

SUMMER 2023

THE VOICE

CHRIST FOR THE NATIONS



Christ For The Nations

75

**YEARS OF
GLOBAL IMPACT**

NATIVE CHURCH CRUSADE PHOTO WALL

CONTENTS

04

- 04 CHRIST FOR THE NATIONS 5-POINT MISSIONARY PROGRAM
- 10 2024 CFN ISRAEL TOUR
- 14 *NATIVE AMERICAN INITIATIVE — ALUMNI*

21

- 20 THE JOURNEY—DALLAS TO INDIA
- 21 CFNI BIBLE TRAINING IMPACTS LIVES FOREVER
- 23 YFN, KFN, PRETEEN IMPACT SUMMER CAMPS

MEET THE VOICE

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Christ For The Nations
THE VOICE Magazine is an interdenominational quarterly publication that seeks to encourage the unification of God's people, especially in efforts of mass evangelism, by reporting remarkable testimonies of healing and deliverance, and promoting sound teaching, deep spirituality and humility.

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CALENDAR

JUNE

6/12-16

YFN 1st Week

6/19-23

YFN 2nd Week

6/26-30

Spanish YFN

6/19-23

KFN 1st Week

6/26-6/30

KFN 2nd Week

JULY

7/3-7

YFN 4th Week

7/10-14

YFN 5th Week

7/17-20

Preteen Impact

AUGUST

8/14

Opening Rally
Fall Semester Begins

SEPTEMBER

9/19-23

VOICE OF HEALING
& PROPHETIC
CONFERENCE

OCTOBER

10/21

ENVISION GALA 2023

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR CHANGES ON EVENTS VISIT: [CFN.ORG/EVENTS](https://cfni.org/events)

THE FALL SPEAKER SCHEDULE WILL BE IN THE NEXT MAGAZINE.

Christ For The Nations presents the Envision Gala this October to celebrate our **75** years of global impact.

ENVISION GALA 2023

CELEBRATING OUR JOURNEY,
BUILDING THE FUTURE

OCTOBER 21, 2023

More information coming soon to cfni.org/ourhistory



As we celebrate our 75 years in ministry, it is always important to not only look at where we are today, but the journey it took for us to get here. Gordon had a big vision from the very beginning in following what God was speaking to him. In reviewing his early magazine articles, it appears that someone had reached out to him, questioning in what way evangelism could be obtained to reach the nations.

After this was brought to his attention, Gordon wrote an article titled CHRIST FOR THE NATIONS 5-POINT MISSIONARY PROGRAM and posted it in the September 1972 Christ For The Nations magazine, formerly the Voice of Healing magazine, to address what CFN believed were the most obvious gaps in the missionary field and how CFN was productively filling them. It's interesting to note, how strongly his ministry vision still was and how he expressed it in the article—which was just six months prior to the Lord taking him home to be with Him in Heaven. This is the article Gordon wrote.

CHRIST FOR THE NATIONS 5-POINT MISSIONARY PROGRAM

● Gordon Lindsay

Christ For The Nations is essentially a world-wide missionary operation, working in 84 countries. CFNI's missionary program is somewhat unique, not being organizationally oriented with any particular group—working and ministering in cooperation with many groups—the whole body of Christ. Our reward is to share in the joy of souls saved in the harvest field, even as Jesus said to His disciples, “Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields: for they are white already to harvest. And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal: that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together” (John 4:35-36).

As an independent but cooperative missionary society, we are able to be on the alert for particular times and places where the Spirit of God is moving, especially being able by the nature of our organization to move in quickly to bring help while the opportunity is still present. It is an old but true saying that if we can move when God moves, a hundred times as much may be accomplished as if we were to move in our own time and our own strength. This is beautifully illustrated in the case of David. He inquired of the Lord whether he should go to battle against the Philistines and was warned not to do as he planned, but instead to make a circuit and to come over against the mulberry trees and wait

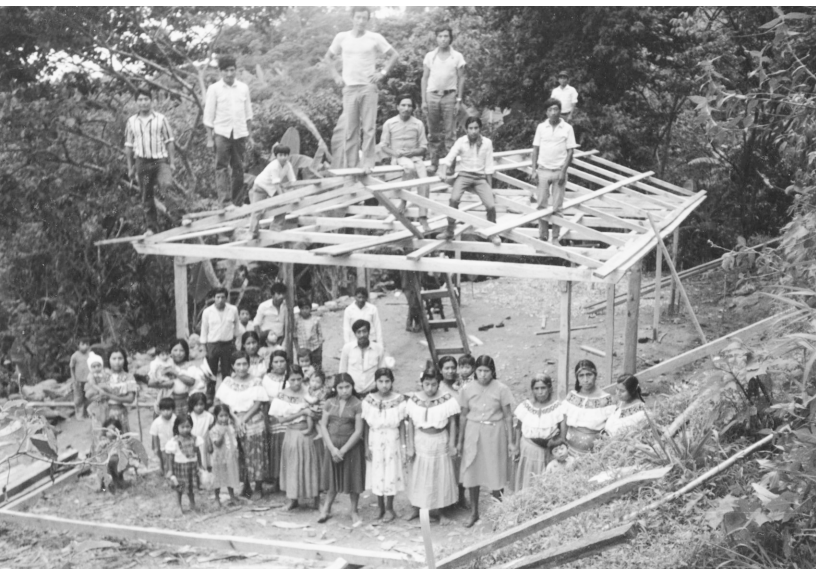
for the moving of the Spirit of the Lord. (2 Samuel 5:24). As we know, David won a great victory because he moved with the Spirit of God. So the Lord moves in various ways and at different tunes among the nations of the world, and for the best results, we must move with Him.

We could give a number of illustrations where a missionary was not in a position to take advantage of an opportunity, but Christ For The Nations moved in and the program grew. In one particular case it involved bringing the Gospel to millions of people.

I. THE NATIVE CHURCH CRUSADE

The Native Church Crusade is a missionary program with a unique plan for giving assistance for the construction of church roofs in foreign lands. It operates in all five continents, especially where believers are poor and yet struggling to build a shelter from the rain and beating sun. The program never offers to underwrite the whole project, for part of the program requires that the people do all that they can for themselves. They themselves discover the blessing of giving, while at the same time they learn to be grateful to those who have helped them. And best of all, they love their church because they built it with their own hands.

The Native Church Crusade usually sends between \$250 to \$5,500 per project—to be spent on materials. (We have sponsored a number of large centers in various cities such as the one in Seoul, Korea, but generally speaking the crusade works with smaller churches.)



The congregation must do the actual labor themselves, or hire a carpenter with their own funds. Usually the people, including the women and children, give all their services free—sometimes they carry lumber and water for miles! The members, of course, also give freely of their own meager funds, although people making 50 cents a day do not have much to give, and unless the Native Church Crusade helped them, their church in most cases would be a long time in reaching completion or even never finished. Usually the gift from the sponsors makes the difference between Christians having a building or not having one. Yet, when finished, the building may be worth ten times or fifteen times more than what the sponsor gave!

The Crusade assists scores of dedicated missionary groups and denominations. It particularly works with missionaries who have a God-given vision and zeal to take the message of Christ to the world. We are constantly looking for those who have this vision. Often, one man whom God has His hand upon will give impetus to revival over a wide area. Moreover, he is in a position to make sure that the money given is being used in the intended way. Actually we impose rather stringent conditions

before grants are made, and the money is disbursed generally as the work proceeds.

The congregations selected to receive grants for churches must be evangelical, or of course, our whole purpose is that the church will become a lighthouse to send forth the light of the Gospel to that area. It is amazing to see how God can raise up and anoint men in these churches who are saved out of gross heathenism. One young man for example who attended the Institute is now having powerful revivals in Africa with thousands of conversions.

Missionaries are often surprised that after we have helped a congregation to build a church we seek no further contact with the people. But in that way we do not interfere with the programs of the various groups and are thus able to work in harmony with them.

We do ask all believers everywhere, however, to join in a world-wide prayer effort. God needs multitudes of prayer groups that will pray as one man against the powers of evil and for the continuous evangelization of the nations.

We place a limit of one year for the completion of the church, although in many cases the buildings are finished within two or three months. The people often are very poor, and they have to spend many hours working on their crops, so it is best to let them do their own work on the church.

Over 2,600 churches have been sponsored. Please pray with us that each of these churches will have its part in fulfilling the command of Christ to evangelize every creature. (Currently, we have now assisted 12,900 churches with their roofs.)

II. THE NATIVE LITERATURE CRUSADE

“And the gospel must first be published among all nations” (Mark 13:10).

During the 1950's, *Christ For The Nations* (then called *The Voice of Healing*) was associated with a group of evangelists whose ministries reached many thousands in various parts of the world. One campaign actually was attended by some 200,000 a night! But it was at that time that the Lord began to talk to us not only about the Native Church plan, but about a literature crusade. The Lord warned us that after the campaigns were over, the people must not be left to the mercies of communism or other



“isms,” but we must provide shelter and literature for them. The shelters were provided in the native churches, but literature was needed also.

The power of the printed word is something recognized and shrewdly exploited by the evil forces of the world, like communism. This atheistic philosophy spends millions of dollars annually to disseminate its atheistic and ungodly propaganda. The cults also send out a steady flow of literature calculated to brainwash the people and lead them away from the pure truth of the Gospel. The pornographic press turns out an avalanche of the vilest and most corrupt kind of reading matter.

But the church itself has been slow to take advantage of the power of the press to spread its message of salvation and deliverance. Indeed, until after World War II, there was comparatively speaking very little Full Gospel literature. So we saw that God was leading us into a literature crusade. Since many societies were featuring tract ministries, Christ For The Nations felt that the Lord would have us enter into a Gospel book ministry. A small booklet can give the fundamental teaching on salvation, healing, the baptism of the Spirit, etc. There were books available in foreign languages for fifty cents or a dollar, but in missionary fields there was no wide distribution at this price.

We felt led of the Lord to establish a printing plant whereby attractive books could be turned out economically. These books were to be the same

size as those which sold for fifty cents in America, but because we have our own two-color presses, they can be turned out at a minimal cost than if we had to have them done by commercial printers.

At the present time, many millions of books have been printed and distributed in some 46 languages. Even by 1972, in one case alone, a quarter of a million books were printed in Chinese and shipped into Red China by secret channels.

These crusade books have been specially prepared to cover the major Full Gospel themes — salvation, divine healing, the baptism of the Holy Spirit, the signs of the times, the coming of the Lord, the gifts of the Spirit, etc. The demand for these books exceeds the supply. The Literature Crusade offers a plan by which we can print 5,000 Gospel books for \$250 (which includes shipping costs). Let us say that a family in foreign lands averages six members. Therefore, 5,000 books would bring a Gospel message to 30,000 people. Since in many countries one-third of the people are literate, \$250 would send books into the homes of everyone who could read in a city of some 90,000! Of course, in these countries where literature is scarce, a book is often passed around to many people. A literature project is, therefore, a very effective way of evangelizing many people. The Apostle Paul said, “It pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe” (1 Corinthians 1:21). Just as the Bible takes God’s written Word to the people, so through gospel books we can take the preaching message to the people.

III. THE HOLY LAND CRUSADE

Step by step, the Lord has led Christ For The Nations in an ever-enlarging plan to reach the nations. We wish to emphasize very strongly that God is responsible for it all, and to Him must be all the glory. Again and again the Lord has very definitely laid out a new step to take, and whenever we have followed His direction, His blessing has been richly upon us.

It was in 1959 when God spoke clearly that Christ For The Nations must begin a Holy Land Crusade. While we were in Jerusalem, the Lord spoke to us in a special way. We had noted that the usual evangelistic methods had failed in Israel. Although there were a considerable number of Christian missions in the country, they were attended by very few Jews. Obviously, something was wrong with the approach. Instead of the work increasing, various groups were selling their buildings and leaving the country. What was the answer?



While praying in the Y.M.C.A., our attention was drawn to Matthew 10:23, which says: *“But when they persecute you in this city, flee ye into another: for verily I say unto you. Ye shall not have gone over the cities of Israel, till the Son of man be come.”* Immediately, we saw that the Scripture referenced the time before the return of Christ. The Lord did not want us to sit in Jerusalem and wait for something to happen, but to go from city to city, witnessing that the time for the Kingdom of Heaven to come to Israel was at hand.

We said, “Lord we need a team for this. Who shall head up our first team?” We knew of one man

who was in Asia, who would be just the one to initiate the program, but how could we find him in all of Asia? By divine providence, as we were about to enter the elevator in the Y.M.C.A., out stepped a tall man—Paul Kopp—the very one we had been praying about! He agreed to head up such a team, and that was the beginning of a work that resulted in the distribution of hundreds of thousands of Messianic books and Bibles in the Hebrew language. Later Shlomo Hizak, a former guard of Ben Gurion, took over, and a work has been done that has much to do with preparing the way for the fulfillment of Isaiah 66:8—when a nation shall be born in a day.

A year later, Mr. Mattar, warden of the Garden Tomb, asked us to sponsor the building of a chapel on the Mount of Olives. Later, he added two stories to the chapel. We did not see how it would be of any benefit to the Jews, for at that time the Mt. of Olives was on the Arab side of the city of Jerusalem. The Six-Day War changed that, and now the building on the Mt. of Olives has been a center for sending out literature to all of Israel. Since the Iron Curtain, countries were not expecting Israel to evangelize them with the Gospel, it has been possible to send thousands of Bibles and Gospel books into these countries.

Since the Six-Day War, our Israel budget has enlarged ten times. We now have other centers in Jerusalem. Our daughter Carole has produced a film *Dry Bones*, featuring the Old Testament Messianic Scriptures. This film found favor with the Israel government, and they used it in their film festivals. It has been shown many times in Israel and the U.S., as well as other nations, and has proven to be highly effective in bringing the Messianic message to the Jew.

Charles Kopp, son of Paul Kopp is establishing a tape ministry in stations all over Israel. On occasions, he takes young people out in his new station wagon, and they minister in cities and towns of Israel. We cannot mention the various projects we are involved in. For example, we are translating the New Testament into modern Hebrew, a much needed work, since the old Hebrew translation is antiquated and the text is obsolete. These various enterprises have involved us in a very heavy budget, and it can be continued only because the Lord lays it upon the

hearts of sponsors. “Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee” (Psalm 122:6).

IV. CHRIST FOR THE NATIONS INSTITUTE

The vision of Christ For The Nations Institute gradually grew on us. There are many fine educational institutions in America, but God was leading us in a different direction from the regular, state-oriented colleges. Our thought was the development of an institution that was designed to give an intensive course of instruction to those who felt a definite call to some kind of service in the Lord’s work.

CFNI was designed especially for the charismatic renewal, to function as a preparatory school for those who plan to be ministers or missionaries or to engage in any kind of Christian work. It is very evident these days that there is an absolute need of training in whatever field or vocation a person chooses, which includes Christian work.

In recent years the lay ministry has grown in importance in bringing Christ to the multitudes, and people now realize as never before the need of a thorough, solid foundation in the Word of God with an emphasis on the gifts of the Spirit. The charismatic ministry has inspired people who have never before considered a step of entering Christian work — businessmen, housewives, school teachers, and professional people. Many of these people have already received their formal schooling and actually need only a solid knowledge of the Scriptures.

The times demand Christian workers in fields other than preaching. Never before have laymen had such opportunities for service as they have today. Unfortunately, many of those who show the greatest promise are unable to secure training because of

soaring costs. We have been able to bring down the costs to a reasonable level, and at the same time provide facilities of the highest order.

One of the unique features of the school is the method of bringing in outstanding ministers that are on the field. Because of the demand for these ministries, most of these men would not feel justified in taking a full teaching assignment in any college. We are, however, able to get them for limited periods.

The whole course of study lasts nine months — although a second year is provided for those who desire it. The course is intensive and to the point. One of the best proofs of the effectiveness of the program is that most of those who have already graduated from the school are already in some kind of ministry — missionaries, pastors, evangelists, or Christian workers.

V. PRAYER AND TAPE MINISTRY

For many years, thousands of prayer warriors have stood with us in a prayer ministry. Much of the credit for the world outreach of Christ For The Nations is due to them. However, their praying for CFN is incidental. They have been encouraged to pray for God’s Kingdom to come, and that includes all of the laborers in the Lord’s harvest. As Jesus said. “Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth laborers into his harvest” (Matthew 9:38).

About a year ago, we felt singularly impressed of the Lord to encourage the founding of prayer groups. The Lord had said, “For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them” (Matthew 18:20). In this same discourse, the Lord spoke of binding and loosing power, and the agreement in prayer, where two or more are in one accord. “Verily I say unto you, ‘Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.’ Again I say unto you, ‘That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching anything that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven’” (Matthew 18:18-19).



Gordon at new IB construction

The conditions of this promise are easy to be met. All that is necessary is to have a prayer meeting at least once a week with at least one person from another family. Moses showed the power of united prayer in Deuteronomy 32:29-30. "O that they were wise, that they understood this, that they would consider their latter end! How should one chase a thousand, and two put ten thousand to flight, except their Rock had sold them, and the Lord had shut them up?"

Some of the things that every prayer group may include in their praying is as follows:

1. Pray for your own particular needs—salvation for family members, finances, healing, etc.
2. For the needs of others present—and any special requests that have come in.
3. The work of your local church.
4. For all groups in the prayer group. This means that each prayer group is praying for others.
5. For the Native Church Crusade and for revival. If you have sponsored a church(s) pray especially for it.
6. For the Native Literature Crusade.
7. For Israel. "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee" (Psalm 122:6).
8. That God's people may be ready for Christ's coming (II Corinthians 11:2).
9. For Christ For The Nations Institute.
10. Pray for "kings, and for all that are in authority" (I Timothy 2:2). Pray for America and that our President will be providentially guided in his decisions.

During the past eight months over 700 such prayer groups have formed in the U.S., and many more are forming in other countries. This is a completely inter-evangelical move, and is for the benefit of the entire church of Jesus Christ. A great prayer army has the power to drive back the forces of Satan and communism and give time for the evangelization of nations before the Great Tribulation arises.

As an arm to the prayer groups, we have instituted a tape ministry of messages that were given by leading charismatic speakers. Two new tapes with messages on each side of the tapes are available each month and sent out on a free will offering basis. (A nominal charge is made for cassettes.) These tapes if used judiciously can greatly enhance the spiritual power of the prayer service.

Incidentally, the tape ministry is expanding rapidly in foreign lands where missionaries and workers are few in number. In Israel, as we have said, tape centers are being established in many places, and are proving to be a powerful new means to get the Messianic message to the people.

NOTE:

For any of the work Christ For The Nations is involved with, we try to show photographs of the projects, so all can see where their money was used.

For the Native Church Crusade, we send the sponsor a photograph of the church at the beginning of its construction and then when it is finished. We regard the gifts of the donors as a sacred trust, and they should have knowledge that their money is going into each project as represented.

We encourage our donors to do something else that is as important as the gift. We ask them to pray daily for their church and its congregation or whatever project they are sponsoring. We also ask the congregation to pray for the sponsor.

We in America, who love the Lord and who enjoy the affluence of our land, have no choice. God has given us a command to evangelize the world. He said,

"Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16; 15).

"And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come" (Matthew 24:14).

We are all looking for the coming of the Lord, but according to these words, He will not come until the task is completed. All of us have this sacred responsibility.

God does not expect everyone to go as a missionary, but He does expect all of us to share in the task through our giving and our prayers.







CFN 2024 IS


Celebrating Israel's 75th

May 27-June 6,
June 6-June 13, 2024 -



**Dr. Dennis & Ginger
Lindsay**

-  You are invited to join Christ For The Nations 2024 tour of Israel and an exciting cruise through the Mediterranean.
-  Journey with us to the Holy Land for the spiritual experience of a lifetime.
-  Follow the footsteps of Jesus, where every page of the Bible comes alive.
-  Experience the grandeur of Israel's ancient cities: Bethlehem, Nazareth, Beit Shean, and Jerusalem.
-  The tour visits with CFNI graduates and their ministries in Tel Aviv, Mount Carmel, and Jerusalem.
-  With breathtaking scenery, ancient fortresses, and battle scenes of the past and future, this is one transforming tour that you will not forget.

 There will be dynamic teachings by Dr. Lindsay from his book, *Creation Moments In Israel*, which you will receive as a gift. There will also be daily worship, devotions, testimonies, and healing services.

 Join us for this very special tour and cruise!



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2024 – ISRAEL

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END WITH A FABULOUS CRUISE!



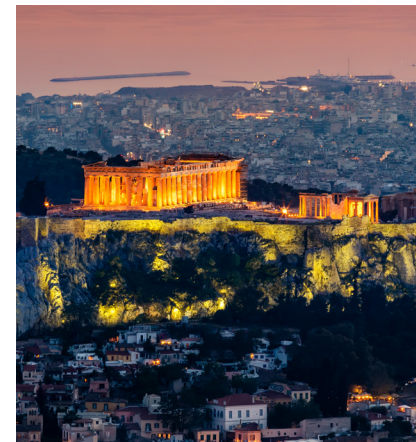
Santorini, Greece



Ephesus, Turkey



Mykonos, Greece



Athens, Greece

CFN WORLD RELIEF IN PAKISTAN!

*“THEREFORE, AS WE HAVE OPPORTUNITY,
LET US DO GOOD TO ALL PEOPLE,
ESPECIALLY TO THOSE WHO BELONG TO THE
FAMILY OF BELIEVERS”*

(GALATIANS 6:10, NIV).

God is so faithful! We received this testimony recently as CFNI alumnus, Samuel Charles Ratti, shared with us. He had received a donation from CFN via the World Relief Fund to help persecuted christians, families, widows and orphans in Pakistan, which is 97 percent Muslim.

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior,
Jesus Christ.

“Dear, respected CFNI,

Thank you for the donation of \$2,000 for my City Hyderabad believers in Pakistan. Sir, by the grace of God, we managed to support 79 families and 40 orphans who are living there. Here is a complete list of those who got relief from the CFNI World Relief Mission Donation.”

- ▶ 79 families received rations (assorted foods). We started giving ration packets from December 19, (27-rations), 26th of Dec. (30-rations), 2nd of Jan. 2023 (6-rations) to 7th of Jan. 2023 (16-rations).

“But you, God, see the trouble of the afflicted; you consider their grief and take it in hand. The victims commit themselves to you; you are the helper of the fatherless” (Psalm 10:14, NIV).

- ▶ 40 orphans received gifts, school stationery, cash money for the gloves and socks due to the cold weather per their requests. We distributed them on Dec. 19, 26 and 30.



- ▶ 15 families got blankets and mattresses on Dec. 22.



- ▶ 22 envelopes were given to the families for medicine/etc.
- ▶ 2 churches were blessed by the CFNI donation fund. They were able to pay their utility bills and get their electric reconnected.
- ▶ 80 Sunday school kids received gifts.
- ▶ 12 stitch dresses were given to families who have orphans, who were sick and also to their caretakers.
- ▶ 9 warm cloths/jackets were given in the Christian Hindus' mixed community for their kids.

- ▶ Food, clothes, blankets and mattresses were distributed to widows and orphans. Many of them were sleeping on the floor.

“Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world”
(James 1:27, NIV).

To Christ For The Nations family:

We are very thankful to you and to your team, as well as to my team members and my family. Now there are also 79 families who would like to say, “THANK YOU” for this blessed support of \$2,000 dollars, which you sent. Kindly do remember us in your prayers in the future.

Samuel Charles Ratti



.....

“So we say with confidence, ‘The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?’” (Hebrews 13:6, NIV).

.....

NATIVE AMERICAN INITIATIVE

● Celeste Groomer



Dr. Rod and Celeste Groomer
CFNI 1985 graduates

Rod and Celeste are licensed and ordained with Christ For The Nations Fellowship of Ministers and Churches (FMC). Rod served in past years as an FMC presbyter and president of the fellowship. Celeste is also a chaplain with Christ In Action. Rod currently serves on the Christ For The Nations Board of Directors and is chair of the Christ For The Nations Association of Bible Schools committee. Celeste served as the Alumni Director and International Ministries Assistant through 2015. The Groomers now make their home in “Little Kansas,” Oklahoma, on the Cherokee Reservation. Their son Brandon, as well as their daughter, Chelsea, are also graduates of CFNI, and live in the DFW area.

Rod and I (Celeste) met at Christ For The Nations as students in 1984. After our graduation in 1985, we married and together pursued the call of God on our lives. For almost 40 years, we have raised a family and served the Lord as pastors and missionaries. In 2000, the Lord brought us back to CFNI to serve as part of the ministry—Rod was the Director of International Ministries and I was the assistant director.

However, it was the Holy Spirit who roused Rod and I to join a gathering to fast and pray for America in 2010. Our mission hearts were genuinely stirred. Yet, we had no idea how God would redirect our vision from the world to specifically our nation; and little did we know it would center on First Nations People.

Having no knowledge at that time of the 574 nationally recognized Native tribes in America, we sensed a pivot in our ministry, that later would encompass something much, much bigger than ourselves. So, we joined with hundreds of others and for one week we prayed and fasted for America. Rod and I left that prayer gathering with a fresh revelation of a people group we would begin researching further.

For the next few years, the Lord confirmed over and over that He had placed this new assignment concerning Native Americans in our hands. He added strategy and new insight, and eventually we shared with CFNI’s leadership what we heard the Holy Spirit saying to us. We found a receptive leadership prepared to merge our own personal ministry endeavors with CFNI Bible training and just like that, the *Native American Initiative* was formed, a partnership of Bible training. Shortly afterwards, we left our positions at CFNI, in 2015, and seized our moment to take Christ For The Nations scholarship Bible training to a few of those 574 Native American tribes.



With the 13 Gordon Lindsay Bible Training manuals and CFNI video-taped classes, we began Native American groups in Utah, Arizona, Oklahoma and Minnesota.



Arizona NAI Pastor Mary Holiday and husband

We went back to the proverbial “drawing board” again and again.

What was finally produced was small group, question-based, discussion lessons formatted for each chapter of the 13-manual, Gordon Lindsay Bible Training curriculum.

As for the video-taped classes from CFNI, several “bugs” needed to be worked on, but all in all, it proved to be a great learning tool and produced four CFNI graduates from the pilot Bible study program.



Ft. Duchesne, Utah NAI group

In each of these locations, we found many ways to improve upon not only the curriculum, but the presentation of it.



Gordon Lindsay Bible Training pilot graduates.
Kansas, Oklahoma



Gordon Lindsay Bible Training pilot group.
Kenwood, Oklahoma

We have learned so much over the past 12 years, but we are far from finished. There is a great deal more in store for America’s native tribes, and we want to be a part of an awakening that reaches the 2.9 percent of our nation for the Gospel.

(cont.)

We believe the harvest is ripe and that each one of the tribes have fellow workers in the Gospel just waiting to be developed. The Christ For The Nations Native American Initiative is only getting started.

Here are a few facts about America's First Nation tribes:

- The three largest Native American tribal groupings are Cherokee, Navajo and Latin American Indian tribes. Alaska has the largest population of Native Americans in the United States, followed closely by Oklahoma.
- There are approximately 175 indigenous languages spoken in the United States today.
- In 2020, 9.1 million people in the United States were identified as Native American and Alaska native, which was an 86.5 percent increase over the 2010 census. They now account for 2.9 percent of the population.
- In his book, *"Roaming Buffalo"* Jay Swallow, a Cheyenne apostle from Northeast Oklahoma, who traveled to over 300 tribal lands with the Gospel, related that only five percent of Native Americans were Christian.
- The number of suicides of young Native Americans is more than three times the national average, and is now up to 10 times that average on some reservations. Researchers note that several factors contribute to the high rate, including poverty, unemployment, domestic violence, sexual assault, alcoholism, and drug addiction. Native American young adults are twice as likely as any other ethnic group to die before the age of 24.

As you can see, the *NATIVE AMERICAN INITIATIVE* across reservations throughout the United States is a very big mission field, with an unlimited amount of potential—literally a sleeping

giant that had only begun to be awakened. In fact, it was Billy Graham who referred to them as the sleeping giants of evangelism, who God would use in this last day, global harvest.

Today, the reports and testimonies are powerful to the glory of God. Below are just a couple of the amazing testimonies of what God has been and is still doing.

FIRST FRUITS OF THE NATIVE AMERICAN INITIATIVE

WANDA'S STORY



Rod Groomer and Wanda Smith at CFNI graduation

Wanda Smith didn't exactly know what to expect when she and her husband, Fred, agreed to begin a pilot program extension of Christ For The Nations Bible training in their church on the Ute Reservation. And she certainly didn't anticipate leading the group of Native American students who joined in the Bible training. But as God directed, Wanda stepped up to the challenge and facilitated the first *Native American Initiative* of CFNI Bible training.

Wanda explained, "I never dreamed I would assist in this Bible training. I had been the children's minister throughout my ministry life, and I actually missed being with the children.

However, as our group formed and we began to learn, things changed. I found that God was teaching me and giving me such a rich revelation from His Word.”

Wanda watched as Shaunda Hardinger, Joann Keyser, and Yolena Sorenson all stayed the course for many seasons of Bible training with her. “Seeing the students grow so much in the Word was amazing, especially when none of us were used to reading so much, but it taught us to read the Bible consistently, and it built the number of chapters we could comprehend in one sitting,” she said. Wanda added, “For someone who didn’t like to read, it transformed my own life. We not only read our Bibles but all the extra resource material and books that went with the courses.”

As the group watched the pre-recorded sessions, Wanda was astonished that the things being taught in the videos seemed to match the circumstances each one was walking through. “The Holy Spirit just seemed to be in control. It was our pattern to pray and worship before we started classes, which made all the difference. It prepared us to receive all God had for us,” she stated.

Recounting the most memorable moments of training, Wanda expounded, “A class on prayer revolutionized my Bible reading. Watching a class on Freedom Through Deliverance, I literally felt a physical healing take place in my body. During a class on Intercessory Prayer, we joined in the prayer presented in the video, and we were astonished when a cloud of God’s Presence came into the room where we were as we prayed with those in the video.” She added, “And several classes that taught us words in the Hebrew and Greek added to our knowledge of the Scriptures and just made the Bible come to life! We were so excited to learn these words!”

Wanda firmly related that, “Christ For The Nations has afforded our Native American community the chance to learn and receive the excellent Bible training it has to offer. I feel it has been a substantial learning experience. Thank you, CFNI, for giving us the opportunity to learn from good, biblically sound teaching. Leaders are being formed from what we have learned.”

YOLIE’S STORY

Yolena Sorenson, or affectionately known as “Yolie,” was raised by her Bible-believing grandmother and her traditional grandfather. As a little girl, she recalled her grandmother watching Billy Graham on television. As much as her grandmother enjoyed his messages, Yolie remembers the effect they had on her, striking an indelible impact within her for evangelism.

As a young adult, Yolie dreamed of attending Oral Roberts University; yet her dream remained out of reach as life moved on and no opportunity availed itself. But in 2016, the *Native American Initiative* emerged and her chance for Bible-based training became a reality. Beginning her first Christ For The Nations classes in her native homeland, she recounted to her pastor, Fred Smith, her dream of attending ORU. Pastor Fred replied, “Yolie, God brought the Christian training to you!”

Yolie shared the following about her Bible training from Christ For The Nations, “I have experienced so much growth from this training. And I feel like our group has accomplished what very few could have done. With the video classes, and online streaming of the services, we have had the privilege of accessing the best of CFNI. Some might say that ‘more is caught than taught,’ but I have found that this is not so. There is nothing better than studying God’s Word for yourself. The Spirit of God hovered over these classes and united our hearts from the teaching in the Word of God that was presented. In fact, while I was on the CFNI campus for the graduation ceremony, I realized that we received just as much as the students on campus received, maybe even more.”

Perhaps it was due to the childhood impartation of those Billy Graham services her grandmother and she enjoyed that made the classes on evangelism and prayer two of her favorites. Yolie recalled that “the powerful truths that were taught have fully revolutionized my mind and heart for prayer and evangelism.”

Since Yolie has become the associate pastor at her church, she credits the Gordon Lindsay Bible Training Series as a biblical tool she has utilized in preparing some of her own messages for her

congregation. The sound teaching and biblical references of this series is a compilation from over 200 of Gordon Lindsay's books of immense study of the Word of God and was specifically broadened for the *Native American Initiative* that Yolie has studied.

When asked what she would tell others who might be thinking about beginning this kind of training, Yolie replied, "Trust the Lord with the process for Bible training. It's a process. He will fulfill and provide for you in order for you to learn."

Pastor Yolie, a Hopi Native herself, carried the Ute Reservation tribal flag in the parade of nations during the procession at the graduation ceremonies in Dallas, Texas, this past May 2022.



A surge of pride welled up in her as she realized that not only was she placed next to the USA flag, (representing her love of America), but she was the first Native American to walk the isle, carrying a specific tribal flag, representing the Ute Nation. As she neared the stage and saw the world flags representing the students from around the globe, she had a vision. "I saw a sea of people on the stage, with unknown flags yet to be raised for their nations. Our small group of graduates are only the first fruit of what is to come from the Native American nations."

Who is next to carry Native American tribal flags in the parade of nations in future graduation ceremonies? May the Lord call many from every tribe in America to the *Native American Initiative* training.

END NOTE

Apostle Fred Smith, a Navajo, and his wife, Wanda, are founders of First Nations Ministries. They have labored to see the first fruits of Native Americans on the Ute Reservation receive Christ For The Nations training. Together as fellow laborers in the Gospel we believe the graduates from this pilot program are the first fruits of many more Native American students becoming Christ For The Nations world changers.

The *Native American Initiative* was born out of a season of fasting and prayer for our nation. We believe that Native Americans will be fellow workers in the Gospel in the next move of God in America. May the Lord call many from every tribe in America to the *Native American Initiative* training.

.....

WHO IS

next to carry the Native American tribal flags in the parade of nations in future CFNI graduation ceremonies?

WHO WILL

invest in future generations of Native American students?

WILL YOU GIVE

financially to the CFNI *Native American Initiative* Scholarship fund, so that the Native Americans from the 574 tribes, on reservations and jurisdictions, might receive online Christ For The Nations training?

.....



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"The most impactful was learning how important true identity is—how it plays a part in your walk with God and the way you carry His call in your life. Since CFNI, my husband and I are children's pastors (plus many other things) at a small church in North Carolina."

KARINA WILSON
2014-2016

"What impacted us was the school's strong emphasis on integrity and spiritual values. We were also taught true servant-leadership and excellence, which has become our culture. After CFNI, we returned home to Zambia, Africa, and we have been pastoring a vibrant church founded by Dr. Nevers Mumba."

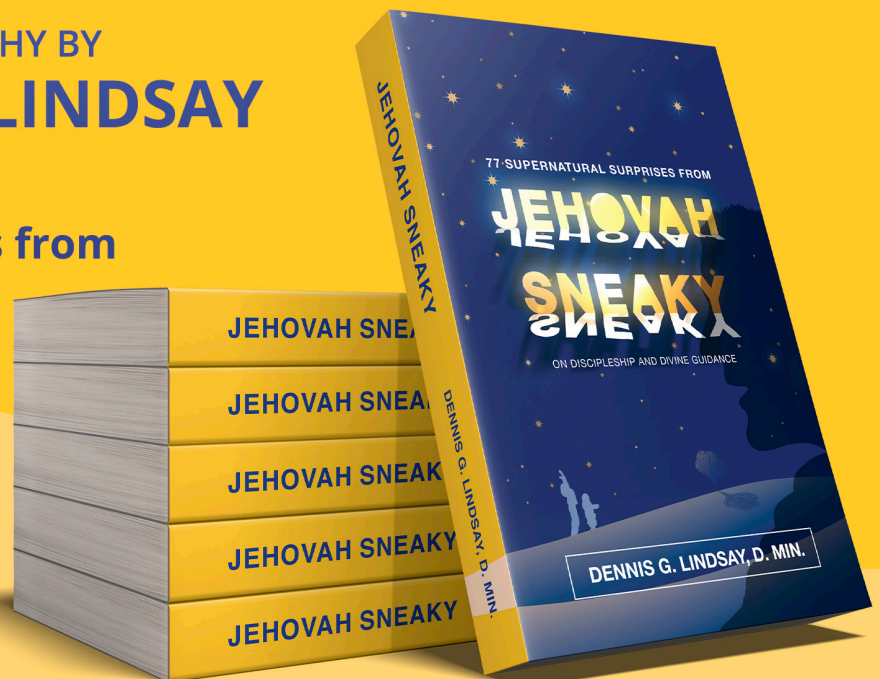
CYRUS AND GERTRUDE SIMWANZA
2011-2012

"The morning chapel impacted me the most. Since CFNI, I have been serving as the lead pastor of a local church in the DFW area."

AUSTIN O'NEAL
2011-2013

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QUESTION: **CAN ONE MAN CHANGE A NATION?**

ANSWER: **YES, GORDON LINDSAY DID**

● Nickie Geldenhuys

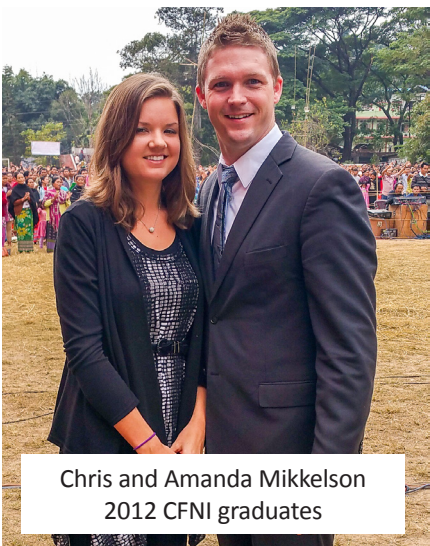
THE JOURNEY—DALLAS TO INDIA

- ▶ Gordon Lindsay changed his itinerary to fly to Calcutta where he learned of Joseph Skinner, a young pastor from Meghalaya, India.
- ▶ Joseph Skinner came to CFNI. He was actually in the auditorium when Gordon Lindsay went to be with the Lord.
- ▶ Joseph returned to India and started Doulos Bible Institute. He also presided over the Church Of Jesus Christ which his parents started. The organization has 400+ churches under it. His nephew, Shan Ryntathieng, is currently the president of the church and the director of the Bible School. Doulos is associated with CFN.
- ▶ Joseph Skinner recommended Galebirth Marak, who came on a scholarship to CFNI.
- ▶ Chris Mikkelson, a domestic student, met Galebirth at CFNI, when they were both studying the Pastoral Major.
- ▶ During his time at school, Chris met alumnus Suleman Manzoor, who also attended on a CFNI scholarship. Suleman started the all-night prayers while he was still a student. During one such night, he anointed Chris to be a crusade evangelist.
- ▶ Galebirth returned to India, where he pastored a church in Tura Town, which the *Native Church Program* roofed. He invited Chris to lead a crusade in Tura. Several churches worked together to host the crusade and gained new members from those who were saved during the crusade.
- ▶ Pastor Jack Sangma, a graduate of Doulos Bible Institute, is now the pastor of the church in Tura. He translated several of the Gordon Lindsay *Literature For The Nations* books into the local language.

CFNI BIBLE TRAINING IMPACTS LIVES . . .

FOREVER

● Chris Mikkelson



Chris and Amanda Mikkelson
2012 CFNI graduates

My wife, Amanda, and I attended Christ For The Nations Institute in Dallas, Texas, from January 2009 to December 2012. Our time there was so foundational to everything we're doing today. I tell young people all the time how important it is to get proper Bible training, like the training I received at CFNI, because it's absolutely vital to having longevity in the ministry. I'm forever grateful for my time at CFNI.

After graduating the 2-year program, I enrolled into the one-year Advanced Leadership and Pastoral School (ALPS). During my one-year course in ALPS, I met an international student named Galebirth Marak. He was a senior pastor attending CFNI from Tura, Meghalaya, India (a city in north-eastern India near the border of Bangladesh and China). He and I would pray many mornings together before class in a small group from ALPS. Little did I know that this friendship would birth two large crusades in his region of Northern India where we would see thousands of people receive Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior in the years to come.

After graduating CFNI, I got a job working for Christ for All Nations, the ministry of evangelist Reinhard Bonnke and his successor, Daniel Kolenda, as evangelist Kolenda's personal assistant. From the very beginning of my time working at CfAN, evangelist Kolenda was training me to one day start my own evangelistic ministry. It was after about two years of working there and two years after graduating from CFNI that I got an email from Pastor Galebirth Marak in India inviting me to come to do a crusade in his region. Pastor Marak told me that he was conducting a city-wide crusade in Tura, and that many dozens of churches from Tura were participating, but he needed an evangelist and wanted me to come and preach the Gospel.

Up to this point, I had never done a crusade on my own, but I had been to many with evangelists Bonnke and Kolenda and I was ready for the task. Since I was still working as evangelist Kolenda's PA, I asked him what he thought about the invitation.

He said, "Chris, I don't *think* you should go. You *have* to go! I believe it's time for you to start getting your feet wet doing crusades of your own."

Pastor Galebirth and his team in India did an amazing job of coordinating all the details for the crusade in December 2014. He and I spoke a few times by phone and emailed back and forth about how to organize such a large crusade. I gave him as much advice as I could from my experience working at CfAN, but it was him and his team that really pulled all the local churches in Tura together and organized all of the ground details for this crusade. I believe we had between 150-200 churches from Tura that participated. I even offered to pay for some of the crusade expenses, but Pastor Galebirth said he wanted to train his people in

India that they shouldn't expect money to come from the USA, but that they should believe that God would provide all the funds from India itself, and He did.



Chris and Pastor Galebirth



This first crusade in India, was a huge success! The population of this city is 75,000. On the final night of the crusade, we saw over 20,000 people in attendance. Over the four-day crusade, we collected 1,500 decision cards



for Christ, but there were many more who got saved. The very first night of the crusade the altar call was so big that Galebirth's team ran out of decision cards. They didn't think they would see more than 400 people get saved for the entire four-night crusade.

Pastor Galebirth said we probably had closer to 5,000 people come forward for salvation, but we didn't have enough decision cards to get an accurate

count. The local pastors also said that the largest church in their city only had 300-400 members, but because of this, they were not sure what they were going to do with all of the new converts! Praise God!

This is a good problem and reminds me of what the disciples must have felt like after the day of Pentecost when 3,000 people were saved. They had only expected seeing 400 decisions for Christ that week, but instead their churches were overflowing with new growth! Even Pastor Galebirth's church of about 300 people more than tripled in size the very next Sunday. Hallelujah!

In December 2017, I returned to Northern India to hold another Gospel crusade with Galebirth in a dangerous jungle that was four hours away from Tura in the city of Chokpot, India.

This was in the most remote location in which we had ever done a crusade before. This village was so remote that even the locals told me they considered it, *"the ends of the earth."* This is exactly where Jesus told us to be witnesses of Him!



Chokpot, India Crusade

Although it's considered the ends of the earth, it's not out of the reach of the Holy Spirit's power. Over the four nights of ministry, we saw the Lord save 952 people in this extremely remote village, who received a follow up by the local pastors!



Chokpot altar call

Many people also experienced healing in their physical bodies, and hundreds were filled with the Holy Spirit the last night, falling under the power of God without anyone touching them. Pastor Galebirth also has a church in Chokpot, which was overflowing with new believers after this crusade.

Praise the Lord!

Those crusades in Northern India with Pastor Galebirth Marak were very powerful. In total, we saw hundreds of sick bodies healed, many were delivered from evil spirits and thousands were saved and ushered into the local churches for discipleship.

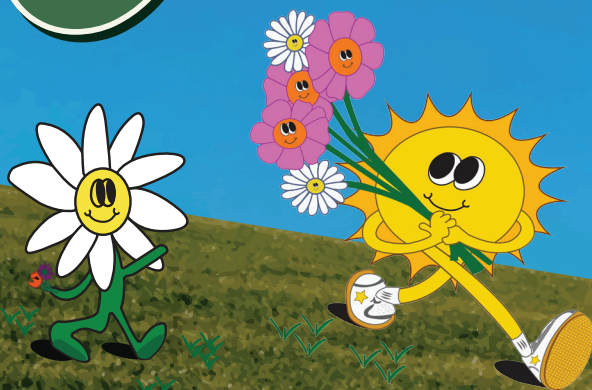


It was all because of my time at CFNI that made this possible. I tell many people who are called to the ministry that not only do they need the biblical training from a school like CFNI, but the relationships they make in Bible school will be Kingdom relationships that will change the course of their lives forever.

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