God's Holy Spirit is once again moving mightily among the nations - like he did in the pages of the Bible. How else could his disciples explode from one to 113 nations in only 18 years? Dreams that some of us dared to dream many years ago are now rapidly becoming a reality. A movement born among a handful of desperate men and women in a Boston living room has spread to cities and countries whose names we struggle to pronounce. We are only three years away from meeting a nearly impossible goal – by the year 2000, to plant a church in every nation that has a city population of at least 100,000.

When the goal was set in 1994, churches existed in only 49 of those 166 nations. In the three years since then, the number of churches in God’s modern-day movement has grown by 64 nations. Can anything stop us from covering the remaining 57 nations in the final three years? Well, yes! Satan is hard at work to stop the spread of God’s Kingdom. And his primary weapon is disunity.

One of the greatest threats to this unity came during the first three months of this year as we made plans for world evangelism BEYOND 2000. By that milestone we will have at least one church in each of the 166 nations. From these pillar churches the remainder of each country must be evangelized. It was decided that the best way to accomplish this is for each of the eight geographic world sectors to be financially self-supporting. In order to achieve this financial state, several of the world sectors had to give some of their first-world territories to world sectors with fewer financial resources.

Although everyone agreed with the concept, unity was tested when it came time to deciding who would give up what. The World Sector Leaders are spiritual men, but we are still human and we still sin. At some points of impasse, Kip McKean, as leader of the group, had to make some difficult decisions where there was no clear consensus. Finally the plan was finished – but there were some hurt feelings and some hard feelings. The plan was complete, but our unity was fragile. This was the kind of defining moment that crumbles most movements and churches.

In early March, all of the World Sector Leaders met again in Los Angeles. We thought we were there just to ratify the BEYOND 2000 plan, but Kip was determined to make every effort to restore unity. He did something that I will always admire. On Monday night he gave a message from the scriptures and challenged us to make two lists before returning the next day: a list of ways we had offended each other and another list of ways we felt Kip had offended us. On Tuesday morning we gathered with our lists in hand. Then Kip did something that melted each of our hearts. He had all ten of us go over every unresolved attitude and grievance that we had against him – not just those of the previous three months, but over any period of time. For three hours, Kip listened, acknowledged and asked for forgiveness! He was not defensive, and he did not try to explain things away or shift the blame. We did not even discuss our own sins. (We dealt with those later among ourselves.) It was one of the greatest demonstrations of humility I have ever seen. Unity was restored!

That afternoon we traveled to the foot of Mt. Hollywood together. Symbolizing our forgiveness and reconciliation, each of us threw our list of offenses into a fire. We put all of the disunifying issues and attitudes behind us forever. Then we, with all of the World Sector Administrators, walked to the top of Mt. Hollywood where we prayed powerfully together on our knees before our God. Kip encouraged us to remember this crucial moment and what it signified in our struggle for unity. What is known to the world as Mt. Hollywood, we would now call Mt. Shalom, the “Mountain of Peace,” where the leaders came together with the “unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.”

I can hardly wait to see the great miracles God Almighty will perform BEYOND 2000!
In 1979, Kip and Elena McKean met in Boston, Massachusetts with 30 people who wanted to be true disciples of Jesus. That group became the phenomenal Boston Church of Christ that took to heart Jesus’ commission to evangelize the world. In 1981, when their Sunday attendance was about 350, the Boston Church announced a plan to evangelize the most influential international cities. Those churches would then plant other churches in their area of the world. Dr. Donald McGavran, the “father of modern Church growth” saw this as a unique plan to evangelize the entire world in one generation from one rapidly growing church.

Incredibly, by 1994, the International Churches of Christ had planted all of the original cities and there were a total of 146 churches in the movement. However, there was much more work to be done. God led Kip McKean and the World Sector Leaders to develop the two unique plans described here: The 6 Year Plan in February 1994 and the BEYOND 2000 plan in March of 1997.

### 1994 The Evangelization Proclamation

**Uniqueness:**
In an unprecedented plan, Kip McKean and the World Sector Leaders adopted a historic financial plan to carry out the Great Commission of Jesus in our generation: “Go make disciples of all nations”

**The Goal:**
- To plant a church of disciples in every nation with a city population of at least 100,000 by the year 2000

**The 6 Year Plan:**
- All first-world churches to participate in a yearly missions contribution to finance third-world missions
- All second-world churches give a yearly missions contribution to become self-supporting
- Third-world churches to participate in yearly contributions to help fund their own mission work
- All missions funds would be distributed among World Sectors based on need as determined by an overall strategic plan

**The Results:**
- February 1994 – 53 Nations*, 146 Churches, 117 Nations Waiting
- March 1997 – 113 Nations, 287 Churches, 57 Nations Waiting
* Includes nations with cities under 100,000

### 1997 BEYOND 2000

**Uniqueness:**
In an incredible display of unity, Kip McKean and the World Sector Leaders designed a financial plan to complete the Great Commission in our generation

**The Goal:**
- To plant churches in the remaining countries of the world with cities less than 100,000. From the pillar cities in every country, to plant churches in the surrounding areas – making disciples of all nations

**The BEYOND 2000 plan:**
- First and second-world churches were appropriately distributed among the World Sectors to provide a missions funding base for third-world churches and for future missions work within that World Sector
- Yearly missions funds remain in the World Sector in which they are collected, except for a small central fund paying for World Sector Leadership and to provide for Kingdom cash reserves

**The Need:**
- Every Nation and 6.5 Billion People Are Waiting

The BEYOND 2000 plan is an attempt to balance the financial and ministerial responsibilities among all the world sectors. The 6 Year Plan is now succeeding in planting churches of true disciples in the third-world nations. However, the new BEYOND 2000 plan will allow for more growth in the first-world nations that will ultimately help us reach people in all nations.

“The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places” (Psalms 16:6). Boundary lines give definition of responsibility and security. The new plan will keep the integrity of our church family concept and even broaden it to a closer relationship with our brothers and sisters in the third-world countries as we carry out God’s Great Commission together.
**BEYOND 2000 PLAN**

An interview with the World Sector Leaders

**Questions & Answers**

**Q** Are we on track to meet our goal for the year 2000?

**A** Randy McKean, New England and Europe World Sector Leader:

“It is exciting to know that by God’s grace we will have a church in every country with a city of over 100,000 by the time we end the year 2000. With the new financial plan for BEYOND 2000 we can grow those churches to the point that we can truly evangelize the world in our generation.”

**Q** What are the challenges after the year 2000?

**A** Steve Johnson, ACES World Sector Leader

“One younger ministry leader asked, ‘What dreams can I have now that churches are planted all over the world? In a short time we have established churches in major cities, but the work is far from over. In a lot of ways, the easier job may be done.’

**A** Frank Kim, Pacific Rim World Sector Leader

“I think as we move from planting a church in the primary cities of each nation, the greatest challenge still lies ahead as we go to the different peoples in each nation. For example, we have to reach the hill tribes in Southeast Asia, the indigenous peoples of the South Pacific, and the numerous tribes of Africa. It will be difficult because every new tribe will mean learning a new language and new cultures as we seek to relate the gospel in a way they can understand. The future holds some of the most exciting spiritual frontiers.”

**Q** How do the smaller churches fit into the BEYOND 2000 plan?

**A** Phil Lamb, Central & South America World Sector Leader:

“The beauty of the plan BEYOND 2000 is that it includes the smaller churches. The new plan is significant because each member understands it will take our sacrifice, our time and our prayers if each of the world sectors is going to evangelize its area of the world in this generation.”

**Q** What advice do you have for disciples who are changing world sectors?

**A** Steve Johnson, ACES World Sector Leader

“This is my father’s world — none of it is really ours. The re-forming of the World Sectors punctuates that. For example, Phil Lamb, leader of the Central and South America World Sector, has already been an important brother to the Nashville Church; his own parents were just baptized there. I know that the part of the ACES World Sector that will now go with Phil and the CSA World Sector will be well taken care of.”

**Q** How will this plan build unity in the Kingdom?

**A** Doug Arthur, Commonwealth World Sector Leader

“What I am most excited about in this new development is the unity it will bring. A few years ago, we began targeting cities for church plantings without a particular plan. For example, at that time Germany was targeted by four different churches in the United States. There were a number of similar situations in India and South America. Then Kip made a bold decision to divide the work into world sectors so that we would not be reduplicating efforts. That decision brought about a great deal of unity as we all worked hard to evangelize our part of the world. I think this next new step will provide not only new mission plantings, but also the first-world financial base to be able to fund those works. It’s exciting to see how we are encouraging and helping each other advance the Kingdom of God; we will see a greater sense of unity than ever before.”

**Q** What will be the most difficult countries to reach?

**A** Cory Blackwell, Middle East World Sector Leader

“The most difficult countries yet to reach for the Middle-East World Sector will be Iran, Libya, Yemen, and Saudi Arabia because of the political and religious presence there. But we believe the great success that God has recently given us throughout the Middle-East is the kind of success God will give us again.”
Phil Lamb, Central & South America World Sector Leader

“The hardest countries for Central and South America are Peru and Cuba. God is a great God and he will help us to plant those churches.

Scott Green, China World Sector Leader

“To the World Sector Leaders who have given over large portions of their world sectors, like Marty Fuqua and Steve Johnson, I want to say, God is watching. God keeps a record of rights. God is keeping track and he will bless your life for your sacrifices.”

Frank Kim, Pacific Rim World Sector Leader

“Because of the love of all the Christians around the world, we do not have to worry about providing financially for our family, but we are able to totally focus on the people to whom God has sent us. All the third-world disciples greatly appreciate your generosity which made possible the miracles of God we have seen up until this time.”

Conclusion

Scott Green, China World Sector Leader

“I believe that the initiation of the BEYOND 2000 plan is an unprecedented historical event for evangelizing the world in our generation. I predict we will see an unleashing of spiritual power, dedication and creativity in every individual disciple who will be more motivated and dedicated than ever before to see the world evangelized.

The renowned Prime Minister of England, Winston Churchill said, ‘give us the tools and we will finish the job.’ I believe with the new BEYOND 2000 plan, the Spirit of God is leading Kip and the World Sector Leaders down a path that will allow us to have the tools we need to truly finish the job in our generation.”

How will the BEYOND 2000 plan affect first-world churches?

Marty Fuqua, Northern Federation World Sector Leader

“The first-world churches will be getting greater attention under the BEYOND 2000 plan. For example, the Eastern and Mid-Western U.S. states will now be overseen by John Causey and Douglas Arthur. These churches will be given more attention to help them grow and have their needs met. In the end, that is what a World Sector Leader’s responsibility is all about.”

GROWING THROUGH CHANGE
by Gregg Marutzky

Changes in life are inevitable! As disciples we must learn to handle change in a spiritual, righteous and faithful manner. Simply, change tests our relationship with God. How do we react to challenges such as illness, aging, accidents, even death? What is our attitude towards job stresses, career disappointments, and financial challenges? Is our response righteous towards ministry changes, leadership decisions, our schedule? As Christians, we can have a solid foundation of faith claiming the anchors of prayer and following righteous examples to weather the storms of life!

ACCEPT CHANGE!
It sounds so simple but we must decide to be flexible. Because we are baptizing people daily around the world, we are constantly adjusting to growing and evolving ministries. Do we accept these changes or are we stubborn? Refusing to change can hinder the gospel from advancing! Holding on to our securities is selfishly placing ourselves above the needs of others. We would all prefer to be comfortable, but God will make change happen to cause us to grow in our faith.

As an evangelist, I am often called by God to fulfill needs that arise in the Kingdom. In the last 10 years, my family and I have moved 12 times covering six different states. Each move challenged our hearts to trust God and submit to his will, without bitterness, sentimentality or resentment. It is during times of transition that we all tend to feel unstable. However, this is when we need to depend on the “rock and refuge” of our souls, God the Father. As the storms of life become more intense, we must pray more fervently, seeking his help and guidance. When we move, I pray that God will move me near someone who becomes a Christian. My prayers are always answered; as witnessed through the baptisms of friends such as Luke, Chad, Bob, Barry, and Matt. Praise God for changes that shake us into living by faith and not by sight! Despite how resistant we can be to accept change, God eventually works everything out and our dreadful fears are not realized. “And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.” (Romans 8:28)

If we accept change, we grow; if we resist change, we become bitter. Last year when my family and I were asked to move to LA, our daughters Mandy (12) and Megan (9) really struggled with the decision. We had bought a house one year earlier. The month we were to move, a brand new school was completed across the street. All their friends were to begin school there and Cathy and I were officers for the PTA. Having changed schools six times in six years, they did not want to start over making new friends at a seventh school. However, after praying and talking about the ways God had always blessed us with friends every time we moved, we all surrendered to God’s will. It is amazing to see the fruit of our repentance. Not only have the girls made many new friends here in LA, but Mandy is currently on the honor roll at her Jr. High school and Megan was elected Citizen of the Month. Both of the girls also made the All-star soccer team. It has been their smoothest transition ever! There is freedom in accepting new direction and challenges, and joy in witnessing God “work everything out.”

FOCUS ON CHRIST
Another key to dealing with change is keeping our focus on Christ. Hebrews 12:2 exhorts us to “fix our eyes on Jesus.” It is easy to lose this perspective during change. Since being married, Cathy and I have moved every two years. Since Cathy grew up determined to provide a strong sense of stability and consistency in the home, she is tested every time we move. Her greatest challenge is giving her heart 100% to new friends, new disciples, new discipler, new city, etc. When we first move, Cathy has to decide to do what is right. By focusing on how Christ gave 100% of his heart, 100% of the time, she is able to grow through each move. As a result, God has not only blessed her with relationships all over the nation, but he has helped her to become a strong woman who calmly handles change.

One of my greatest temptations during change is to feel misunderstood, unfairly treated or abused. By keeping the cross in view, I am inspired to be like Jesus in surrendering my "rights" to God’s will and sacrificing for the benefit of others. Change tests if I am willing to deny myself and be like Christ. Looking back I can see that without challenges, I would become materialistic, earthly-minded or greedy. Paul testified he considered everything he sacrificed to be just garbage in comparison to knowing Christ. (Philippians 3:8) How can we know Christ unless we experience changes which require us to deny self and take up our cross?

REMEMBER YOUR PURPOSE
Most importantly, in dealing with changes we must not lose our purpose. Regardless of where I live, who disciples me, or what city I am in, my commission from Jesus Christ is to make disciples. Many things can and will change in the course of my life but one conviction remains unchanged: I must always seek to build the Kingdom. One of the greatest benefits of change is building new relationships which challenges our hearts to grow. You can imagine the great numbers of friends my family and I have acquired through 12 moves. And to top it off, they are in just about every state!

Recently, after several years of seeing the dream for the Great Rocky Mountain churches come alive, Cathy and I were asked to move to LA and begin leading the Heartland churches. Not only did we say goodbye to a dream that was close to our hearts, but, I was also challenged with the decision to capture the LA dream by becoming a Region Leader in a super church rather than leading my own church. Remembering that my purpose is to build up the Kingdom and not my own life, helped me to be a great disciple. When I compare what I have given up to Jesus’ giving up heaven to live on earth for me, it put changes like this into perspective.

▲ Gregg and Cathy Marutzky powerfully lead the West-Region of the LA Church while overseeing the Heartland churches. The Marutzky family from left to right: Cathy, Megan 9 years old, Gregg and Mandy 12 years old.

As disciples, we learn to deal with change by accepting challenges, keeping our focus on Christ, and always setting our heart on building the Kingdom. Change brings the blessings of a genuine faith, Christ-like self denial and fruitful relationships. Praise God for change, we need it!
CURRENT RELEASES

- **Los Angeles** - Our phenomenal Women’s Day was the first weekend of March. At the time, 3,200 disciples saw an attendance of over 9,000 women. During the month of March alone, a record 256 women were baptized and 22 were restored. God also blessed the LA Church with an Easter Sunday attendance of 12,900 and a record-setting growth of 97 disciples in one week.

- **Hong Kong and Manila** - God recently brought the Kingdom to another milestone of maturity as nationals now lead the two largest churches in Asia. Philip and Pandora Lam were appointed to lead the incredible church in Hong Kong. Scott and Lynne Green, World Sector Leaders for the China World Sector, planted the Hong Kong Church with only 16 other disciples in 1988. Today nearly 3,000 meet on Sundays in Hong Kong and 10 other churches have been planted in China and Taiwan.

- **Pakistan** - In this mostly Muslim country surrounded by volatile political and economic conditions, our 50 brothers and sisters in Pakistan had over 1,100 in attendance at a recent Sunday service.

- **Prague, Czech Republic** - Planted just one year ago in what is known to be the most atheistic country of Eastern Europe, this small church has nearly tripled in size. Disciples include the niece of the Prime Minister and a professional singer who just recorded her first album.

- **India** - Women’s Day in March was a tremendous success with the largest attendance in India in the history of the movement. With about 1,500 women in the 19 Indian churches, almost 6,000 attended Women’s Day. New Delhi Elder’s wife, Anamma Selvaraj, brought 22 guests alone to this powerful event.

- **Atlanta** - Recording artist “Speech,” formerly of the two-time Grammy Award-winning band, Arrested Development, became a disciple on December 8, 1996. He was met by Atlanta disciple Nicha Thompson when she sang backup for his new band. Speech and his wife Yolanda were baptized on the same day and have since baptized her mother, two other professional musicians, a business acquaintance, and a sound engineer. Although Speech has reached the pinnacle of his profession, from the baptistry he said, “We’ve laughed together, learned together, and cried together. Now I have the beautiful privilege of baptizing my wife so we’ll be saved together.”

A MATTER OF SACRIFICE

At the age of four, Pierre Newsome lost his left kidney to a rare form of cancer, Wilms Tumor. Pierre still grew to be an accomplished athlete, excelling in basketball. He was twice voted Alaska’s Basketball Player of the Year and placed on the Gatorade All-American team along with today’s superstars Shawn Kemp, Alonzo Mourning and Christian Laetner.

That miracle arrived in July of 1996 in the form of his newly arrived Sector Leader Christopher Anderson. Christopher joined in the prayer but decided something more needed to be done: he went in for a blood test. Though the odds of a non-family member being a donor match are next to impossible, God worked and Christopher was found to be a perfect match for Pierre. The prayers were answered at 8:30 am February 3rd, 1997, as a team of surgeons carefully removed one of Christopher’s kidneys. In an adjoining operating room Pierre waited to receive a new chance at life. The transplant was an enormous success, with both patients responding well to the surgery.

Today, Christopher’s surgeon has cleared him to resume his normal life. For the first time in six years, Pierre is free of dialysis. The transplant team is awed by how well Pierre is responding to his new kidney, calling the circumstances “miraculous.” Several of Pierre’s amazed family members have begun to study the Bible and the Kidney Coordinator of the hospital was among the guests at Seattle’s Women’s Day. Christopher remarked, “these events have radically changed the Seattle Church’s prayer life.”