

REBUILDERS

In 1986, SCS sent its first outreach into Central America. It was with short term mission teams doing refugee work in El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Guatemala. Mike and Johanna Bresnan led them, and two years later they decided to move to Costa Rica in order to more effectively coordinate the work. It was at this time that they established a micro-enterprise loan program that still is training in Kingdom principles. Mike networked within the Christian community. Dennis came regularly to teach on the principles of the Kingdom and meet privately with pastors, business people, and civic leaders. It was at one of these meetings in San Jose, Costa Rica that Dennis met Ronald Diaz who is the SCS Director for our Central American office and the chief translator of SCS materials into Spanish. He shares:

The work of SCS in Central America was very challenging at first. We were so immersed in tradition, but some of us started to learn about the importance of the gospel being applied to the everyday affairs of life. Now, we have a seminar every

year where we invite all the different jurisdictions, especially politics, education, and business. We had the seminar first in Guatemala, then in Costa Rica, and then in Nicaragua. The Kingdom message is being preached today in circles where before it was rejected. We can see a change in the way pastors and churches see their responsibility for their communities and nation. The Business Leadership School is being translated to Spanish to train these business people for this task. We are so excited because the younger generations are already motivated and being trained to continue the work.

Senor Diaz has finished translating the second editions of both *Winning the Battle for the Minds of Men* and *Doing Business God's Way* (now at the printer). Previous translations of both books had been done in separate countries by men wanting to get the message to their countrymen. These translations have gone through committees to refine the translations to reach a broader Spanish-speaking audience. Currently Sr. Diaz is translating the entire *Business Leadership School* with hopes to be able to start it for Spanish speakers as early as 2006.

This work, providing a Central American office and its equipment, is supported by SCS. Let us know if you are interested in supporting and expanding this project.

SCS's work in Mexico has an even longer history, starting in 1978. It has been very successful modeling the message. Under the leadership of Josue Lopez, and now his son Jonatan, the original orphanage now shares its site with medical and dental clinics for the community, a school for the children, a church community, and encouragement for local small business and civic involvement. A special attribute is their ballet troupe that performs and is known throughout the Ciudad Juarez area. Josue is now spending part of each year at his childhood home near La Victoria where he is seeing the fruit of the message of the Kingdom of God in this poor rural area. He has seen it work in city and village, and at his 70th birthday celebration testified to the goodness of serving the Lord.

SCS in Latin America

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The SCS vision continues...

Around the world, SCS impacts thousands of believers by equipping their leadership through our schools, seminars, educational materials, and personal interaction. Since 1979 we have endeavored to serve those who are seeing God's Kingdom and seeking to express it in the whole of human life and culture.

SPIRIT TO SPIRIT

Sowing Seeds

*"Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap."
Galatians 6:7*

In this current edition of the "Rebuilder," Jan shares on the open doors which God has prepared for us into the Latin world. It is a classic example of the above quoted scripture in Galatians 6:7. Unfortunately, most people read the law of sowing and reaping in a negative sense, that is, they hear it in terms of having to deal with the negative consequences of acts of sin. While this is obviously true, the law of sowing and reaping was intended by God to be a source of blessing to us. His heart is that we should sow in obedience and reap increasing blessings as a result.

The beauty of the law of sowing and reaping is that it takes us into the joy of life. Sowing life-giving spiritual seeds reaps the validation and unveiling of God's Kingdom in our

lives. We have sown into Mexico and Central-South America for more than twenty-five years with multiple trips and conferences. It has been a joy and yet carried in it the usual sacrifices of time, travel, expenses, and separation from family. The reaping of these sacrifices has produced trusted relationships with key leaders and people, and a genuine receptivity to the Business and Worldview schools as well.

At this stage of life, many of us tend to re-evaluate where we have sown seed in our lives and what that seed has produced. Some seed appears often to be wasted; some is yet to fully appear out of the ground. Some of it is up and beginning to yield thirty, sixty, or even a hundred fold. Be encouraged as you assess your seeds. What was "wasted" makes good compost; what is yet to appear gives us hope; and what is alive and well yields joy and a sense of the privilege of serving others in their journey in God.

■ Dennis T. Peacocke

This winter Dennis and I had the opportunity to visit Wittenburg, Germany and see the door where Luther nailed his 95 Theses. Since then, we have seen the latest movie on Martin Luther's life. It was a blessing to have had both experiences so close. I am amazed by the massive upheaval that seems to accompany any correction of course in human history. How much easier it is to experience that constant downward slide provided by our sin nature. It is always there to accentuate the lowest common denominator.

Just as Luther could have chosen the comforts and position of his life, we too on a daily basis have the opportunity to choose those convenient things; it is just that that may not take us to our upward course in Christ Jesus. We may "hold our own," but we do not become conformed to His image.

But then, we must want "His" more than "ours." We speak of wanting better for our children, and to have that change should start with us. There is an opportunity now in the spirit to make significant change for the better in this world. Just as the opportunity to "hold our own" is constant, the opportunity to be changed into His image is a constant process. That is why we need to provide a context in our lives that supports vulnerability, correctability, and encouragement to grow.

■ Jan Peacocke



PRAYER & EVENTS

CALENDAR

Please pray for the SCS schools around the world, particularly for the new students God wants equipped through them.

MAY

SCS Regionals:
Boston Area, MA: 13-14
Cincinnati, OH: 20-21

JULY

SLT Summer Intensive:
New Zealand: 13-16
Newport, KY: 20-24

AUGUST

SLT Summer Intensive:
Switzerland: 2-7
Augusta, GA: 17-21

Business Leadership School:
Switzerland: 10-13

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South America has also been served through Dennis' teaching at a variety of meetings and conferences over the years in both Venezuela and Columbia. With the materials in an international Spanish, SCS will be able to more effectively serve the 262 million Spanish speakers who are in Europe, Africa, and Asia as well as the Western Hemisphere.

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PERSPECTIVES