

CHRYSALIS NEWSLETTER

Discipling leaders by Biblical principles of education for individual and cultural transformation

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December 2007



Season's Greetings

We at Chrysalis International wish you and your family a most joyous and blessed Christmas and New Year holiday season! As we reflect upon serving Jesus Christ in the nations this past year, we praise Him for the many doors He opened in 2007 for us to meet and co-labor with His family around the world. Our calling has given us much joy and fulfillment as we ponder the eternal value of teaching and inspiring hearts and minds, as well as writing curriculum for children that restores hope and gives fresh vision. This year has been especially fruitful as we have expanded our teaching ministry, completed many AMO® curricular units in English and had them translated into Spanish, Portuguese and French. We are delighted that they are also being translated into Chinese and Romanian. In this December newsletter, we have stories that emanate from our ministry, so that you can rejoice with us. May the Lord continue “to bring good news to the afflicted and set the captives free, so they can rebuild the ancient ruins and repair the desolations of many generations” in their nations through biblical, Christian education.

One Brazilian Child's Dream

“There once was a little Brazilian girl who had a God-sized dream. She dreamed that when she grew up she would have a program where poor children could be loved and nurtured in the ways of God. Her parents were not Christians, but they lived by moral principles and provided her with a happy home where she could dream her dreams. As she grew older, her dream to teach children never left her heart. This young girl grew into womanhood and married a wonderful man, who was raised in a Christian family but was distant from God. It wasn't long before they moved to the south of Brazil, and within two weeks she received Christ as her personal Savior, and he was reconciled with God. This young woman's desire to serve God became intense as she grew to understand His Word and His ways. Soon, she and her husband volunteered to work in the children's Sunday school ministry at their church.

“God blessed her with a beautiful baby girl. Once a mother, her dream to have a Christian project for children grew ever stronger in her heart. All that she envisioned for her daughter, she desired for other children, as well. The years went by and God blessed her with a second child. This mother prayed for her daughters, and she prayed for the children she dreamed she would one day teach. It came about that her husband's company transferred them to the northeast of Brazil to a small underdeveloped city near the coast. She came to know that their time in southern Brazil was ordained by God as her training program for the fulfillment of her dream. God soon led her to a wonderful educational ministry called Imago Dei, which was founded by Daniella and Rubens Cartaxo. Their vision was her vision, too! It was everything she had dreamed about! And as for the poor children in her dream, God provided her a warm setting and an enriched program where she could love and teach them about God.”



Ana Paula with her AMO children

This little girl is me, Ana Paula, the writer of this short story. Although I was not raised in a Christian home, from an early age God placed within me a great desire to see children be educated and introduced to the living God and His commandments. In my child-like innocence, I did not fully comprehend the fulfillment of my dream. Today, I understand how the common grace of God acted in my little girl's heart and guided me providentially so I could fulfill His plan for my life.

Two years ago, I received from God the amazing opportunity to work in the AMO* project in the alliance between Imago Dei and Chrysalis International. This program is blessed by God for the restoration of families in our city. It is reaching two generations, both children and their parents. This ministry has been the instrument God used to enable my childhood dream to become a reality in my life today. I have joined the Cartaxos to wage the battle for the hearts and minds of children and for the restoration of families in our city. My dream has come true, and my heart overflows with His riches. I am especially happy to encourage the children to dream God-sized dreams for their lives!

Ana Paula Felix de Souza,
Coordinator of Comunidade Evangélica Bara AMO Project, Parnamirim, Brazil

** AMO' is an acronym for 'Feed My Lambs' in Portuguese and Spanish. The word 'amo' means 'love.'*

AMO in Cali, Colombia

In August 2006 Nancy Hameloth and Bill and Cheri Grider traveled to Cali, Colombia to impart the vision of AMO to an evangelical church with an outreach to street children. The church's director of education initiated an AMO project with 20 street children in 2007. Many of the children were Indians, who lived over an hour from the church in the surrounding mountains. This meant they had to walk over two hours each day to attend the twelve-week, afterschool program. Nancy, Bill and



Cheri returned to Cali this past August to train teachers and to visit the children's project. They were astounded by the children's quality of work and enthusiastic reports. In fact, the children loved the program so much, they had already transferred their written work into these colorful folders so they could be ready for the next unit of curriculum. They prepared a special program for Nancy's team, and their parents were



there to give testimony of the effect of the program. As we continue to see AMO initiated in more settings, the testimonies are the same: 1) The children love hearing the classics read aloud, participating in the arts and being able to read the Bible for themselves. They take great joy in maintaining their notebooks. 2) The parents become very interested in the enrichment their children are receiving and visit the program. As they develop a relationship with the teachers, many receive Christ as their Savior and begin to attend church.

AMO in New England



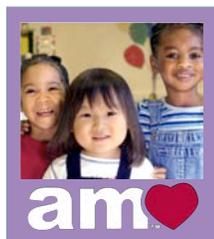
In October Jacqi Gough held her first AMO training program at an evangelical church in Gorham, Maine. Those who attended were home schooling mothers and grandmothers, who care for their grandchildren after school. The teaching was so well received that they extended the training an additional day. There were many testimonies from the women, who unanimously declared that AMO should be a part of every Christian family's home setting! Following are two testimonies:

"I want to express to you what the AMO classes in Gorham meant to me. The life of Christ was imparted to my spirit in such a way that it inspired and strengthened a desire to love more passionately, invest more deeply, and teach the Christian world view to children with more conviction. All of the incoherent head knowledge I had of the current pagan world view and its impact on our children has been defined and relegated to the proper place. Emerging in my heart is a clarity of God's thoughts and new hope for our children. Thank you AMO and Jacqi for being obedient to the call that dispels darkness, establishes the value of a child, and gives each one a divine expectation." (Judy Ellis)

"I want to thank you for your beautiful presentation of the Word of God and the purpose of AMO. Having walked with the Lord 44 years, I have never experienced the compassion of a heart for youth as I experienced with your presentation. It was a joy and enriched my life. I count it a privilege to have been in the training. AMO has much to offer our youth, and I look forward to seeing the program implemented with our church families. The moral standard and the teaching methods are impeccable." (Connie Morehead)

2008 First Quarter Events

- ◆ January 7-18: Spanish Immersion Course for Jacqi Gough in Guatemala City, Guatemala
- ◆ February 2-9: AMO Teacher Training with Food for the Hungry, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic (Jacqi Gough)
- ◆ February 10-15: Third AMO Teacher Training with an alliance of Christian ministries in Lima, Peru (Jacqi Gough)
- ◆ February 23-25: AMO Teacher Training in Uberlandia, Brazil (Daniella Cartaxo)



Ordering AMO Curriculum

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telephone our Orlando office at 407-275-0203.

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