

# Foreword

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The impact of this ministry on my life started way back in 1958 when I arrived at Moody Bible Institute and met some of the young leaders of Open Air Campaigners (OAC) who were studying but also leading outreach in the streets. I soon joined them for open-air ministry there in Chicago and, in God's providence, met Dick Griffin, who, like me, wanted to learn about this ministry. We became lifelong friends and my successor for the early work in Mexico.

Through the years, different Operation Mobilization (OM) leaders and leaders of other organizations have been mentored and helped by the dynamic workers of OAC; this book tells of the continuing story. We, above all else, give thanks for all our great God has done. I was surprised to note how many different nations OAC ministers in; truly, only heaven will tell the whole story, as this book can only give a taste.

Two individuals in OM History who have been the best examples of OAC-type outreach are Ray Lentzsch (now with Jesus) and Micky Walker, who is mentioned in the chapter on Ireland. Many thousands have professed faith through these men as a result of their open-air ministry. They have taken many with them and passed on the vision and methods. They both especially did that when living on our ships.

I give thanks to all the OAC co-workers and prayer partners who have kept this pace-setting movement going around the world. I especially thank God for those who have supported the ministry and workers financially. I am sure they will be among the most enthusiastic about this book. I hope you will not just read it, but get extra copies to give to others.

~ George Verwer ~

Founder, Operation Mobilization

