

# 4/14 Window Global Summit III, Singapore 2011

*"Four through 14 is a very important age, because it is so responsive a time in the life of a young person that gets presented the gospel... If we don't reach this generation, there is no future for Christianity."*

**Luis Bush**

International Servant Catalyst

*"One of the problems that we've had in our churches and ministries is that we've just sought to entertain children. We've not paid attention to that tremendous resource that children represent."*

**Dan Brewster**

Director of International Academic Program for Compassion International

*"The new thing about this movement is providing space for children to become the primary agents of mission for the 21st century."*

**Bambang Budijanto**

Chairman of the 4/14 Global Steering Committee

**FROM** September 6-9, 2011, more than 1,000 leaders and representatives from 93 countries gathered in Singapore for the 3rd 4/14 Window Global Summit. The Summit was hosted by Victory Family Centre in Singapore and facilitated by Luis Bush, International Servant Catalyst, Bambang Budijanto, chair of the 4/14 Global Steering Committee, and Rick Seaward, pastor of Victory Family Centre.

The global 4/14 movement began in 2008 with the aim to raise awareness about the value of children and to mobilize the Church worldwide to welcome their unique contribution and also to address their needs. This time, the Summit intentionally sought to equip the Church to reach and deploy the 4/14ers to impact their world. Within the overall Summit, ten 4/14 Global Track Summits were convened, each with a specific area of emphasis to reach, rescue, root and release the 4/14 Generation to transform the world.

## Engaging seminars

One of such Tracks was the *Academic and Theological Transformation (ATT)* Track. Led by Dr Dan Brewster and Dr Jesudason Jeyaraj, the Track seeks to transform seminaries and theological institutions with the *child in the midst* paradigm. The Track had some 50 seminarians and theologians from around the world (except Latin America) meeting to reflect on the child in Scripture. In particular, they explored issues raised by Dr Victor Nakah in a critical paper titled "Child Theology – a Challenge to Seminaries," presented at the *Now and Next* conference earlier this year in Nairobi.



Participants at the third 4/14 Window Global Summit in Singapore, September 6-9, 2011

The Track also explored other areas of concern: 1) The need to provide seminaries with real-world relevance in content and focus, thus enabling them to equip children ministry workers and be better advocate for children; 2) The need to provide the Church with new theological understandings of the significance of the child, and to view church, ministry and society through the lens of the child; 3) The need to help ministry and mission groups see children as a fruitful mission field and also potent mission force; and 4) The need to provide academic and theological support for the child-focused emphases of organisations, movements and initiatives such as Lausanne, World Evangelical Alliance and 4/14 Window.

## Next steps

Following the third Summit, the 4/14 Global Initiative will initiate a global conversation on the role of children in

mission from a biblical perspective. At the same time, similar 4/14 Window Summits will take place at regional and national levels around the world, including local initiatives to awaken churches to the needs and potential of children for today's generation. ■



The 4/14 Window refers to the millions of children around the world who are aged 4 to 14 years old, which is the most receptive to every form of spiritual and developmental input. For information, please visit [4to14window.com](http://4to14window.com) or [www.facebook.com/414Window](https://www.facebook.com/414Window).