

NEWSLETTER

Greetings dear friends!

In 2020 we entered not just a new year, but a new decade. So much happens in a decade, things that we could not even imagine. What did your life look like ten years ago and what hasn't happened since? For us at Focus Business School the 2010s have been an incredible ride. We went from helping a group of people in our church in Myanmar to start their own businesses, to having schools in four continents today.

The ten years that have passed established the foundation for what is to come. We are convinced that the coming ten years will mean a completely different level of fruit and an impact on individuals, places and groups. We are praying and dreaming of seeing tens of thousands of new businesses being started by our students and that the teaching will have a strong impact on people's spiritual lives and that poverty will be eradicated in more and more places.

At the end of February, we will be taking a group of Swedish business owners to Rwanda to visit our schools there. Rwanda is one of the countries where we have been up and running the longest and we have been able to see several great businesses flourish there.



In March, we are planning to go to Egypt to support the development of new schools in the country and in June we will be training businesspeople in Tanzania. The group that we are working with is the same as the people who have been travelling across Sweden to pray.



Participants at a previous training in Egypt

Something that the Lord has placed firmly on our hearts is to dedicate plenty of time in prayer to "birth" what is on His heart concerning the work in the upcoming ten years. It's vital that we see both His direction and His actions when it comes to our students. Stand with us in this!

The other day I received word of encouraging events in Kenya. Gilbert works for Star of Hope and joined our training in Migori, in Southern Kenya, about two years ago.

Amongst other things, Gilbert works with youth a juvenile correctional facility in Mombasa – of 600 inmates, 400 have committed themselves to Christ. Moreover, he also works in other correctional institutions, e.g. in Nairobi. Gilbert noticed that the guards were physically abusive toward the inmates, often beating them. When he asked why this was so, he was told that the main reason was the fact that the guards themselves were stressed out and frustrated about their financial situation. Gilbert then went to see the warden, asking if he could host a three-day seminar about teambuilding, stress management and personal finances – all based on the Focus Business School materials. The warden agreed and 45 guards took part in the training.

Since the training helped bring order to their personal finances, the guards have since stopped beating the inmates. These trainings are now a recurring feature and the goal is to have all prison staff in Nairobi take the course. We don't even think it's impossible for this to spread to all prisons in the entire country. Gilbert is also planning to run the entire FBS course at the juvenile correctional facility in Mombasa in order for these youth to go from a life of crime to a life of entrepreneurship instead.



Brother Gilbert uses the FBS material to change lives at a juvenile correctional facility in Kenya.

Please pray for:

- Blessings over the trip to Rwanda 24th Feb-3rd March.
- God's hand over our missionaries in Asia.
- God's hand over the expansion of FBS in South America, South Africa, Romania, Sri Lanka and Egypt.
- Blessings, peace and protection over all volunteers and supporters both in Sweden and abroad.
- God to give grace generously for the upcoming ten years.
- More businesses, more Jesus and less poverty through FBS!

Wishing you and your family a blessed 2020!

Marco Strömberg