

REVERSING THE DECLINE IN EUROPE'S CROSS CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

WHY, WHERE, WHO.....GO INTO ALL THE WORLD?

INTRODUCTION

2 PROPOSALS TO REVERSE THE TREND

1. Create a mission strategy in line with the Biblical mandate
'all peoples on earth will be blessed by you' Gen 12:3
'every tribe and language and people and nation'
(the heavenly scene at the end of time) Rev 5:9
2. Add the Acts approach to the current 'call' way-they went to
other places as a result of another person's initiative

WHY THE DECLINE?

1. We rely mainly on those who 'feel led' to go
2. We follow their personal convictions instead of a strategy to
fulfil the Great Commission

EUROPEAN CROSS CULTURAL STATISTICS 2000 TO 2010

	UK	GERM	NETH	SWITZ	FIN	SWE	NOR
1993	7000	3500	1200	1400	1300	1700	1600
2001	8200	4000	1300	1400	1400	1100	1000
2010	6400	3100	2000	1700	900	900	600

2000 TOTALS	Europe	23000	Asia	70,000
2010		23000		140,000
2000 of total			10%	32%
2010 of total			6.5%	47%
2050 of total			2.6%	60%

WHY GO INTO ALL THE WORLD?

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- Jesus' Great Commission is for all
believers of all time
- 'Go and make disciples of all nations'
Mt. 28:19

WHERE IN THE WORLD SHOULD WE GO?

- Defined by Gen. 12, Rev. 5, Mt. 28-GO
- Also defined in Acts 1:8
'when the Holy Spirit comes on you and
you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem,
and in all judea and Samaria and to the
ends of the earth'

WHO SHOULD GO INTO ALL THE WORLD?

.....and precisely where and by what
selection process?

2 real life European examples

HOW DID THE EARLY CHURCH DO THINGS?

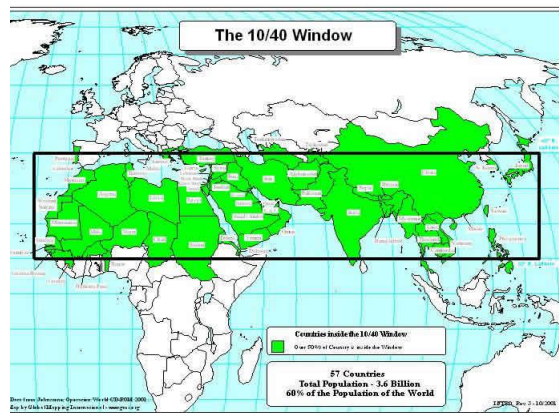
- Supernatural revelation through a vision
- Through circumstances
- Invitation by other believers
- Sent by churches
- Responsibility to return to sending church
- Sensible and responsible planning
- Chosen by missionary leaders to go with them
- Sent by missionary leaders

3 SUGGESTIONS TO PASS ON TO YOUR CHURCHES ABOUT THEIR SELECTION PROCESSES

1. Continue to process people as usual
2. Encourage leaders to study Acts to see if people did cross cultural mission as a result of someone else's initiative
3. Suggest that leaders add to their normal processes, using the Acts model

STATISTICS SUGGEST WE NEED A MISSION STRATEGY

- Current policy is 'bitty'
- Most unreached people will not hear
- The world has 6.8 billion people
- 2.8 billion are in unreached people groups
- Of the 6900 groups, 5900 live in the 10/40 window



FINANCIAL STATISTICS CAN ALSO GUIDE STRATEGY

- Globally Christians give Euro 472 billion (2% of income)
- Missions gets Euro 23 billion-5% of total giving
- Unreached peoples get only Euro 230 million (only 1% of what goes on missions)

MORE STATISTICS

- At 2% giving, 3000 times the money needed to complete the Great Commission
- 9000 times the person-power
- If all evangelicals gave 10% to missions it could support 2 million new missionaries
- 40% mission income spent on 10 over-saturated countries

WHAT KIND OF RESPONSES FROM OUR MEMBER CHURCHES?

- Encourage ALL to consider cross-cultural mission
- Do we agree with Acts?
- Do we agree with a church having a strategy?
- Leaders should approach people, not wait for volunteers!

NOT ALL GO LONG TERM

- Pastors could raise mission awareness
- Pastors could encourage ALL to engage in mission AT SOME LEVEL
 - Pray-Operation World?
 - Give more money-add to tithe
 - Get literature and pray
 - Engage in short term missions
 - Join missions prayer group
 - Read a mission biography
 - Attend a missions conference

ASK LEADERS TO CONSIDER 3 THINGS

1. Do strategic planning to reach all unreached groups at home or abroad
2. Refer to strategic plan when processing candidates
3. re-examine Acts to see if additional ways should be used, not just the 'felt led' way
 - How? Invite people to serve!

TABLE DISCUSSION TOPICS

- Please will one of your table make notes for us to collect and summarise?
 - A. What opportunities can you create for you to influence church leaders to consider this new approach? 10 mins
 - B. How would you in practice (EA or Agency) present this new approach to church leaders? 20 mins