Conversing with Lausanne: Reflections on the Christian Movement from a Global Perspective

Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary: Charlotte

IS 596
29 January 2011
9:00am-3:45pm
The heart of Christianity has shifted to the global south over the last few decades with unprecedented church growth in Africa, South America, and the Far East. The Christian faith is no longer predominantly a reflection of Euro-centric values and perspectives. The emerging church has a powerful voice that needs to be heard in the worldwide context of faith and mission.

The recent event, Cape Town 2010 held on October 16 - 25, 2010 in South Africa was the third global international conference on world evangelization held in the last 40 years (Lausanne, 1974, Manila, 1989) drawing over 4,200 participants representing over 200 countries. This epic event provided a platform for all the members of the world Christian movement to converse and reflect on the most pressing issues of faith and mission facing the Body of Christ in our generation.

The Spring 2011 Integrative Seminar, *Conversing with Lausanne: Reflections on the Christian Movement from a Global Perspective*, invites you to join in this vibrant discussion on the nature and execution of the Great Commission in light of the complex and challenging political, social, economic, and cultural factors shaping our mission to the contemporary world.
8:30  Registration and Coffee

9:00  Worship in Song
  Dr. Tim Laniak, Welcome
  Greetings from President Hollinger
  Chapel Speaker:

  Dr. Leighton Ford,
  *Not Too Small a Thing*
  *Isaiah 49:1-6*

10:00 Announcements and Break

10:15 Dr. Steve Klipowicz, Introduction of Day

10:30 Small Group Discussion

10:50 Lausanne: Past, Present and Future? A discussion with Dr. Leighton Ford and Dr. Doug Birdsall

11:30 Panel #1: *What is the Global Church Saying to Us?*

Noon Lunch

1:15 World Café Conversation

1:30 Panel #2: *What should be the Role of the North American Church in the global mission?*

2:00 Break

2:15 Ethic Focus Panel: *Hearing the World Next Door*

3:00 Small groups: Final discussion and Synthesis

3:30 Dismissal
Rese Hood obtained her Master of Divinity from Gordon-Conwell in Charlotte, where she was a Pierce Fellow. For the past decade, Rese has been an integral part of two global leadership development ministries, serving in multiple capacities on a purely voluntary basis. Rese is a writer and speaker, traveling to Eastern Europe and India and speaking on the topic of leadership – particularly as it pertains to women. She enjoys mentoring leaders and young people. She is also a small business owner, mother of one teenage boy and has been married to her husband Bill almost 22 years. Her other activities include grant-writing, directing high school drama (the scripted kind!), and being a football and lacrosse mom.

Dr. Leighton Ford was singled out by Time Magazine as “among the most influential preachers of an active Gospel.” Dr. Ford is president of Leighton Ford Ministries. As an author, he has written 11 books, including the award-winning, Sandy: A Heart for God (the biography of his son who died during heart surgery in 1981). His most recent book is The Attentive Life, published by InterVarsity Press. As a social activist, Dr. Ford has been an advocate for such issues as world hunger, poverty and racism. He received the “Two Hungers Award” in 1990 in recognition of his contributions in addressing the physical and spiritual hungers of people around the world. Dr. Ford was vice-president of the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association, where he served for 31 years. He was also a regular alternate speaker with Billy Graham, his brother-in-law, on the Hour of Decision, one of the most popular religious broadcasts of its time. As a leader, Dr. Ford serves as the Honorary Lifetime Chairman of the Lausanne Committee for World Evangelization, having served from 1976 to 1992 as chairman of this international body of Christian leaders. As a mentor, he has spent the last several years of his life pouring himself into younger men and women through Leighton Ford Ministries. The unique Arrow Leadership Program established under his leadership has now become a continuing international program in its own right. Dr. Ford lives in Charlotte, North Carolina with his wife, Jean. Leighton and Jean have a married daughter, Debbie, and a married son, Kevin, who heads a consulting group in northern Virginia.

Dr. Doug Birdsall is a 1979 graduate of Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary. For twenty years, Doug and his wife Jeanie served as missionaries in Japan with Asian Access. From 1991 to 2007, Doug served as the leader of the mission. Currently, he serves as the Executive Chairman of the Lausanne Movement, and as the Director of the J Christy Wilson Center for World Missions at Gordon-Conwell. Doug is a graduate of Wheaton College and Harvard University, and a Research Scholar at the Oxford Centre for Mission Studies. Doug and Jeanie have three adult children, a married daughter in New York City, a married son in Washington, D.C., and a daughter just out of college in Delhi, India.

Dr. Phillip Scott Nelson has a passionate desire to see God’s people engaged in God’s global cause. Dr. Nelson takes the message of God’s call throughout North America and the world. Speaking in revivals, institutes, workshops, and classes in churches, colleges, conferences, etc., he challenges believers to maximize their impact for Christ. Through ministry with SIM (Serving in Mission), he is strategically and comprehensively mobilizing African-American churches, and others, for global mission involvement. He is a national instructor for the Perspectives on the World Christian Movement course from the US Center for World Missions. God has allowed Rev. Nelson to preach the unsearchable riches of his grace for over 40 years, 28 of those as a pastor. He is married for thirty years to Gladys Anderson Nelson and they are parents of five adult, saved children: Joshua Daniel, Christina Michelle, and triplet daughters — Charisma Joy, Deborah Jade, and Shannon Jasmine. Rev. Nelson resides in Charlotte, N.C. and is a native of Detroit, Michigan.
Global Perspectives Focus Group

Our thanks to Rev. Dennis Hall and Briar Creek Church in Charlotte for connecting Gordon-Conwell with their network of ethnic church pastors serving in Charlotte. We also want to thank the following pastors for contributing to our Integrative Seminar:

Pastor Sam Mburu
Kenya Ethnic Focus Pastor
Kenyan Community – Briar Creek

Pastor Denis Ekobena
Cameroon
Home Group Facilitator – Briar Creek

Pastor John Byrhna
Burma/Myanmar
Myanmar Community Church

Pastor Carlos Marquez
Argentina
Spain Spanish Language Church Briar Creek

Pastor Jean Telfort
Haiti
Haitian Community Church

Elder Gui Sai
Vietnam/Montagnard
Degar Church

Elder Yemane Gebre Meskel
Eritrea
Rehoboth Trigyna Community Church
The Spring 2011 Integrative Seminar is a generative conversation with the global church around the following critical issues:

- What is the world telling us about the focus of God’s Mission in today’s world?
- What is the world telling us about the role of the North American Church?
- If we are hearing the global church correctly, what difference would this make for our churches? Our lives?

Use the space on this page and the next to make notes and reflect upon what you are hearing throughout the day:

Our Small Group’s Pre-seminar Experiences

Lausanne: Past, Present and Future?
First Panel Session

Second Panel Session

Ethnic Church Focus

Final Group Discussion

Based upon what we have heard from the global church today, what would a faithful response mean:

For my current church congregation?

For my life and ministry?
Based upon each group member’s personal preparation, the events from today’s seminar and your group’s interaction on the key themes of the day, develop three one-paragraph summary statements for the following questions:

- **What is the world telling us about the focus of God’s Mission in today’s world?**

- **What is the World telling us about the role of the North American Church?**

- **If we are hearing the global church correctly, what difference would this make for our churches?**

**Group Members:**

1. Name: _____________________________________________ ID: __________________________
2. Name: _____________________________________________ ID: __________________________
3. Name: _____________________________________________ ID: __________________________
4. Name: _____________________________________________ ID: __________________________
5. Name: _____________________________________________ ID: __________________________