



April 2018

*An Amazing Fact: Online learning in the United States has grown by nearly 900 percent since the turn of the millennium. And by next year, half of all college students will be enrolled in at least one online course. But today, India, China, and Malaysia are the nations where e-learning is being adopted at the fastest rate.*



Dear friend,

Manuel was devastated. While his fiancé, Sashka, was attending the Amazing Facts Center of Evangelism (AFCOE), she suddenly broke off their engagement. Stay with me; this love story has a happy and miraculous ending!

It's been 50 years since Joe Crews began taking young evangelists under his wing to teach them the art and science of soul winning. Over time, that informal training became more deliberate and refined—until, 17 years ago, we launched AFCOE.

Ever since, because of your faithful gifts of support, thousands of every age and background around the globe have received Spirit-filled training to win souls. Today, there are thousands more missionaries, Bible workers, pastors, and evangelists globally because of AFCOE. And as a direct result of your support for this vital training program, tens of thousands are being reached for Christ each year.

Yet it's still not enough—as 70 million new souls are added to the world's population each year. We need to build a surging army of evangelists to reach the globe with the real good news, which is why what I'm about to share with you is such inspiring news!

But first, let me tell you more about the miracle of Manuel and Sashka ...

## **A Double Life**

Sashka was born in the former Yugoslavia. When she was just three years old, her mother and two older brothers joined a Sabbath-keeping church. She regularly attended church with them and was eventually baptized as a youth.

However, worldly friends began to exert a strong influence over her during high school. She began to smoke, drink, and go to drug-fueled parties. She explains, "The whole time I kept attending church, keeping my sins secret." But God knew that she was living a double life.

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When Sashka turned 21, she met Manuel. Even though he was an atheist with a different worldview, they fell in love and soon got engaged.

Sometime later, Sashka's brother suggested that she attend AFCOE to improve her English for university. She agreed, but she continued to live a double life. Until something amazing happened. As Sashka studied her Bible for AFCOE classes and participated in giving Bible studies, her heart was transformed. The Holy Spirit took away her worldly desires, and she surrendered her life to Christ. Praise the Lord!

Sashka was led back to God while learning how to guide others to Christ. Isn't the Lord amazing? God also convicted Sashka that she should not be in a romantic relationship with an unbeliever, so she broke up with Manuel.

## Two Miracles

Of course, Manuel was devastated by this news. He could not understand what would lead Sashka to make such a radical decision. Hungry to understand this "AFCOE business," he began watching my sermons online to see what it was she believed.

That's when God performed two miracles for Manuel. The first is that, even though Manuel didn't speak a word of English, he was able to understand every word I spoke! (I assure you, I do not speak Croatian!) The Bible teachings Manuel heard so stunned him that he even shared them with a co-worker.

The second miracle is that Manuel attended a Bible prophecy series as a result of watching Amazing Facts online—and he gave His life to Christ. And after reading the Bible passage, *"If you love Me, keep My commandments,"* he even quit working on the Sabbath.

After Sashka finished AFCOE, she went on an AFCOE mission trip to the Dominican Republic to present a Bible prophecy series. She shares, "Manuel waited for me to return and was baptized in the Adriatic Sea." Today, the couple have a beautiful family—and Manuel is a pastor! Don't you see? AFCOE is life-changing in more ways than one!



Over a thousand students in 14 cities received dynamic AFCOE training in 2017. And the AFCOE global team has traveled to over 20 countries to make more soul winners for Christ's kingdom!

## Can You Imagine?

But I believe the Lord is calling us to do more with AFCOE. So I asked, "What else must we do to make a bigger impact through AFCOE?" Time is running short—but the list of souls who need to hear the three angels' messages is growing longer by the minute. How can we train enough people to reach more of the 7.5 billion people in the world? Imagine ...

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- If every training program could reach 50,000 people—instead of just 50!
- If every believer in the world could get effective discipleship training—regardless of their language or location.
- If we could lower the cost to receive evangelism training by 75 percent?

When Amazing Facts conducted our live *Amazing Disciples* AFCOE program last year, we were blown away by the response—4,000 online viewers! (Thank you for making it all possible!) That’s when the Holy Spirit began to help us formulate a daring new plan.

You see, millions today are learning through the Internet. Online education, or e-learning, is booming. Almost every university is now offering some form of distance education. Why? Because it’s convenient and cost-effective. It can be accessed anytime and anywhere. All you need is Internet access.

Many just like Sashka desire to learn how to share God’s message in their own communities, workplaces, schools, and families—but they don’t have the funds for travel or the ability to take time away from work.

That’s why Amazing Facts, with your help, is planning to open the doors for evangelism training to thousands who aren’t able to physically attend AFCOE.

I’m so excited for what God is doing! AFCOE e-learning will connect the passionate people of God to our expert Bible teachers so they can learn how to prepare and give Bible studies, conduct their own evangelistic events, and lead people to accept Jesus—all through genuine friendship evangelism.

Most important, students who sign-up for *Amazing Disciples* will focus on Jesus’ method of evangelism—becoming confident, effective soul winners in their communities and wherever God wants to use them. That means you too!

*Amazing Disciples* will include video presentations, print materials, personal teacher interaction, access to witnessing resources, Bible worker networking, and live training sessions with myself and other Amazing Facts evangelists. Yet *Amazing Disciples* is just the start of God’s plan for this ministry—the first of many online courses to reach those who have a deep desire to learn about God’s message and share it with others.



But to make this all a reality, we need you. It will be your prayers and gifts that will create an online evangelism learning environment that will take the last-day message to the whole world.

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## Preparing for Launch

Our online education will help thousands of hopeful Bible workers and evangelists be the light of the world for Jesus. And just like for Manuel and Sashka, it will be life-changing for those who simply want revival and a deeper understanding of the Bible.

It's the answer to the prayers of those who desperately desire professional, world-class training but can't come to our classrooms in California. It's going to work—but only with your support, the same support that helped make Sashka a transformed soul-winner and Manuel a full-time pastor.

The reality is that we need more Bible workers, missionaries, and evangelists sooner rather than later. So will you support *Amazing Disciples*—while not forgetting our other outreach efforts? I'm asking you to invest in this amazing opportunity to open an online training program that will lead to tens of thousands of baptisms before Jesus returns. We must invest \$170,000 today to get started. Will you please give sacrificially this month, knowing that every dollar will make an eternal difference?

As my thanks for your generous gift this month, I would like to send you my message *If I Were Young Again*—which you'll find intriguing, and many have told me that it's made a big impact on their lives. Please share it! And remember, please share your prayer requests on the back of the enclosed reply card. We are privileged to pray for your needs as you pray for ours.

Finally, Sashka shares, "If it wasn't for AFCOE, I would still be a lukewarm Christian living a double life." But because you care, Sashka's whole family is now serving the Lord! Making an army of soul-winners with you,

Pastor Doug Batchelor



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Doug Batchelor". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

President, Amazing Facts

P.S. It is time to swing open wide the doors of outreach training to the thousands globally who want to learn to be effective witnesses for Jesus. Please help Amazing Facts launch our brand-new online e-course while keeping our other ministries going strong. The harvest is great; the workers are few—but you can help make more workers for Christ by giving to this work of true salvation today!



**Reaching the World With God's End-Time Message**

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