

USA “Unleash the Power” Operation Report

July 10-31, 2007

Overview

The United States of America has emerged in the 21st century as one of the largest mission fields in the world. Although many church leaders are seemingly ignoring this fact, the number of “unchurched” Americans is growing at an astronomical rate. A March 2007 survey by The Barna Group revealed that the number has now reached 100 million. Most Americans are disillusioned with the existing church government and leadership, structure, programs, and services. In addition, the center of Christianity throughout the world has now shifted to the Asian people of the Pacific Rim and the people of Sub-Sahara Africa.

This operation was a follow-up to a reconnaissance journey to ten churches in the states of Ohio and Michigan conducted in May, 2006, with James Murunga of Kenya. At the conclusion of that operation, we began conducting monthly regional prayer summits at Fremont, Ohio, involving a number of pastors and churches. In addition, the Holy Spirit led us to focus special attention on a new church in Willard, Ohio, named, Dominion Church. Several 5-Fold Global Partners assisted at various times in both USA operations including James Murunga of Kenya, Sampson Dorkunor of Ghana, Santhosh Desabattula of India, Arman Davtyan of Armenia, George Ogele of Benin, and Margret Murebuyire of Rwanda. The spiritual agreement in the assessment of these veteran leaders regarding the condition of the USA churches concurred with recent and reliable research and also provided the major thrust of this operation to unleash God’s power upon the churches in the USA. This may explain why the spiritual and logistical framework for this operation was so slow and difficult in development.

5-Fold Global Ministries faced two obstacles to continue with the timing of the operation: 1) the forming of the apostolic team and the visa process; 2) finances to help get them here. God used George Ogele of Benin to encourage us to be at peace and trust the Lord. He wrote on May 14 and again on June 13:

“We are praying that the Lord meets this need. However, if He does not meet it, let it not bother you. Just do the natural and leave the supernatural to Him. The silver and the gold are His. If He gives us, we come. If He does not, we leave it until He tells us to come.”

“I will join you in prayers as always. It is only God's will that must prevail. I believe the devil knows what is about to happen and is fighting to frustrate us. Remember Umuaja Deliverance program of last year. The devil fought so hard that I had almost cancelled it but when I insisted and stepped out to go ahead, it turned out to be the best program we have had. As regards the number of people for the team, strength and power to minister come from the Lord. If God provides only three persons, those are the people He wants for the program. Satan is not more powerful than our God. If God wants us to be more, he will approve more visas for us. Let us trust him.”

Immediately following these words of encouragement, we were informed by Dana Gammill, Senior Pastor of Cathedral of Life Ministries in Canton, Ohio, that the church was giving finances to help bring the apostolic team to the USA. In addition, the church would host a Mission's Sunday for the team. This was in direct answer to our prayers and confirmed again that the operation should go forth.

Highlights

JUL 10-12: The battle to get our leaders here was very intense. Although several were in country, they were not available for this specific operation so we had them serve to prepare the way. Arman Davtyan of Armenia (May), Sampson Dorkunor of Ghana (June), and Santhosh Desabattula of India (early July) each laid an excellent spiritual foundation for the operation. Somehow Samuel Isong of Nigeria never received his official letter of invitation. Kanito Tomas of Uganda was denied a visa and travel finances became entangled with Africa Resource Ministries headed by a less than honorable man named, Dr. Winston Hurlburt. After weeks of spiritual battle and communications with this man, we finally received a check on September 25. However, there still remains an amount provided by the churches of Uganda, which was given by our partners to this man. Our partners in Kampala have had to report the case to the authorities. God has led 5-Fold Global Ministries to send finances as soon as possible to Kanito Tomas so the offerings can be returned to the churches in order that the people can be encouraged for future giving. In addition, we received news that Musoni Wilberforce of Rwanda had also been denied a visa. In the midst of such a battle, we praised God that George Ogele received a visa. He arrived in Canton, Ohio, on July 9. Also, our partners in Rwanda prayed and were led by the Holy Spirit to send Margret Murebuyire in their place. This strategy worked and she arrived on July 18.

JUL 13-15: We arrived in Willard, Ohio, to conduct a Firepower Conference at Dominion Church. The enemy knew we were coming and that we were coming for war to enforce Christ's victory over the city. George Ogele of Benin, West Africa, and Brother Michael provided anointed preaching and teaching that released God's power of deliverance upon the people and over the city. George began on Friday evening with a message from Luke 5:17-26 entitled, *"Knock Off the Roof!"* He said, *"You must break through today. You must take an extra step to obtain the extraordinary. The power of God is real! Where the power of God is preached, it is a power generator. It is for an assignment. Power is what the word of God is about. Today, a lot of people do not see the power. The power is there to help them. If you believe Him, power is in you. We have the Holy Spirit in us. We are power carriers. We are sent as a power carrier. I tell the voodoo people, 'you can't touch me. I have the power of God in me!' The four men knocked off the roof. When you get close to Jesus, He heals. When you create an atmosphere for miracles, miracles will come. You can still overtake!"* The next day George and Michael taught workshops to lay down a spiritual warfare strategy to impact the city. Saturday, July 14, is a day that will be remembered at

Dominion Church. Four "Firepower Teams" were sent into four districts of the city while a fifth remained in the sanctuary to intercede for us. Many strongholds over the city were broken by the power of God flowing through us. One new believer attending Dominion Church was working at a gas station when two young men in their twenties stood gazing at one of our Firepower Conference posters. He told them about the conference and the guest speaker from Africa whose hometown is known for voodoo. One of the young men said he served "contra" or something that sounded like that. He went on to say his god was most powerful. Then he pulled a "dagger" (small knife) out of a little black bag, cut his finger, and put blood on a dollar bill while chanting. He handed it to the new believer working in the gas station and said "Whoever touches this dollar will be under my god's power." He went on to say that his god had the power over the city of Willard. The new believer responded "Greater is He that is in me, than he that is in the world." These two men were serving Satan through Wicca. This witchcraft is now broken over the city of Willard. In the evening service, a 14 year old boy prophesied *"It is finished! It is finished! Claim this town! Be flooded with My power. It is finished!"* An 11 year old girl also prophesied in the same service, *"I am returning soon and very soon. Get ready My warriors! Put on your armor. The water is rushing through. Walk with Me and My army. Be ready."* Believers of Dominion Church are now rushing to share Jesus at every opportunity. There was much deliverance during the services as George and Michael preached with apostolic power. Most importantly, there was the transfer of power over the city. We returned to Canton knowing we had fought hard for the cause of Christ and that we had victoriously prevailed for His glory.

JUL 16-22: The week was filled with meetings with individual pastors and fellowship groups. George spent a day with Walter Moss, Senior Pastor of New Beginnings Foursquare Church. He also ministered at a home fellowship group of young people. Margret Murebuyrie of Rwanda joined us during the week. The next day we were all interviewed on the regional TBN program. We enjoyed a 5-Fold Global cook out on Saturday with Walter Moss, Dave & Heidi Daniels and the Pastor Chad Honaker family of Willard.

JUL 22: The Missions Sunday at Cathedral of Life in Canton was an opportunity for the team to minister in a larger context with multiple services totaling around a thousand people. Gerald and Aisa Ole-Nguyaine of Tanzania were also invited to join the team for this special occasion. Gerald is a student in the Doctor of Ministry program at Ashland Theological Seminary and Michael is his advisor. The team faced several challenges on this day. A man suddenly appeared pulling cash out of his pocket and giving it to each team member at the beginning of the first service. This was embarrassing and a little condescending to the team; however, the pastor quickly handled the situation in a mature manner. There was also undue pressure placed upon Margret to speak loudly in a more Pentecostal style and there was a concern with her level of English. God showed Michael this was unfair and to only trust Jesus. Margret preached a most powerful message entitled, *"Position in Your Position"* and she preached it in the style and manner ordained by the Holy Spirit. Any perceived lack of speaking the English language or voice quality was quickly overcome by the Holy

Spirit. Margret began by sharing her life in Uganda during the genocide period in Rwanda and how she and her husband prayed for the restoration of their native land. Finally, when they returned to Rwanda, it was not easy with no place and no home. They only believed in the Lord. *"If you are called by God, He will stand with you. Wherever I step I see the way. In the church believers have gone away from their positions. I have today because I position myself. I position and focus my eyes on the Lord."* She testified how she, as a woman, prayed for six months concerning the radio ministry. Today her daily program reaches five nations (Rwanda, Uganda, Burundi, Congo, and Tanzania). George followed in the second service with a message on "sons of the throne." He also presented a flag of Benin to the pastor. In the evening service, Gerald shared his powerful testimony of salvation and deliverance as a young Maasai man in Tanzania. This was followed by a sudden and powerful release of God's power upon the people in fulfillment of a prophecy given earlier in the service.

JUL 23-26: The apostolic team attended an ACT (Alliance for Community Transformation) Strategy Team meeting. This group of pastors has been meeting weekly for prayer and twice each month for strategic planning over the region. The team believed we were led to bring to their attention a concern about an upcoming speaker's concept of angels. Although we had only a brief time to research the matter, we had concluded that there was a link with the beliefs of William Branham (1909-1965) who reported he was guided by an angel who first appeared to him in a secret cave in 1946. Branham declared he was given the power to discern people's illnesses and thoughts through this angel. He later proclaimed himself to be the angel of Revelation 3:14 and 10:7. We knew nothing of the speaker being promoted; however, it was evident that some of those he was associated with held Branham in high regard as well as his beliefs concerning angels. Of special note, was the speaker's claim that the late Benson Idahosa of Nigeria had this same angel assigned to him named "Breakthrough Revival." George is presently researching this claim in Africa. The pastors respectfully confronted us on the matter and wisely agreed to send two from their group to meet with the speaker. This they did concluding there was no problem with the speaker and that his ministry was good for them and the city. After the meeting, George and Margret joined Walter Moss for the Joy Radio Program. In the evening, George ministered at New Beginnings Foursquare Church in Canton while Margret and Michael traveled to Willard where Margret preached at Dominion Church. Many sought out Margret for prayer after the message. There continued to be evidence of a special release of God's power through her in ministry to the people.

JUL 27-29: We arrived in Atlanta, Georgia, for the Apostolic Leadership Conference. We had received a schedule; however, the focus for the Conference had been changed by the leadership in Atlanta to one of spiritual warfare. Apparently, this was in response to our brief report on the Firepower Conference in Willard, Ohio. This concerned us, but we came prepared to serve and obey the Lord. Our host, Boniface Sentura, has a heart for refugee families arriving from Africa. We learned from an Atlanta lawyer and volunteer with World Vision that 20,000 African refugees come to Atlanta each year. This provides a

great opportunity for ministry; however, the mindsets of former refugees who have been in the USA for a number of years remain much the same as when they arrived. We quickly discovered that the Conference schedule would not be followed at all. Attempts by the team to engage in the ministry of the word received limited response and enthusiasm from the small group. On the first evening, Michael preached a very direct message from Luke 4:18 entitled, "Why are you here? Who sent you?" He drew a distinction between fleshly reasons and Godly reasons for coming to the USA. Two people expressed thanks for the message saying it was the first time someone spoke the truth about the real mindset of refugees. In the morning, the team attempted to present a Biblical strategy to gather and nurture refugees throughout the city. We gathered the small group around a table in the fellowship hall thinking this would be a better learning environment. We discovered there wasn't much tolerance for God's word as they continued to direct the teaching toward social issues like divorce among pastors. In the afternoon, Boniface asked us to take the people into the church sanctuary where George began to preach a timely message on "The City of Refuge." Boniface did not stay for the message as he was typically busy with transporting people and other things. Half the people departed midway through the message. We discussed our desire to discontinue what we were doing due to the dysfunctional environment, but we determined to fulfill our responsibility and stay. The next morning Margret departed with a family, George (unknown to us) was left stranded at his host home, and Michael was taken alone to a large high school to preach at a service of mostly Congolese. Upon his arrival, he noticed three services taking place at once in the building: An evangelical service, a Hispanic service, and the African service. The Holy Spirit rose up in Michael to preach on "Breaking down Walls" from Ephesians 2:14 not knowing that the pastor had preached a series on this a month earlier. Immediately after the service, the pastor contacted the other pastors to meet and to regularly conduct joint services in the future. This was a good conclusion to a very trying situation; this also marked the end of the USA Operation.

JUL 30: George departed for Richmond, Virginia, for rest with friends; Margret remained in Atlanta with a host family and to continue ministry in churches; Michael returned to Canton after a short visit with his son and family in Atlanta. 5-Fold Global Ministries was able to ensure each member of the apostolic team had the necessary connecting flights and/or bus arrangements for a safe return to their respective nations.

Lessons Learned

- The majority of churches in the USA are still structured and operating in the pastoral system of the 20th century. They are programmed and management driven and becoming more and more cloistered from their respective communities. There is talk, but very little indications of a genuine desire to transition into a new and more biblical model.
- American churches and church leaders need help from abroad.
- The future of the church depends upon our prayer today.

- The “Firepower Strategy” for taking cities for Jesus has a multi-cultural application and effectiveness. Also, offensive action by God’s people causes demons over cities to manifest leading to a transfer of power.
- Few USA churches have a confident post-warfare occupation strategy targeting the growing unchurched in their respective cities and regions. Existing church programs and scheduled events continue to be the normative strategy.
- Finishing an assignment in an unfruitful environment is still a good thing to do and can provide important lessons for future operations.
- It is wise to carefully examine a leader before entrusting him with God’s finances. Avoid using a middle man for visas, etc. and those who practice what is called, “the rob Peter pay Paul” handling of finances where designated funds are used for other purposes with the intention of restoring them at a later date. (Note: this cannot be legally done by churches and other non-profit organizations in the USA except by the approval of contributors)

Conclusion

This operation was a spiritual battle from start to finish. It was a battle between the kingdom of light and the kingdom of darkness; between God’s power and Satan’s. I recall George Ogele praying for a young man, a self-proclaimed Satanist, whose wife sang in the church choir. God demonstrated his power over Satan by putting that man on the floor like an idol god crumbling to the ground. This was not Africa or Indonesia or South America. This was the United States of America. The battle lines are clearly drawn. God has us on the offensive. The Kingdom of God will advance. George Ogele confirms this conclusion in his final report:

“And Jonathan said to the young man that bare his armor, Come, and let us go over unto the garrison of these uncircumcised: it may be that the LORD will work for us: for there is no restraint to the LORD to save by many or by few” (1Sam. 14: 6).

“As we were praying for this program, the devil attacked the ministry team. Visas were ostensibly denied the members of the team. Only two of us were blessed with visas. And it looked then as if the hand of God was not in the operation. At a point in our preparation, we contemplated the cancellation of it but just at that point, God spoke the above scripture to me and I passed it on to Dr. Gross who replied that it was a confirmation of what the LORD had spoken to him.

And as the operation started with the Fire Power conference in Willard Ohio, there was no longer any iota of doubt of its being God breathed. The Heavens opened! God backed us with tremendous signs, wonders, healings and miracles. This trend was evident wherever we went and there was a progressive build up of this anointing. This operation will remain very fresh in my mind for a very long time because of its devastating effects on the kingdom of darkness. I cannot forget the Satanists who openly challenged our onslaught on the city of Willard. They claimed to be in charge of the city but power changed hands on that day! The LORD took over the city! Praise His Holy name. Indeed God does not work by numbers. He uses what is available to accomplish His purpose on earth. He did this using the few of us who were privileged to be part of this great operation. His deeds were just awesome! Give Him Praise.” Dr. George E. Ogele, Divine Touch Ministries International, Benin, West Africa