

INFORMAZIONE

informazione – formazione – azione

67

november 2023



WORK IN PROGRESS!

Seeing a work in progress sign is often linked to negative feelings, especially when behind the wheel: frustration, anxiety, anger, disappointment. But the feelings might change radically if the sign were in the courtyard of our apartment building, where work has begun on the addition of a much-needed lift, or at the entrance to the building site on our property, for the start of construction of the new house we have dreamed of for so long. In those circumstances we would probably feel excitement, trepidation, hope and joy. The perspective changes everything!

Jesus never used a work in progress sign, but to his disciples he announced the biggest, most challenging and exciting building project in history: “I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not be able to overcome it.” (Mt 16:18)

The church, the assembly, the selection, the community of Jesus, is what he is building. It is his personal project! He himself is in the business of calling individuals to himself, and growing them in the experiential

knowledge of his grace and truth. This project began two thousand years ago, and is still going on today! For Jesus tells us that his church has a triumphant destiny. If the gates of hell cannot overcome it, nothing can. Death cannot, demons cannot, the devil cannot. This is evident from the ministry of Jesus himself, but it is also clear from the account of the church in Acts: no individual, no government, no storm could stop the progress of the church. And after two thousand years, we have even more evidence to support this: the church is still growing globally today!

What we often lack is the right perspective. We see our reality as a local church, the situation of the gospel in Italy, the political and spiritual issues on a global level, and we feel like when we see the sign while driving: frustrated and disappointed. At IBEI we also encounter these feelings, when sometimes so much effort goes up in smoke, when a set goal seems like a mirage in the desert. In short, it is not always exciting to spend one's life of service in a permanently open building site!

But Jesus' words help us to see things

differently. Yes, because the Master Builder knows what he is doing: it is he himself who works, who supervises, who equips his church. He is the guarantee that although the process appears slow, laboured and sometimes fruitless, it is destined for success! One day the building site will be closed, and we will see His masterpiece: the new Jerusalem, ready as a bride adorned for her bridegroom (Rev 21:2). In the meantime, we, like good bricklayers, can actively contribute to the work, trusting his instructions, his guidance, his goodness, committing ourselves with toil and sweat, and first and foremost worshipping him for his salvation and care for us.

What kind of contribution are you making to the building up of Christ's church? With what kind of attitude? Look to the Lord, to his finished work, adore him and thank him. Find the right perspective, and go forth, steadfast, generous, knowing that your - our labour is not in vain in the Lord! (I Co 15:58)

Updates

The new Extension School in ROME has started, with five churches represented among students and auditors. There is still the possibility of further enrolments!

The Fossano Extension School concluded with the participation of three students of the Online Asynchronous School who completed the Certificate course (PHOTO)

“I received so much training not only from the courses and topics but also, and above all, from the professors. Their attachment to God and their love for the Word touched me deeply.” – **Rachele Trivieri** - Extension School

“Thanks to the study of different disciplines, I received many tools to better understand the Word of God and

many different aspects of His person.” – **Marco Marasi** - Extension School

“I learnt that it is not a matter of knowing a text, but of knowing a person who lives in the pages of that text... the Living God.” – **Marianna Rinaldi** - Online Asynchronous School

“The goals I set myself were fully achieved.” – **Antonio Esposito** - Online Asynchronous School

Teaching activities continue in the Online Asynchronous School in Italian and Albanian, and in the Extension Schools in Milan - Nova Milanese and Shkodra (Albania).

After a brief stint at Casale, the Toni family has returned to Scotland. We regret this quick collaboration, and wish the Toni family many blessings in their next phase of life.



AESI continues its activities for alumni of IBEI with the objectives of **Continuing Education**, through seminars, conferences, and special offers to take further courses at IBEI; **Networking**, connecting and sharing alumni resources for alumni; **Impact**, creating opportunities to promote the work of IBEI, to support it in various ways, and to give ideas and suggestions for improving the education tasks. To find out more and enroll www.aesi.it



ASSOCIAZIONE EX STUDENTI IBEI

Next Seminar

Sunday February 18th, 2024

Identity and sexuality: the biblical vision in an anthropocentric society



After careful revision of the curriculum, here is the new programme for the IBEI Certificate in Theology and Diploma (Bachelor) in Theology. All learning activities are 3 credits except where indicated.

Certificate of Theology



Bible Survey	Exegesis	Church Ministry	Faith and Society
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Old Testament Survey 1 • Old Testament Survey 2 • Old Testament Survey 3 • New Testament Survey 1 • New Testament Survey 2 • New Testament Survey 3 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inductive Bible Study • Hermeneutics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pastoral Care 1 • Homiletics 1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ethics • Evangelism • Church History 1 • Apologetics
	Theology	Projects	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theology • Soteriology • Ecclesiology 1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry Project • Spiritual Disciplines • Personal Growth Path 	

Enrolment for individual courses • It is possible to register for individual courses at the Residential or of the start of the course! For the calendar of teaching activities: www.ibei.it/calendario

LUX BIBLICA N° 68 Identity and sexuality: the biblical vision in an anthropocentric society

Gender ideology, LGBTQ+ rights, sexual identity: these are all topics at the heart of our society. But the issues are not only social, for us believers they are clearly theological and spiritual. How then do we approach all this? Do we believers have an archaic interpretation that needs updating? Do traditional social conventions unconsciously and crucially impact our view of man? Or does the biblical message transcend time and space and is actually relevant for us today? But even if so, how to live in a society that does not believe in the authority of the Bible? How to interact with people who embrace gender ideology, or live it themselves? How to love and

welcome them without loving the ideology?



To answer these questions, we need to go deeper: we need to understand what underlies this ideology, how it differs from biblical anthropology, how it manifests itself in our nation, how to defend the scriptural vision, and how to apply it pastorally in our churches. The articles in this issue of Lux Biblica address these issues carefully and competently.

Subscribe to Lux Biblica for the two-year period 2024-2025 and receive a free old issue of your choice from our catalogue www.ibeit.it/lux-biblica plus the possibility to purchase further back copies or IBEI monographs at a 20% discount.

To subscribe to Lux Biblica [CLICK HERE!](#)

Summer at IBEI?

It is possible to use our campus during the summer period (15 June - 30 August) for church retreats, camps and study trips. For further information and reservations: amministrazione@ibeit.it.

Diploma of Theology

Exegesis	Faith and society	Theology	Church Ministry
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Linguistic Analysis Exegesis [4 cr] Greek 1 [2 cr] Hebrew 1 [2 cr] Deuteronomy Romans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Church History 2 Church History 3 Philosophy Catholicism [2 cr] Mission World Religions Sociology [2 cr] 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Doctrine of God Christology Pneumatology and Occultism [4 cr] Eschatology Biblical Anthropology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pedagogy 2 [2 cr] Child Ministry [2 cr] Youth Ministry [2 cr] Ecclesiology 2 Pastoral Care 2 [4 cr] Homiletics 2
Specialization addresses		Projects	
Church Ministry <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry Projects [11 cr] Internship [6 cr] 	Biblical Languages <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greek 2 [10 cr] Hebrew 2 [7 cr] 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry Projects [13 cr] Personal Growth Path [4 cr] Thesis [8 cr] 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seminars [1 cr] Internship [6 cr] Variable subject



Online Synchronous School. Simply fill in the form www.ibeit.it/res-tel-singola-aa-23-24 within two weeks

Residential and Online Full-time School students introduce themselves with three words that explain why they enrolled at IBEI



MARCO PETRUCCI

First Year

Evangelical Christian Church - Bietigheim-Bissingen (Germany)

“ **Study, Experience, Connection** ”

NAOMI ROVEGNO

Third Year

ADI Church - Tortona (AL)

“ **Evangelism, Knowledge, Transformation** ”



EMANUELE CANZERI

First Year

Apostolic Church - Ribera (AG)

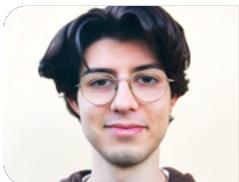
“ **(To be) Challenged, Encouraged, Enabled** ”

PAOLO ROSSI

First Year

Independent church - Porto Sant'Elpidio (FM)

“ **Knowledge, Apologetics, Love** ”



PAOLO CRAITA

First Year - Online Full-time School

UCBC Church - Casalecchio (BO)

“ **Character, Depth, Challenge** ”

ALESSIA AMARIE

Second Year

Missionary Church - Varfu Campului (Romania)

“ **Refining, Broadening, Listening** ”



GABRIELE TROGU

Second Year - Online Full-time School

Brethren Assembly - Alghero (SS)

“ **Knowledge, Training, Calling** ”

PATRIZIO ZUCCHETTO

Third Year - Online Full-time School

Brethren Assembly - Serino (AV)

“ **Knowledge, Leadership, Mission** ”



NATAN NAPOLITANO

First Year

Evangelical Christian Church - Ruchheim (Germany)

“ **Grow, Serve, Know** ”

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Via del Casale Corvino, 50 - 00132 Roma

Tel. 06 20762293 - 06 20765413

e-mail: segreteria@ibei.it