



## The Price of Freedom



*"Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends."  
John 15:13*

This coming Monday, May 31st, is Memorial Day in the United States. It is a day that our nation honors and remembers those who have given their lives for our nation as soldiers and others in uniform. My parents both served in the Army in World War II and our son served in the Marine Corps from 2007-2011. They all came back home. But some of their friends and many others did not. Because I was born after World War II and I did not know anyone personally who died in the Vietnam War, I don't think I appreciated the sacrifice that our men and women in uniform made on my behalf. That was, until my son wore the uniform. That suddenly made it very personal.

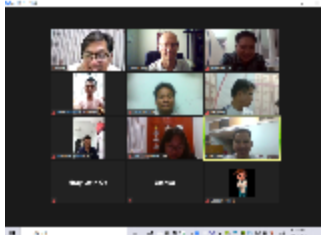
Eighteen years ago, I wrote a song entitled Freedom's Price. I wrote the song after reflecting on Memorial Day and those who sacrificed their lives so that I could live in freedom. Freedom does not come without cost. The freedoms we have in our nation are because of those who have fought and died for it throughout our history. I wrote these lyrics to the first verse in my song that say, *"The blood of a soldier is always freedom's price, To face death for another is the greatest sacrifice, For in harm's way is how the world must battle tyranny, There is no other means by which all people can live free."*

But Memorial Day also reminds me that I possess another freedom far more valuable that also required someone to sacrifice their life. It's my freedom from the consequences of my sins. And it cost the life of God's only Son, Jesus Christ! Because of His sacrifice, I am no longer a slave to my sin but have been given freedom from them and the gift of eternal life. The second verse of my song proclaims this truth, *"The blood of a carpenter was mankind's freedom's price, To suffer and die for you and me was Love's pure sacrifice, For in this world is how our Lord would battle slavery, There was no other means by which from sin we could be free."* And that freedom from sin is not just mine, but it is available to everyone who calls on the name of Jesus!

The closing bridge of the song summarizes the difference between these two sacrifices. It says, *"The heroes of the battlefields are buried in the ground, But the body of Christ, God's only Son, is nowhere to be found, He conquered death and for our sake has won the victory, So Jesus is my hero for all eternity!"*

May we all remember those who wore the uniform and died for our earthly freedom. But more importantly, let us also know that it was Jesus Christ who died for our sins and gave us eternal freedom! To Him alone belongs the glory, honor and praise!!

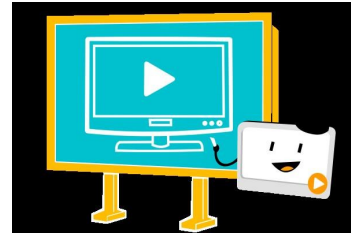
## Myanmar On-Line Training



Barry was finally able to start an on-line training for pastors and church leaders in Mandalay, Myanmar in May. They also requested that I teach them our **Discipleship for Church Leaders™** training as they have a great need for discipleship in their nation and churches right now. I recently completed the third week of the training which takes place each Tuesday for 90 minutes. We are now halfway through the training manual (6 chapters) and will finish on June 15th.

This is giving Barry a great opportunity to develop his on-line training skills and to also use our newly developed PowerPoint slides for this training as well. There are 17 participants including our host, **Pastor Andrew Ceu**, who is our global trainer in Mandalay. The training is in English and the feedback we have received thus far is very positive. Unfortunately, we do not have the opportunity for as much interaction on-line as we would like, but the training is effective nonetheless. I am certainly thankful to Andrew and the Lord, who has made all of this possible!

## New On-Line Training Course

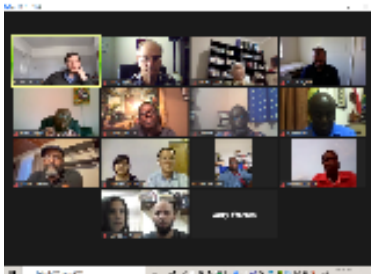


Barry has been invited to develop a video training course on Organizational Management for **Lucent University** and their on-line Bible College curriculum. Barry is currently in the process of developing the course outline and slides for 18 teaching units, homework assignments, reading material and 3 exams. It will be based on 18 chapters from our **Management for Church Leaders™ Volume #1 & #2** training manuals. Barry will be traveling to Plano, TX in June to record the video training once the outlines and accompanying material have been completed.

This development will also allow our ministry to have full access to all of this video training for our direct use as well. This training is being developed at no cost to our ministry and we will receive no compensation either, other than ownership of the training and the rights to use it for our purposes.

This new format for our training will not replace our face to face training, but will open up a new channel for our training and expand our reach to new nations and more church leaders across the globe. It is anticipated that this on-line training will be available in the latter part of this year.

## New Strategic Partner



Barry participated in a Zoom meeting with the international Directors for **Leadership International** in April, a ministry he has been working with the past year or so. He had the opportunity to share about our ministry and our training materials with them. Our **Management for Church Leaders™** and **Discipleship for Church Leaders™** training are now part of their leadership training curriculum. We are also developing a few translations for their needs as well. They will be launching training centers throughout their network of nations in the coming months and will be training trainers to teach our material as well as the other training materials in their curriculum. Since they have training in nations where we currently have no global trainer presence, this will allow us the opportunity to expand our training to new nations. Our global trainers will also have access to their training materials to train others as well. God has brought us together to help build His kingdom, and we pray that this partnership will produce much fruit for Him!

## Global Training



There have been 29 MCL & DCL training conferences held in March, April & May. Our global MCL Trainers trained a total of 1,086 pastors and church leaders in 19 nations in these 3 months. Here are

some of the highlights:

1. **Pastor Charles Biswas** trained 39 pastors and leaders in **Pabna City, Bangladesh** in March. It was his very first MCL training.
2. **Dr. Fred Macharia** trained 60 pastors on our MCL #1 in **Nakuru, Kenya** in March.
3. **Pastor Kiyingi Emmy** trained 58 pastors and leaders on our MCL #1 in **Soona, Uganda** in April.
4. **Pastor Paul Adair** conducted his first ever MCL training in **Mavis Bank, Jamaica** in April where he trained 20 pastors and leaders.
5. **Pastor Gordon Onyango** taught our MCL #1 to 57 pastors and leaders in **Machakos, Kenya** in April.
6. **Pastor Ciza Sylvestre** trained 20 pastors and leaders on our MCL in **Kabanga, Burundi** in April (*photo*).
7. **Pastor Gideon Nair** conducted 2 MCL trainings in **Rampur and Basna, India** in April where he trained a total of 49 pastors and leaders.
8. **Pastor Rajendra Sundas** taught our MCL #1 to 50 pastors in April in **Rasuwa, Nepal**.
9. **Pastor Kiyingi Emmy** trained 78 leaders on our MCL #1 training in May in **Koboko, Uganda**.
10. **Hanna Karam** from **Lebanon** trained 22 pastors and leaders in **Vinetsia, Ukraine** in May on our MCL #1 and #2 training.
11. **Pastor Moses Wheigar** trained 67 leaders in **Whizohn, Liberia** in May on our MCL #1 training.
12. **Pastor Samuel Bobor** trained 150 pastors and leaders in **Freetown, Sierra Leone** on our Discipleship for Church Leaders training in May.
13. **Pastor Ciza Sylvestre** trained 24 pastors and leaders on our MCL #1 training in **Kiriri, Burundi** in May.
14. **Pastor Jacob Zakaria** trained 50 pastors and leaders in **Mangoch, Malawi** in May on our MCL #1 training.

## New Global Trainers Added!

We have added 8 new MCL Trainers to our global trainer network in March, April & May. They include the following:

1. **Pastor Josue Ballester** in San Jose, **Costa Rica**
2. **Pastor Urmaz Karileet** in Tallin, **Estonia**
3. **Pastor Alfred Damu** in Kuching, **Malaysia**
4. **Pastor Samuel Rojas** in Fusagasuga, **Colombia**
5. **Rickford Samaroo** in Georgetown, **Guyana**
6. **Pastor Jayson Dugay** in Pasig City, **Philippines**
7. **Pastor Abiola Longe** in Mushin, **Nigeria**
8. **Pastor Augustus Ben** in Caldwell, **Liberia**

Our global network now has a total of 76 Trainers in 48 nations. Costa Rica, Estonia, Malaysia and Guyana are also new nations to have an MCL Trainer!

## Vision Tracking



Our current vision is to see our MCL training established in 50 nations by the year 2025. As of the end of 2020, we had ongoing and active training in 23 nations. As of May, we now have active and ongoing training taking place in 30 nations. This year we have added **Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Jamaica, Lebanon, Malawi, Peru** and **South Africa** to our list of nations with an active Trainer. We hope to add **Estonia, Guyana, the Philippines, Cuba, Egypt** and **Barbados** to that list sometime this year. Please pray for these nations to be added in 2021!

## Prayer Requests



- God's healing of a broken arm for the son of Ciza Sylvestre, our MCL Trainer in Burundi.
- God's healing for Viola, wife of MCL Trainer Kiyongi Emmy in Uganda, who suffered a miscarriage.
- God's healing for Pastor Gideon Nair, an MCL Trainer

in India, who recently contracted Covid-19 while away from home teaching our MCL.

- God's healing for Pastor James Ochwo, our MCL Trainer in Uganda, from intestinal surgery.
- God's healing for Pastor Kiyongi Emmy, our MCL Trainer in Uganda, from a dislocation due to a fall.
- For God's restoration from what was lost in the recent volcanic eruption on the island of St. Vincent.
- For God's peace to reign in Myanmar and for an end to the violence taking place there.
- For God's provision for the nations of India and Nepal that are facing a surge of new Covid cases and limited hospitals and supplies.
- Thankfulness to God for enabling us to start our on-line training in Myanmar.

## News & Notes



- Quarterly Zoom meetings with our global trainers in Africa, Asia and Latin America were held the 2nd week of May. They were all fruitful and resulted in the request for additional translations of our training.
- We recently developed PowerPoint slides for our Discipleship for Church Leaders™ training.
- The Spanish translation of our MCL Discussion Guide has been completed.
- The revised MCL translation into Chichewa, the language used in Malawi in Africa, is now available.
- Our MCL #1 & #2 training PowerPoint slides have been translated into Russian.
- We have begun translations of our MCL into Bengali and our DCL training into Spanish.
- We are having our MCL & DCL PowerPoint slides translated into Spanish.
- We are looking into translating our MCL Self-Training Book into French.

## The Blind Leading the Blind

In **Matthew 15:24**, Jesus said about the Pharisees, *"Leave them; they are blind guides. If a blind man leads a blind man, both will fall into a pit."* Jesus was scolding them about their conduct as religious leaders. They had failed to grasp the truth of God's Word and their teachings were contrary to it.

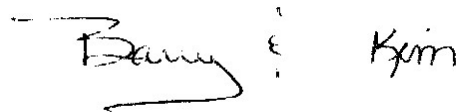
There are some pastors and leaders in the Church today that also do not correctly teach the Word of God. They have allowed secular thinking into their sermons and teachings and are leading their followers away from Biblical Truth. This puts their followers in grave danger because they do not read or know their Bible. Consequently, they blindly follow their pastors and leaders and not God's Word.

It is important for every follower of Christ to read the Bible and study its content, and to let the Holy Spirit instruct them in its meaning and application. If believers fail to do this, they will be blind themselves to the Truth. As a result, they risk letting blind leaders lead them into the "metaphorical" pit!

## China Zoom Training On Hold

Our Zoom training for pastors and leaders in China has been put on hold due to the political situation there. We are hopeful that we can resume the recording of more training yet this year so it can be made available to them. We are also looking at a potential training trip to China in 2022.

*Thank you for your prayers & support!*



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