



Global Leadership Encounter

18 June 2020 Day 6

Contributors of the day:

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Hosted by **Stephen Goode, Wilson Goeda**

Notes by **Vikki Wright**

Stephen Goode – Introduction

Our speaker this morning trained women and families affected by poverty, and systemic discrimination. She has an impartation she is going to give to us. She received an award in New York in 2018 as a Leader in innovation. She is active in the government in Costa Rica. She is developing a training with Ket and Josephine Troul to develop a training in poverty mediation. Vanessa, we welcome you to speak to us

Speaker – Vanessa Parley

I am so excited, it is a privilege to add value for this incredible group of leaders. As I was praying for this time I'd like to share a bit of my testimony to encourage you to trust the Lord to be brave and courageous together. I hear from him that we are growing brave together. As in the book of Acts, in the midst of crisis as they were receiving the revelation of and being filled with the Holy Spirit, they were growing brave together; they were able to commit to boldness and courage.

Crisis is the great revealer, not just our fears, but our deep needs and commitments. This crisis is not just revealing problems but great opportunities for us to not just come to know the Lord in a deep way, but also to be able to embrace a new revelation. I want to share a bit more about how this came about.

I have been over 18 years with YWAM, and 6 years ago I received a revelation from the Lord. He spoke and said, "Because of what is coming ahead, the way we do missions needs to change." He gave me this picture of long lines of people waiting to receive humanitarian aid – businessmen, pastors and people from all walks of life. We were ready because the Lord had spoken to us. We were strong and fed and ready because he had spoken to us and had given us the revelation. I believe we are just at the entrance stage of these things that are coming, and also a great revival and awakeneing. I believe He wants to strengthen us and give us the revelation.

God gave us some premises and some things that were going to happen that I didn't understand then:

We would no longer just do ministry through the people, but we would do ministry with the people. This is very different. That meant that we would create the right platforms for people to come into that same revelation. In community development we say we are trying to move people to God's intention. What happens when we have the revelation and the people don't? We have to create a platform for them to receive it so they can embrace it, and be strong and courageous and embrace that direction from the Lord.

We would no longer just do impact, but we would produce transformation that would lead to reform. Impact is vital for transformational change but doesn't always produce reform. It is those actions that are necessary to transform that life – that immigrant, that person experiencing violence, or poverty, or systematic injustice. Like building a house or giving food or painting a happy face. That impact is essential for transformation. To produce transformation, we do that by helping them transform their world view by teaching Christian values.



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Our goal is in not just to assist that person through that process but to embrace new life and their place in the kingdom. It's important we are teaching Christian values and learning them. There are some specific values that apply to poverty alleviation.

This time of crisis is a great time to reflect and restore the understanding of what the Bible speaks about the poor. We need to understand the indicators – when we talk about poverty we use the same indicators to all the groups and expect the same result. In the poverty groups we have the poor, extreme poor and the ultimate poor. They have different indicators, challenges, spiritual realities. The more we take the time to understand the kingdom values needed in the different groups, the better able we are to frame our programs.

In the process of creating this journey (not organization) we created a social lab to investigate more about how can we better serve these different groups who have suffered such horrors, pain, rejection and how can we love them like Jesus loves in a holistic way, in a way that touches the person at all his/her parts.

When we talk about transformation, we understand that something has to change in our mind. Why? Because my thoughts will produce emotions, and my emotions will produce actions and decisions, and this produces habits, customs and a lifestyle. Whenever we want to bring transformation, we have to go back right here where it starts. God says we can resolve our problems of the day with the same mentality we used when we started them. Unless we change the mentality, we can't have/expect different results. So it is key that we apply this principle of transformation of the mind to then be able to produce transformational change.

Transformation will always produce reform and reform is our goal. Reform is something you see in the generations, that you see in the political systems, justice systems, in the investment of money. Today at the global level injustice and inequality is growing like never before. A small percentage of people own most of the riches of the world. They could resolve the problem of poverty and hunger.

This battle that is happening right now is not of resources or positions but battle for our hearts. That is why salvation is God's justice. Why? Because we were created for an intimate growing relationship with God, to live at the center of the reality of the trinity. Justice is when we are restored to that original design. So to receive the holy spirit and the revelation is God's justice. It is an injustice that we live in ignorance, we need to go from isolation to truth, wisdom and justice. God created us to hear his voice and to be able to obey it, to live without sin.

Ephesians says that even before the creation of the world he loved us and adopted us and gave us a purpose. When we talk about justice, we are not just talking about financial justice. We are talking about the justice of God for people to receive revelation and to know how to navigate the times. I am praying for His justice over us.

Healing is God's justice. We were not created to live sick. That's why it is promised we will have no more tears, pain and sickness because we will live in the presence of righteousness and its fullness. Healing is God's justice. The understanding of our purpose is God's justice. So many people live in fear. We need to have a revelation of who we are and our place in this revelation. Once you expire you can't inspire anyone ... the time to inspire is now. We need to inspire people towards God. We need to understand what is our destiny.

The understanding of legacy and intergenerational thinking is God's justice. That's why the Bible starts and ends talking about generations. There is a blessing that passes through generations that breaks inequity and the curse. The impact of what we see in this is poverty – the relationship of broken relationship with God, others, myself and the planet. Then the answer to poverty is restoration – restoring relationship with God, self, others and the planet.

More than ever Christians have this incredible opportunity to show the world that because we have the power to be restored and to regenerate. This means to reveal anew, revitalize, bring to



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life. This is a season to regenerate and to create new things. A season to embrace new things in God. Change is difficult, and right now it is not optional. Through this crisis we are all being touched by change.

But GROWTH is optional. We have to choose in this time to embrace growth, to move out of the zone of fear to the zone of learning and to be able to move into the zone of growth. Unless we go into the zone of learning (what God wants to teach us) we can't move into the zone of Growth.

In the nations we have many issues – racial issues, inequality, growth in poverty globally, corruption, unemployment on the rise, hopelessness and desperation in so many people, and we have the answer. The revelation of God's original design.

When I started working out this revelation that God gave me, He said, "You will not only produce impact but transformation which leads to reform. You will be involved in social innovation." (I didn't know what that meant at that time, even with all the work I had done in YWAM with mothers, the poor, prostitutes in many countries, and starting the prayer movement in KONA). The same man leading the great commission is the one leading the worship movement. Jesus. He has the heart for the nations, poor, kingdom. So how can we embrace that revelation that Jesus received?

I'm going to share my screen and show you what we have been doing. (The powerpoint slide should be available on the GLE website in the resources link.)

In 2014 I stopped working at the YWAM base and started this journey of faith. God said to go to this community – poor and conflicted community -- and don't do anything, just ask me for their original design, ask me for how I see them/my perspective. He was saying, "I want you to tell them, 'I see you, I hear you, I value you'." For people who feel rejected, invisible and abandoned, this is powerful. He says the same to us today – "I see you, I hear you and I value you." And He has a heart to give us that space, to give us that dignity, and that is what we wanted to do with the poor.

So for the first year that's what we did. A year and a half later the Lord spoke to me. I really wanted to start with some programs, and God said, "Don't do it". We were in prayer with some women who had two daughters coming out of prostitution and drug addiction, and the other two were sisters of opposing drug lords. God asked me to ask them what they want to do. They said they wanted to sew.

We had no scissors or sewing machines, but the Lord said we would start in two weeks. They thought I was crazy. The next week this friend said one of the mothers in the homeschooling system was taking her daughter to Africa, but it didn't work and she was asking if the daughter can come to Costa Rica. When she arrived she had a big bag that holds hockey sticks, and she said, "I don't know if you need any of this, but my mother had started sewing classes in Africa, and this is what we had left over. It was 4 sewing machines, scissors and extra material!

These women were undone, and so we bowed our heads with the women and illegal immigrants and I asked Jesus, "When do we start?" We also wanted to start a manicure class, and the Lord provided. But we didn't know what it meant when the Lord said, "You need to do ministry with the people, not to the people.

As time went by, led by the Holy Spirit, we started praying and facilitating and raising leaders among these women for different programs. The goal wasn't to be their savior, but to empower them to be transforming agents in the community. We need to create these testimonials in the communities who are receiving revelation and are coming alive as they realise how real and powerful God is.

Some women would come from hours away, from slums all over in four provinces. People were surprised and wondered what was happening. We did 6 different types of entrepreneurial training. We worked like YWAM to raise volunteers, 30 volunteers. We started creating these environments



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where people could start knowing their original design.

We created our theory of change – holistic, sustainable. Like how Jesus grew physically, and in favour with God and man (relationally), intellectually (in wisdom) he had a vocation (grew economically).

Our goal is to be sustainable – to build behaviors of success that are sustainable long term with our without the missionaries and the government. They know how to go. There are new patterns and abilities that people gain to be able to do this.

We created a model to be able to include in the development of other NGOs, and the local government. We need to be in the spheres as missionaries. We ended up being part of commissions and meetings with the government. God gave us an idea to create a pattern for social entrepreneurs to alleviate bureaucracy. We were able to facilitate change, and because of that change we have been able to change different laws and systems that create systemic injustices.

I think one of the most important things is the 24/7 framework we created. We make sure we are working with the poor, oppressed and immigrants in a holistic way. We don't provide all the services, but we are including the body of Christ and other organizations in the spheres.

Relationally - people need to have and create strong support systems, to be part of a community. It is amazing what is happening right now. We started teaching the poor how to download whatsapp. We got them phones, to get digital inclusion. We created a system of round tables for transformation, and every day we start with these. We gather round in a circle and every person has a minute to share. We are saying 'your voice is important'. I want them to know their voice, and what they have to say is important. Their story is important. It is important for my own life, and everyone around the circle. People are unfolding stories, not statements. As missionaries we want to make sure that we are restoring that dignity to people by making environments where we can hear there voices/opinions/testimonies and experiences of God.

We had an alliance with an organization working with women who were in prostitution/had been trafficked. My friend sent 10 women to go through our program where we taught Christian values and skills. She sent these women, and they were misbehaving in our programs. After 3 months, only 5 stayed in the program. My friend said, "Why don't we just do this program with 5?"

I said, "Why don't we include people from other walks of life because they need to develop skills of conflict resolution, setting boundaries, administering their time, solving issues." All these are soft skills. We had this amazing clashing. In the midst of that, empathy was created. It is so important now. We need to learn collaboration and how to be committed. Agility is a soft skill – how to embrace change and quickly move into a creative direction. These soft skills are key.

Anyway, one woman came into the circle one day late and she was crying as people shared their stories. On the next session she was the first to share. We start our days with celebration every morning to celebrate what God is doing in their lives. This lady said, "I came to this place and judged that woman, but when I heard what she went through, I realized I had so many excuses in my life and I realised I needed to embrace change and the Lord." 3 years later she is the main leader teaching sewing to prostitutes in her zone. She leads round tables.

Now we are creating a program to teach you how to do round tables in your programs – to embrace empathy and collaboration. We do this with non-Christians, too, and at the end, people have the opportunity to commit to some goal to improve in that value every week. Every week we have testimonies.

This is growing not only Spiritually, but also Relationally, Physically, Intellectually, Emotionally, and Structurally.



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Many who missed primary and secondary schools missed a lot of things. These stages have a lot of people making sure you are growing and developing. In college a mentor process is still needed. What we need to understand in the poor, most people in poverty didn't have the privilege of mentorship. When you graduate high school you have the privilege of deciding what you want to be and where. Most people afflicted by poverty and injustice haven't had this privilege. We need to develop more processes and programs for mentorship.

Make sure we offer : **Programs AND Processes**

Most people right now who don't have support systems, don't have soft skills. They need churches to support them with that long-suffering love and teach them soft skills.

Touch 4 areas of development:

Identity – who I am

Purpose – what am I good for

Destiny -- what is my place in my generation

Legacy – intergenerational thinking

We need celebrations, which are key – to lead people to hope through celebration. Don't focus on deficit. Base what we do with what people have in their hands. To grow they need encouragement, to be able to celebrate achievements.

This girl came to one of our graduations in a long yellow princess dress. She said, "Vanessa, my elderly parents crossed the border illegally to be here. I have never finished or graduated from anything. And now I know why I want to start this microbusiness, because I want my children and grandchildren to have jobs. I don't want them to go through what I went through. That is why I want to work hard."

Intergenerational thinking -- to get people to understand we have an economic and spiritual impact on other generations. We want to give them not just a purpose to thrive, but to transcend.

Holistic and Sustainable

A time of synergy and connecting with spheres, connecting with other people and letting them know we are here to serve them.

When we started this season, God was saying, "We need to return to original design." A God assignment to live in intimacy with him. He designed us to create from day 1 in the garden.

Everything is changing. Don't reject change. If you reject change you are rejecting God. Change is part of our story to the point that the bible promises a new heaven and earth.

God is an innovator – the ability to get something, change it, make it better and even make it new. These are days to innovate. Don't be afraid of letting go of programs or buildings or teams that are not working for you.

It is a season of change and innovation for us as Christians and for the world. In the midst of that it is important to know this is a time to be careful with our use of language. Language has power and is key and vital for moving forward in God's purpose. Language can create riots and can build people, nations and emerging futures. Language is key. With language we frame our present and our future. That is why revelation is so important because God's revelation is what gives us the language to be able to frame our programs and interventions



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I hope this will help you- the Lord said to me at the beginning – “In my original design, I didn’t create programs, I created man and woman and creation, and it was good. It was not a problem.” What happens when we see people, the poor, as problems to be resolved?

(The following information is in the powerpoint slides.)

This is our motto, and we won an award, and universities started bringing students to teach them about this framework that was given to us by God. It is a biblical framework:

“The poor and their communities are not simply problems to be resolved, they are more like mysteries to be deciphered.” - Vanessa Pavley

The bible talks about Jesus as a mystery of all ages, because he was being revealed by different situations and circumstances to us, and is still being revealed by the Holy Spirit. When God created you, he created you not as a problem. He gives you the right platform for you to know yourself and His intentions for you. In lineal development people are problems to be resolved.

It hurts and aches. It feels like to change who we are would take so much if we are seen as problems.

In lineal development:

- People are problems to be solved
- Find causes/deficits
- Design a plan as a cure
- Solution – work and education
- Responsibility and demands are what motivates them. They see themselves as limited. Ask themselves, What else can we do? Logic, reason and pre-condition of the culture leads the way.

In Biblical Development:

For transformational change and development says:

- We are not problems but mysteries to be deciphered

People need to be positioned to hear from God who they are and His intentions for them

YWAM is not an information led mission, but a revelation led mission

We need to be asking Holy Spirit to not give us information but revelation of who we are, of the strength we have as an organization, as a family, in our relationships, who we are in our resources together.

- Platform for self awareness/revelation for wholistic growth

We start by praying and sharing together, now more than ever we need:

- SELF LEADERSHIP, soft skills and Christian value learning
- Develop character and behaviours for success and sustainable development
- So we value who you are today. We envision what you could become. We work together in your growth
- Questions to leave with: what am I capable of?
 - o There is a God-given gifting and strength we need to unearth
 - o God’s revelation, creativity, intuition of the Holy Spirit leads the way



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There are many urgent needs : programs for food security, digital inclusion, entrepreneurial training, to help develop skills. If you aren't cutting hair, you are sewing, if not sewing, making bread. Always have the opportunity to bring that impact.

The church and government is supposed to give relief, not ongoing provision. In God's original design for justice in the crops – leave some for some poor to come and work and get for themselves. What people need is more investment in health, education and legal aid – to legalise their status to be able to get a job. We need these practical things as well as giving people bibles, making people able to read it, and be in a Christian Community.

Create regenerative communities -

To gain courage – doesn't come from facing our fears, but from embracing the revelation of the Lord and walking out that revelation.

To be able to tell our story with our whole heart while being able to let go of who we thought we should be.

To be able to embrace who you could be.

We are working to lead people towards hope. We are creating a website to be able to train social leaders- Uganda, Mexico, United States. To come along kingdom leaders to build capacities, to be able to better define strategies for transformational change.

1 John says, "We have come to know and believe the love God has for us. God is love and he who abides in love abides in him." The greatest distance that exists is between knowing and believing. This movement at this time that God is raising is a movement of love, to love and come alongside people in these situations.

I would love to hear if there are any comments or questions.

Etienne

Wow that was so amazing. That was really filled with the Holy Spirit. One of the things I want to leave us with that I will be chewing on: How can you transform a community if everyone wants to run away from it? That will stay with us for a while. Thank you for being with us. I would encourage people in their base to process this. Vanessa, would you be able to leave your email on the website so people can connect with you directly? Thank you very much.

Vanessa

I just want to say you are a great inspiration to us. We are connected with Steve and will let him know when we start webinars for leaders so if you wanted to join you would be welcome. God bless you.

Etienne

The next person coming up is Tom Hallas. I'll introduce you. I remember the first time I met him in Canberra when I was doing my SBS. And I remember crying because I didn't want to be there. It was extremely cold, you would see a blue sky but it was freezing. Someone told me Tom wanted to meet me.

Before that I finally broke down and said to God, "I surrender."

What stood out to me is Tom spoke and said, "You can start a base anywhere in Australia."



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Of course I didn't want to be a base leader. Tom interviewed every single base leader. Ever since then he has been an incredible leader and father and man I deeply love in my life. What you taught me when I went through that brokenness, you helped me to overcome it and embrace it and my identity as a son of God before being a leader or anything else. Thank you for being there for me and for many others all over the world. I am going to pray for you before we begin.

TOM HALLAS – Why do Leaders Fail

Emphasis of the Spirit in this GLE

Importance of the proper foundation of identity.

2001 – I'd been in Africa, fell into a storm-water drain, split open my head, woke in Nairobi in a hospital and discovered that I'd had a heart attack. I returned to Australia quite impacted by this condition.

Someone gave me a book called, "God is For Us." I cried nearly every morning; I knew that God was doing something supernatural. It's a commentary on Eph 1 about the creation of the world and God's purpose for us. God said to Moses, "You can't see me face to face, but I will hide you and you will see my back."

But in the end of Deut, God said he spoke to Moses face to face. So there is an impact of face to face with God that God has provided for us through Jesus Christ. God has intended for us to be face to face with Him through Jesus Christ. He sent the Spirit of Adoption so we could live with Jesus face to face.

Humans are not a problem to God... we are the focus of his affection. But as a human family we have become problematic. Also death has come upon us through Adam's sin. So we have problems to be resolved, but we're not the problem.

Audio difficulty ...missed some minutes of teaching

The God we relate to is Trinitarian... we must have a participation with all 3, but the great problem is how we relate to the Father...life brings pain and disappointment and rejection. The enemy loves to rob us of the affections we want to develop towards God, to stop us from doing the Greatest Commandment to love God wholeheartedly.

Entole (Greek word) – the full solution to our humanity and human journey where we will be able to journey with the love of the Father.

There has to be a mind transformation in understanding who we are...God has lifted us out of our limitations into the freedom of being eternal sons with him and being real partners in the relationship with the Trinity.

The enemy will always confuse your understanding of the Father in order to break this relationship. ***We can easily love Jesus, or listen to the Spirit, but the question mark...where is the Father?***

In the early church, one of the believers decided that the Old Testament was a story about a vicious foreign deity, and he said we should reject the whole OT and only accept the NT...but we can't do that, so how do we see the God of the OT?

In Canada I was counseling a young girl who said, 'God might say that, but Jesus wouldn't.'

I told her to think about what she was saying, and she realized the dilemma of her statement.



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Those OT believers never had the Holy Spirit in them like we do. In Gal 4 He said the Spirit of Adoption is our Father.

But the enemy wants to destroy our relationship with God the Father and put the blame on him for all the pain we go through. The enemy loves to upset the situations in which you live.

I've been fascinated by 3 men who went through a lot of pain, but their spirits were sweet at the end of their lives:

1. Moses – he could have believed his assignment was just to get the Israelites into the Promised Land, but right at the border he was told he could not enter because of 4 public events:
 - a. When he killed the Egyptian
 - b. The failure to circumcise his sons
 - c. When he smashed the first set of the 10 commandments
 - d. When he struck the rock in anger

It's as if God looked at those events and said, "If you can't control your anger when you are exercising governance over my people, how can I trust you with my people in the Promised Land with swords in their hands? I can't trust you, or Aaron. Prepare Joshua for the task."

God was not unloving towards Moses...God was faithful to bring Moses into the Promised Land later at the Mount of Transfiguration, but he failed on earth because of his anger.

The Lord was going to withdraw His presence after the smashing of the tablets, but Moses said, "Don't take us away from here without your presence." God relented and chose to stay with them. Moses responds to that mercy by asking God to show him His glory.

This moment on the mountain is one of the most significant moments in human history...the Godhead actually spoke about his nature and his character. He described himself proclaiming his name and showing his goodness..."I proclaim the name of the Lord, the Lord God." He used 7 words of description (compassionate, gracious, slow to anger, abounding in loving kindness, faithful...) Moses did not understand that, but we need to understand it... God is slow to anger, and we have to be slow to anger, also.

2. David – said, "Bless the Lord who forgives all my trespasses and makes my latter days greater than my former"...that was the sweetness in his spirit at the end of his life. He had a perspective of seeing God in a different way.

I've had points of pain in my journey that were unresolved, but when I saw the truth of God's opinion about himself, I asked him to help me walk through my journey and bring those issues to focus when he knew I was ready to deal with them. At that point of pain, I promised to affirm that God is just in all his ways and kind in all his dealings.

What we need in our point of pain is not to minimize the pain through comforts that are inappropriate...we have to learn to run to God first in the midst of that pain. If we find ourselves believing the enemy's lies that God doesn't love us, isn't trustworthy and can't help us...we need to see with the lens that David used, and Moses used, to see God as who he has revealed himself to us. Moses' last recorded words was a song about the goodness



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and justice of God.

3. Nehemiah – had all this amazing provision; found all these problems of opposition and resistance, called a day of prayer and they recorded their history of their own journey. Throughout their record they use the lens of how God declared his opinion of himself (Neh 9:17)

You will endure life through sweetness and affection as you learn to see God through the lens of God's own revelation of himself.

How will we be in the future? If we're generally sons of the father, how should our conduct be?

**** Audio technical difficulty... Sorry!! ****

The key enabler that allows us to survive is that we are able to be comforted by God. When we're in pain we need comfort, but we need to run to the Father first ... 2 Cor... be comforted by God.

Every young person and old person, every leader, apostle, prophet, teacher, evangelist...needs to know how to receive the comfort of the Father through the Spirit given to us through Jesus.

Live in the richness of the full sense of identity and apply the truth of what God says about himself in every part of your life.

Amen.

(So sorry, friends, for the missed moments when our audio went off)

Wilson

Martin Luther King said, "Every time when I close my eyes and pray, 'Our father...' I'm reminded of my own father and the pain I am carrying." I'm reminded that sometimes we are still carrying the wounds of the fathers in our lives.

I like the question, "Will we embrace the opinion of God about himself?" Let us wrestle with this question, and Tom, we need you to pray as a father over us that God would give us the grace to deal with our pain whenever He shows it to us. We don't want to miss the impact God is revealing over us.

I'm so convicted by your word, and all of us need this word to be appropriated in our lives.

Tom

Winterford in this Zoom helped me further understand the impact of this pressing of the forehead and nose together, and we know the eternal Word needed to become flesh and dwell among us, and then sit on the throne as someone who lived with and among us.

The practice of pressing the nose is only among the immediate family members, and those accepted in like close, close family.

Tom prayed over us the blessing of a Father.



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*** Break ***

ALEJANDRO RODRIGUEZ

This year we are celebrating 60 years as a movement, which is my age, too. We have a YWAM presence in most of the countries of the world, and we are living in a time we've never lived in before...it's like a spiritual breakthrough.

We are all together in the same situation of lockdown and restrictions. God's church is not stopped.

We are in a new world, and we don't know what will be the new normal. We've never had a world like the one today. We have 7.7 billion people in the world. 250 different territories and countries. Many refugees. We've never had a world so decentralized as we have today. We've never had such a multicultural world with nations living within nations. Hispanics in the US are 18% of the people.

When we see these racial problems in the world, we wonder how are we going to reach the minority groups? How will we integrate them within the mission? How much we would love to have African American missionaries to work in YWAM in the US. We'd love leaders in YWAM to be African Americans...we have very few.

The Lord opened our hearts and showed us 60 % of the Pentecostal world are in the Global South. There are scenarios changing constantly.

Look at Pentecost and the quarantine that happened there. When the Holy Spirit came, everything changed. There was a Before and an After.

We are also expecting this breakthrough in our mission. There are things that are going to be birthed, and others that will die, some things will stand firm, others will disappear.

The process of Peter on the rooftop when he received the revelation of all food being clean, Peter couldn't accept that revelation at first. That was another traumatic change.

This situation has shaken the floor under our feet, makes us feel weak and uncomfortable. But this is the opportunity for greater glory.

Someone who won the Nobel Prize said, "The most important thing for man in life is to ask, what kind of bridges do we need to cross over, and which do we need to destroy?"

This is a time for questions, to look at our projects and activities.

**** Sorry, many audio problems with the mic on the Speakers side made it very difficult to take notes. ***

I saw myself working like I was in a swimming pool with a good ministry, however I needed to use my own experience and resources and strength, and sometimes when you try to push a car that is broken...it can start but it consumes all your strength. You know if you have ever tried to push a car, the first time it's a bit fun, but if you have to keep doing this, it's not so fun anymore.

Back to the swimming pool – we can be like a pool, or a river. A river can be maybe a bit disorganized with sometimes a lot of water, and sometimes a little. You can see some pebbles,



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rocks, branches, however the water is always flowing.

This is what God has designed for us in YWAM. He doesn't want us to be like a nice swimming pool, He wants us to be a river. The Lord is speaking to me about which bridges I need to cross, and which I need to burn, which chains I need to break, and which roots I need to not forget and rather embrace.

In this new scenario God is calling us to be relevant among the nations. In Matt 23:37 there is a cry of Jesus, a shout, "Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you that kills the prophets, how many times I wanted to carry you and cover you like the hen under my wings, but you didn't want that." Jesus knew the history of Jerusalem, and the reality, and we need to know the things that we would like to transform. Jesus could see that Jerusalem was an orphan city...he wanted to gather the children like the hen gathers the chicks.

Today, our nations are under the spirit of Orphanhood. This applies to all nations. We as a mission do not want to be under this spirit, that is why God is calling us to multiply leaders, but not orphan-leaders.

Some of us have grown up as orphan-leaders. Maybe we didn't have any spiritual father or mother. We tried to learn to serve the Lord the best we could, but it isn't enough. God is calling us to raise up spiritual mothers and fathers.

In Singapore there was a phrase that said, "We as leaders we have been called to this: to cover others without controlling, to release people without abandoning them, and to set people free without any spirit of independence...it's interdependence."

We don't just need workers in our bases...we need to make disciples. Let me explain the difference. This is part of the new scenario.

There is a big difference between training and discipling. They are both wonderful, and we have grown a lot in this area of training, and we need to still grow in that area which is very important.

We teach our children to brush their teeth and make their beds...that is training. I can train you, however I don't need to love you in order to train you. I just transmit a program of information, which is good.

But with our children, we teach them to forgive, to love, to serve...in other words we shape their lives with our lives. To disciple people, we need to love others.

An orphan leader multiplies orphan leaders...don't walk alone. Don't walk as orphans. It's much better to have accountability with someone, something deeper, to have a vulnerable heart, asking for advice, following the examples that have gone ahead of us, loving one another.

Some years ago, the Lord spoke to me very strongly. He said, "You are a very good leader; you create a very good atmosphere, people feel comfortable with you, you have a lot of vision, but there is a problem. You work very well with the people, but you don't love the people." For me there was a tremendous brokenness.

I believe God is taking us to a new place where we need a baptism of Love, to take us into an atmosphere of love. It's not just to say, 'hi' 'how are you?' It's about a commitment of love with one another, to lead from love. Something needs to happen in our lives. Our world is an orphan world. They don't need only training, they need discipleship and to be loved. That needs to start in our own communities.

Paul said to train and disciple. That's why Jesus had that cry over Jerusalem.

Jesus knew the reality of Jerusalem, and I would like to underline something. I cannot influence something that I don't know. I can't influence a city if I don't love the city. But I cannot love it if I don't know it. Sometimes I ask some of our workers and leaders about their cities, but they have



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no clue about what's going on in the city they live in. But this is important to know in order to love, and to love in order to transform.

The good strategies and programs are not enough, because our countries need people who have compassion.

What does it mean to be a missionary to the nations? To be a relevant mission is not about having good results, that's not what God is asking for. God is asking you for faith and obedience, to walk in the things he has for us to do.

When I speak about 'relevant mission', I'm talking about walking in the direction that God wants for us to walk, aiming to change the nation in which we are working. In the micro changes of every day, in the small things as well as the big things, to feed the poor every day, but also to discover what produced the poverty. Help the person addicted to drugs, but more than that, discover the perverse structure that brings the whole situation of drugs. The little acts of obedience are the ones that bring the transformation.

One time the Lord allowed us to do a great mobilization in order to stop the law of abortion in Argentina. God gave YWAM the privilege to be in the front line of this battle. But it's not only that. We opened a phone line for pregnant women who wanted to have abortions. In the first year of that phone line, 300 babies were born that were supposed to be aborted because the pregnant women felt supported and chose not to abort after all. 85% of the women that were supported on the phone changed their mind about abortion.

I want to encourage you to get to know deeply what is going on in your towns, cities, country. How many schools, universities do you have in your area? How many students are there? How many foreigners. Who is reaching them?

Sometimes in our bases we are living with our programs in a bubble. I don't want to live in a YWAM bubble. I would like to live on a platform to be launched. The Lord is calling us to live in a place of urgency to see changes in our societies. This is part of the anointing that God has given us in society, and in the spheres of societies. Not only to train people into the spheres, but also to create a new group of frontliners that will influence the spheres for the Kingdom.

How can we do that?

1. We can be within one of these places, not only preparing people to go, but we as YWAM are within all the spheres as well. For this we'll need another chapter to talk about practical things.
2. To influence from outside. We can produce changes in the politics, economy from outside. We can influence those who have power within.
3. We can also influence through legacy – people that already have experience within the spheres, but later that come into YWAM, from YWAM they can influence the sphere. For example a friend of mine was in church for 30 years, but after he retired, he had more influence in the church than he had when he was in the church. Look at Howard Malmstadt and the influence he had from working in the university. Sometimes we have a small vision of what God wants to do in us.

I encourage you that we are going to cross new bridges. Perhaps we'll have to burn some old bridges, as well. It's a time in which we have to bring some changes, but we need to embrace our roots with a lot of love. It's a time in which God wants to develop this supernatural factor, not just regarding finances, but into a new dimension where God pus us in areas we've never been before to reach out to key people in key places and key moments to touch these people when they are touched by the Lord.



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God wants us to reach the rich and the poor, the weak and also the powerful. Those ministries in which you feel secure, but also others in which you feel weak...take steps of faith. Put something deeper in our hearts, and in our communities and in our nations.

We would like to continue navigating God's river, not remaining swimming in our little pool.

Lastly, when young David arrived to the camp, and he saw the critical situation with the Giant and his army of Israel, he could have criticized..."Oh look at the problems because of King Saul, etc"...we can have this attitude to criticize what is wrong.

Or David could have had an attitude of indifference... I don't care, I'm not bothered, it's not my problem.

But let me tell you this, one of the biggest problems we have as Christian leaders is not the conflicts, it's the indifference. We just don't care. I don't need you.

But when we got this baptism of love, Love destroys indifference, and builds the true unity.

Back to David: he could criticize, he could have an attitude of indifference, he could have an attitude of resignation (what can I do? I'm so small). We can ask ourselves, what can we do as YWAM? We're so small, we're not able.

But David involved himself in the problem, he took steps of obedience and saw the glory of God.

We are in a very traumatical glorious time in YWAM. We are entering in a time in which the ground is shaking. But the glory comes down. Ground shakes but the glory descends.

Alejandro ends with a powerful prayer over us.

Amen.

