



From the desk of Paul R. Madson: January 2018

# Global Training Network

Training Leaders, Transforming Lives

## Siberia: “To the Ends of the Earth”



**Pictured above:** Carl Palmer is pictured on a hilltop overlooking Krasnoyarsk, Siberia, where the evangelical church leaders gather to pray for their city.

*Krasnoyarsk, Siberia.* GTN Staff Member Carl Palmer just returned from ministry in this frigid outpost. He was there by invitation from pastors in the region who have asked Carl to train them.

Right before his ascension, Jesus said the following to his disciples: “*But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.*” (Acts 1:8 ESV)

Most of us think of Siberia as the “*end of the earth*” (or close to it).

Why go to central Siberia (especially in the middle of Winter)? Besides going when the local pastors are available, here are a few key reasons:

- *Because the people there are loved by God and made in His image* (John 3:16; Genesis 1:26; Psalm 8:3-8).
- *Because the pastors in Krasnoyarsk desire, need and have requested biblical, theological and pastoral training* (2 Timothy 2:2; 1 Timothy 4:12-16).
- *Because we are commanded to go into “all the world and make disciples of all nations”* (Matt. 28:18-20).
- *Because one day we will be worshipping together with our brothers and sisters in Christ from remote places like this* (Revelation 5:9; 7:9-12).

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## Siberia (continued)



*When the road Carl and his team were traveling on came to an end, they rode on a cart (behind a tractor) through the snow.*



*Operation World writes of this region, "Christian leaders, who are few in number, must rise to many great challenges. Lack of training in the past, need for funding today and loss of many pastors and educators through emigration contribute to this lack of leaders."*

“And they sang a new song, saying,  
‘Worthy are you to take the scroll  
and to open its seals,  
for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God  
from *every* tribe and language and people and nation...”

**(Revelation 5:9 ESV)**

## Introducing Glenn and Stacy Miller

Glenn and Stacy have been married since 1983 and have six children who are following the Lord. They have pastored in three church fellowships and have ministered in several nations, including Tanzania, Belarus and India.

With a Master’s degree in Theological Studies, Glenn has also worked five years at a Christian university in Phoenix teaching and revising the Christian Worldview course. They have been privileged to see many lives changed by God’s grace.

Glenn writes, “*We truly believe that reproducing spiritually is just as natural as physically reproducing. GTN wants to reproduce and train pastors in the Majority World and we want to work with people who have a big vision for extending Christ’s kingdom, on earth as it is in heaven.*”



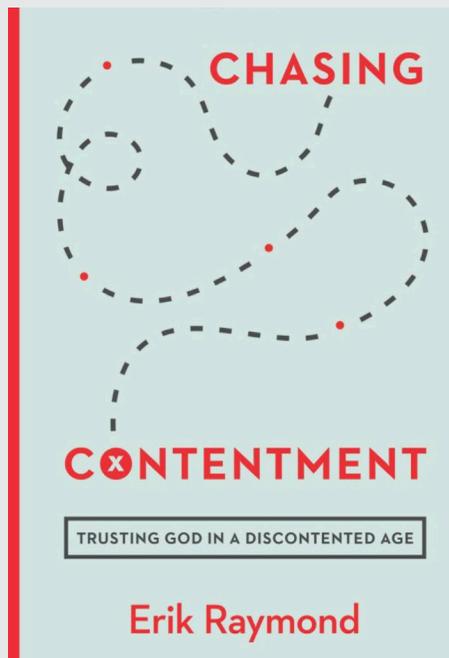
*“Would you pray for us? We can do nothing without Christ but we can do all things through Christ who strengthens us. We believe God has prepared us and called us to work with GTN to prepare the bride of Christ for Jesus’ return.”*

Join us in welcoming Glenn and Stacy to the GTN family!

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## Recommended Book



### **Chasing Contentment: Trusting God in a Discontented Age**

**By Erik Raymond**

From the book description: *“The biblical practice of contentment can seem like a lost art—something reserved for spiritual giants but out of reach for the rest of us. In our discontented age—characterized by impatience, overspending, grumbling, and unhappiness—it’s hard to imagine what true contentment actually looks (and feels) like. But even the apostle Paul said that he learned to be content in any and every circumstance. Paul’s remarkable contentment was something grown and developed over time.*

*“In Chasing Contentment, Erik Raymond helps us understand what biblical contentment is—the inward gracious spirit that joyfully rests in God’s providence—and then how we learn it. Giving us practical guidance for growing in contentment in various areas of our lives, this book will encourage us to see contentment as a priority for all believers. By God’s grace, it is possible to pursue the high calling of contentment and anchor our joy in God himself rather than our changing circumstances.”*

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## Key Scripture

*“Live life, then, with a due sense of responsibility, not as men who do not know the meaning and purpose of life but as those who do. Make the best use of your time, despite all the difficulties of these days.”*

- **Ephesians 5:15-16 (Phillips Translation)**

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## Quotable Quote

*“Contentment: the inward, gracious, quiet spirit that joyfully rests in God’s providence.”*

- **Erik Raymond (from Chasing Contentment)**

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## Update from the President

As we enter 2018, I think back to the birth of GTN. When we began this journey 14 years ago, Lisa and I thought we would primarily (if not solely) be involved in India. God has now opened doors and helped us establish training in 70+ countries around the world – with invitations to come to another 10 (1 Corinthians 3:6-8).

**The Lausanne Movement** (started by John Stott and Billy Graham in the early 1970's) recently featured an article by Dr. Ramesh Richard that powerfully articulated the strategic importance of pastoral training:

“Often under-served and isolated, pastors are on-site for the long term;  
they are the least expensive and most relevant to their contexts.

They are thus the key co-laborers who urgently need training, skills, and relationships.  
Therefore, building a global pipeline to deliver such pastoral training as the focus and framework of all ministry efforts significantly accomplishes the final mandates of our Lord Jesus. Enhancing pastoral health everywhere accelerates church health anywhere and delivers spiritual health worldwide.”

Thank you for helping us to equip and encourage local pastors and leaders throughout the Majority World. Your partnership is critical and helps us to fulfill the mandate given by Jesus to “go and make disciples of all nations (*ethnos* – i.e. ethnic groups)” (Matthew 28:18-20).

And thank you also for your gracious partnership this past year. By God's grace, 2017 was our strongest year of growth – growth of staff, expanse of training and resources provided. We look forward with anticipation for what God wants to do in 2018.

Your partnership is deeply needed and profoundly appreciated.



With Gratitude that God is Good and Gracious at all Times and in all Circumstances,

**Paul R. Madson**  
Founder and President  
Philippians 1:21



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