

# RR CROSSING

RAMESH RICHARD EVANGELISM AND CHURCH HEALTH

A GLOBAL PROCLAMATION MINISTRY

RREACH  
Q1 2015

## National GPAs

## REFLECTIONS ON THE MIDDLE EAST



“For many years I have been telling the Bible what to say, and I have been so wrong. Now I will preach what the Bible tells me.”

GPA Swaziland graduate

### GPA Swaziland

Swaziland’s population predominantly professes to be Christian, but wrong biblical interpretation has resulted in the development of cults. “The concept of this academy [GPA Swaziland (August 18–27)] has come at the right time,” one of the 24 graduating pastors said.

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The Middle East is arguably the nerve center of the world’s future. Dr. Ramesh Richard traveled to the region earlier this year, and in a recent interview with *The Christian Post*, provided some biblical and theological perspective on the escalating situation.

The interview, which includes a five-fold grid for the western Evangelical church’s stand regarding the Middle East, has received a positive response. As a friend has said, “I believe American Christians desperately need such a comprehensive, Christ-honoring Middle East purpose statement.” In this spirit, we wish to share with you some of Dr. Richard’s insights.

**CP:** What is your experience with the Middle East region?

**RR:** My friends and brothers fall on several sides of national and social divides. The situation is intractable socially and nationally, but hopeful theologically.

**CP:** What do Western Christians or the Western people in general most misunderstand about the ongoing Middle East conflict?

**RR:** Generally, Westerners have either given up, don’t care, or wish for quick solutions. Those especially from younger cultures fail to grasp the long-term intensity and complexity of the conflict.

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# Guided by the Text

## One pastor's preaching experience after the Dallas GPA

"It was on the 9th of October that we left our loved ones to go on a trip," began Pastor P, 2014 Dallas GPA graduate from Myanmar, as he recounted taking a group of students to minister in remote Kachin State.

But the trip was "not as easy as it was good and exciting in planning." The water pump on their truck gave out that first day, stranding them until the middle of the night, and repair costs drained their trip funds.

In the midst of this despair, however, God brought along a Buddhist family who served the group "like the Samaritan Good Man." Pastor P's students were able to share Christ and His redeeming love with them in return.

The team finally arrived in Hupin, Kachin State, on October 11. Pastor P spoke at a number of churches and to gatherings of youth, and the Word of God penetrated like never before. "We have never heard a message like this," said one leader. "This message was birthed and guided and directed by the text. [A Scripture Sculpture hallmark!] God truly has sent you to us with this message to convict our sins and to return to God and to His Word."

The drug addiction rate among Kachin State young people is 70 percent, yet the youth attending were captivated. "We need men like Pastor P who bring to people pure words from God's Word," they said. Even the students accompanying him testified, "That was one of the most touching preaching you ever delivered."

*It's a privilege for RREACH to pour into pastors like Pastor P through the Dallas GPA. It provides, he says, among other things, "greater methods for text-directed and text-guided preaching." Thank you for helping us connect, unite and strengthen more than 1,100 young pastoral leaders from 75 countries around the world. Please pray for the Lord to continue to multiply the proclaiming of His name through them.* 🙏



Pastor P saying farewell to those they had been ministering to in the Kachin State



# A Moment and a Lifetime



Ramesh speaking to a crowd on Mars Hill in Greece

Dr. Ramesh Richard experienced a life “first” this fall when he traveled to Greece to speak at a Campus Crusade for Christ conference. This lifelong proclaimer had never before stepped foot in that historic land so significant in the Apostle Paul’s second missionary journey to proclaim the Christian faith (Acts 17–18).

Two meaningful moments affirmed Ramesh’s calling and gifting. Seeing Mars Hill, the site of Paul’s “unknown god” presentation to the Athenians, transported Ramesh back to his teen years and first experiences as an open-market proclaimer, where God confirmed in him the gift of evangelistic preaching. Unexpectedly, the Mars Hill tour guide asked Ramesh to say a few words and pray at precisely this decisive site for the Christian Faith.

A quick-thinking friend with a phone captured the powerful moment with the Greek text of Acts 17:22–31 showing in the picture’s background.

The other poignant moment happened at the Bema Seat in Corinth. Because all believers (Paul included) would stand

at the Bema (judgment) seat of Christ (2 Cor. 5:10), Paul urged all to persuasively proclaim the Gospel (2 Cor. 5:11).

Visiting this site intensified again Ramesh’s calling—to personally proclaim the Lord Jesus and to multiply proclaimers for Him.

While preparing for the complex and demanding 2016 Global Proclamation Congress for Pastoral Trainers, Ramesh’s personal proclamation has been taking second place to the GProCongress for the sake of a massive multiplication of better proclaimers worldwide.

Ramesh senses that the Mars Hill and Bema Seat moments were specifically orchestrated by God to affirm him through the example and content of Christianity’s greatest proclaimer. “For indeed Jews ask for signs, and the Greeks search for wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified” (1 Cor. 1:22–23).



More informed Christians realize the irreconcilability—barring an acknowledgement of an earthly, personal arrival of a reconciling God—of the transcendent, monotheistic convictions undergirding the dominant parties in these conflicts. The faith of the Bible invites all peoples to welcome the Lord Jesus as that personal arrival of God—in His first-coming as human Savior and in His last-arrival as humanity's Judge—who brings evenhanded justice for Jews and Gentiles alike and allows any to have rights of earthly possession and a blessing which extends forever.

**CP:** What is the role of Western churches when it comes to responding to the Middle East crisis?

**RR:** Evangelical Western churches have few substantively helpful options, but I do see a five-fold grid in which they must operate. In terms of what we are *for*, rather than what we are against, our response must be:

1) Pro-God. We must aim for His priorities for the entire planet, especially concerning human salvation.

2) Pro-Messiah. Our ultimate commitment is to the Lord Jesus Christ, with all other identities and commitments as secondary.

3) Pro-Church/Christians. We must do good in its fullest sense, especially to the “household of faith.”

4) Pro-Life. Doing good to all people (Gal. 6:10) means rejecting the dehumanization, brutalization and marginalization of any people anywhere. This includes fostering principles of a biblical humanity through supporting social-political structures that are more conducive to life, peace, dignity, godliness, freedom, and so on.

5) Pro-World. We work for the very best of the whole world in Christ's name and spirit. To go in Jesus' name and not in His spirit (or vice versa) is to abuse the Gospel. The entire region—Israel and all her neighbors—is currently in unbelief. From the perspective of the past, we agree with the Lord Jesus, who said that salvation is from the Jews (John 4:22); with the Old Testament that prophesies an integrated priority for the region (Isaiah 19:18–25); and with the New

Testament, which holds an earthly future for Israel despite her current unbelief (Rom 9–11). Hence, we neither negate nor diminish the *future* of Israel, nor view her as replaced or fulfilled by the Church now. And yet her future priority is only for her original purpose as a channel of global blessing, to be finally accomplished by the returning Messiah-King. Even God does not blindly baptize all Israeli action as permissible, especially if Israel fails to dispense blessing to her neighbors. God's blessing does not mean lack of moral accountability to Him. God brings judgment on Israel whenever neighbors threaten her existence, but He does not abandon her without a future. That is, the Bible is pro-Israel (past and future), but not pro-Israeli (in the present). So must we be.

The Bible is pro-world, pro-life, pro-Christ, pro-Christians, pro-Church. So will we be. The prayer for the peace of Jerusalem (Ps. 122:6) includes all her inhabitants first being made right with God by belief in the Messiah-Jesus and then their living with peace among themselves, pursuing justice and



righteousness.

**CP:** In what ways can Western Christians reach out to followers of Christ in the Middle East who are suffering right now?

**RR:** Really in the same way followers of Christ reach out to fellow believers facing extreme deprivation, social oppression and natural disasters anywhere. We do all the good we can for immediate needs of safety and then structurally through socio-political processes. We lessen suffering by strengthening the on-site pastoral leaders. If we can strengthen them, their long-term, more relevant, and often much less expensive ministries overflow into their congregations, which become witnesses to their communities and to displaced refugees.

**CP:** How can Christian leaders proclaim God's message of peace and hope in a region where there are many conflicting ideologies, some, like ISIS, that are violently hostile to Christianity?

**RR:** Presumably at great sacrifice. But Christian leaders are seizing on the distress of copious dominant

worldview participants and victims for the Gospel's sake. On this trip, I found the local ministry perspective both strategic and sacrificial. One said, "We have been praying so long for this region to become softened to the Gospel. Just as God confused and brought down the hegemony of Communism with unprecedented opportunity for the Gospel, it is again happening in a region that was seen as impenetrable." A steady and irreversible movement toward the Lord Jesus has begun among those of the majority convictions. Another leader noted, "We are born here, live here, and will die here. And if it means death so that the Gospel can be promoted, it is worth the sacrifice of our lives." These are the current heroes of the Faith.

**CP:** What do you see for the future of Christianity in the Middle East?

**RR:** All these Near East and the Middle East countries are within God's plan for the world—from the dawn of salvation to the consummation of His plans. This is the region closest to the Lord Jesus, racially and geographically, but unfortunately farthest from Him

spiritually.

Pastoral health affects church health, and church health affects societal health. Our current, decade-long human capital campaign includes all the countries in the Middle East region, and we have had the privilege of training pastors there over the past two decades.

God willing, the 2016 Global Proclamation Congress for Pastoral Trainers will gather a large and proportionate group of pastoral trainers from both the formal and non-formal sectors in the region to connect, unite and to strengthen them as they serve in hugely difficult environments. To mobilize delegates, I visited the Middle East region first, convinced that if we could get good representation from this hardest of all places, the rest of the world's recruits would follow.

More information about the Global Proclamation Congress for Pastoral Trainers can be found on the official website, [www.GProCongress.org](http://www.GProCongress.org). 🌐

Please pray for/about the following...

{ JANUARY 2015 }

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

The RREACH staff prays daily for all types of needs. It would be a blessing to pray for you. Yes, YOU! Please send your prayer requests to [mary@rreach.org](mailto:mary@rreach.org) and let us lift you up!

GPA=Global Proclamation Academy

1  
Ramesh to be humble before God, sensitive to needs and have clear direction in all areas of life

2  
Dr. Richard's protection and effective proclamation in Aurangabad, INDIA

3  
The Lord's favor on Dr. Richard through this new year of ministry

4  
Wide and deep penetration of the 2015 Media Outreach messages

5  
Continued blessing as Dr. Richard ministers in India

6  
Effective, efficient preparation for the 2016 GProCongress

7  
GPA CUBA: 1/8 – 17. Pray that 25 pastors will be connected, united and strengthened

8  
Protection for GPA CUBA organizers and delegates and their families

9  
Unity and synergy within the RREACH staff

10  
At least five new countries to be represented at the 2015 Dallas GPA

11  
Opinion leaders who have heard RR proclaim to be drawn to the Lord Jesus Christ

12  
Dallas and national GPA grads to effectively preach the Word and encourage each other

13  
Pastoral trainers to be motivated to attend the 2016 GProCongress

14  
Dr. Richard's upcoming presentation at Mission ConneXion Northwest

15  
Ramesh to be humble before God, sensitive to needs and have clear direction in all areas of life

16  
Excellent applicants for the 2015 Dallas GPA and wisdom in selecting them

17  
Passion, clear vision, ongoing connection and protection for graduates as GPA CUBA closes

18  
Safety as GProCongress team members travel for meetings in Dallas

19  
Discernment, inspiration and unity as the GProCongress team meets

20  
Just the right funding for the 2016 GProCongress

21  
The RREACH team to serve with clarity, alignment and excellence in execution

22  
Hearts to be receptive to Media Outreach messages

23  
Implementation of GProCongress plans made this week

24  
Physical, mental and spiritual provision for Dallas and national GPA grads

25  
Christlikeness, creativity and capacity as Dr. Richard fulfills his calling to proclaim the Lord Jesus Christ

26  
Visas to be granted for 2015 Dallas GPA candidates

27  
Spiritual growth in opinion leaders who have made decisions for the Lord Jesus Christ

28  
The Lord's continued oversight of every detail of the 2016 GProCongress

29  
Continued growth and blessing in Ramesh and Bonnie's marriage

30  
Dr. Richard speaking for the DTS chapel service today

31  
Trust in the Lord's timing as RREACH prepares for the 2015 Dallas GPA

Please pray for/about the following...

# { FEBRUARY 2015 }

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Ramesh to be humble before God, sensitive to needs and have clear direction in all areas of life	2 Preparation for upcoming national GPAS: organizers, delegates and logistics	3 Total protection and global provision for the GProCongress	4 GPA pastors serving in areas of physical hardship and persecution	5 People never before exposed to the Lord Jesus Christ to hear the Media Outreach messages	6 Dr. Richard's speaking engagement at Moody Bible Institute's Founders Week	7 Lasting effect of Dr. Richard's Founders Week message
8 Travel mercies and fruitful connections for Dr. Richard	9 Motivation, excellence and capacity for the 2016 GProCongress team	10 Dr. Richard's clear presentation at the WEA International Leadership Forum in HONDURAS	11 At least five new countries to be represented at the 2015 Dallas GPA	12 The Gospel seeds sown in opinion leaders' hearts to take root and flourish	13 Encouragement and unity among the RREACH staff	14 Blessing on all involved in organizing national GPAs
15 Ramesh to be humble before God, sensitive to needs and have clear direction in all areas of life	16 Good interaction between Media Outreach responders and RREACH online counselors	17 Gratefulness for the many friends who encourage Ramesh	18 Pastoral trainers around the world to be motivated to attend the GProCongress	19 Dr. Richard's extensive traveling to cast vision for Congress	20 Just the right resources at the right times for all areas of the ministry	21 Visa process to go smoothly for Dallas GPA candidates, especially those in more restricted countries
22 Spiritual growth and connections for all Dallas and national GPA graduates	23 The Lord to change the way opinion leaders think about the Lord Jesus Christ through Dr. Richard's messages	24 Wisdom as Ramesh considers various proclamation and pastoral training opportunities	25 Thanksgiving for RREACH's gifted and committed Board of Directors	26 Physical and spiritual protection for all involved with the GProCongress	27 Ramesh's family to grow in the Lord Jesus Christ	28 A pastors conference in a dangerous country to take place


GPA=Global Proclamation Academy





Please pray for/about the following...

# { MARCH 2015 }

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Ramesh to be humble before God, sensitive to needs and have clear direction in all areas of life	2 The RREACH staff as Dallas GPA 2015 preparation intensifies	3 GPA NICARAGUA: 3/3 – 12. Pray that 25 pastors will be connected, united and strengthened	4 Provision for many to attend the GProCongress	5 Protection for GPA NICARAGUA organizers and delegates and their families	6 Media Outreach messages to change the way viewers think about the Lord Jesus Christ	7 The Dallas GPA 2015 to be a life-changing experience
8 Spiritual, emotional, mental and physical refreshment for Ramesh	9 Opportunities to proclaim the Lord Jesus Christ to opinion leaders	10 The visa process for Dallas GPA candidates	11 Discernment and perseverance as the GProCongress team executes the vision	12 Passion, clear vision, ongoing connection and protection for graduates as GPA NICARAGUA closes	13 Preparation for other national GPAs coming up this year	14 Dallas GPA candidates as they seek funding for half of their airfare
15 Ramesh to be humble before God, sensitive to needs and have clear direction in all areas of life	16 Dallas and national GPA grads to be daily strengthened in the Lord	17 The Lord to direct and protect Ramesh's children, grandchildren and extended family	18 Joy, energy and harmony as the RREACH staff serves	19 Those interfacing with GProCongress organizers to be drawn to Christ	20 2015 Dallas GPA candidates' spiritual and physical preparation	21 Ongoing travel mercies for Dr. Richard
22 People in unreached areas to hear about the Lord Jesus Christ through Media Outreach	23 Dr. Richard's talks and books to be effective ministry tools	24 Continued financial provision for the ministry	25 Practical details for the GProCongress to fall into place	26 Dallas GPA 2015 candidates to get visas and funds for half their airfare	27 Thanks for and blessing on RREACH friends	28 Wisdom as Ramesh considers proclamation opportunities
29 GPA LEBANON: 3/29 – 4/8. Pray that 25 pastors will be connected, united and strengthened	30 Protection for GPA LEBANON organizers and delegates and their families	31 The families and ministries of 2015 Dallas GPA candidates	GPA=Global Proclamation Academy			
						



## VISION

RREACH envisions changing the way  
One Billion Individuals think and hear about the  
Lord Jesus Christ, to the glory of the Father, and by the  
power of the Holy Spirit.

## MISSION

A Global Proclamation Ministry, RREACH  
implements God's calling and gifting on Ramesh Richard  
to promote the Lord Jesus Christ worldwide.

## STRATEGY

We accelerate our global impact by the wise use and mix  
of personal proclamation, media outreach, and ministry  
training to evangelize opinion leaders, strengthen pastoral  
leaders, and reach large numbers of individuals,  
especially of Asia, Africa and Latin America.

## THEME VERSE

"And many will come from east and west and from north  
and south, and will recline at the table  
in the kingdom of God." — Luke 13:29

Thank you for helping us to *RREACH* into large  
numbers of desperate souls around our  
broken world with lasting solutions.



# RREACH

Ramesh Richard Evangelism and Church Health

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Dallas, TX 75248  
972-528-6100 or 1-800-RREACH-World

info@rreach.org  
www.rreach.org  
www.LifeRocks.org  
www.facebook.com/liferocks.org  
www.pray4rameshrichard.wordpress.com

## *Three-Heart Harmony*

God and Your Marriage



*"The Creator's heart can weave your heart and your  
spouse's heart in harmony, joy and blessing."*

Dr. Ramesh Richard

## RRESOURCE

### Three-Heart Harmony: God and Your Marriage

This DVD set helps husbands and wives—and those intending to become husbands and wives—see how “the Creator’s heart can weave your heart and your spouse’s heart in harmony, joy and blessing.” To learn more or place an order, email [Bob@rreach.org](mailto:Bob@rreach.org), or call the RREACH office at 1-800-RREACH-World (or 972-528-6100).

# Named Top 10 Charity to Watch



In simple and humble joy, we wish to share with you that in October 2014 RREACH was listed among Charity Navigator's Ten Charities Worth Watching, a selection of "lesser known charities [with budgets under two million dollars] that are truly exceptional." RREACH was the only Christian organization on the October list.

This unsolicited and unexpected recognition affirms the operational values by which RREACH strives to serve:

1. Only God—spiritual dependence
2. "Jesus Culture"—love and servanthood
3. Intentionality—excellence in execution
4. Lean, Nimble and Wise—financial sustainability

It also encourages us toward continued alignment with our strategic values:

1. Global scale and scope
2. Strategic and tactical innovation
3. Cost leadership and effectiveness
4. Maximum utility of assets

RREACH has received four stars, the highest rating, from this independent charity analysis organization. A four-star rating indicates that RREACH "exceeds industry standards and outperforms most charities in its Cause."

We are first and fundamentally accountable to the Lord God and His people, yet we are grateful for this recognition and statement of good work—God's work in and through us.

Thank you, dear friends, for helping us work toward the vision God has given Dr. Ramesh Richard to change the way One Billion Individuals think and hear about the Lord Jesus Christ. 🙏

## Partnership Opportunities

In August some RREACH friends allocated \$500,000 toward the GProCommission to inspire others to double or even further multiply that amount by October 31. The Lord provided 667,000! We praise Him for all who chose to give during this challenge. The timing of this giving is particularly strategic as we prepare for the 2016 GProCongress.

Funding for the overall GProCommission goal and to meet RREACH's general ministry needs are still needed, so please keep praying with us for the Lord's total protection and global provision.

To partner financially with Dr. Richard and RREACH, please consider the following needs:

- General ministry: \$407,000
- Global Proclamation Commission: \$671,000
  - \$25,000 to sponsor one national GPA
  - \$9,000 to sponsor one Dallas GPA pastor
  - \$4,500 to sponsor one pastor for the Congress

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## Partnership Opportunities continued from page 10

- Media Outreach: \$93,000
- Pastors Conferences: \$38,000

Multiple giving methods are available.

- Check: Make payable to RREACH. Use attached envelope or send to RREACH address.
- Online: Click “Give Online” at [www.rreach.org](http://www.rreach.org).
- Wire transfer: Please contact Director of Operations David Brugger, [david@rreach.org](mailto:david@rreach.org), 972-528-6100 x 11 or 1-800-RREACH-World.
- Stock, securities, etc.: Please contact David Brugger.

**If you wish your donation to be credited for 2014, please send ground mail postmarked no later than 12/31 or complete your online or other transaction prior to midnight, 12/31.**



## Ramesh Richard's Itinerary and RREACH Events

### JANUARY

- 1 Pastors Meeting—Aurangabad, INDIA
- 2 Pastors Meeting—Aurangabad, INDIA  
Businessmens Evangelistic Meeting—Aurangabad, INDIA
- 3 GProCongress Meeting—Aurangabad, INDIA
- 8-17 GPA CUBA
- 16-17 Mission ConneXion Northwest—Portland, OR
- 19-23 GProCongress Meeting—Dallas, TX
- 30 Dallas Theological Seminary Chapel—Dallas, TX

### FEBRUARY

- 6 Moody Bible Institute, Founder's Week—Chicago, IL
- 9-14 WEA International Leadership Forum—Tegucigalpa, HONDURAS

### MARCH

- 3-12 GPA NICARAGUA
- 13 Overseas Council President's Installation—Colorado Springs, CO
- 23-26 GProCongress Meetings—Manila, PHILIPPINES
- 29-31 GPA LEBANON

Ramesh's role at Dallas Seminary is temporarily restructured in view of increasing demands of the 2016 Global Proclamation Congress for Pastoral Trainers. Instead of semester-long teaching, he now serves in worldwide representation of the seminary as Professor of Global Theological Engagement and Pastoral Ministries. In addition to RREACH's organizational demands, numerous speaking engagements and ministry projects continue to develop throughout the year. Due to the nature of overseas work, all dates, locations and formats are subject to change. Please pray for divine protection, competence and effectiveness on this servant and his family.



# There He Goes...Again: Personal Proclamation

"I have no water (even to drink), power, bags, gifts, clothes, Wi-Fi (but have expensive cell signal). I am learning how to be abased, but I know He will supply all my needs. Thanks, and pray for me."

The RREACH staff received this communication from Dr. Ramesh Richard two days after he left for Africa. He had spent the night in the airport in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, en route to Lilongwe, Malawi, where Dallas GPA grad (2008) Pastor FN picked him up—only to have the car break down twice on the way to their destination.

That was the start of a 14-day, four-country (Malawi, South Africa, Uganda and Ethiopia), nine-stop trip across Africa to mobilize leaders and pastoral trainers for the GProCongress and to speak at two evangelistic events and a pastor's conference, among other engagements. It was also Ramesh's first Thanksgiving

away from home in 38 years.

At the time of writing, we don't know how God will answer the prayer request above, but we do know the Lord answers prayer. At an evangelistic event in São Paulo, Brazil, 60 of the 100 attendees

business leader said this was the first time he had enjoyed hearing about Jesus. An agnostic confessed it was the first time he had not made fun of Christianity.

On his trip through Lebanon, Jordan and Israel, Ramesh met a couple he had known for some years. The wife surprised him by revealing she had come to faith in the Lord Jesus Christ when Ramesh led their youth group forty years prior!

Work is beginning on his 2015 Media Outreach messages. When RREACH's strategic media outreach began 16 years ago, pre-evangelistic talks by Dr. Richard aired New Year's Day on primetime TV. The first response came from the most Internet restricted country in the world, North Korea—a fact that encouraged RREACH's board and the organization to continue nurturing media outreach. The project has developed as media culture has changed, and now primarily concentrates on social and digital media outreaches.



Ramesh's 2014 fourth quarter travels

(half non-believers) turned in response cards after Ramesh spoke, and 30 of them indicated they had trusted the Lord Jesus Christ that night. A Palestinian

Even as the Lord directs more of Dr. Richard's attention toward the GProCongress for Pastoral Trainers, He still provides these and other opportunities for personal proclamation of the Gospel and the Bible. Campus Crusade for Christ invited Dr. Richard to Greece this fall to encourage their Global Operations Conference attendees; it was his first time in this land of significant Christian history. See p. 3 for special reflections on his time there.

God is also mobilizing enthusiasm for the GProCongress—less than 600 days away. A Brazilian leader observed that expecting 5,000 attendees was too small a number. And while Dr. Richard was in Trinidad for his nephew's wedding, he was able to cast the GProCongress vision to 25 leaders of Trinidad's major schools and denominations.

The wedding itself was something of a GPA event. The groom's dad, Rajiv (Dr. Richard's brother), is RREACH's

national GPA coordinator; a Dallas GPA graduate from Trinidad initially introduced the wedding couple to each other (he also happens to be the bride's brother); and all three Dallas GPA grads from

As for prayer, a long-time ministry veteran and friend of Dr. John Richard remarked that Ramesh is the fruit of his father's prayer life. The Lord's work in and through Dr. Richard is very much the fruit of prayer—Dr. John's and yours and ours. In Brazil, a man told Ramesh he had been praying for him...for the 18 years since they had last met.

We give God the glory, and on Ramesh's behalf request your continuing support of him in every kind of encouragement during these busy days in preparation for the 2016 GProCongress. 🙏



Ramesh with Pastors L, S and N from Trinidad and Tobago

Trinidad/Tobago attended. Dr. Richard and his father, Dr. John Richard, both participated in the ceremony.



# National GPAs

continued from page 1



GPA Swaziland graduates

Equipped to preach differently, delegates were also inspired to equip others. “My next step will be asking the church national committee to organize a special workshop for our local pastors... [so] the pastors from all our 17 churches will be introduced to this [Scripture Sculpture] style of preaching,” one said.

## GPA Togo

The Dallas GPA graduates who ran GPA Togo, August 28 – September 6, created a challenge for themselves. They organized such a top-notch



GPA Togo graduates

experience that the 24 delegates were eager to spread the blessing. “Frankly, all the participants were extremely happy and impacted. They are still calling to give their thanks and appreciations,” organizers reported afterward, adding, “the requests for future and periodic national GPAs are countless!”

The Scripture Sculpture process again generated overwhelmingly positive response as “a new and exceptional method of expository preaching.” Motivated to mobilize GPA movements in their countries, Dallas GPA graduates



GPA Botswana graduates

from Mali and Burkina Faso sacrificed personally to travel to observe GPA Togo. Plans are proceeding for GPAs in each country.

## GPA Botswana

The evangelical community in Botswana is only 20 to 30 years old and GPA Botswana, September 18 – 27, reflected that fact. Organizer Pastor B started his first church at age 23, became head of the country’s evangelical fellowship at 28, and came to the Dallas GPA at 32. To date he has planted nine

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churches. Compared to most national GPAs, the ages of the 25 delegates skewed to the younger end of the GPA age range, but the young men were no less eager to study and pass along what they had learned. One 20-year-old pastor plans to teach the Scripture Sculpture method to the younger pastors in his congregation. “Five years from now,” Pastor B declared, “these guys will be shaking our country!” 🇳🇮



GPA Botswana pastors studying

## Why a GProCongress? One leader's perspective



Pastors are at the center of God's work in the world as they teach, shepherd and equip God's people. Yet today, with an estimated 85 percent of majority world pastors who have little or no Bible training, we have a profound pastoral training crisis.

With so few pastors equipped themselves, how can they possibly equip the saints for the work of the ministry? Is there a strategic and workable solution to this crisis?

Yes: multiplying pastor-trainers worldwide. This is the very goal of the Global Proclamation Congress for Pastoral Trainers—to celebrate and accelerate pastoral training efforts around the globe. I, for one, am eager to join in this movement.

- Craig Parro, president of Leadership Resources International.

*Founded in 1970 by Bill Mills, Leadership Resources equips and encourages pastors in Asia, Africa, Latin America, the South Pacific and the former Soviet Union to teach God's word with God's heart.* 🇳🇮



REACH

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➤ REFLECTIONS ON THE MIDDLE EAST