

SPRING 2020

THE VOICE

CHRIST FOR THE NATIONS



FROM CITY LIGHTS
TO DIRT ROADS AND
BARNHOUSES

WHAT IS THE MOST
INVALUABLE INVESTMENT
YOU CAN MAKE?

6 KEYS FOR WALKING OUT
YOUR MINISTRY CALLING

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THE VOICE SPRING 2020 ISSUE

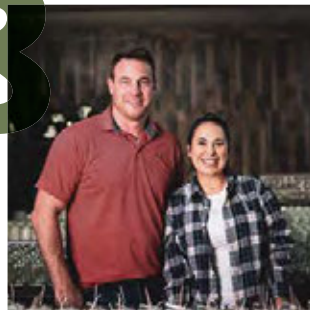
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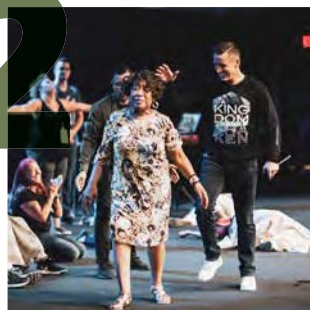
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A LETTER FROM THE MANAGING EDITOR

Mary broke the alabaster jar of costly, fragrant oil. She did not pour it into a container and neither did she unscrew the cover to allow the fragrance to escape and permeate the room where Jesus fellowshiped with Simon and his guests.

Why Mary was so undignified in her expression of worship we may never know, but what we do know is that she willingly interrupted, even disturbed the moment by breaking a bottle of oil on the floor when it would have been most unacceptable and unwelcomed to so do. This broken woman challenged the status quo in her worship of the Messiah and presented worship in a new way.

We now know that worship does not have to be neat, it can be messy. We now know that worship doesn't have to be planned, it can be spontaneous! We now know that worship can be led by women. We now know that worship doesn't have to be impersonal, it can be personal and intimate. We now know that worship doesn't have to be in a temple or a church, it can be in a house or anywhere, and we now know that a dinner or party can be interrupted to honor Jesus.

What is most striking about the story is not so much that Mary had the audacity and the courage to worship in a room with Jewish men and influential, religious elites, it

was how Jesus responded to the scandalous act that is piercingly profound. Our beloved Jesus was not offended! He was not upset and He was not embarrassed! Shockingly, He acknowledged and valued her expression. Jesus not only affirmed her in the moment, He memorialized her worship by telling His followers to speak of her wherever the gospel is to be preached. No other person, not even a disciple, had this distinct honor of being tagged to the sharing of the Gospel.

It is comforting to know that what may offend some people, especially religious people, does not necessarily offend God. It is also comforting to know that what some would consider a waste, God sees as honor on display. This message was shared in our morning chapel as students broke their 'jars' together—smashing pride and fear of man in His presence! The fragrance of worship filled the room. Come to CFNI and experience your own personal alabaster moment. You will never be the same in His presence!

Kiplin Batchelor



KIPLIN BATCHELOR

Institute Administrator
Executive Affairs Liaison
The Voice Managing Editor

ISSUE #804

SOCIAL MEDIA

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MEET THE VOICE

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Freda Lindsay (1973-2008)
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Christ For The Nations' mission is to impact humanity with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

CALENDAR

MARCH

3/13

Night Of Worship

3/26-28

YFN Leadership conference

FOR MORE INFORMATION
ON UPCOMING SPEAKERS
VISIT: CFN.ORG/EVENTS

APRIL

4/2-3

Campus Days

4/3

Live Worship Recording

4/6

Campus Ignite the Fire

4/17

Founders Day &
Freda Lindsay Award

MAY

5/11

Advanced Showcase Recital

5/12

FMC Licensing & Ordination

5/15

Commencement

5/30-6/9

CFN Israel Tour
(Optional Extension Tour Via Israel
Germany & Austria, June 9-15)

► REMAINING SPRING SEMESTER SPEAKER LINEUP ► SUMMER CAMPS GUEST LINEUP

Dr. Dennis Lindsay
Denny Nissley
Travis Moffitt
Keir Tayler
Gustavo Paiva
Sean & Christa Smith

KFN: Eric Hamp
KFN: Richard Konderla
PI: Jade De Kelaita
PI: Jeremy Donovan
PI: Paula Cornelius
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YFN: Manny Arango

YFN: Michael Miller
YFN: Jude Fouquier
YFN: Christy Johnson
SYFN: Reina de Salazar
SYFN: Richard Martinez
SYFN: Corey Russell
and more...

KFN: Kids For The Nations, PI: Preteen Impact, YFN: Youth For The Nations, SYFN: Spanish Youth For The Nations



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THE YEAR 2020

CHRIST FOR THE NATIONS INSTITUTE

50TH CELEBRATION

PILLARS OF CFN ARE A PRIORITY

My recent book entitled, *Christ For The Nations: 70 Years of Ministry* focuses on the twelve pillars of ministry fundamentals for one's life, one's family, one's business and one's ministry. The roots of Dad and Mom's original vision were and still are the roots of our vision for the school.

"Obviously, training centers will need to be erected, not Bible schools. We have a number of excellent schools that teach the doctrinal fundamentals. But, we must have a place where we can train men and women and show them how to enter a city and take it for God, both here and in foreign lands." Gordon Lindsay, *The Voice of Healing Magazine*, January 1955, p. 18.

AN UNEXPECTED DEPARTURE

As you may know, Dad opened Christ For The Nations Institute in the fall of 1970 in an old, bankrupt nightclub with about 50 students. By 1973, Dad saw that the Lord was doing something as 250 students enrolled in the Spring Term with another several hundred more applications for the coming Fall. Dad felt the Lord leading him to build an auditorium seating 1,000 students.

APRIL FOOL'S DAY FOR LUCIFER

Unfortunately, it was not on Satan's agenda. The first time Dad spoke to the student body in the newly opened auditorium, his message was entitled, "The Hope of the Resurrection". It would be the only time he spoke in the new facility. The following week, as Mom was giving announcements to the student body and guests, Dad was sitting behind her, waiting to speak, when suddenly and without warning, he went to be with the Lord in heaven at 66 years of age. Two weeks previously, Dad visited me in Spain where I had been serving with Youth With A Mission for several years. Dad asked me when I was returning to assist him with the new arm of CFN, the Bible Institute. I assured him that the Lord had released me and I would be returning in a few weeks. I did not realize that I would be returning sooner and just in time for the memorial service. Interestingly, when Mom called me after midnight, the night of Dad's graduation to heaven, and gave me the news, both my clock on the nightstand and my wristwatch stopped. This was the first and only time that happened.

THINK ABOUT IT

Growing up, Dad sold four of our homes to start a

new undertaking led by the Holy Spirit.

1. First house sold—we then began living in our trailer. The result: The Voice of Healing/CFN ministry and magazine were birthed (2018 was our 70th anniversary).
2. Second house sold—we moved into a basement. The result: the printing department was birthed.
3. Third house sold—a friend blessed us with a home (which Dad later sold). The result: the Native Church Program was birthed.
4. Fourth house sold—we moved into a two-bedroom apartment. The result: CFNI was birthed.

Dad and Mom lived in that apartment until he graduated to heaven, and Mom lived in it 39 years before she graduated. Today, these four ministries of CFN are continuing. My wife oversees our 70-year-old CFN magazine. My brother Gilbert continues the printing and prints millions of Bibles and Christian books. The Native Church Program has completed more than 13,000 church buildings around the world, and this is our 50th anniversary for our Institute. The Institute has over 50,000 graduates, not to mention the 90-plus CFNI associated training schools around the world. **Dad had no formal education. He was self-educated and was not afraid to step out of his boat of comfort to walk on water when Jesus called.** Dad's work may seem to be finished, but God's work had only just begun at CFNI. Yes, God had a surprise for old "slew foot" on April Fool's Day—a woman of God, my mom Freda Lindsay, picked up the baton of leadership.

BORN IN A MUD-BRICK HOUSE WITH A THATCHED ROOF

Mom was now left to run the "show". I cannot imagine her emotions. She faced a new, unfinished Bible Institute, the overwhelming debt of a new auditorium without a business director, along with fear and loneliness. Amazingly, my sister Shira, who had immigrated to Israel, suddenly came home one week before Dad's unexpected passing as she was working on a film in Israel and needed to return to

Dallas to receive assistance. As a result, God brought her home to comfort and encourage Mom during this valley she was passing through. Many were filled with surprise that God chose Mom—a woman. People often ask me why did God take Bro. Gordon at such a young age of 66. One day, my daughter Missy answered the question. "God wants women to serve Him in Christian leadership, not only in the business world and in education, but also in the body of Christ". Think about it. Mom was born in a mud-brick house with a thatched roof along with 11 siblings. She carried the torch for 40 years after Dad graduated. Like David, she may not have looked the part, but she had the right heart—a heart after God. God saw something in her vessel of clay.

Within a short time, she paid off the mortgage of the auditorium and within several years, enrollment exploded to over 1,000 students. With only a few acres of land provided when she became president, God added almost 90 acres to the CFNI campus and 15 neighborhood complexes before she purchased the Sheraton Hotel across the street.

Not only did God sovereignly bring my sister home to be a comfort to Mom following the memorial service for Dad, but God also provided Mom with a relative, Norman Young, who became CFN's Business Manager, along with his wife Linda, Mom's niece, and both assisted and traveled with Mom for many years. They are still involved in missions work today and continue to help missions organizations around the world, including CFN. God saw something in the clay that others did not see...

ISRAEL CONNECTION

Christ For The Nations was birthed in 1948. After more than 2,000 years, Israel became a nation again in 1948. Both were born in the same year. Dad and my sister heard the news report on the radio, "Israel is now a nation". Mom also heard it and became known as a Mother of Israel, having visited the country approximately 40 times. My parents instilled into our family and CFN the importance of praying for and blessing Israel. In the 60's, my sister Shira immigrated to Israel, and she has lived there more than 50 years with her husband Ari, raising their two children and ministering to the Jewish people. Their

ministry, MAOZ, has produced over 100 discipleship books in Hebrew along with a Messianic Bible for the nation. In the early 80's, Christ For The Nations purchased a building in Jerusalem for ministry. The address of the center happened to be 48 Bethlehem Road. Get the connection? 1948 is the year both Israel and CFN were born. It is located on the old historic road to Bethlehem that it is believed to be the same one the ancients, such as Abraham, walked on and drove their livestock from Jerusalem to Bethlehem and on to Hebron. It is also believed that Jacob, Rachel, and King David traveled on this road. Mary and Joseph made their biblical journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem on that road. Possibly even the Three Wise Men rode their camels on it to visit the Christ Child. Lastly, Jesus and His disciples would have walked the historic road between Jerusalem and Bethlehem.

We are seeking the Lord about CFN's Jerusalem Center as to what exactly the Holy Spirit wants us to do with the facility, which is located in a residential area that is actually called "Redeemed" in Hebrew. After misplacing the title deed to the property for nearly 40 years, it was found (redeemed) on CFN's 70th birthday and Israel's 70th birthday in 2018. What do you think? Most importantly, we cherish our beloved friends who have served CFN as our landlords living in the facility, raising their family and ministering to the people of Israel for nearly 40 years.

Now, it seems God is turning my attention toward Israel. As for me, I am in a new season. After 40 years, not only am I teaching my passion, a biblical view of Creation, as well as our CFN Foundations class with my daughter Missy, but also the Holy Spirit has led me to teach a new class entitled, "Focus on Israel". In addition, I also have written two new books. The first was entitled *Creation Moments in Israel* and the second, *Israel My Love—God's Threshing Stone*. It seems God is turning my attention toward Israel. I am now following in my parents' footsteps and leading tours to Israel each year. As was my dad's heart, I would love to see our Jerusalem Center become a teaching center for our international students coming from our 90 Associated Bible Schools around the world and learn

what the Bible has to say about Israel and the Jewish people.

PASSING THE TORCH

Meanwhile, since Mom graduated to heaven, the CFN leadership responsibilities have been passed on to our family. We realize that God has entrusted us to carry on the vision of Christ For The Nations and the Bible school that my parents started. Now that I am in my 70s, my children Missy, Hawni and Golan are stepping into leadership—the third generation. Each has graduated from CFNI and has a college degree from a Christian university. I have come to realize that God has given them different giftings. Missy has prophetic and teaching giftings, Hawni has administrative giftings, and Golan has a pastoral gifting, while his wife, Krissia has the gifting of an evangelist. Each of our children are serving on the CFN Board or Advisory Council and are stepping into leadership roles that I envision will bless the ministry of CFN and take it to a greater level and anointing to help build the Kingdom of God and train students to become world-changers for the Lord until He comes.

AN OPPORTUNITY TO BLESS

As I mentioned earlier, God is up to something truly wonderful for Christ For The Nations Institute in the year 2020, her 50th anniversary. This is the year of Jubilee—a year of liberation "par excellence". I am convinced that the Holy Spirit is going to be released here in a new measure unlike what my parents or I have experienced. 2020 is a year for expanding our vision as God leads. Watch with us and see. Yes, I believe Christ For The Nations has a vital part in helping to build the Kingdom of God in Israel and assisting in spreading the Good News of the Messiah Yeshua Ha'Mashiach—the Anointed One—around the world. Will you consider helping in this project of transforming the Christ For The Nations Jerusalem Center into a CFNI field school that trains students in the Word of God concerning His plan and purpose for Israel and the Jewish people?

Shalom,
Dennis Lindsay

MARKETPLACE SPOTLIGHT:

JAMES & MARIA ORGANIC CO.

A Bright Future



THE VOICE: How did you hear about Christ For The Nations?

MARIA FERNANDA: Everything led me to go to CFNI. Before I came to Texas to study English, I was in Colorado and met a nurse who told me I needed to go to Christ For The Nations. From that moment, I wondered what CFNI was. I was with a friend in Dallas at a CFNI alumni reunion and found out about Campus Days. I was planning to go back to my country, Colombia, but my sponsors who lived in Denton, TX, told me, “Why don’t you go to CFNI? We’ll pay for one semester and see what the Lord is going to do.” I jumped in faith, and the Lord provided my second semester. I had to keep praying and believing the Lord would provide for the next semester. Then I got a full scholarship for my second and third years. While working at my scholarship job, I had been trying to find a church that really loved my country. A lady contacted me one day at work and told me about a church in Dallas that had 25-30 churches in Colombia.

ANDY: That was my church. I had been going to Colombia since 2000 for 3 weeks per year to visit our churches.

MF: We had been in Colombia at the same time and didn’t know it. Something that CFNI taught me was the power of persistent prayer—even when you don’t see anything. Every semester I had to believe God was going to provide because I KNEW that I was supposed to be there. I am grateful for my time at CFNI and for the people that made that possible. After we got married, we wanted Andy to spend a year at CFNI, and he enrolled in the Marketplace Ministry Major.

THE VOICE: Andy, did you hear about CFNI through Maria Fernanda?

ANDY: Actually, no, our senior pastor serves on the [CFN] Board. When I graduated from high school, I wanted to go to CFNI. I went to a community college for two years instead, and then to three years of seminary. I went to my pastor and told him I knew I was going to be in full-time ministry. Several students and employees of my church had gone to CFNI, and so after years of ministry experience, I was finally able to attend and go straight to the third year program.

THE VOICE: Tell us how you both got into the candle making business.

MF: After my husband [Andy] and I got married in 2015, I received a work permit with my Visa, and then I lost it—15 minutes after I got it. I had waited for that Visa for one

year. I was by myself at the apartment, and I was stressed out. So, I was praying, and one Wednesday after church, James told me he was going to take me to a friend’s place. This friend made 500,000 candles per year for fundraisers. After getting in the car, I told James “I want to do it—I think I can do it.”

ANDY: I said, “Okay, let’s do it.” Maria Fernanda transitioned from having a full-time scholarship at CFNI to having no work, so I felt bad because we got married and she was no longer returning to Colombia, as her plans before marrying me had now changed. We decided to go down to Waco and check out the boutiques down there. Using my background in marketing, I saw the potential there. At this point, we hadn’t made even one candle. There was a store that allowed custom furniture makers to sell their furniture. There was a beautiful, antique flower cart space for \$50 rent per month. The owner asked us if we could be there next week to sell candles. We answered “Sure! See you next weekend!” Maria Fernanda got online, did some research, and we contacted my friend with the fundraiser candles. We came back and called around to some companies and one contact told us about a man who made and sold candles in boutiques in Dallas, so I hired him to teach her. She bought this little melter that we got online from someone who had made candles for a hobby. She used this to make 500 candles over the weekend. She went from being bored to having to work more than she wanted [laughs].

MF: Now, we put out 2,000 candles each day.

THE VOICE: Would you share some testimonies with us?

ANDY: Just yesterday we were connected with a girl from Austin who is an interior designer and fashion model, and has a blog with over 480,000 followers on Instagram. She does reviews for products. We don’t even know her, but on a video with 40,000 people watching, she announces, “Hey guys, I’m redoing my apartment for the holidays.” She enters the retail store Tuesday Morning, walks over to a display and says, “I’ve heard a lot about this company; I’ve been burning some of their candles, and guys, you have got to go out and buy their candles.” She then picks up OUR candle, and shows it on her Instagram. I just talked with her. Once a month now, we’re going to send her a candle and she’s going to do a review on her blog. The plan is to start a monthly subscription!

MF: We have online orders, too. Andy runs the business

and brings me the supplies, and I make the candles. We have so much competition, and I would often think to myself “I’m so little”, but when the Lord wants to do something, and you’re faithful, it’s all up to Him.

ANDY: One thing I think really helps is that the brand is simple, it’s non-toxic and we give 20% of our profits to non-profit projects. Last summer there was a church teaching English classes and we were able to give them A/C. There’s a woman in Colombia who is paranoid-schizophrenic and was living in a small shack with her two sons. When we heard about her, she needed medicine every month to treat her illness. Her abusive husband would come into town and rape her in exchange for paying for the medicine. Then he would leave until the following month, and repeat the cycle. We’ve been sending her \$50 per month to pay for her medicine so she could get away from him. She is with family now. Some friends of mine and the company are going down to build her a house in February (2020).

MF: We never dreamed about any of this. I remember one day we were selling in Waxahachie, and we still had small orders at the stand in Waco. I was talking to God. I told Him this was His, whatever He wanted to do. And at that moment, I got the call from the marketers at Tuesday Morning.

THE VOICE: How did that happen?

ANDY: Out of that one flower cart in Waco for \$50 per month, we sold 350,000 candles. Waco has all sorts of people coming through, not just for Magnolia, but they’re trying to get ideas for their boutiques back home.

MF: That little cart was great marketing for us. When the Tuesday Morning marketer called, he had gone to Waco on vacation with his wife and had purchased \$100 of our products. The day he called was when I was praying. He said “I’m calling you because I just bought your candles and I would like to know if you’d be interested in retail.” I told Andy he needed to take the call right away.

ANDY: Two weeks later she made her first 6,000 candle order.

MF: Little by little it was 6,000, 12,000, 35,000. The maximum in a year has been over 300,000. This is what we do daily. Everything is hand-poured, we don’t use machines. It’s a lot of work. I work from 8 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. I tell God every day “Lord, this is Yours.” He has allowed us to grow so much—that’s the proof that it’s His.

THE VOICE: Our readers, students and graduates from Christ For The Nations have big dreams and hope to make a difference in the world—what does it take?

ANDY: I had been in ministry before coming to CFNI, but I was given the gift of a year to be refreshed. CFNI is a proving ground, an opportunity to soak up everything you can, and then go out and “do”. It’s supposed to solidify what God has already called you to do. It was in your DNA before you were woven in your mother’s womb, and action is key. It’s our job to take the transformation we experienced in our training into the rest of the world.

MF: Sometimes people think having a business isn’t a ministry. This is part of my ministry. You have no idea how many people I’ve met because of these candles. I’ve been able to pray for them, we’ve been able to bless others financially, and it is the door that God has been opening. Ministry isn’t just preaching and a platform. Ministry is anything that God wants to use to transform people’s lives. As an alumna, I can say that everything that I dreamed, cried and hoped for, has come true, but it has been a trust journey too, step-by-step. CFNI is one of the main reasons I believed that. I still picture myself in my tiny apartment on campus, making candles, and remember that no matter what happens in our lives, God has a purpose. We have so many happy memories living on campus and are still in contact with many friends. We’re looking forward to the 50th Year Alumni Reunion this year!



DOCTOR CONFIRMS HEALING!

Sent: Tuesday, January 7, 2020 12:41 PM

To: Andrew Brown

Subject: Healing Testimony

I went to The Healing Place to receive prayer for a "spot" the doctor saw on my left kidney.

Andrew prayed over me and I felt immense heat on my back. When I arose from the ground, I saw a vision of an imprint of my back as if it were melted into the floor where I had been laying.

I went to see a kidney specialist and I was told I do not need to return!

My ultrasound and blood work were clear; there are no issues with my kidney.

Glory to GOD!!

Rudy R.

"When he died, he died once to break the power of sin. But now that he lives, he lives for the glory of God. So you also should consider yourselves to be dead to the power of sin and alive to God through Christ Jesus." Romans 6:10, 11 (NLT)

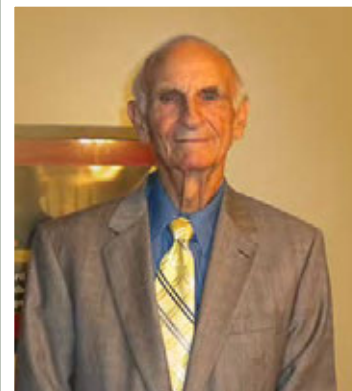
A SALUTE TO JOHN SLUDER

By Dennis Lindsay

His children, grandchildren and family called him Poppie, but at Christ For The Nations, we knew him as John Sluder. He was such a humble man with a great attitude on life. After serving in the United States Air Force during World War II, he obtained his pilot's license in order to transport ministers to the mission fields. He and his wife Guynettia Louis were married for 66 years before she went to heaven. And now, he has joined her at the age of 99.

John Sluder was a man of great respect and full of wisdom. He served me and my parents as a member of Christ For The Nations Board of Directors for many years. I recall the many times that I would answer the phone and it was John Sluder, just wanting to talk or to give advice. In 2 Samuel 3:38, King David said about Abner, "Don't you know and understand that a prince and a great man has fallen this day in Israel?" We can say the same about our friend, John Sluder. On January 22, 2020, a prince, a gentleman and a great warrior for Christ left us for his eternal reward.

Farewell, friend! Your comrades at Christ For The Nations, your friends at Fountain Gate Church and your family will miss you greatly.



WHAT IS THE MOST INVALUABLE INVESTMENT YOU CAN MAKE?

By Mike McMenomey

In the Spring of 1979 at CFNI, an invitation was given at an 11:00 a.m. service to come up front and pray for missions. I was in my first year and I responded to the invitation with other students. To my surprise, *I found myself standing right next to a humble man of God, Vito Vitokhu, who was an international scholarship student from Nagaland, India.* He was modestly clothed; quiet and unassuming to the natural eye; and one who would easily be rejected by the world. They had no clue who Vito was... but God Almighty knew him.

As corporate prayer began, I was immediately overwhelmed by the powerful presence of God while Vito prayed. It was as if we had been transported to a prayer meeting in the Book of Acts. I didn't understand the language Vito was praying in, but the authority and power that emanated from him made me feel like I was standing on holy ground next to Moses or Elijah. I also had no discernment as to

which demonic strongholds were being absolutely DESTROYED through Vito's prayers, but I knew it was happening and God was winning new ground somewhere, both in heavenly places and on earth.

God imprinted on me that day how a lowly, humble, international student could change the destiny of NATIONS. Vitor went back to Nagaland and was a missionary to that whole mountainous region (Bhutan, also), known for its demonic strongholds. Souls were won and disciples made. This is where another humble servant from Nagaland comes into the picture, 20 years later at CFNI. His name was Ngolo Chingo.

Ngolo came to Jesus under Vito's ministry and was carved out of the same spiritual mold as his mentor. *Ngolo was a prayer warrior as a CFNI student in 1999, with a clear vision and passion to build a house of prayer for all nations back in Nagaland.* I met Ngolo then,



and he was joyfully stunned to hear that I knew who his mentor Vito was. He talked about Vito in such reverential terms, as if he personally knew an early church father. I completely understood why. At my family's campus apartment, Ngolo would come over to eat and fellowship. He told of his own ministry efforts, walking hundreds of miles to far away Burma (Myanmar) to preach the Gospel to unreached villages. Ngolo came to CFNI on a scholarship, just like Vito did.

Vito and Ngolo linked generations of internationals at CFNI who have impacted their world for the Kingdom of God. It was all possible because of international scholarships.

How many other Vito's and Ngolo's have attended CFNI on scholarship, who went on to change their worlds? Too many to mention on these pages. Though we rejoice in past successes, the critical question today is: "How many more NEW Vito's and Ngolo's are in current need of an international scholarship to attend CFNI?" Much more than you know. I sit on a committee that has to reject hundreds of applications

every year for lack of finances. Though thankful for ones awarded, we sorrow over the myriads not awarded. How many other Vito's and Ngolo's have been denied and how many eternal souls have not heard the Gospel because their messengers never came to CFNI? Yes, Romans 10:14 is real: "But how can they call on Him to save them unless they believe in Him? And how can they believe in Him if they have never heard about Him? And how can they hear about Him unless someone tells them?" (NLT)

Would you please consider giving to CFNI's Living Stones International Scholarship Fund? The next "World Changers" are waiting on us!

Text "Give" to 512-595-0995

Please consider giving a tax-deductible donation to help scholarship international students from around the world to achieve the training they need to impact their nations. The cost of a one year scholarship is approximately \$15,000.00.



6 Keys For Walking Out Your Ministry Calling

Each week at Christ For The Nations Institute our students receive life-changing impartation from a variety of guest speakers—ministers from local churches and ministries, guests from worldwide ministries, and speakers from our very own CFN staff. During the Fall 2019 semester, Dr. Edith Prakash, a 1993 CFNI graduate and international traveling evangelist, taught on the subject of miracles and ministry calling. The following is a summary of her teaching.

HUMILITY AND OPEN HEAVENS

Today's world needs YOU. Where you were born, your personality, abilities, talent, strengths and weaknesses were tailor-made by God for your purpose and life. However, don't short-cut the process. *Between the promise and the fulfillment there is a long process. How you navigate the process determines how high you're going to fly. In the process, God works on your attitude. Your attitude determines your altitude.* When you are obedient to Him and submit to the process He has ordained for you, God kills every concept of "God plus something else" in order to prove to you that He's more than enough for you. The magnitude of your destiny doesn't matter; He's not calling you to be 'textbook' successful. What matters most is that you're obeying God. *When your desire and your obedience align with God's will and timing, you have an open heaven.* When you have an open heaven, you are in an amazing position. Jesus' waiting period was from age 0 to 30. He was ready for ministry at the age of 12, but He was told to wait. Then, Jesus was baptized and the heavens opened up above Him, and His Father told Him that He was well-pleased with His Son. *We learn from Jesus that humility is not thinking less of yourself, but rather humility is power under control.*

6 KEYS FOR WALKING OUT YOUR MINISTRY CALLING

1) STICK TO YOUR CALLING.

If you hurry God in the process of waiting and get to your destination before it's time, you will have no power. You see this in the life of Joseph. Joseph was operating in the ministry of interpreting dreams before he was raised to power. When the butler forgot about Joseph after his dream interpretation, Joseph was stuck in prison for two more years. However, had he been released, Joseph would have left his season too early. *It's better that God raises you up versus man raising you up. God will keep you where you are until His perfect timing.* God had to make room for Joseph's talent to be recognized and until then, the prison was his protective custody. *Waiting on God is not a waste; it's a time to know God better so that when temptation and criticism come your way, they will not affect you.* God calls you to places where you are uncomfortable because if you can do it in your own strength, you won't rely on Him. This process is a time of anchoring, where you determine that you will not live for man, but for God.

2) STICK TO THE GIFTINGS AND TALENTS GOD HAS GIVEN YOU.

Don't get caught up in what others have or how they're doing it. Moses was instructed to demonstrate the power of God using his rod to turn into a snake in Pharaoh's palace and later split the Red Sea with the very same rod. The rod that God has given to you will sometimes become a snake. The rod can be the people that God has around you; if you're afraid of the snakes and run away, there goes your rod. But God says, "Pick up the rod off the ground—not by the head, but by the tail." The people God surrounds you with—both good and bad—are going to take you to the next level.

Dr. Edith Prakash
speaking at Christ For
The Nations Institute



3) GET CONNECTED WITH YOUR DIVINE CONNECTIONS.

Your divine connections mainly consist of two types of people 1) mentors pouring into you and 2) the people you mentor. You can miss the divine connections because the package a person comes in is not what you thought it would be. Jesus is a prime example of someone who was rejected because He was not who Israel conceived the Messiah to be. Partner with the right people who can lift your hands.

CFN founder, Gordon Lindsay gave evangelist T.L. Osborn a great gift. He saw a calling and gifting, and wanted to help spread the healing movement. Gordon Lindsay was promoting the miracles of the movement around the world through the Voice of Healing publication, which gave T.L. Osborn the platform he needed to minister and connect with ministers world-wide. You cannot do life and ministry alone; you need to find divine connections and get mentors.

4) BE ON GUARD IN THE MINISTRY.

The enemy won't attack you when you're strong, but rather when you are empty. The enemy is a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. We see this in the life of Jesus. Satan came to Jesus after 40 days of fasting and was pushing Jesus to perform miracles before His time. You must identify who is talking to you. Is it the Spirit of God or someone else? The greatest intimidation will come before your greatest breakthrough. When you are weak is when the enemy will challenge you in arguments you do not

need to be entangled with—put the devil back under your feet. **Anointing will attract blessings that are not from God. You need to know which blessings to take because if you end up with the wrong one, it will destroy you.** You can take comfort in the fact that God already knows your weaknesses. Stay obedient and alert. "Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need" (Matthew 6:33, NLT).

5) DON'T UNDERESTIMATE SMALL BEGINNINGS—GOD ALWAYS STARTS SMALL.

In the 1800s, a man by the name of Edward Kimball was a Sunday school teacher of a small congregation. He talked to a 15-year-old boy and led him to Jesus. This young boy was D.L. Moody, who would later become one of the greatest evangelists of the world. Creating a domino effect, through Moody's ministry, William Chapman got saved, and through Chapman's ministry, Mordecai Ham accepted Christ. Through Ham's ministry, a teenager came to his meeting and he got saved, and from the ministry of this teenager 2.2 million people heard the Gospel by Billy Graham. All these people got saved because of the ministry of one small Sunday school teacher. You have no idea how great of an impact your "yes" to the Lord will be.

Stick to your calling and to the giftings God has given you. Be intentional in seeking God for divine connections. Keep your guard up, but don't be afraid if you mess up because you are not alone. Lastly don't underestimate small beginnings. It's never too late to start or to try again. The world needs Jesus in you.

LEARN MORE.



"I am very thankful to the LORD and to CFNI for empowering and equipping me this amazing year. I experienced an immense amount of change and growth in my life."

Shelome, CFNI online student

"It's amazing how the Word of God knows no limits and was able to pierce right through my computer screen and impact my day to day life in such a profound way."

Mora, CFNI online student

"Everything I learned in this term is what I needed for this season of my life."

Nadia, CFNI online student

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PASSION PLAY HIGHLIGHT

In 1633, the residents of Oberammergau, Bavaria, Germany, vowed that if God spared them from the bubonic plague ravaging the region, they would thereafter produce a play depicting the life and death of Jesus every 10 years, for all time. After their vow, the adult death rate had dwindled from 20 out of every 1,000 people to one death in the month of July, 1633. The villagers believed they had been spared and thus kept their part of the vow when the play was first performed in 1634. **The play has been performed once every 10 years** since this first performance as a testament to the goodness of God.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER:
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**FROM CITY
LIGHTS TO DIRT
ROADS AND
BARNHOUSES:**



**CULTIVATING THE PRESENCE OF GOD
WHEREVER HE LEADS**

WHO

would've ever thought that a Dallas city girl like me would have traveled 792 miles to dirt

roads and barnhouses? Definitely not me, but this past summer I had the wonderful opportunity to get involved in a summer internship with Pastor Josh and Kelly Frieden from Faith Chapel Church.

Having prayed that God would open new doors to further my ministry experiences, I was shocked to receive this invitation. The Lord confirmed my hopes when He clearly said to me, "Olivia, you are not meant to stay home this summer". Fast-forward two months, I'm flying into Moline, Illinois, with a guitar in my hand and clothes for the next two months. This is a nameless, blameless town I don't think anyone has heard of or seen on the map. When the Lord said He was sending me into an unknown town, He surely did have a sense of humor. I met Josh and Kelly at the airport with their three beautiful daughters. I knew right at that moment that I was entering into an engaging family. After a long day of traveling and meeting new families, it was time for me to hit the hay. The next morning we got up and the Friedens showed me the scenery of their home. The farm stretched across a total of 200 acres of land, including all the beautiful cattle that they owned. I knew this was a hard-working family as I observed all the cows and heavy tractor equipment. This is not your typical ministry experience, at least not what I was expecting as a summer internship. I was living in the backwoods, working as a farmer, ministering to Jesus' people, and staying hidden.

When Pastor Josh asked me to establish a youth group of teenagers, I was not expecting the few he gave me, which included his own daughters. A total of 8 girls and three youth leaders were placed in my hands. Whatever the Lord put in front of me, I sensed I needed to steward it well and to be faithful in the little. Daily experiences included shooting guns, fishing, riding horses, and fellowshiping

with the family. The family owned a business on the side, which showed me that the church was not just a four-wall building, but it was also a lifestyle, which included daily walking with people. Working with the youth was such a blessing as well, every Saturday we would fellowship with the girls. All the youth leaders decided to create an environment of vulnerability and honesty in our youth meeting. We grew closer as I taught them about having a relationship with the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit.

Within these two months, I learned that by being on the farm daily, I was growing my own relationship with the Lord. I was going through a season of 'aloneness' and being okay with just Him. I acknowledged the fact that I had to live in someone else's shoes and learn the differences in culture. I also learned how to embrace discomfort by allowing myself to be uncomfortable and to allow the Lord to unveil the season of 'the unknown' to me. During the two months that I was there, the whole youth group got filled with the Holy Spirit, including the youth leaders. This confirmed what Pastor Josh had heard from the Lord was going to happen. The harvest is now being revealed after two months of plowing the ground.

The most valuable lesson I walked away with is this: in order to cultivate a nation, you must first cultivate a small town. The best way to lead a few is to lead small. The best way to love your few is to lead small. Ultimately, I was a stranger walking into an unknown town, but flew home with new people to call family. As a result, I learned the heart of the Father and the art of love by not allowing time to limit what He can do. It's not His ability to love, but His willingness. I would like to honor the leadership of CFNI and Dr. David Robinson for entrusting me with this opportunity.

Olivia Metzger, CFNI Student
(Pictured opposite page, top left)

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1 Peter 2:24 (ESV)

HEIDI BAKER

Heidi Baker is a Christian missionary and with her husband Rolland, are co-founders of Iris Global, a non-profit Christian ministry dedicated to Jesus and service, especially among the poor. Originally from Southern California, the Bakers are now based full-time in Pemba, Mozambique. The ministry has expanded to include well-drilling, free health clinics that service the poor and sick, feeding programs, primary and secondary schools, cottage industries, 5,000 churches in Mozambique and a total of over 8,000 churches in over 20 nations. There are multiple 'bases' with Bible schools, as well as community outreaches and top-ranked public schools. They also travel to various places around the world to share their story, and to teach about God's love and what love in action looks like. Heidi is the author of several books.



NATHAN MORRIS

Nathan is the founder and President of Shake The Nations Ministries. He and his wife Rachel, along with the Shake The Nations Team, travel around the world with a burning passion to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ to all nations and to see the power of the Holy Spirit demonstrated through healing, signs, wonders, and miracles. To date, they have seen countless decisions for Christ, with many more reached through worldwide media. In addition to preaching the gospel, the ministry is also involved in humanitarian outreaches that serve to see the poor and needy all over the world reached with the love of Jesus Christ.



DR. EDITH PRAKASH

Dr. Edith Prakash is originally from India and is a graduate of Christ For The Nations ('99) and of Regent University. In 2013, her dream of greater involvement in world-wide evangelism became a reality as Dr. Edith and her husband Pastor Felix incorporated Prakash Ministries, a non-profit organization established to propel the gospel of Jesus Christ globally. Dr. Prakash has traveled to more than 30 nations ministering in worship, teaching and preaching in churches, women's conferences, evangelistic crusades and pastors conferences that attract tens of thousands of people. She ministers prophetically through teaching, preaching and the ministry of healing. Their humanitarian efforts include flood relief, building wells and churches, and meeting the needs of orphans, widows, and those who are blind.

DR. DON COLBERT

Dr. Don Colbert is a graduate of CFNI and graduated from ORU Medical School in 1984. He then moved to Central Florida where he did his internship and residency at Florida Hospital. For over twenty years, Dr. Colbert has practiced medicine in Central Florida. He has been board certified in Family Practice for over 25 years and practices anti-aging and integrative medicine. Dr. Colbert is also a "New York Times Best-Selling Author" who has written over 40 books. Through his research and walk with God, Dr. Colbert has been given a unique insight that has helped thousands improve their lives.



JOAN HUNTER

Joan Hunter is a global healing ministry leader. Everywhere she travels, healing follows her. Joan's heart is to teach people how to pray and see the healing happen in their own lives as well as the lives of others. She ministers in the Gospel with the manifestations of supernatural signs and wonders in miracle services, conferences, and churches around the world. Being sensitive to the Holy Spirit, Joan speaks prophetically in these services, releasing personal and corporate prophetic ministry to those in attendance. She has been on Sid Roth's TV program "It's Supernatural" twelve times and on "Today with Marilyn (Hickey) and Sarah". Joan's own TV program "Miracles Happen!" has recently launched on Faith USA TV. She now has twenty books in print.

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