



# Bold

O B E D I E N C E



International Leadership Institute



# Bold

O B E D I E N C E

B O L D L Y   E Q U I P P I N G   L E A D E R S   A N D   S P R E A D I N G   T H E   G O S P E L



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INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

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# Bold

## O B E D I E N C E

Do you want to connect more deeply with the power of God?

**Bold Obedience** is ILI's third book of inspiring stories and vivid images from men and women around the world who have experienced the power of God in their everyday lives. This book features many of ILI's top leaders who share personal moments when they were asked to take a step of faith and completely trust God.

Bold Obedience comes from bold faith and a direct result of your relationship with God. We pray these stories will inspire you to fully trust God and make a difference with your own life. Consider what happens to Peter, John, and others in Acts 4.

***"And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the Word of God boldly." — Acts 4:31***

May you, too, be encouraged and inspired by these stories to live out your faith with Bold Obedience.

Until all worship,



Wes and Joy Griffin  
International Directors

*Equipping Leaders. Spreading the Gospel. The International Leadership Institute changes history by accelerating the spread of the Gospel through leaders of leaders empowered by the Holy Spirit. ILI equips men and women with the Eight Core Values (see page 1) of the most effective Christian leaders who are fulfilling the Great Commission to "go and make disciples of all nations."*



# STAYING CONNECTED IS *powerful!*

When we stay connected to God, we grow deeper in our intimacy with Him. When we stay connected as the Body of believers, we learn, grow, and find encouragement. Connect now at [ILITeam.org](http://ILITeam.org).



## ONLINE LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Invest in your leadership skills by attending a LIVE, online ILI training event with other leaders. You will be equipped with the Eight Core Values of the most effective Christian leaders and inspired to discover and live out God's vision for your life.



## ONLINE DISCIPLESHIP COURSES

Grow your faith through ILI's free, online discipleship tool. Learn to have an intimate relationship with God, develop key spiritual disciplines, discover God's vision for your life, and much more. Complete courses at your own pace or with a friend for accountability.



## SOCIAL

Follow the ILI Global Team on Facebook, Instagram, and Vimeo! Search "International Leadership Institute"



## YouVersion DEVOTIONAL PLANS

Be encouraged and challenged during any season of life through Biblically-centered, short devotionals on the YouVersion Bible app written by ILI leaders from around the world. Complete plans individually or with a friend for accountability. Search for "International Leadership Institute" on the app.

## DARE TO ASK **GOD** WEEKLY INSPIRATION

Be challenged to grow deeper in your relationship with God through a weekly dose of inspiration written by ILI leaders. Sign up to receive Dare to Ask God emails today.

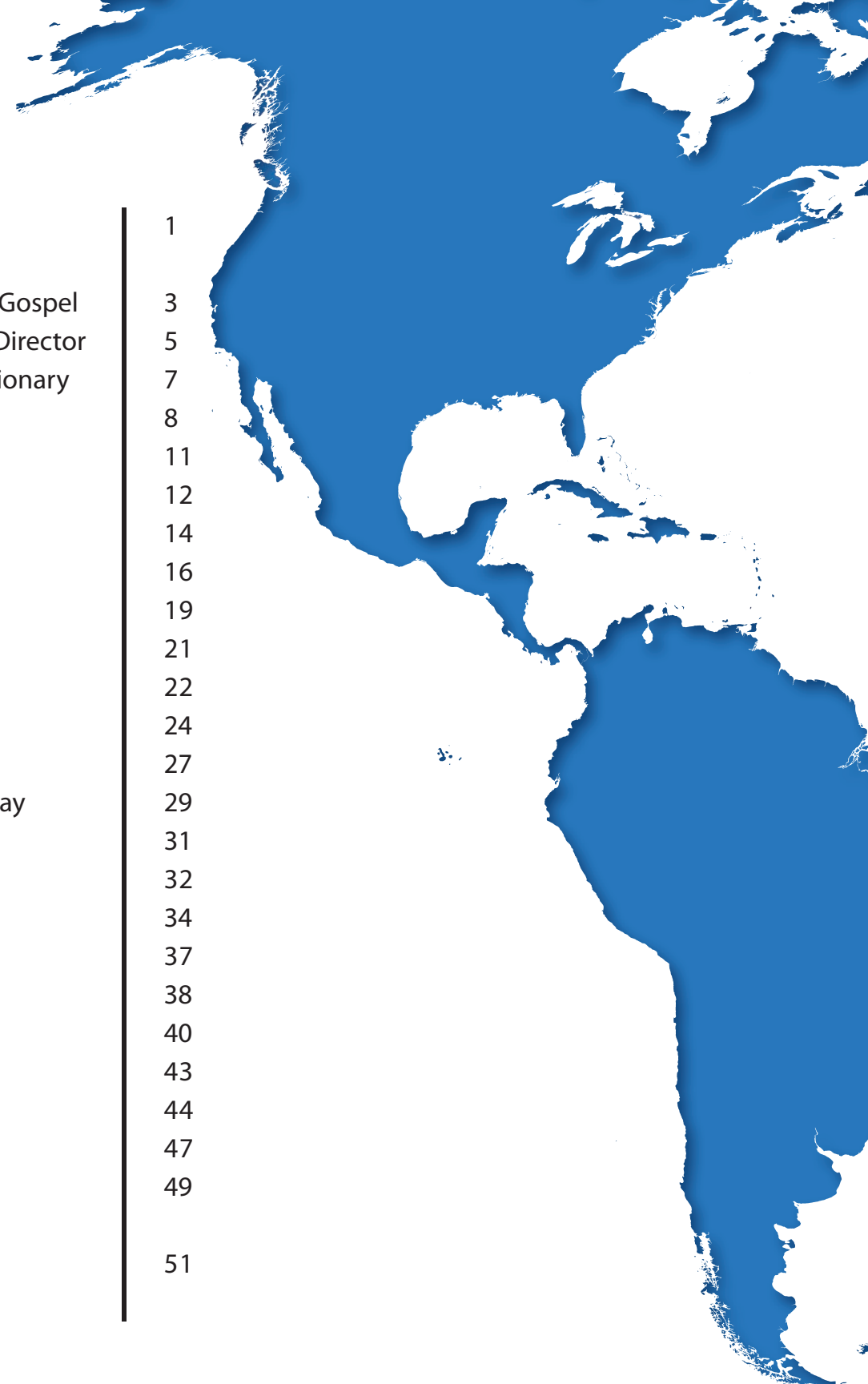
*connect*



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# Eight CORE VALUES

ILITEAM.ORG/COREVALUES

## VISION

CHANGE HISTORY BY  
ACCELERATING THE  
SPREAD OF THE GOSPEL  
THROUGH LEADERS OF  
LEADERS EMPOWERED BY  
THE HOLY SPIRIT

**INTIMACY**  
with God



**PASSION**  
for the Harvest



**VISIONARY**  
Leadership



Culturally Relevant  
**EVANGELISM**



**MULTIPLICATION**  
of Leaders



**FAMILY**  
Priority



Faithful  
**STEWARDSHIP**



**INTEGRITY**







Unbelievers Become  
**FOLLOWERS OF CHRIST**



Followers Become  
**DISCIPLES**



Disciples Become  
**EFFECTIVE WORKERS**



**LEADERS** are  
**EQUIPPED**



The Needs of the  
**HURTING ARE MET**



**NEW CHURCHES**  
are Planted



Lives are  
**TRANSFORMED**

# Seven **OUTCOMES**

[ILITEAM.ORG/OUTCOMES](http://ILITEAM.ORG/OUTCOMES)

**MISSION**

TRAINING AND

MOBILIZING LEADERS

OF LEADERS TO REACH

THEIR NATIONS WITH


THE GOSPEL OF

JESUS CHRIST









**Global: Wes Griffin—A Lifelong Call to Equip Leaders and Spread the Gospel.** Dr. Howard Seeman’s voice jolted me awake as I heard him say to Joy, “Wake him up. I’ll be right back.” A few minutes later he took both of my hands, looked into my eyes with great empathy and said, “You have colon cancer. It is serious. You need to go directly to see a surgeon.”

“WES, I DON'T BELIEVE YOU ARE GOING TO DIE FROM CANCER... GOD HAS A VISION FOR YOUR LIFE.”

### My entire body went numb.

Only 37 years old and far too young to be checking for colon cancer, the diagnosis was surreal. Just three days earlier, Dr. Seeman and I had played tennis together. I shared about a seemingly small issue, and he said, “Let me run some tests. Don’t worry, it won’t be anything serious.” More tests confirmed I had stage three colon cancer. Leaving the hospital, God clearly spoke a Scripture deep in my heart, “*I waited patiently for the Lord; and He inclined to me and heard my cry. He brought me up out of the pit of destruction, out of the miry clay*” (Psalm 40:1-2 NASB).

Joy and I had been married for twelve years. Hannah and Caleb were eight and six years old. Major surgery was followed by grueling regimens of radiation and chemotherapy. I was weak and struggling. Each day, I told myself, “Don’t die today. Keep fighting.” At my lowest moment, three friends called me within eighteen hours of each other. Paul Baddour called in the afternoon, Wes Hall called that night, and Polly Poole called the next morning. Without consulting one another, they each spoke the exact same words,

“Wes, I don’t believe you are going to die from cancer. I believe God has a vision for your life, and when God reveals it, I want to help you.”

The battle with cancer in my body continued, but my spirit was renewed. Once again, Joy and I began seeking God’s vision for our lives. Just nine short months later, a team of people motivated by a bold obedience to the Gospel of Jesus Christ consecrated a new organization to equip leaders and spread the Gospel, the International Leadership Institute.

*Wes and Joy, along with Paul, Wes, Polly, and other leaders from around the world, are co-founders at the International Leadership Institute (ILI). Their personal story of bold obedience in the face of great challenges is intricately woven into ILI’s history. The Griffins have traveled to more than 75 nations as the organization has grown from a single training event in 2001 to a global movement of more than 325,000 alumni in over 120 nations.*





GLOBAL





**Global: Joy Griffin—From Farm Girl to Co-Founder and International Director.** *“Dear God, I know I am just a child, and I have parents, and school, and I have to grow up. But when I do get grown, if there are still people in the world that do not know about you, I would love to go tell them.”*

This was my prayer as I knelt in sawdust at a camp meeting altar, responding to a clear invitation to foreign missionary service. I marvel at how Jesus beautifully orchestrated my life to bring to pass the desire and commitment He put in my heart at the age of 13. Yet, the dream looked physically impossible after I was paralyzed from a diving catch during a championship softball game.

A HUMBLE,  
GODLY MAN  
PRAYED FOR  
ME. INSTANTLY,  
I WAS  
MIRACULOUSLY  
HEALED!

The diagnosis I received was almost as paralyzing... I was told I would never walk again nor ever have children. Medical science and specialists could do nothing to help me.

Eighteen months after that accident, a humble, godly man prayed for me as I laid flat on my back. Instantly, I was miraculously healed! I could run, jump, and do every physical activity, but what is more significant is what God did in my heart during the year and a half I was paralyzed. I learned who the Holy Spirit is, and how He longs to do a second work of grace in the believer’s heart, cleansing us of pride and selfish ambition.

I made a complete surrender of my life to Him; I was gloriously sanctified and filled with the Holy Spirit.

How precious the opportunity has been to minister around the globe with Wes and our children, Hannah and Caleb. I never dreamed as a little girl growing up on a dairy farm I would ever set foot on an airplane, much less preach and teach in scores of countries. I have such joy seeing God save, sanctify, deliver, and heal in the unreached, far away places where I feel called. Obedience to Jesus is pure privilege. The dictionary defines “bold” as the ability to take risks and to be confident and courageous. For me, boldness is easy when I have His presence and anointing.

*Wes and Joy met while they were both students at Asbury Theological Seminary. God gave them two precious children, Hannah and Caleb. Today, Hannah is an Atlanta-based fine artist. Caleb is a producer and videographer based in Texas. Since the early years of founding ILLI, Wes and Joy stand in awe at God’s faithfulness to His Word and this ministry!*







SOUTH AMERICA



**Brazil: Norival and Cristina Trindade—From Local Surgeon to Global Missionary.** I was working as a surgeon and living in a prosperous Brazilian community with my wife, Cristina. Our future looked bright, but as we huddled around two of our best friends to pray and commission them to full-time ministry, I got the sense our entire lives were about to change.

As we said “Amen,” Cristina and I exchanged one glance, and we knew God had spoken to our hearts.

“GOD CALLED  
YOU TO ONE  
NATION. NOW,  
HE WILL  
SEND YOU TO  
MANY.”

He was calling us to take our two children, leave the medical practice, our home, and everything we knew to serve as missionaries in a foreign country. The Lord had been preparing us for this moment. Paraguay seemed to be where He was leading, but what would the mission look like? How would our two small children adjust to such a big change? The questions filled our minds, but as we prayed, the calling became stronger.

Five days later, my father, who planted the Methodist denomination in Paraguay, shared that his team had been given a fully equipped mobile medical unit. That was our confirmation. After seminary, our family moved to Asuncion, Paraguay to launch the medical mission. For the next ten years, we provided care to thousands of impoverished Paraguayans, assisted in church planting, and mentored numerous men and women. The ministry was growing, but our hearts began to feel a burden for leaders and unreached people around the world. Three times, we received the same prophetic word from different individuals:

“God called you to one nation. Now, He will send you to many.”

As we prayed and wrestled with this prophecy, a special encounter happened. In 1998, Wes Griffin visited our mission. He shared the vision for a new organization, and we experienced a nudge from the Holy Spirit. God was asking us to take another bold step, so we accepted the invitation to join ILI's founding team. God's Word spoken over us came to pass. We now travel to work with thousands of leaders around the world on the ILI Global Team.

*Norival and Cristina are founding members of ILI. Norival serves as Vice President of Training, and Cristina serves as Associate Director of Training. Together, they lead ILI's Global Team, overseeing a movement of more than 100 national teams equipping leaders and multiplying the Eight Core Values.*

**South Asia: Peter and Esther—The Sun Will Come Up.** My wife, Esther, and I spent months praying over the decision to move our family to South Asia for mission work. Finally, we decided to go on one condition: that our children felt the calling as well. Our two sons agreed merrily, but Rebekah, our daughter, was hesitant.

“What about my friends, my family?” Rebekah questioned with deep concern.

“I don’t know,” I answered honestly. “We won’t go unless you are willing, but if you go, God will bless you.” Rebekah sat in silence for a moment. She knew the decision would not be easy. Then, in an act of bold obedience, she decided to trust God and move to South Asia.

The first few months in a new country were difficult. The school was overcrowded, and the children faced bullying for being American. Our 900 square foot home had only fans to keep us cool in temperatures often rising over 100 degrees. The children suffered quietly, never sharing with us the loneliness and exhaustion they were feeling. One night, Esther and I awoke to the sound of sobbing. Lying on her bed with her fan blasting and sweating profusely, we found Rebekah weeping from the intense heat.

This father’s heart was crushed.

In desperation, I cried out to the Lord, “We have to leave. It is not fair for the children to suffer this way.” Tears streaming down my cheek, I assured Rebekah, “Daddy will take you back.” Her answer impacted me, my family, and South Asia forever.

“No, Daddy. In just a few hours, the sun will come up, and I will be okay.”

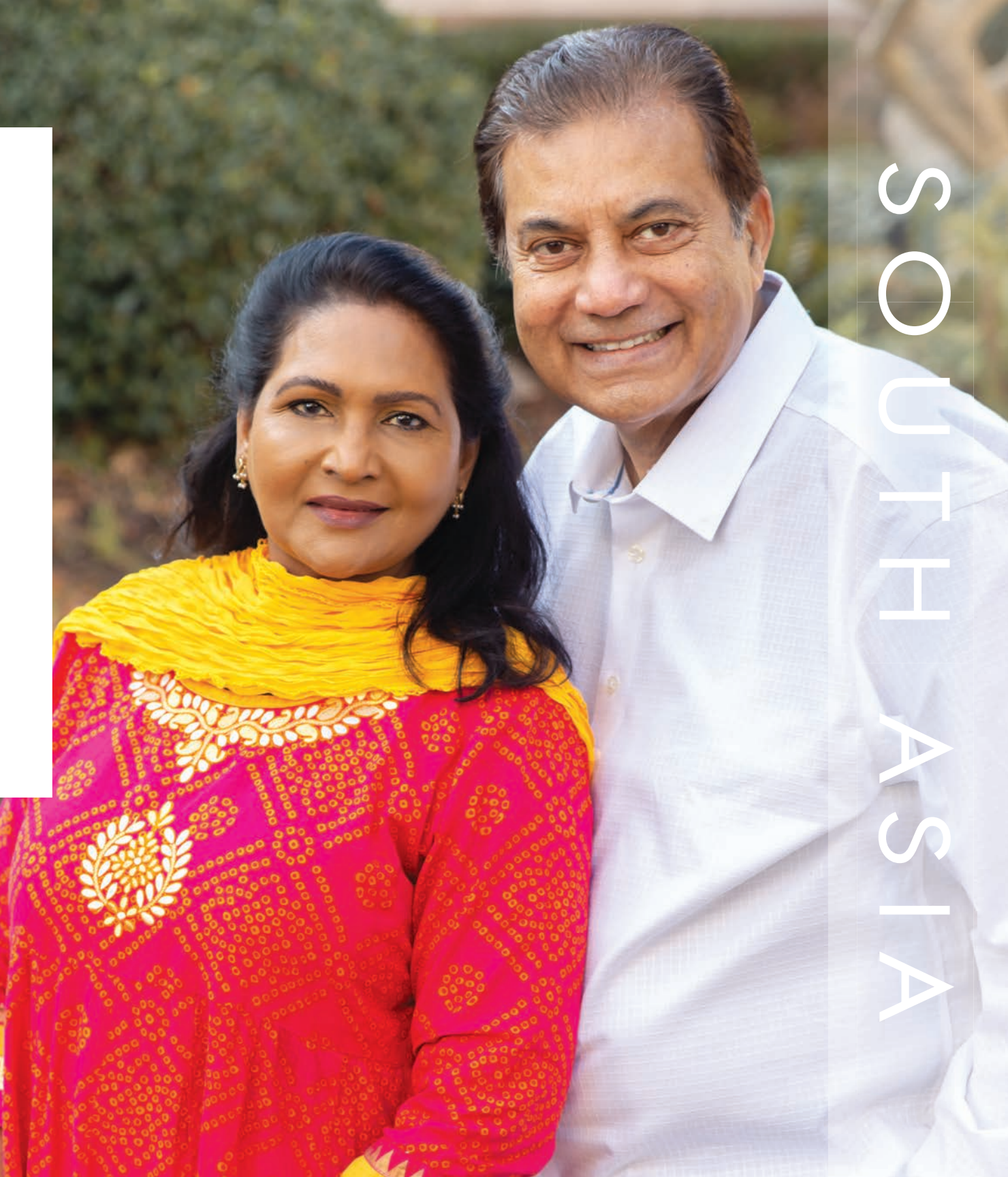
I knew she meant the sunrise, but God so clearly spoke through her words. The Son, Jesus, would be made known to my family during this dark season, and we would be okay. Now, 30 years later, thousands of house churches are gathering to worship the Lord, Christian leaders are being equipped daily, and countless children are being given new futures.

*Peter serves as the ILI International Director of South Asia. Peter and Esther lead Hope for Today ministries throughout South Asia, a ministry of the International Leadership Institute. Peter is a founding member of the ILI Team, serving as faculty at the first International Conference in 2001.*

SHE WAS  
WEEPING  
FROM THE  
INTENSE HEAT.  
THIS FATHER'S  
HEART WAS  
CRUSHED.











EAST AFRICA



**Kenya: David Thagana—Crossing the Border, Risking My Life.** I sat at the 2018 Global Summit with leaders from around the world as Wes and Joy expressed their hearts in launching ILI's Bold Obedience Campaign to globally accelerate the spread of the Gospel. The challenge was initiated, and in my heart I asked...

"What does bold obedience look like in my life?"

While praying and fasting, God placed a burden on my heart to leave my home nation of Kenya and go into two nations where the Gospel is heavily restricted. Persecution occurs daily for our Christian brothers and sisters in those nations.

WE KNEW  
THE RISK BUT  
COUNTED IT  
WORTHY OF  
EVEN OUR  
LIVES.

Our team knew entering these nations to spread the love of Jesus could cost us our lives, but we counted the mission worthy. For months, we communicated in secret with a contact in one of the nations to secure plans for a leadership training conference. Realizing the danger ahead and understanding this trip could be my last, I packed my bag, dressed in the national attire, and loaded 35 ILI Christian leadership notebooks in a suitcase.

Landing in the nation, I glanced up while in the security checkpoint to see the notice:

"The attempt to transfer any Christian literature is punishable by life in prison or death," a regulation I was unaware of until that moment.

My heart began to race as the security guard motioned me over while viewing my bag on the scanner. Despite the great risk, I continued to feel the peace of God. After heavy questioning and uncomfortable glares, I was released to enter the country, my bag and all its contents, untouched. I entered the conference through three locked doors. Waiting in the room were eager Christian leaders, risking reputation, family, and even their lives to be equipped with the Eight Core Values to help them spread the Gospel in their nation. Their passion gripped

my heart. The Holy Spirit filled the room, and that's when I realized, these people, this nation, will never be the same.

*David is the ILI International Director of Africa English. He attended the first ILI International Conference in 2001. Together with his wife, Joyce, David founded Glory Outreach Assembly (GOA) in Kenya. GOA is focused on Church Planting, Compassion, Leadership Training, and Peace Building and Conflict Resolution.*



**Pakistan: Yaqub Paul—Sharing Jesus in the Face of Death.** As I stared down the barrel of a rifle surrounded by the Taliban in the middle of the North Pakistani mountains, the vast divide between my fleeting time on Earth and the expanse of eternity grew smaller. Holding onto my life was of little importance, and fear left my mind.

In that moment, as I was filled with the Holy Spirit, all that mattered was witnessing to one more soul about Jesus.

Moments earlier, our ministry team was driving through the mountains to share the Gospel in another city. Suddenly, we struck a large stone in the road. As our driver got out to check on the vehicle, men began running down from the mountain with guns aimed directly at us. Our driver quickly yelled to us, “Stay in the car. These are the Taliban, and they will open fire if you get out.” But I knew I heard the Lord telling me to speak, so I stepped out of the car.

All around me the assailants cocked their guns. Fingers went to the triggers. “Who are you?” one of the men shouted.

“I am a Christian,” I calmly replied.

“Then we are enemies,” he said confidently.

“No, we are not enemies. We are brothers,” I said.

“How can Muslims and Christians be brothers?” he asked incredulously.

“Look in the Quran and the Bible.” I explained, “Muslims came through Ishmael, the oldest son of Abraham. Christians came through Jesus, and Jesus came through Isaac, the youngest son of Abraham. We are not enemies. We are brothers.”

He stared at me, deeply contemplating what he had heard. Finally, after a long pause, he said, “No one has ever told us this. Give me a hug.” I embraced the Muslim man, and then, the Holy Spirit filled me with more boldness as I asked, “Can I pray for you?” He agreed, so I prayed for peace and blessings in Afghanistan. I also prayed for peace between the US and Taliban forces. When I finished praying, he was astounded. He said, “No one has ever prayed for us like that before.” We hugged again, and I got back in the car, fully aware that God had bridged an unimaginable gap.

*Yaqub was first equipped at the 2001 ILI International Conference in Atlanta, GA. He serves as the ILI National Coordinator of Pakistan, equipping leaders in areas where believers are routinely persecuted for their faith.*

ALL THAT  
MATTERED  
WAS  
WITNESSING  
TO ONE MORE  
SOUL ABOUT  
JESUS.





CENTRAL ASIA



**England: Martin Durham—Europe Ablaze with the Gospel.** It was as if in that kairos moment, the jigsaw pieces of God’s call fell into place.

**“Europe ablaze with the Gospel.”** That was it. A fire stirred within me... the Gospel reaching every corner of this spiritually desolate continent I call home, where every man, woman, and child, would have the opportunity to respond to the Good News.

It was 2002, and deep in the woods I sat on a veranda staring at the trees in front of me. Notebook in hand, I penned the words “England on fire with the Gospel.” Then I distinctly heard that still, quiet whisper. “Look higher.” As my eyes traced the trees to the canopy, I crossed out the word “England” and wrote “Europe,” and the word “ablaze” replaced “on fire.”

But... Europe ablaze? The vision was too big, impossible on my own. Yet, I knew if this was the voice of the Lord and I disobeyed, countless lives would be unreached by the life-transforming power of Jesus.

The inner conviction was clear; **“Be faithful to the call.”**

I had to step out in faith, just as I had done years earlier when I left my career in banking. At the time, I had a young family with a mortgage to pay and no salary, but the Lord faithfully provided. I knew He would supply our needs again, so by His strength, and with the support of my wife, Rachel, we set out to respond to His call.

We simply wanted to be faithful to the Great Commission, but we had zero connections in Europe. Back in London, we continued to preach the Gospel on the streets and equipping those who sought to know more. Then, God opened a door; we received an unexpected request from Poland, “Come and help us.” So we responded, and today the ministry spans across 30 European countries. Spiritual fires are blazing up throughout the continent as the Gospel is proclaimed.

*Martin attended the second ILI International Conference held in Atlanta, GA in 2002. He is the ILI International Director of Europe and founder of Kerygma180 (K180), an evangelistic organization committed to raising up young evangelists to proclaim the Gospel.*

“EUROPE  
ABLAZE”?  
THE VISION  
WAS TOO BIG,  
IMPOSSIBLE  
ON MY OWN.







EUROPE



**United States of America: Jimmy Aycock—Listening to God's "Vaya Pues."** For 30 years, I committed my life to serve as a pastor for various churches throughout Alabama in the United States. With our last move, my wife, Ann, and I had anticipated serving another ten years or so before retiring, but God had other plans.

I lived in Florence, Alabama for only six months when I preached a sermon titled "Vaya Pues", a Honduran phrase meaning "You go then." I challenged the congregation, "Let's ask God what our next 'thing' is. I will ask God what mine is. You ask God what yours is." After the sermon, I asked God, "What is my next thing? May I have the boldness to obey when You reveal Your plan." That was Sunday. On Thursday, God clearly spoke to me as Ann and I were praying,

"Okay, here is your next thing. Walk away from pastoral ministry. Trust Me, and live by faith. Then, I will show you what comes next."

Ann finished praying, and I told her what I heard. Pausing for only a few seconds, she said, "Okay, let's do it."

As we shared with our family, God confirmed the calling through my son's two-word response, "Vaya Pues." My son was living in a different state at the time and had no idea that was the name of the sermon God used to stir my heart. I still did not know what God had planned as I announced my decision to retire. I connected with Wes Griffin, Co-Founder of ILI, and he suggested I join their team. The organization was expanding into the 10/40 window and needed someone to lead the effort. Ann and I prayed, "Lord, could it be this easy?" Being able to use the gifts Christ gave me while working for ILI, a ministry I was already passionate about, seemed to be the perfect plan.

So, I accepted the offer. I had my next step.

Since joining the ILI Team in 2014, I have seen God work and transform lives in extraordinary ways – Immigrants given hope, churches planted, and leaders equipped across borders. I am blessed to be a part of God's work.

*Jimmy serves as an ILI International Director. His focus is on the Middle East North Africa (MENA) region where many nations are closed to the Gospel and Christians are routinely persecuted for their faith.*

"HERE IS  
YOUR NEXT  
THING. WALK  
AWAY FROM  
PASTORAL  
MINISTRY."





NORTH AMERICA

WORLD

INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE




# SOUTH ASIA

RGENCY







**South Asia: Ajay—From Alpha Home to COVID-19 Hero.** A patient came to the hospital today exhibiting all the symptoms of COVID-19. As I finished listening to his lungs with my stethoscope, I reflected on God's journey that took me from a child born in poverty to a medical profession, serving my nation during a global pandemic.

As a young boy growing up in South Asia, my family suffered greatly. We often went without food as we tried to survive on my mother's day-laborer salary. My clothes were mostly tattered and attending school was impossible.

At eight years old, I was accepted into Hope for Today's Alpha Home for children. The ministry was launched by ILLI Directors for South Asia, Peter and Esther, and provides shelter, nutrition, and education to impoverished and often orphaned children.

I will never forget my first 24 hours at the Alpha Home.

THIS IS A  
TIME FOR ME  
TO SERVE  
AND NOT BE  
AFRAID.

They gave me new clothes and nutritious food and signed me up to attend school where I was determined to learn English. It was not long before I began dreaming of a career in medicine.

Today, I am a nurse and serving as a frontline medical worker during the current COVID-19 crisis. We are certainly living in unprecedented times as my nation remains on quarantine lockdown. Each day, we are treating new patients and testing for the Coronavirus.

Because of the love of God I received at the Alpha Home, I have been able to rise up from a life of poverty to a successful nursing career. Peter and Esther treated me as their son, always encouraging me to dream big and work hard. They showered me with unconditional love and prayer.

This is a time for me to serve and not be afraid.

It is an honor to work in medicine at this moment in history. Each day is a difficult and challenging situation, but my hope is in God alone. Jeremiah 29:11 says, "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to give you hope and a future." I am thankful to live out God's calling during the COVID-19 crisis.

*Ajay is now in his second year as a nurse in South Asia. Hope for Today is a ministry of the International Leadership Institute serving South Asia through equipping leaders and compassion ministry. Visit [HopeTeam.org](http://HopeTeam.org) to learn more. Peter and Esther lead Hope for Today and ILLI in South Asia.*

# NORTH AFRICA





**Undisclosed Location: Awatef—Where is Your God Now?** At a local tea shop in my home country, I sat across the table from my friend as she posed the question to me,

"After all that has happened to you, where is your God now?"

My friend does not share my faith in Jesus. She, along with 99% of the Tunisian population, my family included, adhere to the official state religion of Islam. "Well, where is he?" She asked a second time with genuine concern. I picked up my spoon and began to stir my cup of tea. I reflected back on the last two years, searching for the answer to her question. I had a house, a car, and a good salary from my job at the local school. Everything changed, though, when my boss asked me to illegally lower the teachers' salaries. Without second thought, I boldly refused. I was probably the only Christian these teachers would know.

If I compromised and broke the law to save my job, what message would that send about the Savior I represent?

"AFTER ALL  
THAT HAS  
HAPPENED,  
WHERE IS  
YOUR GOD  
NOW?"

Even after weeks of continued threats and pressure, I held firm to my convictions. As a result, I was fired from my job. With no income, I was forced to move out of my house where I had been hosting a weekly church service. In order to pay the monthly mortgage, I rented out my home, which meant the church had to find a new meeting place. I even made the decision to sell my car to keep up with ongoing bills. The reality hit hard; all of this was happening because I refused to compromise my convictions.

I looked up from my tea with confidence and replied, "He is where He has always been. He is by my side."

"How can you say that?" My friend asked, clearly puzzled, "You lost everything."

"I lost many things, but the Lord has met every one of my needs. Work may be inconsistent, but with the help of some family and friends, I have kept a roof over my head and enough food in my stomach. My situation has not been easy, but worth the cost. My relationship with God has deepened, and I have been an authentic Christian witness to so many. I have learned first hand that when you are obedient to God, He is faithful to provide."

*Awatef traveled across national borders to be equipped at the 2013 History Makers Journey in Morocco. Following a vision from God, she helped organize the first ILL training event in her own nation in 2018.*

**Ethiopia: Mezgebu Tsemru—Rejected by the World, Found in Christ.**

**"You are not my son anymore."** My father's words continued to sting as they replayed in my mind.

"You must leave this house at once." It was just after midnight, and there I was on the street. I was kicked out of my home, rejected by my family, and ostracized by the church I once loved. How did I get here?

Not long ago, I was studying to become a priest when the elders gave me a Bible and told me to read it. The more I read, the more I found myself asking why the teachings of our church did not match the teachings of Jesus. That's when the elders told me the Bible was one of many good books and that Jesus was one of several different ways to salvation.

But their answers did not sit well with me, so I began digging deeper into Scripture. After I spent some time searching the Bible, I became convinced Jesus was the only way to salvation. So I began boldly preaching my conviction. When the elders heard, they demanded I immediately stop preaching this doctrine or face severe consequences. I realized I had a choice:

I could either continue preaching the true Gospel at the cost of great earthly persecution, or I could stay silent at the cost of eternity for many souls.

Standing with three other friends who shared my convictions, we were removed from the denomination. I was kicked out of my home as a result and rejected by my family. Across the nation, though, we began hearing similar stories of youth accepting the truth of the Gospel. They, too, were being thrown out for their decision to proclaim Christ. Eventually, we felt led to start a new denomination, Emmanuel Church. The Lord does powerful work through those who fully surrender to Him in bold obedience.

*Mezgebu graduated from the 2005 Ethiopia National Conference. Recently, his team witnessed the baptism of nearly 1,000 tribal members. Mezgebu's vision is to equip 10% of the nation's university students each year for the next 10 years, over 45,000 young leaders equipped to spread the Gospel!*

IF I STAYED  
SILENT, IT  
WOULD BE  
AT THE COST  
OF ETERNITY  
FOR MANY  
SOULS.





EAST AFRICA



**Cameroon: Florence Fokoua—Boldly Breaking Through Barriers.** When God called me to pursue His vision for my life, there were few women in ministry around me. I had no model to follow. I only knew I had to obey. There weren't many who believed I had a place in ministry. I felt like I was walking alone past an invisible wall where only men were present.

Serving as a Christian, female leader in Africa has not always been easy. I have faced many difficulties in pursuing God's vision for my life, but He has always proven faithful. In 1998, God began birthing a vision in my heart. My mind swirled with questions. I spent many hours praying, digging into the Word, and begging Him for direction. Finally, He gave me two words, "I care."

I felt a burden begin to grow and take root in my heart for the youth of Africa. I knew God was calling me to meet their needs.

So with a leap of faith, and the support of my husband, Leo, I-CARE ministry was launched to help youth and young adults develop spiritually and professionally. What began as a discipling relationship with eight young women quickly grew to thousands of leaders trained throughout Cameroon. While the ministry flourished, I fought to juggle the roles of wife, mother, and leader. I remember sobbing while serving in Burkina Faso, pleading with God, "Lord, I don't want my family to suffer because I'm serving in ministry."

That week, a dear friend wisely told me something that deeply changed my perspective.

"God is the One who called you into this ministry, and you are a part of Christ's movement. Don't worry about your husband or children. Involve them in the work you are doing." Today, my husband and children are my biggest supporters as they pray for me and even travel and work alongside me doing Kingdom work.

*Florence was first equipped in 2015 and now serves as the ILL International Director of Africa French. Florence and her family lead I-Care ministries, which exists to train, equip, and multiply disciple-making leaders in Cameroon and French-speaking Africa.*

I FELT A  
BURDEN  
BEGIN TO  
GROW IN MY  
HEART FOR  
THE YOUTH  
OF AFRICA.

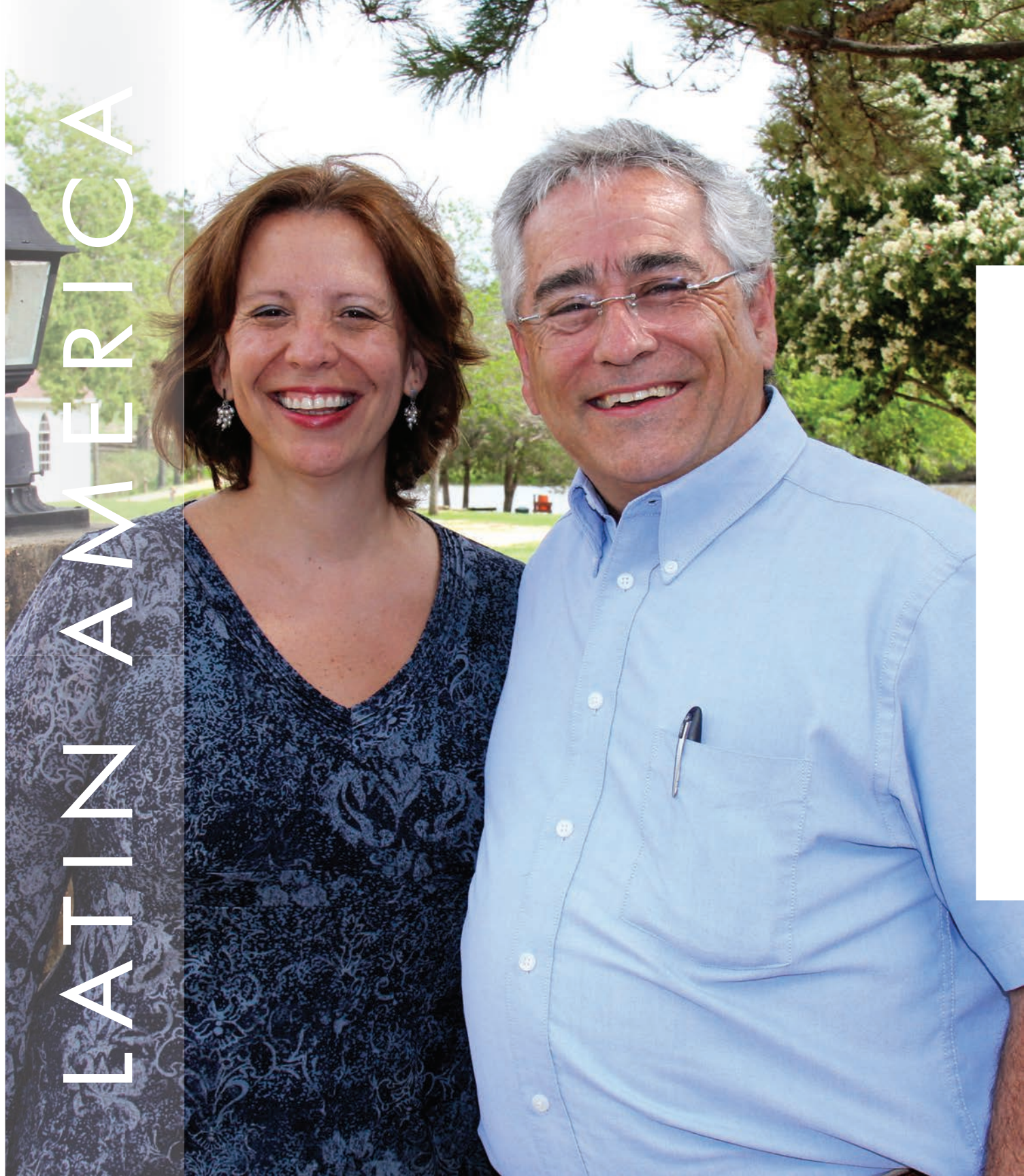




WEST AFRICA







LATIN AMERICA





**Colombia: Juan and Adriana Bravo—Risking It All.** I stood speechless as I looked out across the mountains in south Colombia lit up by a myriad of cocaine and marijuana production plantations. My wife, Adriana, and I felt a deep need for the light of the Gospel amidst the darkness permeating our nation.

It took a lifetime of bold obedience to lead up to this moment.

When I was 19 years old, I accepted Christ and experienced true joy for the first time. As I continued to grow in my faith, God blessed me with my wife, three daughters, and a successful printing business. Great difficulties were on the rise, though, as drug cartels began taking over Colombia. No one felt safe. Walking to work one day, I suddenly heard a loud pop. I immediately fell to the ground as an agonizing pain raced through my body.

Stunned, I realized I had been shot and left on the side of the road by a member of the drug cartel.

I was rushed to the hospital by a "good samaritan" who witnessed the attack. Still in complete shock, God reminded me of Matthew 6:19-21, "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth... But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven..." He used that traumatic experience to show me the importance of storing up treasures in heaven as I built relationships and impacted eternity for many other lives.

Eventually, through much prayer, my wife and I made the difficult decision to leave Colombia and move our family to the United States. There, I got connected and served with the International Leadership Institute before God began burdening our hearts for the leaders in Colombia. Again, after much prayer, we returned to our home nation to equip leaders across Latin America.

IT TOOK A  
LIFETIME  
OF BOLD  
OBEDIENCE TO  
LEAD UP TO  
THIS MOMENT.

Since returning in 2012, over 10,000 leaders have been equipped with the ILI Eight Core Values. Many of these leaders live in the darkest places, among the cocaine and marijuana plantations. Being a Christian in this part of Colombia can be dangerous. The Gospel is often viewed as an "interference" with the drug business, but these leaders continue to shine the true light of Christ.

*Juan and Adriana were first equipped in 2007 and now serve as the ILI Directors of Colombia, equipping leaders each year across many bordering nations.*





NORTH AMERICA





**United States of America: Heather Murdock—Chasing God After a Lifetime of Running Away.** One phone call caused my life as I knew it to come crashing down... "Heather, your sister was hit by a drunk driver. Willow is dead."

Growing up, my life was full of heartache. We lived in poverty as my dad fueled his addictions and abused my mother. In school, I was a target for bullying until I "blossomed" in high school. I wanted more than anything to be popular, thinking that would give me the love and acceptance I deeply craved. My looks became a strong source of my identity. The dysfunction I experienced at home caused me to become a perfectionist, leading to bulimia. I moved to Hollywood after graduation to become a model and actress, later moving on to a high-profile career. Externally, I seemed to have it all. Internally, I was struggling to hold my life together.

"YOUR  
SISTER  
WAS HIT BY  
A DRUNK  
DRIVER.  
WILLOW IS  
DEAD."

No matter how hard I tried to create a facade of the perfect life, my brokenness always resurfaced.

Everything came to a screeching halt the day I received the call about my sister's car crash. The other driver was leaving a company party. His boss had taken his keys earlier that night, but later returned them. After falling asleep at the wheel, the driver crashed into my sister and her friend, killing everyone involved. I couldn't get over the loss of my sister. The shame from my past and regret from avoiding my family was overwhelming.

Fifteen years later, a pastor who knew my sister gave me a book about God. Desperately seeking relief, I read it in one day and immediately desired to know more. I began reading the Bible. As the Holy Spirit lit a fire in my soul, I gave my life to the Lord. God's grace allowed me to face my problems head on and receive healing from my past. A few months later, I was given the boss' phone number who was responsible for handing the driver his keys that night. I was warned he still felt responsible for my sister's death. When he realized I was calling to forgive him, he asked,

"What gave you the courage to call and forgive me?"

I smiled and replied, "Jesus." When I hung up, I felt an unimaginable weight lift off of my shoulders. I chose to boldly forgive not just the boss, the driver, and myself, but more importantly, I forgave my father. It was through that forgiveness encounter that I was healed from bulimia and finally felt true freedom in Christ.

*Heather first attended an ILI Regional Conference in 2011 and now serves on the faculty for other ILI training events. Heather is the Vice President of Global Human Resources for XP Power in California and puts the ILI Eight Core Values to use within her role.*





**North Africa: Joseph—The Christmas I Will Never Forget.** One by one, they went under the water; one by one they came out, until Honi's entire family was baptized as believers in Jesus Christ. It was a Christmas I will never forget! Six months earlier, Honi was baptized during the ILI leadership training event he was attending.

Baptism is a monumental step for someone from a Muslim background, especially one living in a North African nation where the Gospel is illegal.

When he returned home, God used Honi to see his entire family put their faith in Christ. He asked me to come back to baptize each one of them. Honi was also hosting a church in his home with 15 families at the time. As we celebrated that Christmas, I knew the story actually began long before Honi and I ever met.

BAPTISM IS  
MONUMENTAL  
FOR SOMEONE  
IN A NATION  
WHERE THE  
GOSPEL IS  
ILLEGAL.

From 1990 until 2014, I served on the staff of a large, influential evangelical church. I worked in many different nations to lead outreach and various mission projects for the church, but I could sense the Holy Spirit calling me to focus my efforts. So I decided to respond in bold obedience and resign. I spent the next six months praying and fasting to seek God's direction. Leadership training and church planting became the clear path God had for my life. Each are critical needs for my region and go hand in hand.

Now I knew the "what" for God's plan, but He had not yet revealed the "how." That's when I was approached by a ministry partner, the International Leadership Institute. They asked me to consider leading efforts for the Middle East North Africa (MENA) region. I prayed and fasted for another month.

I felt confident this was God's plan for how I was to equip leaders and plant churches.

That Christmas in North Africa, baptizing Honi's family and hearing about the church Honi planted was such a clear picture of how powerfully God works when we step out in bold obedience to His calling.

*Joseph's name has been changed and faces blurred for security purposes. Joseph serves as the ILI International Director of Middle East North Africa (MENA). He and his wife are equipping leaders in many nations where the Gospel is restricted and persecution occurs.*

UNBELIEVERS BECOME FOLLOWERS OF CHRIST |

**Singapore: Shih-Ming Kow—Bold Obedience Prepares the Future.** As I was drifting off to sleep one Sunday evening, my phone buzzed with a text message. “If it’s important, the person will call,” I thought to myself. Then it went off again, then again, and continued buzzing until I picked up my phone.

## What I read caused me to jump from the bed.

Just weeks earlier, I felt led to put a system in place to ensure ministry would continue if a crisis suddenly struck. Our leadership team asked the congregation to subscribe to church updates via WhatsApp, and the media team tested the live streaming of our worship services online, something we never attempted before then.

At the time, making these preparations seemed a little unnecessary and definitely not urgent. Nevertheless, I knew the Holy Spirit was calling us to prepare. So, we obeyed. The team worked hard to have systems and processes ready, though we weren't sure what we were preparing for.

I found myself acting from a place of peace when I picked up the phone and learned the COVID-19 virus had made its way to our congregation through an older gentleman visiting the church. Church members were frantic: When did he come? Which worship service did he attend? Where did he sit? What is church going to be like in the coming days? Is it safe to go to church?

I did not have all the answers, but I had a deep peace in my heart; I knew God was in control.

When friends ask how I am coping with the crisis, I say, “God is good. He is leading the way.” This continues to be true even now, in the months following the outbreak of the pandemic. When we boldly obey what the Lord calls us to do today, God uses our obedience to prepare the future. He blesses the obedience so we can be a blessing to our community and even to the nations.

*Shih-Ming is the ILI International Director for Asia-Pacific and serves on ILI's Board of Directors. He is the pastor of Paya Lebar Methodist Church in Singapore. He was first equipped at the ILI International Conference held in Singapore in 2005.*

I FELT LED TO  
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WOULD  
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IF A CRISIS  
STRUCK.





ASIA  
PACIFIC

**Poland: Paulina Krol—My Way or God's Way.** It took me a while to figure out what God wanted me to focus on. I kept asking God many questions, while in the meantime getting involved in various activities to see if God would speak.

God kept saying, “Be patient. Trust Me.” I knew I could do things God's way or my way, and I knew God's way was the best option.

For several generations, my family has been infused with an entrepreneurial passion to serve God. My dad, Henryk, was part of the first Christian contemporary band in Poland in the 1970s. My mom was their biggest fan. They toured the country, holding concerts and selling cassette tapes back when my nation was a de-facto satellite state of the Soviet Union. Later, they pioneered several companies in Christian media and technology. Faith has always been a part of our family, and at age eleven, I personally put my faith and trust in Jesus as my Lord and Savior.

God wired me to be a responsible person who pursues high standards of excellence. I am especially attracted to tasks that require complex organizational solutions. Over time, God's path became clear. He was directing me to work in the secular marketplace where I could aspire to be a light for Christ in the financial services industry, a place where trust is often low. It would not be easy. By nature introverted, I would have to push myself out of my comfort zone and learn to speak to clients with accuracy and precision while serving and caring for them.

Nine years later, I am a leader in my company where I integrate my faith into work each day. People appreciate my Christian values of integrity, excellence, and even forgiveness when mistakes are made. Our office has even been recognized as one of the best workplaces in Poland. I feel God's pleasure in those moments when I know I am doing my part. Any obedience to God is bold. Obedience is laying aside oneself to pursue God's plan, being salt and light to those around you.

I COULD  
DO THINGS  
GOD'S  
WAY OR  
MY WAY.

There is no better opportunity to be a witness for Christ than being surrounded by non-Christians for 40 hours a week.

*Paulina's dad, Henryk, told Paulina and her brother, Filip, about a History Makers training event in Malenovice, Czech Republic in 2010. There, she was challenged to embrace leadership and use her gifts to influence a new generation for Christ. She and Filip now serve on the ILLI Europe Team, seeking to shape the future of the continent.*





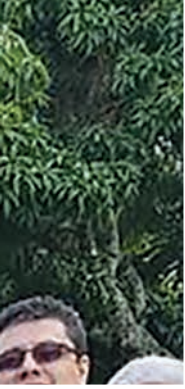
EUROPE





LATIN AMERICA





**Mexico: Ramiro Martinez—God Will Provide.** When God births vision in your life, He is preparing you for great impact! I had a successful career in insurance when God began to birth vision in my life. I worked diligently at my job, but deep down, I had a desire to work full-time in ministry.

As I became more involved with counseling, preaching, and evangelism through my church, I quickly realized I could not keep up with the responsibilities for both my job and ministry.

WHEN GOD  
BIRTHS VISION  
IN YOUR  
LIFE, HE IS  
PREPARING  
YOU FOR  
GREAT IMPACT.

The Lord was inviting me to make a decision: continue working at the insurance company or leave my job and commit to full-time ministry.

There was only one catch, the church could not match my salary. The decision was heavy. I knew I would have to accept a large pay cut for an increased workload. After my wife and I prayed, I was confident God was calling me to trust Him and make the career move. I was thrilled to accept my new role of sharing the Gospel with members of the community. People were responding to the Good News of Jesus, and soon, over 40 new believers were attending services. We knew it was time to plant a new church.

With so many new believers in the church, I spent much of my time answering questions to help members of the church grow in their relationship with Christ and each other. Then, something amazing began to happen.

The congregation began acting as the Body of Christ, reaching out and sharing their faith with others.

Today, this church is part of a network of over 85 churches. Bold obedience is going where the Lord leads, even when the path is uncertain, because He is a God that provides.

*Ramiro was first equipped in 2012 and now serves as the ILI Coordinator for Mexico, Central America, and the Caribbean. His team mentors and assists with ILI and History Makers events across Latin America and have planted six churches in Mexico.*



**Spain: Saul Valle—Spain Embracing the Gospel of Jesus.** Growing up, my father was a pastor where we lived in El Salvador, so I had an "inside" view of the Church. The ministry took up a majority of my father's time, and the congregation treated me harshly for being the pastor's son. The negativity I experienced caused me to feel distant from God and reject the ministry at a young age. God had greater plans, though. He began to soften my heart and teach me the difference between having religion and a relationship with Him. At the age of 17, I gave my life to Christ.

God was able to heal deep wounds and give me the strength to forgive the church members who had hurt me in my past.

When I turned 21, I felt the call to go to Spain and serve as a missionary. There, I supported many small churches, serving in youth groups and on worship teams. In 2008, an ILI leader in Madrid contacted me about leading music for a leadership training event. That week was a powerful experience in my life. When ILI International Director for Europe, Martin Durham, asked if I would be willing to step up and organize ILI training events for Spain, I was just beginning my career as a pastor.

I had little contact with other ministries and leaders, but I felt God calling me to accept Martin's request. So I stepped out in boldness and obeyed.

That's when God clearly revealed the vision, "Spain embracing the Gospel of Jesus". I prayed for God to provide a team of men and women who would faithfully equip leaders and accelerate the spread of the Gospel. He gradually brought two key leaders for the movement, Etechan Butt (Canary Islands) and Silvia Lopez (Barcelona). Since 2010, over forty training events have equipped leaders throughout Spain. Having planted five churches, the ILI Eight Core Values have greatly impacted my preaching and the congregations. Spain is embracing the Gospel as leaders boldly preach God's Word, invest in equipping leaders, and share the vision of being transformed by the power of Jesus Christ.

*Saul pastors a church in Madrid, where he lives with his wife and four children. He was first equipped in 2008 at the Spain National Conference. He now serves as the ILI Coordinator for Spain, equipping young leaders to spread the Gospel.*

GOD HEALED  
DEEP  
WOUNDS  
AND GAVE  
ME THE  
STRENGTH  
TO FORGIVE.





E U R O P E





**United States of America: Gordon Evans—Baking to Equip Leaders Across Borders.** After receiving a call from my accountant informing me of taxes I owed, I looked at the check in my hand.

I had a choice to make: use the funds to equip Christian leaders in Paraguay or send the check to the United States IRS. I desperately wanted to honor the commitment I made to fund an ILI training event, so I sealed the envelope, mailed the check, and prayed I made the right choice.

Growing up, my father owned and ran a grocery store. While I admired his work, I quickly realized my own dream was to open a bakery. With that vision in mind, I eventually saved enough money to purchase my father's grocery store and convert the building into my own storefront. I prayed, "God, this bakery is yours, I am going to work for you. Direct me where you want the profits to go, and I will send them." That was 30 years ago.

When I pledged to finance an ILI National Conference in 2015, I knew the funds would come from a significant portion of my own salary, and I would need to fundraise the rest. Just as I accumulated my portion of the funds, my accountant gave me the alarming news. He had completed my taxes, and I owed a large amount of money to the IRS. I looked down at the check written for the ILI training event and realized the amount matched what I owed the government. I was out of money, and there were two places this check could go. I wrote the check to finance the training and put it in the mailbox.

I began to cry, but I knew God was calling me to trust Him in bold obedience.

Soon after, the phone rang again. It was my accountant calling to tell me he misspoke. I actually did not owe the IRS money, in fact, they owed me! I am sometimes tempted to take my eyes off God. When I do, He lovingly reminds me of all the ways He has provided, not just for me, but for all of His people throughout history.

*Gordon was first equipped in 2013 at the Paraguay National Conference and has been a part of equipping leaders with ILI since. Gordon faithfully commits to give back to Kingdom work through his bakery in Pennsylvania, USA.*

I BEGAN TO  
CRY. I KNEW  
GOD WAS  
CALLING ME  
TO TRUST  
HIM IN BOLD  
OBEDIENCE.







NORTH AMERICA







SOUTH AMERICA



**Brazil: Diego Santos—Go, Diego, Go.** When I was 13 years old, God began prompting me to give my life to Him, and I made the decision to invite Jesus into my heart. In college, I was steadfast in my faith, often sharing Christ with my peers.

Then, in 2006, the pastor of my church invited me to attend an ILI training event for equipping young leaders. I wanted to go more than anything, but having just graduated from college, I didn't have the money to attend.

WHEN I LEFT  
THE HISTORY  
MAKERS  
EVENT, I WAS  
SURE OF GOD'S  
PURPOSE FOR  
MY LIFE.

I knew I was missing a life-transforming opportunity, but I humbly declined, "I am thankful for the invitation, but I cannot afford the course at this moment." After a long discussion with my pastor, he smiled and finally said,

"Diego, just go." So, in bold obedience, I attended my first History Makers training event.

We spent each day in fellowship with one another, talking about Jesus, and being equipped with the Eight Core Values of the most effective Christian leaders.

When I left the event, I was sure of God's purpose for my life: to speak the Gospel and equip leaders to discover God's vision for their own lives.

Less than a year later, I helped organize another training event in Brazil. Then, I was given the opportunity to lead devotionals, and now, our team equips hundreds of leaders through multiple training events each year.

With the COVID-19 global pandemic, our church has found ways to see and meet needs of those hurting around us. My wife and I even feel God leading us to a new opportunity that will help meet some of these needs. We trust where He calls us, and we will follow as He leads.

*Diego is a key member of the ILI Brazil Team, faithfully equipping leaders and accelerating the spread of the Gospel since 2006. He and his wife, Raiane, serve the Church together.*

**Malaysia: Hie Ting—Boldly Serving Behind the Scenes.** I grew up in Malaysia and came from a Christian family. During my youth, though, I realized my family’s faith did not make me a Christian. I knew I had to personally accept Christ as my Savior to experience salvation. I made that life-changing decision and have been walking faithfully with the Lord ever since. While I was working in my church, God equipped me with the gift of administrative, “background” work.

In 2006, I was invited to be a part of the team hosting a leadership training event as well as attend as a participant. I gladly agreed to the opportunity. That training event forever changed my walk with God as I learned the importance of going deeper to experience greater intimacy with Him.

Since then, I have helped with other training events in Malaysia. God has called me and gifted me to strategically work in the background, scheduling, communicating with presenters, preparing materials, and fulfilling other tasks needed for the event to be successful and impactful for His Kingdom. Only a few years into my partnership with ILI, I was asked to help coordinate the translation of the materials from English to Mandarin.

Most Christians from Chinese-speaking churches in my state often only attend Chinese-speaking events due to the language barrier, so I understood the importance of having this material in Mandarin.

Now, we have two translations available for our people in their own language, Mandarin and Bahasa Malaysia (for the indigenous group). For me, bold obedience is faithfully serving in the context of the gifts God has given me.

Leaders are needed to faithfully teach and preach the Word of God, but leaders are also needed to serve others in the background.

*Hie was equipped at the 2006 Malaysia National Conference, the first ILI training event for her nation. She is an integral part of the ILI Asia Pacific Team, helping coordinate conferences, overseeing material translation, and serving on training faculty.*

I KNEW THE  
IMPORTANCE  
OF HAVING  
ILI MATERIAL  
IN MANDARIN  
FOR MY  
PEOPLE.





ASIA  
PACIFIC











**Czech Republic: Tomas Kolman—Seeking a Clear Response from God.** “Will you dedicate your life to ministry?” I thought about the question as I sat among other young counselors getting ready to spend the summer serving at a youth camp. We all had a decision to make.

I grew up in a Christian family and accepted Jesus at age nine. I never seriously doubted my faith, but my walk with Christ was not without struggles. Throughout my teenage years, I felt cut off from God. I lost hope that things would change and just wanted to die. Then, God used my brother to make me go to a youth gathering where I reconnected with God. Two years later – again because of my brother – here I was at the youth camp.

When the question was asked, “Will you dedicate your life to ministry?” I knew this was God’s call for me. I said, “Yes, I will.”

The camp eventually offered me a two-year internship. I prayed and sought God for clear direction. I wanted to serve Him, and the camp seemed to be the best option. Though I did not hear an obvious “yes” from God, I accepted the internship. I almost changed my mind, though, after discovering I would have to preach. Yet, as God worked in my life, I found myself feeling more comfortable and even enjoying preaching.

As my internship ended, I decided to study theology to become a pastor. While pursuing my degree, I worked as a youth pastor and several years later on staff with Josiah Venture. Then, a friend informed me of a church plant in need of a leader. After just one conversation with the church leadership, I was asked to help lead. My wife and I prayed for months, again seeking a definite response from the Lord. Without a clear answer, we declined the offer.

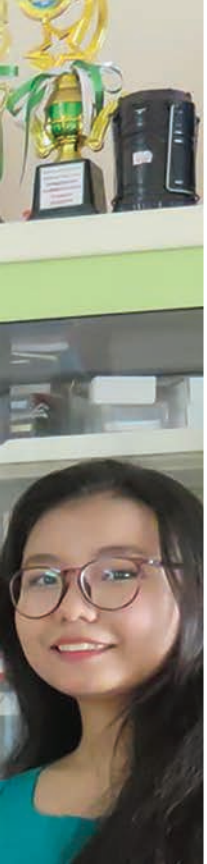
That’s when God began speaking to our hearts through other methods, just like He had done when I took the job at the camp. So two months later, we called the church and made the commitment to go where God was leading. We continue to lead at this church today. For me, bold obedience is a lifetime of faithfully following God’s call, even when you don’t have all the answers. God does not need us to know His will to accomplish His plan through us. He just “needs” our faithfulness.

“WILL YOU  
DEDICATE  
YOUR  
LIFE TO  
MINISTRY?”

*Tomas serves with the Europe History Makers Team in the Czech Republic, the longest running History Makers nation. First equipped in 2012, he is an integral part of the ILI Team.*







**Myanmar: Chhuana Ngeng—When God Opens a Door, You Go.** I never dreamed of leaving Myanmar, but I found myself in a foreign country with no money and enrolled in a theological seminary I had no intentions of attending.

## God called me to go. Who was I to say no?

Although Myanmar is a predominantly Buddhist country, I was fortunate to grow up in a Christian community and give my life to Christ at the age of 19. A few years later, God opened the door for me to go to the Philippines to study at a theological seminary. Despite the questions swirling in my mind, it was evident God was calling me to go.

I was thrilled when a local church committed to financially sponsor me during my studies. Shortly after arriving at the seminary, though, the church informed me they would be unable to follow through with their promise. Seeking encouragement, I got connected with a local pastor in the Philippines. We met daily to pray and fast over my finances. In His perfect timing, God always provided for my needs.

Then in 2000, my mentor sent me back to Myanmar to participate in a leadership program as an extension of my studies. God's vision for my life finally became clear in this return to my home nation. As I reflected on where God had brought me from, I began to feel the burden of Ephesians 4:12, "to equip His people for

works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up."

God opened yet another door, this time with the International Leadership Institute. Equipped with the ILI Eight Core Values at a National Conference in Myanmar, I was challenged to host an additional training event within 90 days of graduating. Committing to the task, my friend and I began the powerful journey of equipping leaders in our own tribal language.

In 2017, I was more than ready for the opportunity when Pastor John Lim asked me to lead ILI's first Asia Pacific Alumni Summit. Since then, nearly 2,500 leaders have been equipped in Myanmar.

*Chhuana was first equipped in 2011 at the Myanmar National Conference and now serves as a key leader on the ILI Asia Pacific Team.*

GOD  
CALLED ME  
TO GO. WHO  
WAS I TO  
SAY NO?

**LIVES ARE TRANSFORMED** |







# Bold

## O B E D I E N C E

**THANK YOU.** We want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who made this book possible. The journeys of the men, women, youth, and children impacted by the ILI Team are countless, and we pray God's story of redemption and mercy is evident on each page.

The ILI Global Team is dedicated to multiplying their training into the lives of others in order to effectively spread the transforming power of the Gospel. Each leader is a great inspiration, and this book is dedicated to them.

Finally, ILI's global impact and ability to continue equipping leaders and spreading the Gospel worldwide would not be possible without the prayer and financial support of our faithful partners. We pray these stories have inspired you and provide a tangible example of how the ILI Global Team is fulfilling Christ's command to "go and make disciples" (Matthew 28:19-20).

**International Leadership Institute.** To learn more about ILI's globally recognized leadership curriculum, take online courses, attend a leadership training event, or download YouVersion devotional plans based on the Eight Core Values, visit [ILITeam.org](http://ILITeam.org).







