

## Wednesday AM

### By: Gustavo Crocker

[00:00:07.330]

Host: Father, thank you for this day that you've given us and this exciting time. Thank you for our school who will give us three days to take off and focus on missions and have this conference and their willingness even to allow students to run it, and the glory that that brings you through using inexperienced people. I thank you for bringing everybody here safely, from the students to all the representatives that are coming, to our speakers and the band, and just how your hand has been on taking care of everything as we prepared for this.

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God be with each of us as we're here. I ask that you would help us to have tender hearts that would be open, willing to listen and hear what you have to say, that our minds would be focused, that we would be able to think clearly about the issues that are brought up here and hear what you have to say to us. Be in this place. Use this conference and teach us, Lord. Teach us more about yourself, more about who you are, and more about how we can become more and more like you and be reflecting you as we ought.

[00:01:31.470]

Thank you, guys, so much for the death of your Son, for his resurrection and what that means for us and the new life that we can have. I ask that we would learn more about what that would look like today, and that we would then go out and live differently in light of this, might you be praised during this time. Might all that is done here bring glory and fame to your name. Amen.

[00:02:17.830]

Dr. Cook: Can you hear me? Oh, now you can. I especially want to thank Laura Browder and Michael Miller and all those that work with them. I was the SMU advisor for twelve years as a professor, and I just know all the work and the short nights and everything else that goes in to make a great conference like this. So, a special thanks to them and all those who worked with them. I also want to thank Adam Kane for his leadership of SMU. It's been a great year. We're looking forward to a wonderful Missions Conference.

[00:03:03.430]

Well, a great crowd. Thanks for being here on time. Looks like Bruce is going to be a little hungry today. It's been my privilege for many years to welcome you to the Missions Conference, and this is the 75th Annual Missions Conference. I feel that these are some of the most important days in the year, including the academic days that we have. This is my 44th Missions conference, going back to when I was a student. It's so special for me and Annabelle to be part of this, and I'm so glad that we continue this wonderful tradition. Every year, Biola holds two conferences that we feel are so important and part of the Biola experience that we actually dismissed classes so you can come and listen to the various activities and people that we bring to our campus.

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First of all is the Torrey Conference and classes dismissed for that, so we can reaffirm our historic commitment to the word of God. And we really appreciate that opportunity and the wonderful work that Ron Hafer and others do that make that conference so great. Our Bible

requirement of 30 semester hours is the strongest of any Bible or Christian College University commitment to the Bible. We're so thankful for that. The second strong commitment we have is seeing that word of God that we learn here communicated throughout the world. And these mission conferences are given so you might focus on our second historical commitment.

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And why do we set apart three days dismiss classes and concentrate on world missions? Because there are over 2 billion people in the world today who never heard that wonderful name which we love and revere. There are thousands of people groups that have no gospel witness. Unless somebody crosses a cultural barrier and shares the good news of salvation with them, they will die without ever hearing about Jesus Christ. It is my prayer that God will use his time in all of our hearts to bring us closer to his heart and to understand his will for the world and for each of our individual lives.

[00:05:08.110]

A special word of thanks for our missionaries who are here. Thank you for coming. I trust that all of our students will take advantage of the wealth of experience and love and compassion and commitment that you bring as you live and move among us these three days. So, I'd like to have all the missionaries who are here please stand. Let's welcome them. Obviously, there's some setting up their booze in case you're wondering where some of them are. And they'll be here. Many come. We just thank them for taking their time off to be here and meet our wonderful students.

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Now my pleasure to introduce the mayor of La Mirada, Susan Tripp. Susan is beginning her fourth year of service on La Mirada City Council. She has been active in the community for many years, serving in public agencies such as the Drug and Gang Task Force, the Chamber Board of Directors, and the Business and Education Committee. She served as co-chair of the Disaster Preparedness Steering Committee. Was a public safety commissioner from 1993 to 2001. Susan and her husband Roland owned and operated the La Mirada Animal Hospital for ten years. In 1996, Susan received the La Mirada Volunteers in Action Innovative Leadership Award. Is also involved in service and leadership at Community Presbyterian Church of La Mirada. So, let's give a wonderful warm welcome to our mayor, Susan Tripp, as she brings reading from the city.

[00:06:59.970]

Susan Tripp: Good morning. Thank you, Dr. Cook, for that gracious introduction. And thank you, Michael and Laura and students for inviting me to be here today. When I'm at Biola, I'm reminded that the city in Biola are not only connected by geography, but by people. Dr. C. David Peters, a Biola professor here, served the La Mirada City Council and as mayor over a span of 25 years. And our current city council member, Steve Jones is alumni of Biola. So, it is my great pleasure on behalf of the city Council to welcome visitors to our city and to wish all of you a meaningful and an enjoyable missions conference.

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Visitors and new students you might enjoy walking La Mirada's Horse trail that starts here at Biola and ends up in Creek Park or walking across La Mirada Boulevard to visit the duck pond at the regional park. La Mirada has many parks for walking, jogging and for peaceful reflection. This year, La Mirada was named a 2003 Tree City USA. And this is because we celebrate an annual Arbor Day and for our tree planting and maintaining program. And I want to share with you that Dr. Peters was a strong voice for trees when he served on our La Mirada City Council.

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I was asked to speak this morning on how students can impact the community. What a great question. Thank you for your interest and your concern. On this topic. I would like to cover three areas. First, volunteering. Second, patronizing local business. And lastly, being goodwill ambassadors for Biola. The citizens of La Mirada already benefit from the service ethic at Biola. The city's La Mirada Volunteers in Action program has grown steadily since inception in 2001, and Biola students contribute many, many hours in this program. For example, in the program called Helping Hands, volunteers go into a resident's home to fix it up so that it will meet the La Mirada code enforcement standards. This involves hard work, weeding, cleaning, painting, and the removal of general clutter. The city receives heartwarming thank you notes from these residents who are often elderly and have financial constraints, and without the help of the volunteer program could not come up to that standard. So, on behalf of all these grateful people in our city, I would like to say thank you to Biola volunteers for helping in this program.

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Biola students also volunteer for our park program. Park is an acronym for Positive Alternatives Recreation Programs for Kids. La Mirada has three after school locations at no charge to parents. Biola students volunteer as big brothers and sisters in these programs and serve as positive role models. They assist with homework in this program and also in our homework club, which is held at the resource building behind City Hall. Biola students are also mentoring in our schools to promote literacy. Studies have shown that contact with mentors improve student attendance, attitude and therefore success in school. Volunteering is an example of how Biola students are impacting the community of La Mirada.

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I have heard that most students live, eat, and seek entertainment on campus. For those students that do leave campus, you can impact and support the quality of life in the community by shopping, eating, and seeking entertainment in the city of La Mirada. The city is proud of the award-winning productions and musical entertainment at the La Mirada Theater for Performing Arts. And we offer student discounts. There is also a new dollar movie theater in town. I can tell by that response everyone appreciates a cheap date. No, don't take that in the wrong way. Did you know that we also have a new Baja Grill and a Cold Stone Creamery right around the corner from the dollar movie theater?

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When I visit Starbucks on La Mirada Boulevard and Imperial, I see students waiting in line studying at the tables. And I'm reminded that Biola students support businesses like Starbucks that are appreciated by La Mirada residents. So, thank you for supporting local businesses and I

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hope you do shop, eat, and seek entertainment in the city of La Mirada. Lastly, Biola students can continue to positively impact the community by acting as goodwill ambassadors for Biola.

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When my husband and I owned the La Mirada Animal Hospital, we hired Biola students and to this day, we comment on how great our experience was with those Biola students. What great positive attitudes and work ethic they showed. Any time you are in our community, whether you intend to or not, as students, you represent Biola's reputation as a good neighbor. So be goodwill ambassadors in everything that you do. In conclusion, I would like to thank our friends at Biola for being good neighbors. By hosting meetings with the city, offering programming and facilities to La Mirada residents.

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Biola University contributes to the quality of life in La Mirada, and the city wants to hear from students too. Help the community impact Biola students in a positive way by sharing your ideas and perspectives on La Mirada surveys and with the staff when you participate in our programs. And don't forget to vote. Recently, on March 2, there was a Biola student at city hall as we were coming out of a council meeting looking for the polling place, and she had three council members running around helping her. So just so you know, for Biola, the polling place is now in the resource building behind city hall. Not too far to walk.

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On behalf of the city council, thank you again for the invitation to be here with you this morning. I hope that the 75th Mission Conference at Biola is life changing and enjoyable for missionaries, students, and staff. And may our Lord guide you and bless you and protect you as you serve our community and the world. Thank you.

[00:15:11.050]

Host: Well, good morning again. We had a couple of things we want to go over with you first. But first of all, welcome to the 75th anniversary of Missions Conference. It's an exciting year having this. There's so many organizations. We got about 65 different mission's organizations that are here this year from all over the world, and we definitely encourage all of you to really take advantage of them. They're in your dorm rooms, living there, seek them out, interact with them. Come to the soccer game at 04:00 today. Play soccer against them. Go to the tent, to the booths and interact with them, spend time with them actually the soccer games tomorrow. Sorry about that.

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And just really take advantage of them. A lot of them come from pretty far away and they've got amazing things to share, amazing things they're doing in their organizations and they're pretty amazing people who have incredible stories about their lives as well. So do take advantage of this opportunity we have here. One thing, we have a map right up over here, of the world. And I don't know if you can see it on there, but there are red dots in different countries on there. And what each of those dots represent are where there are currently Biola alumni, missionaries, and



there's a whole lot of dots over the map. And so, it's not one per missionary, but one per country that we have missionaries in. So, there's even more than that.

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In the past, when Biola was at Church of the Open Door when they had would have Missions Conference, often there was a banner similar to that that showed locations of missionaries all over the globe that had gone out from Biola. So, we made our own this year and found out where different missions were at. And it's pretty impressive. Go up and take a look at it as you have time afterwards and just be amazed at the impact that Biola has had in the past year and even as having right now is there's people out all over the world. The other thing you may have noticed as you came in is this plane right at the back.

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That plane is the Nate Saint plane. For those of you who do not know. Nate Saint was a pilot who flew in with Jim Elliot when they landed and were then killed by the Indians there. And a few weeks later their plane was washed away in a flash flood and thought we'd never see it again and it was buried. However, 38 years later, Nate Saint's grandson found the plane when he went, and some Indians were out, and they just stumbled across it. So, they dug it up and uncovered it and restored it. And we were able to get it here for this mission conference. It's been in the MAF, in their headquarters office there and they were very gracious in bringing it out to us now for this.

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So, there's also information about it up near the plane if you want to go ahead and take a look at it when you have time. However, please don't touch it. It's very old. It's been in a riverbed for 38 years. So just be careful with it. But there is stuff there that you can read. A couple of announcements you're going to be hearing a lot these three days about action, about what we as believers, our lives as reconciled people that are in right relationship with God, what our life should be looking like, but we don't want this just to be a time of hearing about that. We also wanted to give you guys a taste of being involved in action.

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So, Thursday night, our special session at 07:00 p.m. is going to be a chance for you guys to be doing stuff. There's a whole lot of different activities that are going to be going on there, but in order for that to take place, there's a couple of things you need to know. We're doing several drives for that night. One of them is a clothing drive. And so, if you guys have clothes that you no longer want that you'd be willing to donate that are just, you realize you've got so many, you're never going to wear that many, bring them over there. It'll be at 07:00 p.m. on Thursday night. And any of those things.

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Also, if you want to go out and buy socks, you can bring those as well and make sure everything you bring is clean and in good condition. Additionally, a second driver doing is a hygiene drive. And this will be going to Orange County Rescue mission. And so, any hygiene projects you have that you'd be willing to bring from toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant, shampoo, down to ChapStick and razors, any of those kinds of things, feel free to bring them.

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And then we're also doing a third drive, and this one is for Bible textbooks, bible products. So, if you have a Bible that you'd be willing to give, bring that. If you have textbooks from Bible classes that you've used, go ahead, and bring those as well. If you have old chapel tapes that you no longer need, if you have sermons on tape, any of those kinds of things, go ahead and bring those. We'll be boxing them up and sending them to an organization, actually sends them out into the developing world to places there that they don't have these resources and materials available. So, if you've got those sitting around in your room that you're not using, there are a whole lot of people that could definitely be using them. And please bring that.

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Host 2: Okay, real quickly everybody pull out your booklets and a pen. We have one change to make to add the booklet. Have the booklet just sit on your palm like this and open it up to page seven. The Exploration we just have a quick departure time for the Dream Center. It will be leaving at 12:00. The Buddhist temple will be leaving at 1 on Wednesday and 1 on Thursday. The mosque will be departing at 12:45 on Wednesday. Thursday will be departing at 11:30. 11:45, and the 4:00 departure time will be a dinner with Islamic religious leaders. That will be a cap event as well.

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The Union Rescue Mission will be departing Thursday at 11:15. And one that is not listed is the Hindu Temple and they will be departing at 12:30, to find out where they're departing. You can

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find out at the table in front of the cafeteria. Also, we wanted to let you know that on Wednesday night, the concert, we will be taking a love offering for sexually abused children. The band will tell you more about this, but we just wanted to let you guys know if you have any money that you would like to go toward this to bring that to the Wednesday night concert.

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Also, there's still room for devotions. You can sign up for those outside of the cafeteria. We offer credit for those. The Labyrinth is also going on for a second night in Hope Hall. Also, the cafeteria will be running normal hours this entire week. And if you open up to page 19 okay, open the booklet like this and open up to page 19. It's the very last one for Poverty and Muslim countries, Avant Ministries. It says Rolo One. It will be in Rolo Four.

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Also, to let you guys know that we will be meeting for a half an hour of prayer before each main session. Will be meeting out front in the gym. Just find a people just circled in prayer. And one last thing. If you know you're going to be leaving early for this conference, each of the sessions, we ask that you please sit toward the back. So, when the band starts playing, if you could just make your way in that direction just to avoid distractions during the speaker. And we hope you enjoy this conference. You have any questions, just let us know. Thank you.

[00:23:00.530]

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Host: One final thing, actually that I forgot to mention for the Thursday night special session is if you guys can be in pens, envelopes and either a stamp or \$0.37 or even a dollar on that. We will be doing some letter writing there. So that would really help out. Thanks.

[00:24:05.970]

Host 2: Thank you, Tim [inaudible 00:24:07], for leading us in worship this morning. Dr. Gustavo Crocker is currently Senior Vice President for Programs at World Relief Corporation, an international relief and development organization with programs in more than 25 countries, including the United States. A Guatemalan by birth, Dr. Crocker is a licensed architect with a Master's in Community Planning from the University of Cincinnati, where he attended as a Fulbright Scholar. He earned a PhD in Organizational Leadership in Business at Regent University, where he was a Latin American Leadership scholar. Fluent in three languages, Dr. Crocker has authored several books and articles in Spanish and English. As an international development professional, Dr. Crocker has provided leadership training and programming program consultant in 64 countries, in five continents. Dr. Crocker and his wife Rachel have two daughters, Raquel, and Elizabeth. They currently reside in Columbia, Maryland. Please welcome with me, Dr. Crocker.

[00:25:32.090]

Dr. Crocker: I thought it was contemporary when I brought my computer here and then I was telling the team that works with the computers, I said, here's my floppy for the presentation. He said, that's too 20th century. So, I guess we're going to try to do it the 20th century way. This is my father's world, that was an awesome song. I got to confess that I'm very intimidated by this

crowd. You are a very intimidating crowd. I'm serious. See, the thing with you is that you are no nonsense people. And that's really cool.

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I know that because I have a 17-year-old daughter who checks on my presentations all the time and has asked me has begged me not to tell any Latin jokes or anything like that because they are corny. And then she goes to what we call missions faith promise events. And she has asked me not to repeat the same sermon. So, I told her that I was not going to repeat the same sermon here because they gave me a topic. Now, that makes it even tougher for us missionaries when they give us a topic, we cannot tell the same story over and over again and we cannot tell our snakes and Indiana Jones story. So, forget about it. If you came here to listen to a missionary to give a slideshow. Sorry. I don't have slides. Oh, yeah, I do have some.

[00:27:01.340]

Okay, imagine this picture. Imagine that there is a banquet and all of you have been invited to that banquet. There's something weird about that banquet, though. All of you are the father's children. What an appropriate song. This is my father's world. Yeah. This is my father's world and my father's world has been invited to this banquet. This banquet has tables for everyone. For everyone. You too. There's no problem. As we get ready to serve in this banquet. And all of you children of my father because this is my father's world something pretty weird happens. That corner there from the second column down, they're going to have all the food they want. Is that cool? You guys there are going to have everything you want. You want to have a buffet of everything that you have ever dreamed of. That's a great meal.

[00:28:28.070]

You like steak? You have steak. You like chicken? You have chicken. Are you a vegetarian? Plenty of veggies? You like dessert? All of them. The latest. You like coffee? There are 190 different ways that you can get your coffee at Starbucks. Okay? But just those of you from that column there, okay? This section from here there. Sorry, guys, there is just chicken for you. Okay, with rice. OK, cool. Okay. Mashed potatoes. And you get something to drink. It's mirinda. It's just one mirinda, this orange, weird flavor kind of thing. But you have it. Are we cool? Getting hungry yet?

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Okay, then this section here, sorry, guys, we only have black beads. Cool. Except that you're going to have them forever. Monday morning, black beans. At noon, you're going to have black bean soup for dinner. It gets heavy black beans. This section here. Sorry, guys, no food for you. I'm sorry. I mean, I'm just the organizer here. How about that? Do you like the idea? Oh, come on, guys. This is my father's world. And my father's world has been invited to a banquet. All of you are the father's children. Guys, in that corner, do you like the idea of your banquet? Hey, let's give yourselves a hand. If I want to have a meal, I want to have a meal with those guys.

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Isn't that cool? I don't want to eat with you. Seriously, I don't want to eat with you. You don't have anything to give me. I want to stop by just for lunch because I like black bean soup, but just the soup at lunch. One lunch, not 365. And I'm going to spend a week with you guys because I'm

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into chicken and mashed potatoes and mirinda. I like you guys. Am I invited to your party? Yes. Cool. This is my father's world. Well, not only that, this is just a banquet. This is just a banquet. And we have been invited to that banquet in preparation for a huge party. Okay? This is the entry. This is the opposite. In my father's world is the opposite. First you eat and then you party. Okay? That's how it is here. First, we party and then we go eat.

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Now, here's the opposite. In my father's world, first you get to eat. And this is just preparation for a party that we're going to have. It's going to be a huge, huge party that is going to last forever. Forever. Forever. Now, I have news for you guys. Things have changed because now, from here to here, the black beans guys, you know what you're eating to the party. You have your tickets, you have your passes, then and you're going to the party forever. Okay? So even though you're eating a lot of beans, okay, you're into the party that lasts forever. You guys tough. Some of you here. Yeah, some of you may make it to the party. This is my father's world.

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There is also another thing. As we are transitioning into the party, there are some mad guy's in between you guys and between you guys. And even between you guys and even between you guys, there are some guys who are hitting those who are going to the party, who are throwing them into jail, who are hoping that they don't make it to the party. This is my father's world. Now, that sounds weird, doesn't it? Who in this world will design such a crazy party? Who in this world will design such a crazy banquet where only those of you who are from the second



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column to the wall have all the choices and you can even throw away a lot of stuff while you guys, sorry, no food for you.

[00:33:53.410]

This is not my father's world. Because the way my father designed it, he designed it like this. He gave it to John the Revelator, and he said, after this, I see a great multitude that no one could count. From every nation, tribe, people, group, and language standing before the throne and in front of the land singing salvation belongs to our Lord and to the land. This is my father's world this is my father's plan this was my father's plan. The world that I described in the first ten minutes is somebody else's world. Pretty weird. This is not how my Father, God designed it. Let's pray.

[00:35:09.130]

God, every day, bless this bread. Give bread to those who are hungry. Give hunger for justice to those who have bread. God, bless this bread. Amen.

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This is the prayer of those of us who every day have to look through the glasses of Jesus as we pray and as we move and commute between this world and the third world and between this world and the world of sin. Those of us who have to commute every day between worship and curse, between food and hunger. This is our daily prayer.

[00:36:05.530]

Let me tell you what I'm going to talk to you in these three days. If by the end of today you have not kicked me out of here, there's always a chance for this to happen. I want to talk to you today, in the next three days about three main areas in which we get involved. See the word justice. We have a different concept of what justice the word justice is right and really applaud those who organize this missions conference with the topic justice to the nations. Because it is not about justice as human beings understand them. It is justice as God understands it. Because God is a righteous God, is he not? This is my father's design for things to be right. That is justice. It's righteousness.

[00:37:01.970]

So, I'm going to challenge you during the three sessions. First, today we're going to get a little bit too general. Please forgive me if you wanted some personal plans, if you wanted some personal application, that's my way to have you come in tomorrow. Today we're going to talk about general issues because the world, the Christian world, the evangelicals around the world, we have a commitment, we have a challenge and we have a mandate, and that is to be salt and light.

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And that means to give light, to give the light of Christ to every nation, but also to give the flavor of Christ to every community. Not just the light that spells darkness out, but the salt that gives flavor to our communities and to our world. So today we're going to talk about this global call. Tomorrow we're going to talk about the church, the Bride of Christ. What is our church called to do? To reach out a great commission? Because that's what it's all about. It is not about being

busy feeding people. I'm sorry if you came today thinking that we were going to talk about how to feed people. That's not it. It is about being light. And salt.

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And the last day we're going to talk about how you individually, as a follower of Jesus Christ, can make a change in somebody's life. How can you get involved? Let me walk you through today's world. This is not my father's world because he didn't design it. 20% of the world's population, only one section of the world enjoys 80% of the world's resources. That's pretty amazing, isn't it? Now, I don't have any problem with abundance because Jesus said, I have come so that you have life and abundantly so.

[00:39:23.890]

Okay? I didn't come this morning to make you feel guilty for what you have, okay? I came this morning to ask you to be thankful for what you have because this is a nation of blessing and opportunity. I believe so because yesterday, March 16, 2004, my wife and I were sworn in as the newest American citizens. We became citizens yesterday because we believe in this nation. We believe that this is a nation of opportunity. This is a nation that has honored God and must continue honoring God. So, I'm not saying please understand me, I didn't come this morning to tell you shame on you for being part of the two columns [inaudible 00:40:19] no, but I want all of us to understand and to be thankful about what the Lord has given us.

[00:40:33.330]

In fact, studies tell us that there is plenty of food in this world. There is plenty of food in this world to feed everyone and then left. There is plenty of food. But if there is plenty of food in this world, how come this section didn't get to eat? Oh, there are too many reasons. And I'm not going to get into the too many reasons. Some of them is because in that group we have a bunch of people who are forcing them to be hungry. Yeah, because some of them also don't have any opportunities. But also, because some of us don't really care that they are hungry. We don't. And I have a secret for you. Those guys in that corner, they are throwing away a lot of food. They are.

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When I first came to America 14 years ago, I was this architect to get my masters in community planning. I was a professor teaching architecture. They sent me to a dorm. They confined me to a dorm. Okay? I was 26 years old, and they confined me to a dorm because I didn't know how to speak your language. Still don't. I speak Spanish. So, they confined me to a dorm. And I'm sitting there, my roommates are 17 18, and they're playing arcade games, big guys playing arcade games. And I was a college prof sitting there not knowing how to talk. And they sent me to the dorm. And here I'm sitting. And I got introduced to one of the most fascinating American experiences, dorm food.

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And that was new for me here a college prof. Now is going to the line, and it's looking at like, wow. I mean, I had a collection. You want eggs like this? Like this? Like this? Like this. Eggs galore. I could have stayed just on the egg section. That was my first morning, but then I had to move to the cereal section. Now I was getting excited. I mean, there was cereal for everything.

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They were round and colorful and oh, my goodness. I thought, I'm not going to go to school. I'm going to stay here. No, but that was not it. There was the juice section. Juice. Now I understood why those guys were playing arcade games. I was in my own arcade game. I was going grape juice and cranberry and cranapple and cran, whatever.

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And that was just breakfast, and I got a lot of it, and I got sick, but I got sick of my heart, because when we were over, I was so full that I thought, I'm going to eat it because I put it in my plate. That's what my mom taught me. And I saw the kids just come in with the trays, and they just tried the cereal, but it was kind of stale. They tried the juice, but it was kind of warm. The coffee didn't have this touch. The eggs were kind of a little bit overcooked, and so we just threw it away. And I'm like, no. Are you going to throw these away? Can I, have it?

[00:44:33.810]

My colleague at Compassion when I was vice president for Field Management and Compassion International. Dr. Loran Banda was a refugee from Rwanda. He was a refugee, left Burundi, went to Tanzania, walked across Africa to go to Kenya, got to Kenya. Finally, he got a refugee status, flew to the States, and got his PhD at Trinity Evangelical University, PhD in education. He was my colleague. He told me that he went to the doctor. Now he's a tootsie tall guy, and he had cholesterol problems, and the doctor told him, Loran, you got to go on a diet. And he said, are you kidding me? I was starving for 40 years, and you want me to go on a diet? Get out of town. I was on a diet for 40 years. I'd rather die. Well fed.

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800 million people are undernourished, and nearly all of them live outside of the United States and Europe. I'm not asking you, not to have choices. That's a blessing. I'm inviting you to be thankful for the choices you have. I'm inviting you to be thankful for the opportunities you have, and I'm challenging you to share them today. 25,000 children will die today of preventable diseases. Let me put it this way. That doesn't make the news, does it? I mean, it's 25,000 children. I mean, who cares? But imagine if a 747-airplane full of children will crash every 45 minutes. Would that make the news? If a 747 full of children would crash every 45 minutes. Would that call your attention? I guess it would.

[00:46:51.470]

When the Lord was speaking in Isaiah 65 about new heavens and new earth, there is one part that says, and no child in the new heaven, and no child will die at an early age. We're not there yet. 25,000 kids will die today of things that could be prevented. World Relief Alone, the organization I have the privilege to represent, we're working in what the UNICEF has labeled as one of the finest child survival programs in Mozambique. Where we are working directly with 60,000 children every day. 60,000 kids are not going to be part of these statistics. Praise the Lord for that. But that's just very little, because 25,000 got out of our system. This is really shocking.

[00:47:57.090]

The 20th century saw more Christians being killed in one century than in the previous 19th centuries. More Christians were killed because of their faith in the last hundred years than in the previous 1900 years. The church, you have the privilege of having a church. You have the

privilege of having a Bible and a radio station and a Christian channel, in fact, just for the sake of it. One day I was driving from Colorado when we were living in Colorado Springs, driving to the east coast, and just to have a test, I decided to find how long was I going to drive without tuning to a Christian radio station.

[00:48:56.030]

When you're driving, you don't have anything to do. You go nuts. So, this was my test. I was driving. I was driving, and I was driving my family nuts because I was trying to see how long can I drive without having a radio station, a Christian radio station. And we drove, and then it got kind of fussy, and we started changing the dial, and we found another one, and we found another one of the entire 23 hours drive because I was driving the the entire 23 hours drive could have been 19.

[00:49:30.470]

We only spent ten minutes without a Christian station. Ten minutes, ten-minute drought without a Christian station. Now, that is a blessing, isn't it? You go to the Christian bookstore, and you have Bibles galore. You have the NIV version, you have the BBC, the BBA, whatever version you want, you have it. There are for men, for women, for children, for adults, for the single woman, for the single guy, for the leader, for everybody. There is a Bible version. There is one. You could stand up and at least today in this nation, you could pack the movies and set up a record for The Passion of Christ at the movies, and you could pay, and you could help the record of the \$300 million to be set this weekend. You could do that. They're already talking about it.

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But there are countries, the country of the burqa there are countries where you cannot even say the name of Jesus, because you could get killed. This is not my father's world. This is not how he designed. In fact, this is not how it shows in the book of Revelation. So here, let me suggest to you a Christian response. How do we respond to these problems? Let me give you a little bit of history for a second. As a Latino, I have the benefit of history. And as Americans, you have the benefit of history. Let me give you a little bit of history.

[00:51:26.630]

Once upon a time, missions were holistic. Then we decided to split them, and we decided to have two camps those who were concerned about the soul and those who were concerned about the body. So, we became very much engaged in our specific theology that divided the man, not like my father had intended to. And so, we did missions for a while in which our concern was just the proclamation of the gospel, and we forgot the demonstration of the gospel. Contrary to that, a group of people started saying that the only gospel there was was the demonstration gospel and that only demonstration gospel was the true gospel. And just like if it was a debate between Coke and Pepsi, we divided the evangelical community. The evangelical community got divided between Coke and Pepsi. The reality of this is that the Lord created us as one. The triune God is one, not three, one.

[00:52:54.190]

And he is God the Father and God the Son and God the Holy Spirit, one. Are we tracking? Do you agree with me? I'm not going to get profoundly into theology because I always get in trouble



when I do theology. But God, the triumph of God is one. One in three persons, but one. And he made us one. But this one, the Gustavo one who is speaking to you, has a soul, a soul that will live for eternity in heaven. But Gustavo who is speaking to you today has a belly that has to be fed today. The Haitians tell us that an empty sack cannot stand. When we preach to the Haitians, they say, brother, brother, brother, stop preaching, stop preaching. An empty sack cannot stand. What does that mean then? You cannot preach the gospel to somebody who cannot hear you because the noise in his stomach, because he's hungry and the grueling of his stomach is not going to let him hear your proclamation unless you show him the gospel through your demonstration. So, a group of Christians from all over the world. 265 organizations engaged in what we call holistic ministry. Holistic transformation.

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Became the Micah Network, a group of agencies that are doing integral mission that have decided that it is about time that we stop talking about either proclamation or demonstration. That that is evil and has been a way that has been used to delay the expansion of the kingdom. So, we have a declaration on integral mission. Integral mission or Holistic transformation is the proclamation and the demonstration of the Gospel. It is not simply that evangelism and social involvement are to be done alongside each other. That's the 80s. In the 80s we decided, okay, we're going to get at peace, so let's have a marriage.

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And we started talking about the great commission and the great commandment. And we decided to go at the table and to have the representatives of the Great Commission missionaries to talk to

the representatives of the Great Commandment, the relief workers. And so, we talked, but we were suspicious of one another because we thought that the Gospel was two things. Some of us in the relief group decided that the Gospel was about demonstration. Some of us in the traditional missionary work, we decided that the Gospel was about proclamation.

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And we started not talking to each other again. That is our invention. This is not my father's plan. My father's plan is that they are not alongside each other. Can you dissect me? Can you dissect my soul from my body? No. Only God can do that. Rather in integral mission, our proclamation our proclamation has social consequences because when people accept Jesus, then we call them to love and repentance in all areas of life. Let me tell you the experience of my father. My father was a womanizer drunkard before missionaries went to Guatemala. He thought he was happy. He was dying and going to hell. Happily, not really. He was an abusive womanizer husband. But then he met the Lord. Thanks to the proclamation, my father changed.

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And my mother, when she saw she was very skeptical like me, she looked and said, I don't believe this. But after one year that my father's behavior changed and he became light and salt for the community, that he was a different man. He didn't drink, he didn't abuse the Gospel. The proclamation had social consequences. That was the best testimony for my mom to become a Christian.

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Our proclamation has social consequences because we call people to love and repentance in all areas of life. In all areas of life. At the same time, we got to understand that our social involvement, our ministry to the poor, our feeding the poor are healing the sick, has evangelistic consequences as we bear witness to the transforming grace of Jesus Christ. If we ignore the world, we betray the word of God. Because if we only tell them, God bless you, die hungry in peace, we are ignoring the word of God. But if we ignore the word of God, that tells us that people are sinners and that they must reconcile with Christ, then we have nothing to bring to the world.

[00:58:51.190]

Justice and justification by faith, worship, and social transformation. The spiritual and the material, personal change and shalom, they belong together. And as we're going to see tomorrow in the life of Jesus, being, doing and saying are at the heart of our integral task. Being, doing and saying. This is God's requirement. As we engage in his mission. He has shown you, a man, what is good and what does the Lord require of you? To act justly, to love mercy and to walk humbly before your God. Simple. It is not complicated. We have made it too complicated. It is very simple. Love your God with all your heart, with all your mind, with all your soul, and close your book.

[01:00:07.530]

That's a fallacy. That's the fallacy that the Pharisee wanted Jesus to say. Love your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind. And love your neighbor as yourself. That's the toughest part. You know why loving our neighbors as ourselves is the toughest part? Because it's

easier to hide our spiritual condition. Who can tell me if I have a rotten spiritual life? I'm preaching to you. Who cannot tell me that the preacher who is preaching today or Sunday has a rotten spiritual life? Only God knows that. Only God. Only God knows your spiritual condition. Only God knows if you love him with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind. By the way, three in one, you one three. Heart, soul, mind. You three, but you're one. Only God knows that.

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But Jesus didn't stop there. He said and loved your neighbor as yourself. And it says that the guy, the doctor of the law, the specialist trying to justify himself. Obviously, he was a religious person, very much committed to the vertical relationship. He said, and it was my neighbor, by the way. And you know the rest of the story. Let me challenge you as we start drawing to a closing. A closing for a Latino means 2 hours. Okay? Hey, that's the way it is.

[01:02:02.850]

That there are some practical levels of response. The first is global. How can we respond to all of this? First, we can respond by being a Christian voice. You have an opportunity. I really love what the mayor said today. Vote. When we were studying to be citizens of the United States, my wife asked me, there's this question here that says, and what is the privilege of an American citizen, of being an American citizen? And I said, we can vote. One of the biggest efforts of where we live is our advocacy program. We go to the hill. Our office is about 60 miles north of Washington, DC. And we meet with the senators. We meet with a faith-based initiative of the President's office.

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We talk to them, and we ask them, and we encourage them to change things that are affecting this world as Christians. We can be a Christian voice. You know that in theory, there are more Christians in this nation than any other minority group. Do you know that? And yet I'm appalled that Christians in this nation are being bulldozed off by minorities that are changing our nation. Last week I was saying your nation now is our nation. And you know what? I don't think it is right. We are majority and yet they are changing our nation. We got to have a voice. We know that the world is dying. We know that the world is hungry. We know that the problem of AIDS is killing nearly 40% of Christians in southern Africa. We know that. Imagine you being a pastor, being a pastor and coming every Sunday. And instead of preaching the gospel, you have to preach about burials and funerals and orphans and widows, because your church, 40% of your church have AIDS.

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Can the church say anything? Shouldn't the church get involved? The first level is a global response. And I'm going to challenge you today because as a former college prof, I like to give the lecture, but then give you an assignment. Okay? So, we're going to leave today with an assignment, an assignment for global engagement. Secondly, there is the second level, which is the mission level. You need to get involved in ministry to the whole person in the whole world. You need to get involved. There is no large or small ministry. There is no large or small ministry.

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I have had the privilege of working with AERDO, the Association of Evangelical Relief and Development Organizations. I had the privilege to sit, being the vice president of AERDO, sitting with the largest agency, World Vision, work for the second largest, Compassion, work with the oldest, World Relief. And you know what? There's no small or large ministry. I belong to a very small denomination. There is no large or small ministry. As long as you get involved in ministry to the whole person in the whole world, that's very important. Notice that I didn't use the word missionary, because in our generation we are going to rewrite the concept to become missional. Because missional is all inclusive, means the whole gospel in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and China, the whole gospel for the whole person. It also means proclamation. We're used to proclamation, but it also includes demonstration.

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Finally, there is a level which is personal. You got to live a lifestyle consistent with that of the gospel. They tell me the story of Alexander the Great. Those of you who are history majors, you recognize the story. The history of Alexander the Great was one of the conquerors of the son of Philippi of Macedonia, and he started conquering the great areas and Alexander the Great, this soldier went to his camp, and he was asking one of his generals, okay, what's the deal here? And he said, well, there's this guy in that tent who does not want to go to the battlefield. Okay, let's go look at the guy.

[01:07:08.840]

Hey, young man, what is your name? He said, Alexander, sir. And what's the deal? Well, I don't want to go to the battlefield. Well, no problem. You only have two options. You either go to the battlefield or you change your name. Because Alexander is the name of a fighter and that is true. You either live a lifestyle that is consistent with that of Christ, or you change your name. There's not a problem if you call yourself anything else, but your lifestyle has to be consistent with that of Christ.

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You have to preach the good news at all times and if necessary, use words. Let me repeat this to you. You must preach the good news at all times and if necessary, you must use words. That means that your lifestyle and your demonstration, your care for your neighbor, you're concerned for the problems of my Father's world. You're concerned for the injustices. You're concerned for those who are being persecuted. Your concern is also Jesus's concern at global level, at a mission level and at a personal level. Let me give you some examples.

[01:08:33.360]

The Micah challenge is a global example. This is a global Christian campaign. For the first time, we have a global Christian campaign that will raise a prophetic and powerful voice for the poor with the poor. We're not going to treat the poor as if they are our second-class brothers and sisters. We're all Christians. In other words, we're going to ask our brothers and sisters in that side of the building to mix with us because we're one. And we're going to have a campaign that will raise a prophetic and powerful voice for and with the poor. How are you going to do that?

[01:09:12.610]

First of all, we're doing it because we're facilitating it jointly by the World Evangelical Alliance. All evangelical alliances in the world are saying we got to change this. This is the prophetic voice of Christians. And the Micah Network, the World Evangelical Alliance, known throughout the years for its proclamation, is joining this group of 250 Christian relief and development organizations that are known for the demonstration. And we're saying we're going to come together as one.

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Now, this probably doesn't excite you because you are part of the generation of integration, and I really admire you guys because you really don't care much about those divisions that we grownups have come up with. You really don't care about sections and divisions. You really are very integrative folk. But for those of us who have grown up in this distinction, this is marvelous. This is really making God happy that the proclamation and the demonstration of the gospel are coming together and we're saying we're going to challenge the world. Here are the goals. First, we want to deepen the Christian commitment to work for and with poor communities in the world. We want everybody in the world to be engaged.

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Second, there is something that happened in the year 2000. For the first time, for the first time, all leaders of the world, all leaders, with no exception, committed to half poverty by the year 2015. Now, that's great. They're saying it is not right that nearly 30% of the people live in absolute poverty. So, they have decided to come together so that's the goal. We are asking



Christians all over the world to basically say, you know what? It is a Christian thing to preach the good news to the poor and it's a Christian thing also to speak for the voiceless. So let me read to you the Micah call. It's on a website.

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In the back there are only like 100 of these bookmarks. If you're willing to sign for the Micah challenge for the Micah call as an individual, if you say, you know what, I would like to sign on this at the booth. Randy is going to be there. And there's these bookmarks that basically have this Micah call. This is a moment in history of unique potential when the stated intention, at least that's what they said, of world leaders echo something of the mind of the biblical prophets.

[01:12:07.710]

We're referring to Micah and the teachings of Jesus concerning the poor. And this is a time when we have the means to dramatically reduce poverty. We do. I was telling you at the beginning that there is plenty of food, that there is plenty of food to feed the entire world. We therefore commit ourselves, as followers of Jesus to work together for the holistic transformation of our communities all over the world. You were challenged today by the mayor of La Mirada to commit to work together for the holistic transformation of La Mirada. How about that?

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To pursue justice, to be passionate about kindness, not just to be nice, but to be passionate about kindness and to walk humbly before with God. We also call on international and national decision makers of both rich and poor nations to fulfill their public promise to achieve the

millennial development goals and so halve absolute global poverty by 2015. We call on Christians everywhere, everywhere, to be agents of hope for and with the poor and to work with others to hold our national and global leaders accountable in securing a more just and merciful world in every area. In every area. To speak on behalf of the persecuted church, we have to do that. To speak on behalf of those who are dying of AIDS, we have to do that. To speak on behalf of the children who are dying of preventable diseases, we have to do that. But also, to transform our communities here in which Christianity is becoming a silent and oppressed, oppressed minority.

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Let me give you some successful examples of how global engagement works. In the area of saying advocacy, Christians engaged in the Jubilee 2000, we asked the World Bank to forgive the debt, the external debt of many of the poorest nations in the world. Why did we do that? We did that because in the ten countries at the bottom of the poverty line in the world, it was impossible for them to pay. Because nearly seven, it required seven generations of people to pay all their income, all their GNP, to pay the external debt. Imagine if you, your grandkids, your great grandkids, and your great great grandkids are already mortgaged and nothing of your income belongs to you. That's tough. It was successful. Ten of the poorest nations, their debt was forgiven in India because of the involvement of the Evangelical Alliance of India.

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Many people known as the tribals, the non-people people, the outcasts of India they were not given land and the church got involved in the government of the state of Gujarat and for the first

time in that region, for the first time in the history of that region people Christians who are the majority among the Dalits now they have land. That was a success. Fair Trade. I was last week in Nicaragua with my management team, and it was so great to see that now a lot of the coffee that you buy from Starbucks a lot of that coffee is purchased through Fair Trade with the farmers that we work with. That's exciting.

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And you know, how do we do that? We have decided to work with Christians because Christians have good business ethics and so World Relief and other ministries have organized farmers and instead of the farmers come in with their coffee and give it to the big guy who's going to make a lot of money and then sell it to Starbucks and the farmer getting very little and always being poor and slave. What we have decided is that we are organizing the farmers into a cooperative. And World Relief provides for them free services for them to process their coffee.

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And then we have engaged businessmen, Christian businessmen who are committed to ministry from Campus Crusade for Christ in Nicaragua or from Young Life in Nicaragua who have decided to reduce their profit margin. We have not asked him not to have any profit because the workers deserve his income. We have asked him to have decent profit. They have a very decent profit and now they are reducing the profit margin. They still can buy their Suburban's and their SUVs, believe me. But then as they reduce it, they sell the coffee at fair price, competitive price so that Starbucks can buy it from them. Starbucks still pays the best price that they can find in a

New York Stock Exchange. The difference is that we have reduced the profit of the intermediaries and the farmers are getting a fair income.

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Now, that is great. That is great because everybody's happy. You could get one of your 19,000 choices of Starbucks. Starbucks is becoming one of the largest coffee chains. Esperanza coffee, which means hope coffee in Nicaragua is a company comprised of Christian businessmen who have Christian principles and who apply transparency in their businesses. They are making money and the farmers have a better life. Everybody wins when there is righteousness.

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In Africa, we have been working so that people could have access to drugs. This is a big deal because a lot of people do not have access to antiretrovirals. They are promoting it, but they don't have access to it. Now because of the AERDO community, Christians in Africa will have access to antiretrovirals. In terms of involvement of the doing, there are some good examples of church based social transformation and integral mission. I will invite you to stop by the World Relief booth and see a model. We're talking about the heart model, the heart for the poor that has five main areas of intercomission. We work on health, education, agriculture, refuge, and trade heart.

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But this is just one of the examples. 60 some agencies are here during this week that are doing either integral mission or church-based social transformation. Those are good examples. They do work because people keep on coming to the Lord. And finally, our lifestyle, it works. If your

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lifestyle is consistent to that of Christ, it works. So here are some practical steps that you could take. And with this we close. Seriously? I'm serious. I'm just going to talk for six more minutes because they told me that at eleven, they are going to turn my microphone off. Is that the deal? Yeah. Okay.

[01:20:07.710]

If you're interested in a global campaign, sign the Micah call. Go to [www.Micahchallenge.org](http://www.Micahchallenge.org), go to your dorm and sign. As an individual, we're hoping to get 2 million signatures. 2 million signatures by October. We want Christians from all over the world to say, you know what, we are committed. We're committed to a better world. We support this call that the prophet Micah gave us. To act justly, to be compassionate about kindness and to walk humbly before the Lord. Sign or engage in some of the holistic ministries worldwide is one example. Go to our website, but there are many others. Visit the places. Don't let this week go by without you getting engaged.

[01:21:06.730]

The best thing that happened to me, friends, after being an architect and a college professor was really to find that the Lord was calling me to serve him by serving the poor. That was the most exciting thing that happened to me. It could happen to you too. And finally develop a lifestyle consistent with the Micah call to act justly, to love mercy and to walk humbly before the Lord. You are the generation. You are the generation that is going to bridge demonstration and proclamation. I have a lot of hope for your generation. In the last ten years I have participated in a lot of youth events and youth and mission and college mission activities. This is not part of my

job description. It is not part of my task at Work Relief or the prior ministries. I'm doing this because the United States of America, the greatest missionary sending agency of the 20th century, has lost one generation.

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That lost generation is the generation of your parents. Your grandparents made this nation the greatest missionary nation, but your parents dropped the ball. The emptiest and I know that because they asked me to be the speaker at mission conferences over and over and over again. I'm used to empty seats. The Sundays when they have a mission rally, that's the Sunday when people take advantage of it and go golfing. The Sundays when they have a missionary convention is the Sunday only for the old people and their grandkids because they cannot escape to that. I've seen that across the United States. But I have hope because you are the generation that is going to rescue the missionary challenge. You're it.

[01:23:15.610]

So, you got to give yourselves a lot of credit because the great commission is being passed on to you here. I saw a multitude that no one could count from every nation, from every tribe, from every language, from every people group. That is not a proposal. That is a promise. It is going to happen whether you get involved or not. But it's even cool if you get involved. God bless you. See you tomorrow.