

Iron Rose Sister Ministries Newsletter

Summer 2024

Volume 12, Issue 2



Good News to Share!

- Our new Bible study book will be released first in Portuguese in Brazil!
- “Refined and Redefined”: Ladies’ Seminar in Colombia

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Committed to Listen First Released in Brazil

Written by Beliza Kočev

Since its beginning, **Iron Rose Sister Ministries** dreamed about having its resources also available in **Portuguese**, and God is allowing us to make this dream come true! Since our Brazilian sisters have been waiting the longest to receive Iron Rose Sister Ministries’ small group and women’s ministry resources in Portuguese, this time, they get first access! In **August, during Michelle’s visit to Brazil**, we will conduct classes, conferences, and small group meetings. Throughout this time **we will have the book *Comprometida***

a *Escutar* available for them to purchase! But don’t worry, in September we will have ***Committed to Listen*** available in English, Spanish, and Portuguese in the USA! **This will be the first time we release a new study book in all three languages!**

We are grateful to God for all the people involved in the translation, review, and pilot study group of *Comprometida a Escutar* in Brazil. The process of producing the book has already been uplifting and it is exciting to see this seed sprout. We can’t wait

to hear the stories of women committed to listen to our Creator and who will be blessed and equipped with Iron Rose Sister Ministries resources.



“Refined and Redefined”: Ladies’ Seminar in Zipaquirá

Written by Liliana Henríquez

On Saturday, July 27th, thirty sisters from Chía, San Gil, Funza, Zipaquirá, and Bogotá attended the “Refined and Redefined” ladies’ seminar, organized by the **Zipaquirá congregation in Colombia**. The turnout was perfect for the space available.

I am personally satisfied with the outcome, as I believe the message was well received. The participants engaged in two classes: **“Identity Redefined (2Cor 3:17-18)”** and **“Refined through Relationships (Pr 27:17).”** We emphasized that only God defines our identity and that we need to submit to the transformation process He initiates in us, both personally and through our relationships with others. The sisters thoroughly enjoyed the small group interactions. We organized six groups and many

requested more time to share and interact.

I believe many left with the contact information of a new sister and friend.

I pray that God continues to work in the lives of these sisters and that the seed planted during the seminar will grow and bear much fruit.

This Seminar in Zipaquirá was one of the many events planned for the participation of Michelle J. Goff and Julia Jenkins (summer intern) during their time in Colombia. Plans needed to be adjusted as a result of a medical emergency the night be-



Liliana (left) with participants of the “Refined and Redefined” Seminar

fore the date they were scheduled to depart.

Liliana Henríquez has been involved in numerous IRSM activities over the years, and her participation has significantly contributed to encouraging, equipping, and empowering her as an IRSM Ambassador in Colombia. We are grateful to God for Liliana’s willingness and availability to lead this event and bless those who participated.



Michelle J. Goff and Wendy Neill at the IRSM booth during WWWG Conf.

IRSM Vision:
Equipping women to connect to God and one another more deeply in English, Spanish, Portuguese, and bilingual contexts across the Americas

IRSM Board Members:

Current:

- Katie Forbess, President
- Bill Richardson, Elder
- Tabitha Barnes
- Kat Bittner
- Laurie Diles
- Fernando Sandoval
- Mark Vaughn

Advisory:

- Cynthia Cedeño, Treas.
- Julio Cedeño, Elder

Please pray for selection of Brazil Board Members!

Seeking Full-Time, Bilingual Operations Manager

Sustained growth requires strategic planning. Ministry-wide plans have been affirmed and established with goals specific to each facet in the corresponding languages.

To achieve our goals and develop more women who will equip others to equip others (2Ti 2:2), the board and executive staff have determined that we are ready for a second full-time person on our team.

October 1-31, we will officially open the position and accept applications for a **full-time, bilingual, Operations Manager**.

The job description is available on our website (IronRoseSister.com, **Be a Part, Job Openings**).

Please join us in prayer that God will lead us to the right candidate with a passion for **equipping women to connect to God and one another more deeply**, and with experience in **project management and human resources**. Her communication skills in English and either Spanish or Portuguese will be vital to our continued expansion.

Thank you for praying with us that God lead us to the right candidate.

“Living a Life Committed to Christ”: Spanish Virtual Event

Written by Brenda Brizendine

On Saturday, **August 17**, we will be gathering with women across the Americas via Zoom. **Nila Garcia and Jenny Sánchez** have been invited to share, based on their own walk with Christ, what it is to live **a life committed to Christ**.

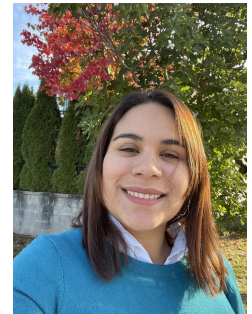
We continue to receive requests from our sisters in Latin America to keep doing our virtual gatherings. These virtual classes provide them with resources that encourage, equip, and empower them to lead their own small Bible study groups or local women’s groups.

It is good to know that when we have these virtual events, we not only provide them with content and tools, but also give them an opportunity to put into

practice the different skills and talents God has given each of them. We recruit about **12 volunteers** each time we have one of these virtual events.

Contact us if you or your local group would like to partner with us to spend about an hour and a half in worship, reading Scripture, and growing closer to God and one another.

Nila Garcia (above) and Jenny Sánchez (below)



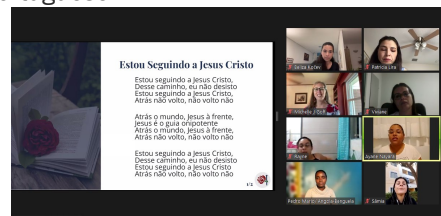
“Committed Disciples”: Virtual Event in Portuguese

Written by Beliza Kočev

One of my favorite things about being part of Iron Rose Sister Ministries is presenting the ministry. On **June 15th**, I had the opportunity to do it again for a Portuguese virtual event. Michelle J. Goff and I taught about being **Committed Disciples**, based on **Matthew 27:55-56**.

What a blessing it was to encourage and be encouraged by those women that joined us that day. As good as it was to present the ministry, so it was especially wonderful to see someone I had previously visited with. My heart was filled with joy when I saw Micaela joining the

room! She is an African sister who I met last year in Angola when IRSM was invited to teach a series of Bible classes for women during the **Luso-African Encounter**. How encouraging it is to have Brazilians and Africans learning together in Portuguese!



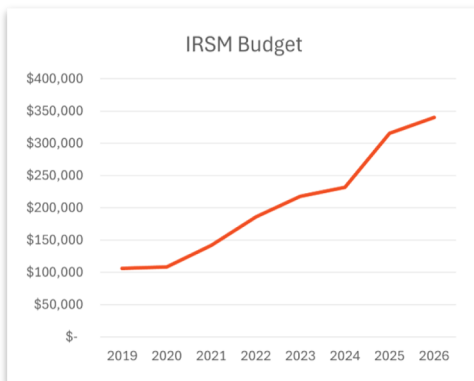
Virtual event attendees singing “I have decided to follow Jesus” in Portuguese

Be Praying About “25% for 2025”

Written by Wendy Neill,
Advancement Coordinator

Several of the books I've been reading remind me how God accomplishes His kingdom work. He could do all things with just a word. Instead, He partners with us as His hands and feet in the world. At Iron Rose Sister Ministries, we feel so privileged to partner with Him across the Americas in encouraging women to connect to God and one another. We also feel blessed to watch God work through **all of you** to provide the finances we need.

Our board and staff have been praying and discussing God's vision for this ministry over the next ten years. God is opening a lot of doors.



To step through them, we need to make a big financial jump for 2025.

Many of you have been faithful monthly donors or have given annually to this work. **This fall**, we will be asking you to consider a **25% increase in your monthly or annual giving for 2025**.

If you are not currently a regular donor, we will also be seeking a **25% increase in the number of monthly donors for 2025**.

Please be praying about this investment opportunity. Helping women know the Lord is an eternal “stock” that will reap dividends for generations.



2024-2025 Calendar and Plans

Virtual Events

Aug 17—Spanish, “Living a Life Committed to Christ”

Oct 5— Trilingual, “A Commitment to Listening”

Nov 14— Spanish, *Who Has the Last Word?* wrap-up class

2024 In-Person Events

Aug 12-30— Brazil trip (Beliza and Michelle)

Sept 29-Oct 2— (Booth) Harding Univ. Lectureship, Searcy, AR

Oct 25-27— Bilingual Ladies’ Conference, Rochester, MN

Dec 4-17— New date: Colombia trip (Michelle and IRSM Team member)

2025 In-Person Events

Jan 23-25— Ladies’ Retreat, Goodwood CoC, Baton Rouge, LA

“God bless your life greatly, Sister Michelle. I thank God for helping me through these powerful messages.”

~Carolina Cardona

YouTube follower, after watching video 1 of the video series: “La salud espiritual de la mujer” [Women’s Spiritual Health]

Interested in partnering with us to equip the women in your area or in a Latin American mission point that you support?

Contact us:

info@ironrosesister.com or visit our website for more information

IronRoseSister.com, Resources, Book a Speaker

Beliza Across Brazil: Teaching and Representing MIRF

It wasn't long ago that we launched the branch of the ministry in Brazil. Throughout 2024, we are having the opportunity to **deepen the bonds** we have built through visits, classes, and participation in events.

Our **Brazil Coordinator, Beliza Kočev**, had the opportunity to present the ministry in new places. She even received an invitation from a sister (who learned about the ministry a year ago) to present the ministry at an event for the congregations in Paraíba.

During her visit to Rio Grande do Sul, participating in ENFESUL, Beliza met sisters who had watched a class taught by **Michelle J. Goff** in South Florida broadcast simultaneously to Brazil via Zoom. During the time in ENFESUL, sisters who were interested in the ministry **invited Beliza to participate in other women's events, in other states, to introduce the ministry to more women.**

Brazil is a big country of diverse people and we are excited to equip and empower women from north to south.





Tax-deductible contributions:

Iron Rose Sister Ministries

P. O. Box 1351

Searcy, AR 72145

For online contributions:

IronRoseSister.com

Advisory eldership:

Downtown Church of Christ

Searcy, Arkansas

Contact us:

501-593-4849

info@ironrosesister.com

IronRoseSister.com

Ways to Give

We are so grateful for our many faithful donors.

Here is a review of the different giving options available to you.

Giving Options With NO Processing Fees

- **Mail a check** to IRSM, PO Box 1351, Searcy, AR 72145
- ***BillPay** through your online banking account (sends a check to us)
- **PayPal Giving Fund** (must use PayPal account)
- **Venmo: @IronRoseSister**
- **Zelle** to ironrosesister@gmail.com

Giving Options With Processing Fees

- ***Via IronRoseSister.com.** You can opt to cover our fees and use debit/credit/PayPal.
- ***Bank-to-Bank ACH** - contact us to request a form

***allows monthly recurring donations**



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A Note from Michelle: Teaching to Teach... to Listen

Prior to my anticipated departure for Colombia, I lost my voice. For those of you who know me, vocal rest was a major challenge. Thankfully, God had gone before me and provided **three women here in the Searcy office** and other team members across the world who were already doing their parts in support. Since Beliza, our Brazil Coordinator, also lost her voice at the same time, there was a lot of empathy to go around!



(l-r) Michelle, Julia Jenkins, our Summer Intern, Judy Larsen, our Office Assistant, and Kassie Lamoureux, the new Executive Assistant, in the home office.

Kassie and Julia have provided me the opportunity to share stories from my “early days” in ministry and God stories from the humble beginnings of Iron Rose Sister Ministries. Judy enjoys hearing the stories and has adopted all of us as daughters or granddaughters.

What a blessing to work intergenerationally in the Kingdom! While we are blessed to network across the world, equipping women across three languages, there is nothing that replaces face-to-face interaction. **No matter what we are teaching, the message transcends the words spoken.** We teach by our examples, attitudes, and actions. We teach through our silence, especially if we are attentive to listen. We teach to teach (2Ti 2:2), and to listen (Mk 4:9).

With the upcoming launch of the 7th book, I am reminded of the many ways God has taught me and has

charged me to teach. I am honored to be given the opportunity to be a mouthpiece, an instrument in His hands. But today, as I am steeped in silence, surrounded by hot tea and cough drops, I am **delighted to see how many more women are being equipped, encouraged, and empowered in their teaching, learning, and renewed commitment to listen.**

Thank you for your vital part!

Love, *M.*

P.S. Julia’s and my trip to Colombia was canceled/postponed due to my drastic allergic reaction to medicine to treat an ear infection the night before our flight. **Plans are in place to reschedule by the end of 2024.**

While I was in the hospital overnight, the team jumped in to cancel flights, request refunds, communicate with event hosts, and juggle the unanticipated change of plans. **God truly works all things for good (Ro 8:26).**