

grow leader

GrowLeader Podcast

Season 2 Episode 10

April 2022

Fred's Story

Living in Berlin as an Atheist, Marxist, Communist when Youth With A Mission came and led him to the Lord. Raised Catholic and trained by the Franciscans, Jesuits

What He is doing today and why:

Main focus: 3.29 Billion unreached, Muslims, Hindus, and Buddhists who do not have the local church planted in their midst. This is called the 10/40 Window.

The 3.29 to Billion = 7,000 ethnic nations, that do not have the church planted there.

3,665 Languages without a bible. Mostly in that part of the world. The word of God is transformational, so I have also been involved, in stimulating activities to get the bible in those areas.

How is the Gospel doing around the world?

Of all the nations of the Earth, the vast majority are seeing the Church grow faster than the population growth rate.

Ex: Thailand for every 100 Buddhist babies born 103 Buddhist Thais convert to Christ. That is happening in all but 20 countries of the world, America is one of them (we're not growing or declining).

Sole SuperPower and Relation to Global Missions:

There are cycles in history, God created a cyclical universe: the seasons, the sun, the moon. There are religious cycles, economic cycles, political cycles, and geopolitical cycles that are all happening in each nation but then globally at the same time.

Globally there is a cycle of what we call World Orders. There are 3 different World Orders:

- MultiPolar World: 3 or More Countries have equal power they fight to control the World order.
 - World war, poverty, and disease in a multipolar world.
- Bipolar World: (When some of those worlds lose their power) 2 Countries have global power and they're vying for control of the world.
 - Better than multipolar, but still miserable ex: The Cold War Period
- Unipolar World: (The last power standing) when one country that has global power there are no rivals to challenge it - eliminating global wars (can have small regional wars).
 - Opportunity for massive development
 - money is no longer going to war efforts but now libraries, schools, etc.
 - Missions can thrive because you can travel to other countries. In a Peaceful world, Missionaries can travel and get to parts of the world the Gospel hasn't been to, planting the Gospel.
 - Ex: of Unipolar Seasons - Roman Empire, Mongolian Empire, British Empire, America (since 1991) greatest seasons of rapid church growth.

Today what is happening and how we need to respond:

We are seeing the collapse of America's global power. We are on the verge of transitioning from a unipolar world

- America's sole superpower, to a Multipolar world (America, Russia, China) as the superpowers. When you cross the line from unipolar to multipolar the next thing on the agenda is World War, where the great powers fight. We will see WWII probably within the next 10 years. There has never been a century without one, the 21st century won't be the first.

Decline and decay Are also happening in America:

- No superpower ever is murdered, every superpower commits suicide - they implode, it's all internal.
 - Proverbs chapter 14 "Righteousness exalts a Nation and sin condemns any people". This whole cycle was designed by God.
 - He is looking for the most moral or the least immoral, there is no pure country but the least immoral - cause they're the best, they'll have the softest touch on the world. So he looks for who is righteous.
 - Ex; back in the Cold War, in a BiPolar World, Russia - atheistic communist, that's why it fell and we were more Godly so we rose and played that Role.
 - He is testing: The test of prosperity is more difficult than the test of poverty.
 - We forget God, the superpower forgets God, stops being moral, and we see moral decay internally that weakens their power. And the others are allowed to rise.

A Challenge for the Church and Where we are:

When we go into a multipolar world, the church always declines globally. This great move of God we are currently seeing, would slow down and actually decline.

- In Ephesians 3:10 Paul said, "It is through the Church that God wants to make his manifold wisdom known to the principalities and powers."
 - The term principalities and powers, the exact greek phrase, is used 10 times in the New Testament.
 - 3 times about earthly rulers, mayors, governors, kings.
 - 3 demonic, principalities.
 - 4 Times about both, because in a biblical worldview it's both integrated we have to do both.

If you just do the spiritual your mystical, if you just do the physical you're an activist and God says He wants us to be mystical activists.

Spirit and Power activists that change the culture where we are at. It's the church, that has to Because the Church is God's government on Earth the condition of our country and the world is directly a result of the choices made by spiritual leaders. Either in what to do or not to do. Ephesians 3:10 it is through the church God wants to Govern the world, therefore the decision to do or not do something is what determines the state of the world. So the church has been asleep at the wheel in our country, that's led to the moral decline of the family.

- Less than 50% of families are a whole family.
 - 73% of our black community kids are born into a single-parent household
 - 42% of white community kids.
- And we know that without that nuclear family kids are wounded and don't produce a society that can function well.

How much time?

I believe 3-4 years. We will see til World War III starts. Depending on what happens in Ukraine, if Putin does not succeed, China will be back on its heels and won't touch Taiwan. But if China goes into Taiwan, it will most probably lead to WWII. It's a thing in History called the "Thucydides trap" when there is a rising power and a declining power, they always wind up in war.

The Elements of Revival:

1. Prayer
2. Pastoral Care
3. Outreach
4. Evangelism
5. Missions
6. Reform Thinking

- Barna says 95% of Christians don't share their faith, actively.
- Spark Missions. We lost 32% of the mission force since the year 2000. We must restart a mission movement, by raising 200,000 new missionaries out of America.

The last part of revival is, that we need to reform our thinking in the church. The reformers did a good job but in their attempt to escape the abuses of the catholic church they actually stripped out 5 major theologies that we need back in, in a protestant way that are hurting us:

Reformed Theology the Church needs to grow in:

- protestant Theology of Self-Sacrifice and Suffering. Paul said Christ suffered for you leaving you an example to follow in his footsteps. That's why people don't evangelize, they don't want to go through any suffering of people condemning them.
- Theology of Celebration. God's a celebration God and we got to learn how to celebrate more. That will balance the theology of self-sacrifice, so we don't get out of balance.
- Theology of Beauty. The beauty of God is attractional. We don't have a theology of beauty, we lost the ability to portray God as beautiful. To portray his Law as beautiful, to portray celibacy before marriage as something so beautiful that young people want to aspire to it.
- Theology of Community. Kids are looking for community, they make it on the internet, at Starbucks. But they don't see the church as a community. We need to create community.
- Theology of Transformational Kingdom. Reformers made the gospel all about saving souls in Colossians 2 Paul said Christ reconciled all things to himself, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, principalities and powers. We have to train people on how to penetrate their area of society and bring the gospel.

Takeaways: What you can do today:

Prayer, get training and start focusing on youth. Especially, dealing with the issues at hand. We backed away from some of the more controversial issues, on a life of holiness, and also get them trained on biblical worldview so they can resist the forces in the culture.

"The local church mobilized is the hope of the world"