



Life of the Federation

AFRICA

Ghana: Bringing God's Word Down to Earth. Dei Verbum Course 2004

"For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and return not thither but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes forth from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and prosper in the thing for which I sent it."

This prophetic word from the Book of Isaiah (Is 55:10-11) was the source for the motto of the Dei Verbum course 2004 "That God's Word might come down to earth" which took place in Adoagyiri-Nsawam from August 9th to September 23rd.

30 participants, two thirds of them lay, from nine of the country's different dioceses took part in the course, among them many women. During the forty-day course, experts offered work sessions on a wide variety of topics. The spectrum ranged from the purely biblical (Kingdom of God, message of Jesus, the land of the Bible, etc.) to general ecclesiastical (Church as community of communities, the Second Vatican Council etc.) to biblical pastoral themes (Bible-sharing, *lectio divina*, Basic Bible Seminar etc.). The personal exchanges people were able to have with one another and the information they were able to share on pastoral activities went a long way toward restoring a closer union of hearts and minds among the multipliers and animators for Bible work in Ghana – so that God's Word might cause the earth "to sprout and shoot". ■