

Iron Rose Sister Ministries Newsletter

Summer 2020

Volume 8, Issue 2



Good News to Share!

- Portuguese resources now available!
- Virtual classes, equipping, and encouragement across the Americas!
- *Iron Rose Sisters in the Kitchen* cookbook fundraiser

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Happy Birthday to Iron Rose Sister Ministries!



July 26, 2013, marks the official day Iron Rose Sister Ministries became a registered nonprofit. A walk down memory lane reminds us of the victories and challenges through which God has walked with us, as a ministry. Here are a few highlights:

- Five interactive Bible study books (print and eBook) in English and Spanish

- Thousands of women equipped annually through seminars and classes
- Hundreds of women weekly receiving encouragement and being equipped through blog and other online resources
- Expansion into a third language, Portuguese (see below)
- From one full-time worker living in her sister's basement without income to one full-time, two part-time, two contracted workers, and a whole host of volunteers all working to equip women across the Americas
- Countless stories of women who were equipped who are now equipping others to equip others

Each of you, through your prayers and your financial support have made this possible. We've planted, you've watered, and God has brought the growth. To Him be all the glory and honor.

Happy Birthday and many thanks!

Expansion into Portuguese, reaching across the Americas

IrmaRosadeFerro.com is our new web page in Portuguese, where women can find two ePetal studies and can sign up to receive notifications when additional resources become available.

As we strive to equip women to connect to God and one another more deeply across the Americas, the natural choice for a third language is Portuguese. Brazil is the largest country in South America with a population of more than 209 million—half the population of the continent.

God's timing is perfect and we have prayed for Him to lead us to know when to

proceed with the translation of our materials and this facet of our expansion.

As mentioned, two of our ePetal studies (single lesson, online only) are already available. A small team is working on the translation of two of the books.

We are exploring options for the printing of these materials locally in Brazil, as well as printing the materials in Portuguese-speaking Angola (yes, Africa)!

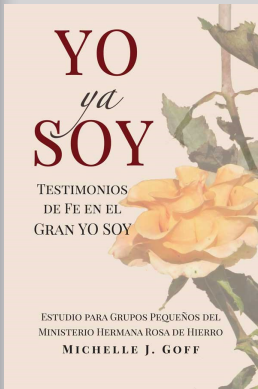
Thank you for joining us in prayer as we navigate these new opportunities and seek God's wisdom for timing,

direction, funding, volunteers, etc.

You are a part of making this possible. Obrigado! ¡Gracias! Thank you!



Sabrina Nino de Campos, Brazilian, on Portuguese team pictured with Michelle J. Goff



Ask us about how to do a bilingual study. All books also available in Spanish!

“Please tell the team how thankful we are that IRSM is continuing to reach out in whatever way possible.”
~Nancy Fennell



Michelle J. Goff and Cynthia Cedeño co-taught a class May 23 (pic from 2019)

Multiple Teachers and Facilitators



Iron Rose Sister Ministries has been blessed to have multiple facilitators and teachers—an added blessing during the pandemic and extensive quarantine measures across Latin America.

Katie Forbess, IRSM Board President (pictured above) shared the following, “What

an awesome testimony of God’s grace and the Christian desire to have fellowship and continue growing in Him. These online classes are a blessing to teach, and have also allowed many to reconnect and form new relationships with women across the Americas. What a blessing in a time of limitations!”

While the majority of the classes offered have been in

Katie Forbess (above) and Cynthia Cedeño (right) are two of our bilingual teachers.

Spanish, we also have English-speaking teachers available.

Let us know if you would like to schedule one of our available teachers for a class hosted by your local congregation or a mission point that you or your church supports.



Kindle Versions of Books; Future Audiobooks

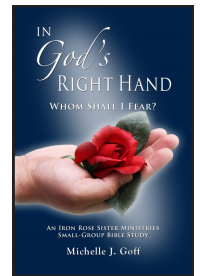
In God’s Right Hand: Whom Shall I Fear? Is now available on Kindle (English and Spanish versions).

A shift in our priorities and efforts during COVID has allowed us to fulfill requests for online materials and resources.

Four of the five books are now available as paperbacks or eBooks. *Who Has the Last Word? Cutting through Satan’s Lies with the Truth of God’s Word* is in pro-

gress, but the transformative and helpful Lie/Truth Charts and other facets of that book are requiring a little more time and creativity for the eBook versions.

We are also committed to creating audiobook versions of our Bible study materials. Stay tuned! And please let us know if you would like to volunteer with any of these projects!



Persistence Despite Delays in Cuba; More Blog Subscribers

In a year in which many things have not proceeded as originally planned, our plans for the printing of resources in Cuba have been similarly affected.

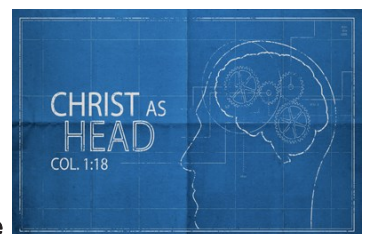
Our commitment to this project and to equipping and encouraging the women in Cuba remains strong..

One way in which this continues to be accomplished is through our blog, which releases Mon, Wed, and Fri. in Spanish

(Wed. only in English). Cuban women are among our top subscribers, but we have seen an increase in Spanish-speaking subscribers from other countries during COVID.

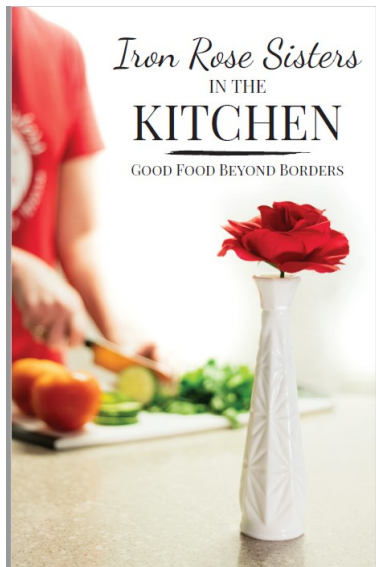
Each month emphasizes a sub-theme from our annual focus, “Part of the Whole” for 2020 (1 Cor. 12: Rom. 12).

Example: Christ as Head was April’s theme



Iron Rose Sisters in the Kitchen: Cookbook Fundraiser

COVID-19 has brought the world to a stand-still. Everyone has been



affected, including Iron Rose Sister Ministries. Events for the year have been cancelled, so we had to find new ways to connect with women from various countries. We also still needed to raise funds. This cookbook has been a fun way to do both! **86 recipes were submitted by 46 women from 17 countries!** We hope you will enjoy learning about each other through these recipes. We are sisters in Christ, no matter what country we call home.

IronRoseSister.com
Click: Resources, Online Store
\$20 spiral-bound
\$10 eCookbook

Order through our website. Cookbooks make great gifts, too!

We hope to release a Spanish version of the cookbook in 2021.

Special thanks to Wendy Neill and our volunteer committee: Deanna Brooks, Jocelynn Goff, Patty Marquez, Erica Peck and to IRSM Staff, Brenda Brizendine, Melanie Curtis and Michelle J. Goff



Lois Voyles and Jocelynn Goff study outside, 6 feet apart

2020 In-person Events Suspended; 2021 Plans in Process

All in-person events have been suspended for the remainder of 2020.

Online Classes:

October 10—hosted by congregation in Guadalajara, Mexico

October 17—hosted by congregation in Sucre, Bolivia

Contact us for Zoom links and information about other classes.

Recordings of past classes

are also available on our website.

Sisters in Yaracuy, Venezuela, gather (pre-COVID) to study Human AND Holy



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

Online Class Sparks Continued Listening and Fellowship

Before entering the 2nd 40-Days of her sabbatical time (see pg. 4), Michelle taught

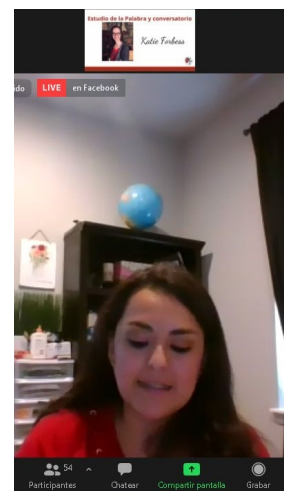
multiple online seminars. One such class was hosted by the Iglesia de Cristo Wanchaq en Peru. The topic: *Called to Listen.*

This class served as a springboard for our Spanish-speaking sisters to participate in forty days of listening, using the lessons from the book. The women are

sharing what they are hearing in a private Facebook group.



Brenda Brizendine, Spanish Communications Assistant, is moderating and facilitating this group, getting to know more of the women we are equipping through our online resources.



Brenda Brizendine facilitates Saturday ladies class via Zoom



Tax-deductible contributions:

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www.IronRoseSister.com

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Contact us:

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Ways to Contribute



Prayers: Our prayer warriors are our biggest advocates! 2 Cor. 1:11



Financially: Checks, ACH (monthly direct withdrawal; forms online), PayPal (online), Amazon Smile (IRSM as charity of choice)



Time and Talents: Contact us about getting involved by spreading the word, starting a small-group Bible study, planning an event, volunteering, and other opportunities.



All financial donations are tax-deductible.

www.IronRoseSister.com



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A note from Michelle: A time to heal and a time to rest (Eccl. 3)

We are all learning to rely on God in new ways this year. Our total and complete dependence on Him has been tested, especially in uncertainty or when things feel out of control. As “normal” has slipped out of our hands, we may feel that it is a “chasing after the wind.” Solomon, full of wisdom, made this statement. He also affirmed that **there is a time for everything** (Eccl. 3).

For the “doers” of the world, a time to rest can be challenging. However, I have been forced by my physical health challenges to take a pause and focus on **a time to heal** in order that I might be better equipped to continue to serve, in whatever ways God leads, for many years to come.

Thank you for your prayers to this end! I feel them and appreciate them greatly! You are my Aarons and Hurs lifting my arms (Ex. 17). God is taking

care of the battles. And we can rejoice in weakness because when we are weak, He is strong.

It is a time for me to **“Be still and know that He is God”** (Ps. 46:10).

A close friend asked if I was nervous to take a sabbatical and if so, why so. I admit that in a time when I see more opportunities than challenges for us as a ministry, it is also exactly why it is important to seek God’s constant guidance to ensure that we don’t get ahead of ourselves.

There is a time for everything. And God’s timing is perfect. I appreciate your prayers as I navigate what these health issues mean for me and my specific roles within Iron Rose Sister Ministries in the future.

The planned **sabbatical** is in three 40-Day segments: delegating and releasing (‘til Aug 13), total rest (‘til Sept.

23), then easing back into a new normal (‘til Nov. 2). God’s got this. And I cannot wait to see what He reveals during this time.

Thanks again for your prayers! *M.*

