



CAPE TOWN 2010 SESSION SUMMARY AND SEGMENT SYNOPSIS

This Summary and Synopsis document has two components:

Page 1 is the summary of all the speakers in the 90-minute session.

Pages 2 and following include a synopsis of each specific video segment extracted from the full 90-minute session.

FULL SESSION SUMMARY – PARTNERSHIP: Partnering in the Body of Christ Toward a New Global Equilibrium

DATE OF SESSION: 24 October 2010

SUMMARY SUBMITTED BY: Anita Beugre (CT2010 Communications Session Summary Team)

PRESENTER(S): David Ruiz, Chad and Leslie Seagraves, Patrick Fung

STATEMENT OF THE ISSUE/ PROBLEM: Given the fact that the world is changing, what kind of partnership does the Church need? Do we need a global equilibrium?

KEY POINTS:

- *As the Church, should we aim towards a global equilibrium?
- *The benefits of partnership in the church
- *Partnership or collaboration?
- *New shifts of paradigms in mission

Examples of partnership within the Church are found in the book of Acts. Corinthians teaches us about the struggles between believers when they are in partnership. These are due to lack of maturity and self-centeredness. The remedy to the Church's battle for unity is to have humility.

Partnership is about friendship. John 17 speaks of partnership among believers. There should be unity which transcends denominations. There should be facilitation between western and indigenous believers, east and west and north and west. The partnership between males and females should be based on gifts not gender. We should bear in mind Jesus' mission of reconciliation. There is not a privileged center for outreach. God is sovereign and we can have a global shift in Christian influence from north & west to east & south. The marginalized should speak to the people in the center. The day of the superstar is over; we are all called to tell the wonderful story of Christ. Arrogance and self-pity are two main barriers to fulfill world evangelization.

TAKEAWAY

Partnership is about God and his mission in the world; it's not about us. We should seek to follow the leading of God's power so we don't necessarily need to attain equilibrium. We have got to hear the voice from the margins.



1. SEGMENT SYNOPSIS

TOPIC: Partnership
SEGMENT TITLE: Biblical Basis of Partnering - David Ruiz
SEGMENT DATE: 24 October 2010
SYNOPSIS WRITERS: Don MacLeod and Bill Armerding (CT2010 GlobaLink Team)

David Ruiz of Guatemala has witnessed in his country the growth of the church in the global South. This growth has changed the face of missions. In Guatemala over the past fifty years the church has grown from one percent of the population to a third of all its inhabitants. Over half the money raised by Christians there goes to missions. The same Holy Spirit that moved in North America and Europe is now on the move in Latin America, Asia, and Africa. In these areas the church has provided a bridge between rich and poor, a fountain of hope for those on subsistence income.

In this growth these believers reflect the book of Acts and early churches such as Corinth. There the church faced a division among believers and had to work and battle together to treasure the unity of the Spirit. Partnership, as the apostle Paul demonstrated in his letter to them, is costly. It also involves humility. The world we once knew no longer exists. We must learn and respect God's clock.

Study questions:

1. What is the significance to the worldwide church of the dynamic growth in the global South? How does this affect you in your local community?
2. Do you feel that Christian communities are accessible to the poor? What are specific ways in which your congregation can be open to their needs?
3. What are some of the costs of partnership that Paul describes?



2. SEGMENT SYNOPSIS

TOPIC: Partnership
SEGMENT TITLE: Partnering Illustrations: Video
SEGMENT DATE: 24 October 2010
SYNOPSIS WRITERS: Don MacLeod and Bill Armerding (CT2010 GlobaLink Team)

The video presents statistics on the historical benefits of ministry partnerships in several countries in Africa and Asia. The results of these partnerships have been significant over the past few decades.

Study questions:

1. Why do you think partnership is so effective in reaching previously closed or resistant countries?
2. How can partnerships coordinate their activities to make best use of limited resources?
3. Using international sporting events as an opportunity for spreading the gospel requires partnership. How are athletics an opening for getting the message out?



3. SEGMENT SYNOPSIS

TOPIC: Partnership
SEGMENT TITLE: Men and Women in Partnership – Chad and Leslie Seagraves
SEGMENT DATE: 24 October 2010
SYNOPSIS WRITERS: Don MacLeod and Bill Armerding (CT2010 GlobaLink Team)

On their wedding day, Chad and Leslie Seagraves chose John 17:23 to shape their marriage and their ministries. Since then they have demonstrated the unity described in this passage in their work through 1040 Connections, an international Christian ministry they co-founded. They promote a partnership of men and women based not on gender but on spiritual gifts.

Men and women were created to work together as stewards of all creation. This partnership was distorted in the Fall but it is restored in Christ. The Seagraves give examples of how God is using women as well as men in India. Chad fights against the Fall when he empowers women, when he gives power away, when he opens doors, and when he is teachable. Leslie fights against the Fall when she exercises her gifts, even in leadership. It is all about Jesus, not about power and authority.

Study questions:

1. How can you encourage young couples to follow Chad and Leslie's example of full partnership in marriage and ministry?
2. What are some of the obstacles to accepting this kind of partnership in your church or ministry setting?



4. SEGMENT SYNOPSIS

TOPIC: Integrity
SEGMENT TITLE: Sketch/dance: "Versus" - Cape Town 2010 Performing Arts Team
SEGMENT DATE: 24 October 2010
SYNOPSIS WRITERS: Don MacLeod and Bill Armerding (CT2010 Globalink Team)

"Versus" is a drama about opposites joining together to become one and thereby multiplying in number. Two young men take turns dancing under a maze of bridges. As they dance, a voice says a word and another says the opposite - one says old, the other young; eastern, western; poor, wealthy, and so on.

As the two continue to dance, others join them on the stage until there are seven, repeating the pairings and singing, "Whole structure, joined together, dwelling place for God." The drama ends with all in unison saying, "We are holy temple, dwelling place."

Study questions:

1. What does this drama say to you about achieving unity?
2. What is the relationship between unity and a sense that God is present?

By Alison Siewert. Choreography by B'Jon Carter-Burnell and Xolani Ncobeni. Music by Michael Eubanks. Performed by the Cape Town 2010 Performing Arts Team. Image by Jesse Oxford.

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5. SEGMENT SYNOPSIS

TOPIC: Integrity
SEGMENT TITLE: Equilibrium vs. Diversity in Unity –Patrick Fung
SEGMENT DATE: 24 October 2010
SYNOPSIS WRITERS: Don MacLeod and Bill Armerding (CT2010 Globalink Team)

Patrick Fung of Singapore says the goal of global equilibrium is inadequate to understand diversity in unity. Partnership is not primarily about us. It is about God's mission. The whole church belongs to God and the whole mission belongs to God. Our task is to bring the whole gospel to the whole world.

Fung focuses on the Lord's power, the Lord's redemption and the Lord's sovereignty. The Biblical concept of missions is about God's power given to and working through his powerless people. The power of money is the great divider. Fung urges us to not give money but bring and share God's gifts. Do we have the humility to receive gifts from others?

Our broken world is in desperate need of a holistic gospel. The cross is at the center of reconciliation. Our ambitions may need to die so that others can succeed. God's sovereignty is seen in the fact that at the World Missions conference in 1910 there were only a few from the majority world. Here there are many from that world. He cautioned Chinese and other majority world Christians against mistaking economic power for the power of God. Partnership is a journey in friendship. God give us long term sacred friendships.

Study questions:

1. Should one seek or expect a regional balance in mission work?
2. How do we avoid triumphalism in our mission work?