



Lausanne Committee for World Evangelization

The Whole Church taking the Whole Gospel to the Whole World

**Special Issue Group for
Senior Advisors,
Senior Pastors and
Executives of International Evangelistic Organisations**

Lausanne Occasional Paper No. 61

Produced by the Issue Groups on this topic at the
2004 Forum for World Evangelization hosted by the

Lausanne Committee for World Evangelization

In Pattaya, Thailand, September 29 to October 5, 2004

“A New Vision, a New Heart, a Renewed Call”

In encouraging the publication and study of the Occasional Papers, the
Lausanne Committee for World Evangelization does not necessarily endorse
every viewpoint expressed in these papers.

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Lausanne Occasional Paper (LOP) No. 61
(there were 31 Issue Groups at the Forum)

Series Editor for the 2004 Forum Occasional Papers (commencing with LOP 30):
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Each section of this paper was prepared by the Convenor of the Issue Group in
fellowship with the participants

The list of participants is at the end of each section of this Paper

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The context for the production of the Lausanne Occasional Papers

The Lausanne Movement is an international movement committed to energising
“the whole Church to take the whole gospel to the whole world.”

With roots going back to the historical conferences in Edinburgh (1910) and Berlin (1966), the Lausanne Movement was born out of the First International Congress on World Evangelization called by evangelist Billy Graham held in Lausanne, Switzerland, in July 1974. The landmark outcome of this Congress was the **Lausanne Covenant** supported by the 2,430 participants from 150 nations. The covenant proclaims the substance of the Christian faith as historically declared in the creeds and adds a clear missional dimension to our faith. Many activities have emerged from the Lausanne Congress and from the second congress held in Manila in 1989. The Covenant (in a number of languages), and details about the many regional events and specialised conferences which have been undertaken in the name of Lausanne, may be examined online at www.lausanne.org.

The Lausanne International Committee believed it was led by the Holy Spirit to hold another conference which would bring together Christian leaders from around the world. This time the Committee planned to have younger emerging leaders involved and sought funds to enable it to bring a significant contingent from those parts of the world where the church is rapidly growing today. It decided to call the conference a **Forum**. As a Forum its structure would allow people to come and participate if they had something to contribute to one of 31 issues (around which were formed Issue Groups). These issues were chosen through a global research programme seeking to identify the most significant issues in the world today which are of concern in our task to take the *good news* to the world.

This Lausanne Occasional Paper (LOP) is the report that has emerged from one of these Issue Groups. LOPs have been produced for each of the Issue Groups and information on these and other publications may be obtained online at www.lausanne.org.

The theme of the Forum for World Evangelization held in 2004 was “**A new vision, a new heart, a renewed call.**” This Forum was held in Pattaya, Thailand from September 29 to October 5, 2004. 1,530 participants came from 130 countries to work in one of the 31 Issue Groups.

The Affirmations at the conclusion of the Forum stated:

“There has been a spirit of working together in serious dialogue and prayerful reflection. Representatives from a wide spectrum of cultures and virtually all parts of the world have come together to learn from one another and to seek new direction from the Holy Spirit for world evangelization. They committed themselves to joint action under divine guidance.

The dramatic change in the political and economic landscape in recent years has raised new challenges in evangelization for the church. The polarization between east and west makes it imperative that the church seek God’s direction for the appropriate responses to the present challenges.

In the 31 Issue Groups these new realities were taken into consideration, including the HIV pandemic, terrorism, globalization, the global role of media, poverty, persecution of Christians, fragmented families, political and religious nationalism, post-modern mind set, oppression of children, urbanization, neglect of the disabled and others.

Great progress was made in these groups as they grappled for solutions to the key challenges of world evangelization. As these groups focused on making specific recommendations, larger strategic themes came to the forefront.

There was affirmation that major efforts of the church must be directed toward those who have no access to the gospel. The commitment to help establish self-sustaining churches within 6,000 remaining unreached people groups remains a central priority.

Secondly, the words of our Lord call us to love our neighbour as ourselves. In this we have failed greatly. We renew our commitment to reach out in love and compassion to those who are marginalised because of disabilities or who have different lifestyles and spiritual perspectives. We commit to reach out to children and young people who constitute a majority of the world's population, many of whom are being abused, forced into slavery, armies and child labour.

A third stream of a strategic nature acknowledges that the growth of the church is now accelerating outside of the western world. Through the participants from Africa, Asia and Latin America, we recognise the dynamic nature and rapid growth of the church in the *South*. Church leaders from the *South* are increasingly providing exemplary leadership in world evangelization.

Fourthly, we acknowledge the reality that much of the world is made up of oral learners who understand best when information comes to them by means of stories. A large proportion of the world's populations are either unable to or unwilling to absorb information through written communications. Therefore, a need exists to share the "Good News" and to disciple new Christians in story form and parables.

Fifthly, we call on the church to use media to effectively engage the culture in ways that draw non-believers toward spiritual truth and to proclaim Jesus Christ in culturally relevant ways.

Finally, we affirm the priesthood of all believers and call on the church to equip, encourage and empower women, men and youth to fulfil their calling as witnesses and co-labourers in the world-wide task of evangelization.

Transformation was a theme which emerged from the working groups. We acknowledge our own need to be continually transformed, to continue to open ourselves to the leading of the Holy Spirit, to the challenges of God's word and to grow in Christ together with fellow Christians in ways that result in social and economic transformation. We acknowledge that the scope of the gospel and building the Kingdom of God involves, body, mind, soul and spirit. Therefore we call for increasing integration of service to society and proclamation of the gospel.

We pray for those around the world who are being persecuted for their faith and for those who live in constant fear of their lives. We uphold our brothers and sisters who are suffering. We recognize that the reality of the persecuted church needs to be increasingly on the agenda of the whole Body of Christ. At the same time, we also acknowledge the importance of loving and doing good to our enemies while we fight for the right of freedom of conscience everywhere.

We are deeply moved by the onslaught of the HIV/AIDS pandemic – the greatest human emergency in history. The Lausanne movement calls all churches everywhere to prayer and holistic response to this plague.

"9/11," the war in Iraq, the war on terror and its reprisals compel us to state that we must not allow the gospel or the Christian faith to be captive to any one geo-political entity. We affirm that the Christian faith is above all political entities.

We are concerned and mourn the death and destruction caused by all conflicts, terrorism and war. We call for Christians to pray for peace, to be proactively involved in

reconciliation and avoid all attempts to turn any conflict into a religious war. Christian mission in this context lies in becoming peacemakers.

We pray for peace and reconciliation and God's guidance in how to bring about peace through our work of evangelization. We pray for God to work in the affairs of nations to open doors of opportunity for the gospel. We call on the church to mobilize every believer to focus specific consistent prayer for the evangelization of their communities and the world.

In this Forum we have experienced the partnership of men and women working together. We call on the church around the world to work towards full partnership of men and women in the work of world evangelism by maximising the gifts of all.

We also recognize the need for greater intentionality in developing future leaders. We call on the church to find creative ways to release emerging leaders to serve effectively."

Numerous practical recommendations for local churches to consider were offered. These will be available on the Lausanne website and in the Lausanne Occasional Papers. It is our prayer that these many case studies and action plans will be used of God to mobilise the church to share a clear and relevant message using a variety of methods to reach the most neglected or resistant groups so that everyone will have the opportunity to hear the gospel message and be able to respond to this good news in faith.

We express our gratitude to the Thai Church which has hosted us and to their welcoming presentation to the Forum. We are profoundly grateful to God for the privilege of being able to gather here from the four corners of the earth. We have developed new partnerships, made new friends and encouraged one another in our various ministries. Notwithstanding the resistance to the gospel in many places and the richness of an inherited religious and cultural tradition we here at the Forum have accepted afresh the renewed call to be obedient to the mandate of Christ. We commit ourselves to making His saving love known so that the whole world may have opportunity to accept God's gift of salvation through Christ."

These affirmations indicate the response of the participants to the Forum outcomes and their longing that the whole church may be motivated by the outcomes of the Forum to strengthen its determination to be obedient to God's calling.

May the case studies and the practical suggestions in this and the other LOPs be of great help to you and your church as you seek to find new ways and a renewed call to proclaim the saving love of Jesus Christ

David Claydon

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Pastors, Mission Pastors & Church Leaders

Chaired by Eu Yat Wan

We Affirm:

Recognition and appreciation of the issues of the strategic thinking of Lausanne in dealing with issues that affect missions and the local church.

The realization of Mission as transformation and proclamation and the need for ongoing discussion and prayer.

The centrality of the local church.

Discipling nations as the unifying theme of the church.

The shift of the missionary movement to the 2/3 world has resulted in the internationalization of missions requiring greater networking and the building of relationships.

The affirmation of the call and clarification of the role of the Mission Pastor.

Develop tools to equip and empower the vast majority of churches who do not have a full time Mission Pastor.

The greatest need for the world is hope in Jesus.

The greatest carrier to meet this need is the church.

The greatest call for the church is for leadership.

The highest priority for leadership development is discipleship and mentoring. In making this affirmation we note that discipleship is sharing the gospel with the end result being that the disciple becoming a discipler. Mentoring is on the job training towards the objective of becoming a leader to many and a mentor to potential leaders.

We affirm the key findings of the 2004 Forum and pray that these may be announced to the church around the world so that every congregation is strengthened in its resolve to be obedient to the Great Commission.

Action Points:

Encourage churches within our spheres of influence to utilize the resources of the Lausanne Issue Groups.

Establish a network of Mission Pastors around the world under the auspices of Lausanne for ongoing synergy.

Strengthen the mission vision and effectiveness of the vast majority of churches who are under 300 members through research, networking and development of resources.

Every Senior Pastor to be asked to partner in prayer with at least one other Senior Pastor from another people group with a view to praying that the Commission be fulfilled.

Every Senior Pastor in every church be encouraged and assisted in attending and observing a church in a different country to broaden their awareness that they become global Christians.

Recommendations:

1. That the centrality of the local church in the task of mission be emphasized more extensively within the Lausanne movement. This would be reflected in future programs that are generated within the movement
2. That Lausanne affirms the continued development of Regional and International networks of Missions Pastors.
3. That the Lausanne movement invest resources for missions leaders of the vast majority of local churches around the world that have less than 300 members.

4. Develop bases of co operation between local churches, theological and missionary training structures and mission agencies to enhance the effectiveness of the local church and maintain focus on the achievement of the task.
5. Encourage synergistic cooperation between North-South, East-West bodies.

PARTICIPANTS in the PASTORS/ CHURCH LEADERS' GROUP

Gary Barnes, Convener,	USA
Yatwan Eu, Co-Convener	Singapore/Australia
Phitsanunart Joseph Srithawong	Thailand
Carol Childress	USA
Alan Ellard	Thailand
Monnie Brewer	USA
Calvin Choi	Korea
William L. Flanagan	USA
David Gibson	USA
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Frank Gregory	USA
James W. Gustafson	USA
Kevin Hovey	Australia
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SENIOR ADVISORS TO THE LAUSANNE MOVEMENT

Chaired by Paul Cedar

The Senior Advisors Group for the 2004 Forum on World Evangelization was comprised of some 25 experienced Missions/Evangelism leaders from around the world. The major purpose of this group of world-class Christian leaders was to serve as advisors and consultants to the various Issue Groups involved in the 2004 Forum on World Evangelization.

This group met twice during the Forum for an extended period of time. The first meeting was one of orientation for the Senior Advisors to prepare them for their important advisory role. They were informed that they were free to attend any of the Issue Groups. They were encouraged not to dominate or interfere with the flow and leadership of the meeting. However, they could participate in the discussions and were to make themselves available to consult and advise the group leaders if requested to do so. The Senior Advisors were encouraged also to report back to the chairman if they encountered any major difficulties or if they discerned that any of the Issue Groups were straying off course or were facing major challenges or difficulties. The "good news" is that none of them had to make such a report. Instead, virtually all of the Issue Groups functioned very well.

The second meeting of the Senior Advisors Group took place on the concluding day of the 2004 Forum. At the time, the various Senior Advisors shared a brief report of their involvement and activities. About half of them reported that they had spent the majority of their time involved in one of the Issue Groups which particularly attracted their interest.

The other half of the Senior Advisors reported that they found it both enjoyable and beneficial to participate in a number of the Issue Groups during the days of the Forum. Most reported, also, that they felt that they were able to make some significant contributions to the groups in which they had become involved.

In addition, many of the Issue Group leaders reported that the Senior Advisors had been a source of help and encouragement to them and to their Issue Groups. None of the leaders expressed criticism or disappointment with the participation of the Senior Advisors that had participated in their groups. As we met together for the closing session of the Senior Advisors, we received reports from each of them. We concluded that the Senior Advisors had fulfilled their purposes well and that the Lord had used them in significant ways to enrich the important work of the Issue Groups. We extend our deep gratefulness to each of the Senior Advisors who served so faithfully and effectively loving servants of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Those who served as Senior Advisors included:

Dr. Peter Brierley	England
Mrs. Vonette Bright	USA
Russell Brown	USA
Dr. Luis Bush	Argentina/USA
Dr. Paul Cedar	USA
Dr. Robert Coleman	USA
Dr. Todd Johnson	USA
Dr. John Kao	Canada
Pastor Kosse Kuzuli	Congo
Dr. Paul Larsen	USA
Dr. Rochunga Pudaite	India
Dr. Sunil Sudar	Egypt
Dr. Viggo Sogaard	Denmark/USA
Dr. Valdir Steuernagel	Brazil
Dr. Ralph and Barbara Winter	USA
Dr. Chris Wright	England

CEOs OF INTERNATIONAL EVANGELISTIC ORGANISATIONS

Chaired by H. Eddie Fox

We had an excellent group of CEOs. We met together every time the Issue Groups were in session and the attendance continued fully each time we met. We had about 40 persons participating throughout the Forum. We had a sharing time and a provocative discussion together as CEOs. It was a unique fellowship that was fully participative by all those involved.

Four people were asked to share regarding their ministry and reflect on the following themes:

- (i) The Core Values of your ministry in announcing the gospel, particularly as it relates to the Lausanne Covenant.
- (ii) How you live out those core values in spreading the good news of Christ.
- (iii) Specific strategies of the ministry.
- (iv) Why it is important to be in this kind of fellowship.

I asked the International Bible Society, the Navigators, the Mennonite Board of Mission and the Norwegian Lutheran Board of Mission to share more fully with the group. This was a distinctive group of agencies as they are parachurch and yet they are also representative of church agencies. Everyone shared with the group during the time we met.

The group expressed gratitude for the Lausanne movement and its leadership in world evangelism. The group also expressed interest in continuing the fellowship established in the CEO group and also the desire to impact the work of world evangelism together.

The group of about 40 persons contributed to the overall forum and were energized by the "common table" around which we gathered for prayer, insight, sharing and encouragement for the ministry of spreading the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ around the whole world.

CEO Participants

Kjetil Aano,	Norway
F. Douglas Armstrong,	Canada
Peter Bradley,	USA
Arthur Brown,	USA
Jeff Chadwick,	USA
Charles Davis	USA
Trevor Durston, United	Kingdom
Ron Ensminger,	USA
H. Eddie Fox,	USA
Marshall R. Gillam,	USA
David Guiles,	USA
Gary Hipp,	USA
Margaret Jacobs,	Western Australia
Roberto Laver,	USA
Steve Moore,	USA
Doug Nichols,	USA
Emmanuel Oladipo,	United Kingdom
Clive J. Pritchard,	United Kingdom
Don Schmierer,	USA
Richard Showalter,	USA
John Sorensen,	USA
Steve Strauss,	USA
Ola Tulluan,	Norway
Joshua Wathanga,	United Kingdom
Jerry White,	USA