

# WISE

Windward Islands School of Evangelism

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## The First Commencement Ceremony in Barbados!

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Several graduates headed back to Jamaica - one to help in preaching duties and another to help with the youth. A few headed back to Haiti – one to start a hospital ministry after hearing of all the care her father received there before he recently passed. Another is helping to pastor a church in Barbados, and another is helping us here in the office at WISE. Another will get married and pray for the future in his home country of Dominica where there are no Christian churches; he prays he can one day help establish a church there. These are the stories of our most recent graduates.

The story continues. Each year the students come and study intensely. And two years later, they go back to their home countries better equipped to bring more into the Kingdom. It's exciting for us to see the future, as each student represents another church started, another church pastored, another ministry begun, another person saved. So many people are involved in giving the students the opportunity to learn and to be trained and then to go back and do Kingdom work in their home countries. Thank you for partnering with us and helping to make their ministry a reality.

After a pause as we moved the college to a bigger island and bigger campus, this past week we had our first Graduation at WISE in Barbados. Amidst the paperwork of registering the school, recruiting students and setting up the new campus, we began classes. Many told us they doubted a graduation would happen before 10 years passed...and three years later – the first class is graduating!

Our local pastor and professor, Bro. Pastor Bend, gave a great message to our graduates. The charge was given by local pastor/professor, Bro. Andrew Best; Bro. Matt Termeer, professor, gave the opening prayer; Bro. Brice, professor/director, awarded the diplomas. Each class of students sang special songs; and Bro. Arlington Pinder, professor/local pastor, closed in prayer. Sis. Rosita, our kitchen cook, ended with a joint song of "In Christ Alone". The ceremony also included a special letter from the Beamer Family Foundation read by Bro. Dave Ferguson, former professor and Academic Dean. Each graduation the Foundation awards scholarships of a suitcase full of books for each student to take home. This is in honor of their son, Todd, who went to be with the Lord on 9/11 after helping counterattack the terrorists on Flight 93. These books enable our students to have resources back home as they minister. We are thankful for the encouragement the Beamers provide our students to continue persevering in any circumstance.





Not pictured is missing graduate Bro. Melbart.

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## Close to a Final Purchase

WISE has signed all the papers, and the sale of all the former properties in St. Vincent is almost finished! The last buyer is currently collecting funds for its property purchase. We were about \$150,000 short of the funds needed to complete the purchase of the new campus, and an anonymous donor gifted WISE with stock shares! This was a first for the mission and such an answer to many prayers. This gift not only covered the remaining balance, but also gave exactly what we needed for an extra month of rent while we wait for this buyer to close.

Thank you all for your many prayers, gifts and encouragement as the final closing becomes a reality. Please pray for the buyer to finish collecting the funds for this last closing. And please join us in thanking God for His provision through these gifts and through the whole transition process.

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