



TO ALL NATIONS

INTERNATIONAL GOSPEL OUTREACH

September 2007

To All Nations • To Make Disciples 'Til He Returns

Top photo by Lisa Bradley - IGO Missionary in Honduras

Does America Need Missionaries?

ASK THAT QUESTION to a typical, church going believer and you will get a resounding "NO!! America does not need missionaries - we have plenty of churches here!"

A few years ago I might have agreed with that statement. I might have even been offended that someone would even ask, after all, isn't America a Christian nation? Today, I would respond to that same question and say "Yes we do - bring them on!!" Why the change of mind? Let me share some things with you that have persuaded me.

At no time in American history have there been more people born in other countries and speaking other languages living in America. From 1970 to 2005, the foreign born population in the United States rose from 4.7 percent to 12 percent. (That's 30 Million people) The advance of Islam, Buddhism, Sikh and other world religions in America is growing and becoming a part of main stream America. **We need missionaries to these people groups.**

There has never been a time in our history when we have seen the catastrophic events like the terrorist attacks of 9/11 followed by the war on terrorists and the devastation of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita - causing us to almost lose the city of New Orleans - displacing nearly a million people. **We need missionaries to these people groups.**

America has become more secular with each generation. According to one source: only 4% of the generation coming out of high school now will look to the church for answers or even consider themselves to be Christian. **We need missionaries to**

this age defined group.

Since 1900 life expectancy in the USA has risen by 30 years. For the first time in American history, we have 6 distinct generations living among us. They are:

The Senior Generation (born before 1925), **The Builder's Generation** (born 1926 - 1945), **The Baby Boomer Generation** (born 1946 - 1964), **Generation X** (born 1965-1984), **The Millenials** (Born 1985-2000) and **Generation Next** (since 2001).

In a sense, we have become nations within a nation. Each one of these generations has its own unique culture, behavioral norms, people groups, technology, fashion style, music, worship, core values and passions. Because of that, there is a disconnect between them that we must breach in order to reach those generations that are currently emerging. **We need missionaries to each of these people groups.**

SO WHAT DOES ALL THIS MEAN FOR US?

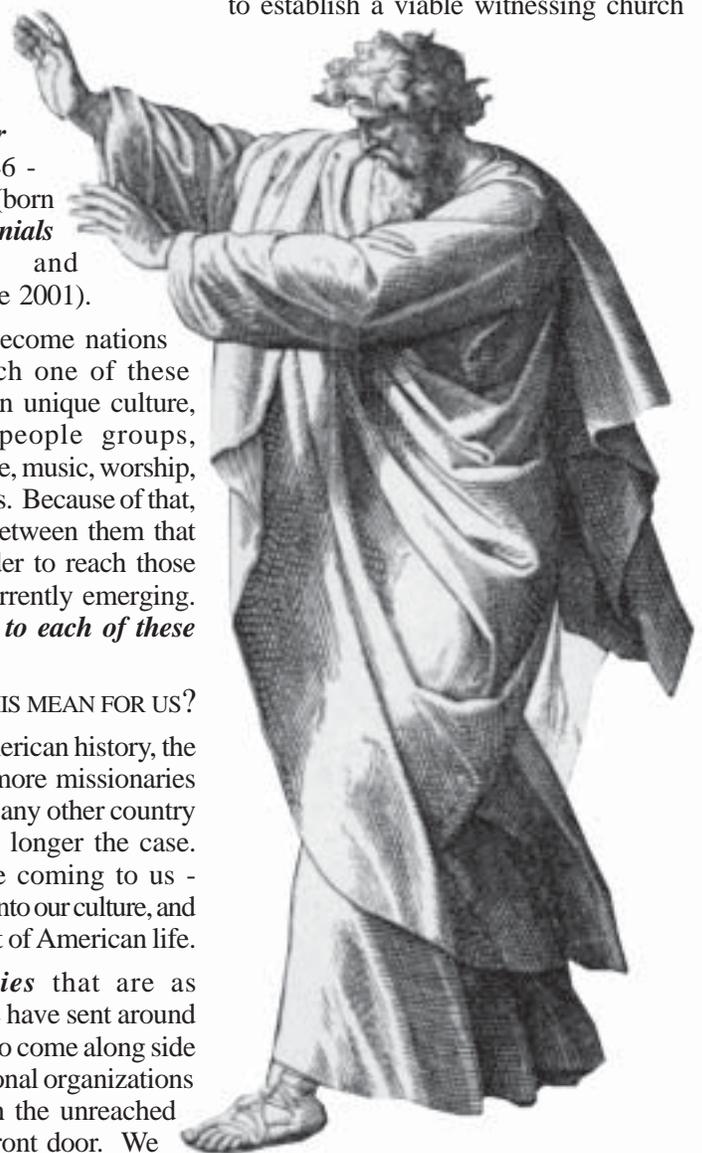
There was a time in American history, the U.S. sent and funded more missionaries into more cultures than any other country in history. That is no longer the case. Today, the nations are coming to us - engrafting their religion into our culture, and becoming a normal part of American life.

We need missionaries that are as determined as those we have sent around the world in years past to come along side our churches and missional organizations and link arms to reach the unreached just outside our own front door. We

need to arm them with the understanding, tools and prayer covering necessary to penetrate into each of these areas.

We need Christian missionaries from other nations and cultures to come to America and reach out to those who have immigrated from their own regions and cultures.

We need missionaries that will embrace emerging generations and cultures in order to establish a viable witnessing church



Institute of World Ministry

among them, and establish new concepts or models of ministry. Instead of just “doing church” - we need to “be the church.” This means that there will be more “tent maker,” or working missionaries that have a passion for the lost and not just a passion for a career. They will minister out of their passion for the lost and obedience to their call.

We need more missionaries on our college campuses to reach out to the thousands of students from other nations that come to the USA for education. We are training leaders for the rest of the world in our colleges and universities - we should be reaching them as well so when they return home they become missionaries to their own people.

I realize that I have not even begun to scratch the surface here in terms of identifying unreached people in America. You can probably think of even more than these. Getting us thinking is the point - we need to be looking, thinking and praying about who it is God is calling each of us to reach - right around the corner from where we live, and in some cases under our own roof.

This is not going to be a cheap, easy fix. We cannot just pop another formula into the existing microwave oven church and pull out a new delightful meal to draw in the multitudes. It is going to require prayerful, thoughtful, intentional and relational ministry and visionary action. It is going to require us to deeply press into knowing God intimately in order to hear his commands and understand his heart for these peoples.

Over the past 200 years in our country, the local church has been the venue where most ministry has occurred. In the days ahead, I believe it will continue to provide a great service in ministry to the body of Christ. However, we must begin looking for and embracing any model we can find that will work when it comes to reaching the unreached. *America needs missionaries. We are in need of not just a revival in America... We need a reformation.*

Dr. James Graham is President of International Gospel Outreach.



The graduating class of 2007 from the Institute of World Ministry was blessed to have our very own IGO missionaries to the Philippines, **Terry and Edith Elbin** as our graduation speakers. What a great time of fun and fellowship. We gave out certificates to eleven inspired and enthusiastic students: **Ben Brenner**, University of South Alabama student & soon to be a Globe missionary; **Aundrea Davis**, school teacher at Faith Academy; **Charlotte Davis**, private home care duty; **Woody Godwin**, teacher and chaplain at Faith Academy; **Lance and Brenda Hobby**, construction worker and several hundred short term mission trip leaders; **Robert Love**, in charge of a men’s recovery ministry; **Monty and Susan Scales**, full time disaster coordinators and first responders with the Convoy of Hope; **Evelyn Mack**, Mobile City Industrial Relations; **Joseph Todd**, retired school teacher and elder at Life Church of Mobile.

This class consisted of a variety of working backgrounds, ages, denominations and from different parts of the United States. The most distant were from Bloomington, Indiana. Another student drove from Waynesboro, Mississippi for every class. Both had perfect attendance. For the last 5 weeks of class 2 students were living and working in the 9th Ward in New Orleans and still attended all the classes. *Did I say how special this class was?*

Each year at the end of our school term, when all the work is done and all the students have graduated and gone their



IGO Institute of World Ministry Graduates
Back Row: Joe Todd and Woody Godwin
Middle Row: Robert Love, Andrea Davis, Evelyn Davis, Monte and Susa Scales, Lance and Brenda Hobby
Seated: Charlotte Davis, Randy Seals (IWM Director) and Bill Anderson (IWM Assistant Director)



Globe International Institute of Global Ministry Graduates
(Seated on first row... Doug & Beth Gehman (President of Globe and Phyllis and Glenn Hatcher - IGM Directors)

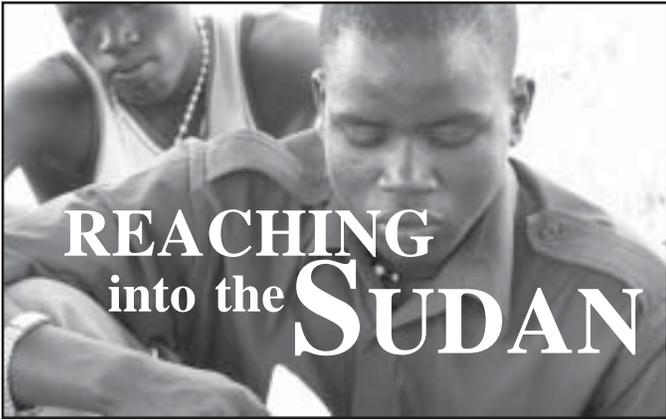
separate ways, I feel like a brand new Dad again. Being a part of the great commission, helping to train our future “World Changers” and just being a small part in their walk with the Lord gives me great satisfaction and joy.

Our team here, **James Graham, Bill Anderson and myself**, has already met with our partners at **Globe International, Glenn and Phyllis Hatcher**, to plan next year’s schools. Again we will be offering identical courses, using the same teachers at both facilities. It has been a very rewarding partnership with all the fine people at Globe. I am looking forward to a long prosperous relationship in building the Kingdom of God together. As soon as all is in place with teachers, schedule and courses, we will be posting them on our webs site – www.igoministries.org.

Please be in prayer and agreement with us for the upcoming school year at all the locations, for the right students to come and be effective in fulfilling the great commission to all those that cross our path. Come be a part of this adventure. Let God speak to your heart about your part in World Changing. **We will start taking applications for the 2008 term beginning in October.** Come get your books and begin your studies for a head start into the ministry of missions.

Randy Seals is Director of Human Resources and Missionary Training at International Gospel Outreach Headquarters in Mobile, AL





Met *Lino Ajang Ajang* — Sudanese missionary for **REAP International Ministry** based in Kenya, East Africa directed by IGO Missionaries, **Anthony & Cindi Holland**. Lino is from *Panthou, Sudan*, a small village in the Aweil district near the Darfur crisis area. Lino came to Kenya voluntarily to receive an education not available to him in Sudan. He's opted to live in the miserable conditions of *Kakuma Refugee Camp* in hot, dry & forgotten northwest Kenya so he could improve himself. His heart's goal is to help his people.



About 4 years ago, we believe that the Lord sent Lino to us in response to our prayers according to Luke 10:2 – “*Ask the Lord of the harvest to send workers into His harvest fields.*” Over the years, we have trained Lino in the discipleship program we direct (*REAP – Relational Evangelism Action Program*). In the process, Lino found “freedom” in Christ Jesus as he learned the truths of the Gospel, received Jesus as His Lord & Savior, and received both baptism by immersion in water & with the Holy Spirit. Immediately he desired for his people – the *Dinkas*, to know these truths and be set free too.

In March of 2007, we visited with Lino in his homeland. We saw for ourselves what our ears had only heard about. It is *BAD!* Our weeks there were the hardest and most challenging circumstances we've encountered in our years of some tough times in foreign fields. Nothing in the natural prepared us for Sudan. There are

no roads, businesses, schools, industry, crops, material goods or even tin-roofed housing – just mud huts with whole families inside these small spaces. It was only by God's unmerited favor that we made it past the heat (110 – 120 degree average), bats, bugs, mosquitoes, reptiles, scorpions and wild critters of Africa!

But mostly, our struggle was having the absolute knowledge that thousands of people are suffering not just from lack of food & material things, but have a great spiritual void. Just as with Lino who had been told he was “*Christian*” and learned he was not, his people only have Religion – a tasteless, purely non-nutritious spiritual junk food! They do not know Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. They do not know the only Way, Truth and Life leading to Eternal Salvation.

Lino told us he believed that his people would like to be Christian. We found this to be true. Yet they said: “*But there's been no one to teach us!*” So we did all we could to teach them the Word of God to release them from bondage and captivity. It was their very first time to ever *see a Bible* and hear Scripture spoken directly from it! During our brief time in Sudan, hundred's received Christ — Hallelujah!

In 1271, Marco Polo's father visited the Kublai Khan – supreme ruler of China, India & the East. He was so attracted to Christianity that he asked for 100 men skilled in Polo's Christianity to be sent to him. Kublai Khan said that he would be baptized along with all his barons and great men & their subjects. Thirty years later, a handful of missionaries

went – too little too late. At the end of WWII General MacArthur pleaded with the American church to send a thousand missionaries to Japan. Again the call was not heard. Can you imagine how different it would be had the Orient been converted to Christ when the window of opportunity had been made available?

Today in southern Sudan, another window of opportunity exists. We in REAP International Ministry are doing all that we can possibly do in some very impossible situations and allowing our God over the impossible, to help us not miss the harvest coming ripe right now! Workers must get into the fields. We expect the window to remain open only until the 2011 elections. “*Today is the day of Salvation*” as the Muslim-operated government in Khartoum desperately tries to sway southern Sudanese from secession as an independent nation. Their drive is not for the southern Sudanese people; but for oil-rich Darfur – land of the Black versus Arab Sudanese.

In 2008, REAP ministry intends to establish the first REAP Ministry mission base in Juba, Sudan with Lino as overseer. Sudanese fields are ripe and ready. Will you strongly consider assisting us for reaping this harvest?

Anthony & Cindi Holland are IGO missionaries. Contributions towards their ministry should be sent to **IGO** with a separate note indicating your gift is for the Hollands, or for the SUDAN Project.



LOST AND FOUND

In all the many transitions we have had to make here at IGO over the past four years, we have found many treasures. One thing that Bertist did really well was to keep everything – I mean everything. There were many days that I wanted to clean out files, desks, closets and get rid of many things... but I did not dare... How thankful I am that I did not. I spend time almost daily going through files and boxes of his things and have found some wonderful things.

In the mid 1990's every Friday morning a group of men gathered here at the IGO office to pray. What meetings they were! Powerful times of prayer... It seems Bertist was the one to always write down the prayer requests, and keep records of what they prayed over. *He was well known for filing everything!*

I was not aware that these files existed until I found them as I was sifting through some boxes of his old files. I was so excited to find them. So much of what we are walking out right now was prayed for in those meetings fifteen or more years ago. The one that is most obvious to us is that for about a year and a half there was a weekly prayer request for **Globe Missionary Evangelism** (a sister Missions agency) in Pensacola. Bertist had a desire to network with other mission agencies, and specifically Globe since they were so close by. During those times he had built a friendship with Bob Bishop and Doug Gehman,

both of them coming over to teach in our missionary training school. Now we have a wonderful relationship with Globe and with two other mission agencies as well. Every few months, the Presidents and their wives gather for a time of fellowship and building better relationships.

Our IWM School leaders were asked by Globe to help them start a Missionary Training school on their campus in Pensacola – which began in January of this year and was a great success. We are sure that there will be others as well. How grateful I am that Bertist would not allow me to throw away those things that are now so precious.

Before you throw things away around you, ask yourself this question; *“Will this be of value to someone many years from now?”* I stand amazed in the presence of Jesus. How he can take so little and make it into something so beautiful.

My love and thanks to those of you who have stood with us for so many years. I am humbled and blessed by your loving support. I am honored that we can be laborers together in the fields that are white unto harvest.



May God strengthen and encourage you as you continue to serve him so faithfully

In His Service, Anna Merle

A CHURCH ON THE MOUNTAIN

“Praise the Lord!! We received \$2,700 for the roof in Cuevitas!!! The work is being done by church members and friends of Pastor Hector. We only had to pay the block masons so far. Once the roof is finished, they will start meeting in the building. The older church building is not big enough any longer. We will put windows and doors in and pour the cement floor as other donations come in.

The community has already set up a soccer field on the property and we will put in slides, swings, and other games for the kids for the community to use. The church in Cuevitas has about 100 permanent members. They minister to the area around them that consist of approximately 1,500 to 2,000 people. Pastor Hector has started several cell groups and another piece of land has been donated, a couple of miles down the mountain, to build a second church. Pastor Hector

is pastoring both churches until we can raise up someone to help him.

Yesi and I have been working with Pastor Hector, his wife Georgina and the Church in Cuevitas for almost 8 years. We have taken many teams and visitors up there to work and minister to the people in the community. We travel to Cuevitas about once a month to minister and sometimes just to visit with the people. They have become a big part of our ministry and leaders are being developed to continue the work there on the mountain.

John & Yesi DuBose are IGO Missionaries serving in Honduras.



A report from Honduras

International Gospel Outreach

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