

The rewards of a training ministry are many:

- The excitement and potential of doing training in a church of 25-30 different nationalities!
- Being asked, "How soon can we get started?"
- An RE teacher sharing that God used training seminars we did 16 years ago to challenge her to do what she is doing now.
- Learning that one group taught "ISMT" to 44 other children's workers.
- Being recognized by a man who shared that God had used his apprenticeship at one of our summer camps 35 years ago to set the direction for the very effective ministry he has in his country today.
- Assisting a national pastor by training children's workers for his 4 church plants.
- Hearing things like, "For the first time the children actually behaved and listened".
- Many more stories like these.

Folks, it doesn't get much more satisfying and fulfilling than this!

How we rejoiced on our last visit as believers in Eastern Europe shared the visions they have for continuing to build on the foundations we've been privileged to lay through the years. One of them expressed it this way: "We have learned more from you through the years than from any other group. We are so thankful that you gave us 'a fishing pole.' Others gave us many things, but they didn't encourage us to prepare and to do things ourselves."



"LORD . . . all that we have accomplished You have done for us" (Isaiah 26:12).

Bob and Sandy Barber

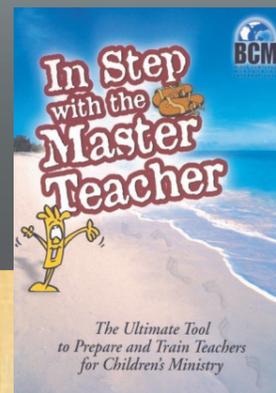
(Requests for Train the Trainer have on occasion taken one or both of us beyond Eastern Europe—to Holland, Spain, Sri Lanka, and South Africa. Our plans are to continue our training ministry in the USA and further afield as the Lord leads.)

Train ... To Reach Out ... In Your Area

If you'd like to book training for your church, anywhere in the UK

please contact Angeline (01934 510919)
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For Ireland contact Brenda
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UK & IRELAND

Link Up

Reaching Children : Serving Churches



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Jesus said, "Your father in heaven is not willing that ANY of these little ones should be lost." (Matthew 18:14)

Do you realize that for every child in every community around the world to have someone who could help them know and follow Jesus, we would need around 50 million children's leaders? That's why BCM is so committed to multiplying children's leaders through training! Rejoice and pray with us as God opens up opportunities for us to train others...



Train ... To Reach Out

Two teams of BCM trainers will work with the Evangelical Church of West Africa to lead ten regional three-day trainings from mid-September through February. We expect around 3000 teachers to attend in total.

- The **In Step with the Master Teacher** training material is now available in Chinese.
- 30 national leaders attended *Train the Trainer* in Irian Jaya in early September.
- BCM master trainers taught **ISMT** in Kazakhstan and Tajikistan this year.
- *ISMT* translation has begun in Bulgarian, Hungarian and Hausa (Nigeria).
- Recent publication of *Footsteps of Faith* for DR Congo—being followed up with a series of over 15 local training events.
- BCM Philippines trainers are partnering with local government in several areas to initiate new ministry to children.

A BCM training team shared a week of *ISMT* and *Train the Trainer* in Grenada this summer. The newly trained Grenadine leaders shared *ISMT* training with churches in neighbouring St. Vincent just a few weeks later.



We have a long way to go if we are to equip 50 million believers to minister with children, but we believe that God's will is for EVERY child to have someone who could help them know and love Jesus for a lifetime. Pray with us for God's opportunities and resources!

Article by Esther Zimmerman of BCM International Children's Ministries

Next issue of Link Up — More information on "In Step with the Master Teacher"

BCM is a faith mission. The work is financed through free will offerings from faithful people whose hearts are touched by God.

Any gifts can be sent to: BCM International UK (Anchor) Trust, 39a Swiss Road, Weston-super-Mare, BS23 3AY.

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Train ... To Reach Out



Bob and Sandy Barber

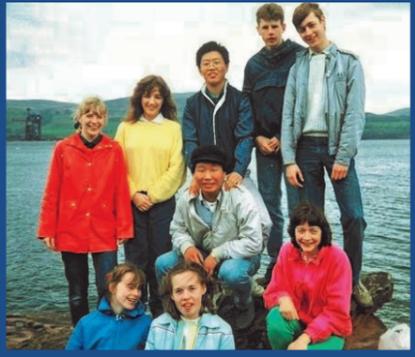


Our own ministry has been multiplied incalculable times over by using both teacher training and Train the Trainer to develop additional teachers and trainers.

We have been absolutely amazed to see the incredible openings and opportunities, as well as the overwhelming response God has given to "ISMT" training and Train the Trainer, as well as to "Footsteps of Faith". What a privilege to train and equip national believers to reach the children of their own countries for Him!

Our missionary journey began in 1970. The Glasgow Committee had asked BCM International in America to send workers, and we arrived in Scotland in 1971.

Being involved in children's ministry with BCM, a mission focused on children, we were asked for Teacher Training (TT) very early on. The more we did training, and the more we saw God use it, the more convinced we were that this was the way forward. (2 Timothy 2:2)



Initially we did TT in Glasgow and the surrounding areas. After a year, Bob began travelling throughout Scotland to visit scattered BCM volunteers. One contact led to another, and before we knew it we were doing TT country-wide.

What a privilege it was to multiply ourselves by training others. Regular TT lectures at one Bible College for 8 years and at another for 22 years were a great investment!

Would you like to hear the most unexpected result of our TT ministry in Scotland? Our daughter Esther was part of a group with whom Sandy did two years of in-depth TT. Esther then went to Eastern Europe with a summer missions team. Observing her in action, the team members asked where she had learned to teach, etc. as she was doing. Esther told them about the TT we did, and they immediately responded, "Would they be willing to do that kind of *training for us too?*"

We did TT for the team the following year, and went with them to Eastern Europe to evaluate the effectiveness of our training for that situation. Believers in Eastern Europe saw the team in action, and asked where the team had learned to do these things. In short, those believers in Eastern Europe then asked if we would do that kind of *training for them too!* Thus began the next 20-year chapter of our ministry.

Communism had just recently fallen. Churches were desperate for TT. Not having had freedom to teach God's Word openly for many long years, they lacked experience. They were willing to do the work—they needed two things:

1. Training to reach and teach children
2. Bible-teaching materials to assist in this work

Open doors! ... Unprecedented opportunities! ... 2 specific requests for help.

For 20 years now we have been responding to those two requests—in Romania, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Poland, Bulgaria and Ukraine.

We've done incalculable hours of TT in many places with theological students, prospective public school RE teachers, teachers of a Christian school, regional children's ministry directors, Sunday school teachers, camp leaders, and those working in orphanages, prisons, and with the handicapped.

Six countries in Eastern Europe now have the "Footsteps of Faith" teaching curriculum and visuals in their language, with more than 100,000 children being taught God's life-changing Word as a result.

When "In Step with the Master Teacher" became available, we immediately began having it translated in various languages so that we could train key national leaders to do TT themselves. We have run 3 Train the Trainer courses in the Ukraine, 3 in Romania, 1 in Hungary, and 1 in Bulgaria. Participants represented a good cross section of churches and mission organizations.

TT = "Teacher Training"
 ISMT = "In Step with the Master Teacher"