

EMERGENCY CALL FOR UNITED GLOBAL EVANGELISM.

An address to 2,700,000 in Yoido Plaza Korea  
on August 14th, 1980, by Donald McGavran

CHRISTIAN FRIENDS: Millions are hungry for the Gospel. God has called us to His service in a time of very great receptivity. Millions of men and women can today be won to Christ. Never in 1900 years have so many been so winnable. In almost every nation multitudes hear with joy the Good News of Jesus Christ. This is The Day for united global evangelism.

This receptivity has not happened by accident. God has ripened the harvest. God calls for multitudes of reapers. He calls Christians of every land and every language. He says to Koreans and Congolese, to Americans and Brazillians, "Disciple all the peoples of the world. Baptize them. Incorporate them in Christian congregations. Teach them everything I have commanded you. Go now. I am with you and will give you strength, courage and wisdom."

There are more winnable people today in America than there were a hundred years ago. The Churches are more numerous. The Christians more ardent.

There are more winnable people in Africa now than in the days of David Livingstone. All Africa south of the Sahara is in process of becoming substantially Christian. By the year 2000 there will be more than 300 million Christians in Africa.

In the last fifteen years in Indonesia, more than a hundred thousand Moslems have become Christian. This is the first time in history that a hundred thousand Moslems have accepted the Christian Faith. They are the first fruits of a large harvest. Will Koreans share in the evangelization of the Moslem world?

In four states of North East India, more than half the population has become Christian. In the State of Mizoram more than 80 percent of the people are now Christians. The transformation which Christ has worked in their lives has been tremendous. They are now far better citizens of the nation of India. They are already sending out more than 100 missionaries to other sections of India, and soon will be sending missionaries to other nations of Asia. ¶ In Brazil a denomination which in 1968 numbered 1,500,000 members, in 1980 numbers 3,000,000. It has doubled in 12 years.

To be sure, there are still many resistant populations. Not everyone is hungry for the Gospel. Satan is active. He hardens men's hearts against the Gospel. Communism proclaims that the Christian religion is an opiate of the people,

and some foolish<sup>heresies</sup> believe this big lie. Nevertheless, if we add up all the receptive peoples we find that the churches of the whole world<sup>could</sup> pour all their resources into evangelizing the receptive peoples, and there would still be much work to do.

God will ripen the resistant peoples in His own good time. Till then, His faithful servants will stream into ripe harvest fields, South Korea today, North Korea tomorrow! God says, "The fields are ripe. Pray the Lord to send laborers into this harvest." Do you hear Him? Are the churches of Korea planning to send thousands of missionaries to other lands? Are you resolving to Christianize fifty to eighty percent of rural Korea by 1984? Reap the ripe fields of Korea while it is still day. Reap the ripe fields of the Philippines, Indonesia, Africa, and North America, while it is still day. The night comes soon. O my friends of this mighty nation, God is calling you to UNITED GLOBAL EVANGELISM in days of great opportunity.

Let me ask you a question. What must Korean Christians and churches do to become a substantial part of United Evangelism? Let me give two answers. You may do many things, but these two things you must do.

First, every congregation and every Christian must pray earnestly for the salvation of the unsaved in South Korea. Thirty million men and women, boys and girls have yet to believe in Christ. Most Christians have unconverted relatives - parents, cousins, brothers, uncles and aunts. Most Christians have some connection with a village or a country side or city ward where many do not yet know Jesus Christ, have not yet been saved, have no local church. God is calling Christians in Korea to pray earnestly for the salvation of these relatives and friends.

As we pray, God will send us to visit our cousins, in-laws, or fathers and mothers, and beseech them to accept the Saviour.

Then outside of Korea are millions of receptive Chinese, Indians, Africans and Europeans. Korean Christians will join Christians in many lands in sending out multitudes of missionaries. These Korean missionaries will learn other languages and multiply congregations of the saved in many nations. Mothers, are you praying that God will give to your son or daughter the high privilege of being an ambassador of Christ to some other nation? Pastors, are you praying that God will favor your church by helping it support a family of Korean missionaries to Indonesia, or Africa, or Brazil? Christ said "Pray the Lord of the Harvest." That is the first thing we must do..

Second, every congregation must train multitudes of its own members to become soul winners. The growth of the Church is the responsibility of ordinary Christians. Every pastor should train each Christian to be an effective

witness, to go back to the community in which he was born - perhaps on one of the 2000 islands which ring South Korea. There he will win his relatives to Christian Faith. There he will plant a small congregation, and help it to build a chapel or worship room. An army of trained lay evangelists is required.

Many young people reared in the country come to the cities to work. ~~Here~~ <sup>They</sup> become Christians. Let these magnificent Christian youth work and pray to bring all their relatives to Christian Faith. Let not a single relative be lost.

Let the older people in the churches devote a week a year to evangelizing some valley, or island, or city ward and establish there an on-going Christian community. God says, "O my people, every real church is an evangelizing church". Make sure that by prayer and giving, by planned evangelism of selected villages and city communities, we multiply Christian congregations everywhere. Let every denomination publish reports of how well it is carrying out God's commands. Let every denomination encourage all its members to carry the Bread of Heaven to the multitudes in South Korea and other lands now dying in a great famine of the Word of God. Evangelize, baptize, multiply churches at home and abroad. That is God's EMERGENCY CALL FOR UNITED EVANGELISM.

(( The Plaza is filled from East to West. A sea of faces, sitting as close as it is possible to sit. My address came first. It was followed by Peter Beyerhaus, on the Second Coming and the End of the Age - a powerful address. Then came Dr. Paul Yonggi Cho in Korean, on the Power of Faith. He moved the audience (2,700,000 souls) to great shouts of Amen (Rev. 19:6) and <sup>to</sup> great devotion. The Presence of God can be felt. I am moved to much prayer.))