

GOD IS WORKING

One of the great privileges God has given me is that of seeing how God is working around the globe. In his recent book, Church Planting Movements, David Garrison documents how the rapid acceleration of the Great Commission is happening:

In China: 30,000 new believers are baptized every day. Since 1982 the church has grown from 1.3 million to over 90 million... the fastest growth rate ever in any continent.

In India: In the 90's, one hundred churches a year were started in Orissa, now there are almost 400 a year being planted. In Madhya Pradesh over 4000 new churches were planted in less than seven years.

In Asia: Over 60,000 new believers in Mongolia in the last few years. In Cambodia's killing fields more than 60,000 new Christians and hundreds of new churches started in the last ten years... many meeting in the abandoned machine gun settings.

In Africa: An estimated 1200 new churches are being started every month. Over the past century the professing Christians in Africa has grown from nine million to more than 360 million.

In Latin America: During the decade of the 90's, Christians in a Latin American country overcame relentless government persecution and grew from 235 churches to more than 4000 churches with 40,000 new believers awaiting baptism.

God is at work. The Great Commission is being fulfilled. Let me share with you just a few of my recent experiences:

Central Asia:

Words cannot express my sense of God's presence on my last trip. While in Asia, training 30 leaders behind closed doors in a restricted country, God gave us a great time of fellowship and prayer.

Their passion for the Lord, under severe conditions, was contagious and inspiring.

The new manual, "Making Disciples-Creating Movements of Multiplication" was well received by these leaders... asking me to return in February to train their several hundred of their staff.



Bangkok, Thailand:

At the Campus Crusade Asia-Oceania Leadership Conference leaders from 40 countries gathered for a time of training and discussion on how to fulfill their new mission statement... “building movements everywhere”. Peter Tanchi, the pastor of a 10-12,000 member Philippino Church... spoke on leadership and then I trained the new manual. It was received extremely well... with the leadership of Crusade asking me to be involved in a task force to help drive this understanding of the Life of Christ deeper into the DNA of Crusade.

I thank you for your prayers. I must admit I felt a spiritual battle throughout the conference... sensing a real heaviness during preparation... but then great freedom as soon as I stood up to speak. That is the power of your prayers.



One of the Crusade leaders told me how Bill Bright, the Founder of Crusade... had always talked in his last days about returning to their “first love”.

This leader then went on to say, “the life of Christ was that ‘first love’. We have mastered the task of the Great Commission... but going deeper in understanding the person of Christ must be our first love”. Nothing could have been more encouraging to me!

My passion has been studying the life of Christ. My life message is Christ’s life. For me to now have the chance to play a small part in helping Crusade deepen in that first love... would be a great privilege and honor.

After the conference I received over several invitations to come to other regions of the globe. Please pray with me as I seek to listen carefully to God’s leading.

Manila, Philippines

One of the places I received an invitation to come and train was Manila. But even more exciting is how God has raised up team there that wants to begin a ministry that trains youth leaders... like Sonlife.

Because of this I hope to make a trip soon to visit them... to help them launch their new ministry.

The picture on the right is one of their recent training events.



Brisbane Australia

Next week I head to Australia to train the Campus Ministry leaders the Australian Campus Crusade. I will be training in the new “Making Disciples” manual. **I’d appreciate your prayers as I work with these gifted ministry leaders.** I will have the privilege of having my future son-in-law, Brandon Grant, be a part of the conference. Since he leads a large campus ministry here in Illinois... I look forward to sharing this time with him.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE:

Mahatma Gandhi, as you know, walked barefoot most of the time, which produced an impressive set of calluses on his feet. He also ate very little, which made him rather frail and with his odd diet, he suffered from bad breath.

This made him...A super-calloused fragile mystic hexed by halitosis.

What Happens If Your Dad Is A Graphic Designer.....

