



Biblical Foundations For Freedom

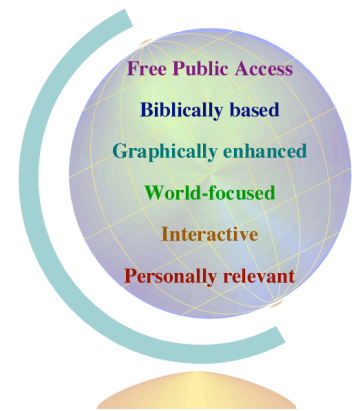
Releasing God's Life-changing Truth To A New Generation

Thursday, January 31, 2008

Dear Supporters of Biblical Foundations for Freedom,

God has raise up Biblical Foundations for Freedom to extend His truth into the lives of God's people around the world. We are one of many instruments aiding His people to faithfully live out and proclaim God's Word. This is in harmony with God's overall purposes well [described in Isaiah 11:9](#), 'For the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD As the waters cover the sea.' Please note we are not just making the Word of God available, but through our materials and training are bringing God's people to be full of the knowledge of God ([See Ephesians 3:14-21](#)). BFF is strategically being used of the Lord in these latter days. Let me note a few of these ways.

- A comprehensive understanding of discipleship training for each part of a person's life and church's ministry.
- Targeted training materials that touch people in their need so that they can see the power of God transform their lives.
- World access through the free materials on the web.
- Strategic contact with Christian leaders from needy areas around the globe.
- An open sharing policy that frees our training material to penetrate areas that cannot afford Biblically-centered training materials.
- A combination of charts, diagrams and readability enable many more to easily comprehend these many Bible helps and training materials.



As we look back on our original goals from seven years ago when God first moved me to start BFF, God has faithfully supplied the training materials, prayer partners, wisdom, financial support, technological know-how, administration skills and contacts with pastors and teachers from around the world to actually realize all of these goals and much more. A recent e-note to us summarizes it well.

As a partaker in a ministry that is faith-based and exists on faith, it is with relief that a resource is available that is not expensive in monetary value. I don't have much other than prayerful thanks that God has caused me to find your site in a time when I needed to drink from a stream that had cool water as I was dry.

Thank you for your generosity - m.

Praise God for His great faithfulness this last year for Bff and its ministries! Notice how free, reviving and personal God's Word had become for one of His workers. This is happening around the world. I still remember a Malawi bishop's broad smile as he repeatedly stated and shook my hands (and asking me to return), "We are so thankful." I share these thanks because God though us as a team has made this deep impact around the world.

Significant operational changes at BFF

We can see God's good hand leading us in our financial operations this last year. Last summer BFF held its first meeting to incorporate as of Nov 1, 2007 in Pennsylvania. After returning from Asia and Africa, I spent about 3 weeks of tedious work with advice by others to submit our application for the 501(c)(3). This enables us to provide tax-deductible receipts for donations and cooperation with other foundations.

Interestingly, we see God's timing in all of this. At the end of 2007 I received a letter from PLF through whom we have been able to work through these past years providing tax-deductible receipts. They said that the government is now changing their requirements for pass-through donations. If they would continue to do it, they would ask for

an increased percentage and need to actually have a say on BFF's hiring, budget and plans. As much as we appreciate PLF's help, this was not what they or we were thinking. I praise God for the extra motivation, concentration and help to finally get through this tedious process. The timing was awesome.

As a result, Biblical Foundations for Freedom, Inc. can now offer tax-deductible receipts. By February, we will end our formal relationship with Pittsburgh Leadership Foundation. We welcome you to send your support to us through various means: check (to BFF), credit card/paypal through our website (donation button), direct mailing of check (from online bank account) or ACH from your bank account to BFF's.¹ If you give through your business, please notify them right away. We will supply you with an email upon each donation as well as a summary at the end of the year. If you would like a mailed receipt, please let us know.

We are thankful for PLF's willingness to help us through these years, glad for His timely administrative changes and for your faithful giving.

A Glimpse of things

All our teachings could be summarized by the word Gospel, literally meaning 'Good News'. Good news brings encouragement and hope to those who need God's special grace. This is what Jesus was sent for and the reason we now live today.

It is so encouraging to be on the frontline of God's ever-growing kingdom. On the one hand, I am so humbled. My heart was crushed when discovering how desperately the largely Christian nation of Malawi lacked God's teaching. I spent almost one week training Bible teachers who worked in Malawi schools and churches. They had so little knowledge of God's Word. I asked them, "Who was teaching God's Word through their land?" They confidently stated that they were one of the two sources! The other group I know does not work well with churches. At least this group was willing to share what they had.

I respect churches in North America who focus on evangelism or church planting, but I more than ever appreciate the effort to train God's people. There is a famine of God's Word. Many of them only know how to preach an evangelistic message. They have no concept on how to teach or train. We will do well if we also support efforts that build up these floundering churches. These are God's sheep that need care.

I keep seeking the Lord on how BFF can further help them. Shall I make a call for used laptops and ipods so we can put our audio recordings on them, one for each village? Shall we help start a Christian magazine as I was asked? Should I employ one or more national staff to teach (US\$30-50/month)? Shall I call for missionaries to go under BFF? Shall I send or lead short term training teams? Shall I seek national and international volunteers? I am still waiting on the Lord. Please pray with us the burdens God puts on your own hearts.

Each of these solutions call us to further develop our materials, especially in audio and video sector. They demand that our materials must focus more on complete training. They ask that we do things that we have never done before, to go where we have not gone. They challenge our faith.

BFF is rooted in faith and like our salvation must move on in faith. Each of these things, if God leads, will need His miraculous hand to help implement them. I wonder if God will bring in others who will work with me in these projects to ready material to be used in the instruction of others. Offers to start denominations or training schools in these countries sound like good solutions, but I must go carefully. Joshua's misstep in fighting Ai without first consulting the Lord brought much pain. The solution to 'use faith' to send just some of the army to fight Ai sounds so noble, but it was not God's way. We must fight God's way and that is to constantly be dependent upon Him for direction, strength, wisdom and provision.

¹ Please contact me for bank information for direct deposits.

A fantastic year

This year has been fantastic in every way.

On mission journeys

We have been so thankful to the Lord for His work this year. One area in which I was stretched this year was to teach on marriage cross-culturally. For years, I saw the need but dared not go forward until the Lord so moved me. This year He did. He showed me how I could teach about marriage to His people in different lands who hold to different customs.

We held two marriage conferences in India this past year. Two couples in India, to show the great need there, traveled two full days to get to the seminar. I asked the national BFF volunteer coordinator there to see whether he could find places for the wives. He told me of the difficulties and said he would look into it. I heard nothing back, and I assumed it would not work out. Having no extra accommodation for women in these small villages and towns, made it quite impossible. I understood. I was thoroughly delighted to find that Pastor Stephen, our Indian regional coordinator, actually figured ways many wives could attend. I asked him how he found housing. Although the housing was not at all ideal, they found a bare cement floor here or there to sleep on.

Our meeting numbers swelled closer to 300. Although we had not budgeted all these people (prepared for 200), we were glad to see the husbands together with their wives. So many of them remarked how they had been greatly helped by the messages. Leaders from these different places again and again told me that no one has taught on such things before. This particular sister in the picture spoke with me numerous times of coming back with my wife, the Lord having given her a burden for Christian families but little resources.



Giving free materials

We delight to give free CDs away to those working full-time in the ministry to those in needy nations including some in closed countries. We provide the seed, and God causes the growth. Each person represents one or more ministries. I will let you listen to these pastors and teachers speak for themselves.

Philippines

I happened to browse your website while searching for discipleship materials applicable to our church. I find your website interesting and your discipleship materials are very enriching. I am a pastor in a village here in the Philippines. May I request for the free CDs you are offering. I believe it will help me grow my leadership of His church and most specially in developing people become fully devoted followers of Christ.

Zimbabwe

Grace and peace be unto you from God the Father and the son our Lord Jesus Christ. On behalf of our ministry, I kindly request for some teaching materials from your organization. We're a young, and one of the fast growing church here in Zimbabwe. The ministry started operating in the year 2002. We look forward to start work in Bulawayo and Harare the largest cities in the country and have already planted some satellite churches in rural areas. We meet at schools for our services.

We as a Church are persuaded by the spirit of God to fulfill 'The Great Commission' (Mk 16:15-16). Our main thrust is to mobilise the people in those rural areas, evangelise and teach them the word of God.

I know you have a heart for Zimbabwe. Supporting this work you are planting in a good soil and you're touching the heart bit of God. You would have fulfilled The Great Commission and the mighty God is going to bless you in Jesus name, amen.

Ethiopia

I praise the Lord about your ministry.

By God's grace I brought thousands by one to one and Jesus film evangelism. Very recently, I have got ministry license to reach prostitutes, street people and other most poor people of my country. I am now praying to God for the necessary resources. I like your trailing materials to use to train church members if I get your permission first. It Is God's time to bless Ethiopia spiritually, though it is still among the poorest nation in the world economically.

Singapore

I came across this website and would like to obtain and use your Discipleship CD for my training and developing programme in the third world and developing countries.

I have been serving as a Regional Pastor and Missions Coordinator with a local for 18 years. Currently I am an itinerary Evangelist and Trainer to the third world and developing countries besides preaching and teaching in the local churches. Your help is appreciated.

Does not Jesus say that a seed carefully sown will bring forth much fruit?

The BFF website and distribution of BFF materials

Our work goes beyond the production of quality training materials. We need to get it to the people through instruction but also through the media. There are a great many books, but they are locked up in bookstores. We produce material so that it can be found, read and maximized. The web is a most awesome way to make this happen.

I travel in some of the poorest countries of the world and find that though God's workers are so desperate for spiritual food that they spend their few rupees or kwachas to go to an internet shop and read the BFF training materials on the web. Our material is free to change, translate and copy. This is a great blessing to those in far off lands who have no way to ever get to a Bible school or even buy a Christian book. Soon China will pass America as having the greatest number of web readers. Although we need to get more materials into Chinese, the Chinese materials on family and devotions are used a lot.

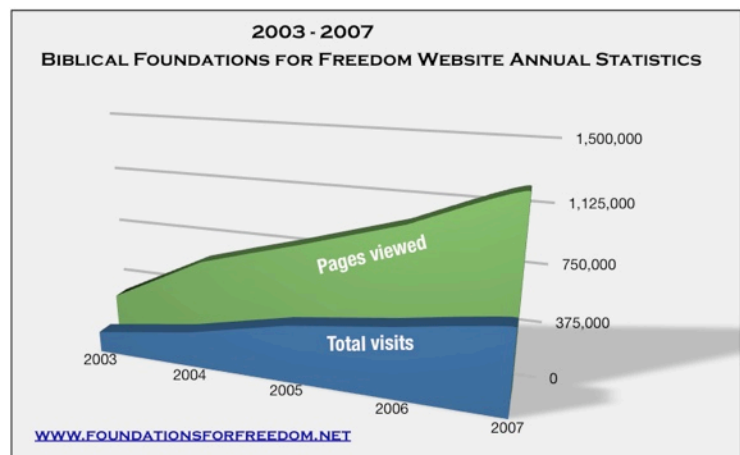
One of BFF's distinctives is our willingness for people to print the materials. Allowing people to read the material online is one matter, but to edit and be able to print it out has become a great blessing to many especially to those overseas where shipping of our manuals makes it prohibitive. In any case, we want them to

have the best materials and that always means being able to freely adapt materials as best suits their own needs.

Notice how the chart shows how more than 1 million BFF web pages were viewed in 2007. This does not include the many materials being used in print and off the Cds. God's Word is getting through and changing people! Again a few email messages.

◆ *I have been studying on line, it has changed my life. God Bless you.*

◆ *Thank you for your wonderful ministry. I am a Christian Businessman with 45 employees. I recently came across your web site looking for Godly ways to handle my anxiety and worry. Your study has changed my life through God's amazing grace. I normally just quickly read things and move on never soaking in what God wants me to learn, but through your illustrations and teaching style, God has revealed his truth to me. I wanted to honor your hard work and dedication by ordering this series. Please continue this ministry and may God richly bless you and your family.*



BFF 2007 Financial report

With seven years of active ministry, we have come to see more clearly how God wants to use BFF. We give praise to Him for starting and continuing this ministry. Our Lord has not only watched over us by providing wisdom, development of materials and distribution of materials but also financially. We have found the following verse so true in our lives.

“I WILL INSTRUCT YOU AND TEACH YOU IN THE WAY WHICH YOU SHOULD GO;
I WILL COUNSEL YOU WITH MY EYE UPON YOU” (PSALMS 32:8).

I can again report another very special year at Biblical Foundations for Freedom. Although we have not defined ourselves to be a faith ministry, it has started in faith and continues only because we trust that God will provide for our needs (and that includes our family). As we do what God wants, He provides for our needs. Perhaps it will be like this for a number of years. We do see changes, though.

The most significant is that two churches have adopted us into their mission support. A little bit of steady income is coming in. Although we do have some who give personally, we never know when or how much they will give. We are praying that more churches, businesses and individuals think about investing in this work. We are preparing ourselves to equip the thousands of training schools with a set of training materials. We are starting this work with a Cd, now a DVD, of free materials, but we want to do a bit more. We need your resources joined with ours to do this.

We want to thank the Lord for His great provisions for the oversea mission trips. From the beginning we have found that they always greatly try our faith. This time the attendance of the two Indian seminars had 50% more than anticipated (300 instead of 200). This increased our spending. One of our principles is not to go into debt. I have closely guarded spending over what had come in because of this. This year we spent more than we had received for the STM by several thousand. But praise God we actually had some in the BFF account to cover it unlike previous years. We were so glad to give it as we believe that those marriages were helped.

I still cannot take a regular salary. This is something that we have got used to. We are thankful that we could get a bit more than previous years but realize that we are only near 30% of a minimum salary. Having said this, we look back at this past year, the past year, the previous years and give praise to our Father who knows best how to care for us. With the apostle we cheer, “But I have received everything in full, and have an abundance; I am amply supplied, having received from Epaphroditus what you have sent, a fragrant aroma, an acceptable sacrifice, well-pleasing to God. And my God shall supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 4:18, 19, NASB.

In Christ's Majestic Service,

Paul



Biblical Foundations for Freedom, Director

Rev. Paul J. Bucknell

www. foundationsforfreedom.net

Email: pb@foundationsforfreedom.net

Skype: paulbff

Phone: (412) 761-3508

3276 Bainton St.

Pittsburgh, PA 15212

USA