

CHARISMA Leader

Formerly MinistryToday

FALL 2020

Inside:
Revival in the Air
Marketplace Mentor
Rethink Missions

Dr. Henry Cloud

CHURCHES THAT HEAL

Become God's healing agent in your community



As part of All Nations and Pioneer Business Planting, participants in Africa engage in a variety of simple, hands-on activities, concepts and approaches for learning how to establish a business.

ALL NATIONS INTERNATIONAL

Reaching neglected peoples with business tools to sustain lives and communities

BY TRACY STATON AND JENNIFER BALDRIDGE

The year 2020 has become a year to rethink and reset. Innovation and creativity are critical, as resisting change is no longer an option. Such is the reality for the church and missions around the world.

Jesus spoke about a time when “the last will be first, and the first will be last” (Matt. 20:16a). Perhaps this new era is the time for a divine reordering for places with the least resources, limited infrastructure and restricted access to receive an in-breaking and advancement of God’s kingdom. It may well be a time for healing the false divide between sacred and secular. It’s a time when entrepreneurship will fuel the spread of the gospel, bringing hope and provision to the most neglected peoples of the earth.

Serving Neglected Peoples

Former Youth With a Mission Worldwide Directors Floyd and Sally McClung founded All Nations in 1993. Since its inception, All Nations has grown to encompass four hubs (Kansas City, Missouri; Cape Town, South Africa; Kampala, Uganda; and Hamburg, Germany) with 400-plus field workers in more than 45 countries. Serving the neglected has always been on Floyd’s heart, and he has taught and trained others to do the same.

In January before COVID-19 hit, the leadership of All Nations declared 2020 as the “Year of the Neglected,” which has proved to be timely. Floyd used the term “neglected” to describe those he considered among “the least, the last and the lost,” regardless of their population size. They are those marginalized by society and possibly circumstances (the least); who have yet to hear and receive the Good News (the last); and who live where the gospel has had no access, limited access or has been misrepresented (the lost).

All Nations’ “Business for Movements” (B4M) was born in response to the great need among the neglected and with a desire to join the Lord in what He was already doing to help indigenous groups thrive. B4M was launched to help create unique opportunities for field workers, disciple makers and church planters serving in hard places so God’s love and provision could be experienced and extended throughout their communities.

In 2017, All Nations International Executive Leader Dr. Mary Ho was introduced to Dr. Vicky Warren, former Disney executive and founder of Pioneer Business Planting (PBP), which has become a significant model within All Nations’ B4M. The two became friends, which created an opportunity for ongoing partnership.

PBP is a five-day consultation with Asian and African church planters focused on extending the reach of the gospel while creating financial sustainability and opportunities for leaders, church planters and believers. The intended outcome is a profitable, viable, legitimate business that provides a product or service that does not exist in the region. The business meets the physical, social and spiritual needs of the community without competing with other local businesses and is a light for Christ simply by adding value. People in the community appreciate the products and services the business provides, which is a good testimony within a society.

All Nations’ B4M seeks to exist where the church does not and gives creative access, extending the reach of the gospel among neglected peoples while providing for the families of apostolic workers and others who are pioneering disciple-making and church-planting movements. B4M equips local bivocational workers with business skills and sustainable business ventures.

The movement in Africa includes work in a Malawian fishing village, where ordinary people have launched several businesses and planted 100 house churches among Chichewa and an unreached Muslim people group. In Uganda, we’ve launched a maize mill and several other businesses, and they’ve seen more than 2,000 churches planted among Muslim refugees living in ghettos, in the city and in rural areas and also among the unreached Nubian people. Through these businesses and others—restaurants, barber shops, computer and Wi-Fi stores—the Lord provides income for the field workers and the employees of each new business. As we befriend the neglected and show the love of Jesus, individuals will come to know Jesus and become disciples who make disciples.

“This is exactly what we want to do: to unleash this kind of disciple-making movement among every remaining people group and place that has never heard

“Business is a kingdom strategy that is completely different from how the world sees it.” —Leena Thomas

about Jesus,” Ho said. “We want to reach the communities where there are minimal or no believers, Christian workers and churches. We want to be like the greatest missionary, the apostle Paul, who said that ‘It has always been my ambition to preach the gospel where Christ was not known’ so that there is no place left where Jesus is not loved and worshipped.”

Equipping for Business

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, All Nations partnered with Warren to offer its first B4M online consultation June 15-19, 2020. Forty people participated from 17 countries, including Ethiopia, Mauritius, South Africa, Malawi, Uganda, India, Nepal, Myanmar, Sudan, the Netherlands and the U.S. Their usual five-day, 40-hour on-location consultation was converted to four-hour daily Zoom meetings and supplemental reading assignments, with online coaching available when requested. Another one is planned for Kenya at the end of September.

Recent graduates are now creating business plans, researching markets and starting businesses.

“The way I see business has completely changed,” said B4M Graduate Leena Thomas* from Africa. “I always thought business was about profit and loss, but here I learned that business is a kingdom strategy that is completely different from how the world sees it. The highlight of the training for me was that God owns my business, and we are the stewards.”

These first B4M online consultations were provided to English-speaking international participants. Future 2020 consultations are planned for additional countries in Asia and Africa with translation.

“In this overwhelming COVID-19 season, we see how God brings hope, as people develop knowledge and insights to start businesses and tell others about Jesus,” said Jonathan Fokker, All Nations’ international business director. “It is great to see how God works. We sow a seed. He gives the growth. At the end of our online consultation, we asked the participants whether they would recommend this digital version of the gathering to others or not, in case air travel remains impossible in the near future. They unanimously agreed that they would recommend our online version to others.”

All Nations’ B4M and Warren’s PBP partnership have joined several initiatives to support All Nations’ field workers in reaching the neglected.



The characteristics of B4M and PBP are simple and practical, yet powerful in helping shift an environment from poverty-stricken to flourishing. The core characteristics that mirror fruit-bearing field work, disciple-making and church-planting include:

- Using orality as the foundation for learning.
- Focusing on principles of simplicity and multiplication.
- Empowering and developing local leaders.
- Working with local people to address local needs using local resources first.
- Cultivating learning attitudes.
- Honoring local cultures.
- Providing ongoing coaching and discipleship.
- Incorporating biblical principles of stewardship, ethics and business.

“All Nations’ B4M has helped me understand how to spread the gospel while running a business,” said B4M graduate Jessica Tudor,* based in Asia. “The Word of God says, ‘Go into all the world, and preach the gospel.’ It is not possible for everyone to go to the ends of the earth. However, the command to preach the gospel is for everyone. God’s command for us is to spread the gospel in business, media and in the environment He placed us. We remain in Him and invite unreached people in His presence.”

Flourishing in Dry Places

Since Warren founded PBP, Asian and African church planters have experienced significant kingdom breakthroughs among the neglected through the establishment of businesses in strategic locations. In the past 10 years, PBP’s business model has expanded to 47 countries in Asia and Africa. Indigenous and close-culture Christian workers now operate more than 2,500 businesses.

Since 2017, in Malawi alone, 1,000 All Nations’ B4M graduates applied PBP’s model to establish 400 businesses where 100 house churches exist. In Indonesia, 500 graduates are operating businesses that are bearing fruit for more than five years in very difficult places. Not only did they start several businesses, but they also planted 17 churches, and 25 others from 17 nations attended the recent online consultation led by Fokker and Warren. Many of these participants are working among the least

reached, including one individual serving in Cameroon.

“Based on what we experienced in the past decade, we believe that business movements will play a significant role in extending the reach of the gospel,” Ho said. “This will happen as a result of prayer, influencers, shifts in global partnerships, growth in national/indigenous leadership, global workforce funding and even persecution. Ordinary people who love Jesus strategically and intentionally planting businesses will take the gospel to the remaining hard places. They will be the ones making an economic, social and spiritual impact in the community.”

In other areas of the world, sharing the love of Jesus through sustainable business practices looks different, according to local needs. All Nations’ more than 20-year missionary team in Guatemala, under Alas Association, has established relationships with the Mayan people and government leaders to create several transformative ventures that effectively serve the region. Most recently, on July 9, 2020, due to the pandemic crisis, the team opened an emergency COVID-19 Recovery Centre that is a first of its kind, caring for up to 35 patients at a time who have tested positive. In addition, its agricultural businesses are helping fight the rapid increase of hunger and desperation among the Mayans.

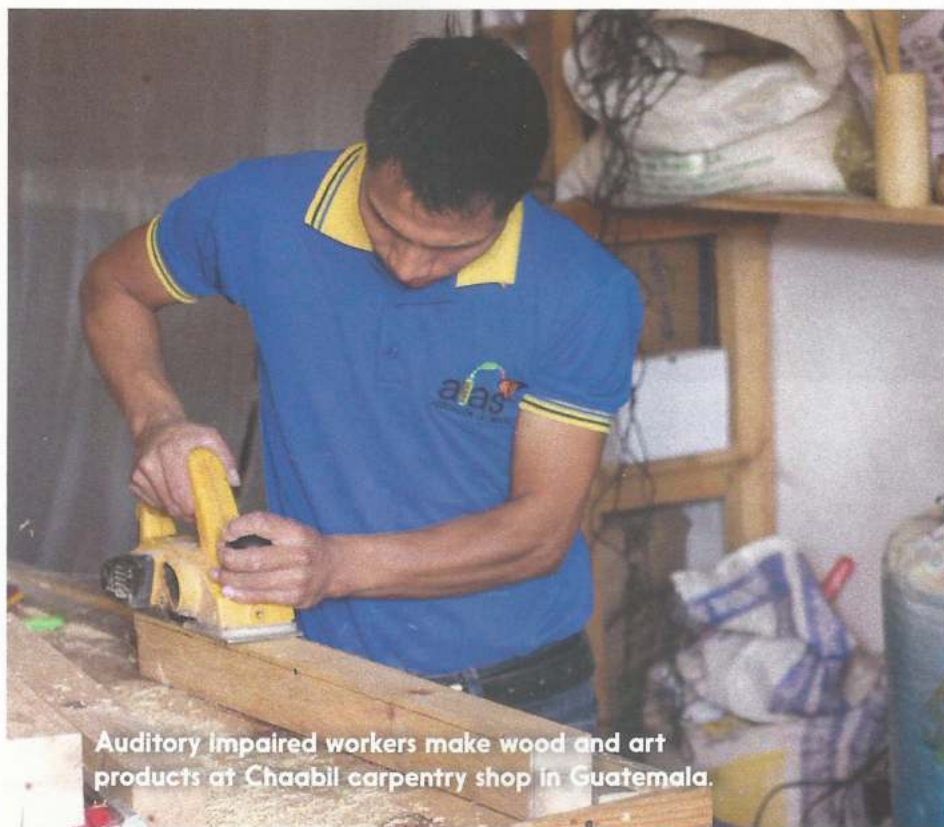
This team also is distributing food to more than 1,000 people/family groups in nearly 36 surrounding villages in Canilla. Team members train local leaders and together have created many sustainable ventures, including: New Hope Education Project (with all grades organized into mini cooperatives that run as small agricultural businesses overseeing greenhouses); Maripositas (a special needs project); Casa Hogar Ancianos (a home for the elderly that also runs a disinfectant business and sells products locally to support the home); Afripica (a chili hot sauce business that is also run out of New Hope Education Project); Chaabil carpentry shop; and Good Samaritan (a home for single mothers and a vegetable garden production area and small shop where the mothers work).

All profits from these ventures help support homes serving special needs, elderly and single mothers with children. The team hopes its collaboration with locals and government officials on future significant groundbreaking ideas will bring even greater transformation to Guatemala’s neglected.

“This work demands a posture of humility,” Ho said. “It requires equipping, engaging and empowering global apostolic workers in

were blessed to celebrate our hospital’s inauguration with the state director of health, the state governor, the mayor and other municipal leaders.”

It’s an exciting and strategic time in history, with the finish line of the Great Commission in sight. Business skills and sustainable business ventures will be key in reaching the least, the last and the lost. Done well, these ventures will not only bless the neglected but also cause dignity and



Auditory impaired workers make wood and art products at Chaabil carpentry shop in Guatemala.

kingdom-focused methodology. We can make this happen by facilitating conversations, being active learners, listening, storytelling and leading hands-on experiential learning through activity-based modeling.”

Greg Walton, All Nations’ long-term missionary based in Guatemala, has learned that God uses all kinds of means to reach people.

“What I’ve learned after living with the poor and neglected for 20-plus years is this: There are no limitations to how God will express His love through you to others,” Walton said. “He’s already working among the people; the question is whether we will say yes and join Him in helping meet their needs. We had never launched a recovery center before, but it’s what our people needed at this time. Last week, we

honor to flourish in an otherwise desert landscape. This is the time to rethink church, missions and business, and how the three together can bring everlasting change to those who need it most. ■

**Names have been changed to protect workers serving in persecuted areas.*

TRACY STATON and JENNIFER BALDRIDGE help to reach the neglected globally—the least, the last and the lost—through their work with All Nations International (allnations.international). Staton and her family reside in North Carolina after 18 years with All Nations in Thailand. Staton is senior manager of marketing and communications, and Baldrige is director of marketing and communications with All Nations International. Reach them at comm@allnations.international.