CHRIST FOR THE NATIONS

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THE TRUTH ABOUT ISIS

SPIRIT-LED KIDS

DIVINE ENCOUNTERS ON The playground and in The grocery store

KIM WALKER-SMITH

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HOPE'S PROMISE

remember sitting there in the doctor's office waiting for them to call my name, trying with everything in me to act "normal." Reading a magazine, but not really taking in any of the words' meaning. I sat there in my medicalgreen chair, pretending it was an ordinary moment of an ordinary day, sipping my water and forcing a smile when catching the eye of one of the very obviously-pregnant women around me. Yet inside my heart was pounding and my mind was pulling down thought-after-thought in an effort to keep positive. Did my baby have a heartbeat? Or would today be that all-too-familiar devastation of learning that we'd lost another we had yearned to hold? Tick tock. Tick tock.

If you've lived life for any length of time, you're most certainly familiar with the phenomenon of time "standing still" despite the crawl of the clock. Maybe it was the promotion you anticipated, the college acceptance letter or being chosen for a coveted part in a play. Maybe you too have waited the long, long minute to see the two pink lines on the pregnancy test, the adoption or book publishing approval letter in the mail or a positive doctor's report. The wait for an answered prayer can leave us hopeless if we let it.

With that feeling in mind, can you imagine the children of Israel when they went 400 long years in what theologians call the "silent years?" Yes, four *hundred* years. Not four minutes, four hours or even 40 years. We are talking 400 long years of silence to the chosen people who for centuries had waited for the chosen Messiah. Life as they had known it was totally different. Rome was now in charge. The last time anyone had heard from a prophet was in the Old Testament record of Malachi.

There was no word from God for centuries, when the angel of the Lord finally shows up on the scene to set the stage. You can read about it in Luke 1. Zechariah (which fittingly means "God remembers") and Elizabeth had also prayed for years for a child. They had prayed so long that they were past the normal childbearing age. Remember, no one had heard from the Lord in 400 years. So when Gabriel shows up, so does Zechariah's unbelief. Can you blame him for lack of hope? Many of us can have times when going four minutes without some affirmation of our answer is too much to bear. For me that 40 minutes in the doctor's office that day felt like 40 hours. But, despite hopelessness, God just shut Zechariah's mouth and blessed the child John the Baptist even from inside his mother's womb. God had heard their prayers and moved past the moment of hopelessness. They would have a son, and their son would prepare the way for the Savior of the world!

We can glean something from this if we think about it from the

perspective of this side of history. Though the years were silent, it didn't mean God had changed His mind and wasn't accomplishing what He had said. Rather, He was simply setting the perfect scene and making the way for the perfect timing of both His answer to Zechariah and Elizabeth's immediate prayers for a son, and also their lifelong prayers for a Savior!

Isn't this a beautiful truth? Just because it's been a long time doesn't mean a miracle isn't available! Right where you are, at this very moment, in this particular season of life, God is not dormant on His promises. He is preparing the way for you. He is making the way for His answer to your immediate prayers and your lifelong ones, as well as His unfolding story. Don't lose hope in the wait. He is working it out!

For me, after many long months of waiting stained with loss, the yes was affirmed in that tiny, cold room! After months of ache and even some heartache—He made good on the promise He had put in my heart.

What promises does He want to make good on in your life? Just because you may have endured some "silent years" doesn't mean He isn't working it out to come forth at the perfect time for your story! Keep believing in faith!

In Him, Kelly Head, Editor

6-8



14-16



CFN FOUNDATIONAL PILLARS: THE WORD, FAITH, THE SUPERNATURAL

Dennis Lindsay shares CFN's legacy, principles to help you maintain a strong walk with Christ.

I AM MY BELOVED'S AND HE IS MINE

Two different nations, two different paths, one beautiful picture of God's faithfulness. Read **Golan and Krissia Lindsay's** love story.

ENCOUNTERING JESUS

Kim Walker-Smith was imprisoned by fear until a God encounter changed her forever.

THE TRUTH ABOUT ISIS

Shira Sorko-Ram sheds light on the true, evil roots of ISIS, followed by **Dr. Eddie Hyatt's** commentary on how America can respond to this terrorist threat.

*some pictures not appropriate for children

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GOD'S PURSUIT OF A FORMER LESBIAN

Tami Hassler, once trapped in the homosexual lifestyle, shares her testimony of God's pursuit and His transformational love.

WALK IN TRUE FREEDOM

Bob Hamp shares how Christians can end their self-destructive cycles and walk into God's freedom.



DISCIPLING CULTURE CHANGERS

The coming generation has a role in fulfilling the Great Commission. **Bob Long** shares his passion to disciple nations with emerging leaders.



DEVELOPING A SUPERNATURAL FAMILY

Do you realize that the Holy Spirit wants to speak, move and change the world through your children? **Chris Estrada** shares how to teach them to follow the voice of God.

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CFN FOUNDATIONAL PILLARS

• By Dennis Lindsay

THE Word



Christ For The Nations was built upon 12 foundational pillars. Three of these pillars are—the Word, Faith and the Supernatural. Regarding the first, the Word, God instructs His children to read His Word with a promise of favor.

"Study this book of instruction continually. Meditate on it day and night so you will be sure to obey everything written in it. Only then will you prosper and succeed in all you do" (Joshua 1:8).

"But if you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask for anything you want, and it will be granted" (John 15:7).

We know that the Word represents Christ (John 1:1). The origin of the ministry of Christ For The Nations is completely centered on Christ. Jesus is the priority. A solid and strong understanding of one's origin indicates a firm foundation and healthy identity.

When I think about CFN's origins, I think of my childhood with Dad and Mom.

Dad would lead our devotions and the Word was a regular resource of our family. In our Missions building is a fullsize, bronze figure of Mom, holding an open Bible. Mom read through the Bible more than 60 times. By holding up three fingers and then five, she encouraged the students to read three chapters daily and five on Sunday. This allowed them to read through the entire Bible each year. Following in my parent's footsteps, I require the CFNI students in my class to read the Bible each day to receive a grade. I encourage them to talk to God as they read, just as two close friends talk with each other.

In Genesis 3, we find that God wants fellowship with us. We also read that Satan is out to undermine God's Word, trying to get us to doubt it: "Did God say?" This is why I encourage the staff and students at Christ For The Nations to make God's Word a foundational pillar in their lives.

"I have hidden your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you" (Psalm 119:11).





FAITH



"And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him" (Hebrews 11:6).

Humanistic faith says: "In the beginning there was absolutely nothing. Then, for no purpose or reason, absolutely nothing exploded, and nothing became absolutely everything—for no purpose and for no reason." It is absolutely amazing how educated professors believe and teach such fantasies. This is not an intellectual issue; it is a heart issue. The Bible reveals that such individuals reject God (Romans 1:19, 20), because they love darkness (John 3:19-21) and their eventual judgment will be just (2 Thessalonians 2:12).

If one accepts the first test of faith in the Bible, which is, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth" (Genesis 1:1), then one will have no problem believing the rest of the supernatural miracles in Scripture, such as the virgin birth and the resurrection of Christ. "Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God" (Romans 10:17). Each time our faith is tested, it is strengthened. Usually the test requires us to step out of our comfort zone like Peter did in Romans 14:22-33.

Four times Dad and Mom stepped out in faith by selling our home for the ministry. Each time their faith was strengthened and their reward was lasting. The first time led to launching The Voice of Healing (Christ For The Nations) Ministry. The second sale led to launching the CFN printing ministry that my brother still runs, which prints millions of Bibles and Christian literature in different languages of the world. The third time led to the enhancement of the Native Church department, which has now helped to complete the roofs of nearly 14,000 churches around the world. The fourth sale led to starting Christ For The Nations Institute, which has had over 40,000 students from 75 countries go through its doors. It has also established 50 Associated Bible Schools around the world.

We have learned to trust the Lord. Faith is and has been a vital foundational pillar of this ministry for 67 years.

1954 — CFN begins to do their own printing of the monthly Voice of Healing magazine and many of the 250+ books Gordon wrote. 1961 — Gordon and Freda Lindsay traveled to Central and South America, beginning the Native Church Program, which funds the roofs of churches around the world.

1970 — Gordon starts a Bible school. Christ For The Nations Institute begins with its first group of 50 students.



THE Super Natu Ral



"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere – in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth" (Acts 1:8).

When we speak of the "supernatural" as a foundational pillar, we are speaking of the Holy Spirit empowered Gospel—gifts of the Spirit. Throughout my entire upbringing, I continually heard my dad praying in the Spirit. My dad's 250+ books/booklets are saturated with the supernatural. Not only was Dad's life thoroughly absorbed in the gifts of the Spirit, but so was Mom's, who often gave a prophetic word or an interpretation in the services. She loved to teach students how to receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit and the gift of speaking in tongues.

As a young person traveling with my parents around the nation, I witnessed many miracles of God's supernatural healing power. Once there was a man who had one leg that was 12 inches shorter than the other one. I watched it grow out before my eyes. Another amazing miracle was a young child who had lost an eye in an accident. When Dad taught on healing, he used this child as an example to strengthen the audience's faith. This boy was healed and able to see with or without his plastic eye. When his good eye was securely covered, people in the audience brought notes for him to read, which he did successfully, leading to faith for the miraculous manifested throughout the crowd.

Classes at Christ For The Nations Institute are empowered by the Holy Spirit with faculty who believe in the reality of the supernatural. They are not the healers, only vessels used by God. It is God Who heals and receives the glory. My wife, Ginger, inaugurated *The Healing Place*, where people can come and be taught about healing and receive prayer. She also hosts the annual Voice of Healing Conference.

This is only the beginning of what I believe the Lord intends to accomplish in bringing the world to Himself through His healing power. He has led us to lay this foundation at Christ For The Nations, and He will honor that with His manifestations of glory and power with the next Great Awakening.

Luke 10:19 states, "Look, I have given you authority over all the power of the enemy, and you can walk among snakes and scorpions and crush them. Nothing will injure you."

These three of the 12 Foundational Pillars represent a part of the core values, the DNA of CFN that unites our family. They are the glue of the organization. They serve to be a permanent reminder of our origins, a ministry that was built by our Lord. We will explore the rest of the 12 pillars in future editions of this magazine—*The Voice.*

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I AM MY BELOVED'S AND HE IS MINE

By Michelle Ofori-Ansah



"When I say I love you, this is what I mean: I will cherish you as a gift from God, celebrate you for who you are, honor you above myself, serve you with joy, support your vision and dreams, and sacrifice for you ..."

— Golan Lindsay



In a joyous Texas-sized celebration this past October, Golan Gordon Lindsay married his beautiful sweetheart Krissia Sanabria, a CFNI alumnus and a lawyer from Honduras currently studying to obtain her U.S. bar acceptance. Celebrating with friends and family from many nations of the world, they made a covenant before God promising to honor, love and obey until death do they part. In his written portion of the vows, Golan said, "When I say I love you, this is what I mean: I will cherish you as a gift from God, celebrate you for who you are, honor you above myself, serve you with joy, support your vision and dreams, and sacrifice for you ..."

For those who know the Lindsay family, the beautiful depth of love displayed held tremendous significance. Since Golan grew up in what often felt like a fishbowl, a common situation for those whose family is well-known in ministry, and because he had troublesome spots as a youth, his story is especially compelling. With Golan now part of the leadership of the worldwide ministry, Christ For The Nations (CFN), and the understanding of how "Mom" Lindsay had said that she hoped that her grandson Golan might carry out the legacy of leadership for the ministry one day, seeing whom he had chosen to be his life partner and companion in that role was important for those who know and love the family and ministry.

Golan grew up living on CFN's campus as the son of Dennis and Ginger Lindsay, the current President and Chief Operating Officer of CFN. He is the first to say he was "raised right" but didn't always seem to make the right choices. "I constantly got into trouble. I lived on the edge, testing boundaries, often obliterating them and doing whatever I wanted to do."





"My heart wanted to do right, but I just gave in a lot, and when I gave in I couldn't stop. I used to crave the excitement, and I just did what I wanted. Afterward, I would ask, 'God, why can't You just take this desire from me?'"

In the spiritual tug-of-war he was experiencing, it was his parent's godly marriage and steadfast testimony that reached him through the darkness he felt surrounded in. Golan knew he had to make a big change if he was ever to have that reality himself. So he left Tulsa having completed his B.A., and came home.

"I just knew I was tired of living this way," he said. "I saw in my parents' lives that they were blessed. Their lives were going in the right direction and mine was going very wrong. I didn't want to choose this wrong path anymore. I saw my friends in the clubs and how their lives were messed up because of their lifestyle. I wanted to choose the path my parents had chosen, serving the Lord because even though it was often hard, they were very blessed." "Even though it didn't look like it at times my life was not about waiting, but committing myself to the plans of the One that never fails,"

— Krissia Lindsay

In His enormous faithfulness, God reached out to meet Golan exactly where he was. As he felt himself turning from the world back toward God, Golan shared his desire to make right choices with his mom and she encouraged him—he could do it. He had tried before, but this time it was different—over the next month, God sparked a passion for the Word and prayer in him. "After this point, I didn't have any desire to do those sinful things anymore," he explained of receiving his God-given freedom.

Over the next years, Golan earned his MBA and worked in the Christ For The Nations business office as Director of Human Relations and then Director of Operations. "The Lord did a miracle. He put an excitement in my heart to read good books, read the Word, to be in prayer. I took a year off sports; I didn't play, I didn't watch TV and that was the best time of my life. I was so content and nothing could bother me. I just wanted God," he explained.



After Golan proposed to Krissia in Jerusalem, his father, Dennis Lindsay, prayed a blessing over their marriage and their future.

It's clear now that that precious time was about God setting the stage to answer the deep desire of Golan's heart; to have a life blessed like his parents, to come together in love and marriage with a God-fearing woman and to face life together.

Golan met his future bride, Krissia, about five years later. He had been walking with God and doing his best to follow His plan, not actively looking for his future wife. Then he saw Krissia and everything changed. They met when she started at Christ For The Nations Institute, and got to know each other on the CFN Israel Tour, which she was invited by her pastor to join.

"After the Lord helped me to turn my life around, I knew the type of woman I wanted to marry, but I really didn't think I would be able to find someone who I was attracted to, yet who also had a strong relationship with the Lord—until I met Krissia. There was no playing on the edges of things, or finding gray areas with her. She truly lives a life above reproach. And, she is beautiful as well," he said with a smile.

Krissia herself was born in El Salvador. While her story is different from Golan's in many ways, she also went through trials testing her faith and obedience. She vividly remembers that her mom first came to know the Lord when Krissia was only 5 years old, becoming the first Christian in her family. Her dad, however, was against Christianity and did not approve of her mom taking Krissia and her older sister to church. This was such a struggle between Krissia's parents that it resulted in a one-year separation. But it was during this time that a tenacious ability to stand in prayer for an answer from God was birthed in this young girl. Not only did her father eventually come to the Lord, he received a call into ministry. Years later, the entire family moved to Honduras as missionaries to pastor a church. So, Krissia too is familiar with growing up in a ministry family and the sacrifices involved. She also shares a wonderful spiritual legacy she has in her parents.

Krissia remained steadfast in her faith throughout her life, spending time under the leadership of Pastors Ricardo and Reina Salazar from Cristo A Las Naciones ministry. She was a youth pastor, worship leader and held many ministry leadership roles, yet keeping a heart of obedience to the Lord to wait for the right one was still a struggle at times. Her pastor, Ricardo Salazar, was a CFNI graduate so she had a longtime desire to attend the renowned institute to sharpen her ministry call although she had to wait until it was the right time. Throughout her undergraduate and master's degrees, she sought God for her husband and for the release to attend CFNI. While waiting was hard, she determined to follow God's plan no matter the sacrifices required.



Krissia's parents, Ernesto and Ester Sanabria, and Golan's parents, Dennis and Ginger Lindsay, celebrate their wedding.

It was eight years after it had been on her heart to attend CFNI, and going now required laying down a profession, friendships and leadership roles. But, she was reminded of the call she had felt on her life for ministry, and so she came.

Just three months later she would meet Golan Lindsay. "Even though it didn't look like it at times, my life was not about waiting, but committing myself to the plans of the One that never fails," she said with joy.

Two years after meeting, Golan proposed to Krissia in Jerusalem. Then, just five months later, they were married. As they stood at the altar before God and their community, they came with their unique story, showing an outward triumphant testimony of their obedience to the God who never fails—joined in joy by the many loved ones who undergirded and stood through many years to contend for God's best for them.

Golan shared his thoughts on his new marriage, "I am blessed beyond measure by Krissia. Her walk with God inspires me and I love that. God has truly done 'exceedingly abundantly above all that I ask or think' (Ephesians 3:20)." Krissia is the crowning jewel in Golan's testimony, he says, proof that redemption is possible and beautiful.



Krissia's pastors Ricardo and Reina Salazar

ENCOUNTERING JESUS

WITH KIM WALKER-SMITH

By Belinda Elliott

Kim Walker-Smith, of Jesus Culture, has led worship around the world, but she wasn't always as confident as she is today. She recalls her young adult years as filled with insecurity and ruled by fear. Often, she was afraid to leave her house, whether that meant traveling overseas or just heading across town to meet friends.

rom a young age, she says, she also questioned her self-worth. Believing her parents wanted a son, she hid deep within her heart the idea that she was a mistake and never should have been born. It wasn't until she had an amazing encounter with Christ that she began a journey of healing.

Through two incredible visions, God revealed to her how much He loved her. In one, He demonstrated the amount of His love with arms that stretched beyond what she could see. In another, He revealed that much like a father admiring the antics of a toddler, He delights in her, and she brings Him great joy.

She longs for everyone to have similar encounters with Jesus, to understand that God wants to partner with us as we fulfill the plans He has for our lives and that He wants us to be successful. "God doesn't take the dreams in your heart and the plans He has for you and dangle them in front of you saying, 'Look what you could have. I hope you get there. Good luck. Maybe you'll make it," she says. "God wants you to get there and flourish. He wants you to do it well."

For that to happen, we must cultivate our relationship with Him. "It doesn't matter that you know that Jesus loves you because you learned it in Bible school," Walker-Smith explains. "To actually have a real relationship with Jesus, to know Him, to know His voice, to partner with Him, to fall in love with Him...that's what He desires."

To thrive in this partnership with God, she says, there are four principles we must embrace. Each one hinges on falling more in love with Christ.



The newest release from the Jesus Culture band was recorded live with Kim Walker-Smith during Jesus Culture's annual Encounter Conference in Sacramento at California's Historic Memorial Auditorium in January 2014. This album seeks to bring awareness of the unstoppable love of God.

"Our prayer for this album is that you would encounter the unstoppable, over-thetop, zealous, extravagant love that God has for you," says Banning Liebscher, Director of Jesus Culture. This significant recording for the Jesus Culture family includes 12 original tracks, coupled with a BluRay Disc that features 13 songs and the concluding message of the conference by Liebscher, "Answering the Call to Prayer."



Kim Walker-Smith spoke at the Youth For The Nations summer camp, sharing her heart for helping young people have true God encounters. She has quickly become one of the strongest voices for the current youth revival. All of those who are in a worship service led by Kim will catch her contagious love of worship.

WHAT YOU BELIEVE MATTERS

Do you believe God is a loving Father who wants nothing but the best for you? Do you believe that He is good all the time? "This kind of belief requires total trust and total surrender," Walker-Smith says.

Storms will come that test these beliefs. The only way we can hold to our faith is to remember what we know to be true about God. His love and our deep relationship with Him are the things we can cling to.

She points to the biblical account of Peter walking on water until he looks at the storm raging around him and starts to sink. "The moment you take your eyes off Jesus and put all your attention on those circumstances that's the moment you begin to sink," she says. "There can be no louder voice than His voice in your life. This is how we can walk through the storms."

DO NOT FEAR

"The more in love with Jesus you are, the more fear dissipates in your life, because perfect love casts out all fear," Walker-Smith explains. "Falling in love with Jesus should come with a warning label that says, 'You might do crazy things."

A freedom from fear is needed to accomplish God's plans for us, because He often calls us to do things that seem far beyond our capabilities. "When fear becomes broken off in your life, that dream you have is not too big," she says.

"Right now, you might be thinking about that dream asking, 'How could I ever do that? How could I ever raise that money? How could I ever make it to that country?' But when you are a crazy person in love with Jesus, you look at that and you laugh because you know that there is nothing too big for Jesus."



Kim and her husband, Skyler Smith, lead worship, teach and impart around the world. They also collaborated on the album *Home*.



Kim's heart is to see people transformed by experiencing God's love and to see worship change the course of lives and nations.

DO NOT BE IMPATIENT

"Embrace the season you are in," Walker-Smith advises. Often, we think God has abandoned us when we walk through difficult times. Instead, we need to understand God leads us to those desert places to prepare us for what lies ahead.

"The desert season is about intimacy," she explains. "He calls us into the desert so we can learn to hear Him in a new way, so we can grow in our intimacy with Him."

For us to be successful where He wants to take us next there are things He needs us to learn before we get there. She recalls a time in her life when she experienced this. Through a local singing competition, she won an opportunity to audition for the producers of American Idol. Before she auditioned, the Lord told her if she wanted to be on the show, He would give it to her. She decided not to pursue it. Initially, she felt like she had disappointed her friends and family, but she looks back on it as a wise decision.

"If I had gone down that road and I had gone into that realm, I don't think I would even be a Christian anymore. I was not in a good place. I'd only begun my journey of healing with the Lord," she says. "It was not time for me to be on a stage. I look back at all those years, and everything that God did in my life prepared me for this moment right now, to be right here."

DO NOT DISQUALIFY YOURSELF

Just as she felt unworthy of God's love, Walker-Smith says she sees Christians distance themselves from God because they don't think they are good enough for Him to use them. Some may struggle with addiction, anger or other sins, or some may feel their past prevents them from being used by God. She points to 1 John 3:20, which promises, "If our hearts condemn us, we know God is greater than our hearts, and He knows everything."

"He is bigger than that voice that says you've already ruined it. He's bigger than all of that and His love is greater than that," she says. Jesus created us and knows everything about us, yet He still pursues us and longs to partner with us. It all goes back to encountering Christ and His love for us, she says. "One encounter with Jesus is all that it takes for your whole world to change."

> Kim Walker-Smith is a passionate worship leader with an anointing to bring an entire generation into an encounter with God. She is one of the worship leaders for the Jesus Culture band. Their current album, *Unstoppable Love*, is available at jesusculture.com. She is married to Skyler Smith and has two sons, Wyatt and Bear.

Youth For The Nations is a summer youth camp/conference in Dallas, TX for teens and youth pastors from all around the world to come together and passionately pursue the presence of God. Visit youthforthenations.com.



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• By Shira Sorko-Ram, Co-Founder of Maoz Israel

Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu stood beside the U.N.'s Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, and declared, "Hamas is like ISIS, Hamas is like al-Qaeda, Hamas is like Hezbollah, Hamas is like Boko Haram."

The most significant element of this statement is that Netanyahu is the only world leader who has dared to point out this obvious fact. Strategically, ISIS has a united ideology, a clear belief system and a common goal. It is the same ideology and belief system as that of Hamas.

ISIS

Not long ago ISIS was much smaller in numbers than Hamas and its range of operations matched its strength. Now that it has grown exponentially, so have its aspirations. The original name, AQI (al-Qaeda Iraq) became ISIS (Islamic State of Iraq and Syria), then became ISIL (change the word "Syria" to "Levant" which includes all of the Eastern Mediterranean) and finally has become IS, the Islamic Statemeaning the entire world.

But how did it all begin? The founder of what has become ISIS or the Islamic State, Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, was simply a street thug, a free agent looking to create his own terrorist organization. When the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq began in 2003, Zarqawi commanded a campaign of suicide bombings against Shiites across Iraq - with the same tactics Yasser Arafat used in the Second Intifada against Israel. Zarqawi then joined up with al-Qaeda and formed the AQI, (al-Qaeda Iraq).

Zarqawi was killed in June 2006 when the U.S. Air Force hit his hideout, 20 miles north of Baghdad. His foreign militants, demoralized by Zarqawi's death, melted away with President George Bush's surge in Iraq.

It was only in 2011, when American troops left a vacuum in Iraq, that the AQI's new leader, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi took advantage of the Sunni's feeling of resentment against the Iraqi Shiite-dominated government.

Baghdadi's vision was and is to take over all Arab nations—as a start. Hamas' vision is to take over all of "Palestine"—the Holy Land from the Mediterranean to the Jordan River for now. The biblical Holy Land does also include parts of Lebanon, Syria, Jordan and Sinai. However, Hamas is concentrating first on conquering "the occupied territories," i.e. the area of the Holy Land where the Jewish people now live.

Though both terrorist groups are Sunnis, ISIS and Hamas dislike each other. Hamas likes to portray itself as a victim of Israeli aggression and usually hides its terrorist acts from the cameras while ISIS glorifies its terrorism with gory video clips and pictures. However, both have the same goal to conquer and control the Holy Land. Pray that every hidden thing will be brought to light (Job 28:11) and that good would prevail against evil.



Hamas: Killing by dragging a man behind a motorcycle.



Hamas: Islamic terrorist groups murder in public and in private.



ISIS: Killing by Crucifixion.

HAMAS

Hamas is an offspring of the Jihadist Muslim Brotherhood. And no one can say that the Brotherhood doesn't have global aspirations for a Sharia-governed Caliphate. It has over 2,000 branches throughout the world, including in Western countries!

The only reason Hamas is not also spreading like a cancer across the Middle East—as is ISIS—is because of Israel's powerful army and the Jewish people's will to survive. Israel knows it cannot leave a vacuum or grow lethargic or Hamas would metastasize in every nook and corner of Israel. For this reason, there are no free and open border crossings from Gaza into Israel. Even though the nations howl, Israel has not allowed an airport or seaport in Gaza, for the simple reason they would be used to ship in weapons to destroy the Jewish state. Israel believes what Hamas publically declares: that Hamas' goal is to kill every single Jew in the world. (Google Hamas Constitution.)

ISIS' immediate goal is to wipe out the Christians of Syria and Iraq plus minorities like the Yazidi people, either by converting them to Islam or killing them. This is a call for genocide. ISIS and Hamas agree on one major point: Both groups want to eliminate an entire people group.

*Some pictures not appropriate for children. This article reprinted by permission from Maoz Israel. For more about the Middle East and Israel go to maozisrael.org.

HOW TO RESPOND TO THE THREAT OF ISIS

• By Dr. Eddie Hyatt

"We have never seen anything like it, and we must be ready for anything," were the words of Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel in discussing the threat of the jihadist ISIS movement with an obvious note of concern in his voice. Military and intelligence officials are taking very seriously the threat of ISIS to bring its horrific brand of terror to America and fly its flag over the White House. Could it happen?

We must remember that this battle will not be won ultimately with jet fighters and tanks because, at its core, this is an ideological war for truth. This is why a strong and vibrant Christianity that can wage spiritual warfare is absolutely necessary. This is why we must pray for another Great Awakening in our land. This is why we also must learn from history, from those who have preceded us.

There is an example from the early history of the church that has amazing parallels to our nation and its current situation with radical Islam. Like America, this area saw great moves of God and became the bastion of Christianity from the second through the sixth centuries. The light of the Gospel shone brightly and there emerged some of the greatest leaders and thinkers the church has known.

Yet, because of certain trends that weakened and watered down the faith of the Christians of this area, it fell to Islam in the seventh century and is still under Islamic control. In this article, I share three important lessons from this period; three things we must avoid in order to not repeat the mistakes of the North African Church and suffer a similar fate.

THE POWER AND PROMINENCE OF THE NORTH AFRICAN CHURCH

Beginning in the first century, perhaps with the Ethiopian official whom Philip led to Christ (Acts 8:26-40), Christianity spread rapidly across North Africa. Paganism and false religions fell like dominoes as the message of Christ swept across the continent. Tertullian (160-220), the famous North African church father and apologist, wrote to a pagan official: "We are but of yesterday, and yet we have filled all the places that belong to you."

Along with Tertullian, unusually gifted Christian leaders, such as Cyprian and Augustine, emerged in North Africa. They formulated theologies that are still the basis for much of the thinking in both Catholicism and Protestantism.

In its heyday, no one would have guessed that Christian North Africa would fall to Islam. Nonetheless, that is exactly what happened in the seventh century. Here are three trends (or sins) in the North African church that we must avoid in order to help guarantee that we will not suffer a similar fate.



Abu Bakr Al-Baghdadi, leader of ISIS or the Islamic State



Hamas publicly executing men. Note three bodies already on the ground. The man in the striped shirt is waiting his turn while many men and children watch the executions.



AVOID BEING DIVISIVE

It is one thing to disagree; it is another thing to be divisive. Christians can disagree in nonessential issues and still be one in Christ. A divisive spirit, however, divides and weakens the church, making it vulnerable to outside forces that want to destroy it. Divisiveness was a major factor that weakened the North African church and made it vulnerable to the attacks of Islam in the seventh century.

This divisive spirit showed itself especially in the Donatist controversy that erupted early in the fourth century. It was centered on whether those who had denied the faith in recent persecutions could, now that persecution was past, become leaders in the church.

One group led by Donatus insisted on high standards for those in leadership. The people on the other side insisted on mercy toward those who had recanted their faith in the past and allowed them to serve as bishops and leaders. They were unable to come to agreement. This controversy eventually caused a split in the North African church. The rivalry was intense and this issue left a deep wound in the North African church from which it never recovered.

Avoid being divisive. Satan's tactic is "divide and conquer." We must be uncompromising about truth, but at the same time, be careful that we are not so intent on digging up the tares that we also uproot the wheat in the process (Matthew 13:29).



The Donatist controversy was indicative of a "watering down" of the call of the Gospel to discipleship and absolute commitment to Christ. Yes, we must offer mercy, forgiveness and redemption in the Name of Christ to a broken and fragmented world; but we must, at the same time, make clear the call to absolute surrender to Christ and His Lordship, which is just as clear in the Gospels. The evidence indicates that North African Christianity became soft and self-centered. As individual commitment to Christ waned and moral laxity increased, the church was further weakened, making it vulnerable to the committed armies of Islam when they arrived on the scene.

We must not allow this to happen to our generation. This is why we must pray for

another Great Awakening in our land.

God is calling his people to make a shift from a watered-down, me-centered approach to the Gospel to a selfless, Christ-centered approach. In this new attitude and mindset, we are no longer preoccupied with what God will do for us, but our consuming passion is to know His heart and do His will.



AVOID PURSUITS OF POWER

Power struggles go right along with a divisive spirit. Nothing weakens the church as much as internal power struggles for prominence and control. Many power struggles emerged in the church in North Africa, especially as it aligned itself more and more with the Roman political order.

This was another criticism of the Donatists toward the mainstream church—its alignment with the Roman state. When Augustine became the bishop of Hippo in 395, he sought reconciliation with the Donatists, for the separation had occurred before his time. Augustine, however, did not see unity as occurring through a mutual acceptance of one another in Christ. As far as he was concerned, the Donatists were sheep that had gone astray and the only path for reconciliation and unity was for them to return to the Catholic fold, which they had left.

When the Donatists rebuffed Augustine's overture, he appealed to the Roman emperor to intervene. He condemned them and declared being a Donatist illegal. Those who refused to rejoin the Catholic Church were imprisoned or executed. Some fled to the desert, and others committed suicide rather than submit to the imperial decree.

The power struggles in the North African church greatly weakened it and made it vulnerable to the Islamic invaders when they arrived. Only as Christian leaders have the confidence to be servants to the people of God will we see the body of Christ equipped to rise up in great strength and power, able to conquer every foe with the truth of the Gospel.

WHY I EXPECT ANOTHER GREAT AWAKENING

When Muslim armies began invading North Africa around the middle of the seventh century, the once powerful North African church did not have the internal strength of a vital faith and moral character to put up a defense, and they succumbed to the invaders. The noted church historian, Philip Schaff, says, "A large number of nominal Christians who had so fiercely quarreled with each other about unfruitful subtleties of their creeds, surrendered their faith to the conqueror." Muslim armies eventually swept across the entire continent bringing an end to Christianity's prominence and replacing the cross with the crescent. That is still the state of North Africa today.

I do not believe this will happen to America. I do not deny that it could, nor do I take the threat lightly. But, I believe churches, ministries, groups and fellowships, rising to the occasion, are calling one another to a new consecration and commitment to Jesus Christ.

I believe more and more people are praying in sincere faith for another Great Awakening in our land. Because of this, I believe we'll see a mighty outpouring of the Holy Spirit sweep across this nation and around the world. I believe God is hearing our prayers and, as He promised in 2 Chronicles 7:14, He will heal our land.

PRAYER POINTS



Pray that the church will avoid divisiveness, a watering down of our faith and power struggles.

Pray for a strong and vibrant Body of Christ that can wage spiritual warfare.

Pray for another Great Awakeng, a mighty outpouring of the Holy Spirit that will sweep across this nation and around the world.

P n o d t

Pray that America will not follow the pattern of history but will instead draw closer to God and to His plans and purposes for her.

Dr. Eddie Hyatt is an author, ordained minister and founder/director of Revive America. Through Revive America, his goal is to help lay the biblical and historical foundation for another Great Awakening in our land. If you would like to host a Revive America event with your group or congregation, contact Dr. Hyatt at dreddiehyatt@gmail.com. His books are available on Amazon and at eddiehyatt.com.



Media Outreach in the Hebrew Language

Intiguing Jews

Ari and Shira Sorko-Ram have been ministering in Israel since 1976, through evangelism, discipleship and mentoring, founding Messianic Jewish congregations, publishing books in Hebrew, humanitarian aid, leadership conferences and much more.

And now, Maoz Israel Ministries, headquartered in Tel Aviv, Israel, is reaching out to our nation through the Internet with the Good News of their Messiah. We are developing a Hebrew-language outreach website – **www.viewthis.com** – the best way to reach Israel's hi-tech savvy young generation. Israel is a nation that has more people per capita on their computers than any other nation – especially the young generation, ages 18 to 35. We will reach homes that have never before been possible with the Good News in the Hebrew language!

The biggest challenge in presenting the Gospel in Israel is that the entire population has been educated to not believe in Jesus. We believe what Jesus said: *"If they would believe Moses they would believe Me."* We will use the Internet to reteach the general public in Israel what is actually written in the Scriptures and what Moses really said.



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AN URGENT CALL FROM ISRAELI BELIEVERS TO HELP ISRAEL





• By Tami Hassler



then in sixth grade, my neighbor began molesting me. The molestation destroyed my selfesteem and coupled with having an emotionally-absent father made me unable to trust boys/ men. By high school, the perfect storm of being a 'tomboy', having

an emotionally distant father, being unable to trust men because of the molestation and two of my teammates coming out as gay led me to question– was I a lesbian?

By the time I started my first lesbian relationship, at around 16, it felt scary but also comforting. It was so much easier because of my inability to trust men. As I became immersed in the lesbian lifestyle, I began to share their hatred of the church. I had grown up in church, but never experienced God for myself. I started to experience discrimination for my lifestyle–some Christians would wait outside of gay bars and yell at us, "You're going to hell!" On one occasion, I responded, "If you are what heaven is like, I don't want to go anyway!"

I had found acceptance in the gay lifestyle. But it wasn't fulfilling. I partied, drank and sometimes did drugs,

"GOD, IF YOU ARE REAL AND THESE PEOPLE REJECT ME I WILL NEVER SET FOOT IN A CHURCH AGAIN, SO YOU ARE BETTER OFF JUST LEAVING ME ALONE."

> but the inner peace and contentment I needed never materialized. Even then, although I didn't realize it at the time, God was actively pursuing me. I had a group of cousins who were interceding for me. God told them to go to Portland, Oregon and they would find me in a specific bar at a specific time. They found me there with my girlfriend and they said, "What are you doing here? This isn't who you are; come with us." I replied, "No, I can't." But God wasn't finished reaching out to me.

> My Christian mom had a hard time with my living as a lesbian.

Unintentionally, she pushed me even farther from God by her hurtful responses to my lifestyle. But she was also the instrument that brought me into relationship with Him. A simple request, "Tami, all I want for my birthday is for you to go to church. Will you do that for me?" At first, I

> adamantly refused. Being around Christians was the last thing I wanted. But I finally decided it was a small thing to do and I would do it, for her.

I found a church in Portland, and I sat in the back. I can't remember what was preached

or what songs were sung, but I do remember the peace inside that church. Even though there were about 800 people in attendance that day, the pastor and his wife, Scott and Mary, found me and introduced themselves. They said they would love to talk with me, but all I could think was, "If you knew who and what I was, you wouldn't be so ready to talk to me." As I drove home, I started screaming to God, "God, if You are real and these people reject me I will never set foot in a church again, so You are better off just leaving me alone." But then, I thought, are you afraid of these people? Have a couple of drinks, go

"THE CHURCH LOVED ME RIGHT THROUGH MY STUFF AND THE LOVE, PATIENCE AND GENTLENESS I EXPERIENCED DREW ME IN UNTIL I EVENTUALLY GAVE MY LIFE TO THE LORD."

tell them exactly who you are and let them freak out so you can see just how ridiculous Christians are.

I did exactly that. I had a couple of drinks, went to their office, and I said, "Look, before you even get started, I drink, I do drugs once in a while and I have a girlfriend like most people have a boyfriend." And I started to walk out. They started crying and said, "Don't leave! We've been praying for the past two weeks that my wife could share her story and God sent you."

You see, the pastor's wife had come out of the lesbian lifestyle too. As she shared her story, I began to realize the enormity of what had happened. Of all the churches I could choose to go to on that day, I chose the one that had a pastor's wife that once been a lesbian. Even I had to recognize that that was God.

And so, God's intoxicating love pursued me, overtook me and brought me into relationship with these pastors. I felt such love from them. It didn't matter if I showed up smelling like beer, had a girlfriend or if it had been a month since I had made it to church. They always had open arms, a hug and a welcoming smile. The church loved me right through my stuff and the love, patience and gentleness I experienced drew me in until I eventually gave my life to the Lord. I became enamored with Jesus, experiencing His presence, peace, acceptance and love.

One day as I prayed, I heard Him say that my girlfriend was not a part of the future He had for me. He said it with such love and gentleness, so even though agonizingly painful, I ended my relationship with her. I wanted Jesus more than any human relationship.

But even after I gave up my lesbian relationship, I wasn't perfect. I still fell, I still had to pick myself up and run to the foot of the cross. I needed deliverance, yes, but I also needed counseling. I needed someone to walk with me through my healing from those scars and inner wounds that had led me to embrace the lesbian lifestyle.

One of the ways that God healed me was through the Bible school Christ For The Nations Institute (CFNI). My pastors, CFNI alumni themselves, encouraged me to attend CFNI and while I was apprehensive about being around so many Christians so fresh from my past (it had only been eight months!), I applied and was accepted. Throughout my time there such healing flooded my life from chapel services, time with teachers and fellow students in the classroom, and counseling sessions with staff and faculty. I needed the in-depth, personal and spiritual encounters God provided. They helped me believe I was worthy and that God truly loved me.

In addition, I found my husband, Steve, while at CFNI. I graduated in 1994 from CFNI and got married in June 1994. It wasn't easy at first because I was still extremely insecure and not finished walking out my healing. But, we have been married almost 21 years, are best friends and are more in love with each passing year. We have two children. Caleb is 19 and in a Christian school of leadership and Courtney is 15 and in high school — both are on fire for God.

Since graduating from CFNI I have ministered in many different settings, traveling and speaking at churches and conferences, pastoring and teaching in the local church. But what I think is the best job this side of heaven is just walking alongside those who others have given up on. I am living proof that God never gives up His pursuit of us and I try to bring that message of hope to others in need of His never-ending love.

For more information about CFNI go to cfni.org.



Walk in

Greedom

• By Belinda Elliott

uthor and speaker Bob Hamp spent nine years on the staff of Gateway Church in Southlake, Texas, where he was tasked with developing the Freedom Ministry. During his time there, he trained teachers and leaders to help the people under their care find freedom. He hopes the principles he teaches will empower all Christians to walk in freedom and lead others to do the same. Only then, he says, can Christians truly fulfill their destiny.

As a professional counselor, Hamp spent 16 years in private practice helping individuals with problems

ranging from anxiety and eating disorders to thought disorders. During this time, he says, he often struggled to find ways to present the Gospel to people in a way that would truly transform them and offer practical help with the problems they were facing. He spent

TO RECEIVE, CONTAIN AND BROADCAST THE BREATH OF GOD.

CHRISTIANS WERE CREATED

years praying and researching this issue and compiled his findings in the book *Think Differently, Live Differently.*

He found the key to living the life Christians were created for, and helping others achieve this, is to restore their identity. Christians were created to receive, contain and broadcast the breath of God, he says. When God exhaled into Adam and Eve, His breath of life became a constant source for them. As a result, they expressed life to all around them. Since the couple's act of disobedience in the Garden of Eden, Christians have lost the truth of this source being their identity.

"On the day that they stopped eating from the Tree of Life they died," Hamp explains. "That's what happens when you stop consuming life; but worse than that, they turned to another source and that new source was this new thing called knowledge. Adam and Eve disconnect from this thing called life, and suddenly they're empty on the inside."

When Christians are empty on the inside, they seek anything that will make them feel alive. This can take the form of

> bad things, perhaps drugs or materialism, or it can take the form of things that appear good—even ministry. People mistakenly believe if they could just learn Greek or memorize enough Scripture, they will become "good" Christians and be able to live up

to what God calls them to. But this performance-based approach isn't what God's Word teaches.

"We can give people knowledge and motivation and believe we're giving them Christianity, but that is humanism," Hamp says. "When what we do is teach them information and try to motivate them to fulfill that information, we are saying, 'You are capable of it in and of yourself. You don't need another source.' That's how the knowledge of good and evil makes us think." As pastors and leaders in the church seek to care for the people around them, this is where they must start—the restoration of identity. They need to help people move back to the true source of life.

"The good news is that it's not up to you and your ability," Hamp explains. "It's simply up to you to turn from self as source and to turn to the source called the Tree of Life, and when you turn to this thing called the Tree of Life, now it becomes God doing it in you, not you doing it for Him. In this tree (of knowledge) you can give a lot of great stuff, but there is not a drop of life that you can give out from

here. You get over to Tree of Life and you can kind of stumble around and people will start to come alive around you."

Another key to helping others find freedom is to teach them to take their focus off their problem. Often, people who

seek professional counseling have spent years analyzing their problem and trying to find ways to fix it. Hamp points to Matthew 6:33 as a key teaching on this matter: Seek first the kingdom of God.

"Whatever you seek first organizes your life," Hamp explains. "If what people seek first is help with their problem, their problem has been given priority and lordship over every other thing in their life. Things are not going to get better. They're going to get worse." When Christians help people seek God's kingdom first, they connect them to the One who can transform their lives and take dominion over their problems.

"People think that freedom is actually getting all that stuff out of their lives," Hamp says. "They think, 'If I can get rid of pain, and get rid of demons, and get rid of all this stuff, then I will be restored and I'll be free, and I can live free of all the junk.' The dilemma is, Jesus didn't just come to get rid of stuff, He came to give us Himself. Freedom is not the absence of something, it's the presence of Someone."

FREEDOM IS NOT THE ABSENCE OF SOMETHING, IT'S THE PRESENCE OF SOMEONE. When Christians live from this source each day, their lives are filled with God's power. The Christian life becomes less about overcoming sin or struggles and more about growing into the fullness of all that we were created for.

"We need to have the mindset that my soul was made to contain and broadcast the very breath of God who created everything that is," Hamp says. "I can wake up every day and take dominion over the things that God has given me dominion over, and I can broadcast those things that were present in that place that Jesus lived before He invented the earth. If we stop short of getting people back what they've lost and we don't give them what they don't know they could have yet, we're not fully caring for the human soul."



For more about Bob Hamp visit BobHamp.com. This article was taken from the message Bob Hamp shared at CFN's Voice of Healing Conference.

If you have a heart to learn more about healing, go to cfn.org.



• By Bob Long



he foundation of the Great Commission is the authority of Jesus. The "Christ Event" did not end at the resurrection. It was fully completed only when He ascended back to heaven, was seated on

the throne of David at the right hand of the Father and was crowned King, where He was instructed to remain until all His enemies were defeated. In the meantime, the Father declared that King Jesus would now rule "in the midst of His enemies" (Psalm 2; Psalm 110; Ephesians 1:18-23).

All authority in heaven and earth, that is to say, all the authority in the entire spiritual realm and all the authority in the natural realm now belong to King Jesus. Everything in every realm is subject to Him, and the Great Commission is the mandate and the delegation to the Church to disciple the nations of the earth. If we are going to fulfill that, we must be much more intentional about how we develop leaders! Our goals as well as our methods could use a fresh, more strategic approach.

We must recognize the calling, intentionally develop it, then wholeheartedly commission, ordain and send specific leaders into business, government, journalism, media, arts, education, science and every other arena of culture that shapes the thinking of the peoples of the earth.

We must take Acts 13:1-3 as our model. The Church is commanded to intentionally train five-fold leaders (apostles, prophets, pastors, teachers, evangelists) whom God can supernaturally call into any sector, arena or aspect of any society, any culture in any nation!

1. Spiritual Identity (Ephesians 4:11)

We must recognize that biblically defined apostles, prophets, shepherds, teachers and evangelists are to be intentionally and systematically developed, prepared and trained to go outside of Church culture. They need to be sent and supported into every part of secular culture. We cannot transform an arena we are not involved in.

2. Spiritual Discipline (2 Timothy 2:15)

There are two overarching areas of spiritual discipline to develop: individual, disciplined, planned study of the Word and prayer times (Acts 6) and corporate fasting, prayer and prophetic strategy (Acts 13).

In addition to our craft skills, we must pay the price in the study of the Word and for a passionate prayer life. The nations are not in need of any more highly intelligent but selfishly ambitious leaders. Cultural transformation requires both supernatural signs and servants!

3. Spiritual Authority (Acts 13:6)

We must impart deeply to our emerging leaders a revelation of the authority of Christ and His ecclesia in the earth. The Church in this hour needs a fuller revelation of the King and His Kingdom that is increasing in the earth and of the unstoppable Church He has brought forth (Isaiah 2; Matthew 16).

A powerful example of this is found in Acts 13:6. "They found Bar-Jesus, a Jewish false prophet who was with Sergius Paulus, the proconsul, an intelligent man."

Paul confronted the false prophetic and the false supernatural that was deceiving the regional official of the Roman civil government. He confronted it with a much stronger display of raw, supernatural, spiritual power rooted in the Truth of who Jesus is. In verse 11, Paul demonstrated Great Commission authority to release physical blindness upon the one who was supernaturally operating in the dark arts to bring spiritual blindness upon the leadership of one of the "7 Mountains" of culture! The assignment of the false prophetic to block civil government from seeing the Truth was broken. Spiritual blindness and deception upon governmental leaders never leads to moral policies and laws in the land!

This is a model of the leaders we must be and that we must train. We must accept all that Christ Jesus has delegated to us if we are going to liberate nations and fulfill the Great Commission.

Pray:

1. Pray for a fuller understanding of the Great Commission in your own life. Embark on a fresh study in your Bible.

2. Pray for a generation of leaders to emerge that has a vision to lead cultures, not just influence them.

3. Pray for prophetic strategy to be released that will reveal new paradigms for mentoring and training key leaders to be sent into every arena of culture.

Do you want to become a culture changer? Visit cfni.org.



By Nathalie Jeter

love for the nations is not usually something you're born with. But when you're born into my family, there's a 99% chance you'll end up in some type of missions work.

At 22, my grandfather headed to the country of Peru and spent time ministering to the people in the Andes Mountains who had not heard of Jesus Christ. He and his missionary partner scaled steep mountains with their donkeys, carrying primitive film projectors that they used to show a film about Jesus in every village. Later, he and my grandmother ministered in Cuba, Spain and Morocco before returning to the States to train others for the mission field.

My own parents felt a call to France as newlyweds and ministered there for 30 years. That's where I was born. Growing up, I'd often hear my dad preach; every time he talked about his burden for the French people, his voice would break and tears would trickle down his cheeks. It never failed to move me.

My grandparents' example lit a flame for international ministry in the hearts of their children and grandchildren. Now we have family members all over the world! But did you know that America is also a mission field? Consider these statistics. According to the Assemblies of God US Missions report, in America today there are:

- 7.8 million Jews
- 6 million Russian immigrants, largely unreached
- 2 million people from India, the majority of which are Hindu
- 7 million Muslims
- 2.4 million Chinese and Taiwanese, either nonreligious or who follow their ethnic religions

This is just a sampling of people of various ethnic and religious backgrounds who may live in your neighborhood, work in your building and shop at your local grocery store. You don't have to leave town to start changing the world: just starting a friendly conversation with someone from a different country can be the first step towards friendship evangelism.

Missions begins with you. You have to take the initial step in obeying Christ's Great Commission to "go into all the world" or be the one to open a conversation with your neighbor. Why would God choose you? The beauty of it is that God doesn't choose missionaries because of their looks, their intelligence or even their outstanding personality. He looks for one thing: obedience.

The apostle Paul reminds us that we each have a role in evangelizing the world. He says, "I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase" (1 Corinthians 3:6). Though missions may begin with you, ultimately it ends with God. God moving in a miraculous way. God changing lives. God opening doors for the message of His hope and love to be spread throughout the nations.

We hope this issue inspires you to get involved in international ministries, whether locally or across the world and gives you a glimpse into God's heart for the nations and how His people are responding to the call.



DEVELOPING A GLOBAL MINDSET AT HOME

Not every family can go on a missions trip together. However, every family can have a global mindset. Here are some tips for giving your children a heart for missions and a global worldview:



• By Kay Landis and Jesse Landis

Adopt a missionary as a family.

Give to them and pray for them and their work. Send them handmade cards, emails and care packages as a family. Make sure to find out the specific needs of the missionary so that the gifts meet those needs.

Sponsor a child through a child sponsorship agency like Compassion International.

Children have a heart for children. Emails, care packages or handmade cards work well in this case as well.

Get the book *Operation World* and pray through it as a family during family devotions or dinnertime.

Or get the (slightly older) children's version, *You Can Change the World*. It has stories, information and prayer ideas specifically for children.

Invite a missionary visiting the USA to dinner.

The personal connection fostered as he (or she) tells stories will do a great deal to foster a love for missions and the reality of a needy world.

Learn as a family about unreached people groups.

Go to joshuaproject.net (or download their Unreached of the Day app) and find details about the many unreached peoples throughout the world.

Read through missionary biographies as a family.

YWAM publishing has a great series for children, *Christian Heroes Then and Now*.

Remember that there are many unreached peoples here in America.

Think about ways to engage people from other countries who currently live here such as contacting your local college's international student department and connecting with international college students (who usually are desperate for a home-cooked meal). Or check your neighborhood for families who are isolated and alone. Reaching out here makes it easier to reach out overseas.

Are you interested in impacting the world through missions? Visit cfni.org to learn about our Global Missions Major.



It's important not only to have faith for special days, but to have faith for turning a normal day into a special day, interrupted by the supernatural power of God.

• By Chris Estrada

AM A FATHER OF THREE WONDERFUL CHILDREN. My wife, Erica, and I made a conscious decision as parents that there is no junior Holy Spirit. We decided to believe that our beautiful, oh-so-human children could be just as led by the Holy Spirit as the most spiritual adult could be. You see, I believe that God is raising up young revivalists—9-year-olds who can prophetically "read your mail" and 12-year-olds who can speak a word of knowledge at a What-A-Burger that will shut the whole place down.

Many families become intimidated by the thought of developing a supernatural family. But I believe it is both more important than many realize and also easier than they imagine. The greatest gifts I could give to my children are how to hear the voice of the Spirit and then how to obey that voice to change the world around them. You see, the same Spirit that raised Christ from the dead is alive in your 2-year-old, is alive in your 7-year-old and is alive in your teenager. There's no limitation in the Spirit. As my wife Erica describes, "We teach our children that they can hear the Lord. We teach them to have a connected relationship to God. Then, they can hear Him."

We really feel the Word drives us to live this kind of lifestyle and the scripture that most speaks to our approach is Deuteronomy 6:4-7: "Hear, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD is one! You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. These words, which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your sons and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up."

What is God saying? You are to carry this example in every area of your life. "When you sit down" could be dinner time and "when you walk along the way" refers to your coming and going throughout the day. I find that the best moves of God come in the normalcy of my day. It's important not only to have faith for special days, but to have faith for turning a normal day into a special day, interrupted by the supernatural power of God.

Developing a supernatural family starts with our walk, because more things are caught than are taught, especially in a family. I am not the thermometer; I am the thermostat. I decide how deep my family is going to go into the things of the Lord. I set the precedent; I set the example. In my family, we put a high value on having the Presence in our home. I want Him to feel like He is welcome. I want Him to remain. We want to host the presence of God in our home and everywhere that we go.

One of the ways we do this is to ask our children, "What is God saying? What is He doing? What is God's heart this morning?" Erica says, "I teach my kids that the first thing when they wake up they should get tuned into the Holy Spirit. On the way to school, I will ask, what is God saying to your teacher today? And sometimes they say, 'I don't know,' and that's OK; you don't force them at all."

But one of the best ways we cultivate the presence of God is something called a Treasure Hunt. This is based on Acts 9, when Ananias received a word of knowledge regarding Saul of Tarsus, specifics such as name, location and a personal detail (he was blind). He also received more revelation as he went; by the time Ananias got to Saul, he had been told that God wanted to heal Saul. A word of knowledge is basically information you couldn't have ascertained yourself that you received through your spirit man.

So, as we follow this model, a treasure hunt is where we get together and pray as a family. After about 5 or 10 minutes, we will ask, "What is Jesus saying?" For the treasure hunt, we ask God for five things:

- A place to go: Where do we need to be?
- A name: Who are we praying for?
- What does the person look like: What are they wearing?
- The word to share: What do they need prayer for?
- Abstract things that come from a creative God: What is unique about the environment or person that sets it apart (such as Saul was blind)?

One of the key factors to a successful treasure hunt is that you have to learn to hear the voice of God, which is what we've already been training our kids. They are foundational when it comes to moving in the supernatural and treasure hunts create a lifestyle where you are constantly hearing the voice of God. We have many testimonies of how this has impacted our family, but one was at Red Robin. Our 5-year-old, Jasmine, was coloring as our waitress came up to take our order. She looked up at her and there was strength in Jasmine's face I had never seen before. She stood up on her chair, looked at this lady and said, "You will never end up in hell. Jesus loves you too much," and then she went right back to coloring. The waitress, you could tell she wanted to cry but she kept her composure, and she said, "Thank you, I needed that."

Another story is of my son Elisha. While he was at school, a boy hurt his arm on the playground. He was crying and Elisha walked over to him and said, "Jesus, put your healing power in my hand," and then he laid hands on the hurt boy, in the middle of all these other kids, and said, "Be healed." This boy stops crying, says, "I feel better," and Elisha replies, "Yep," and just walks off.

Now, I want to be very clear, our kids are normal kids. We have the same issues and concerns as other families—Elisha loves to tackle Jasmine, and Jasmine loves to play tricks on Elisha. We are still a normal family; we've just made it a very, very important part of our life to make sure that our family is operating in the anointing. We're facing things that most people are facing right now, except we're tapping in and asking the Lord to give us a word, give us counsel and give us wisdom on how to handle it. And we just try to keep modeling how to follow the voice of the Holy Spirit to our children, and let God handle the rest.

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PRISON MINISTRY

FROM DALLAS TO EL SALVADOR, THE NEEDS REMAIN THE SAME

• By Polly Harder





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n example of the impact Bible training can have is the prison outreach led by Christ For The Nations here in Dallas, Texas. Two years ago, we started a Bible training course, from Gordon Lindsay's writings, from which we've had eight prisoners graduate. This training course gave the inmates an opportunity to become saved, but also for their lives to be totally turned around for the glory of God.

This same impact is possible in the prison in El Salvador. If you would like to donate, please go to cfni.org/give and select Literature For The Nations, then put "El Salvador Prison" or "U.S. Prison Bible Training" in the comments section.

can't love without giving.

without forgetting.

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magine being in prison, behind bars for years without freedom or access to many toiletries we take for granted. Then, imagine that you are a mother and your child (from birth to 5 years old) is in prison with you. That is the situation in one of the women's prisons in El Salvador. I and Sue Hatcher, along with Cristo A Las Naciones Church's prison ministry established by Pastor Reina de Salazar, visited one of these prisons to bring toiletries, diapers and the Word of Life to the women prisoners and their children. What they realized is that in addition to limited access to the most basic of necessities (like toilet paper!) most of these women didn't have Bibles. These women and children need to be able to read the truth of God's Word for themselves.





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