

R CROSSING

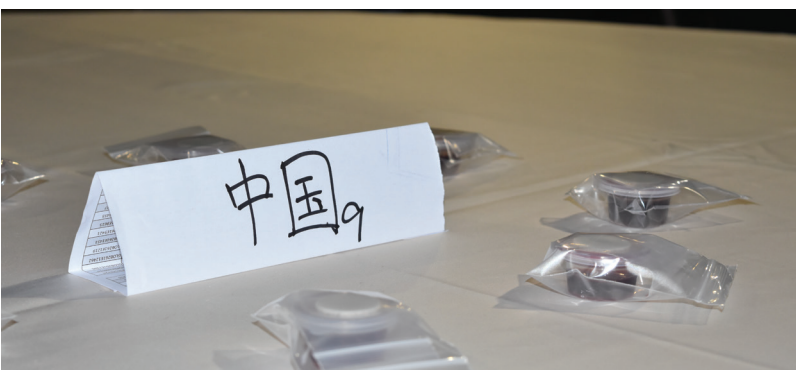
RAMESH RICHARD EVANGELISM AND CHURCH HEALTH

A GLOBAL PROCLAMATION MINISTRY

Q3 2016

Special Report: Global Proclamation Congress For Pastoral Trainers

Global Communion Service - Six Continents Represented



R E A C H

Ramesh Richard Evangelism and Church Health

*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.*

GProCongress Launches Four Years

As part of our 10-year human capital campaign called the Global Proclamation Commission, we at RREACH, along with our co-laborers, planned for the Global Proclamation Congress for Pastoral Trainers for more than four years. We prayed that the right kind and greatest number of participants would be present. We cried out to the Lord, who accomplishes all things for us.

God moved in a mighty way in Bangkok, Thailand, June 15–22, blessing the historic Congress. Despite visa and travel troubles that prevented hundreds of our dear brothers and sisters from attending, 2,500 participants from over 100 countries gathered in a unity of purpose: to accelerate the training of pastors globally for the sake of delivering spiritual health worldwide to large numbers of individuals.

Only God could have prepared the numerous presenters, over 40 expositors, and the many volunteers and supporters who donated their time and travel to participate in the Congress. Only God could have brought the Congress through the deep trials of a massive typhoon that required changing the host country from the Philippines to Thailand and the sudden passing of the great Thai leader and fellow GProCongress visionary Rev. “Enoch” Yuttasak Sirikul less than 50 days before the Congress commenced. Either of these challenges should have derailed the Congress, humanly speaking, but God intervened, showing the way forward. Once again, we thank Rev. Dr. Manoch Jangmook, president of Bangkok Bible Seminary, for stepping so courageously and skillfully into Rev. Sirikul’s role at a crucial moment.

So due to Only God, Dr. Richard said June 15 began a historic gathering



The Richard family honoring Rev. Sirikul’s widow, Laya, and son, Noel, during the opening ceremony

of “critical people in God’s scheme of things,” who were “doing something on a large scale to make a dent in the quickly growing number of new believers needing shepherding pastors.”

History for a Historic Moment

Twenty years ago, West-based pastoral training organizations acknowledged that they would accomplish much more with an organized, cooperative effort. The Trainers of Pastors International Coalition (TOPIC) formed to champion the cause of non-formal pastoral training worldwide, and hundreds of non-formal training initiatives joined forces at some level under that umbrella. A decade later, at the 2010 Lausanne Congress, efforts to deliver better training to more pastoral leaders focused on bridging the formal/non-formal training divide.

In June, the GProCongress stood apart as the first large-scale, global and strategic conference focused solely on the training of pastors. For the first time trainers of pastors from both sectors were gathered in large numbers (especially from continents where the Church is rapidly growing) to build community, explore opportunity, discover resources and exchange encouragement.

The Need Is Great

In the opening ceremony of the Congress, Ramesh reiterated the four great realities that drive us to action:

(1) The world population has reached 7.4 billion people, and efforts to reach them must accelerate along with population growth; (2) Each day, 50,000 new believers are baptized, creating a need for 1,000 additional trained pastors to shepherd them well; (3) In the next four years, 5 million new faith communities are to be planted, yet up to 70 percent of them will fail in the first year; (4) While at least 2.2 million pastoral

leaders are functioning as shepherds, only 5 percent of them are trained for pastoral ministry.

The need is great, yet the prayerful, measurable pledges from participants will assuredly make a large dent in this need, accelerating the delivery and quality of pastoral training to nearly 100,000 pastors in just the next twelve months!

They Built Community

Before this Congress, vast miles stood between these thousands of representatives from 102 nations. By the end of day two, that distance had already shrunk. Energetic communities formed as Congress participants eagerly engaged with each other, digging into the problem of the unhealthy church.

One participant commented, “I’ve been to a lot of conferences in Asia and around the world, and I’ve never seen connection of this kind at this level and this deep before.” These communities will continue as a heartbeat to soothe the isolation of leadership, pump resources to pastors, and nourish the body of Christ.

Better Training of More Pastors Worldwide

They Explored Opportunity

Each morning began with prayer and exposition of 2 Timothy. Plenary, praise and panel sessions followed. Each day, participants gathered in the exhibit hall, eager to meet with their strategic table groups. Dr. Richard's words rang true: "This is a working Congress, not an inspirational event. It is a working, planning, thinking, praying event."

Participants worked corporately, individually, within geographical groups and within groups that had traveled to the Congress together. Representatives from many like-minded entities gathered privately to brainstorm solutions to challenges in their particular contexts and sectors.

Many participants also strategized with the help of volunteer coaches, and national coordinators, made up of a balanced team of marketplace strategists, life coaches and those experienced in ministry. The GProCongress coaches facilitated the mapping out of workable strategies for pastoral training according to the heart of each leader or pastoral trainer group. In the course of a week, they helped prepare 1,000 plans for training pastors.

During this time, many delegate groups came together and pinpointed obstacles that had prevented cohesive collaboration in the past, confessed to one another their individual contributions to the obstacles, and raised their vision from a loose network of individual plans to national collaborative plans that will positively affect church, and thus societal, health. As with so many divinely appointed collaborations that occurred during the Congress, this outcome was due to Only God.

They Discovered Resources

Throughout the conference, participants had access to sponsors and exhibitors and the resources made available through them. Daily case presentations provided a look at resources and best practices in differing contexts.

Participants also chose to attend one of eight tracks moderated by experienced leaders. These tracks began drilling down to specific issues, developments, curricula and innovations in six areas of engagement in pastoral training: Biblical, Theological, Spiritual, Missional, Cultural, Educational, as well as Opportunities and Obstacles in the training of pastors. As with the expository and plenary sessions, translation was available in multiple languages, including French, Spanish, Thai, and Arabic.

They Exchanged Encouragement

The work that began twenty years ago to build community among non-formal pastoral trainers and a decade ago to bridge the non-formal and formal training divide moved forward another step during this historic week.

One issue dividing the sectors had been whether to prioritize the speed of delivery (non-formal) or the quality (formal). Other

contentions arose from ease of access, cost, and the benefits of a systematic approach. Four panelists (two from each sector) stood on stage in a meeting of hearts and minds and confessed what their respective sectors often did poorly. They acknowledged that they should respect the strengths and needs of each other.

Participant questions brought out further distinctions and developments that each section had begun to adopt to counter its weaknesses. Formal sectors had begun to find more ways to provide access to pastors with more diverse economic and educational backgrounds. At the same time, many in the non-formal sector had reaped the benefits of a more systematized approach that allowed for easy access yet also delivered a greater depth to those who wish to continue into higher levels of training.

Recognition of these strides brought great encouragement to many, as did the collaborative environment. For pastoral trainers, who often serve largely alone in economically, strategically and spiritually hostile contexts, merely having like-minded individuals listen to and affirm their calling and strategies seemed encouragement enough to justify having come to Bangkok.

But as they also wrote down their training commitments and strategies to overcome known obstacles, they also wrote down solutions they could provide to help their tablemates overcome challenges, and pledged to report progress to one another on a specific schedule.

We believe, God willing, that this unique accountability relationship factor, facilitated by a technology based follow-up factor, will be key in the coming years to maintain momentum and reduce attrition. Many said that the connections, resources



Trainers of pastors building community, exploring opportunities, discovering resources and exchanging encouragement

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4 ➤



Final evening banquet celebration

and opportunities they had developed during the Congress felt like additional courage being breathed into them that would carry them for years.

Healthy Pastors, Healthy Churches, Healthy Societies

Thanks to the prayers and efforts of so many, and to our Only God, the Lord Jesus Christ, the Congress proved an effective conduit for spreading a greater vision—God’s vision—for pastoral training to bring greater health to pastors, churches and societies around the world.

Participants took ownership of their roles in the existence of unhealthy pastors, unhealthy churches, and unhealthy societies. As Dr. Bekele Shanko, Vice President of Global Church Movements at Cru, said, “We in this room are enough to change the world. But first we must be changed.” Thousands of men and women turned to one another and confessed their sins and failings, releasing them to God.

Following stirring messages from many, fine speakers daily, participants got to work at their tables, admitting the unhealthy aspects of their specific contexts. Discussion often began as a somber, vulnerable examination of spiritual disease in pastors, churches and societies. Then tentative suggestions grew to spirited reflection as table groups began to lay bare the problems and the church’s role in perpetuating them.

Participants began to recognize the great need to address the issues of

society from the inside out. It is not enough to preach a portion of God’s Word, but they must teach the whole counsel of God for transformed living. Pastors and the Church must embrace the reality of their brokenness and their active role in healing society by equipping God’s people.

“The Enemy’s most workable strategy is to weaken the church internally rather than externally,” Dr. William Subash, professor at South Asia Institute of Advanced Christian Studies, said during a morning exposition of 2 Timothy 3. “Spiritual, moral and doctrinal weaknesses of the members become the breeding ground for the Enemy to create stressful situations in growing local churches.” Pastors must be able to lead doctrinally, inspire morally, and serve humbly. They must go beyond the spoken sermon and become the living sermon.

Indeed, as Pastor Oscar Muriu, Senior Pastor of Nairobi Chapel, reminded those gathered for one evening plenary session, “No great advances have been made for Christianity by men and women who are unwilling to give up their lives. The one who wishes to live for Christ must die to self.” Those who are only pretending, Muriu said, will flinch at the moment of testing.

Written by: GProCongress volunteer reporter Kelli Sallman

GProConneXt.com

Going Forward: GProConneXt

The Congress week-long event has ended, but its global action plan is only just beginning. God is already implementing His plan through His servant leaders. We have already heard about how many participants are initiating strategies they learned and plans to which they committed themselves. Yet we know that event-catalyzed excitement and momentum are sure to fade.

A vision is only as valuable as the action it inspires and its practical means for implementation.

GProConneXt.com is a web-based tool that provides ongoing access to the Congress community and resources so participants can continue connecting, uniting and strengthening pastoral trainers through 2020, and beyond.

GProConneXt.com gives continued access to personal coaches for encouragement and accountability, ongoing forums for training and best practices, and an ocean of resources in many languages. Chat tools will allow, for instance, an Arabic-speaking pastor to chat directly and in real time with a Spanish-speaker.

With GProConneXt.com, the GProCongress reached yet another unique moment in history, noted Pastor G, a leader from a sensitive region: “GProConneXt.com will play the role of joining the best of each [training] sector and putting both sides on an equal level.” From their ongoing connected and strengthened position, pastors will fulfill the mission of the church, the great call to make Christ known throughout the earth.

God willing, may we not flinch. With all the participants, and all our prayer partners and supporters, let us remember LeaderSource Executive Director Dr. Malcom Webber’s rallying cry: “Let us not settle for anything less than union with Christ. . . . This is what the nations are waiting for.”

To the Most High God, the Lord Jesus Christ, be the Glory. 🙌

Few words could have better described Dr. Ramesh Richard over the nine months leading up to the GProCongress for Pastoral Trainers, June 15 – 22, than *Vagabondslave*.

As a vagabond, he made an estimated 80 stops in 25 countries in nearly every major inhabited region of the world (he didn't make it to Antarctica).

As a bonds slave, he set aside his proclamation gifting in order to focus on convening the GProCongress, the next vital component of his Global Proclamation Commission calling.

Devastating Losses

The intensity of the last couple of months before the GProCongress was compounded in unforeseeable ways. Dr. Richard made a 36-hour turn-around trip in the middle of a brief mobilization tour in Central and South America at some dear friends' request to speak at the life celebration service for their six-year-old son.

Two days into his resumed travels his briefcase was stolen. It contained his computer, cash, a substantial set of handwritten GProCongress notes, and some irreplaceable personal items. To date, nothing has been recovered except what he painstakingly pulled from his memory. But God spared his passport and credit cards. He usually kept them in that briefcase.

Less than two weeks later and a mere seven weeks (47 days) until the Congress, the Lord suddenly called Dr. Richard's dear friend Rev. Enoch Sirikul, 58, home to heaven. "He was one of the great leaders of the world and one of my best friends in ministry," Dr. Richard said. He was also the Thailand host for the Congress.



The late Pastor Enoch Sirikul inviting people to Thailand for the GProCongress at the 2015 Dallas GPA graduation banquet

Total Protection and Global Provision

During the GProCongress season Ramesh's primary prayer requests have been God's total protection and global provision. And through these—and other—awful losses, the Lord God proved His sufficiency. Enoch was himself one of God's greatest provisions.

In November 2013, Typhoon Haiyan, the strongest typhoon in recent history, ravaged the Philippines. It also destroyed two years of hard work toward the Global Proclamation Congress for Pastoral Trainers, originally to be held in Manila. RREACH's prayerful determination to push ahead with the vision would not have been possible without the immediate support of Enoch Sirikul. A respected leader in government,

business and nonprofit circles in Thailand, he promptly invited the Congress to Bangkok and agreed to be the Thai host, and hands and feet.

Although Pastor Enoch's last words were, "I'm not ready yet, Your work is not done," (his last message was an "I love you" hand sign to his wife and co-workers), his faithful service immediately showed fruit.

When Dr. Richard flew in for two of the four memorial services, an elder in Enoch's church stepped forward to convene meetings with major Thai Christian leaders and others already working on the GProCongress. To a person they affirmed, "Move forward."

The provision kept coming. Dr. Richard spoke at Rev. Sirikul's church while in Bangkok and two young guests trusted Christ. He also got word that twelve people (six of them grown men) responded to the evangelistic invitation he gave (at the mother's request) at the life celebration service for the six-year-old boy just a month earlier.

God's good gifts through the GProCongress itself are too many to recount here, although you can read more in this *RR Crossing* and other RREACH communications. One personal joy can't be missed, however: Dr. Richard and Bonnie's daughter Sitara moved home from Malawi with her daughter.



Though the grief and perplexity of Dr. Richard's vagabondslave journey are real, he chooses to claim the Eph. 3:20 truth that God "is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us." It generated his "one word" for 2016: *Exceed*.

"To Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen!"



Ramesh's 2016 second quarter travels

AUGUST 2016

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 Many to hear and respond to Dr. Richard's August Media Outreach message	3 Provision for all areas of Dr. Richard's ministry	4 The GProConneXt platform to connect, unite and strengthen GProCongress participants during the four years of follow-up	5 Efficiency and effectiveness as the RREACH staff serves	6 Dallas and national GPA grads to be faithful to preach the Word of God
7 This month's Media Outreach message to engage many in new thinking about the Lord Jesus Christ	8 Protection of the technology system used for follow-up	9 Wisdom as Ramesh considers various proclamation and pastoral training opportunities	10 Spiritual, emotional, mental and physical refreshment for Ramesh	11 The GProConneXt strategy implemented by the follow-up team to be successful in promoting long-term pastoral health	12 Opinion leaders who have heard Ramesh proclaim to trust the Lord Jesus Christ	13 God's love and truth to be experienced by all those touched by RREACH events and ministries
14 Good reports of activity, as GProCongress attendees work to train more than 92,000 pastors are trained in the next 12 months	15 Ramesh to be humble before God, sensitive to needs and have clear direction in all areas of life	16 Unity and synergy within the RREACH staff	17 For Dr. Richard as he evaluates post-GProCongress ministry opportunities	18 Praise the Lord that all bills for the GProCongress have been paid	19 Provision of funds to finish out the next four years of the GProCommission	20 Wisdom in utilizing social media for evangelism
21 Protection from spiritual warfare for all who were involved with the GProCongress	22 25 national GPAs to be scheduled for 2017	23 Many to participate in and benefit from GProConneXt resources for encouragement, connections and accountability	24 Effective distribution of Dr. Richard's books, talks and study guides	25 100,000 connected, united, strengthened pastors and 20,000 more pastoral trainers to be ministering in 200 countries by 2020	26 Rest and rejuvenation for Dr. Richard from GProCongress activity	27 The Gospel seeds sown in opinion leaders' hearts to take root and flourish
28 Dr. Richard and his family to grow in faith, hope and love	29 God to be glorified in all that RREACH does.	30 GProCongress to open up new opportunities to address key ministry challenges	31 Clarity, resourcefulness and attention to detail as preparation for the 2017 Dallas GPA ramps up		GProCongress=Global Proclamation Congress for Pastoral Trainers	GPA=Global Proclamation Academy

SEPTEMBER 2016

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 requests to mary@rreach.org and let us pray for you!			GPA=Global Proclamation Academy	1 Ramesh to be humble before God, sensitive to needs and have clear direction in all areas of life	2 Potential friends to be introduced to RREACH	3 GProCongress Follow-up team as they grow GProConneXt, the strategic Congress follow-up platform
4 Many to hear and respond to Dr. Richard's September Media Outreach message	5 Joy, energy and harmony as the RREACH staff serves	6 Dr. Richard's talks and books to be effective ministry tools	7 Fruitful review of the GProCongress with participating core team leaders	8 God to be glorified as we give thanks at the GProCongress celebration banquet	9 GProCongress and its ongoing connections to act as a conduit between formal and non-formal training practitioners, strategists and funders	10 God's love and truth to be experienced by all those touched by RREACH events and ministries
11 Dallas and national GPA grads to be daily strengthened in the Lord	12 Thanks for the many who support Dr. Richard and RREACH in so many ways	13 Media Outreach messages to reach those in unreachable areas	14 Ramesh to be humble before God, sensitive to needs and have clear direction in all areas of life	15 Safety as RREACH board members travel to the quarterly meetings 9/16-9/17	16 RREACH board meetings to be Spirit-led and that the board will seek God's wisdom to further the ministry of RREACH	17 Ramesh to be humble before God, sensitive to needs and have clear direction in all areas of life
18 Dr. Richard to have a safe and productive trip to India	19 Good interaction between Media Outreach responders and RREACH online counselors	20 Individual pastoral trainers to continue to learn, receive, connect, reflect, envision and plan for the next season of their lives and ministries	21 God to speak through Dr. Richard at the 2016 Kingdom Media Conference in India, held Sept. 21 – 23.	22 The Lord to bless RREACH financially today on North Texas Giving Day	23 Total protection and global provision as Congress attendees implement accelerated pastoral training plans	24 God's anointing on Dr. Richard as he speaks at the 4-14 Window Conference in India
25 GProCongress participants to follow through with their commitments to train, on average, 25 pastors a year for the next four years	26 Momentum and preparation for 25 national GPAs in 2017	27 Christlikeness, creativity and capacity as Dr. Richard fulfills his calling to proclaim the Lord Jesus Christ	28 The Lord to change the way opinion leaders think about the Lord Jesus Christ through Dr. Richard's messages	29 Ongoing connection among Dallas GPA and national GPA graduates for encouragement and counsel	30 Many to be encouraged as Dr. Richard speaks at the Emmanuel Mission Fest in India	GProCongress=Global Proclamation Congress for Pastoral Trainers

Proclaim good tidings of His salvation from day to day. Tell of His glory among the nations,
His wonderful deeds among all the peoples. Psalm 96:2b-3

You are cordially invited to a RREACH Family and Friends Celebration of the

Global Proclamation Congress for Pastoral Trainers

Thursday, September 8, 2016

Seating 6:45 p.m. - 6:55 p.m.

Dinner and Celebration 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Malachite Room

Intercontinental Hotel

15201 Dallas Pkwy, Addison, Texas

Please join us in praising God for the gathering of 2,500 trainers of pastors from over 100 nations
and in praying for our world, our nation, and our city during these significant times.

RSVP details to follow in your personal invitation.

Valet & Self Parking Available

Business Attire

Partnership Opportunities

Every financial gift, no matter what size, is strategic and precious to RREACH. Funding for the overall GProCommission goal and to meet RREACH's general ministry needs is still needed, so please keep praying with us for the Lord's total protection and global provision for the 2016 annual budget.

- General ministry: \$798,000
- Global Proclamation Congress (needed by 12/31/16): \$5m
- Media Outreach: \$75,000
- Pastors Conferences: \$35,000

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.
- Wire transfer: Please contact Director of Operations David Brugger, david@rreach.org, 972-528-6100 x 11 or 1-800-RREACH-World.
- Stock, securities, etc.: Please contact David Brugger.



Ramesh Richard's Itinerary and RREACH Events (D.V.)

AUGUST

- 8-10 Lausanne Young Leaders Gathering—Jakarta, INDONESIA
- 16-17 Lindell Foundation —Kuala Lumpur, MALAYSIA
- 23-24 Dallas Seminary Faculty Retreat —Dallas, TX

SEPTEMBER

- 8 RREACH Family GProCongress Celebration—Dallas, TX
- 9 GProCongress Debrief—Dallas, TX
- 16-17 RREACH Board meetings—Crested Butte, CO
- 21-23 Kingdom Media Conference—Bangalore, INDIA
- 24 4-14 Window Conference—Bangalore, INDIA
- 25-29 Lindell Foundation—KENYA
- 30 Emmanuel Mission Fest—Chennai, INDIA

Ramesh's role at Dallas Seminary is temporarily restructured in view of 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.



RREACH

Ramesh Richard Evangelism and Church Health

17110 Dallas Parkway | Suite 230 | 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



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➤ SPECIAL REPORT: GPROCONGRESS, BANGKOK, THAILAND LAUNCHING FOUR YEARS OF BETTER TRAINING OF MORE PASTORS WORLDWIDE

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.

A Felt Need on the Frontlines



"I would like to greet you in the name
of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Most High
One, as Dr. Ramesh used to greet us
every morning of the GProCongress. As
a pastor of Internal Displaced Persons
(IDPs) inside the UN protection camp of
the world's youngest nation, South Sudan,
I was so blessed by the Conference. It has

given me a new strategy to apply in the ministry and a humble walk with the
Lord.

"I really learned that teamwork is the only way to reach the lost world with
His Gospel. The Conference has brought reconciliation among ourselves
[South Sudan IDP pastors] by having humble time to talk to each other. I
have started by requesting my fellow Pastors to forgive me in case I have
hurt anyone. All have followed by calling a meeting and as the result we have
forgiven each other and our teamwork starts with trust."

Pastor D, UN Protection Camp, South Sudan*

*At the time of printing, the newly formed South Sudan government is
undergoing a violent split. Hundreds, including civilians, have died. Many in
the capital city of Juba are trapped inside their homes, running out of food
and drinkable water. Please pray.