

ITALIAN
THEOLOGICAL
ACADEMY

God continues to bless the Academy!

IT MAKES A DIFFERENCE!

On September 8th four more students completed the two year Expository Preaching Program. As they preached during the week it was a blessing to see how they have improved in the content and organization of their messages. But even greater is the blessing to see them committed to teaching entire books of the Bible in their churches. Their studies have truly made a difference in their lives.

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WHAT A BLESSING!

THE ACADEMY Bible Survey Program

The first week of August we had the privilege of having Dr. Grisanti from The Master's Seminary teach the first week of the Bible Survey Program. This is a special class in many ways! It was our largest class with 26 students. It is the only program that we have at this time where women can come. It is the first class that was translated in three languages. Dr. Grisanti spoke in English and Johnny Gravino, one of our missionaries who is training at the Master's Seminary translated in Italian. The class was also translated in sign language as we have two deaf students. The students were excited to gain a greater and deeper understanding of the first 17 books of the Old Testament. Now the students are working on their projects until they will meet again next August.

Expository Preaching Program

Three students from Milan and one from Acireale concluded the two year program. As they reviewed the two years they have studied with us, they expressed how their studies have made a difference in their congregations. Patric, an elder from Milano, said that many in his church have expressed gratitude to the Academy because of their improved preaching. We were blessed to have Pastor Carey Hardy from Twin City Baptist Church in Winston Salem, NC who preached and taught every morning.



CONSTRUCTION HIGHLIGHTS

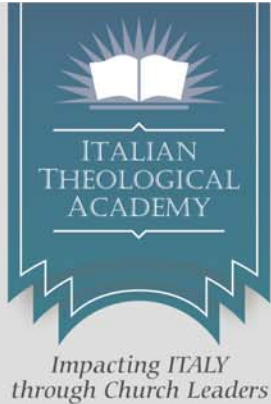
In our last class we inaugurated the new kitchen and we used the dorms for the students for the first time. What a difference it makes to be able to have the sleeping quarters on campus. The students can rest for a short time after lunch. This helps them be refreshed as they have about 7 hours of classes a day. It also gives the

professors and the students a wonderful time to interact in the evening. At this time we can house 15 students and God willing we will have one more unit by the middle of November so that we will be able to house 21 students. We are praying that the Lord will

provide the needed \$60,000.00 for two more units that we need by next August to be able to house the additional students.

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Patric is one of the students who received a scholarship to participate in our Academy. The factory he works for closed a couple of months ago, so he lost his job. His little congregation helps by paying his transportation cost to come to the school. As we were leaving he said, "Please thank Aurora and those that give to the scholarship program as I couldn't come any other way, I have learned so much!" We have committed to 26 scholarships this year, we need your help. Each scholarship is \$200.00, but it is a lasting investment in the lives of the Italian men and it is having a great impact in Italy. **Your gifts truly make a difference.**



FOCUS 2006

By the time you receive this letter it should be time for our annual conference. Pray for Dr. John MacArthur, pastor Tom Pennington, and Bill Standridge as they speak. We are so grateful to God for around 250 people that are enrolled. The subject is evangelism. In a country where the evangelicals are less than half of one percent, there is a great need for encouragement and also dependence on God. Our desire is that all those that come will leave refreshed by the awareness of the sovereignty of God and with a committed life to preaching the Word of God without diluting the message, trusting God to bring the results and build His church.

ITA STAFF

Albanesi family

Marco and Simona have moved to Acireale and are an incredible help for the Academy. Marco helps with administration of all our activities and Simona is doing a great job as our cook.

Fortuna family

Peppe and Viviana are doing a great job and are doing very well with their responsibilities. Peppe continues to take care of all the grounds and buildings and Viviana is a great help in the kitchen during the classes.

AURORA PUBLISHING

By God's grace the commentary by John MacArthur on Romans chapters 9-16 should be ready and all the participants will receive a copy. Every participant will also receive a book by William Standridge on marriage and a book by Maria

Teresa Standridge on how to present the Gospel message to children.

OUR STUDENTS

Continue to pray for our students. We are so encouraged by their desire to study and by their response to the teaching. For many it is a struggle to go back to a class environment after being out of school for many years. In all our classes the students have about 7 to 8 hours a day of teaching. Pray for the staff, as we review the students work. Also pray for us as we seek to encourage them while many of them minister in very difficult environments and with opposition. Pray that the Lord will bring us new students next year.

Pray with us:

For all our speakers and

translators at FOCUS 2006

For our 58 students.

For three more prefabs

needed to complete phase 1.

For the financial support of the

Fortuna and Albanesi families.



ARE WE ALL CHRISTIANS?

In a country where all think they are Christians, some do not understand the value of an Academy to train

men to teach and reach out with the message of the Word of God. Many in the United States believe that the Roman Catholic Church, although a little different from us, still presents a Biblical message. It is vital that you understand what Catholics are saying when they affirm to be Christians. According to the RCC Catechism you become a Christian through baptism. They officially affirm:

OUTSIDE THE CHURCH THERE IS NO SALVATION

It means that all salvation comes from Christ the Head through the Church which is his Body: Basing itself on Scripture and Tradition, the Council teaches that the Church, a pilgrim now on earth, is necessary for salvation [CCC846] It is in the Church that the fullness of the means of salvation has been deposited [CCC824].

BAPTISM SAVES

The Church does not know of any means other than Baptism that assures entry into eternal beatitude [CCC1257] Baptism ...makes the neophyte "a new creature" an adopted son of God [CCC1265] By baptism all sins are forgiven, original sin and all personal sins, as well as all punishment for sin [CCC1263].

As you witness to Roman Catholics it is not enough to ask them if they are Christians. According to Roman Catholic doctrine as long as they have been baptized they are Christians. As believers we know that genuine salvation is the result of God's work in our hearts. A true decision can be made, as God draws people to Himself, to repent of sin and to make Him Lord of their lives. Pray as our students reach out and witness to a population that does not believe it needs to be saved.

