

UPDATE
AUGUST
2024



Children and families everywhere... ...walking with Jesus



LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

From Brazil to Uganda



The Latin America leadership experience is reaching its conclusion. After 10 months with 13 participants, it has been a life-changing time for many. They each speak of answers to prayer and how they have been positively stretched and challenged in ways that will shape their future leadership and be a blessing to many. The ability to journey with a community that learns and grows together is transformational.

The baton is now handed on to the team in East Africa who are preparing for their start in a few months' time. This Uganda-based Leadership Experience begins on 1st November 2024 and concludes on 30th October 2025.

IN THEIR OWN WORDS FROM PARTICIPANTS



MAHI

"My vision I would like to see coming generation who are productive and visionary and Christ like generation. And I want to be kind of a bridge for them to connect with God, what God wants them to be and wants them to do in life. So I want to be that somebody who provokes them, nurtures and empowers them."



LIBBY

"God has shown me that he has used every part of my life, the hard stuff, the really difficult stuff and the amazing stuff, and that that all is being weaved into who I am as a leader and how I can bless others and how I can bring that to my leadership in a children's ministry organization and my church."



"To experiment with a truly 'kingdom minded' attitude. Beyond a theory, to experience it with His truth, love and Spirit gave me a beautiful taste. Today I know it is possible to work fully for the Kingdom."

GROWING A GLOBAL CHILD PROTECTION ALLIANCE...



Over the last 18 months Child Safety/Child Safeguarding has become one of the strategic focal points of GCF. From initial conversations prior to the March '23 gathering in Sao Paulo the theme became a Working Group during the GCF gathering in Ethiopia (Nov '23). This working group began working on a booklet advocating for good child protection practices for Christian leaders undergirded by a firm biblical basis.

Through these conversations and other similar ones occurring in the periphery of GCF a need for a greater effort of global collaboration on the topic of child safety has been felt. Early July a small group of representatives met only for the initial meeting of this collaborative alliance. Further meetings to help define the nature of this alliance are scheduled for September '24 and January '25 before a potential in-person meeting in March '25.



Shaped and supported by a growing collaborative community including:





ACADEMIC ADVENTURES!

MULTIPLYING CHILDREN'S MINISTRY THROUGH BIBLE COLLEGES AND SEMINARIES

Things are stirring in the world of academia, and we are excited about the the scope to multiply how we can better serve and equip future leaders with what sits at the heart of the GCF Leadership Experience. The Brokenness to Wholeness (B2W) Curriculum has been developed by a team of children's ministry leaders and academics across the Global Children's Forum. By offering it freely to other academic institutions, we hope to see serious thinking about the next generation included in ministry training programs around the world.

Our prayer is that this curriculum will result in...

- **More Bible colleges and seminaries** including robust thinking about ministry with the next generation in their curriculum. So that...
- **More pastors and leaders** understand and share God's heart for children. So that...
- **More children everywhere** have the opportunity to walk with Jesus from brokenness to wholeness.

The **B2W Curriculum** includes degree level, ready-to-use facilitator notes, PPTs and handouts for more than 50 sessions. To support this is a B2W Academic Service Pack which includes an overview, objectives, reading resources, suggested assignments and sample syllabi for adapting the curriculum for use in a formal academic setting.

A new training course, Academic EQUIP, will run for the first time in October. This familiarizes administrators and instructors with the material and consider how they can adapt and contextualise it to their unique setting. A global community of colleagues who can support and encourage you on the journey.



Brokenness to Wholeness
CURRICULUM

FOUNDATIONS OF GENEROSITY



The Gen-G Movement is steadily gaining traction around the world with a presence in 23 countries, each at different stages of implementation. A new 12 session **Generosity Discipleship Process (GDP)** for children ages 6-12 - **Gen-G Adventures** available in 7 languages. Any or all of the sessions can be downloaded from www.generousgenerations.org.

There is a similar **GDP for young adults** aged 17+ with the first cycle of 6 discipleship sessions to help young adults adopt generous habits on a more regular, day-to-day basis.

We're thankful for a partnership with **Scripture Union Kenya**, where nearly 5,000 children are participating in Gen-G Adventures, supported by 120 teachers. Praise God that Gen-G has been integrated into all Scripture Union Ministry programs in Kenya.

The GDP has been adopted by another partner, **Reaching a Generation**, who are implementing the curriculum as part of their training resources and sharing them in their upcoming **International Leadership Academy**.

Gen-G recently started discussions with the leadership of **Generosity Path**, to look at the potential of a partnership to make these resources available to their Journey Of Generosity (JOG) participants. Also, we have partnered with Generous Church to help provide resources to more leaders and churches globally.

Our focus for the remainder of 2024 is to have our Children's GDP available in 20 languages, and to complete the Youth GDP. We'll be filming nine short videos of youth generosity for Reaching a Generation's Intl. Leadership Academy, plus engaging youth in online conversations to understand their faith journeys and challenges.

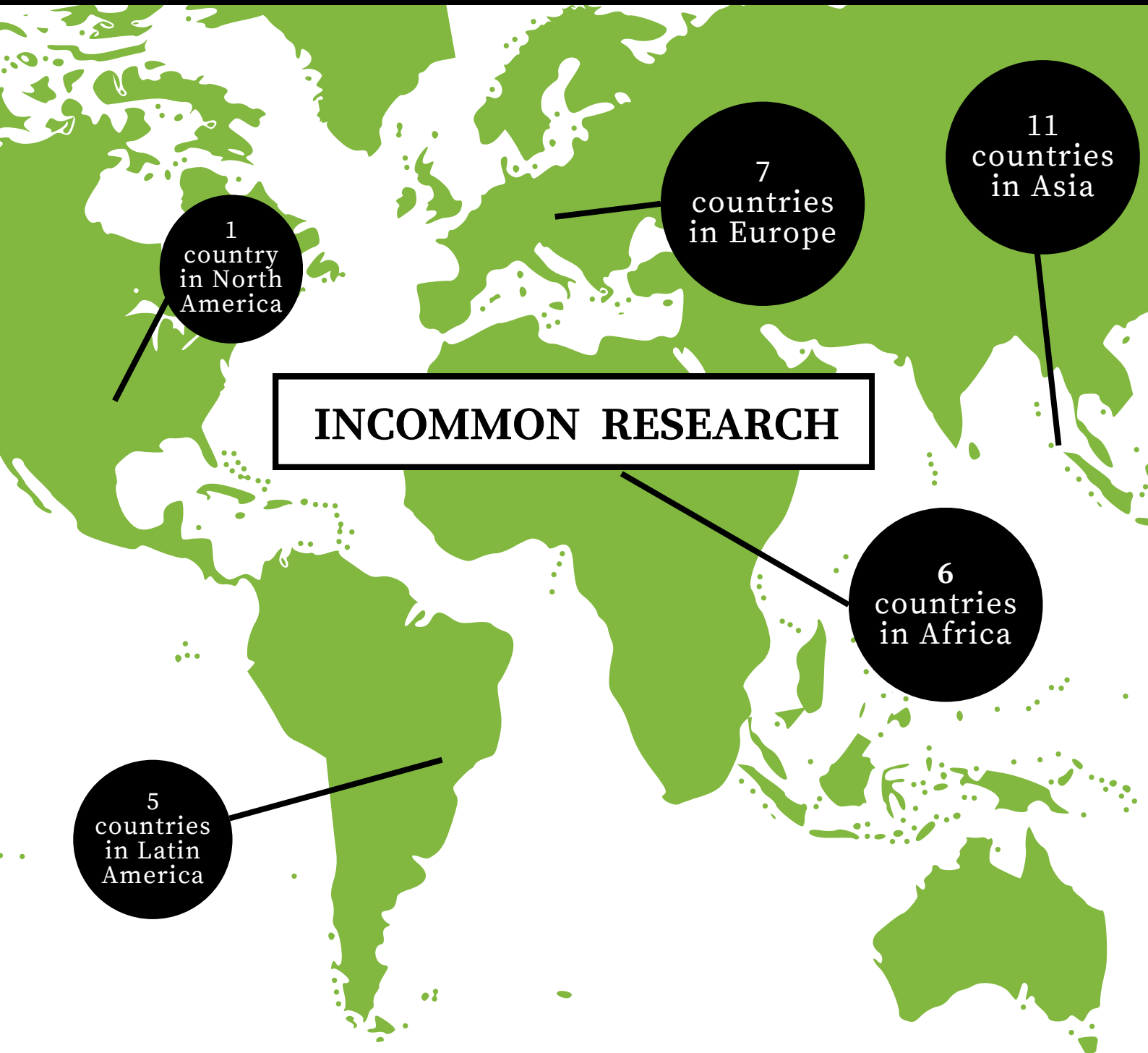
Additionally, we are concentrating on our **Multipliers Training**, which empowers leaders and parents with a toolkit to implement GDP in various contexts for Children, Youth and Young Adults.

We give Jesus all the glory for all that has been accomplished through Gen-G and strive to embody His love through lifestyles of radical biblical generosity!



Recently a group of children in India, under leadership of our friend and champion Philip Livingston, started learning about Generosity through the Gen-G Adventures, and they have decided to give 50 school bags, stationery and other items to slum children in India.





A GLOBAL COLLABORATION

The evolving church landscape has prompted a research, listening to the church to identify five key priorities that we have InCommon. The survey seeks to involve partners on several fronts:

- assessing current status of the church
- fostering a shared vision,
- exploring solutions in response to changes,
- collaborating with others facing similar challenges.

Please pray:

- Pray for the teams in 30 surveyed countries as they work together with the collaborative mindset.
- Pray for discernment in engaging the partners and leaders for asset mapping in each country.
- May the survey uncover crucial gaps and inspire creative solutions, fostering unity in addressing them.

The research became a collaborative initiative between OneHope, 4/14, GCF, WEA, and E21.

*Families on Mission***GOD IS AT WORK IN YOUR COMMUNITIES, STREETS AND HOUSEHOLDS.**

At the GCF and GoPlay gathering in Brazil last year we looked at ways to encourage families everywhere to be **on mission** ...where they are. Since then a lot of things have happened.

A [training guide](#) for families, churches and anyone was created. [Animated stories](#) of real families being 'on mission' were created and shared. Now 24 countries from Australia to Ukraine have started sharing these ideas and resources in different ways – trainings, family camps, all age church gatherings, preaching, sharing over a meal.

These **Families on Mission** do not need 'experts' to come and train, or households to feel overloaded with more they have to do. It is more a mindset and attitude, than a defined set of strategies or things to do.

It is about normal people taking unremarkable steps to be **Jesus' light** in their neighborhoods. We've been celebrating them too in a couple of showcase calls, sharing stories of ordinary families living as lights for Jesus!

So how can we think big, (yet) start small right where we are?

Looking in and looking out! God is at work in the ordinary!

**Imagine...**

- if every household of believers embraced being on mission for Jesus!
- if all churches supported those households to be on mission so that the Church became what God intended the Church to be, together impacting wider communities!
- if, together, believing households were like 'cities on a hill', shining light and bringing hope to others!

Such a vision calls for all households who follow Christ to be 'Families on Mission', reflecting Christ's identity, and purpose.

In the ordinary, everyday activities of life families are sharing meals, helping out a neighbor, encouraging a parent on the sidelines of a sports game, asking a friend from school to a youth group, having a games night, praying for their community on their daily run, taking extra lunch to school to share with others in need, and many more examples.

Each event is unremarkable in itself. But combined they can change the world.

These are households sharing the love of Jesus right where they are.

...are you a Family on Mission?



CHILDREN & FAMILY CHILDREN AT RISK

Please pray for our networks as they serve at the upcoming L4 gathering

5,000 LEADERS

The L4 congress in Seoul next month will see 5,000 leaders explore collaborative initiatives that help fulfil Jesus' Great Commission to make disciples of all nations.

EVERY AGENDA

We want to see children on every agenda and to cultivate more meaningful child participation, seeing children as agents & partners in mission, not as passive recipients.

C@R

Pray for Michelle, Phil and team as they address the inescapable social dimensions of the Gospel and the integral nature of the mission of God that impact children.

C&F

Pray for Pearl, Kimberly and team as they focus on long-term discipleship, to help children understand the big picture of the Bible and their part in God's big story.



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