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Multi-ethnic ministry of London Full Gospel Church

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Introduction

- Personal story

Vision: *'Is London a mission field?'*

Perspective: '10/40 Window' in London –
unreached Asian people groups in London

I. A brief history of LFGC

- Planted in South Wimbledon, London in 1980 as a branch of Dr Yonggi Cho's ministries
- An Assemblies of God church belonging to both Korean and British AOG
- Moved to its first own church building in Raynes Park in September 2008
- Currently Sunday attendance is over 500 people

II. Multi-ethnic ministry of LFGC

- Continued for the last 15 years in various forms and stages
- Motto: 'From London to the Nations'
(Acts 2:5 ...from every nation under heaven)

"London is one of the world's hub cities for finance, travel, politics, etc. The spiritual life of London - or lack of it - impacts the world. It is also the destination of a high proportion of the inflow migrants of the past 50 years."

(Patrick Johnstone, Operation Word 2005:655)

- 3 stages of multi-ethnic ministry

Stage 1: Street Outreach 'Andrew Campaign'

- Started before 1995 with vision to reach out beyond the Korean community
- 'Gospel with bread' in spiritual wilderness
- Open-air worship, preaching and performance on streets and squares
- Mainly focused on 'hurting people' such as the homeless, drug addicts, prostitutes

Stage 2: Church Service 'Mission Centre'

- Kings Cross mission centre (1995-2000)
 - for more effective follow-up and a mission base
 - from 'outreach' to 'church'
 - from 'homeless' to 'international students and immigrants'
 - a prayer centre: all night prayer meetings on Fridays

- Charing Cross mission centre (2004-2008)
 - various immigrants and language school students in central London
 - regular evangelistic invitation programme called 'International Party'
 - weekly outreach
 - Summer mission team from Korea

Evaluation

■ Positive

- ongoing vision and commitment for cross-cultural mission in London
- scattering 'gospel seed' through various ways
- limited but visible results

■ Negative

- lack of clearer vision and focus along the way
- lack of team work
- lack of discipleship for newcomers
- still very much Korean-led and run multi-cultural mission

Stage 3: English Service 'International Fellowship'

- Started in the new church building in Raynes Park, south London in December 2009
- Need for English Service (non-Korean husbands, non-Korean members, 2nd generation)
- Team building
- Community survey
- Currently 25-30 people on Sunday (from 10-15 different ethnic backgrounds)
- A multi-ethnic (Asian) fellowship within a Korean church

III. Antioch Vision: biblical base (Acts 11:19-30, 13:1-3)

- Multi-cultural (international) city church
- Migrant (immigrant) church (Acts 11:19)
- Multi-ethnic church (Acts 11:20, 13:1)
- Mission-minded church (Acts 11:29, 13:3)
- A church moved by the Spirit (Acts 13:2)

*“Every Asian church needs to be
an Antioch church.”*

Five C's Mission

- Church- toward a missional church
- Community- the community around the church
(e.g. Raynes Park, New Malden)
- City- unreached Asian groups in London
(‘London Asian Church Leaders Seminar’)
- Country- mission trip to other cities
(e.g. Birmingham)
- Continent- mission trip to Eastern Europe
(e.g. Slovakia, Hungary, Romania)

Conclusion: suggestions

- Blessing and privilege
(‘Ghetto Christians’ vs. ‘Global Christians’)
- Clear vision for multi-ethnic mission
- Healthy identity as an immigrant myself
- Don’t be afraid of failure
- Urgent need for strategic research
- Need for team work and cooperation
- A ‘father of many nations’ not a ‘teacher of many nations’