

MUIZENBERG SBS JANUARY 2012 NEWSLETTER

Who are we?

Muizenberg School of Biblical Studies 2011/2012 is a class of 20 students and 10 staff. We are 12 nations, of all different cultures and walks in life, joined together for nine months to study God's word.

What is SBS?

The SBS is a nine-month course focusing on all 66 books of the Bible. We use the inductive approach to study, which teaches the students to observe what the text says, to interpret the text through the eyes of the original reader, and how to apply the timeless truths to their own lives. In effect, allowing the living Word of God speak for itself.

Prayer Needs

Rest
Relationships
Finances
Future
Family

Open hearts and minds to God's revelational, and life changing Word and Truth



Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

Genesis 12:1-3

Weekly Bible Study in Masiphumelele

A couple months ago, a few of our students and staff began doing weekly ministry and outreach in the local Cape Town township Masiphumelele. Although each week looked different, they showed up every Monday evening expecting God to direct them. Two Mondays ago, an awesome opportunity presented itself: a weekly Bible overview class, run and taught by our very own SBS students, sharing what they have learned with the Community Transformation DTS outreach team from Kona. What this Bible study will be giving is a basic overview of the whole Bible, so that they will better be able to look at the individual books in their own context. It is so encouraging and exciting to see these SBS students pour out what God has given them in these last months!

Second Quarter Lineup



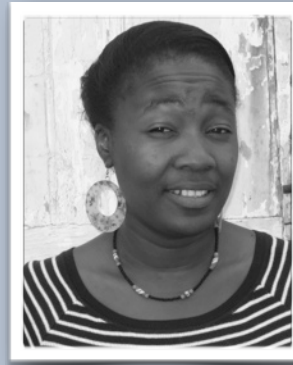
One of the foundational themes of the school is that of "blessed to be a blessing". In the past months, while covering 27 books of the Bible, we have really been blessed with the knowledge and the perspective the school brings of the Bible. Over the course of the last four months we have been working with the Kona Discipleship Training School (DTS) Community Transformations Outreach team that are living full time in the township of Masiphumelele, working alongside the long term community transformation team. This team is focussing on evangelism and discipleship in the community of Masiphumelele.

As a weekly outreach, we have been bringing groups of SBS students and staff teaching a broad overview of the Bible, to the Kona DTS in Masiphumelele. We focus on the process of the Bible leading up to the cross, where we enable them to see the scripture in the big context of the Bible and how it fits in with the History of the Church.

I can honestly say that these weekly excursions, are a welcome change of pace and highlight of the week where we get to share the knowledge that we have gained, simply answer questions or give a perspective on scripture. It is really fulfilling to be able to bless people who are already blessing and giving of themselves at this time for the furthering of the Kingdom. We so often get caught up in the details of scripture that

we miss the point of the passage entirely. It is beautiful to see that as we are learning these truths, that we get to bring them to other people and really get them excited about scripture and the message that it conveys.

- Jonathan, student from South Africa



"It's really a great privilege to serve Jesus in this capacity, which is one of my dreams come true, that the truth be taught in His Word. Not only that, but living it out. So far in the past four months God has been faithful, loving and gracious in revealing Himself in different and surprising ways to both

staff and students. He is also bringing transformation of life and growth spiritually. His heart is that everyone be a disciple and fulfill his/her calling in this life by knowing Him and making Him known. God has recently been reminding and challenging us to live like Jesus, a life with a difference and hope giving to the dying, hurting and chaotic world we live in today. I'm glad to be part of this mission and will love to do that for the rest of my life."

- Grace, staff from Nigeria



"The study is certainly worth it. It is amazing how much we can learn in such a short time about this book. My biggest eye-opener is that we also look at this book through the eyes of the first readers. For example in Genesis the first readers are the people of Israel who were coming from being slaves in Egypt and were lead by Moses into the desert. As we look at what happened to them and compare to the life of Abraham, we can see many things in these stories in a totally different perspective."

-Arnoud, student from the Netherlands