

**Date:** October 29, 2010

**To:** The Local Churches in the Lord's Recovery in North America

**From:** The co-workers in North America

**Subject:** An Update and Announcement Concerning the Lord's Present Move to Gospelize, Truthize, and Churchize America

*"The word of the Lord grew mightily and prevailed." - Acts 19:20*

*"Those therefore who were scattered went throughout the land announcing the word as the gospel." -- Acts 8:4*

*"The church throughout the whole of Judea and Galilee and Samaria had peace, being built up; and going on in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, it was multiplied." -- Acts 9:31*

Dear saints,

We wish to provide all the churches with an update of the current move of the Lord to gospelize, truthize, and churchize North America (GTCA), including the United States and Canada, beginning in 2011. A presentation of this move was made at the end of the recent Summer Training in Anaheim. That PowerPoint presentation, which can be viewed at [www.gtca.us](http://www.gtca.us), was forwarded to the leading brothers in most, if not all, of the churches last July.

GTCA is a determined endeavor by the work, the churches, and the saints in the recovery to build up the Body of Christ by proclaiming the high gospel, teaching the deeper truths, testifying of the life experiences, and gaining a minimum of 5,000 new ones (not counting those who will be gained through the existing work that is being carried out in the communities and campuses in the local churches) and raising up at least 250 new churches throughout North America by the year 2020. Doubtless, this unprecedented move of the Lord will require steadfast prayer, strong coordination, and unending consecration on the part of all the saints in the churches.

### **The Burden**

In Acts 16, after seeing the vision of the Macedonian, Paul and his co-workers decided that God had called them to announce the gospel in that Roman province. Brother Lee writes in footnote 16:10<sup>3</sup>: "After seeing the vision from God, they needed to conclude,

that is, to understand what it meant, by exercising the mind—a mind saturated and directed by the Spirit (Eph. 4:23)—according to the actual situation and environment." As we survey the actual situation and environment in North America, we see millions of Christians who are dissatisfied with a bankrupt Christianity, and millions more disillusioned with life in the fragile human economy amidst the volatile world situation. However, as we consider the Lord's recovery, we witness the growing embracing of the ministry by seeking Christians, the continual rich and up-to-date speaking of the Lord, the vitality of the saints in their practice of the church life according to the God-ordained way, the one accord among the churches and the believers, and the swelling ranks of a younger generation of perfected saints. Based on the above, we must conclude that *now* is the opportune time for all the saints to commit themselves to this crucial move of the Lord to spread the recovery in America.

An all-important goal of GTCA is to mobilize as many saints in the churches as possible to participate in this move, whether by way of intercession, financial contribution, or direct distribution of the ministry, shepherding of seeking new believers, and, for some, eventual migration to establish the church life in new cities. To carry out this move, we will take the God-ordained way of corporate fruit-bearing through personal begetting, feeding, perfecting, and prophesying, with the indispensable elements of the Spirit, the Word, prayer, and the homes. There is also a strong and concurrent burden to gain many typical Americans as a result.

In order to carry out the burden, we are proposing two concurrent approaches, as explained in the following two sections entitled "Gospel Trips in 2011" and "City Adoption in 2011."

### **Gospel Trips in 2011**

In order to provide some direction to the saints and churches, the co-workers have selected 30 target cities in North America for immediate propagation in early 2011. These cities generally meet the following criteria: 1. Is not a current church or a newly planted church in need of strengthening, 2. has a strategic university located in close proximity, and 3. The presence of a nearby church which is committed to supporting the spread of the Lord's testimony to that city. The initial steps to propagate to these places will involve the following:

- "Sowing" -- Small teams of current FTTA trainees and full-timers, accompanied by burdened saints, will conduct gospel trips to visit these target cities in the first two weeks of February. Team members will contact people with the printed ministry, visit existing literature recipients, enter "warm" doors to set up home meetings, and conduct seminars. Such visits will be coordinated by the co-

workers, nearby supporting churches, FTTA, Bibles for America (“BfA”), and Living Stream Ministry (“LSM”).

- “Watering” -- A group of burdened saints drawn primarily from neighboring and supporting churches will assume a long-term care for the seeking believers contacted and gathered in each of the aforementioned 30 cities. These saints will be responsible for a sustained cultivation of a new church life through shepherding visits, home meetings, Bible studies, and perhaps eventual migration to either establish or strengthen the Lord’s testimony in that city.
- Further information regarding these gospel trips and their follow-up work is forthcoming. Meanwhile, FTTA trainees have been encouraged to fellowship with their sending localities about their participation. A public announcement will be made at the upcoming Thanksgiving weekend conference in Columbus, Ohio.

### **City Adoption in 2011**

In addition to the aforementioned gospel trips, we hope that beginning in 2011, 500 vital groups (existing or newly formed) of saints in the churches will each, according to the Spirit’s leading and in fellowship with the Body, identify, “adopt,” and spiritually “cultivate” a separate locality in North America where there is currently not a church testimony (500 cities total). The main prerequisite to “adopt” such cities is a manifest burden to labor there on the part of the adopting saints, whether it is based on a pre-existing burden, or the presence of sons of peace--literature contacts and seeking ones who would welcome our contact and visits.

- “Farming” -- The members in these groups will be expected to pray together as a team, maintain a healthy fellowship with their home churches, and coordinate positively with the co-workers overseeing the work in their target areas. BfA will make available free training and distribution materials to those groups to facilitate the announcing of the gospel, the teaching of the truth, and the following-up of interested ones in adopted cities. The groups will intercede for their city of burden, distribute free Bibles and ministry books in its communities and campuses, and contact and visit its open literature recipients on a regular basis with a view toward possible future migration.
- Some of these cities may be manifested as particularly strategic and may become potential targets for future gospel trips. We are persuaded that such persistent and faithful labor in the God-ordained way will result in the planting of many new “church trees” throughout the continent.
- Additional information regarding city adoption is forthcoming. More announcements will be given at the coming Thanksgiving conference in Columbus, Ohio and the Winter Training in Anaheim.

The initial endeavor to propagate in 30 cities with both its “sowing” (gospel trips) and “watering” (follow-up work) components, along with the additional 500 cities that the saints will adopt and begin “farming” (city adoption and cultivation) in 2011, will be a tremendous opportunity to blend the churches in the U.S. and Canada together, to perfect the saints in their service as New Testament priests of the gospel, to make them disciples of Christ to live the God-man life, and to build up the Body for His corporate expression.

## **Conclusion**

We expect 2011 to be but the start of a new season of unprecedented blessing among the churches in North America. Exactly 50 years ago Brother Witness Lee was led by the Lord to begin the work of the recovery in this continent. Then, a generation of seeking Christians was prepared by the Lord to receive the ministry of life and truth and found their home in the local churches. The number of believers in the recovery multiplied from dozens to thousands over a decade from the 1960s to the 1970s. A similar situation exists today, this time with millions of discontented Christians searching for spiritual food and the genuine church. Our great commission is to dispense to them the unsearchable riches of life and truth we have inherited, and to guide them into God’s purpose. In preparation for this move, let us begin to pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest that He will thrust forth workers into His harvest.

We hope you are encouraged by this update and will participate in the move and spread of the Lord to gospelize, truthize, and churchize North America. May God truly bless America and Canada, and may all the churches and all the saints become part of this blessing in these momentous days. His grace be with you.

On behalf of the co-workers in North America,

Your brothers for His move,

Minoru Chen  
Colley Joseph  
Benson Phillips  
Tym Seay  
Dan Towle