



Impacting ITALY
through Church Leaders

ITA News update

Vol. V - Issue 2 - July 2010

Doing ministry during hard times! **A time for choices!**

Daily the Apostle Paul had to make choices as he endured imprisonments, countless beatings, and often near death. Five times he received at the hands of the Jews forty lashes less one. Three times he was beaten with rods and once stoned. Three times he was shipwrecked, many times in danger of robbers, Gentiles, false brothers, many times hungry and thirsty. This was his testimony. What kept him going? **He chose to live a Gospel driven life!**

IN THIS ISSUE:

- ITA faithfully trains men
- Aurora publishes three new books!
- Vacation with a purpose
- FOCUS 2010

OUR STUDENTS MAKE CHOICES

I NEED YOUR HELP!

Antonino is one of our students. He is studying our course in Expository Preaching and Bible Survey. In one of his last emails, where he sent the outline of the message he was going to preach on Sunday, he said: "I need your help as I have made the decision to preach the word expositionally and I realize that I have so much more to learn." Antonino has been pastoring a small church for quite some time and has made the decision to participate in as many classes as possible, and to be faithful to the Word of God. His church is very small and cannot support him, so he cleans some apartment buildings to support himself. We are blessed to have a serious student like him who has put ministry first. Aurora provides a scholarship for him as he continues to take our classes. Gianpaolo pastors a small church in Sardegna; he has made the choice to quit his job and receive a small pension so he can minister faithfully in his church and go to surrounding towns to do home Bible studies. Gianpaolo is studying faithfully in our Expository Preaching Program and relies on the scholarships Aurora provides to be able to come to our classes.



When Gianpaolo's wife received a small inheritance he tearfully and gratefully gave a donation to the Academy. Last week Giuliano asked if he could receive a scholarship to participate in our Biblical Counseling Program. Giuliano, after having finished the Expository Preaching Program, preaches regularly in his church in central Italy. When we answered affirmatively he wrote that he and his wife had to make some cuts in their expenses to be able to afford the trip to come to the class. **All our students have to make choices** as they have to use vacation from their secular jobs to come to study at the Academy. Many have to make hard financial decisions as they decide what will take priority.

We are so grateful for all these students as they continue to faithfully study God's Word.

FOCUS 2010 IS IN OCTOBER

Every year in October a few hundred men and their wives come to our annual conference. All of them have to take time from their ministry and work schedules to be able to come. One of our attendees told us that he and his wife decided not to buy coffee out and to put the money aside all year so that they can afford to come to our conference.

We are grateful for the speakers who take time from their very busy schedules to come and speak at our conference. For some **it requires making a**



choice between many invitations, so we are very grateful that Alistair Begg, Carey Hardy and William Standridge are willing to come and speak on the subject of "Solus Christus". The Apostle Paul daily made the choice of living only for Christ and for the spreading of the Gospel.

As a Mission we had to make a very hard choice because of the financial difficulty we find ourselves in. We had to cut one day from the conference and ask one of our speakers not to come. As we made our decision known to Rick Holland he was so gracious and assured us of his prayers for a ministry that he has come to love, and where he is so very appreciated.

WE WANT TO COME AND SERVE!

We were excited to receive this request from Lakeside Community Chapel in Clearwater Florida.

As we began the process of putting the short-term team together, we were so glad

that **this church had chosen** between many other opportunities to come to the Academy in Sicily and help do both evangelism and practical work. Seven brothers and sisters from Lakeside took time from their busy schedules to come in the month of April. Rob and Pam, a wonderful couple, said as we were ministering there that as a family they have made the decision to make vacations with a spiritual purpose.

Amanda wrote to us: "I saw that even across the ocean we all serve the same Lord – the same AMAZING Lord! **The Lord who chose me** to be His child is the same one who I am praying will bring many to know Him in Italy!" You can read her full letter on our web site <http://auroramission.org/service-opportunities/a-servants-heart>

What a privilege to serve alongside these faithful friends and reach many unsaved people.

THREE NEW BOOKS ARE BEING TRANSLATED

When Rob of Serenissima Ministries contacted us from their church in northern Italy telling us that they had decided to sponsor the translation and publishing of *Twelve Ordinary Men* by John MacArthur, **we were so blessed by their decision.**

Right now we are in the final stages of also publishing the commentary by John MacArthur of *2 Timothy* and the book by Alistair Begg *Preaching for God's Glory*.

Please pray for the completion of these books so we can give them as gifts at our FOCUS conference in October.

AURORA MAKES



HARD DECISIONS

We are living in difficult times.

Aurora Mission has been blessed to have one major donor fund most of the work that has been done in Italy through the years. Because of their generosity over the years and the difficulty of the market, they are not able to support the mission as they have done in past years.

The Aurora Mission has reacted to the shortage of money and has cut the staff at our home office and some of the salaries. The decision was made to shorten the FOCUS Conference and to cut one of the speakers.

Our desire is to operate the mission within the financial capabilities of the money the Lord provides. We would rather not have to cut the ministry in Italy more drastically.

We know that you have to make choices in the ministries you support financially and that you have a responsibility before God to be faithful in the way you use the funds he has entrusted to you. We would ask that you pray and see if God would direct you to give regularly to the Aurora Mission so that we can continue to train the leaders of the churches in Italy.

God is working in Italy!

Continue to pray!

We desire to make churches aware of the work in Italy and encourage more to pray for the ministry there. If you would like to have a representative of Aurora come and speak to your church or a group of interested believers please contact David Standridge at (941) 748-4100 or dstandridge@auroramission.org
