

MANILA AND THAILAND

21 days... 20,000 miles... passing through 5 countries... and over 2000 in training. These numbers describe my recent trip to Manila and Thailand.

Four major events took place. Rather than write extensively... let me seek to provide pictures that will tell the story.

The first event was meeting with some of the Asia leadership of Campus Crusade, testing the new 'beta' version of a newly written Crusade manual entitled "Movement Building from the Life of Christ".

Their response was extremely favorable. They have asked us to return in May to meet with their Asian National Directors.



The second event of the trip, was spending quality time with Randolph Velasquez and his team in seeking to launch a Sonlife Philippines. This new ministry has huge potential for future impact. In a country of 87 million... over 10 million every year go around the world as domestic helpers. If a new generation of young people could be mobilized and trained to go out as disciple-makers... they already are being sent around the world.

In a recent trip to Kuwait I saw this potential first hand as the greatest impact for Christ was happening through some of the Christian Philippino girls working as domestic helpers in the rich Saudi and Jordanian homes... reaching their children for Christ.



The third event was training over 1200 D-Group Leaders (Disciplemaking Leaders) in Christ's Commission Fellowship (CCF). This is the largest and fastest growing church in the Philippines, reaching business and executive leadership in Manila. Built on a powerful discipling model... the "Movement Building" manual was taught to their leaders... along with another 400-500 other attendees from other ministries in the Philippines.

THAILAND

The fourth event was speaking at ELIC staff conference in Chiang Mai, Thailand. With over 600 teachers, teaching English in Chinese universities... the impact is powerful. It was a huge privilege to serve these front line teachers, with a message of hope and encouragement.



SOUTHEAST ASIA

What was especially exciting for me, was that while I was in Thailand teaching the Life of Christ, we also had, through Sonlife South East Asia, several hundred other leaders being trained in events in Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam and through out China. Having translated the training manuals into Mandarin... we are seeing multiplied impact in leaders lives.

Sonlife SE Asia also hosted their Asia-Pacific Healthy Church Conference with pastors and youth pastors from various parts of SE Asia going through Advanced materials! What a joy to continually hear reports of this multiplied impact.



KUWAIT AND ISRAEL

Next week I head to Kuwait, where I will again be working with the church of Kuwait. Involving almost 20,000 people in 40 different congregations... all meeting in the heart of Kuwait on one campus... we will be providing training for youth and church leaders in that region.

From there I travel to Israel, where we will be holding our 2007 GYI Forum. Over 20 leaders from around the globe will be meeting for 3 days. We will be spending a good portion of our time planning a larger movement conference. In 2008 we are planning on having over 200 leaders from around the globe come to Israel... challenging them in building movements everywhere... seeking to have ministries in 100 countries by 2020.

Please pray for me as I lead this time of evaluation, planning, and reconnecting with GYI leaders.

CZECH REPUBLIC AND ROMANIA

Over 40 young leaders met in Czech and another 80 in Romania over the last two weeks to learn how to plant healthy churches that plant other healthy churches. These young leaders are part of the ministries of Josiah Venture in Eastern Europe and are finding themselves drawn to planting new disciple-making churches.



PRAYER REQUESTS

- For safety as I travel to Kuwait and Israel
- For Char and the girls as I am gone... that nothing breaks down:)
- For the funds needed for our Global 2008 GYI Summit in Israel... over \$183,000 will be needed to help these young leaders from around the globe... an expensive but extremely worthwhile investment in their lives!

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

A man had 50 yard line tickets for the Bear's game. As he sits down, a man comes down and asks if anyone is sitting in the seat next to him. "No," he says, "the seat is empty."

"This is incredible," said the man. "Who in their right mind would have a seat like this for the Bears game, the biggest sporting event in the world, and not use it?"

He says, "Well, actually, the seat belongs to me. I was supposed to come with my wife, but she passed away. This is the first Bears game we haven't been to together since we got married in 1967."

"Oh, I'm sorry to hear that. That's terrible. But couldn't you find someone else -- a friend or relative, or even a neighbor to take the seat?"

The man shakes his head. "No, they're all at the funeral."

A minister decided to do something a little different one Sunday morning.

He said, "Today, in church I am going to say a single word and you are going to help me preach. Whatever single word I say, I want you to sing whatever hymn comes to your mind."

The pastor shouted out, "Cross."

Immediately the congregation started singing in unison "The Old Rugged Cross."

The Pastor hollered out "Grace." The congregation began to sing "Amazing Grace."

The Pastor said "Power." The congregation sang "There is Power in the Blood."

The Pastor said "Sex." The congregation fell in stunned silence.

Everyone was in shock. They all nervously began to look around at each other afraid to say anything.

Then, all of a sudden way, from in the back of the church, a little 92-year-old grandfather stood up and began to sing "Precious Memories."



*Support for Dann and Char Spader or the ministries of Global Youth Initiative can be sent to:
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