Why Education?

I am a missionary to Kenya, East Africa since 1981, being involved in Education, establishing and running ICK and School of the Nations, as well as being part of establishing schools in Maasai land, and slum areas in Nairobi.

However, my early 10 years of missionary work was focusing on mainly evangelism, discipleship, church planting as well as relief and development.

Then, what could have inspired me to shift the focus of mission to education?

1. **Power of Gospel**

The following 3 cases of horrible and tragic histories are actual stories that we have experienced in the mission field.

Case 1: Maasai girls’ early marriage

In our early missionary work during early 1980s, our team has been working in the remote areas of Maasai land, where they did evangelism, discipling the young new converts, planting churches, developing the community by meeting the felt needs of the community, such as building schools, water tanks etc.

Here I got to know many beautiful young Maasai primary school girls who were coming to our Maasai mission centers. Soon I began to realize that at some points, these girls were disappearing, and this was because they were getting married to the Maasai elderly men shortly after having gone through the female circumcisions (Known as FGM).

When I faced the horrible situations that these young girls were facing, I felt so helpless that

I could not rescue them and wondered why the power of the Gospel could not reach to these girls in need, while the predominant religion in Kenya is Christianity, which is adhered to by an estimated 85.52% of the total population.

Case 2: Ethiopia Famine 1983-1985

“A widespread [famine affected Ethiopia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Famines_in_Ethiopia) from 1983 to 1985. The worst famine to hit the country in a century, it affected 7.75 million people (out of [Ethiopia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ethiopia)'s 38–40 million) and left approximately 300,000 to 1.2 million dead. 2.5 million people were internally displaced whereas 400,000 refugees left [Ethiopia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ethiopia). Almost 200,000 children were orphaned.”

“According to the organizations [Human Rights Watch](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Human_Rights_Watch) and [Oxfam UK](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oxfam_UK), the famines that struck

Ethiopia in 1983–1985, were in part created by the government's military policies, more than half its mortality could be attributed to "[human rights abuses](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Human_rights_abuses)”.

When I learned this situation, in our mission station, we had several Ethiopians who fled the long-standing civil war, and they were going through discipleship training program. Thus, I could hear the sufferings they went through firsthand.

This made me feel helpless as I was watching people dying of hunger and made me question why saving power of the Gospel could not reach to these suffering Ethiopians, while Ethiopia has **36 million** Orthodox Christians, the world's second-largest Orthodox population after Russia.

Case 3: Rwanda genocide of 1994,

In just 100 days in 1994, about 800,000 people were slaughtered in Rwanda by ethnic Hutu extremists. They were targeting members of the minority Tutsi community, as well as their political opponents, irrespective of their ethnic origin. It is estimated that some 200,000 Hutu, spurred on by [propaganda](https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/propaganda) from various media outlets, participated in the genocide. More than 800,000 civilians—primarily Tutsi, but also moderate Hutu—were killed during the campaign. As many as 2,000,000 Rwandans fled the country during or immediately after the genocide.

During this time, our mission was actively involved in the refugee camps in Goma, Congo for the Hutus who fled. The condition of the camp was beyond imagination, and it feels like we are tasting hells on earth.

Christianity is the largest religion in Rwanda, as the most recent national census from 2012 indicates that: 43.7% of Rwanda's population is Roman Catholic, 37.7% is Protestant, 11.8% is Seventh-day Adventist.

Despite this large Christian population, Rita Deliperi argues in his report that “the role of the Church in the Rwandan genocide was key in the escalation of violence. This essay has argued that the Church is to blame for its passivity in respect to the slaughters. Its culpability does not rest on the actions of a few within the clergy. Rather, the Church is to blame as an institutional entity.” (Rita Deliperi, 9th August, 2020, Accepting the Unacceptable: Christian Churches and the 1994 Rwandan Genocide)

These cases made us wonder and question what could have gone wrong in the mission movement?

1. **Focus of the Mission Movement:**

The focus of the 19th Century Mission Movement was “the Change of Behavior,” while, 20th Century’s focus was “Change of Belief”, then, what should be the focus of the 21st century mission movement?

Paul Hiebert asserts in his book “Transforming Worldviews” that the focus of the 21st century mission movement should be on “transforming worldviews.”

Diagram

Description automatically generated

As shown in the figure above, if the mission wants to see the biblical changes in the society, the focus of our missionary endeavors should go beyond the surface and go deeper, touching the core to bring the transformation of worldviews.

1. **세계관이란?**
2. 세상을 보는, 그리고 이 세상이 어떻게 돌아가는지에 대하여, 의식적 또는, 무의식적으로 우리가 가지고 있는… (James, W. Sire, The universe next door)

* A set of presuppositions
* Map
* Eye Glass
* Frame of reference

1. A worldview is a map of reality:

그런데, 모든 지도가 그렇듯이,어떤부분은 실제 장소와 맞고, 어떤 부분은

정확하지 않을 수도 있어 잘못된 곳으로 인도할 수 있다. 우리 모두가

이러한 map 을 우리의 Mental make up에 가지고 다니면서 그것에 따라

행동한다. (James Sire, The universe next door)

1. **성경적 세계관이란?**

실제로 존재하는 실체를 정확하게 보여주는 지도는 하나밖에 없다.

이 지도가 바로 **“성경적 세계관”**이다.

성경 말씀으로 걸러 세상을 보게 되면 세상과 성경에 대한 진리 모두를 알게 된다

1. **그리스도인의 선택?**

기독교적으로 생각하고, 그 생각에 따라 의도적으로 행동하던가?

아니면 우리 주위의 문화가 압도해 나가는 데로 따라가던가?

1. Great Commandment:

예수께서 가라사대 네 마음을 다하고 목숨을 다하고 뜻을 다하여 주 너의 하나님을 사랑하 라 하셨으니(마22:37)

Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.

1. 로마서 12:1-2

그러므로 형제들아 내가 하나님의 모든 자비하심으로 너희를 권하노니 너희 몸을

하나님이 기뻐하시는 거룩한 산제물로 드리라! 이는 너희가 드릴 영적 예배니라.

너희는 이 세대를 본받지 말고 오직 마음을 새롭게 함으로 변화를 받아 하나님의 선하시고 기뻐하시고 온전하신 뜻이 무엇인지 분별하도록 하라.

1. 고후10:5

모든 이론을 파하며 하나님 아는 것을 대적하여 높아진 것을 다 파하고 모든 생각을 사로잡 아 그리스도에게 복종케 하니…

1. Renewed Mind 의 중요성(John Stott. New issues facing Christians today)

If we want to live straight,

we have to think straight.

If we want to think straight,

we must have renewed mind

1. **Worldview answers 5 big questions of Life:**

Q1-What is life and this world all about?

Q2- Who am I?

Q3-What is true, right, and valuable?

Q4-How do I know?

Q5- Where am I going?

1. **Big story of the Bible answers the 5 big questions of life biblically.**

The story begins, “In the beginning, God….” and ends “Jesus, the King returns with his Kingdom.” The story says, “He is Alpha and Omega.”



1. **The Big story tells us 지상명령is given to Church between Redemption and Consummation.**

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1. **지상명령의 범위**

**“**예수께서 나아와 말씀하여 이르시되 하늘과 땅의 모든 권세를 내게 주셨으니….

그러므로 너희는 **가서,**  **모든 민족(All Nations) 을 제자로 삼아,** 아버지와 아들과 성령의 이름으로 세례를 주고 내가 너희에게 **분부한 모든 것을 가르쳐 지키게 하라 …**

(마 28:19-20)

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1. **하나님 나라의 복음으로 변화 시켜야 할 영역 (Life Structure)**



1. **Education 영역**은 다음세대를 성경적 세계관으로 변화된 제자들로 삼아 위의 모든 영역에서 성경적변화를 일으킴으로써, 세상을 변화시키고, 나라들을 제자로 삼는 주님의 지상명령의 한 부분을 담당하는데 효과적이고 전략적인 영역이 아닐까?
2. Vocation (직업, 소명) 이란? (라틴어원 **“*voco”-Voice)*** 에서 온 단어로서,

하나님의 음성을 듣고 그 음성에 응답한다 (*hearing and responding to the voice of God)*

직업이란 하나님이 주시는 소명을 받아 그분을 섬기는 어떤 영역을 말한다.

*(A vocation is God’s call to an area of service).*

1. Coram Deo: 종교개혁 당시 그리스도인들의 모토로서 모든 삶의 영역을…하나님의 면전에서 (Before the face of God)