November 2015



Romans 1:16 MKJV For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is *the* power of God unto salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

Annual Report 2015

The Year In Brief

The highlights of this year were two trips to the Philippines (May and September) and a number of very good conferences in the USA such as Passion for the Nations, CMTA, Biola Digital, Evangelical Missions Society and others. These were times when I was able to impart both vision and teaching to strategic Christian leaders, especially on how to go about ministry in the digital age.

I also taught 3 iterations of the Mobile Ministry Training Course as well as two Master's level courses for City Vision University (Theology of Technology and Emerging Media Ministry). I also had the privilege of teaching an 11-week deeper bible study series on the Kingdom of God at two local churches.

I have also worked in various ways with 36 partner organizations (mainly missions agencies) generally helping with either digital technology issues or with distance education strategies. My board level participation with Harvestime International Network and the Urban Leadership Foundation was also very fruitful. The Kingdom of God has moved forward!

Our main websites continue to see hundreds of thousands of visitors from 218 nations who download and distribute our content including bible courses in six languages and numerous articles and ebooks. These websites are: GlobalChristians.org, Cybermissions.org, NewTestamentPrayer.com, and Biblicaleq.com. Also a new website MinistryFollowUp.Org has just been started to help Christians in ministry do effective follow-up after evangelistic events.

The Great Unsolved Problem

The great unsolved problem on the mission filed today is how to train thousands, even tens of thousands or hundreds of thousands of lay leaders and pastors, in their locations, for under \$25 per month each (which is all they can afford, at best). First you have to develop a culturally appropriate curriculum, then an online or mobile delivery method, then train-the trainers, who in turn train the pastors and lay leaders. Sounds easy enough! However the sticking point is doing effective education at scale. So that is more than mere information, instead it becomes transformation! Part of this is training the right facilitators, so they become inspiring , authentic and motivated instructors of the Word. Cybermissions is actively working with other organizations around the world to solve this problem and to come up with a solution that will truly bless the Body of Christ.



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The Four Principles of Cybermissions Ministry

- 1. Information Is Digital
- 2. Impartation Is Spiritual
- 3. Formation Is Personal
- 4. Transformation Is Communal

Nearly all forms of information can be digitized—books, movies, pictures, audio, even the shape of an object or a location on a map!

However digital information is not nearly enough for life-transformation. Spiritual impartation is necessary. Christians need to experience grace, be baptized, worship, partake of Communion, have others pray fort hem and so forth. Yet even a Spirit-filled believer with a ton of information still needs "something more". He or she needs a mentor, life-coach or pastor who engages with them regularly and personally, helping them to reflect and to mature. Spiritual formation is deeply personal and is like "iron sharpening iron". OK, we now have well informed, Spirit-filled and well-disciple believers—the job is done right? No not quite! They still require a community to belong to, worship in and act from in the world.

Transformation is communal, all great revivals have sprung from prayer groups, praying churches and holy movements larger than just one man or woman.

Cybermissions helps supply the information, does some formation in personal online teaching and helps connect people in community so that mature believers can do God's work@

However, digital information is not nearly enough for life-transformation.....

Karsten

Gospel Comment:

I want to be a good person and follow God. I have felt God touch my life ever since I can remember but have been rebellious and have fought against his love. i want him to embrace me, and forgive me for my sins. I devote my life to following him and spreading his word.

Training Christian Leaders

I teach five main courses:

- 1) Mobile Ministry
- 2) Theology of Technology (City Vision University)
- 3) Emerging Media Ministry (City Vision University)
- 4) BiblicalEQ—Emotional Intelligence Training
- 5) Praying To Get Results

The first three courses help Christian leaders up-to-speed on how to use technology to share the gospel and on the effect that technology will have on their ministry. The Mobile Ministry Course can be found at https://cybermissions.org/moodle/

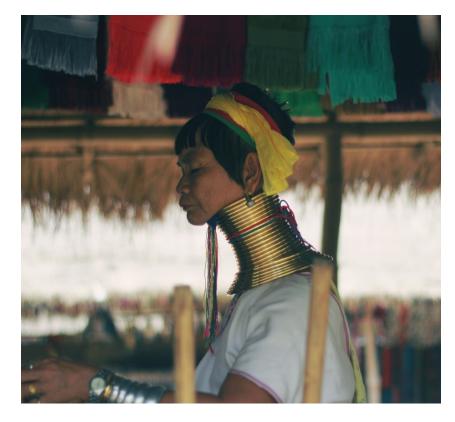
BiblicalEQ trains Christian leaders in how read, manage and control emotions and how to understand the emotions of others and to help others with some emotional problems. It is based on Jesus Christ as the model, the Holy Spirit as the power and love as the goal. (see biblicaleq.com).

When I was bible college God called me to teach people how to pray and I have been doing that ever since. I have courses on basic prayer and on spiritual warfare available at www.newtestamentprayer.com

Most of the courses that I teach are designed to fill gaps in training. For instance as far as I know I am the only person on the planet teaching actual courses on Mobile Ministry or BiblicalEQ and one of the few teaching on Theology of Technology or Emerging Media Ministry.

Thus Cybermissions has a unique role in training Christian leaders in the skills necessary to face the global challenges of the 21st century.





Culture changes how we can do ministry - even Internet ministry!

The First Touch Is Often Digital

A survey came up with the figure that 85% of young people will not attend a church unless they first check out the church website. I just went looking online or a college to do my doctorate and of course , my first "touch" with that institution was their website.

Whether it is buying a car or ordering new brand of coffee the first place we go to isn't the brick and mortar store it is Google or Bing or Amazon or YouTube.

The same is true of "religion surfers", folk who search the Internet for an answer to spiritual questions. A Muslim is not going to ask their family "how do I become a Christian" instead they will ask Google, which will hopefully send them to the Cybermissions "How To Become A Christian" webpage (globalchristians.org/starterkit/)

I recently asked a talented senior pastor of a church with 600 attendees "how many deep theological questions did you get asked last year?' he replied "Two, oh, make that one.." I replied "You know where they went to ask their questions? "No" he said. "Google" was my reply. Even Christians are going online to get religious information and we have to be there for them!

So I get feedback like this:

I read your article online about releasing the Holy Spirit in your life. I just wanted to encourage you how good it is. You are clearly a person who has been close to God and know the reality of his presence. I'm close to God too and all I seek is more of Him. Bless u Kim

And from a brand-new Christian: I believe the world is regressing now, but that is just one of the reasons I have turned to God. Since at a young age, I got a small bible from The Gideons International....I took the words to heart but being a child I went out an live a normal childhood. Now I am a young man I want to reawaken my faith from childhood and I believe I want help others too. Tony

Cybermissions is there as people are asking their spiritual questions!

Breaking A Curse!

Dear John, my name is W. and i want to thank you so much for your articles on demon oppression and curses. I was searching desperately for answers as to why my life turned out the way it did and continues to spiral downward. I knew there had to be something of a demonic force that orchestrates events and situations, then when i read your articles your list of curses described me perfectly, especially, effort achieves little and constant hardship.

This is a typical email from a user of our spiritual warfare website newtestamentprayer.org— I responded to his cry for help and a few emails later he reported that his life had turned around, with the help of Jesus Christ and a prayer for spiritual cleansing.

The Lord uses Cybermissions to connect people with desperate needs to the articles and information that will help them make the necessary changes (with His help of course!)

Our websites are there 24/7/365 in 218 nations touching lives and meeting human needs with the gospel of Jesus Christ. Cybermissions teaching goes where I cannot go and touches the lives of people who I will never meet face-to-face.



The Numbers

317,907 unique visitors from

218 countries, made

423,475 visits, and read

1,785,611 pages which gave

5,962,085 hits and

1,176 GB was downloaded, and also

1,445 people are receiving free Christian ebooks every two weeks.

These statistics are from January 1st to 11th November 2015 (date I am writing this) and exclude 9 months of one major site that we lost server logs for. I think it is quite safe to say that we will have had 500,000 people visit our websites by the end of 2015!



Reaching Urban Slums

Cybermissions is partnering with the Encarnacao Network and the Urban Leadership Foundation to train over 10,000 pastors in major urban slums in nations such as Kenya, Brazil, India, and the Philippines.

The objective is: To design and deliver a scalable system for training 10,000 grass-roots pastors among the 1.4 billion in the global slums using a combination of digital information delivery via cell phones and Slum Workers Learning Networks.

Massive Christian movements are taking place in urban slums which are experiencing revival, and multiplication of churches. Yet urban poor workers lack a depth of Kingdom theology and skills. Hundreds of thousands of grassroots pastors are required to be trained in holistic church growth, including community organization, advocacy and land rights, organizational leadership, developing slum schools, cooperative economics etc., over the next decade. The model must be scalable to meet ever-increasing demand and be low-cost as the average student can only pay \$10-\$30 per month at most. Cybermissions will design and deliver the digital training system to achieve this.



Cybermissions can get bible and ministry training into areas where conventional bible colleges struggle—such as remote areas and urban slums.

Harvestime

Cybermissions partners with the Harvestime International Network to offer a free two-year evangelism and church-planting courses in English, Spanish, Portuguese, Russian, Thai, Tagalog and French. We are also looking at Having the 21 Harvestime modules translated in Tamil, Urdu and Mandarin (Chinese).

Pastors download the course modules then print them out and teach them in their churches. Harvestime is designed to be a "bible college in a box" and the church is free to run its own classes, and to graduate and certify its own students. The curriculum is designed to be as free of cultural bias as possible and the only textbook needed is the Bible.

There are thousands and thousands of downloads of the Harvestime manuals and we hear of small bible schools being started all over the world!

Ebooks

Our most pirated web page is the Free Christian Ebooks page at globalchristians.org/ebooks/ and we don't mind at all!

We have 64 of our ebooks listed there and not only do people download the books or get them sent to them biweekly by email—but they put them on their own website, include them in free bible study programs, make them part of 'free download" sites and include them on giveaway CDs, DVDs and hard drives! We are just glad that the gospel is being preached, either by us or by others!

This is part of our deliberate "transmissible resources" strategy. We make our training easy to download, easy to acquire (free), and easy to pass onto others, and we give permission for non-profit use in churches, bible studies and so on. "For we are not, like so many, peddlers of God's Word.." (2 Corinthians 2:17).

The transmissible resources strategy enables us to serve pastors and leaders in the developing world and to encourage Christians who could otherwise not afford advanced bible training.

Moving Ahead In 2016

Our Cybermissions objectives during 2016 are to:

- 1) Continue to develop and to promote our main websites to serve God's people globally.
- Develop an audio-based grassroots training curriculum for 10,000 urban slum pastors 2)
- 3) To train key Christian leaders in Internet evangelism and mobile ministry.
- To cooperate with key Christian missions networks both in the USA and overseas so that 4) key leaders will become aware of both the potential and the best practices of Technology In Missions.
- 5) To become effective in the Social Media space.
- To fully harness the power of online MP3 audio books and podcasts for the Kingdom . 6)
- 7) To re-emphasize evangelism and our How To Become A Christian website.



Technology, Training and Transformation For The Less-Reached World.....

The Power of Audio

Guess what? The great mega-cities of the developing world are full of traffic and that traffic is full of people stuck in cars, buses, taxis, and on the back of motorbikes.

They are often in traffic for 2-4 hours every day, and they nearly all have mobile phones which can play music, the Bible and MP3 files of Christian teaching.

Furthermore, 'free MP3" is one of the most searched for terms on Google! Christians in these nations are HUNGRY for free audio bilbes and free Christian teaching that they can put on their phones and listen to.

With the privacy of their earphones their bus, • taxi, or jeepney can become their classroom!

We have set up a small audio studio in our Torrance office and we hope that 2016 will be As these are by far our most requested topics. the "year of audio" and we perfect how to produce podcasts and audio books for pastors in the developing world.

We ask for your prayers as we strive to produce quality material that will "go viral" because people find it so useful!

The idea is to have lots of 15-30 minute

podcasts that touch on key training topics. This is long enough to explain something but still short enough so that not to much is lost if listening is interrupted.

The podcasts will cover:

- Urban ministry and slum ministry
- Internet evangelism and mobile ministry .
- Topics in practical Christian discipleship .
- . Coping with stress in ministry
- Theology of Technology .
- Prayer and Spiritual Warfare
- Christology (life and ministry of Christ)
- How to deal with cults

The MP3 files will be put on the Internet for download, on USB drives, and also put on SD cards for distribution to mobile phone users in nations with training centers aligned with Cybermissions and our ministry partners.



From Nigeria

"I have read some of your Biblical teaching online materials before and they are great blessings to me and the Body of Christ here in Nigeria. God is using your work to bless lives far beyond what can be imagined. God bless you, your family and ministry. We love you."

Cybermissions Websites

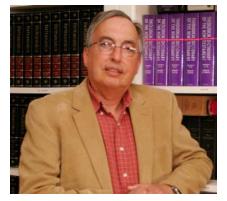
Cybermissions.Org - Training in Internet ministry and mobile ministry GlobalChristians.Org— Discipleship resources, ministry training, and free Christian ebooks Biblicaleq.Com— Christ-centered, Bible-based training on emotional transformation EternityRadio.Org - An online radio station with free resources for unreached people groups. MinistryFollowUp.Org - Follow-up resources for pastors, evangelists and church-planters. NewTestamentPrayer.Com - Articles and courses on prayer and spiritual warfare Phronema.Org— Specialized search engines for missions research These websites meet urgent niche needs in Christian life and ministry, particularly for leadership development in the developing world.

HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT THE MINISTRY OF CYBERMISSIONS

Cybermissions runs on a very tight cash budget (around \$25,000 per annum) but receives many in-kind donations such as free office-space, software, donations of computers, donations of volunteer time etc. We are very appreciate of all who give to keep God's work going. Things we can use in 2016 include:

- Cash donations, just go to www.cybermissions.org and click on the donate button on the upper right or send in a donation by check to the address below
- Airline travel miles,, airfares , conference fees etc.
- Computer software and hardware (please email us first)
- Prayer Support, we send out weekly prayer points to our prayer warriors and you can join the list by sending a blank email to <u>Cybermissions-subscribe@yahoogroups.com</u>
- Speaking Opportunities at churches, conferences and colleges. Some of my more popular topics include: Technology and Temptation, How To Share The Gospel Using Your Comput-er, Your Phone Can Be Your Church, Technology In Missions. Also any bible topic.
- Volunteer your time, either face-to-face in our office in Torrance or virtually from anywhere in the world. We need a bookkeeper, a graphic designer, a video editor and a web designer asap. Each for about 4 hours per week.





John Edmiston, CEO Cybermissions

CONTACT

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