



Impacting ITALY
through Church Leaders

ITA News update

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Grateful for 2007

Great expectations for 2008

The year 2007 ended with the blessings of the FOCUS Conference. Close to 500 people participated in the wonderful exposition of the Word of God by our speakers. The Conference was highlighted by the presentation of the MacArthur Study Bible in Italian. The Conference was the culmination of a blessed year where over 80 students came to our Italian Theological Academy.

BEYOND OUR EXPECTATIONS FOCUS 2007

You should have been there! All those that participated in the FOCUS Conference were truly blessed.

Those that understand the status and size of the Evangelical church in Italy know how historical the conference was.

The messages by John MacArthur, Steve Lawson, Lance Quinn and Bill Standridge were outstanding. It is certainly a privilege to be able to have men of this stature in the same conference.

The prayers of all our partners in this endeavour were certainly felt. Everything even the smallest particulars went well and we know that it was of the Lord.

MAC ARTHUR STUDY BIBLE

The work of many years and the blessing of the Lord were highlighted when the first copy

ous donations of many, every participant received his own free copy of the Bible. Many of those present rushed to purchase more copies to give as gifts to other members of their churches. This work in the Italian language is also of historical importance.

Most of the Italian churches are led by men that have had no academic training. In the Italian language there are very few good commentaries of the Word of God. The MacArthur Study Bible fills a void in the need of the Italian evangelical church. Our prayer is that it will be distributed in the Italian churches and that it will help all the believers to understand the Word of God better and will help those that teach to teach it with more clarity.

SAFE IN THE ARMS OF GOD

The MacArthur Study Bible was one of the books that Aurora was able to give as a gift to all the participants. All those that came also received the book by John MacArthur: "Safe in the Arms of God." This book will certainly be a blessing for all those that have lost a child and it will be a great means of testimony for unbelievers.

The book: "Famine in the Land" by Dr. Lawson was translated and published by Aurora for the Conference. All the pastors and church leaders received a copy. Our prayer is that it will spark a renewed desire for expository preaching.

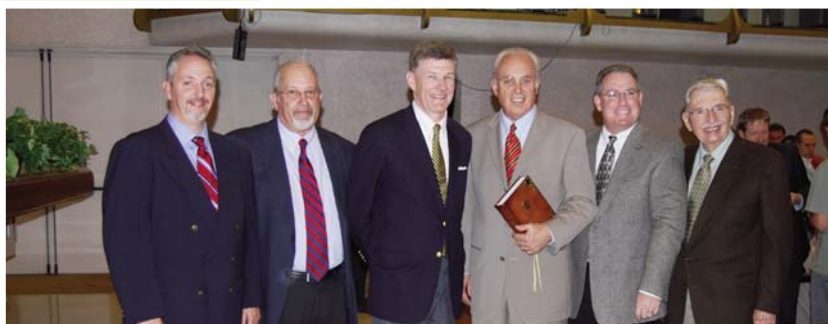
Many have prayed and given for the publishing work of Aurora and we are so grateful for each person that understands the value of good books in the hand of those that teach the Word of God.

THEY SAID IT!

Every participant is asked before they leave and before they can receive the books as a gift to fill out a questionnaire with their comments and their impressions of the confer-

IN THIS ISSUE:

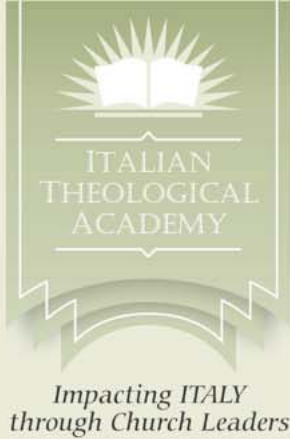
- **FOCUS Conference is a success**
- **The Academy continues to grow.**
- **We need help!**



and special edition was presented to Dr. MacArthur during the Conference.

The gratefulness of the Italian believers was clearly evident as they stood in line to have Pastor MacArthur sign their Bibles. Because of the gener-





ence. There is not enough room here to write all their comments but you will be encouraged to see how God is answering your prayers and financial gifts.

"Every time I come I am encouraged to love the Word of God more and that is the same result it's having on those I bring." *An elder for 25 years*

"I will be more aware of the priority of Scriptures when I teach and witness." *A missionary in Italy for 20 years*

"This conference helped me give greater honor to the Word of God and not to give up in my ministry."

A missionary for over 20 years

"I was encouraged to study and teach the Word of God better." *Nicola an elder for 10 years*

Many more wrote and it is clear that the Word of God clearly preached touched their hearts and moved them to improve their study and teaching of the Scriptures.

ITALIAN THEOLOGICAL ACADEMY

By God's grace we had another great year. Over 75 students are enrolled or have finished one of our programs.

As you know Expository Preaching is our core course. At this time 42 students are enrolled or have finished this two year course. These men come from twenty different churches and from eighteen different cities.

In our questionnaires at the FOCUS Conference we asked for comments from the participants on how the Italian Theological Academy had effected the preaching of the men they knew.

It was a blessing to see many comments on how the participation to the courses have improved the preaching of these men. One comment stated that the preaching now was "verse by verse" the words were explained and the content of the passage understood. What an answer to prayer!

A couple of the churches have decided to pay for their elders to come because of what they have seen in their lives and in the lives of the church members. Praise God for His work!

We are humbled by what God is doing all over Italy and we know the importance of your prayers. Many of the students are able to come because of your generous gifts toward scholarships.

IN THE NEW YEAR

As we begin this year we know that we are totally dependent on the Lord. We depend on Him for wisdom and strength for our ever growing ministry.

This year we will be adding one new program. Church History will be a two year program where the students will come to our academy once a year for one week. At this time we have eight weeks of resident work. New students are already enrolled and are diligently doing their preparation work for the classes.

We look forward to another great FOCUS Conference in October. We have already invited our speakers and look forward to our Intensive Training session. This Conference will last one extra day and it is more geared to training the men and their wives that come.

We look forward to publishing more books to increase the libraries of the pastors that have a growing desire to study God's Word.

As you see what God is doing we continuously need your prayers and financial gifts. We thank God for you, our strategic partners in *Impacting Italy through Church Leaders*. Check our video and messages from **FOCUS 2007 at www.auroraita.org**



WE NEED HELP!

As our ministry grows we are praying for more families that will come and join our ministry in Italy as we train leaders.

Johnny and Alexandra are planning to come to Italy and serve with us at the Italian Theological Academy. They met in Rome, Italy and were married and now have been preparing at the Master's Seminary in California. Johnny plans to graduate in May with a Master in Divinity. After raising the needed support they will return to Italy to serve with Aurora Mission. Having a trained professor on the premises of our academy will allow us to continue to grow and meet the needs of the growing number of students.

Johnny and Alexandra have two children, Samuele and Maddalena born the 18th of January!

Please pray for them as they finish their schooling and then begin to raise the needed financial support. If you would like to know more about them and their financial needs please write to us.