

Foundation in Christ Ministries 2011 Annual Report

“For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ.”—1 Corinthians 3:11

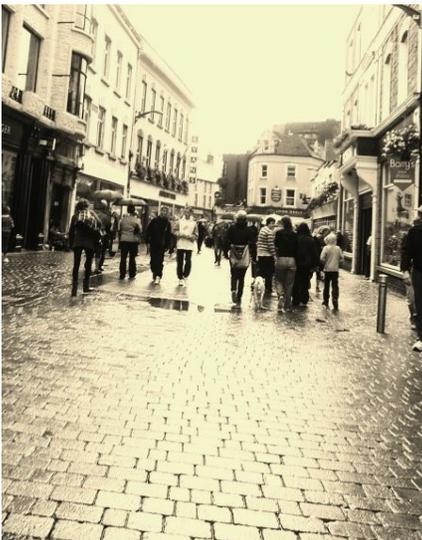


“God ... will not forget your work and the love you have shown Him as you have helped His people and continue to help them.” —Hebrews 6:10 NIV

It is a privilege to bring you this year's report of the many opportunities to share the Good News through Foundation in Christ Ministries, Ltd. Thank you for your continued prayerful support to this work.

Street Evangelisation

“Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.”
—1 Peter 3:15 NIV



On August 27th we launched a ministry in a new area. One of our workers, Tommy O'Loughlin, wanted to start an outreach in the economically challenged area he grew up in, 'Bothar Mor' (Big Road). It has experienced a high level of unemployment, even during times of economic prosperity. There are significant problems with drugs,

alcohol, violence, theft and broken families. Some of the students we serve come from Bothar Mor. The residents of this area are often overlooked and undervalued so this is great opportunity to reach into this neighborhood.

Ten of our outreach evangelisation team, consisting of local volunteers and some of our workers, went door to door to talk with people about the love of God and simply listen to their needs. They also invited them to an evening outreach at An Tobar Nua the next week.

One lady spoke for over an hour with two of the team, openly sharing about her difficulties and hurts in her life. One of the things we've experienced is when someone is listened to, they will in turn listen to what we have to share. The team then had an opportunity to share with her about the new life that Jesus offers and were able to pray with her for God's blessing and healing in her life. Our plan is visit each home in the area over the next ten weeks.

Existing Ministries

“I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ”
—Romans 1:16 NKJV

School Retreats

Our retreat work continues to be one of our most exciting avenues for reaching secondary school students. This year shows excellent potential for expansion as another local group that facilitated retreats closed down due to funding issues. One of their workers has joined our staff creating wonderful opportunities to extend into the schools that we have not been serving. Over the last year we conducted 27 retreats for four different schools. Here are some comments from the students this year:

“I really enjoyed the day. The people were all so interesting and we discussed such deep touching subjects. I felt really close to God during the day, especially when I received the blessing. I'd like to open myself up to God more from now on. Thank you all for sharing your stories with us and being so honest.”

“I thought that it was honestly a really good day. I especially liked to hear the opinions of the people who were talking to us. They really made you think without forcing anything on us, and I'm really glad I got to partake today. Thanks.”

“I liked the fact that everything we discussed was very relevant. I found it very welcoming. My parents raised me up to be a Christian but recently I've lost my way a bit. Today helped me to communicate with God more and feel his presence.”

Students attend the retreats voluntarily with peers from their Religious Education classes. The day begins with a testimony from one of our staff, sharing about their life before and after coming to Christ. Often the students say that these testimonies have the biggest impact of the day; showing how faith in the face of real-life challenges can change lives.



Student Discussion DVD's

We are thrilled to have permission from three schools to share in their Religious Education classes. There are three resources that we use to accomplish this; *Quest*, *Plugged in Youth Café* and *Romance without Regret*. These are humorous and thought provoking DVD's that explain Biblical truth in a style that appeals to teenagers. After each clip we have lively discussion about the implication of what was shared. Over the last year we had the privilege of working with seven classes from three schools.



Emmaus Scripture School

Emmaus Scripture School began its fifth full year of in-depth Scripture study with students from a range of faith traditions and nationalities. The school year ended with an enrollment of twenty different students. We were able to coordinate with the Galway University Christian Union to bring in a whole new group of excited Bible students.

"My own personal Bible study times have been revolutionized through the methods taught in the Hermeneutics class at ESS." ESS Student

"The course on Romans has enabled me to approach Paul's work with much deeper understanding. I am no longer so intimidated that I feel I'm in over my head when reading it." ESS Student

Relationship Evangelisation in the Café

Relationship evangelism is about offering a welcome, a smile, or even a sandwich, and praying into those acts that Jesus would make Himself known. An Tobar Nua Café creates the perfect environment for this. As relationships develop, we have opportunities to make Christ known through words. Megan Gordan, our kitchen manager shares the effect of long-term involvement with one of those who frequents the cafe:

"Recently a young man named Peter, who I have built a friendship with over the years, phoned me to tell me how funny Jesus is. Peter is someone whom I have spoken to about Jesus countless times. I asked Him why he thought Jesus was funny. He said to me that he had been talking to Jesus and said to Him I want to know You and will You come into my life? A few days after praying this, he met a monk who again shared with him about Jesus and life and faith. He said that this monk was very interesting and answered many questions he had had. Later Peter found himself in a library and to his amusement the first book he picked up was a book entitled Jesus, Peter & the family of God."

Christian Counseling Ministry

We offer professional, confidential and non-judgemental counseling, which combines sound psychological training with a Christian ethos. Our goal is to help the client discover solutions and emotional healing, obtaining a greater well-being in every area of their lives. Here's a comment from one of our counselors Tommy O' Loughlin:

"This year I said goodbye to two long term clients. I have had the privilege to share in their journey and watch God move and bring healing and restoration to their lives. This journey does not end when they leave the counselling room, sometimes it's only the beginning of a new life filled with a greater sense of freedom. Nonetheless, saying goodbye to one client, gives me time to walk alongside a new one and watch God set one more person free".

Bother Emmaus (Road to Emmaus) Bookstore.

Our bookshop continues its vital ministry of connecting people to resources so they can discover their faith, grow in it, and share it. It is a source of solid Christian teaching and inspirational materials which encourages Christians of all traditions and provides help for those searching for faith.

Our bookstore staff frequently has opportunities to reach out to individuals who are in need of a listening ear, a prayer, or an understanding heart.



Our primary source of revenue, the café and bookstore, supply about 30% of our annual financial needs and we depend on God's provision through donations for the rest. Without the kind and ongoing support we receive, we would not be able to continue this work in Galway that is bringing a positive influence to young people, hope to people in hard circumstances, growth in God's Word to eager students, and God's power to change lives.

With best wishes for God's blessing,

Rev. Kelly E. Curry
Chairman and President

All gifts are tax deductible as allowed by law and may be sent to:

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If you have any questions, please contact us at 1-800-987-3683 or visit www.FoundationInChrist.org.

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