

PM

Following Their Call:

Meet the Yursiks

Clarity:

In One Mission—One Movement

By: Chuck Wilson

**THE EXPECTATION OF
ONE MISSION. ONE MOVEMENT.**



100NE



Y O U A R E I N V I T E D

Join us this summer June 24-27 at
Calvary Church in Irving, Texas, as the PCG
celebrates its 100-year story. This is a
once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to unify as
One Mission and One Movement while also
setting the stage for a 2nd-Century PCG.

ONE.PCG.ORG

JUNE
24-27

2019

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN FOR THE 2019 CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

CELEBRATING THE VOICES OF OUR PAST...

Eli J. DePriest
Charter Member



One of the charter members of the PCG, Evangelist Eli DePriest was known for his "Holy Ghost ministry," where countless were filled with the Spirit during revival services across Missouri, Arkansas, and Iowa.

1914

Ferne Bruce
National Youth Leader



Though a specialized youth ministry was initially launched in 1928, Sister Ferne Bruce, having "fanned the flame of inspiration" to reach the next generation, was elected in 1934 to serve as "the first known PYPA President."

1934

Jake & Ellen Keele
Missionaries



"Christians, I ask you, is not our cause greater than that of the communists? ...shouldn't we rise to even higher heights of devotion...for our living Christ who yearns over the world with the same unquenchable love that drew Him to Calvary?"

1969

...AS WE LAUNCH INTO A **2ND-CENTURY PCG!**



PG. 6



ONE
MISSION
ONE
MOVEMENT



PG. 13



PG. 28



CONTENTS

6 Are You Expecting for a 2nd-Century PCG?

By General Bishop Wayman Ming Jr.

13 Following Their Call

Q&A: Taylor + Micah Yursik

20 Clarity in One Mission—One Movement

By Chuck Wilson

23 Reflections

An Interview with Bro. Ronald Minor

26 Planting His Church in Corona

By Rev. Silver Garza

27 From Jamaica to Honduras:

A Reunion 17 Years in the Making

30 The Kind of People We Should Be

By General Secretary Dan Coleman

32 Trusting God to Exceed

By Rev. Fiona Parker

EDITOR IN CHIEF

Dr. Wayman Ming Jr.

Executive Editor | **Dan Coleman**

Contributing Editor & Writer | **Laura Salazar**
Design & Layout | **Taylor Staniforth**

Creative Team | **Spencer Ming**
Kimberly Ming

Production Manager | **Brian Ramos**

ISSN 427340 • Copyright © 2019

The editorial staff reserves the exclusive right, without further permission of the author, to edit, revise or otherwise prepare any articles, pictures or reports submitted for publication in the *Pentecostal Messenger* in accordance with the rules adopted by the Editorial Board of the Pentecostal Church of God. All material, both printed copy and pictures, will become the property of the *Pentecostal Messenger*. Because there are varying points of view in the church body, publication in the *Pentecostal Messenger* does not necessarily imply endorsement by the Pentecostal Church of God.

Notify publisher promptly of change of address. Published at least four times annually at Messenger Publishing House, DBA The Lettershop, 607 East 7th Street, Joplin, MO 64801. Subscription Rates: Per year—US single subscription, \$12.00 USD, Canada single subscription, \$27.50 USD, other international single subscriptions: please inquire. Single copy, \$3.00 USD. POSTMASTER: Send address correction notices to PO Box 211866, Bedford, TX 76095. Phone: 817.554.5900 || Fax: 817.391.4101 E-Mail: communications@pcg.org

Member of the Evangelical Press Association and the International Pentecostal Press Association



IN THIS ISSUE

This edition of the *Pentecostal Messenger* poses the question: Are you expecting for a second-century PCG? Did you realize that 2019, our Centennial year, is upon us? One hundred years ago our founding fathers gathered in Chicago, Illinois, to cast God's vision for our movement. Now, being on the cusp of a new chapter, we celebrate all that God has done, and we anticipate all that He will do.

What will a second-century PCG look like? Over the last year, we have united under the banner of One Mission—One Movement, but what exactly does that mean? In our cover feature, Bishop Wayman Ming Jr. seeks to add practical application by looking back at the progress of 2018 and looking forward to our expectations for 2019. Similarly, Rev. Chuck Wilson clarifies that One Mission—One Movement is not just another catchy slogan but is actually a "precise message" and a "concise rallying cry" for our fellowship.

Taking Bishop Ming's cue, much of the issue reflects upon past and future. In interviews, you will find Rev. Ron Minor's inspirational thoughts about his tenure as general secretary, and you will journey with the Yursiks as they follow God's call as missionaries to Peru. In story, you will read of various ministries (such as American Indian Missions) and pastors (such as Silver Garza) who have been and continue to be an embodiment of the missional movement of Christ. And finally, in articles written by General Secretary Dan Coleman and Rev. Fiona Parker, you will be invited to walk as "the kind of people we should be."

With these in view, we again ask: Are you expecting for a second-century PCG? **FM**

UPCOMING EVENTS

January
1-31

JANUARY 1-31, 2019
I-CONNECT 2019
(Connection Registration)
Empowered Women's Ministries

January
11-12

JANUARY 11-12, 2019
WEST Encounter • Concord, CA
New Hope Church

January
25-26

JANUARY 25-26, 2019
EAST Encounter • Indianapolis, IN
Bethel Family Worship Center

April
1-5

MINISTRY INTENSIVES
Onsite
Irving, Texas

May-June
20-9

21 DAYS OF PRAYER
A global call to fast leading up to Pentecost Sunday

June
24-27

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION
*Calvary Church
Irving, Texas*



Are you
expecting?
for a 2nd-Century PCG



The Expectation of One Mission—One Movement
By Dr. Wayman Ming Jr.

Loved ones, we are beginning our Centennial year, and our PCG family from across the country and around the globe will soon gather together in Irving, Texas, to "celebrate our story" and "seize our destiny." A new chapter will be written—the "First Chapter of a 2ND-CENTURY PCG."

In 2018, our Heavenly Father began a spiritual download concerning four words: One Mission—One Movement. With prophetic revelation, He began challenging us with the notion that the PCG started as a missional movement in 1919 and once again, must live as a missional movement in 2019.

In 1919, we had missional expectations, and in 2019, we must have missional expectations... What are you expecting God to do in 2019, our Centennial year?

When we reflect on our initial gathering in 1919, phrases such as “taking the gospel to those outside of Pentecost” and “aggressive evangelism” affirmed our passion to live as an inclusive, grassroots movement of people committed to moving the mission of Christ forward by the power of the Spirit. Statements that specified we would “open up works in new districts in the United States” and pursue “foreign missionary work” clearly and specifically affirmed our resolve to plant churches and reach the world with the gospel.

In 1919, we had missional expectations, and in 2019, we must have missional expectations. In fact, our expectations remain essential in receiving the promises of God. There is something about our expectations that attract God’s presence and power to engage in those pursuits.

When a husband and wife discover they are pregnant, they will often say, “We are expecting.” Of course, if they have already conceived children, they will say, “We are expecting again.” Here’s the all-important question for you: “Are you expecting?” And if you already witnessed the spiritual birth of God’s promises in your life, are you expecting again? Are you pregnant with the plans and purposes of God again?”

In the Acts 3 account of the lame man at the temple gate, we read that he experienced healing at the hands of Peter and John. Yet, the most important part of the event may have taken place in verse five when the lame man “gave them his attention, EXPECTING to receive something from them.” Certainly, he may have been expecting something different from what the apostles supplied, but I believe his expectation provided the breeding ground for his miracle.

Loved ones, God looks for people who are expecting! He longs for people who pray with expectation, serve with expectation, and give with expectation. When we pursue godly expectations, our greatest miracles won’t be found behind us, but in front of us. Actually, Satan is not really afraid of our past or even our present but our future. When we have greater expectations, he attacks with greater intensity. When he knows there is something (which has not yet appeared) that will bless our world and advance the Kingdom of God, he attacks with greater ferocity.

The promise of 1 Corinthians 2:9 remains undeniable: “Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man, the things which God has prepared for those who love Him.” Here’s the good news—God has done great things for you, but He is preparing even greater things for you. So, allow me to ask the question again, “What are you expecting in 2019, our Centennial year?”

Perhaps your expectations will include sharing your faith with someone or seeing your spouse or children saved. Or, maybe your expectations will include training for youth or worship ministry or doing missions work in a foreign country. Or, you may even have an expectation that includes building a business, receiving a promotion, or running for an office to impact your community. Whatever your expectations are, allow me to encourage you to write them down and pursue them by the power of the Spirit. If you aim at nothing, you hit nothing. If you don’t take the shot, you won’t score. In fact, you will always miss 100 percent of the shots you don’t take.

In the January 2018 edition of the *Pentecostal Messenger*, we began pursuing some expectations for the Pentecostal Church of God. Often, we don't take the time to celebrate the progress of our expectations. So, let's celebrate the progress of...

OUR EXPECTATIONS FROM 2018

1) Introduce One Mission—One Movement to our PCG Family

During 2018, we introduced One Mission—One Movement in the U.S. and around the globe. From our three regional Encounters and several district gatherings to our military chaplaincy and Hispanic Conference, our family of faith in the U.S. heard the call to live as a missional movement. Then, for the first time in the history of the Pentecostal Church of God, three continents or regions—Africa, Asia, and the Americas (with approximately forty-five nations)—gathered together to engage in the same message and mission. With some in laughter and some in tears, national leaders were lifting their index fingers and declaring, "One Mission—One Movement."

Also, an exciting Communications Team was established at the International Mission Center to utilize the full extent of social media through our pcg.org website, Facebook, Instagram, and brand new PCG APP. With intentionality, we communicated the missional stories of our PCG family from various places and events. In fact, we believe that one of the unique contributions that a 2nd-Century PCG will make for our day and time will include missional movement through information technology.



2) Create an Easy-Access, Entry Level to the Credential Process for Young Leaders under Thirty

Because of the horrifying statistic from our previous General Convention that **only four percent (4%) of our ministers hold credentials under 30**, we decided to create an entry-level experience for our young leaders to discover their calling and determine whether or not to engage in five-fold vocational ministry. A "Young Leader's Task Force" was established to develop a collaborative, online experience that would allow our young leaders to engage in a group coaching experience, qualifying them for their Exhorter's License.

This entry level—now known as the "Forerunner Experience"—was introduced at our Summerfest in Gatlinburg, Tennessee, with the goal of encouraging churches and districts to identify 5-7 young leaders who would engage in a twelve-week experience of ministry discovery. Several young leaders are preparing to get involved in the Forerunner Experience in 2019; and our expectation is to provide a pilot experience for a select group of churches and districts at the beginning of 2019, while launching for all churches and districts in fall 2019. More information can be accessed through forerunner.pcg.org.

3) Re-form the National Office into an International Mission Center (IMC)

The ultimate purpose for the International Headquarters should include providing missional training and resources for our PCG family in the U.S. and around the globe. With this in mind, our General Board (comprised of our district leaders) changed the name of the International Headquarters to the International Mission Center.

Our expectation to include online resources, such as the 21-Day Prayer Guide, was initiated and made available on pcg.org leading up to Pentecost Sunday. Several churches downloaded this resource and engaged their congregations in twenty-one days of fasting and prayer.

Furthermore, because multiplying new ministers, missionaries, and church planters must accelerate our missional pace, we prepared three tracks of training to launch in 2019:

- New Leadership Coaching—for new ministers and missionaries
- Church Plant Coaching—for church planters and multi-cultural leaders
- Church Health Coaching—for existing pastors and leaders

The Ministry Intensives will provide a one-year experience with two on-site training weeks provided April 1-5 and October 7-11. More information can be accessed through pcg.org/intensives.

Also, we were excited to welcome Messenger College to the International Mission Center for the fall Semester of 2018. The excitement of seeing the Messenger College faculty, staff, and students on the International Mission Center campus cannot be overstated. A new chapter began for a 2nd-Century Messenger College, and missional movement is now at the forefront of its purpose and calling.

Thankfully, we are continuing to build upon our expectations from 2018 into 2019. Often, expectations remain in a continual process of improvement as we seek to carry our expectations for tomorrow into today.

OUR EXPECTATIONS FOR 2019

At the beginning of this article, the question was asked, "What are you expecting in 2019, our Centennial year?" Candidly, I asked the question because I would like to inspire you with the "Expectation of One Mission—One Movement."

One of the exciting benefits of identifying ourselves with the PCG is that we are a part of something bigger than ourselves. We can move the mission of Christ forward on a national and global stage. Consequently, may we be inspired together by the following expectations for 2019.

1) Engage in One Mission—One Movement with your PCG Family

Whereas, introducing One Mission—One Movement was significant in 2018, engaging in One Mission—One Movement is paramount for 2019. In fact, we are asking as many people and churches as possible to "join the movement" in the following ways...

SHARE YOUR FAITH

Our personal mission and our PCG mission are the same—to win the lost and equip and send the found. We simply engage our neighborhoods, communities, and world as Jesus did in the first century. We literally become salt and light to the world (Matt. 5:14-16). What would the PCG look like if every person, every church, every district, and every nation would live the mission of Christ in their world by the power of the Spirit?

How is this possible? First, simply start by praying for the lost. Reaching the lost will remain difficult without having a burden for the lost. Second, write down a three-minute version of your God story. When the opportunity presents itself, be ready to give an answer to anyone who may inquire concerning your hope in Christ. Finally, build relational equity with pre-Christians so you can introduce them to Christ. Thankfully, sharing your faith is a God expectation and not just a PCG expectation.

PARTICIPATE IN THE CENTENNIAL

Our Centennial Celebration is scheduled for June 24-27 in Irving, Texas. This will be a once-in-a-lifetime celebration as we not only "celebrate our story" but also "seize our destiny." This will be OUR time to begin a 2nd-Century PCG. Don't miss it, and don't allow your family and friends to miss it. To register or receive further information, please visit one.pcg.org.

ENGAGE IN OUR IMPACTING ETERNITY WEEKEND

On September 13-15, 2019, we will engage together as a missional movement to share Christ. Impacting life is fun, but impacting eternity is fulfilling. When ONLY one soul is transformed by the love of Christ, we impact eternity.

During our Impacting Eternity Weekend, we are encouraging every person to share Christ with someone, every church to share Christ through an outreach, and every PCG district to share Christ through an inner-city mission. Friends, all of us are busy pursuing the mission of Christ throughout the year; surely we can come together as One Mission—One Movement to engage in something bigger than ourselves on one weekend. Can you imagine the stories and, more specifically, how we will Impact Eternity?

GIVE TOWARD ONE MISSION—ONE MOVEMENT

Near the end of 2017, I was seeking the Lord saying, "Lord, how can we see missional movement in the PCG again without the necessary financial resources? We don't have the finances to change the missional trajectory of the PCG." Immediately, the Lord impressed me to challenge every PCG person, pastor, and leader to give to One Mission—One Movement. Within a matter of minutes, He provided the following "Giving Plan and Challenge" for every dollar contributed.

Giving Plan:

- One-Third to World Missions (including Global Crusades and Mission Centers for Training)
- One-Third to U.S. Missions (including Church Planting and Inner-City Outreach)
- One-Third to Ministry Multiplication (including our Ministry Intensives and Church Coaching)

Giving Challenge

1000 people – Giving \$11 per month

100 churches/districts/businesses – Giving \$110 per month

10 churches/districts/businesses – Giving \$1,100 per month

1 church/district/business – Giving \$11,000 per month

So, I decided to share my heart with you and ask you to consider giving to One Mission—One Movement. Together, we can change the missional trajectory of the PCG!

2) Engage Young Leaders (under Thirty) in the Forerunner Experience

One of the greatest needs in the PCG is multiplying ministry in the next generations. In 2018, we experienced the greatest number of participants in our Teen Talent Expo than ever before. That's right ... our largest number of young leaders! Now, we must come alongside them to help them connect their talent to the Kingdom. How can they gift who they are and what they've been given back to God? The answer to that question contains "Kingdom significance" and "five-fold ministry impact."

To our young leaders under thirty, I would encourage you to connect with our Forerunner Experience at forerunner.pcg.org. This may be the very experience that enables you to "impact eternity" with your life and calling. To our church and district leaders, I would challenge you to identify 5-7 young leaders and sponsor them to engage in the Forerunner Experience during the fall 2019. What a great action step coming out of our Centennial Celebration! It's time we coach our young leaders to be what God wants them to be, do what God wants them to do, and go where God wants them to go.

3) Engage Leaders in Training at the International Mission Center (IMC)

Multiplying ministry is imperative for missional movement! We must begin somehow and somewhere, and our IMC Ministry Intensives are that somehow and somewhere. To those of you who want to sharpen and develop your ministry skills, check our pcg.org/intensives. To our church and district leaders, I challenge you to identify potential and existing pastors, youth pastors, worship pastors, missionaries, and church planters and send them through the Ministry Intensives. If you will identify and sponsor them, we will train them and send them back to you with a passionate pursuit to engage in missional movement. Allow 2019 to be a game-changer for multiplying ministry.



“Loved ones, here’s the good news! We are on our way to living as a grassroots movement of people who live the mission of God in our world by the power of the Spirit.”

IN CONCLUSION...

Many of you know that I have been asking the question, “Do we have an organizational machine or a missional movement?” If the former is true, that may not be too much of an indictment because most denominations find themselves in the same place—spending the majority of their time oiling the machinery rather than pursuing the mission of God. Fortunately, in the PCG, we have made a decision to live as a missional movement again. Allow me to reinforce what I shared during this time last year.

1) Let us continue to seek God for a missional heart

As the people of God, we must decide that anything less than sharing our faith and engaging in the mission of Christ remains unacceptable. All our decisions and processes must filter through the grid of winning the lost and equipping and sending the found. The solution that we seek in the Spirit must remain tethered to a missional heart.

2) Let us implement strategic plans to multiply ministers and churches

Accidental church growth doesn’t work. We must act intentionally and incrementally to multiply our ministers and missionaries, plant new churches, and grow our existing churches. That is why the Forerunner Experience and our Ministry Intensives must remain at the center of our missional movement.

3) Let us engage in every church’s and district’s growth

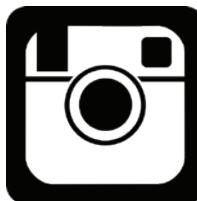
We must actively commit to not only seeing OUR churches and OUR districts grow, but also seeing ALL churches and ALL districts grow. We must exchange the “me mindset” for the “we mindset.” The PCG will not experience missional movement if we remain on an independent course of “my church, my district, and my movement.”

Loved ones, here’s the good news! We are on our way to living as a grassroots movement of people who live the mission of God in our world by the power of the Spirit. As a 2nd-Century PCG, we must return to our roots and live as a missional movement again with every person as a mission, every church as a mission, and every PCG district and nation as a mission.

The Pentecostal Church of God will only grow if our dreams and expectations exceed our doubts. Our expectations make the future possible, and without the power of expectation, we will essentially miss our divine moment. Our experience may define our present, but our expectation determines our future. If you will join the movement, the PCG will never be the same again.



LET'S CONNECT



WHY FOLLOW @WEAREPCG ON SOCIAL MEDIA?

- > Access to exclusive Centennial Celebration updates
- > Exclusive chances to win a free VIP Centennial Pass
- > Direct connection with your PCG leadership and so much more!

Follow us today and be a part of our 2nd-Century Story!

@WEAREPCG
#OneMissionOneMovement

Following their *Call*

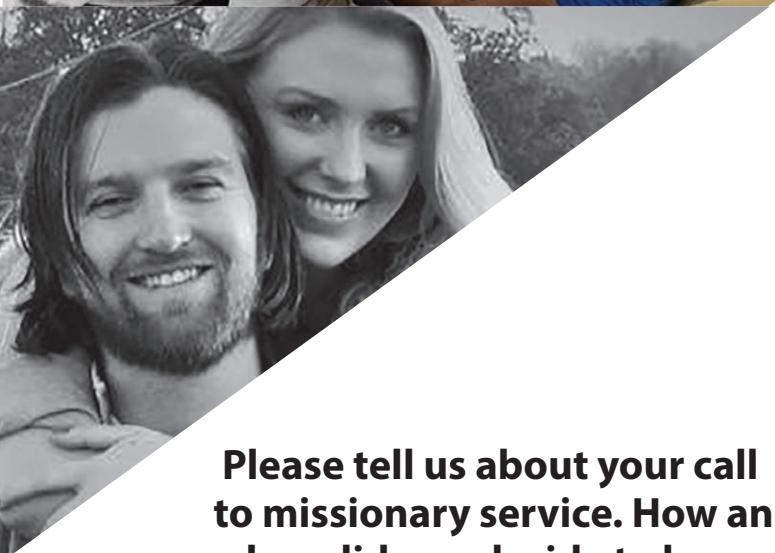
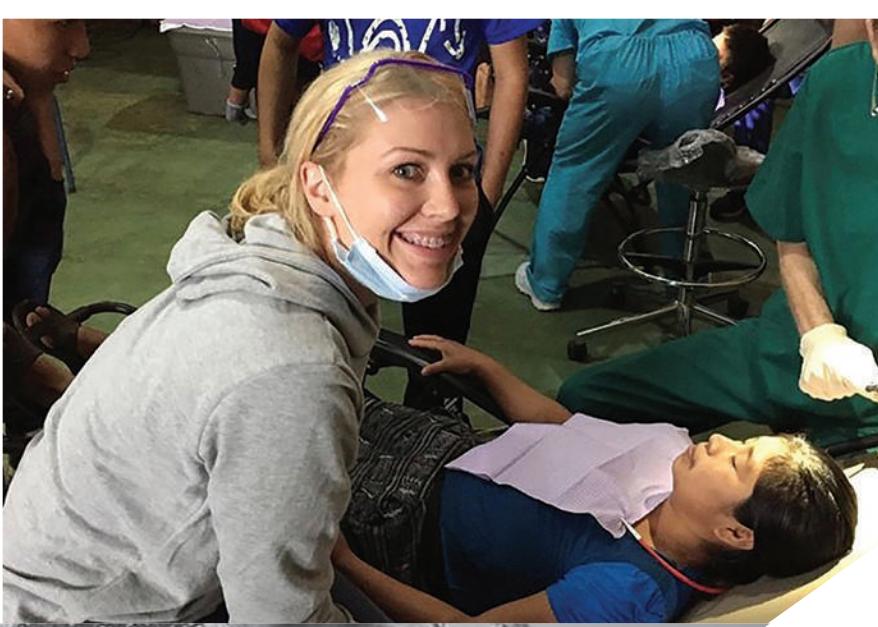
MEET THE YURSIKS

God has a mission, and Taylor and Micah Yursik are connected 100 percent to that mission. They possess a unique boldness which comes from their faith and trust in God. For a number of years, they have been patiently engaged in their calling and, as they say, "remaining on assignment." But the Yursiks have persevered in numerous stages of preparation and are now in the phase of itineration which, when finished, will allow them to fully engage in what God has laid upon their hearts. I delight in their answer to the question: "What advice would you give to others who might want to one day serve as a missionary?" Their answer: "Our advice would be to first die to yourself...pray the bold prayer of 'God have all of me.'" You are going to enjoy this Q&A article, and you are going to want to meet and get acquainted with this couple. They are sold out to God and they are on mission!

– REV. VIRGIL KINCAID, PCG DIRECTOR OF WORLD MISSIONS

CONTINUED ON PG. 15

”
God
HAS A
Mission



Please tell us about your call to missionary service. How and when did you decide to become missionaries?

We both had an inner knowing (Micah from the time she was 4!) that missions would be a part of our future. But it wasn't until we radically surrendered our lives in obedience to God—after reading Heidi Baker's book *Birthing the Miraculous*—that God spoke to us. He spoke first to our hearts, which we immediately responded to with action; and then later He spoke to us with confirming signs: prophetic words, dreams, and visions. We were eager to answer that call—ready to sell everything and move to Africa, though God had different plans for us starting out.

God first led us to a ministry where we put on crusades at local high school campuses in the U.S. This experience taught us that we are called to an "on-mission" lifestyle at all times regardless of the geographical location. During that time, God spoke to us about a three-year track He was putting us on to get to the field. He supernaturally confirmed to us the season of preparation we were being led into with the School of Urban Missions Bible College (a

three-year program). We were in our last year of Bible college when God began to put an urgency in our hearts to get on the field before graduation. One Saturday night when we were fretting (just to be honest) over our first steps to the field, the Lord spoke to Micah's mom, Delane Mallory-Morin, about contacting Les and Charlene Melton. But before we got that far, we learned that the very next morning they would be coming to our home church! We knew God was divinely ordering our next step. After four hours of visiting with the Meltons, drinking the best coffee we had ever tasted (Honduran!), hearing many incredible "missionary God-stories," and hearing lots of incredible jokes, our hearts were set on IMIT (Intense Missionaries in Training)! It felt like it was tailored for what we needed: an immersion program prioritizing Spanish and exposure to all the practicalities of missions for just one year to propel us to our very own nation.

To answer the question about how and when we decided to serve overseas, it began with a yes. We began to pray dangerous prayers that God heard: "God, here I am. Send me. I yield myself completely to your will, withholding nothing. I say yes to whatever you would have for me to do in this life." Answering the call to serve overseas is not easy because of the influences that the outside world likes to plant in your mind. Persecution and doubt will come from the people you least expect, but it is important to stay in faith and in relationship with the Holy Spirit so that you stay on the path designed for you. When God speaks to you, don't expect for others to always understand because God spoke to you, not to them.

What has been your biggest challenge since becoming missionaries?

“

We think our biggest challenge has been remaining on assignment in the seasons of preparation. Honestly, there were a lot of times when we simply felt like quitting because we couldn't see the "land he was sending us to." It took a lot of faith, humility, and surrender to continue positioning ourselves in faith without knowing what was going to happen next; but we decided our radical devotion to God was not something

we could put conditions on. Being patient is one of the greatest challenges you will face during your seasons of preparation, but it is the faithfulness in those seasons that will develop your character to take you to your "promised land." In order to lead, you first must serve. We are all called to serve; serve the poor, the broken, the rich, and the successful. We are called to the heart of Jesus who served, totally yielded to the Father's love in every season.



Language and cultural differences can be roadblocks to mission work. Can you share your experience learning Spanish and adjusting to a different way of life?

Trying to minister to people who do not understand you can be disheartening. Constantly misunderstanding what was going on around us and being laughed at for not speaking the language correctly, plus having to act out real-life charades became a normal part of everyday life—although this became a source of amusement. One time at language school, our host-home took us to church for "Santa Cena." We made sure not to eat before church to save our appetites for the "Holy Dinner" which we thought was what they called a night of fellowship and eating. After four hours of sitting through a service we didn't understand a word of, and with our bellies rumbling, communion was finally served. We soon realized that "Santa Cena" was communion! Talk about learning the hard way! This story is just one of a million.

Fast forward to a few months later and we were on our first pioneer trip to Peru where God led us to an unreached tribe of people called the Yaguas living along the Amazon River. Even without a translator, we were able to tell this tribe about the love of Jesus and pray for their sick. They told us their many needs, asking for essentials like clothes, food, and medicine for whenever we returned. They even said they wanted to build a church where they could learn more about God (although none of them were believers)! Our IMIT experience had equipped us with the Spanish we needed to give this forgotten Yagua tribe the love of Jesus on this appointed day. We know this is only the beginning and cannot wait to go back to them as soon as possible!

Is it true you completed your college degrees while in the field?

”

Yes, it is 100 percent true! We finished our last year of Bible college online while on the field and graduated in June 2018, each earning a bachelor's degree in biblical studies with an emphasis in global missions. We also were able to use IMIT to meet our practicum requirements and received credits for it. We are proof that it is possible to take five classes a semester, learn Spanish, complete IMIT, and graduate from Bible college all while on the field.

What did you learn while working (and living) with Les and Charlene Melton this past year?

One of the many lessons we learned had to do with living totally immersed in a different culture. The practical things we learned about Latin American culture were so necessary in preparing us to answer our call to the Amazon region. The mission that God has called us to looks different from Brother and Sister Melton's, but our hearts toward our respective fields are the same. Just being with people who are for you and want to see you succeed is invaluable. They have been a great source of knowledge, and we cannot thank them enough for opening their home (and hearts) to us.

What did you miss the most during your year away in Guatemala?

Family! The first seven months in Guatemala we didn't come home, and it was hard missing Christmas, Thanksgiving, and those fun holidays where family loves to get together. What we learned as the year went on is that with any changes in life you fall into a routine and it just gets easier. Our advice is to live present in the moment with your eyes fixed on Jesus; a thankful heart is a content heart. Secondly, have someone in your life who understands what God has called you to and who can minister to you and intercede for you through the hard times. For us, that was Momma Delane.

How were you called to Peru? (And please tell us about "Pioneer Peru.")

The calling to the Amazon Region began with asking God for a nation. After an eight-month period of continuously seeking His face, He spoke to us through a vision of a puzzle piece outline of what (we later discovered by looking at a map) was Peru! Every moment after that was a giant leap of faith-filled obedience as we set out for a land we had never been to or knew anything about. God showed us through this process that we were called to be "pioneers" who would fearlessly trailblaze new territories (geographically and in the realm of missions), which would be completely unique and different from the norm. Little did we know that on our first trip to the city where God led us to start our journey, we would find HUNDREDS of unreached and under-reached villagers living along the Amazon River in DESPERATE need of Jesus.

Pioneer Peru is a campaign focused on proactively and systematically reaching these hidden and forgotten villages that God has put us on assignment for. We will do this by utilizing the strategy God gave us in a dream three years ago: raising up an end-time army of missionaries. Just like the military takes a territory by continuously sending out trained teams of men and women on specially designed missions with a specific goal in mind, we will be doing the same thing but for the Kingdom of God! Our weapons of warfare will be:

- 1) Sharing the love of Jesus: sitting with the people, playing with the children, and meeting their physical needs (food, clean water, clothes, and medicine). *John 13:34-45*
- 2) Demonstrating the power of the Holy Spirit: healing miracles, casting out demons, signs, and wonders. *1 Corinthians 4:20, Matthew 10:8*
- 3) Proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ. *Mark 16:15*
- 4) Making disciples. *Matthew 28:19*

We are launching the Magenta Ministries School of Missions in the summer of 2019 and will be bringing in our first team of missionaries to the Yagua tribe. We invite anyone interested in learning more to get in touch with us through our website: pioneerperu.com.



“

Right now, what is your biggest need?

“

Our biggest needs at the moment are for people to join our team both in prayer and finances. We want people on our team who feel connected to our assignment. We are about seeing God move and seeing the Kingdom of God manifested on this earth, and we can't do it alone! We also need people to dream big with us and be a part of what God is wanting to do, not only in the Amazon region but throughout the world. The vision is big, and it takes faithful prayer and support.



What advice would you give to others who might want to one day serve as a missionary?

Our advice would be to first die to yourself. Pray the bold prayer of “God have all of me!” If you are called to missions or to any area of “full-time” ministry, answer that call with a fire to change the world for Jesus and use that as your driving purpose. Don’t compromise your calling because of fear or doubt. With Jesus on your side, all you have to do is say “yes” and not quit, because if you don’t quit, YOU WIN! Stay Kingdom-minded and don’t let the world influence you with what it thinks is important; focus on the heart of God and what He has created you for. Be a wrecking ball for the Kingdom and not just a cheerleader. In hard seasons go back to the last word that God spoke to you and “stay in love.” Abide in the presence of the Lord and continuously go to your secret place, seeking more of Him because He will give you as much of Himself as you are willing to take in. Never put God in a box, always put Him first, and prioritize family over ministry. Lastly, don’t be scared to dream big for the Kingdom. Our God is limitless, so our dreams should be too!

”

EMPOWERED WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

connection

I-Connect provides the opportunity for PCG women to join hearts and hands with **Empowered Women's Ministries**. We value your voice in our community of faith and your desire to help us as we advance the Kingdom of God **together as one**.



REGISTRATION BEGINS JANUARY 1, 2019

TO JOIN: EMAIL YOUR LOCAL PCG CHURCH

AND PROVIDE \$5 FOR A ONE-YEAR MEMBERSHIP.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE BENEFITS OF YOUR

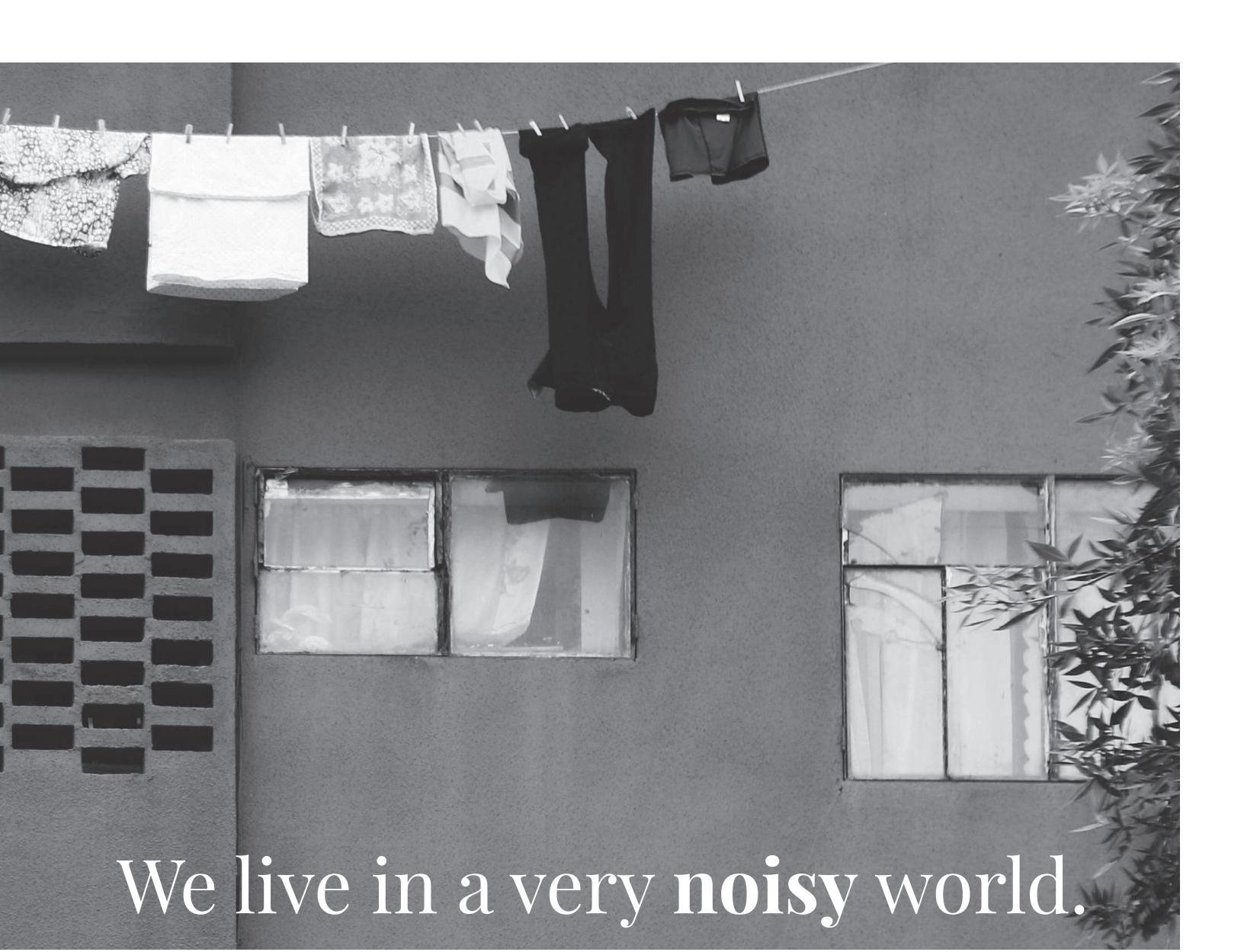
MEMBERSHIP, VISIT PCG.ORG/WOMEN



CLARITY

IN ONE MISSION—ONE MOVEMENT

BY CHUCK WILSON



We live in a very noisy world.

Granted, I have been responsible for my share of loud music, but there is so much more. Our television and internet sources seem to literally be screaming at us 24/7 about which politicians we need to love (or hate) at any given moment, in addition to the current crisis and social outrage of the week. Then, all of this seems to be renewed each and every Monday morning. I even know people who have become so absorbed by Facebook and/or Twitter that daily living has become a problem for them. The outside has penetrated the inside, and it has evolved into a room full of confusion.

Sadly, the noise and confusion have spread into the church world. Recently, I came upon a very good internet message about being “intentional” in everything we do in the Kingdom of God. The minister then had his worship team close the service by singing “Reckless Love.” I was so confused. Do you want me to be *intentional* or *reckless*? Keep in mind, those words have opposite meanings. It just became noise to my spirit.

And yes, it has infected the Pentecostal Church of God. For a number of years, we have suffered from a lack of vision clarity, purpose, and common goal we could all embrace. Far too many of our fellowship have become cowboys roaming the Wild West doing their own things. But right now, I can see the opportunity for those days to quickly cease.

“One Mission—One Movement” has come onto the scene. On the surface it may appear to be just another catchy slogan or phrase. After all, inside the PCG we have had our share of notable slogans. Remember “The Inner Circle” or the “First Fruits” of the 1980s? “Strategy 2000” was an effective rallying cry during the 1990s, and we had some of the most productive years in our organization’s history during that time. But as I look at *One Mission—One Movement*, I see something that runs deeper than a good soundbite. I see a message that has its roots in the prophetic Word of God. These four simple words can bring clarity to our fellowship, which has been trapped in the noise for the past few years.

ONE MISSION

We really have just one mission. Yes, some of us are running food banks to feed the hungry. Some operate emergency services—providing on-the-scene help when there is a disaster. Still others are working among drug addicts, alcoholics, the homeless, or with a wide variety of ethnic groups from many different nations. And some of us are simply preaching from our pulpits each week. But it does not matter what we are doing in ministry, for we all have this one mission: **Tell everybody about the life-changing power of Jesus Christ! One Mission.**

We have many different avenues of delivering the mission but, again, we have only one mission. It is our common identity. It is what binds us together with a bond that cannot be replicated by any other institution on the face of the earth. We are unique or, in biblical terms, “peculiar.” We are enslaved together under the bond of a commission, a singular purpose, one mission that was commanded by our Lord Himself. We are commanded, compelled, directed to “go into all the earth and make disciples of all men.” *One Mission.*

ONE MOVEMENT

If we are to thrive as a worldwide fellowship, then it is imperative that we have one movement—a single forward motion propelling us toward reaching the high prize in Christ Jesus.

A few months ago, my wife was involved in a car accident. The SUV that we loved was totaled, so car shopping I went. I was quickly exposed to the new type of transmission that is taking over the car industry: CVT (constant velocity transmission). It gives the drive a different feel but serves the same purpose of propelling the car forward. *New design, new feel, same purpose.*

Several years ago, I heard the underlying grumblings when we changed our decades-old slogan from “Proclaiming Bible Truth in Pentecostal Power.” It seemed there were quite a few unhappy about this change (*new design, new feel*), and many in our overseas mission fields even clung to the old slogan. But here is the beauty of One Mission—One Movement. We cannot achieve “One Movement” without the proclamation of Bible truth in Pentecostal power! They are inherently tied together, inseparable in function. Our movement—our forward motion—comes when we proclaim the ONE MISSION we have been given in the Pentecostal power that we have experienced. *Same purpose.*

We might be using different words in the English language, but we have not changed what we are saying. Some years back I sat in a class taught by Dr. John W. “Preacher” Stalls: Methods and Message or “The M&M’s” as he termed it. I learned that changes of culture might bring new methods. A progression of doing things differently has been happening since the beginning of time, but you see our message never really changes. Jesus Christ is the same healer, deliverer, life-giver, and savior that He has always been.

ONE MISSION— ONE MOVEMENT...

It brings us into “The Inner Circle.” It invites us to the table to partake of the “First Fruits.” It gives us a clearly defined “Strategy” for the future. It lets everyone know we are together and unified in Christ. In its modern simplicity, it becomes the precise message of clarity to a world filled with useless noise. It is a concise rallying cry we desperately need at this time in our fellowship.



Chuck Wilson and his wife, Jeanette, serve as mission field representatives for Haiti. They founded *GlobalProvision.org* in 2018. The Wilsons minister in churches across Haiti and the USA.



REFLECTIONS

AN INTERVIEW WITH BRO. RONALD MINOR

Editorial Note: Last October, PCG General Bishop Wayman Ming Jr. sat down with Bro. Ronald Minor at the International Mission Center in Bedford, Texas, for a candid conversation. As a longtime Pentecostal leader—and the longest-serving general secretary in organizational history (1979–2005)—Bro. Minor reflected on some of his personal experiences and shared his thoughts on PCG's past, present, and plans for the future. With Bishop Ming in the role of interviewer, here's the transcription from their one-on-one dialogue.

Bishop Ming: Bro. Minor, what PCG moment has impacted you the most?

Brother Minor: That's a difficult question because there have been so many things that have had an impact on my life. Thinking back, when I first got my exhorter's card, it was a very special moment for me. You just got a card back in those days, but I felt like I was really a PCG minister then. Other than that, I also remember when I was elected district superintendent of Mississippi. I was 30 years of age, and I thought that was a real honor. I was elected secretary a year or two before that, when I was still in my 20s. Then, there was the night I was elected general secretary, when I was just 35—just barely 35. I've always felt honored that the movement would give me those opportunities as a young man.

Continued on next page

Can you share one or two stories in the PCG that really stand out to you?

The first General Convention that I attended was in St. Louis, Missouri, which was our 50th anniversary, and I believe it was at the Chase Park Plaza Hotel. It was the first convention I'd been to and I was all excited—got to that big city and people were getting robbed (*laughing*) and various things. So, I stayed pretty much inside that hotel the whole time of the convention. But everything was marvelous! What was new, what was happening—it was so wonderful. That was a very special moment. When we dedicated our new headquarters in Joplin, that was a special moment. When we paid off our mortgage, that was another special moment. There have been many...such as the groundbreaking for Messenger College, and all the planning sessions I got to attend.



What PCG leaders impacted you the most?

From a child, my dad was a PCG minister. Doris Lucas was my first, or one of the first, PYPA presidents and she impacted my life. She had a determination that I've always admired. R. Dennis Heard, of course, is one of my heroes. He was such a wonderful person—so talented and gifted in every way. In my first district, Joel Joiner, Thomas Hancock, W. W. Pennington, Laurence Valdez, those are some that I still hold in high regard. Then, serving under some great general bishops has been a real privilege. Roy Chappell, James Gee, Phil Redding...isn't that amazing?



Can you tell us a little bit more about Sister Lucas—who she was and how she impacted your life?

Doris Lucas was a pioneer-type woman. She started several churches in Mississippi, and her father, G. C. Bledsoe, was also a pioneer preacher who started several churches in Mississippi. Sister Lucas was a determined person. One of the things that stands out is when she attended the General Convention in Joplin...she came back to our church and had a display of the banquets and different things that she had [attended]. That kind of created in my heart the desire to want to go to General Convention. She would travel miles and miles, give of herself, give of her money, and she was a very unselfish person.



Can you talk about the PCG as a movement and not just a denomination?

Well, of course we are a denomination from a legal viewpoint. But I like to think of us as more of a movement. The things that characterize (in my mind) a movement, is when there is a cause. And there is a passion. There is an affinity that you're doing it, not because of a membership, but because of a passion that you have or a cause you can complete. And then of course, there is the fellowship that goes along with it. I think fellowship is one of the things that make the Pentecostal Church of God, especially in the early days—the '30s, '40s, and '50s—when we would have fellowship meetings. People would drive miles just to attend a fellowship meeting and a PYPA rally. People were close to one another.



What do you feel, Bro. Minor, is the mission of the PCG?

To exalt the Lord, to edify the church, and to evangelize the world. That seems very simple, but it's very difficult and quite a challenge to truly exalt the Lord, build up the church, and evangelize the world.



You've been hearing us talk about "One Mission—One Movement." How does that resonate with you or what comes to mind when you think of that?

We need to be one. For one of the problems we face is lack of unity, or each person doing their own thing and having their own mission. And it's important that we come together and be one and to be working together for the same cause. I believe that has real possibilities, not as a slogan, but as a fact.

What do you feel was your great accomplishment or achievement in the PCG?

There were a few things that happened while I was general secretary, which make me proud to say I was a part of it. Some were the implementation of the Minister's Study Series; the establishment of the PCG Extension Fund; the Annual Local Church Report which, for the first time, gave us a more accurate account of how many people we have and how many churches we have. Being a part of establishing Messenger College was also a real honor.

Do you have any regrets?

Yes. I regret that we have not had the affinity for the movement that we need to have. I think you're trying to do something about that right now, but I think that is a regret of mine. And I regret that we haven't had an adequate support base for the International Mission Center and also for Messenger College. It has never been adequate. As a result of all that, we haven't seen the growth we ought to see. Now one of my concerns—as is yours—is the lack of young ministers coming aboard.

Can you talk a little bit about the First Fruits Program and your thoughts on how it can help us?

Well, I really think the First Fruits Program would be an answer for our financial support base. It hasn't been, but I think it could be. God's plan is [for] tithes and offerings, and when we do God's plan, things work. But we need everyone participating—or at least a greater majority than what we have now. If that program were to catch hold, it would be a tremendous blessing...not only to the nation but also to the districts. It has wonderful potential because it's God's plan. Tithes and offerings are God's plan.

Let's conclude with a question that is almost prophetic. As someone who has played a significant role in a 1st-Century PCG, if you were to address a 2nd-Century PCG for the next one hundred years, what would you say to them? What would be your word of counsel or word of blessing to the next-century PCG?

We can be what we want to be, and we can accomplish what we make up our mind to accomplish. We need to remember where we came from and not forget that. We need to look back to our roots. Church today is nothing like it was when I was a kid—not even from when I started in the ministry, and that's not all bad. In fact, it can be very good. But let's not ever forget the fundamentals—who we are and where we came from.



Our thanks to Bro. Minor for his inspirational leadership service and continued support of fellow Pentecostal ministers, as well as students of Messenger College, who are blessed to know him as a faculty member.

PLANTING HIS CHURCH IN CORONA

BY REV. SILVER GARZA

One Mission—One Movement is rapidly circumnavigating the globe with a tenacious veracity concerning Jesus' final command to "preach the gospel to all creation" (Mark 16:15). The momentum is quickening a fiery hunger in both young and old alike. This fire came upon my wife and me during the spring conference 2018 in Bakersfield, California, as PCG Bishop Wayman Ming Jr. poured out his heart to weeping leaders.

For us personally—as evangelists and soon-to-be church planters—his message could not have been more timely. My wife, Brenda, and I stared at each other with our hearts pounding as Bishop Ming relayed this mandate from the Lord. Our family (the two of us and our two daughters) feels honored and blessed to carry this torch with our PCG family. As first-time church planters, we needed direction and a location for His church. This was wrought through a combination of prayer and the input of seasoned leadership over us.

Eventually, the Lord revealed Corona, California, to be our point of impact. The Lord insisted the church be named "G2G Family Church" (short for Glory to Glory Church). This comes from 2 Corinthians 3:16 where Paul says, "And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory."

The vision is simple—making disciples in every generation and every nation. At G2G we believe that from the youngest to the eldest, everyone should be served and trained for ministry, never relegated to a back room. We know that personal evangelism is the responsibility of every believer within their sphere of influence. It is G2G's declared mission and goal to train believers in their God-given gifting and release them to change the world for the gospel. In the short months since arriving in Corona, the Lord has already done some amazing things.

Recently, I was at a local Walmart and ran into an employee who had us pray for his co-worker the previous month. The co-worker's partner had been battling cancer and was not doing well at all. We had prayed a simple but passionate prayer that she would quickly recover. I found out that after we prayed, she had turned a corner in her treatment and is now doing much better. Praise the Lord!

Our first official outreach was a three-day rock festival held near Corona last September. We set up a prayer booth in the most unlikely of venues and witnessed first-time decisions, numerous rededications to the Lord, personal ministry, and many physical healings! God is moving mightily here in Corona.

We look forward with hopeful expectation as we approach our Centennial Celebration. One hundred years of global impact is certainly a significant commemoration. Just as Jesus lovingly left the ninety-nine in search of the one, we are leaving the ninety-nine previous years in search of the One Mission—One Movement. There could be no greater life lived than one laid down for this very cause.



Pastors Silver and Brenda Garza are from Southern California and have been married since 2010. They have two daughters, Selah and Arrowlinn. In 2017, the family of four lived in Mozambique, Africa. They gladly follow the call of God to the corners of the earth and feel confident that Corona is their permanent home as they plant roots and build His church.

FROM JAMAICA TO HONDURAS: A REUNION 17 YEARS IN THE MAKING

PCG GLOBAL



When Kayan Powell and Mark Rector stepped inside a van last August to share a ride from the airport to a conference they would both be attending, neither recognized the other—at first. A few introductions later, and it became apparent that a special reunion was in the works. En route to the All-Americas Continental Conference in San Pedro Sula, Honduras, these two pastors reconnected as they recalled their initial meeting many years before.

Their story actually began in 2001. As Rev. Rector explains it: “Seventeen years ago, I had the opportunity to go to Jamaica and preach at youth camp, and it changed my life.”

Today, Rev. Rector serves as district secretary for North Texas and pastors in Amarillo, but he still remembers walking down a hill to the tabernacle and hearing the Jamaican young people sing. The hours in prayer and worship made an impact, and he was moved by the experience.

Kayan Powell, one of the local youth, had no idea his life was about to change forever. He says, “I can remember I was told there was going to be a youth camp in Jamaica. Three of us friends stopped by the church that night and stood on the outside.”

Rev. Powell laughingly admits that he and his friends weren’t paying much attention to the preaching; they were more interested in just looking. But he says, “After Pastor Rector was done preaching, he walked outside and brought us to the altar. And right there I surrendered my life.”

“In all the travels we have done over the years doing district youth work, the altar calls always made the difference,” says Rev. Rector. “Going to Jamaica and seeing the altars filled with young people...that made it worth the miles, the dinners, and the fundraising.”

Rev. Powell says, “For me, the amazing thing about what took place seventeen years ago was the fact that I didn’t just walk to the altar. Pastor Rector came for me and took me to the altar. To me that changed everything. One year after giving my heart to the Lord, I went into Bible college—Caribbean Pentecostal College, and I was trained as a minister. At the same youth camp where I got saved, now I serve as the national youth director and also I am the person in charge of that youth camp. I serve as a pastor and I’ve been pastoring now for twelve years. The Lord has blessed me, and I am married with a beautiful wife and three beautiful sons.”

Through the years, Rev. Powell never forgot the preacher who reached out to him, so when he heard the name “Mark Rector” while on that fateful van ride, he was happily surprised by the impromptu reunion. They both were. While Rev. Rector hoped he was sowing seeds into lives years ago, he never knew if he would see anyone from that trip again. Nor could he have anticipated the impression made back in 2001.

Rev. Powell says he feels “like I am a son who has made a father proud. I want to say to young people out there in the world, if you are standing on the outside looking in, I want to encourage you to come on in. You can find peace, you can find joy, and you can find comfort.”

Preacher in his home country, Jamaican national youth director, district overseer of Clarendon Parish—Kayan Powell has come a long way from that curious teenager of seventeen years ago. He hopes that one day Rev. Rector will be able to visit the church where he now pastors, and he is passionate about reaching young people who may feel lost.

“I grew up as a very poor young man. I suffered as a child growing up, and God has made a difference in my life. So the next time somebody introduces Christ to you, I encourage you to try Him. You can never lose. I never did. Look at me today. I am really happy.”

This article was developed from a video session held last August during the All-Americas Continental Conference in San Pedro Sula, Honduras. To view the video in its entirety, visit the PCG World Missions Facebook page. The post is under the videos tab and is titled “Ever wondered if anything really happens on a mission trip?”





AMERICAN INDIAN MISSIONS

AIM HIGHER: ANSWER THE CALL

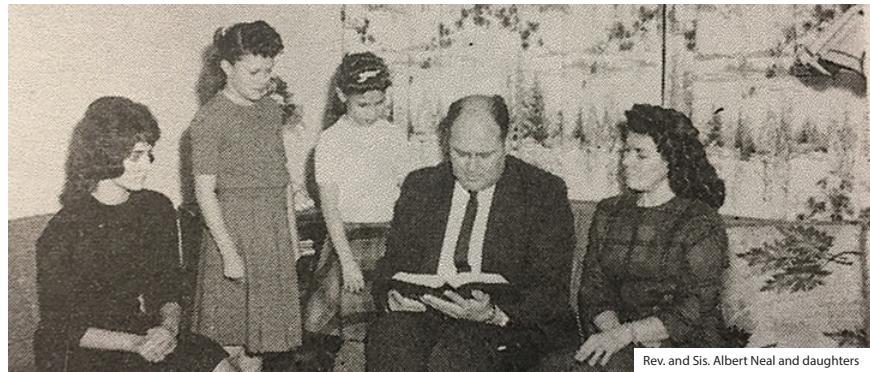
BY REV. STEVE THROCKMORTON

At this June's Centennial gathering of the PCG, the American Indian Missions Department (AIM) will be celebrating seventy years of faithful and effective ministry to Native Americans. AIM was birthed in the heart of Rev. James James, a local pastor who had a vision to organize a coordinated outreach ministry among the native people of North America. The national leadership of the PCG embraced this vision in 1949 and appointed him as the first director. He and his family labored tirelessly to organize and strengthen Native American churches across the U.S. Under his leadership, the first all-Indian led camp-meeting was held in Carnegie, Oklahoma, in 1949.

In 1955, Rev. Albert Neal was appointed to succeed Rev. James as the department director. Rev. Neal owned his own Cessna and traveled frequently to American Indian reservations by plane. His engine once broke down in midair, and he was forced to land miles from the nearest airport. He prayed to "the Pilot of all pilots" and was able to find a country road near a farm in the middle of nowhere and landed safely. But this was no ordinary road. The nearby farmer also owned a plane and used it regularly as a runway! Working as a missionary to Native Americans is a great adventure, and it requires courage, resourcefulness, and a passion to bring the good news to those living in the impoverished conditions on the reservations. Rev. Neal embodied all these traits.

Many new churches were started during Rev. Neal's tenure as director, but the extensive traveling and physically demanding workload took its toll on him and his family. In fact, this position was so demanding that the PCG General Board even tried (unsuccessfully) to divide the workload between two directors: one in the West and one in the East.

In 1964, Rev. C. Don Burke was named as assistant director to help lighten the load. One year later, Rev. Burke was appointed as director, succeeding Rev. Neal. For the next forty-six years, Rev. Burke, his wife, Naomi, and their family led AIM to unprecedented



Rev. and Sis. Albert Neal and daughters



Rev. and Sis. C. Don Burke, Mike, Donita, and Nelda



Rev. James James and family

heights. Tireless and compassionate, they labored among Native Americans, working alongside many AIM pastors and missionaries serving faithfully in the field. Don's preaching and Naomi's poetry were just two of the God-given abilities they used to lead others to Christ and to inspire others to answer the call to help Native Americans.

Following the Burkes' retirement, Rev. David Petty and his wife, Ruby, became the directors of AIM in 2011. Their compassion and their years of ministry among American Indians uniquely qualifies them to lead this ministry. Despite the great financial challenges facing all ministries since 2008, they have demonstrated the same tireless effort, compassion, and God-inspired resourcefulness as their predecessors. And like their predecessors, they challenge us with this question: Will we answer the call as second-century members of the PCG to minister to the forgotten Americans who live on the reservations and bring them the good news, which can heal and deliver them from the dark oppression they face?

For more information on supporting the work of American Indian Missions, please contact Director Petty at im@pcg.org.

Rev. Steve Throckmorton pastors at New Covenant Family Church in Bowie, Texas.

MINISTRY DEVELOPMENT

THE MULTIPLYING MENTALITY

DEPARTMENT
FOCUS

BY SPENCER MING



Since its inception in 1919, the Pentecostal Church of God has held a rich missional heritage. In fact, our inaugural convention in Chicago, which occurred not long after the infamous race riots, went on record to "not discriminate against any member of the Body of Christ" and resolved that "aggressive evangelism" be our motto. Our official paper, *The Pentecostal Herald*, was especially committed to "taking the gospel to those outside of Pentecost." And in 1932, we officially sponsored our first missionary endeavor as Rev. and Mrs. George Doyal set sail for China. Of course, these stories only speak to our beginnings, but for the last 100 years, God has graced our Movement with the same Spirit-filled power that once fueled the global expansion of the first century. But let us not forget that, at some time or another, we have also felt growing pains and lethargy in our missional responsibility. If we hope to continue reaching the lost in our world, we must undoubtedly maintain the multiplying mentality.

In Genesis 1:27, God blessed Adam, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply." Similarly, God prophetically declared over Abraham, "I will bless you and make your name great... In you, all the families of the earth shall be blessed" (Gen 12:1-3). The result of these two blessings, however, varied depending upon how they chose to respond. As you know, instead of *being* fruitful, Adam chose to *eat* the fruit, which multiplied everlasting consequence. Abraham on the other hand, "went, as the Lord had told him" (Gen. 12:4). This is, in fact, our missional responsibility: to go as the Lord instructs us, to be a blessing, to *multiply*. And it is for this very reason that the International Mission Center in Bedford, Texas, is constructing a specific initiative dedicated to Ministry Multiplication.

The unfortunate truth for the Pentecostal Church of God is that many have disconnected from the missional mandate established by our Pentecostal forefathers and by our heavenly Father, but our prayer is that we might accelerate our missional pace by partnering with each district to catalyze movement. As a result, the PCG Executive Leadership team is developing a comprehensive ministry multiplication plan, which strategizes for (1) the production of discipleship materials and other resources for the local church; (2) the update of an antiquated credentialing process that will also provide equivalency alternatives like the Forerunner Experience (visit forerunner.pcg.org to learn more) and district ministry schools; (3) specialized ministry training for new ministers, church planters, and existing ministers who seek coaching (visit pcg.org/intensives for more information); and (4) the expansion and development of formal education opportunities at Messenger College.

My favorite quote of all time is actually found in C.S. Lewis's *The Magician's Nephew*, which is the first of seven books in the *Chronicles of Narnia* series. At one point in the story, Aslan the Lion, who is depicted as a Christ-like figure, begins to sing the Narnian

world and all of its creatures into existence. When he finishes, he gathers all of creation together and wildly proclaims, "Narnia, Narnia, Narnia, awake. Love. Think. Speak. Be walking trees. Be talking beasts. Be divine waters." I love this quote because it is a passionate and powerful declaration of missional movement.

2019 is our 100th birthday, the year of our Centennial Celebration. If ever we wonder what our expectations are for a 2nd-Century PCG, let us remember the *multiplying mentality*. Pentecostal Church of God, awake! Love. Think. Speak. Be extraordinary...



Spencer Ming serves at the International Mission Center, providing oversight for Communications and the Forerunner Experience.

Winter 2019 | PM 29



THE KIND OF PEOPLE WE SHOULD BE

In light of the impending Day of the Lord, Peter asks, "What kind of people ought you to be?" He answers, "You ought to live holy and godly lives as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming" (2 Peter 3:11-12).

In view of the prophetic events described earlier in this chapter, what kind or sort of people should we be?

First, we should be **holy people**. "You ought to live holy and godly lives..." (v. 11). These two qualities should characterize people who live their manner of life in light of the Lord's coming. The word holy means to separate our lives unto God. We are to live devoted to God—not to ourselves. We should devote our manner of life to the Lord.

When a young man becomes engaged, he sets aside all other girls. He devotes himself to his fiancée. When he marries her, he exclusively devotes himself to his wife, excluding any familiar relationship with another woman. That is the charge we take when we get married. Similarly, God wants us to exclusively devote ourselves to Him.

We should also live godly lives. Godliness is devotion toward God. This is what we are before God. We should bear a family resemblance to God. Just as sons often resemble their fathers, our heavenly Father expects us to resemble Him and His values (Eph. 5:1). When we become children of God, we should resemble our Father. We should talk like Him, think like Him, and act like Him. If we step out of phase with the Father, we become critical, cantankerous, and miserable. This mean streak does not come from our heavenly Father.

Secondly, we should be **hopeful people**. We are to "look forward to the day of God" (v.12). As Bishop Lesslie Newbigin, a British theologian, missionary, and author put it: "The horizon for the Christian is...," "he shall come again," and "we look for the coming of the Lord." He says, "It can be tomorrow or any time, but that is the horizon. That horizon for me is fundamental, and that is what makes it possible to be hopeful and therefore to find life meaningful."

Of all people, Christians should be filled with hope! Bible-based hope keeps us afloat in a turbulent world. Our world is wondering, will darkness and evil prevail? Will poverty just increase? Will violence and war persist? Will marriages keep

breaking up? Will depression continue robbing people of joy? Does it have to end like this? In Christ, it most certainly doesn't have to end like this.

We steward the only message on the planet that can give people what their hearts need most, which is hope. Hope that sins can be forgiven. Hope that prayers can be answered. Hope that doors of opportunity, which seem locked, can be opened. Hope that broken relationships can be reconciled. Hope that diseased bodies can be healed. Hope that damaged trust can be restored. Hope that dead churches can be resurrected. Of all people, we must claim that hope and live in it and radiate it to others. And we must proclaim that message of hope to everyone God gives us the opportunity to influence.

Finally, Peter says we are to be **harvest people**. Not only are we to look forward to the Day of the Lord, we are supposed to speed its coming! In some amazing way, we help hasten the coming of the Lord. God allows us the awesome opportunity of participating in His very timetable by helping to fulfill the Great Commission. Jesus said, "And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come" (Matt. 24:14).

Jesus also said something about the harvest in John 4:35: "Do you not say, 'There are still four months and then comes the harvest'? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest!" In his book *Cultivating a Life for God*, Neil Cole reflects on Jesus' statements about the harvest this way:

If we can't see them, we won't love them (Matt. 9:36).
 If we can't love them, we won't pray for them (Matt. 9:36-38).
 If we can't pray for them, we won't win them (Matt. 10:1).
 If we can't win them, we won't send them (Matt. 10:2-5).

When we see them and have compassion for them, we also begin to realize that people are open and responsive to the gospel. They are ripe for the harvest. Multiple studies have demonstrated that people are open to Christ and His church if invited.

Holy people. Hopeful people. Harvest people. In light of the impending Day of the Lord, these are the kind of people we must be!

One Mission. One Movement. □

Dan Coleman is the general secretary of the Pentecostal Church of God.

IMC MINISTRY X MULTIPLICATION

Spring 2019

New Ministry Training Experiences

Ministry Intensives

// Yearlong intensives to advance new ministry, broaden existing ministry, and equip you to walk worthy of your calling //

Forerunner Experience

// 12 weeks designed to simplify and speed up your journey into ministry //



Learn more:

>> pg.org/intensives >>
>> forerunner.pg.org >>



"Now to Him, who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us."
– Ephesians 3:20, NKJV

Reflective of this significant verse, EXCEED has been the theme for our Messenger College campus throughout the past semester.

This mighty word means "to go beyond" or "greater than expected," and it is the college's prayer and anticipation that God exceeds every expectation and plan we have for Messenger.

However, if we are going to see God exceed our prayers and expectations, we must understand and activate the following:

1. NOW TO HIM = Intentional Intimacy with God

"We do not struggle with the absence of God but our lack of awareness of God." – MC Professor Vernelle Ingle

Before we can see or witness the "exceedingly abundantly" or the "above all that we ask or think," we must constantly encounter our God, the one who is able to do just that. As a minister, and speaking from personal experience, I know we tend to sacrifice the intimacy with our God at the altar of our ministry. God is not impressed with our feats but rather our faith and devotion to Him.

Preacher and author Francis Chan stated, "Our lack of intimacy with Jesus is often due to our refusal to unplug and shut off communication from all others so we can be alone with Him!" We need to learn how to shut off technology and get alone with God, without distractions. When we are intentional about our intimacy with God—drawing close to Him, getting alone and devouring His Word, and seeking out His Spirit—we begin to understand Him! For when we gain an understanding of Him, we become familiar with all that He has done through and with ordinary people as stated in Scripture.

2. WHO IS ABLE TO DO EXCEEDINGLY = Watch and be Amazed!

Once we are intentional about our intimacy with God, we grow in our comprehension of who He is and what He can do. Scripture points to many occasions when man was intimate and alone with the Lord. He showed up and showed off!

- Moses alone on the mountain with God: The Ten Commandments were received.
- David in a field worshiping and tending to his responsibilities: God selected him as King of Israel.
- Esther fasting and praying: God changed the direction of a nation.

- Jesus in the garden alone with God: God used Him as the sacrifice for the sins of His creation.

Some of our greatest feats as ministers and Christians will be after we've been in His presence, after we've wrestled with Him. When we understand who God is and discover Him through the Word, we can rely on the fact we serve a God who is able to do ANYTHING.

- Make a donkey speak, check!
- Part the seas for his people to escape, check!
- Use a prostitute to fulfill my plans, check!
- Keep three men safe in a lion's den, check!
- Raise Jesus, His own Son, up from the dead, check!

We fail to ask God to do the exceedingly, above all because we have failed to be intentional with our time and devotion to Him. His Word should be a reminder of His character, faithfulness, and capability.

3. TO THE POWER THAT WORKS IN US = Activate Your Faith

Messenger College has been in a season of revival this past semester. It all started with a few students praying and interceding for their school. Then there was a simple prayer by a bonfire to heal one girl's dislocated shoulder. (She healed.) Then, God used a dorm room of young men, hungry for the things of God. He spoke to them—telling them to pray over a student contemplating suicide—and a breakthrough happened. Students began to come and pray during the day for the school.

A familiar worship service turned into a few hours of praying and basking in His presence. Then an evening inner-healing service was conducted which turned into a seven-hour manifestation of his Spirit and giftings all through the students. We are excited for what God is doing here at Messenger College!

When we are intentional with our intimacy with God, understand and read His sovereignty and power throughout Scripture, we can freely and confidently walk and operate in the power that has been given to us by the Holy Spirit. We need to remember that we must activate our faith and take a step of faith by trusting God will exceed every plan, prayer, and pursuit because we know Him and trust in His Word.

Step out in faith today! What is it that God has been asking you to do? Activate your faith and rely on Him with the results. He will exceed every dream and prayer! This is what the 2nd-Century PCG looks like—young men and women ready to carry on the legacy and the power of the Holy Spirit to the world!

What an exciting time it is for the Pentecostal Church of God and for Messenger College! Fresh vision is being cast, and the Lord is positioning this denomination to do even greater works in its second century. ☺

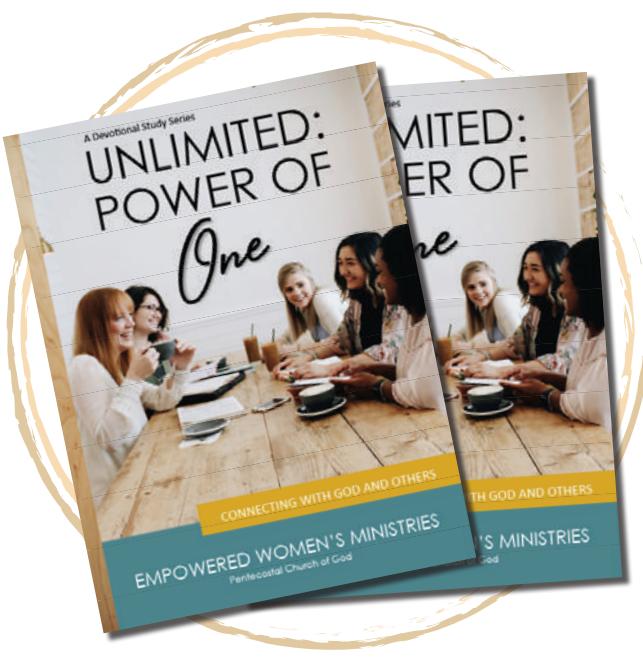
IMPACT APPALACHIA 2018

For the 11th consecutive year, Impact PCG Student Ministries hosted a mission trip to the Appalachia region—an area of the United States in desperate need. Last month, more than a hundred participants made the trek to Winchester, Kentucky, with the goal of bringing hope and sharing the true meaning of Christmas with families in four different locales: Hazel Green and Booneville, Kentucky; Pineville, West Virginia; and Craigsville, Virginia. Including local PCG participants, the mission team numbered over 200 people!

In partnership with PCG National Missions, Empowered Women's Ministries, and churches around the nation, team members delivered food boxes, personal care items, blankets, coats, hats, gloves, books, bicycles, and coats to 400-plus families.

By conservative estimate, **over half a million dollars have been invested in the Appalachian region since 2007**—all thanks to the generous efforts of our Pentecostal Church of God family!





UNLIMITED: Power of ONE is a Devotional Study on Connecting with God and Others. Watch the Unlimited Power of God unfold while we unite our hearts and minds together as ONE with God.

This devotional book has been created with 12 devotional chapters, now revised to also include a deeper look at the Word, complete with study questions.

Session One now available at no cost on
pcg.org/wmresources

Full devotional \$12.99 on Amazon or
call 817.554.5900, ext. 371
empoweredwmin@pcg.org

SESSION 1 PREVIEW

ONE NAME: REIGNS ABOVE EVERY NAME!

PRAYER REFLECTION

"Jesus...You have been given THE NAME above all names and my heart bows before You, surrendering every area of my life to Your rule. I am in awe that before I was even born, **You knew my name...** all of my quirks, my passions, my stubborn places, my greatest hopes and deepest fears. I **want to know Your Name.** I want to know more of all that You are so that I can live with the UNLIMITED POWER of Your infinite resources! **Strengthen my belief with each passing day.** In Jesus' Name, Amen."

— Jenni Gilbert

what are you
Expecting
for 2019?

WE LOVE HEARING FROM YOU!

SHARE YOUR STORIES & EXPECTATIONS
PCG.ORG/SHEREYOURSTORY

Pentecostal Church of God
PO Box 211866
Bedford, TX 76095

Non Profit Org.
US Postage
Paid
Joplin, MO
Permit No. 116

IT'S 2019

OUR 2ND-CENTURY STARTS NOW.

OUR 2ND-CENTURY STARTS WITH YOU.

