

Report to the Fellowship Council  
Grace Brethren International Missions  
Dave Guiles, Executive Director  
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GBIM is pleased to continue to partner with the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches as their primary agency for fulfilling the Great Commission among the nations located outside of North America. Currently over 80% of member churches of the FGBC participate in our ministries through their prayer, financial support and entrusting their missionaries to work on our team. We are very grateful for this relationship and pledge to continue our efforts to serve as good stewards of the resources entrusted to us.

Our **purpose** is best summarized in this statement:

*Grace Brethren International Missions exists to spread the knowledge and glory of God by mobilizing men and women to evangelize and disciple the nations through church multiplication movements.*

Our **primary ministry activities** center around three objectives and goals:

1. Mobilize every man, woman and child in the GBC to be tangibly involved in cross-cultural ministry.

*By 2015 our goal is to identify, equip and resource a mobilization team in every GBC.*

During 2007 we restructured our US Mobilization Ministries by assigning full-time Mobilization Coordinators for the Western, Central and Eastern Regions. These men are available to assist churches in developing Mobilization Teams. Their work is primarily channeled through three initiatives:

- On-Mission Training – Regional events designed to provide training and networking opportunities for churches who desire to see their congregations mobilized for cross-cultural ministry.
- Mobilizing the Mobilizers – an eighteen month coaching relationship through which churches receive personalized training in the process of forming a Mobilization Team.
- mygbim.org – a web-based resource that allows mobilizers to share their best mobilization ideas for praying, giving, sending and going.

2. Deploy highly trained teams in strategic areas to initiate and nurture church planting movements.

*By 2015 our goal is to deploy 250 men and women on multinational church-planting teams to foster church planting movements among the least reached peoples of our world.*

GBIM currently employs 115 full-time missionaries and partners with over 55 National Ministry Partners to provide church planting and leadership training ministries in thirty-one countries. In addition, 25 individuals serve as Special Assignment Missionaries, which means that while they may work full-time at other employment, they are also considered a part of the GBIM team. There are currently 10 appointees raising support for deployment and 10 potential missionaries in some stage of the application process.

Here is a brief analysis of the international focus of our activities:

Region	Churches	Points of Light
Africa	2035	390
Asia	17	71
Europe	13	24
Latin America	80	69
	<b>2145</b>	<b>554</b>

3. Partner with churches and leaders around the globe to encourage church multiplication through effective training and strategic assistance.

*By 2015 our goal is for every GBC worldwide to have access to viable discipleship and leadership training systems.*

Good progress is being made in most regions of the world to move us closer to this important goal. We currently deploy staff in partnership arrangements with every National Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches to assist in developing the curriculum and teaching structures to prepare a new generation of leaders. We are also working with Grace Theological Seminary to develop a partnership which will enable us to provide Doctor of Ministry training on the African continent.

### **International Charis Leadership Encounter**

GBIM is pleased to be the primary sponsor for the fourth international gathering of leaders from the FGBC, scheduled to take place near Frankfurt, Germany, August 2-8, 2008. Delegates are invited to represent FGBC churches from twenty countries. The theme is *Faithful Stewards of God's Grace*, and the theme verse is from 1 Peter 4:10.

*Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others,  
faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.*

The purpose of Charis Leadership Encounters is to foster communication, networking and cooperation between the leaders and churches Grace Brethren Churches around the world.

### **Conclusion**

On behalf of the GBIM Board of Directors and team, as well as the more than 2000 churches outside of North America that have been impacted by this ministry, I want to express my sincerest thanks to the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches for the privilege of serving as your coworkers in the Greatest Commission.