

# WISE

Windward Islands School of Evangelism

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## A WONDERFUL CARIBBEAN LEADERS' CONFERENCE!

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WISE hosted a Caribbean Leaders' Conference from October 24-26. People attended from six different countries: Antigua, Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica, St. Vincent, and the United States. We had 19 overseas guests, in addition to local folks who attended various parts of the Conference.

Our theme was **Restoration**. Our goal was simple: to offer refreshment and encouragement to leaders who have gone through a very challenging season in ministry. We wanted to provide a chance to get together with other leaders, share experiences and ideas, fellowship together, and participate in worship sessions and workshops designed to inspire and instruct. We wanted to encourage a renewed passion for ministry so that leaders would continue and not give up. And we wanted to provide practical help for post-covid ministry, which is why we had workshops on everything from "Restoring the Effective Use of Technology in the Church" to "Restoring Mental Health Among God's

People" to "Restoring Pastors' Wives After a Difficult Season" to "Restoring Sunday School After Covid," among others.

By all accounts, the Conference achieved its aims. Our presenters gave excellent content. But perhaps the most impressive thing was how from the start our guests were talking and laughing and reminiscing together (a number of them were WISE graduates and/or knew each other from ministry over the years). They "ate up" the chance just to be together and visit with one another, as if they were very hungry for such an opportunity. Not to mention literally "eating up" the delicious meals provided!

A secondary objective, of course, was to further recruitment efforts for WISE. We felt the school would sell itself if people were here to see it, and indeed, several ministers went away talking about going back home and encouraging people they know to come to WISE. We must continue to pray for the fruit that is yet to be seen, but we believe it will come, not only in new students for WISE, but in renewed efforts among the leaders to partner together for the sake of God's kingdom in the Caribbean.



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## CARL JUNCTION WORK TEAM VISITS WISE

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We were blessed to have a team of 14 people from the Christian Church of Carl Junction, MO with us September 16-23. They were the fourth team to visit this year. They did a terrific job helping with many things: moving forward a major bathroom renovation project in the men's dorm, painting, updating computers, taping video material for the ministry, working on the grounds, brainstorming ideas for the school's website, leading chapel by preaching and singing, helping with music in one of the local churches, and more. Thank you CCCJ!



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## TESTIMONY FROM ONE OF OUR TEACHERS

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**Tricia Squires-Newton** is one of our Barbadian teachers. She teaches Foundations for Biblical Communication and Discipleship Ministry, both for ladies. She also teaches Spiritual Formation 1 and 2.

*When I was 25 years-old I felt the call to attend Ozark Christian College. At the time, the call made no sense to me as I had no intention of being a full-time minister. Nonetheless, I accepted the prod of the Spirit and years later the purpose was fully revealed. Tutoring at WISE Bible College has given me the opportunity to teach, encourage and train many Christians whose desire it is to go deeper in their walk with Christ and answer their own call to ministry. I have been blessed to see students who once described themselves as "shy" speak publicly, declaring the goodness of God, through skills they learnt in Foundations for Biblical Communication. I have also watched ladies develop effective and life transforming programs for the women in their congregations with methods they were exposed to in Discipleship Ministry. I listened as students recalled how classes impacted their personal lives and their way of thinking. Classes like Spiritual Formation actually transform the students*

*through their practice of the spiritual disciplines. I pray God grants me the strength to continue to impart His word to these students through the classes offered by the WISE Bible College. It is a privilege and an honor to do so.*

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## **A WORD OF THANKS**

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The following is from Anne Yearwood, our administrative assistant, who is also from Barbados.

*It is with great joy I write to say ‘thanks’ for your support, prayers, gifts, and words of encouragement over the years. I represent one of the many alumni and students from Barbados you would have sacrificed and invested in, to become a conduit of the good news.*

*As a 2014-2016 student, it became evident that my life would be impacted in varying ways . . . My philosophy in life was shifted from living a life of potential and was solidified to living a life of purpose. I was able to clarify and solidify my purpose in life as a result of studying at WISE. As the Admin Assistant at WISE, I can say I am now living out my purpose which involves encouraging others to identify and live out their God-given purpose in life.*

*I just wish to encourage you as supporters not to give up or become ‘weary in well doing’ through your prayers, or monetary support. The lives that are being touched are evident with both face-to-face students and online. The setback with COVID and some challenges have hindered the increase in the full-time student population. However, . . . Jesus is being shared, lives are being touched, and eternity will talk about the dividends . . .*

*As we sensitize others about the benefits of attending WISE the Holy Spirit would draw the full-time students again. I firmly believe our best days are yet ahead.*

We echo Anne’s words of thanks to all of you. May God bless you with a wonderful Thanksgiving season!

THE WISE FAMILY

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