OACI UPDATE

THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST

REPORTS FROM THE FRONT LINE MINISTRY OF OPEN AIR CAMPAIGNERS INTERNATIONAL

THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST
OUR MESSAGE IN AND FOR EVANGELISM

Introduction:
We are living in times where we are hearing so many different messages from different sources offering all kinds of solutions for the troubles we face today. The only message that offers hope to all humanity is the Gospel of CHRIST crucified and risen again. This is the message that we must preach today in all our evangelistic endeavours and even in our churches.
One of our biggest challenges today is, 'how can we preach the Gospel more effectively and relevantly outside our churches without compromising the key truths of this message?' This is where we must continue to review our methodologies.
In 1 Corinthians 1:18-32, Paul faced the same challenge, but he was absolutely determined to know and preach no other message but the Gospel of CHRIST crucified and risen again. Here are three important principles from Paul's message for us to seriously consider…

The human viewpoints and attitudes:
It is foolishness. vs. 18. So many people in Paul's time viewed the gospel as being foolish, the same is happening today, especially with some educated and affluent people.
It is a stumbling block. vs. 23. The religious people in Paul's time regarded the Gospel as a stumbling block to their lifestyles and religious rituals. It is still the same today.
It is weak. vs. 27. Humanistic and self-centred philosophies in Paul's time regarded the Gospel as being weak and reckoned that it is only for those who are weak and need help.

GOD'S choice:
The Gospel of CHRIST crucified and risen again. vs. 21, 22. GODS choice is the message of CHRIST crucified and risen again. Jesus Christ is the only hope for all lost human beings. Jesus is GODS power and wisdom unto salvation. He is our Message today.
The weak and foolish thing. GOD chose the things that many people regard as weak and foolish to shame the strong and the wise (vs. 27). ***It is GOD. vs. 30…***who offers us all this hope in Christ alone.
Our mandate and mission: ***Believe the Gospel.*** We must believe the Gospel in order for us to be saved. We must believe the Gospel in order for us to have an authentic message and ministries. Especially we who are evangelists and preachers of the Gospel. We must know our message well so that we can preach it with confidence and conviction. ***Preach the Gospel.*** This is our GOD-given mandate. This is our GOD-given command. This is our GOD-given hope for today.

'Let him who boasts boast in the Gospel' vs. 31.
Our message as evangelists – The Gospel of CHRIST crucified and risen again.
Our mandate and mission as evangelists – Preach the Gospel of CHRIST crucified and risen again.

Robert M Siakimotu
OACI President

THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE GOSPEL
GREAT BRITAIN, Dave Glover (National Director OAC GB)

Here in the UK we are a fairly mixed bunch of individuals from many different areas of the country, with a variety of backgrounds and skills. What binds us together is the Gospel, its message, and its proclamation. This year in Bristol, **'Reach the City'** gave us the ideal opportunity to pool our abilities and resources and come together in a training and outreach opportunity that would make a lasting impression on the area and all those who took part. The UK staff were joined by others from the US, Austria and Albania, but an even greater international mix was to be found in the crowds that stopped to listen. Conversations went on late into the night as those from other faiths, and none, sought answers to their questions. Team members put into practice newly acquired skills, preaching for the first time in the open air and in local schools. Practical needs were met, a sleeping bag for a homeless woman, sandwiches for someone who was hungry. Best of all there were those who trusted Christ and for whom we continue to pray. One participant wrote, *"Someone said that Bristol was a city of new beginnings. Well, that is how it is in my spirit. I am entering into new beginnings in my life."* It was for us all a new venture and one that we are already planning to repeat next year. Maybe you will join us!

PHILIPPINES
Hello! Thank God for His wonderful works here through OAC. The Lord is good; He is using OAC materials in my preaching ministry when churches invite me to preach. I talk to the Pastors who attend our seminars. Pastor Anobleng in Polomolok used the method in their Vacation Bible School and good news ministry. He told me that every Sunday they used it in their Sunday school. Praise God! Pastor Reuben in Fatima near the airport told me that they also used the materials and methods in their Vacation Bible School, too. They used it as a Bible presentation in the pioneering work of newly graduated young people. Pastor Mario in Conel was so exited, he told me that it is very effective in his area especially in his Saturday outreach for children. Pastor Lumang used it when one member of his church died, every night he used it. (Continued….)

PHILIPPINES CONTINUED…

About us: We have our open-air ministry once a week, one meeting afternoon and one meeting at night. Praise God for the black light. I used this method during the summer workshop. Praise God that He opened a door to this school so that we can preach using this method. 21 students accepted Jesus Christ. Praise God!

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Open Doors In Southeast Asia

God is opening doors all over SE Asia. Rob George was there five times in 2006, each time spending at least a weekend in ***Singapore*** for ministry. The potential in the ***Philippines*** is enormous where Rob has trained a number of churches. In ***Indonesia*** Rob took assemblies and trained teachers in a large Christian school (with many non-Christian students). The school has a vision to plant schools in 1,000 villages! They are working with a teachers college that is being built next door to the school. Opportunities are increasing in ***Malaysia*** where Rob has worked in seven different locations in the last year. One of his Gospel Ideas booklets has been translated into Chinese and is being used in Malaysia among Chinese speakers, as well as in ***Taiwan***, where Rob has a contact with another large Christian school. A pastor in ***Thailand*** has asked for open-air training and this will be followed up at the right time. Please pray for the growth of our work and influence in this hugely populous part of the world.

ECUADOR

We belong to the Lord…

During the first week of September we hold an intensive seminar of evangelism with the members of a very small and poor church in the south of Quito. As we started with the seminar the Pastor said what a blessing it was to their church to have the ministry of Open air Campaigners. We held several meetings with them about 2 years ago.

ECUADOR CONTINUED….

He told us how they contacted a few families and had invited them to come to church after a film meeting and the public proclamation of the Gospel. He mentioned to us about a man called Henry Cevallos, a contact from a film meeting who was a drug dealer and consumer. Henry gave his life to the Lord, and the purpose of his life was completely changed after he came to Christ. He became a witness among other drug dealers and was passionate about sharing the Gospel with others. Henry, his wife and two children attended faithfully for a year and a half at this little church and were growing in the knowledge of Christ. Two months ago Henry was killed by one of his old friends from the drug world. Henry's wife and children moved to her parents at another town but continues to walk with the Lord. God has different plans for each of us and the Lord gave Henry the privilege not only to be saved but to give his life to our Saviour. ***"For none of us lives to himself alone and none of us dies to himself alone. If we live, we live to the Lord; and if we die, we die to the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord,"*** *(Rom 14: 7-8)*

ASSAM — INDIA

Greetings to you in Jesus' name.

Through your prayers we are all doing well in ministry here. Sir, through our ministry many people were converted. I really thank God for blessing our mission even though we are not faithful to God, but God is always faithful to us. (1) This village name is called TEKRILA. We did five open air meetings in this village, because whenever we do a programme, immediately people are converting. Before there were only seven Christian families, now they are twenty Christian families. (2) Another village is called MAPUNG. In 2004, we did open-air meetings that time only three Christian families. After we did programme Eight families were converted. Now they are eleven Christian families. (3) This village name is called KOPARA. In 2005 MAY we did open-air meetings. At five villages after our programme 28 people were converted. (4) 2004 December we did programmes at NOMATI colony base in Guwahati city. Yesterday a pastor come to our office and told me that through our programme 23 members were increased in his church. Now they are coming to church regularly. (5).This village name is called TITILIA. In 2005 we did three open-air meetings in this village. After seeing our programme village people were interested to know more about our Lord Jesus Christ. There is not even a single Christian in this village, but people were interested to know Jesus, so whenever we got time we use to go their village and share the Word of God. we gave counselling regularly to them. Now four family members were converted! Every Sunday they are worshipping God inside His house, that's the O A C fruit ministry in ASSAM. I really thank God for all these things. Here are some photos. Please continue to pray for us, so that we can reach more places in the coming days, Thank You.

Yours in Christ.

S.K. O A C. ASSAM.

CANADA

Presenting the Gospel at a School in Mexico

Hi, The Lord is good and gave us many blessings on the trip to Guadalajara, Mexico, and surrounding areas. We saw thousands of people in our meetings with 100's responding. May there be fruit that will remain. We had a wide variety of ministry venues that included schools, a prison, alcoholic rehab. centre, hospital, plazas, parks, a church, and downtown and neighbourhood city streets. We had a unique team of 10 people from six different nationalities (New Zealand, Hong Kong, Canada, USA, Mexico and Switzerland) and ages 60's, 50's (me), 40's, 30's, 20's and teens. The Lord answered prayer as we experienced team unity and physical health and strength during an exhausting schedule of 36 meetings. The drama team could probably do their part in their sleep. I want to thank each of you who partnered with us on this mission through giving and praying. I feel the trip was of the Lord and was used of Him for the advancement of the Kingdom. I have attached some photos of the ministry.
Lord Bless, Chip Welton.

GREAT BRITAIN—Bristol

Good Crowds for Open Air

This went really well; we had about 60 on the team, half and half OAC Staff and participants. We had three sessions simultaneously:

Daytime: one group of professionals taking out open-air teams into the shopping area at lunchtimes and by the waterfront in the evenings. They were joined by the second group, consisting of trainers and trainees who had been practicing all day, and the third group were the children's work learners.

Evening: Classes in puppets, children's work, mime, Gospel magic, and sketch board for adults. Korky reckons about 1,000 conversations took place of which 300 were very serious, and half a dozen people were converted.
Anni.

AUSTRIA

Reach The City

Vienna (July 14 to 20, 2006) took place for the 10th time. This summer we had one of the smallest teams ever but the 40 participants were highly motivated to share the Gospel. A number of them want to continue coming on the street with us. Irmi is one of those. Before the week she was afraid that she would not be welcome in the team and wondered if God could use her sharing the gospel. During the week she overcame her fear of speaking and did her first open-air message. Less than a month later she went to Poland where she will help a church in their evangelistic outreaches. On the last evening a group of participants (all from the same church in Vienna) got together to pray for God to come and change their church, getting more passionate about Christ and evangelism. Please pray that the excitement will turn into commitment in preaching the Gospel. During the past 10 years over 800 believers from over 10 different countries received training in evangelism.

GERMANY— Kick-start Your Faith!

Football World Cup in Germany - Kick-off 2006 – "kick-start your faith" This was the topic of a Christian network consisting of many churches and Christian organizations who have organized missionary activities during the Fifa Football World Cup. Nationwide there were 1,200 "Public Viewing Points" in church buildings where about 2 Million fans could watch the games on TV screens. In the evangelistic frame programmes people were invited to trust in Jesus. OAC evangelists had open-air outreaches in Cologne and Berlin where they used "the nicest minor issue in the world" (football) to speak about the main issue (Jesus). The passion for the games and the enthusiastic party atmosphere made it easy to get in touch with the people. We hope that many of them have got a kick-start to faith. God bless you all.

BOSTON USA

Sharing The Gospel 1 to 1 In The Neighbourhood

"During a weekly Bible club in a city called Brockton here in Massachusetts, the teaching consisted of the life of Moses. When we got to the Ten Commandments the kids were “all ears.” Two weeks later one of the mothers from the Brockton Bible club came to church. As we talked she mentioned how her son, Joel, loves coming to the club and talks about what he is learning. Because of the Ten Commandments Joel became a “sin inspector” according to his Mom and started saying things like, “You’re lying! That’s a sin. You’re using God’s name in vain. You’re a murderer.” Surprisingly, Joel’s Mom admitted that Joel said her, “Hey, Mom, you know when Fred stays the night with you, you’re committing adultery.” Again to my surprise, Joel’s Mom said, “At first I told him to stop talking like that. But then, I had to admit to him that he was right and what I was doing was wrong.” Since that time Joel and his mother have moved to a different apartment so they would be away from Fred. Praise the Lord for the power of His Word and His Spirit. And even the life of a child."

BRAZIL

Curitiba is a city of nearly three million in southern Brazil. Our OAC evangelists trained "Word of Life" students in open-air evangelism at their camp near this city. The students were specializing in music and sang like "angels." After a three-day seminar, they were taken downtown to proclaim the message of Christ. Hundreds were reached in six meetings as OAC evangelists and some of the students preached illustrated messages. Many prayed to trust Christ as Savior. When the students sang the Alleluia chorus after the last meeting (photo), the people were amazed and applauded, having never heard such beautiful singing on the street before. Soon the students would leave on a tour of many cities to sing in churches, and to use their training for evangelism in plazas and schools.

MEXICO

The "Circle of Silence" defines an area in Mexico where less that 2% are evangelical Christians. Our first Mexican evangelist lives and ministers in this area. Though steeped in idolatry, the people are open to hearing a clear proclamation of the Gospel. A crowd will usually gather quickly to watch a drama that ends with the crucifixion and resurrection of Christ, which is followed by an illustrated message in black light. Many come to take our decision booklets. In country towns, a film on Jesus will also draw a crowd. Schools are opening to our program on Biblical Values, in which we show films on AIDS and drugs and present Christ as the only answer. The photo shows high school students listening to the Gospel message. Churches are inviting our OAC Mexican evangelist to conduct training and open-air outreaches in their towns, and the Lord has just provided a new pick-up truck for his expanding ministry.

RUSSIA

Many Russians go to the Black Sea for their vacations in the sun. They swim, jet ski, ride parachutes behind speed boats, sunbathe, and walk endless hours on the huge promenades by the sea. There are even small rock bands and break-dancing exhibitions to entertain them. Russia is becoming Westernized, for good and for bad. Our OAC Russian evangelist and his church team have begun open-air outreaches to these people, many of whom were former Communists. In the photo, our evangelist proclaims the Gospel on a promenade near the Black Sea. Other meetings were held right on the beach, resembling the time when Christ spoke from Peter's boat. Many eagerly received New Testaments and were counselled about salvation. Truly , God has answered prayer for the people of the former Soviet Union.

TANZANIA

A school worker called Martha was trained with the sketch board and three more volunteers pledged to do the work in local schools.
Thank you for all you do.

OAC SWITZERLAND

Preaching The Gospel INSIDE!

(End of May 2006) Reaching out to Germany and France. The picture show a Swiss - American – Canadian team in front of a high school in Alsace, France, and the gas chambers of the concentration camp Struthof in that vicinity. It was so sad to hear the French students claim that the Bible is full of errors and that evolution would be proven science. They did not know the link between this atheistic theory and the millions who died in the gas chambers. Ephraim challenged them to give one scientific proof for the evolution theory. At first they laughed, but even after discussing the challenge among themselves they could not come up with an answer. That freed them up to look into the claims of God's Word and how HE has vindicated His Word through fulfilled prophecy. Archaeology has proven this over again. This was also the message in Germany and Switzerland. Once the thirst for God's Word was awakened, discussions would follow for up to 2 hours. Some even accepted Gospel literature and promised to study the claims of Jesus Christ.

God bless

THAILAND

Thailand trip, Marty Scheib, July 2006. The main aim of our trip was to try the idea of running short English-speaking camps in local schools. We ran a one and a half day camp for all the senior students on Friday and invited any who wanted to come back on Saturday morning; two-thirds came.

We worked with "The Good News Team", a great bunch of mostly young and enthusiastic Thai's led by two amazing Kiwi ladies who have served the Lord in Thailand for many years. They were very pleased with how the camp worked out and are keen to work together again. The principal of the school invited us back, and another principal came to see what we were doing, went away and typed up an official letter inviting us to do the same programme in his school. The Thai children were shy at first but very respectful. They particularly enjoyed some things we did, like magic, songs, sound effects, sausage and heart balloons, muppets and parachute games. They were particularly enthusiastic when we played the game Zonk which is a fun review game.

HIGHLIGHTS

News In Brief...

ROMANIA CAMPS 1 & 2. On June 22. Julie, Sally (Harvestfields Christian Fellowship) and I set off for Romania with a full van including 'craft stuff' for two of the three summer camps being held at Bethany camp. The theme of this year's camps was, "Where are you taking me Lord?" using Joseph's life as an example. It's strange at this point because you never know what is ahead? Will the trip be a success? What has God got in store for us? Well, we didn't know, but we trusted Him. We arrived in Alba Iulia on the 24th and started the first camp on the 26th. There were 25 children aged 6-12, and each day Sally and Julie did a different craft with them. By the end of the week ten of the children had asked Jesus to change their lives.

Evangelism CAMPAIGN through towns of Slovakia

Power of prayer: During the Campaign we heard from the radio that in our mountains, High Tatras, a 10 year old boy was lost. They didn't find him for three days and two nights! People from my team were especially touched by this bad news. As we heard it we started to cry out for this boy individually. That night I saw that rescuers found him. The next morning again was news, so before our children's program started I suggested we call together to the Lord for this boy. We did. We took time to ask God for mercy and life for this boy, and God heard prayers! After a short time the boy was found! Our joy was and is enormous. I think that not only did we prayed for him, but many other Christians who heard it, too, and we could practically see how strong an instrument prayer is and how powerful it is!

SUMMER OUTREACH PARAGUAY

At one particular school here in a suburb in Asuncion, we found out that the students had been told there would be no classes that evening because a special presentation would be given. The parents were also notified. We were told that there might not be many students because of this. We prayed that the Lord would bring the people who were ripe for the Gospel. He did! The crowd consisted mainly of parents and several acknowledged responding to the Gospel. One lady had a huge smile on her face and kept saying how blessed they were that night for us to be there. Before the meeting had started, a young boy was noticed. He was a student from the afternoon session of school but said he'd stay and watch, which he did. At the end, one of the high school team members, along with an OAC member who went to translate, shared the Gospel with him. He prayed right there in the courtyard of the school to accept Christ! It was not only a blessing for this young man, but an encouragement for this team member to lead someone to Christ! There were tears of joy and prayers of thanksgiving for this opportunity!!

Please pray for…

MEXICO Misael and Taira Hernandez are still trying to get OAC Mexico registered with the Mexican government. The process has been difficult. Please pray for open doors and for wisdom for all who are involved.

CANADA For Henry de Roos and the Canadian staff as they plan and organize the International Conference in 2008

FIJI For Anasa Cagilaba, a new OAC staff member as he works with his volunteers in Lautoka and as he seeks to develop the ministry in the city and the surrounding towns. For Tevita Tamani and his volunteers as they continue to preach the Gospel in the open air. Pray that the city council will continue to grant the permits to preach in the open air in Suva City.

SLOVAKIA Pray for Katrina Bencova and her sister as they continue to share the Gospel with the Gypsies, children and young people as they speak at the young people's camps

INDIA Pray for God's protection for all the OAC evangelists as they preach the Gospel in medieval villages, and also for God's provision of resources so that they can do the job effectively.

SOUTHEAST ASIA (Singapore, Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand) Pray for Rob George as he continues to travel and minister in the above countries and also for wisdom to know when and how to establish an OAC branch in those countries.

LATVIA For David Glover and Stuart Burnside as they work through the process of having Latvia as an official OAC country, especially the legal aspect of this whole process

PARAGUAY, BRAZIL, ECUADOR & MEXICO (American Zone—Overseas Ministry) Pray for God's wisdom and leadership as they establish and develop a new zone. Nothing is confirmed at this stage, but a lot of prayer, dialogue and planning we already happening within the present established OAC Zones and the staff of the above countries.

Generally:

- Pray for more committed evangelists to join the staff of OAC Internationally.
- Pray for the new countries that we are planning to establish OAC branches in over the next 3-4 years.
- Pray for all the staff of OAC worldwide, including the associate staff and the leadership in each country where OAC is established.
- Pray for many more lives to be reached and impacted with the gospel of Christ in the coming 12 months in OAC braches around the world.

From left to right. Rob George (Australia) Myself (OACI President), Anasa Cagilaba, Tevita Tamani (OAC Fiji staff). Lew Meyer (NZ) at our 2006 Zone meeting in Suva.

IS GOD CALLING YOU?

Never before have there been so many opportunities to be involved in missions; so many open doors, and so many people coming to Christ. Is God calling you to become involved?

Consider the following opportunities on the front line of evangelism with OAC:

- Overseas mission trips
- Summer and short term missions
- Career ministry as an evangelist or administration staff

If you can't be involved directly, prayerfully consider helping to support an OAC national evangelist, who is reaching his own countrymen for Christ. For details contact one of our offices below:

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OAC International is an interdenominational ministry of evangelism committed to preaching the gospel to the un-reached through open air and other outreaches in partnership with the church. Since 1892