

STANDING FIRM

Discipling believers and training biblical disciplers/counselors since 1974

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BIBLICAL COUNSELING FOUNDATION

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Opportunities In France

In Lyon, France last October, we taught students from ten countries, including Cote d'Ivoire, England, Finland, Ireland, Italy, Romania, Russia, Spain, Switzerland, and the United States. The two weeks of training were held at a former seminary that has been converted into a retreat center (pictured at left).

During the course, we saw the Lord bring about some wonderful developments – some of which we could never have planned on our own. For example, there is a new interest in developing German translations of BCF materials, and a request for us to conduct in-depth discipleship/counseling courses in Spain. In addition, work on the Russian translation of the **Self-Confrontation** manual will be accelerating.

Over the past five years, as we have conducted courses in France, it has become increasingly apparent that France is becoming the location for conducting international leaders' courses. What is interesting about France is its accessibility for individuals from other countries. Visas to the United States have been difficult to obtain for many students, and it has become even more difficult in the past year. We are finding that it is easier and less expensive for people to travel to Europe since it is more proximate to many of these countries.

We have been blessed with a core group of teachers, interpreters, and administrators in both Lyon and Paris. The level of their commitment is a true testimony to their worldwide

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BCF IN-PERSON

JAYMI KEERAN

God has greatly blessed the ministry of BCF with staff members who are dedicated to the sufficiency of God's Word and continuing discipleship/counseling. Many of you have talked on the phone with or received correspondence from one of us, but we thought it would be good to place a face with the name. We also hope you will join in thanks to the Lord for providing just the right people for the daily ministry necessities.



Jaymi Keeran, the youngest member of the BCF staff, began working with us part-time after school in the Spring of 2002. She ships out the orders and also works on the assembling of all the materials produced at the BCF office. Since all the materials except the **Self-Confrontation** manual are produced at the office, she has a very large task, especially when we are preparing for courses and seminars.

At her church in Indio, California, Jaymi has been involved in helping lead musical worship in her youth group, and has also traveled to Ecuador with her youth group to minister there.

Jaymi is currently in her senior year of high school, and will graduate in June of this year. After high school, Jaymi plans to continue her work with BCF, and is awaiting the Lord's direction regarding her future decisions.

Jaymi is the cousin of Stephanie (Stevie) Rembold, one of our other administrative staff members, and they enjoy sharing an office together. We enjoy and appreciate Jaymi's enthusiasm and servant spirit. She has become a precious part of our family. All of you who have attended courses or ordered materials have received the benefit of Jaymi's work in the BCF office.

vision for in-depth discipleship. Their sacrificial servanthood has impacted many for the Lord.

BCF has been privileged to conduct training courses now on every continent, with the exception of Antarctica. BCF courses have been held in Brazil, France, Guatemala, Hong Kong, India, Jordan, Kenya, Mali, Mexico, Nigeria, the Philippines, Russia, Singapore, South Africa, and the United States. We have had the wonderful privilege of teaching people who have come from over 75 additional countries to attend these courses.

It is evident that France will have a major part in the training of many. Please keep the students in prayer as they consider how the Lord would have them continue training in their own countries. Pray also for the French core team as they prepare to host the course during the last week of October and the first week of November of this year.

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Testimony

We at BCF are always delighted to hear of the Lord's tremendous work in the lives of those who have been affected, in some way, by the ministry He has given to us. Many who are involved with teaching, or supporting BCF through financial giving or prayer are also blessed to hear such testimonies. If you have a testimony of how the Lord has used the ministry of BCF in your life, you can write or email us.

The following testimony was given to us by a student who attended the course in France.

Knowing that there are areas in my life as [a] wife which need working on, I was surprised (and not pleased) when the Holy Spirit pointed out clearly my sin of rebellion. I've always been rebellious since an early age, but as a Christian since my childhood and thinking it was just that I was different from my sisters, other Christian friends, other missionary wives. I guess I didn't think it was sin. But in I Samuel 15:23 it's clearly stated and it hit me!

Then came the struggle to accept the fact that it is sin, I need to confess it, and take it off! When looking through passages in Ephesians and Colossians, I realized that rebelliousness is connected with pride, selfishness and lack of submission! Then came the moment to see what I need to put on in its place – humility, gentleness, submission – do I want to be like that? "It's not me," says I, but I realize that if I want to be like Jesus, then that's what I've got to put on – not easy!

So I know I have some work to do in that area, and that I will need reminding by the Word, help from God's Spirit and an act of the will! Also, I need to ask forgiveness to my coworkers, which is very difficult but I know with God's help, I can. So even though I thought I'd be learning how to counsel others, I am so glad that I've learned/am learning how to deal with my own "logs", so that I can take dust out of other's eyes.

In Loving Memory

Jack Bennett

Our dear brother and fellow BCF board member, Jack Bennett, went to be with the Lord on New Years Day, 2003. Jack was involved in the BCF ministry since the late 1970s, ministering as a biblical counselor and instructor for BCF nationally and for his church locally. He was very active in serving others to the end of his time on this earth. We praise the Lord for his life, his faithful labor of love, and his joyful testimony of God's grace.

Many will remember his gentle demeanor and servant heart. Although we will miss our fellowship with him, we rejoice in the fact that Jack and his wife, Mary, are now enjoying their presence with the Lord in Glory. Pray for the Lord's comfort and ongoing work in the lives of Jack's family.

Partnering in Prayer

Please put this section in a place where you and your family will be reminded to join with us at BCF in prayer. Please pray for:

- Upcoming BCF training courses in the U.S. and overseas
- Praise the Lord for those who are working on the various translations of the *Self-Confrontation* manual and other materials. Pray for their health and stamina as they work on these large tasks.
- Radio broadcasts of the Self-Confrontation course to believers who are hungry for in-depth discipleship. Pray that many will be edified and will in-turn disciple others.

If you would like to know how you can pray in detail for the ministry of BCF, you can visit our website and download our Praise & Prayer Bulletin. Just click on "Mailings" at the top of the webpage.

If you are receiving duplicate mailings, or if your address has changed, we would greatly appreciate your notifying us so that we can make appropriate changes.

Donating to the ministry

If you are led to make a donation for the continuing ministry of the Biblical Counseling Foundation, you can send a check to the address below or donate online, using your credit card. Just click on "Contact Us" in the top menu, and then click on "Donations."

BCF is a nonprofit organization, and your donation is tax deductible. We appreciate your continued partnership with us through prayer and financial support as the Lord provides.

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