



# Rooted in Jesus Feedback

January 2010

Dear Alison and John,

Greetings in the Lord, and I hope 2010 will be a year of blessing for you. God certainly seems to be anointing Rooted in Jesus for this time.

About 60 people attended our follow-up workshop on Saturday – from most of our parishes. Some of those who attended the conference were missing and we will have to follow up with them. Some of those who attended the workshop had not been to the conference but are participating in groups now and are preparing to start “2nd Generation” groups themselves.

Those who were there reported:

- 18 groups are already underway (remember we have just had our main summer holiday, so some are only preparing to start now).
- Those present have plans to start 64 groups by the end of this year.
- RinJ has already been incorporated into Confirmation Preparation (I have said that Book 1 should be compulsory for all Confirmation Candidates) in some parishes.



In addition we are making plans to include it as part of the foundation preparation for Lay Ministers (Worship Leaders, Preachers, and those doing Pastoral Care).

We heard some exciting testimonies from parishes where RinJ has started:

- In Phalaborwa, some of the clergy have had their love of the Lord rekindled – and this has had an impact on their preaching. Several of the people participating in their RinJ group have already been transformed by God’s grace.
- In Sibasa, they decided to start with 1 small group of 5 people. But they went and told others about it, who in turn told others – and they started coming. As one of the priests said: “How could we turn them away when they came to learn about Jesus?” Now they have 30 people coming and have decided to multiply their original group of 5 into 3 groups of 10 each.
- St Andrew’s Church exists in the very heart of extreme right wing Afrikaner nationalism – some of the strongest resistance to the New South Africa has been in that area. They have formed one group comprising people from the (formerly white) church in Modimolle and the (black) church in Phagameng. The RinJ material is helping them to find each other and share deeply.
- Some young people’s groups have started. Yesterday I was visiting one of our more remote churches. A young person (she is an outstanding young person – she is still at school but recognised by her chapelry as the spiritual leader) asked me, “How can I join Rooted in Jesus?” She had heard of it from other youth leaders in the Diocese.

So it looks as though the fire that was lit at the conference last year is beginning to spread! People in churches are starting to ask those who were on the Conference, “When can I join a RinJ group?” We pray that it will grow to the point where it is unstoppable, and where individual people and congregations are transformed into real disciples of Jesus.

Bishop Martin Breytenbach, Diocese of St Mark the Evangelist, Polokwane, South Africa  
For more information on Rooted in Jesus see [www.rootedinjesus.net](http://www.rootedinjesus.net).

