



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 – God at Work in the World Through His Church: The Suffering Church and Religious Freedom

DATE OF SESSION: 18 October 2010

SUMMARY SUBMITTED BY: Ella Crockett (CT2010 Communications Session Summary Team)

PRESENTER(S): Doug Birdsall, Richard Howell, Dinesh Kumar, North Korean woman

STATEMENT OF THE ISSUE/ PROBLEM: The suffering church and religious freedom

REGIONAL FOCUS: Asia

KEY POINTS:

*The gospel is a bridge to the people of Asia *Lausanne wants the best for China and its people

*A young woman saw her father persecuted, yet she desires to go back and share Christ

Evangelicals make up 3.5 percent of the population in Asia.

South Korea: One-fifth of the population is Christian. Today there are churches in all 20 provinces.

China: Since churches per se are not in China, unless listed with the government, the house churches were only the way for Christianity to survive. The Chinese delegation could not come to Lausanne. In their absence, they sent several Scriptures that they were praying for us here at Lausanne which were: Phil 1: 29 and 2 Cor. 6: 3-10. Doug Birdsall closed out the special emphasis on China by stating that Lausanne wants the best for the church in China and for the nation. There was also an emphasis placed on Pakistan and India. A Pakistani woman sang a solo in Urdu.

India: One billion people, 300 million of whom belong to the higher society; four million Hindus, consisting of different castes, by marriage, food, purity and pollution. Over 54% of Indians are classed as working poor class; women are treated as the very low of the lowest. There is a growing movement of the Holy Spirit among the different castes. He reported that in the different offices people are hearing of Jesus and as a result they are being brought into the Kingdom. How are they reaching this lost country? They are pursuing reconciliation across tribes, castes, etc. "The gospel becomes a bridge to our people; pray that millions will surrender to Jesus Christ and discipleship will be taking place across our nation."

Korea: The young woman who spoke was only six years old when she saw her family persecuted for political reasons. They were able to escape to China "where relatives led my family to church." They later came to know Jesus. Her father became a missionary in N. Korea. He was arrested and put in prison for three years. In those days of separation from his family he cried out to God to grow him spiritually, rather than complain. He returned to N. Korea to share the love of Jesus to people in his homeland which was a dangerous land. In 2006 he was again put in prison and she has not heard from him since. She went on to say, "I had a dream and saw the Lord and heard him say, 'Why are you not coming to me, why are you turning away? Please come and follow me. Just as your earthly father loved you, I love you more.' I too came to know Jesus. And as a result, I hope to honor my earthly father and my heavenly father, by becoming a missionary and returning to tell the North Korea people about Jesus."



1. SEGMENT SYNOPSIS

TOPIC: The Suffering Church and Religious Freedom
SEGMENT TITLE: Asia Overview Video and Empty Chair Video (1989)
SEGMENT DATE: 18 October 2010
SYNOPSIS WRITERS: Josue Fernandez and Tim Brannagan (CT2010 Globalink Team)

God is moving on the continent of Asia. Since 1950, Christianity has grown one hundred fold in countries such as Nepal, Mongolia, China, and Central Asia.

In Asia, Christianity is not the largest religion. Islam and Buddhism are dominant faiths. Yet South Korea, with some of the largest churches in the world, is the second largest missionary sending nation. Even in China, house churches continue to grow and abandoned church buildings are being reopened. Yet in some Central Asia countries, the church does not yet have a significant role.

Christianity is still trying to find its place in Muslim countries where public opinion often considers Christianity a form of western influence over the population. Another challenge is how sister churches around the world can partner and support the churches in Asia.

The final scenes were taken from the 1989 Lausanne II Congress held in Manila, Philippines where the Chinese delegation was not allowed to attend. Rows of empty chairs served as reminders to pray for our Chinese brothers and sisters and believers in other nations who were not represented.

Study questions:

1. What are some of the challenges Christianity faces in contexts where it is not a majority religion?
2. How might believers overcome public suspicion that Christianity influences culture in a negative way? How is Christianity penetrating your community with grace and truth?
3. How can Christians partner with believers in Asia where Christianity is a minority religion?



2. SEGMENT SYNOPSIS

TOPIC: The Suffering Church and Religious Freedom
SEGMENT TITLE: Greetings to China in Absentia – Doug Birdsall
SEGMENT DATE: 18 October 2010
SYNOPSIS WRITERS: Josue Fernandez and Tim Brannagan (CT2010 GlobalLink Team)

The Church of China was not represented at Lausanne 1989. In the last days, China was unable to attend Cape Town 2010. The absent Chinese delegates instead sent Scripture verses. The song they were to sing is presented to the Lausanne participants. And an empty seat at the table is offered from the Lausanne participants to their Chinese brothers and sisters even in their physical absence.

Study questions:

1. How can the church support and respond to her brothers and sisters from countries with oppressive governments and religious discrimination?
2. What lessons might the Lord want to teach us as we reflect on those who have limited political or religious freedom?



3. SEGMENT SYNOPSIS

TOPIC: The Suffering Church and Religious Freedom
SEGMENT TITLE: Testimony of a Young North Korean Woman
SEGMENT DATE: 18 October 2010
SYNOPSIS WRITERS: Josue Fernandez and Tim Brannagan (CT2010 Globalink Team)

A young woman is born into a North Korean family. Due to political persecution, they must flee to China. After her parents come to faith in Jesus Christ, her father returns to North Korea and is imprisoned. Despite his oppression, he shares Christ with those who live without hope.

The young woman came to faith during her father's second imprisonment. Though her father disappeared, her strong desire is to continue in the footsteps of her parents and proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ to the lost people of North Korea.

Study questions:

1. In what ways are you encouraged by the faith of this young Korean woman and her parents?
2. Rather than choose a life of freedom, some choose a more dangerous path. What factors cause a person to choose the more difficult road?
3. How can we best prepare our young people to face the challenges ahead of them?



4. SEGMENT SYNOPSIS

TOPIC: The Suffering Church and Religious Freedom
SEGMENT TITLE: The Church in India - Richard Howell and Dinesh Kumar
SEGMENT DATE: 18 October 2010
SYNOPSIS WRITERS: Josue Fernandez and Tim Brannagan (CT2010 GlobalLink Team)

India is a country where culture and religion create an immovable social structure of discrimination and inequality. Richard Howell and Dinesh Kumar describe how the society in India deprives people of hope. The caste system condemns millions to lives of misery and exploitation.

Baliya is the story of an Indian ruler who promoted equality, dignity, and justice to the members of the lower castes. Baliya is used as a way of explaining the liberty and fulfillment that one can have in Jesus. It is the dream of church leaders for the power of the Holy Spirit to bring transformation to the country of India.

Study questions:

1. What are the ways cultural structures facilitate injustice and indignity in your community?
2. How can Christians defy those structures through the Gospel of Jesus Christ?
3. Are there areas in your community where the gospel of Jesus is needed to proclaim freedom and dignity for humanity?



5. SEGMENT SYNOPSIS

TOPIC: The Suffering Church and Religious Freedom
SEGMENT TITLE: Video: Tribute to Billy Graham
SEGMENT DATE: 18 October 2010
SYNOPSIS WRITERS: Josue Fernandez and Tim Brannagan (CT2010 GlobalLink Team)

“Remember Your Leaders” highlights the ministry of Dr. Billy Graham, his impact on world evangelism, and his influence on the Lausanne Movement. Audio and video clips portray a leader with a heart for God and a heart for the world. His life serves as an example for others to follow.

Graham’s influence on the Lausanne Movement encourages Christian leaders to continue the work of world evangelization. It also encourages followers of Jesus Christ to become responsible members of His Church so that the whole church might take the whole gospel to the whole world.

Study questions:

1. How can the church of Jesus Christ continue to emphasize the clear and complete presentation of the Gospel?
2. What factors can distract from the essence of evangelism in your context or community?
3. What lessons and encouragements can we gain from the life and legacy of Dr. Billy Graham?