

WORLD OUTREACH

TRAINING LEADERS. TRANSFORMING LIVES. IMPACTING NATIONS.

Marijke teaching at Charis Bible College



GRACE STORIES NEVER GET OLD

Netherlands native Marijke Lamers started her walk with God in an evangelical church after she was married and had two daughters. However, that was *not* when her life was changed. It would be years later, in 2006, that she'd come across grace in a CD in an Andrew Wommack teaching series. "Is that really true?" she wondered after playing it. "I listened again and again." Marijke couldn't believe her ears. "I got my Bible and thought, *No, that's not what it says.* But when you read it and see, *Yeah, that's really true,* then you get it."

Marijke discovered probably the best part about the grace message: it's *nearly* too good to be true! And you know

what happened when she discovered that: "I started to download all the teachings from AWMI," she shares. "I wanted to hear everything ...

So when I was on the bike, when I was in the car, when I was where I was, I was always listening to the teachings of Andrew ... If I had to say one word, it's *freedom.*"

When someone tastes of the grace of God two things happen. First, there is a hunger for more, which is what led Marijke to a desire to attend Charis Bible College. In her case, there was just one problem with that: no Charis campus existed in her country. But as God always does, He opened

a door. "I met Mark and Alice Becking, and they wanted to start a school in the Netherlands," Marijke declares. She elaborates on the beginnings of Charis Netherlands, saying, "So, we started it in 2009 with a part-time school ... But I wanted to go through all the teachings and the whole curriculum, so I started in 2010 as a full-time student till 2012, and then I did an apprenticeship year there." Marijke's heart was transformed through Charis, and God began leading her into her destiny.

As time went on, Marijke realised the second thing that occurs when you're set free through grace: God calls you to bring freedom

to those who aren't free. "I like to teach. That's the most exciting thing," she shares. "Just what Paul said to Timothy, what you've learned, it's in your heart, and you want to teach others. You want others to get it . . . that's my passion."

But God had more in store for Marijke than teaching. "I was very into the Bible and into the teaching, so I did all kinds of things from 2013 on: curriculum, tests, studies, and so on . . . I did the managing of the school," she says. Three years later, in the spring of 2016, Mike and Carrie Pickett asked Marijke to become the director of Charis Netherlands. This is an example of what happens after someone's life has been changed and they've been faithful in areas of responsibility. God will promote them.

Today, Charis Netherlands has nearly ninety students taking courses part-time, full-time, and through the Hybrid Program, which has worked well with the culture and environment of the country. With its seventeen-plus million inhabitants and limited real estate, crazy traffic is a commonality. The Hybrid Program meets one Saturday a month, when there is less traffic on the highways. In addition to meeting once a month, students have begun forming their own "correspondence groups," where students in nearby neighborhoods gather weekly to watch and discuss the video lessons together. Marijke attributes a higher completion rate to the correspondence groups. Wonderful things happen when we fellowship in God's Word!

"The most amazing thing is a changed life," Marijke says. That's true. It's why grace stories like hers never get old. We love them! Thank you to our *World Outreach* partners, whose support makes this whole process possible!

If you are not yet a partner, consider becoming one today. Visit **awme.net/WorldOutreach**. You will be a huge part of training leaders, transforming lives, and impacting nations!



Students enjoy the fellowship of friends at Charis Netherlands

eCHARIS®
Bringing learning to you!

eCharis allows you to:

- Take Charis courses when and where you want
- Interact with eCharis facilitators on an iPad
- Discover God's unconditional love and grace with 220+ hours of video

Start anytime! Discover more:
eCharis.net

TESTIMONY:

Maureen West loved the Lord but did not understand God's heart for the lost. She had heard of missionaries, but mainly of how horrible their lives were, and she knew that she wanted none of that. Years later, Maureen obeyed the call of God and attended Charis Bible College. However, she only planned to stay for one year because she knew that during second year she would have to go on a missions trip in order to graduate. Throughout her first year, God softened Maureen's heart and gave her a passion for reaching the lost. She returned for her second year and was placed on the Honduras trip. Maureen poured her heart into this trip: She bought gifts for the missionaries that were already there, hosted a party for elementary-aged boys, and served her team and the people of Honduras. When Maureen returned from her trip, her heart for missions had done a complete one-eighty. She is now attending the third-year Global Training School at Charis and is considering pursuing further missionary work in Honduras. Maureen helped change the lives of the people in Honduras, but Honduras also changed her life.



CHARIS®
BIBLE STUDIES

Connecting like-minded believers through local Bible studies based on Andrew Wommack's foundational messages
Find a Charis Bible Study near you by visiting **CharisBibleStudies.uk.net**.