



**GLOBAL TRAINING
NETWORK**

LIVES 20 YEARS OF TRAINING LEADERS AND TRANSFORMING

MISSION BEGINS WITH AN EXPLOSION OF JOY

“There has been a long tradition which sees the mission of the Church primarily as obedience to a command. It has been customary to speak of ‘the missionary mandate.’ This way of putting the matter is certainly not without justification, and yet it seems to me that it misses the point. It tends to make mission a burden rather than a joy, to make it part of the law rather than part of the gospel. If one looks at the New Testament evidence one gets another impression.

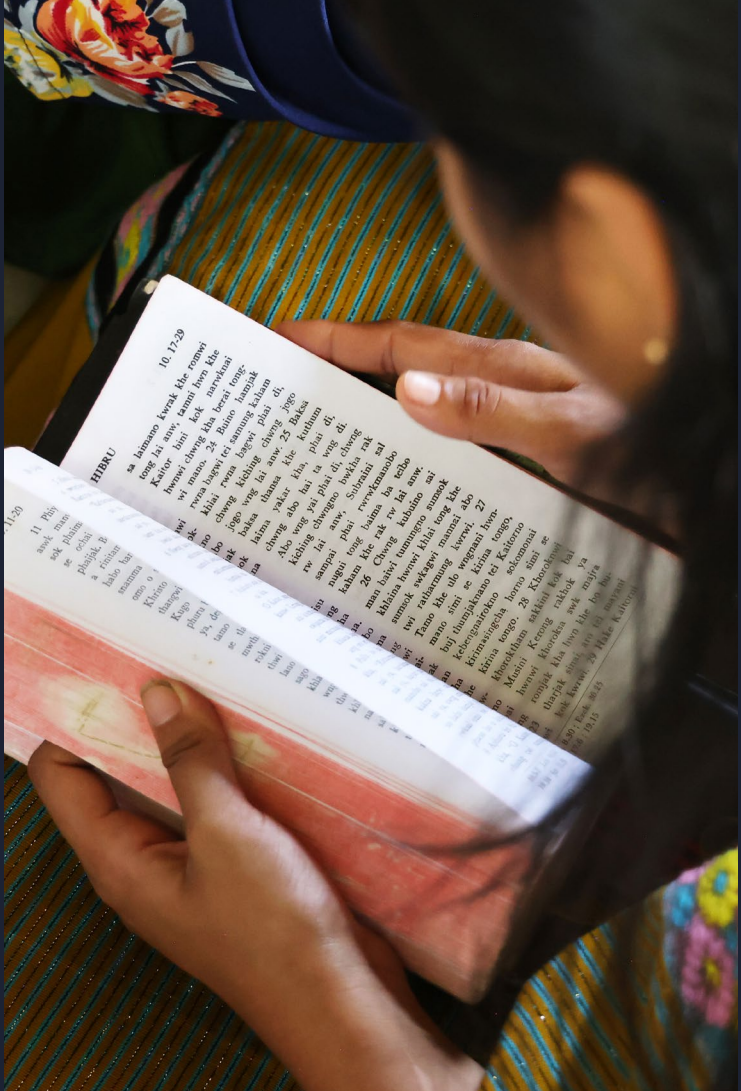
Mission begins with a kind of explosion of joy.

The news that the rejected and crucified Jesus is alive is something that cannot possibly be suppressed. It must be told. Who could be silent about such a fact? The mission of the Church in the pages of the New Testament is more like the fallout from a vast explosion, a radioactive fallout which is not lethal but life-giving.”

LESSLIE NEWBIGIN

British Missionary to India and Theologian
The Gospel in a Pluralist Society





FULFILLING THE GREAT COMMISSION



DEAR FRIENDS,

Twenty years ago, Lisa and I ventured out into an unknown future and took a step of faith. All we knew was that God had called us to help meet the critical need for pastoral training in the majority world. At the time, it looked like we would be pursuing this call on our own. But God (as He often does) had some surprises in store!

Over the last two decades, God has added over 180 staff members to our original two. He's expanded GTN's reach and influence to 84 nations and training to over 330,000 indigenous pastors and leaders. Although these numbers are immensely encouraging, there is still much to be accomplished.

To meet this need, our vision is for all of GTN's ministry to be multiplied, just as Paul counseled his young protégé, Timothy, "...and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also" (2 Timothy 2:2 ESV).

Join us in praying that this multiplication will continue with strength and effectiveness!

As I reflect on all that has happened since June 2004, powerful stories come to mind:

CHURCHES STRENGTHENED AFRESH IN THE GOSPEL, PASTORS HUMBLLED AND REPENTANT OVER THEIR SIN, MINISTRY FAMILIES EXPERIENCING GREATER PEACE AND PROTECTION FROM BURNOUT, CHRISTIAN LEADERS COMMITTING TO REACH UNREACHED PEOPLE GROUPS FOR THE FIRST TIME.

These are only a handful of examples among so many more that I wish I could share with you. God is on the move around the world, and He is touching hearts and lives through the faithful ministry of His Word!

As we look to the future and our 25th anniversary (2029), we are asking God if He would, by His grace, allow GTN...

TO BE INVOLVED IN TRAINING PASTORS IN 100+ COUNTRIES, TO PROVIDE TRAINING TO 50,000 ADDITIONAL PASTORS, TO CHALLENGE AND MOBILIZE 500 INDIGENOUS LEADERS TO WORK AMONG AN UNREACHED PEOPLE GROUP, TO SEE 5,000 NEW, STRATEGICALLY-PLACED INDIGENOUS CHURCHES PLANTED, AND TO MULTIPLY GTN'S TRAINING TO THE 3RD & 4TH GENERATION AND BEYOND.

Finally, I just want to say that we are so grateful for an incredible team of ministry partners! GTN would not be the ministry it is today without faithful partners who responded to God's call to give generously, pray earnestly, and love sacrificially.

Spreading the fame of God's name to all nations,



A stylized, handwritten signature of Paul R. Madson in white ink. The signature is fluid and cursive, starting with a large 'P' and ending with a long horizontal stroke.

PAUL R. MADSON
President and Founder

THE FOUNDING OF GLOBAL TRAINING NETWORK

If missions begins with an explosion of joy, Global Training Network began with an expression of faith.

Twenty years ago, Paul Madson was the Senior Pastor of a large church in suburban Phoenix. When the church was planted, their congregation had made a commitment to adopt an unreached people group (UPG) in the 10/40 window (this is the rectangular area of North Africa, the Middle East and Asia approximately between 10 degrees north and 40 degrees north latitude). Together, they prayed and asked God to lead them to a UPG they could help reach with the Gospel.

God answered their prayers through a partnership with the JESUS Film Project, who approached them about adopting the Borok people group in northeast India. This particular UPG numbered 1.5 million people and 99% had never heard the name of Jesus Christ, let alone a clear presentation of the Gospel. Paul's congregation had the privilege of funding the translation of the JESUS Film into their language and supporting seven different indigenous teams to do evangelism using the film over several years. During this time, over 14,000 individuals from the Borok people group made clear professions of faith in Christ. The church was thrilled to see the Gospel reaching so many who had never heard the Good News.

Through this partnership, Paul made several trips to northeast India over the years. Each time he asked about their greatest needs and how his church could be of help, the same answer came back: pastoral training.

During one particular trip in early 2004, Paul and his wife, Lisa, visited a village church high up in the mountains. Their host, Naphurai, sat next to them and explained that the pastor they saw up front was only filling in for the actual pastor. With the incredible spiritual harvest of new Borok believers, the main pastor was now shepherding several other congregations simultaneously. The man filling the pulpit for him knew only the most basic gospel message and little else.





FOUNDED IN 2004

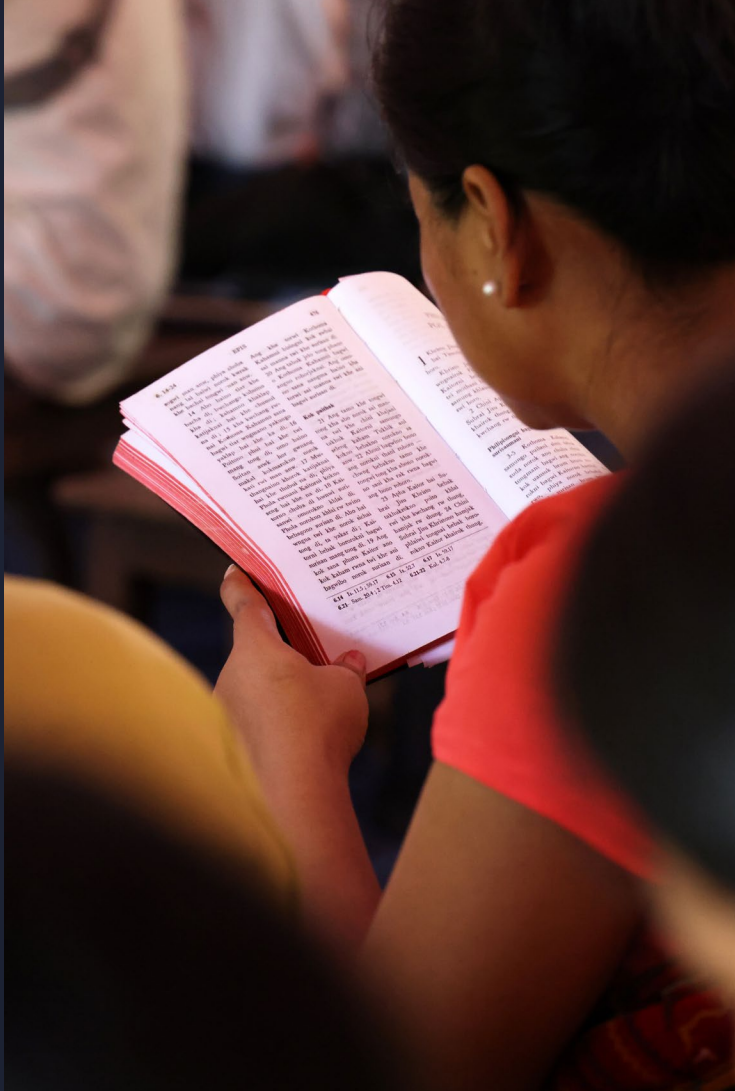
Naphurai went on to explain that with rapid conversions came the need for churches to be planted and pastors to lead them. A major problem quickly became evident: Who becomes the shepherd if everyone is a new believer? Answer: A new believer who may know a basic verse like John 3:16 and nothing more.

The next day, as Paul was training a group of Borok pastors in the area, both the “fill-in” pastor and the main pastor were there, eagerly taking notes and leaning in to hear all that was being said. Later, Naphurai explained that these notes would fuel their preaching and teaching for the next six months. It suddenly hit Paul that he was experiencing 2 Timothy 2:2 in action – “and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also.” A few days later, Paul and Lisa traveled to another city in India. Their host kindly encouraged them to take a moment to rest on a patio located on the roof of his home. They wearily climbed the cement steps and paused to look around. In the distance, rugged mountains loomed, and squares of green and yellow crops dotted the landscape. As their bodies slowed down, their hearts began to catch up. They reflected on the last seven days of their trip and the last several years of their church’s JESUS Film partnership, through which they had learned eye-opening realities about the crucial need for pastoral training.

This was clearly a major issue standing in the way of this new body of believers. How were they to grow in their faith without trained pastors and leaders? As they talked about this dilemma together, Paul felt God impressing him with a strong sense of calling to give the second half of his life on behalf of these pastors and leaders. Sermons he had preached on Psalm 67 came to his mind: You have been blessed to be a blessing. God impressed the following message on his heart: “You have been blessed with training, education, and 25 years of practical pastoral and ministry experience. Multiply it to bless younger pastors and leaders globally.”

Paul’s eyes were opened, and he wept. He was touched deeply and told Lisa that he would give all he had to encourage and equip pastors in under-resourced areas like this one. Her response was a freely given “yes” – they would do this together and trust God for the results.

TWENTY YEARS LATER, PAUL AND LISA ARE ASTOUNDED AT ALL THAT GOD HAS DONE TO FORM THE MINISTRY OF GLOBAL TRAINING NETWORK AND EXPAND ITS REACH WORLDWIDE. SOLI DEO GLORIA!



NAME SPREADING THE FAME OF GOD'S NAME





THE CRUCIAL NEED FOR PASTORAL TRAINING

The gospel is spreading rapidly in the majority world, with 90% of global conversions occurring in this region of the world on a daily basis (*The Center for the Study of Global Christianity*). As churches sprout up quickly, there is a crucial need for well-trained pastors who know the Word of God and who can shepherd their people into maturity.

Tragically, 85% of pastors and leaders throughout the majority world have no formal biblical or theological education. Formal institutions such as seminaries and Bible colleges are not only rare, but also involve barriers such as cost and geographic distance for most leaders. Without biblical and theological training, churches become vulnerable to heresy, divisions, and spiritual apathy.

While nonformal training opportunities exist, they are “advancing at the speed of a bicycle, while the gospel is spreading at the speed of a bullet train,” according to South African theologian Dr. Steven Loots.

GLOBAL TRAINING NETWORK EXISTS TO MEET THIS EVER-GROWING NEED. OUR MINISTRY TRAINS MAJORITY WORLD CHURCH PLANTERS, PASTORS AND CHRISTIAN LEADERS SO THAT THEY CAN MORE EFFECTIVELY EQUIP THEIR CONGREGATIONS TO EVANGELIZE AND DISCIPLE THEIR COMMUNITIES FOR CHRIST. OUR WORK IS TO MULTIPLY MINISTRIES THROUGH INTENSIVE, ON-SITE TRAINING EVENTS BY PROVIDING TEACHING IN ESSENTIAL DOCTRINE, VITAL CHRISTIAN CHARACTER AND PRACTICAL MINISTRY SKILLS.

We respond to the final words of Jesus when He said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age” (Matt. 28:18-20 ESV).

In order for the Great Commission to be fulfilled, with true disciples being formed and healthy local churches established, pastors first must be trained and given the biblical and theological tools that are needed to effectively teach God’s Word and lead the flock under their care (Eph. 4:11-16).

HOW GTN MEETS THIS CRUCIAL NEED



GATHER

Pastors and leaders in an accessible location who want to grow in their pastoral ministry.

INCREASE REGIONAL UNITY
LEARN IN COMMUNITY
SMALL GROUP APPLICATION



TRAIN

Each group using comprehensive biblical curriculum focusing on the head, heart and hands.

HEAD: DOCTRINE
HEART: CHARACTER
HANDS: SKILLS



MULTIPLY

The impact by challenging each pastor to train 3-5 others and expand the reach of the gospel.

FAMILY
CHURCH
COMMUNITY

“Often under-served and isolated, pastors are on-site for the long term; they are the least expensive and most relevant to their contexts. They are thus the key co-laborers who urgently need training, skills, and relationships. Therefore, building a global pipeline to deliver such pastoral training as the focus and framework of all ministry efforts significantly accomplishes the final mandates of our Lord Jesus. Enhancing pastoral health everywhere accelerates church health anywhere and delivers spiritual health worldwide.”

DR. RAMESH RICHARD

Professor at Dallas Theological Seminary
Founder of RREACH

ASIA

The spiritual landscape of Asia is a paradox: although a variety of different religions are practiced here, a persistent spiritual thirst remains. Oases that appear to hold water turn out to be mirages. And yet, as the truth of the Gospel flows through in life-giving streams, hearts are opening as never before. Through GTN's training, cultural lies are unmasked by Scripture and leaders experience a newfound freedom. Nowhere is this more evident than in the treatment of women, as they are routinely dismissed as having less intrinsic value than men in many traditional Asian cultures.

GTN staff member Patricia Niednagel described the wonder experienced by a group of women leaders after a training on The Image of God, "filled with the truth of God's Word telling them how they were adored, loved, valued by their Creator gave them the confidence to boldly share God's transforming power in their life, laying a foundation of biblical truths."

As their group of Indian leaders met together, Patricia went on to note, "These women are very bright, but have never been taught how to share their faith and disciple. Given the knowledge through training, they are boldly gathering groups together and starting the discipling process. They are excited, they are eager, they are fearless!"

A similar feeling of awe followed a group of pastors and leaders in Nepal, as they began to learn incredible truths about God's very nature through a study on Systematic Theology.

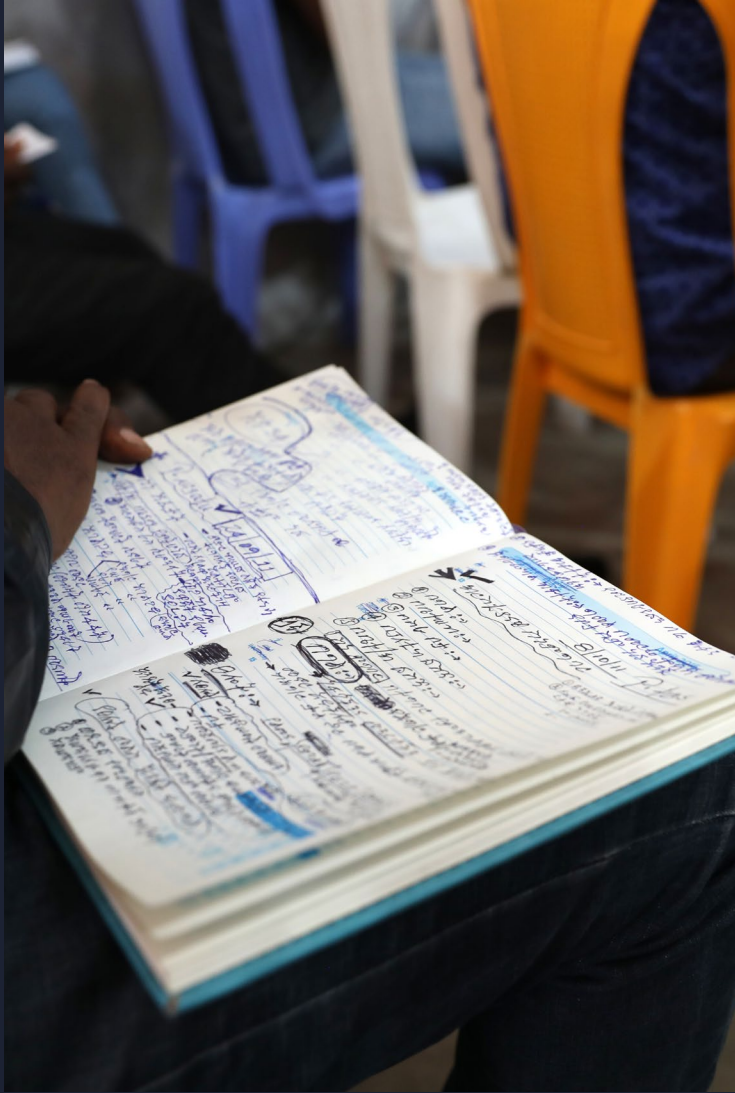
Staff member Bob Edmondson wrote: "The same spirit of wonder prevails as I describe the attributes of God. He is so vastly different from the Hindu gods worshipped everywhere in Nepal that our students are profoundly affected by biblical descriptions of God's true nature. Already there have been some tears and great feedback."

Finally, our brothers and sisters in Asia spark wonder in our own hearts as our staff witness their perseverance and steadfastness in the face of persecution. Following a training in Vietnam, Scott Countryman wrote: "We are so encouraged by these dear brothers who serve in challenging circumstances and under the constant threat of persecution. Some have been in prison, but remain bold in proclaiming the gospel and faithfully pastoring the church. They continually express their gratitude that we have not forgotten them."

JOIN US IN PRAYING FOR THE CHURCH IN ASIA TO EXPERIENCE PEACE IN THE MIDST OF PERSECUTION, TO REMAIN STRONG IN THE FAITH AND TO BOLDLY SHARE THE LOVE OF CHRIST IN THEIR LOST COMMUNITIES.

A SURGE OF WONDER





AFRICA

The continent of Africa is bursting with potential. The gospel is spreading rapidly here, and as a result, this nation “is critical for the future of global Christianity,” according to The Center for the Study of Global Christianity. “In the next 10 years, Africa will likely grow to have the most Christians of any continent: 700 million.” With churches growing exponentially, Africa needs biblically and theologically rooted leaders who know God’s Word and can teach it effectively. In order for churches to “shine as lights in the world” (Phil. 2:15), believers must be disciplined in many areas of the Christian life and faith.

A frequent training request from national leaders is in the area of Marriage and Family. Following a GTN session in Tanzania, one pastor said: “Until today, I never understood what it meant to love my wife like Christ loves the church.” GTN staff member Kathy Ragan commented, “In a culture where the wife is often considered less important than the eldest son or the man’s parents, this teaching is life-changing, if believed and applied.”

This same kind of life transformation was witnessed by staff member Bill Wright after a training in Uganda: “As we observed and listened to many (over 200) who graduated from the GTN three-year training ministry, I was humbled to hear how God had reshaped their thinking to be biblically sound rather than their own opinions or even the opinions of others.”

The light of God’s Word also illuminates the need for how believers view their personal resources. After a training in Rwanda, staff member Bob Edmondson said, “When a person stops asking, What do I need? And starts asking, What do I have? And What would God want me to do with it?... great things start to happen in their lives.”

The presence of vibrant, growing believers in a society is an undeniable source of light to the surrounding world. One GTN trainee in South Sudan, Bishop Joshua, put it this way: “These trainings are very good because if you change a pastor, it affects a family and an entire group of people... This training will help them lead the church. Then the church will be a light, and their changed lives will attract others to the message of the Bible.”

As pastors and leaders learn the Word of God and are transformed, the natural byproduct is to share the gospel. GTN staff teach not only on Evangelism, but on having a heart for the world as well. One example is that at the end of every training on Missions, Joel Madson leads his students in a rich time of prayer where everyone is encouraged to place a hand on a world globe and then pray out loud for the gospel to reach all peoples on earth.

JOIN US IN PRAYING FOR OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN AFRICA AS THEY SEEK TO BE LIGHTS IN THEIR FAMILIES, CHURCHES, AND COMMUNITIES.

LATIN AMERICA

One of the largest and most spectacular waterfalls in the world can be found on the border of Argentina and Brazil, in Iguazu National Park. The large sprays of water from its many cascades permanently soak the surrounding river islands and forest, creating a unique micro-climate that includes diverse flora and fauna. Similarly, as the Gospel has continued to spread throughout Latin America, life-giving transformation is flowing into the hearts and lives of many. The resulting spiritual climate from this cascade is producing growth and life change as pastors and leaders learn to study the Bible for themselves.

Following several trainings in the Dominican Republic by Steve and Toby Hopper, participants had a chance to reflect on what they had learned and how it was going to lead to action. One attendee wrote: “I want to go right home and use this in my life.” Another said, “We have never heard these principles from scripture until now. It will change our ministry.”

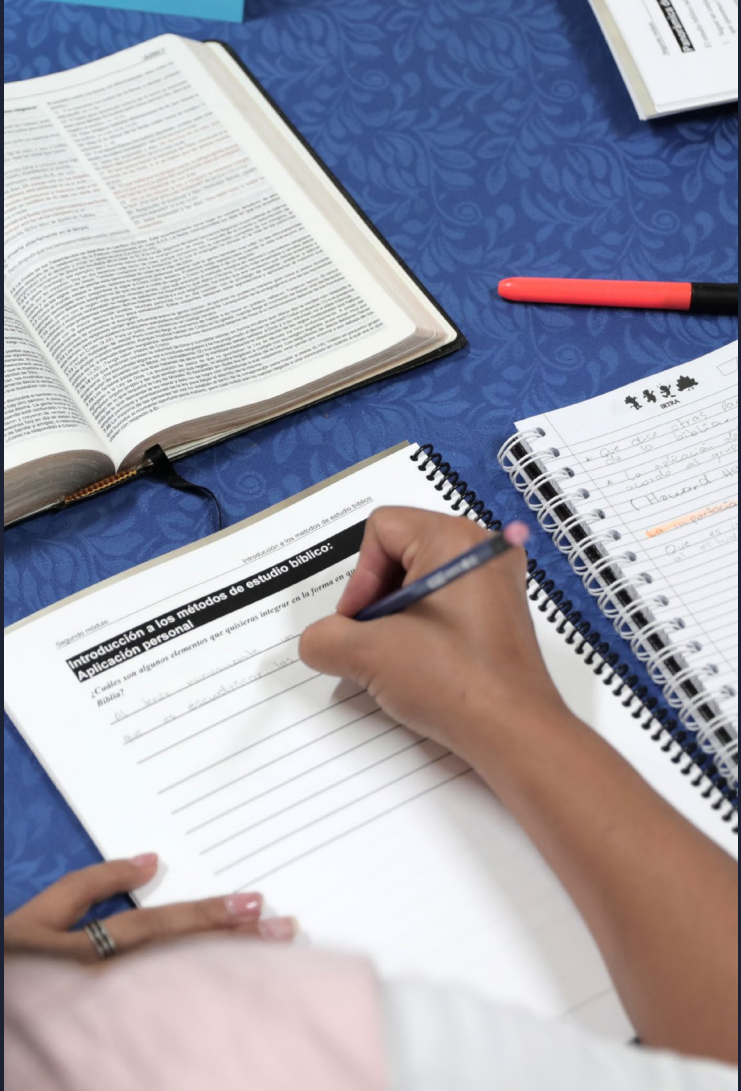
This heart and life transformation has a cascade effect, where lives changed flow naturally outward in a desire to multiply the training to other areas. Staff members Linus Morris, Phil Graf and Samir Diab have crafted a training focused specifically on multiplication called “The Divine Expedition,” based on the book of Romans. One group of leaders in El Salvador completed each phase of the training and through their strategic coaching and practice, became skilled trainers themselves. This resulted in a plan to cross borders with GTN’s training into Nicaragua.

In Brazil, participants in the training led by Morris and Graf gathered in regional groups to brainstorm how God might use them to impact their community for Christ. Using poster paper, they visually described these God-sized dreams. By the end of their time together, they mapped out their 3-year, 1-year and 6-month ministry plans - acknowledging God’s role and where they needed to take action. Each leader then shared their plans to demonstrate and declare God’s love in their community and the associated action steps to make these plans a reality.

In another instance, GTN trainers Larry and Bego Meeker worked with pastors and leaders from a rural part of Guatemala, teaching a process of discipleship that is relationally facilitated in small groups. After completing their time together, the host pastor told them that this process was rare in the Guatemalan church. “Life on life” discipleship proved powerful and opened a door to future opportunities for training.

JOIN US IN PRAYING FOR THE CHURCH IN CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA TO CONTINUE THIS EXPERIENCE OF TRANSFORMATION AND MULTIPLICATION, TO THE GLORY AND HONOR OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST.

A CASCADE OF TRANSFORMATION



FIVE YEAR VISION

By the end of 2029 (our 25th Anniversary),
we are asking God:

100 COUNTRIES

To be involved in training pastors and leaders in 100 countries.

50,000 PASTORS

To provide training to 50,000 additional pastors and leaders.

500 LEADERS

To challenge and mobilize 500 indigenous leaders to work among an unreached people group.

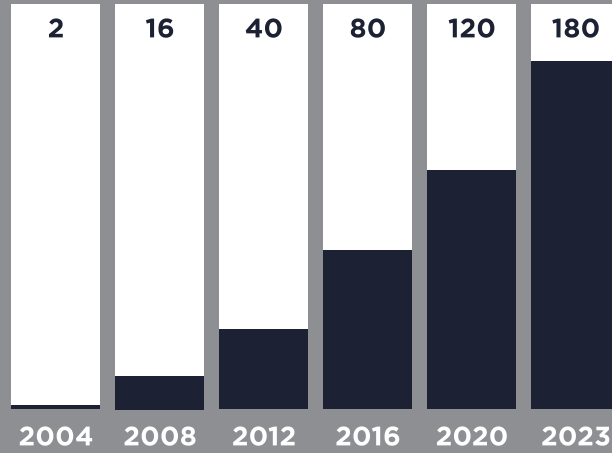
5,000 CHURCHES

To see 5,000 new churches planted all across the globe.

3RD & 4TH GENERATION

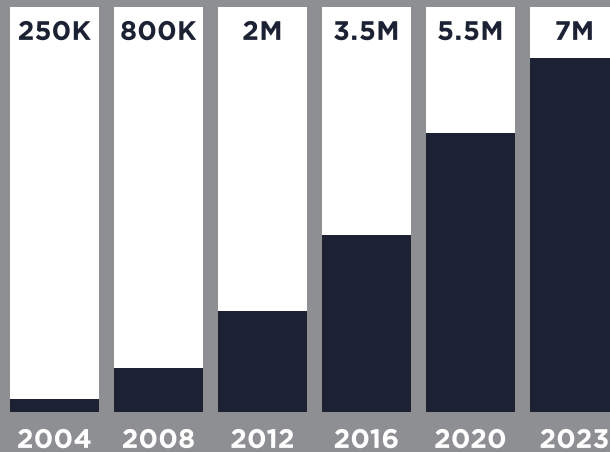
To multiply GTN's training to the 3rd and 4th generation – and beyond.

STAFF GROWTH

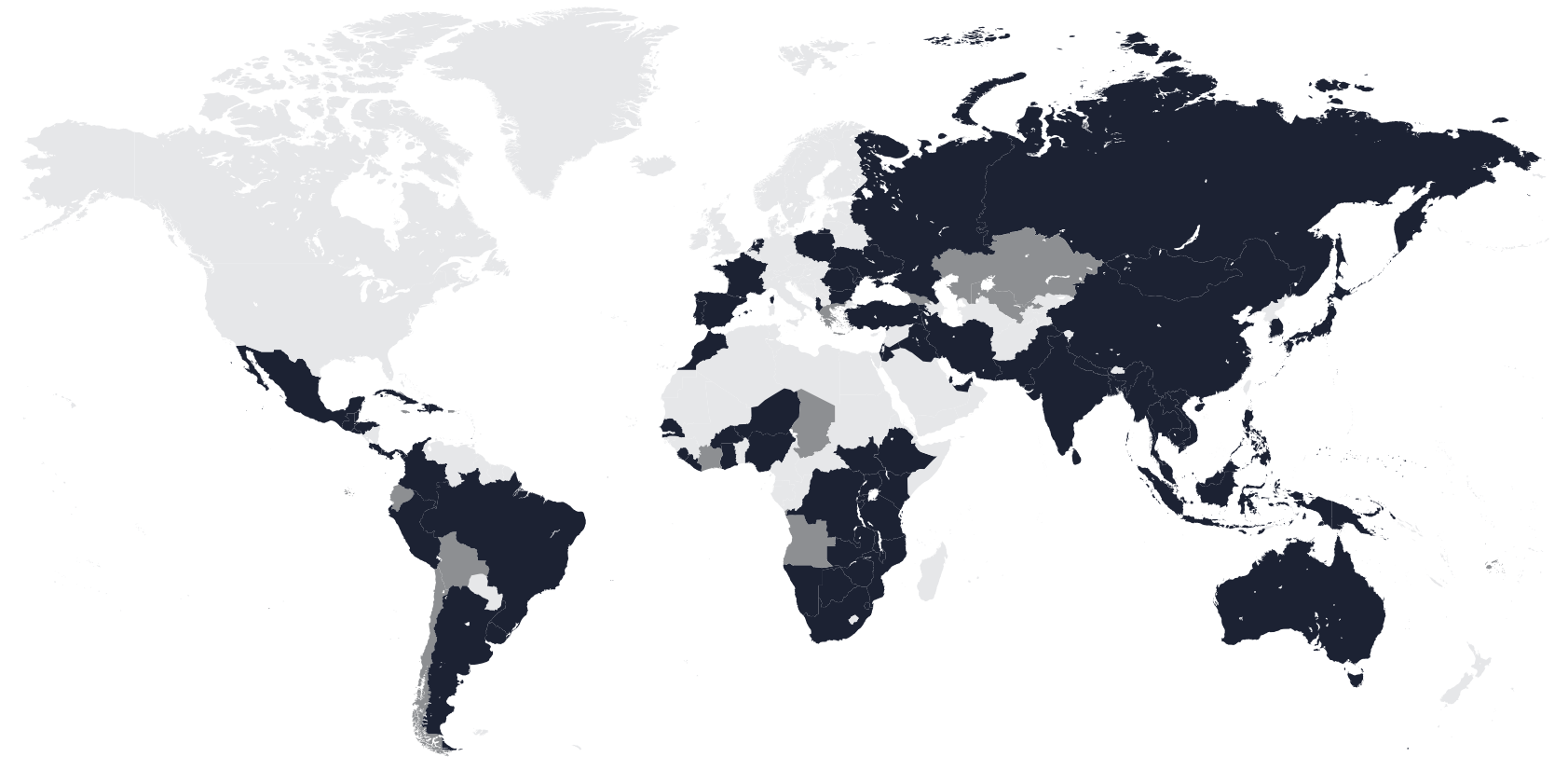


180+
STAFF

GIVING GROWTH



\$7 MILLION+
GIVING

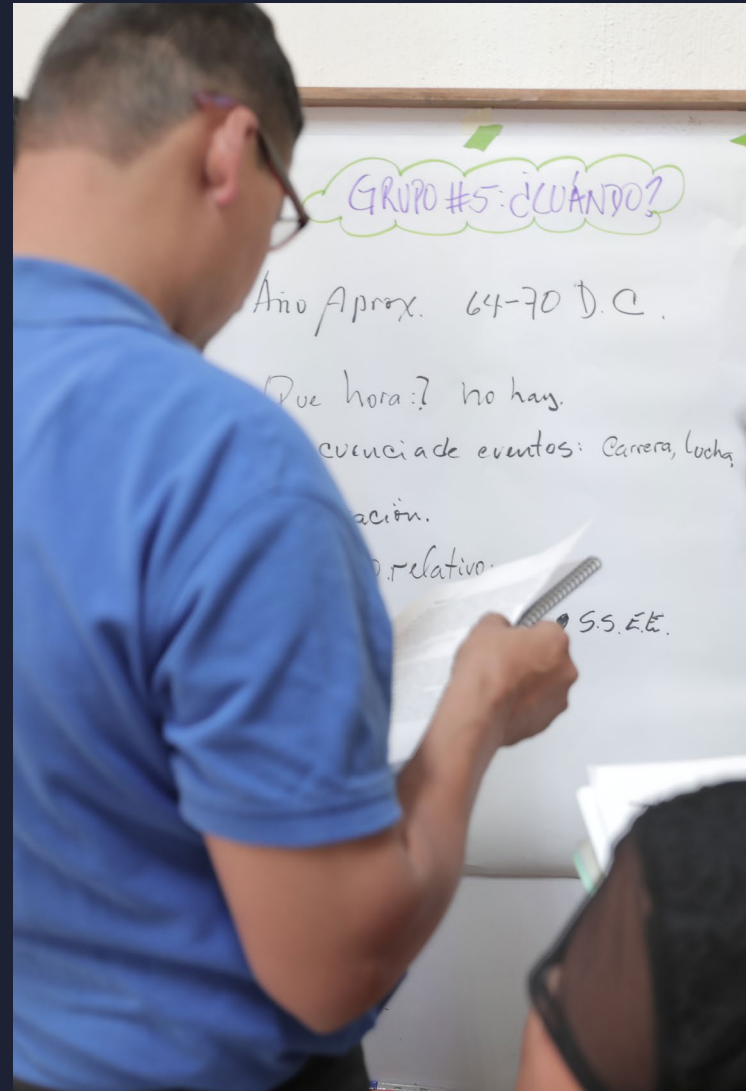


**84 NATIONS
OF INVOLVEMENT**

**10 INVITATIONS
TO TRAIN**



DISCIPLING AND SUSTAINING PASTORS



HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

We exist only through the prayers and partnership of our ministry family. Consider how God may be leading you to get involved.

STAY IN TOUCH

Visit our website gtn.org and subscribe to our newsletter for monthly updates.

PRAY WITH US

Join our prayer team. Reach out via email to prayer@gtn.org.

PARTNER

Join our ministry partner team at gtn.org/give or scan the QR code with your smartphone.



FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Global Training Network is committed to the highest standards of financial stewardship and oversight. We are a fully accredited member of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA), as well as recipients of the highest member rating from Charity Navigator. 93% of every dollar goes to frontline ministry.

93% FRONTLINE MINISTRY
7% ADMINISTRATIVE



STOCK GIFTS AND LEGACY GIVING

Did you know that you can impact the lives of pastors through stock gifts and planned giving? For more information about these giving options, contact Josh Kienzle, Director of Operations.

JOSHK@GTN.ORG
(602) 315-6737

**“MAY GOD BE GRACIOUS TO US AND BLESS US
AND MAKE HIS FACE TO SHINE UPON US,
THAT YOUR WAY MAY BE KNOWN ON EARTH,
YOUR SAVING POWER AMONG ALL NATIONS.
LET THE PEOPLES PRAISE YOU, O GOD;
LET ALL THE PEOPLES PRAISE YOU!”**

PSALM 67: 1-3



GTN.ORG