling and not just as a job. Everything in education is aimed at raising our children to be secular humanists. We are looking for teachers who can renew the minds of our children according to Christ-centred, Biblical truths and principles, so that they will also be able to build the Kingdom of God faithfully till the end. The third "National Christian Teachers' Convention" is taking place in Bloemfontein from 1 to 4 October 2011. The theme of the convention is: **"The Teacher: Surviving, Successful, Significant?"** We know that this convention will once more inspire, equip and strengthen teachers for their great task as educators of the next generation.

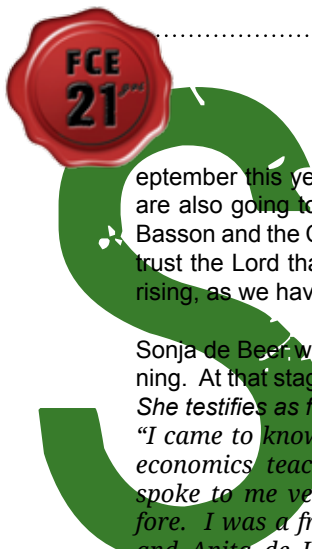
Please bring this Convention to the attention of teachers in your vicinity or circle of friends. Perhaps you, your church or cell group could even sponsor a teacher.



Contact the FCE office for more details: [nctc@fce.org.za](mailto:nctc@fce.org.za) or visit our website at [www.natctc.co.za](http://www.natctc.co.za).

Saturday 1 October to  
Tuesday 4 October 2011

Bloemfontein



## FCE 21 years Celebrations

In September this year we are celebrating FCE's 21st birthday at Kot ni Eden. At this occasion we are also going to dedicate Koti ni Eden, our new Training Centre in Zambia, to the Lord. Gert Basson and the Celebrations Committee are already hard at work with all the arrangements. We trust the Lord that the FCE staff from all over will be able to attend. The excitement is already rising, as we have only one desire and that is to testify of what the Lord has done through FCE.

Sonja de Beer was one of the first teachers who had the courage to join FCE right at the beginning. At that stage, we had nothing to offer and she took a step of faith in obedience to the Lord. She testifies as follows:

*"I came to know FCE 22 years ago when the Lord called me for missions. I was a home economics teacher in Steynsburg, a small town in the Eastern Cape, when the Lord spoke to me very clearly. I had no idea where to go and had never heard of FCE before. I was a friend of Jannie Compion, who was involved with FCE. At that stage Neels and Anita de Jager had just resigned from their teaching posts and had moved with their kids to Stellenbosch, to start a Christian school. There was nothing – no building, no house, no clear guidelines on what they had to do – just a clear calling from the Lord. My parents were very sceptical about my sudden mission calling – you don't give up your career just like that, especially not if you have a 3-year bursary to pay back!*

*But my calling was clear – I could not ignore it. I held on to Rom. 4:18: "Abraham, contrary to hope, in hope believed..." I had a child-like faith that God would provide. In December 1990 I went to Stellenbosch. On my arrival I was welcomed by a man who, to me, looked a lot like the Biblical Abraham, his small wife, their three children and four other teachers. All I can remember is that the house was very dirty and that we cleaned and scrubbed for weeks! This was the start of my discipleship training – there I truly learned what it means to be a disciple in real life. Neels, Anita and their children were an example to me of giving up everything – their home, their privacy, their family life, willing to live under the same roof with selfish young people.*

*After 21 years we are all looking back to the 'days of small beginnings'. Like Abraham we only followed God's voice, even though we didn't know where to. Today we have many stories to tell, testimonies of God's provision. The education system changed during that time, so I never needed to pay back my bursary. I thank the Lord that I could be part of what the Lord had done in those early days through Neels, Anita and Jannie. My faith was strengthened to such an extent, that until today I can never doubt Him in anything." (Sonja de Beer)*



FCE's new Magazine and DVD, 'En Route'

Available from  
24 September 2011

Price Magazine: R50  
Price DVD: R100



Come and see what the Lord has done!

### WOLSELEY

The head office is a bee hive of activity. For the past months, the editorial team and media team were involved in producing the FCE Celebration Magazine and FCE DVD, both titled "EN ROUTE". These will, God willing, be available in September.

Elma Britz and her helpers are actively involved in the community of Wolseley; they visit schools, pray with mothers who care, support the social workers and police in many cases, and minister to the elderly people. As in every town in this country, there is great need: teenage pregnancies, drug and alcohol abuse, poverty, unemployment and hunger are all a reality. The Body of Christ is equipped and has received the command to become involved. We are co-operating with existing aid organisations in helping to bring relief and hope.

An outreach team from Port Elizabeth is at the moment tiling the hostel passages. We thank the Lord for their servant hearts and willingness to sacrifice their holiday to come and help us.

### ZAMBIA Koti ni Eden



In December last year we moved in at Koti ni Eden and after six months we are finding our feet here. We are still excited about this piece of 'paradise' that the Lord has entrusted to us and we know that EVERYTHING that was accomplished the past ten years is from the Lord.

The building is still in full swing: Jannie and Elise's house is at roof height. An organisation from England donated money for the foundations of the single quarters for our unmarried staff members. The kitchen can now be fully equipped, as an organisation from Germany made funds available for that. With the help of Deon Veldsman (South Africa), Josh Woodhouse (Australia) and Christian Abele (Germany), the electricity to the CTC School could be installed, to the joy of all! Dolf, Christof and Izak from Breedenet in Worcester came to lay the satellite and internet cables and it is wonderful to be able to have contact with our other training centres and our family and friends all over the world.

The third year student teachers are enjoying the space of the new classrooms. In August they will be coming to Wolseley with Hendrik and Carien Jansen, to be prepared for their final big task and in December they will receive their diplomas.

Jaco and Corrie van der Westhuizen and their helpers are working very hard on the farm. The maize crop has been harvested and we thank the Lord for a good harvest. The bio-diesel laboratory is up and going again, and the diesel we are producing ourselves, helps to lower the costs of pumping water. The chickens are laying nearly 700 eggs per day. The nursery is providing fruit trees to supply farmers from all over Zambia. The income from the nursery is used to pay our farm workers' wages. The orchards produced a good harvest of oranges and bananas and the kitchen staff was thankful for the fresh fruit that could be served at meal times. We also started with a shop in Ibenga, the nearby town, where we sell some of the farm produce.

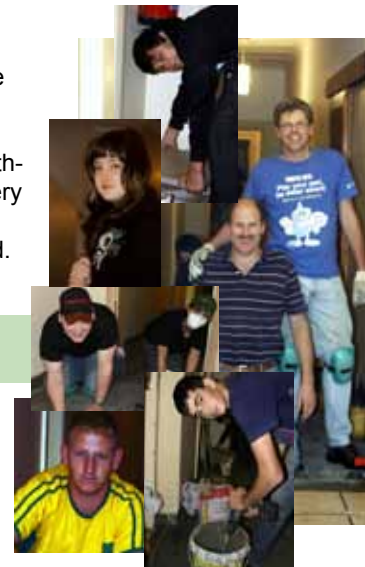
Koti ni Eden organises a show and fun day: During May a show for the whole community around Koti ni Eden was organised. The farmers

could exhibit their products, the women their needlecraft, the children their art and craft articles. New designs were on show, e.g. a miniature pool table with marbles, and a gun from wood and wire. The farmer of the year, the developer of the year and the worker of the year were also announced. The soccer and netball games attracted a lot of attention and men, women and children were involved.

There has been an alarming increase in malaria cases since we moved to Koti ni Eden. At some stage, Yvette Maloney at the clinic was very concerned and we asked our prayer supporters to stand with us in prayer. She testifies as follows:

"I am the witness of a miracle that God has done here at Koti ni Eden. One of our staff members brought her little daughter to me. During the previous night the girl had been feverish and she had put her on malaria medication. As I touched the girl, she started convulsing. I sent the mom out, and within seconds the girl's little face changed from pale, to blue to grey, and she stopped breathing... "My years of experience immediately jump into action: I make sure that her airways are unobstructed and I start with CPR. All the time I am aware that here is a fight going on, and I pray as I work. By God's mercy, Rachael Greer, a trained nurse from Australia, is also at my side. We call on the Lord in our hour of trouble. Desiree le Roux also comes in and starts interceding with us. We experience a life-and-death struggle and we pray as the Holy Spirit leads us, while doing everything humanly possible. After what feels like hours, the little girl starts breathing again and I can connect her to the oxygen machine that we've received from a donor a short while ago.

"What makes this testimony even more precious is the fact that the Lord has prepared me for this event a few days previously. I was reading in Matthew and the passage was about Jesus healing people in different ways. I quote only part of what I wrote in my journal that day: "I have much to give, I need you My obedient child to take up the authority that I have given you. Not your own things, driven by your own desires, but born from My Spirit. Move in the flow of My Spirit, be obedient – I want to do something. Know the strategy of your enemy, be a watchman on the wall – I have everything in place that you need. You will not run and get weary if you wait upon Me". This is exactly what I experienced in the clinic in that hour: I saw God in action, we who are like clay in His hands - and I stand in awe!"



## KALUNGU

This year Kalungu is probably the busiest of all our training centres. Most of the building is finished, but we trust the Lord for finances to build the Reception and staff housing at the camp site. It is also time to start renovating the chalets. Lydia and Reneé are actively involved in ministering to the women from the surrounding villages. Lydia also started with literacy classes for the women. During these classes, they talk about the role of the wife in the family. As the women began to restore broken relationships, things immediately started changing. Some of them gave their lives to the Lord, another one confessed and broke her extra-marital affair.

Carel Els is involved with the church leaders in the community and some of the churches took part in the "Global Day of Prayer" on 12 June. They are continuing to mobilise the local church and to pray together. An increase in witchcraft activities in the community can only be countered and opposed through prayer and fasting.

Georg and Karen Paul have moved with their family to a house in a nearby village. They desire to master the local language quicker, and would like to establish a vegetable garden as an example to the villagers, so that they can also successfully grow their own vegetables.

Bernie and his helpers from Citrusdal / Clanwilliam came to install irrigation pipes in Kalungu's vegetable gardens, and this has made everyone's task so much easier.

In the mean time the Discipleship and Mission training is going full steam ahead, exposing the students to the realities of being missionaries and doing missionary work. We thank the Lord for the few staff members at Kalungu who have to organise all the activities, who often have to sacrifice their privacy and family time, so that others can be trained.

## MALAWI

The training centre and King's Highway Rest Camp in Malawi is still under construction. Sampie van Rensburg, Danie van Wyk and their team have spent hours on the terrain and the ablution block is completed. Soon campers will be able to pitch their tents at a power outlet, water tap and lovely 'braai' (barbecue) facilities. Our staff is still living in tents and we trust that we can shortly start building more permanent homes for them.

As we are digging the foundations for the erection of buildings, we are at the same time digging spiritual foundations in the community around the training centre. This asks for lots of patience, perseverance and endurance to build relationships and win trust. Carel and Reneé Els went to help Moses and Regina during April and May, to present the "Firm Foundations" course. This opened the way for FCE to become more involved in the villages. Malinda and her class reached out to the school in Tekero and Cephas is presenting school readiness programmes once a week. Jesaja is responsible for the planning around the building projects and have to move around a lot to organise everything.

In the beginning, everybody was very excited and curious, and big groups of people came to everything that was presented. Slowly, however, the numbers are dwindling, and those who remain are willing to be serious about walking a discipleship road. Please pray for the team, that they will not be discouraged, but will remain faithful and that they will persevere. Jesus also had crowds following Him, but only a few were ready to be made His disciples. We trust the Lord for the few who are prepared by His Spirit.



# DISCIPLESHIP MISSION TRAINING

Piet and Elma du Toit and Dalene Treptow are presenting the Discipleship course with students from Australia, Germany and South Africa. Roy Crawford from Canada is also assisting them while being trained. For three months they have the wonderful opportunity to teach people every day from the Word and to show them the way to Christ, their Redeemer and Saviour.

In October we are presenting a condensed version of the foundation phase, which is 6 weeks long.

Discipleship Mission Training (Condensed): Wolseley, 10 October – 20 November 2011.

Contact our office for more information: [info@fce.org.za](mailto:info@fce.org.za)

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**HELP:** The kitchen in Koti ni Eden is being equipped and furnished. On 24 July a truck is leaving from Wolseley with provisions and equipment for Zambia. We are urgently looking for: Plastic containers, plastic buckets of all sizes, ice cream containers (with lids please). These can be dropped off at any of our biltong shops in Somerset West, Strand or Tulbagh, or at the King's Highway Guest-house in Somerset West, or at our head office in Wolseley.