

History of UBF Bonn – the 2000s

New Vision

"But he answered, "You give them something to eat." (Mark 6:37)

Introduction

The mission work of UBF Bonn experienced a new degree of God's work in the new millennium. In the beginning of the new millennium God proved the value of Bonn mission work by fiery attacks of defamation. However, God blessed the mission work and in the way that national shepherds were raised as messengers and leaders and second generation missionaries were raised as co-workers and the mission work was strengthened in gospel faith and could mature to spiritual backbone and head quarter for the mission work of UBF in Germany and Europe.

The key verse of mission work in Bonn in the first decade of the new millennium was

Mark 6:37a: "You give them something to eat." God blessed the mission work in Bonn through this key verse in the 2000ies years and raised some national shepherds as responsible leaders and the New Generation as co-workers for the International Summer Bible Conference 2009 in Eringerfeld.

The history of Bonn mission work in the years between 2000 and 2010 can be subdivided into two parts:

First, the time of challenge and spiritual renewal (2000-2006) when God proved the value of the mission work in Bonn by afflictions and prepared it to go back to the Bible and to build a living Bible-focused community.

Second, the time of rebuilding the vision and hope of God when the mission work in Bonn was able as official spiritual head quarter to encourage co-workers in Germany and Europe to activate cooperation for spiritual awakening and pioneering of 1.700 universities in Europe.

I. Spiritual prove of value and renewal – Back to the Bible (2000-2006)

In the 1990ies years faith, self-devotion and co-working of missionaries and national shepherds and through their one-to-one Bible study and common life 12 house churches were established and many native co-workers were raised in Bonn mission work. Furthermore many new universities were pioneered by student missionaries and their house churches. Also many hopeful second generation missionaries had grown as spiritual co-workers for their parents. But if there is the mighty work of God, Satan is jealous and tries to hinder the work of God or even to destroy it.

In 2000 some churches of UBF Korea separated from whole UBF work. This separation affected mission works of UBF in all the world but especially the mission work of UBF Germany and Europe was affected. At the same time many afflictions against God's work were presented in the internet. This broke the vessel of prayer and affected co-working of missionaries in Germany. The attacks of Satan impended to destroy all fruits of faith up to then and the spiritual influence of UBF.

The mission work of UBF Bonn was also attacked. In 2001 during the International Summer Bible Conference at ISU Dr. Peter Chang and the co-workers of the mission work accepted God's word from 1 Peter 2:4,5 and decided to become living cornerstones for God that are abandoned by men and by this follow the footsteps of Jesus who had walked that way before us. 1 Peter 2:9 – "But

you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light." encouraged all co-workers instead of getting involved in human battles to put on the spiritual identity and character of a royal priesthood and to declare the praises of God. Many co-workers took comfort in God's word from 1 Peter 4:13 and were encouraged to be happy in sufferings for the sake of Christ. In January 2002 M. Dr. Samuel Lee, general director of UBF, past away after he had served for 40 years as founder of UBF campus and world mission. When he passed away there was a big gap and a lot of sadness in God's work of UBF, but he inherited them a great spiritual legacy that became the new orientation for mission work through UBF in throughout all the world and that can be summarized in one sentence: "Back to the Bible."

II. Rise of the national shepherds as messengers and group leaders

Just during the time of afflictions mission co-workers experienced the mighty work of the Holy Spirit in mission work, as it is said in the Bible that persecution and hardships prove the value of the church and make it grow in the hope of God. In the midst of afflictions all co-workers got clearer in their decision to co-work for world mission. They served one-to-one Bible study work and fought the battle of prayer, especially in the early morning, with even more devotion.

The leader of mission work in Bonn, Dr. Peter Chang, looked at the time of crisis as an opportunity of spiritual growth. He raised national shepherds like Sh. Peter Schweitzer, Sh. Stefan Elsholz and Sh. Jochen Schweitzer as messengers and helped them to take responsibility for the work of God. During the time of challenges the national shepherds grew as devoted co-workers and responsible spiritual leaders for mission work. Indeed, Sh. Joachim became confused by the separation of the church. But the tears, prayers and shepherd love of the co-workers started from M. Mary Shin gave to Sh. Joachim strong confidence in God's love and a new decision for God's sovereign calling as shepherd and Bible teacher for world campus mission according to Acts 9:15. By Jesus' grace of forgiveness he was allowed to co-work as a messenger for God's work, later raised as leader for ABC Bible school as well employed as one of the main speakers at the European Summer Bible Conference 2009.

Because since 2007 Dr. Peter Chang, the responsible leader for the mission ministry in UBF Germany and Europe, was mostly absent in Bonn, the native co-workers faced great challenges to serve Bonn ministry responsibly. There was the danger of losing power and direction. But as Dr. Peter Chang decided himself to obey Mark 6:37a to serve co-workers in Europe first, God helped the national shepherds to fill the gap and grew as spiritual leaders for the work of God. Native Shepherds such as Sh. Peter Schweitzer, Sh. Jochen Schweitzer, sh. Joachim Dietzel and Sh. Stefan Elsholz started serve the ministry with the sense of responsibility. They served their group and alternated as messengers for the Sunday worship service, Bonn I under the leadership of Sh. Peter Schweitzer, Bonn II under the leadership of Sh. Stefan Elsholz and Msn. Petrus Chang, Bonn II under the leadership of Sh. Ehrfurcht Kösters, Rhein-Sieg under the leadership of Sh. Jochen Schweitzer and ABC Bible-academy under the leadership of Sh. Joachim Dietzel. All Groups worked to win 120 Bible-students and to win 500 Bible-teachers and Bible-students for the word of God.

III. Co-working of the 2nd generation missionaries

1. 2nd generation missionaries' struggle of faith

In the midst of hardships there was the mighty work of God among 2nd generation missionaries. They were confronted with misunderstandings and slanders by teachers and fellow students in

school. But Msn. Petrus Chang was accepted into medical school at Bonn University and rendered glory to God. Other 2nd generation missionaries also rendered glory to God by following his example and graduated high school with outstanding results. Sh. Johannes Chang became valedictorian in his graduation class, although he was a foreigner, and also started to study medicine at Bonn University. During the time of hardship the 2nd generation missionaries grew as important spiritual co-workers of the mission ministry in Bonn who represent the ministry of God in many aspects. They especially co-worked in the Senfkorn Orchestra.

2. The growing community of the Senfkorn Orchestra

In the time of hardship the 2nd generation missionaries found their spiritual identity and roots of faith. Through the example of their parents they overcame the pressure of this world and of the zeitgeist. But they were like sheep without a shepherd because almost all mission co-workers themselves needed spiritual support as they faced hardships during the time of the church's division. Dr. Peter Chang had a compassionate shepherd heart on the 2nd generation missionaries and encouraged them by activating the Senfkorn Orchestra and taking them to several mission journeys.

Idea and concept of the Senfkorn Orchestra were inspired by the example of the Chicago UBF Orchestra under the leadership of Dr. Samuel C. Lee. According to 1 Peter 2:9, the purpose of the Senfkorn Orchestra was to encourage the 2nd generation missionaries during their teenage and student years by music training so that they could learn divine discipline and have the spiritual identity as God's royal priesthood and to use their talents for the work of God. During the first wave of 2nd generation missionaries in Bonn like Msn. Petrus Chang, Msn. Maria P. Lee, Sh. Johannes Chang, Sh. Samuel Ryu, Sh. Peter Ryu and Sh. Samuel Ju received intensive music and orchestra training. In this way, they could develop their talents and use them at mission journeys and orchestra concerts in America and Korea for the glory of God, confessing their faith. In this way, the 2nd generation missionaries could co-work in God's ministry as important co-workers and find their spiritual position. The first wave of 2nd generation missionaries, who had received spiritual training in the Senfkorn Orchestra, later went to university and studied medicine, law, business or music and serve as leaders in God's ministry as well as joining several university activities.

Many parents were encouraged by their example to teach also their children divine discipline. Among them, Sh. Happy Maria's live story is most known and heart moving. The Senfkorn Orchestra did not only serve as support for the personal development of its members but also as an instrument to praise God and to build bridges and networks to people and communities outside UBF. There happened to be concerts of the Senfkorn Orchestra in Korea in 2002 and in 2003, in the USA in 2004 and in Germany in 2005 and in 2007. At the latter, more than 1,000 attendants gathered in the Beethoven Hall in Bonn.

Currently, God is working mightily among our teenagers and children through the Senfkorn Orchestra. During the difficult time of puberty, through continuous Bible study and orchestra practice they receive necessary spiritual help for their healthy personal growth. By declaring God's praises with their talents, they can accept the clear spiritual identity as royal priesthood and God's chosen people. Among them, Esther Kim jun., Samuel Kösters, Johannes Phan, Isaak Jeong jun., Rebekka Dietzel and Johanna Yoon were baptized and shared their life testimony. They accepted Jesus as their personal savior. This year, they even were raised as messengers for the 1st historical Bonn UBF CBF & JBF summer Bible conference in Mücke.

Currently, we are experiencing a new ministry in the Senfkorn Orchestra's history, wherein the first wave of the 2nd generation missionaries are taking over the main responsibility for the Senfkorn Orchestra and Choir. They are helping the growing younger 2nd and 3rd generation missionaries in the same way they once themselves had received help through the Senfkorn Orchestra. Thus, it has grown into a self-running ministry of God which is influencing the successive 2nd generation missionaries and sheep spiritually and is being used for building a bridge in the bi-cultural society in Germany.

3. Establishing 2nd generation missionaries' house churches

In the new millennium, we could experience a new history of faith through establishing house churches of 2nd generation missionaries. According to God's best guidance, Msn. Petrus Chang established the first house church of the 2nd generation missionaries in Europe with Msn. Pauline Chang from New Jersey UBF, USA, by faith in 2002. Their faith and commitment and their co-working spirit are like Priscilla's and Aquila's. In 2007, Sh. Titus and Msn. Maria Keller from Cologne and in 2008, Msn. Peter and Msn. Maria Lee from Bonn UBF followed their example and married by faith according to God's best guidance and sovereignty. They dedicated their house churches to the co-working in God's ministry.

4. Birth of the 3rd generation missionaries

In the new millennium, God also let us see the birth of 3rd generation missionaries. Msn. Pauline and Msn. Petrus Chang dedicated themselves by faith to the spiritual nurturing of many descendants of faith and brought four children as 3rd generation missionaries into the world. Msn. Maria P. Lee gave birth to her first son, Paul S. Lee, right after finishing her medical studies in the midst of her late pregnancy. It is encouraging and a sign of hope that many God and mission centered house churches among the 2nd generation missionaries are being established, who have faith to bear many physical and spiritual descendants and dedicate themselves to God's ministry.

IV. The discipleship ministry in the new millennium

1. ABC Bible School

The ABC Bible School was founded for new Bible students and is led by Sh. Joachim Dietzel. He has a burning shepherd heart for newcomers in faith who often do not know how to read and understand the Bible. This group studied the Bible together with new sheep and Bible students every Wednesday, since 2005, which is attracting in its simple and personal way. Thus, several young people could lay the firm foundation of faith through the Bible study of Genesis, John's Gospel, 12 steps and Romans. Now, they are growing as Bible teachers for others.

2. Raising new disciples of Jesus

During the first ten years of God's ministry after the millennium change God has worked mightily among students on campus and the 2nd generation missionaries. Even though there were many obstacles, God has raised them as campus shepherds. This mighty work of God happened when the leaders and co-workers of the mission ministry in Bonn made a decision to go back to the Bible – even in the midst of difficulties and misunderstandings. God led many new students to Bible study. Among them, Sh. Alexander Ripken, Sh. Martin Schreck, Sh. Ursula Herbiniaux and 2nd generation missionaries Sh. Daniel Park, Sh. Peter Ryu, Sh. David Lee and Sh. Jakob Choe personally accepted Jesus as their Savior and Lord. They were baptized and received God's calling and the mission to be shepherds and Bible teachers for the campus students.

V. The European Summer Bible Conference 2009

1. Regional Vessel of co-working in Europe

Based on the word from Mark 6:37a, Dr. Peter Chang, the leader of UBF Europe, encouraged the European co-workers to build and activate the ministry of Bible study and the vessel of co-working by region. Dr. Peter Chang went on 23 mission journeys, to encourage co-workers all over Europe through Bible study and to build the vessel of co-working. In this way the co-workers in Europe received help and started to co-work in 7 regions by linguistic and cultural background: 1st German speaking region (Germany, Austria, Switzerland), 2nd English speaking region (United Kingdom and Ireland), 3rd French speaking region (France, Belgium, Switzerland), 4th Scandinavia (Norway, Sweden, Denmark), 5th central Europe (Czech Republic, Poland, Slovakia, Hungary, Croatia, Austria), 6th Balkans (Rumania, Bulgaria, Greece, Macedonia, Bosnia, Serbia, Albania) and 7th Iberian peninsula (Portugal, Spain). Thus the mission ministry in Germany and Europe grew in numbers and in quality.

2. Nehemiah Bible study and 1.000-times united prayer

In preparation of the European Summer Bible Conference 2009 at Eringerfeld, UBF Bonn and Cologne held the first historical World mission report 2008 in Cologne together. More than 500 participants heard and saw about the worldwide work of God through 1-to-1 Bible study and the discipleship ministry through UBF and the co-workers in Germany started to pray for the European Summer Bible Conference 2009 together. The Nehemiah Bible study was built the good foundation for the preparation of the European Summer Bible Conference 2009 after times of trials during the millennium change. Through the Nehemiah Bible study the co-workers in Germany received the spirit of Nehemiah's rebuilding.

Through 1.000 times united prayer we experienced the mighty work of the Holy Spirit already during the preparation. Two month prior to the conference 1.000 participants officially registered for the conference, so that the registration was stopped and was restarted afterwards. The great cooperation of precious co-workers of UBF America and Korea, especially Dr. John Jun, Mother Barry and Dr. Mark Yang, who came to Germany for the preparation of the messages multiple times, encouraged the 2nd generation missionaries of all Germany and Europe to take part in various tasks for the conference, such as messages, life testimonies, Orchestra, Choir, Dance, Translation, Tech support, Web design and Media. It was also the first European UBF Summer Bible Conference held in the English language.

God worked mightily through the European Summer Bible Conference 2009 at Eringerfeld to renew the hope and vision of God for the Europe Campus Mission. Eventually 1.200 co-workers, sheep and guests from Germany, Europe, overseas and from other churches came. God's hope for Europe, to be used as a Bible-centered and missionary sending continent once again, was clearly revealed through the conference based on the word of Exodus 19:5.6. More than 500 young people at the conference confessed to be ready to go as a missionary, in God's time. At the European Summer Bible Conference 2009 the Hope Explorer Bible study was initiated. It started as a Bible study meeting of the leading 2nd generation missionaries on a regular basis, currently under the leadership of Sh. Titus Keller of UBF Düsseldorf II, Msn. David Yoo of UBF Cologne I and Msn. Petrus Chang of UBF Bonn.

The European Summer Bible Conference 2009 was also the inspiration of the first historical international New Generation Leadership Forum, which was held from June 23rd to 26th, 2010 in Bonn. It was the first meeting of it's kind in UBF Europe and specially aimed on the

encouragement and education of future leaders among the UBF New Generations. UBF Founding mother Sarah Barry took time to come in order to encourage our New Generations. Many New Generation missionaries and shepherds from pioneering ministries, e.g. Sh. Ales Maca from Czech Republic and Sh. Neusa Figueredo from Portugal, could see how work of God through UBF and the spiritual legacy of UBF and the pioneering missionaries was derived from biblical principles. Many New Generation leaders were encouraged to grow as excellent Bible-teachers and global leaders like Ezra from Ezra 7:10 according to the vision and hope of God and to co-work together with the pioneering missionaries.

VI. PR and networking

Since 2009 UBF Bonn engaged themselves into PR and the development of relations with other churches, by co-working with Dr. John Jun and the UBF global headquarters. For this Msn. Hanna Ryu of Mainz was positioned as the responsible leader and participated in different forums and conferences such as KOSTE, ECMI, International Diaspora Forum in Korea etc. Through this ministry other churches realized the value of the unique mission model of UBF, especially the model of discipleship through laymen mission. The ministry in Bonn holds strong ties with befriended mission organizations, such as Open Doors.

As support for the PR the Internet mission team was established in 2005. The co-workers made and operated different websites in the Internet with regular reports and updates about the work of God in UBF Germany and Europe and through 1-to-1 Bible study, discipleship and world mission. The Internet mission was also an instrument to encourage students to begin 1-to-1 Bible study.

Conclusion

In the beginning of the new millennium God trained and proved the Bonn mission ministry through fierce trials of slander. Through this, God helped us to go back to the Bible and to mature to be the spiritual backbone and headquarters of UBF Germany and Europe. We thank God for raising national shepherds as responsible leaders and 2nd generation missionaries as spiritual co-workers. We thank God for using our mission ministry in Bonn to strengthen the spiritual unity in Christ in Europe and to encourage the New Generations to participate in the work of God based on the hope of God.

One Word: "You give them something to eat!"