Global/Biblical Perspectives In Common

A Personal Perspective

Summary of VPs' Perspective

Africa South

- Relatively favorable environment
- Consistent Regional-level interaction; TMTI, MMTI
- Lighthouse Project, Chaplain's Training, Prayer Meetings
- Barriers: Language, Different Status of MCFs
- Autonomy problem



Asia South

- Hardship from persecution and discrimination.
- Except few MCFs, limited MCF activity.
- Unfavorable for Regional-level interaction.

• God is at v i litary Christians.



The World We're Living In

The World in Shrinking

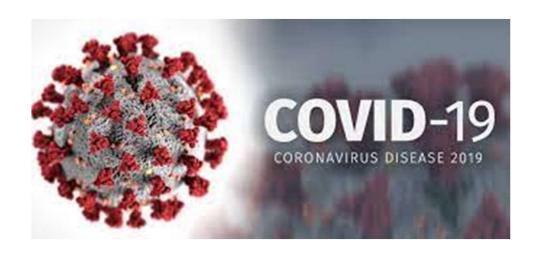
- In Terms of Distance, Time and Cost
- Ex.) Transatlantic: Mayflower (3mos), Lindbergh's flight (24hrs), Concord (3hrs), ICBM (30min), Flight costs 1/3 of what it did in 1950.
- Global Internet: Instantaneous, Negligible cost.
- Diminishing National Boundaries



-J. Nye Jr.-

The World of Interdependence

- Mutual dependence: physical, social, economic, military, ecological, pandemic, Cyber-link, etc.
- Mutually affect one way or another.



The World of Information Revolution

- Power of 'AI'-generated Information
- Volume and Speed: Out of Control
- False Information: Misinformation, Disinformation
- Increased Role of Non-state Transnational Actors: Acting across the International Borders.



The World of Crisis

- Climate Change, Global Health, Water Contamination, Armed Conflicts, International Terrorism, Economic Uncertainty, Poverty, Human Right, Cultural and Social Conflicts, and so on.
- Nuclear war heads: Almost Threat to God's Creation Order



The World of Threats against Christianity

- Threats from Within:
- **✓** Loss of Biblical Truth, Spiritual Decline, Corruption, Secularism, False Teaching, Church Division, and so on
- Threats from Without:
- **✓** Hostile Environment, Persecution, Discrimination, Religious Pressure, Violence, Pornography & Homosexuality, Materialism, Pluralism, and so on.



In 2023,

- more than 365m Christians suffer high levels of persecution and discrimination for their faith.
- 4,998 Christians murdered, 14,766 Churches and Christian properties attacked, 4,125 Christians detained.

-Open Door Watch List 2024

But The World, God is in Control.

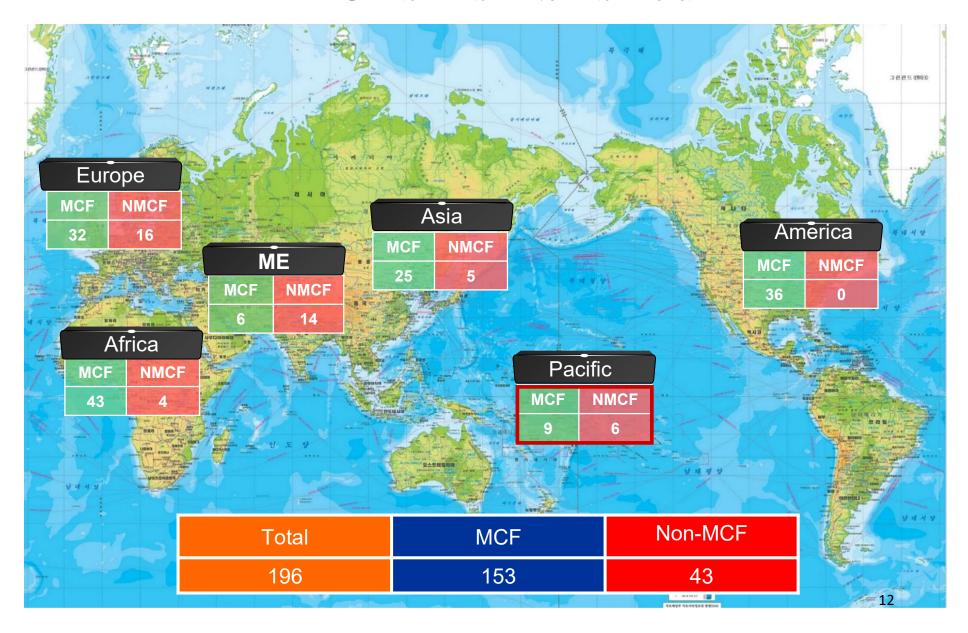
- "For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm." (Psalm 33: 9)
- With His Love, His Power, His Promise, and His Providence



AMCF Situation in Common

- Adversary power against military Christians always exists.
- God uses AMCF for His global military ministry.
- MCF plays a Key Role to bring the Gospel to military men and women of a nation.
- 3 PSOs support MCFs activities within their capacity.

MCFs Established



The Status of MCFs:

Varied from One Extreme to Another.

Size: From 2 to 200,000 in numbers.

Environment: From Rejection & Persecution to

Reception & Protection

Growth: From Survival to Revival

Position: From Hiding to Showing

Influence: From **Insignificant** to Very Significant

Institution: From **Illegal** to Legal Protection

Categories of MCFs We May Meet:

Environment vs. Maturity of MCF

#1. Favorable Matured

#2. Favorable Not-Matured

#3. Unfavorable Matured

#4. Unfavorable Not-Matured

- "Each of us should please our neighbors for their good, to build them up" (Rom 15:2)
- We must support one another to build up our neighbor MCFs mature and effective.

- No matter what status and category of a MCF would be, each receives the Same Mission.
- * "Arise and Shine to Bring the Good News of Jesus Christ to Military Men and Women of Every Nation in the World"

• Every MCF has Common Task to fulfill the stated Mission:

"How to Arise", and "How to Shine"

• Different Action Plan to Practice:

"There are different kinds of gifts" (1 Cor. 12: 5). Under different environment.

How to Arise

- Matter of Internal.
- It starts from within —from you, and your MCF.
- Spiritual Wake up, Watch and Pray, Be alert.
 - "Awake, awake! Rise up, O Jerusalem!" (Is. 51:17a)
 - "Be always on the watch, and pray." (Lk. 21:36a)
 - "Be self-controlled and alert!" (1 Pet. 5:8a)
- Lift yourself physically, emotionally, and spiritually to begin the work that God has set before you.
- Bring God to the world.

• Some Key Words for Arising:

Connecting

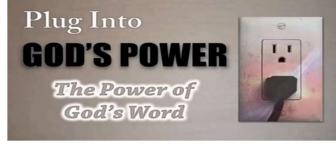
Armoring

Confronting

Connecting

Need Power to Arise

- 1. Connect with the Power Source of Jesus Christ.
- Power from above.
- "I am the vine you are the branches." (Jn. 15: 5)
- Must be connected with the true vine, Jesus Christ, as our power source.
- Let our spiritual code be always plugged into His power source.



2. Connect with Military Christians.

- Power from within
- 'Join the dots' of individual military Christians to form a line of MCF community.
- Consider those Gospel partners who worked for Paul:
- **✓** Rom. 16: Paul's greetings to 34 persons, unnamed mother, brothers, churches and household.

3. Connect with Local Civilian Churches.

- Power from without: Domestic
- Most of Military Christians: Grown by, and Serving for civilian churches.
- Ex.) Korean civilian Churches: Indispensable supporting power for the revival of KMCF.

4. Connect with International Christian Agencies

- Power from without: International
- AMCF Resources: VP, PSOs, OSOs, Neighbor MCFs

Armoring

- Our Ministry is Spiritual Battle.
- In order to fight a spiritual battle, we must put on the Full Armor of God
- >"Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's scheme." (Eph. 6:11)



- Don't try to put on other's unfit armor like from Saul's to David.
- Not be tempted or feared by Goliath's giant gears.





- Must be trained how to use our God-given armor.
- Like David's sling and stones, get used to them as handy, lighter, faster, and decisive.





Confronting

- Moving onto the front line of Spiritual Battlefield.
- "For we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard." (Act 4: 20)
- One Person with Courage (action of faith) can move the people and your MCF.
- Stand firm before your adversary.



Pursue Healthy Confrontation

- Begin with the love of Christ.
- Pray, and affirm your love as you close.
- "I urge you, therefore, to reaffirm your love for him" (2 Cor. 2: 8)
- Compromise on opinion, not on principle. Be flexible with everything except truth.

How to Shine

- Matter of external.
- It towards to other people
- After arising, we are to shine.
- Reflect the light of God's glory both inside and outside of our community.
- Bring the world to God.

• Some Key Words for Shining:

Positioning

Reflecting

Drawing

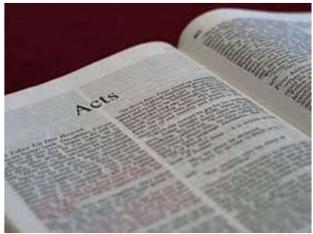
Positioning

- "You are the light of the world" (Matt. 5: 14)
- Position yourself on the best spot for shining.
- Occupy the best position to bring the Gospel.



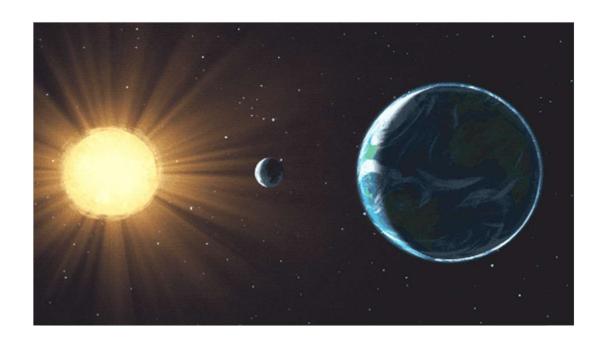
- Your position for your Gospel activity may be:
- > Revealed, on-surface activity
- > Hidden, under-surface activity





Reflecting

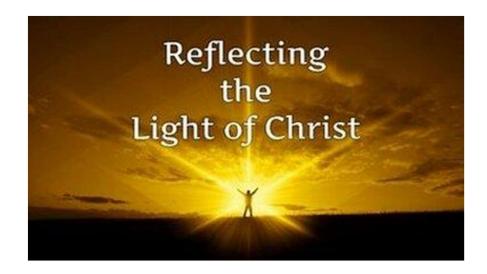
- We're not the source of shining.
- Jesus is the exclusive source of Spiritual Light.



- "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." (John 8: 12)
- "I have come into the world as a light, so that no one who believes in me should stay in darkness." (John 12:46)

Our Shining is just Reflecting His Light:

- the Light of His Truth, the Light of His Words,
- The Light of His Love, the Light of His Grace, and
- The Light of Eternal life.



Drawing

- "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." (Matt. 5:16)
- Bring military men and women to the Light of the Lord.





- Let the Gospel shine in your life through your attitude, values and actions
- Let it be seen that you are real Christians.
- Let it be a guiding and attracting influence on other people.





Young Marines Who Received Jesus



Conclusion

Theme Connected Mission Statement

- "Arise and Shine to bring the Good News of Jesus Christ to military men and women of Every Nation in the World."
- Imperative to Develop Mission-Oriented Task; "How to Arise," and "How to Shine."

How to Arise:

- Connecting with the Power Source of Jesus Christ.
- Armoring with the Full Armor of God
- Confronting to the Spiritual Battle.

How to Shine:

- Positioning the best place to shine.
- Reflecting the Light of Jesus Christ.
- Drawing the people to God.

How to Put Them into Practice:

• Wonderful Guideline in AMCF Reference Handbook:

HOW AMCF WORKS

By Praying,

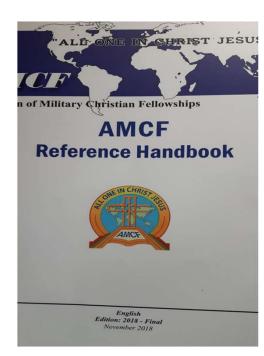
By Reaching-out,

By Meeting together,

By Teaching and Encouraging,

By Communicating, and

By Cooperating



A Question for Way Ahead;

• What would be our Common Starting Point to evaluate for the next 5-year AMCF ministry?

• It's a call to act, not to stand still.

• God commands you, "Act Now!"

Thankyou!