

Testimony of Rob Clogg

Early Years: I was raised in a Christian home in Vancouver, Canada and came to Christ at a young age, followed by baptism. My earliest memories of spiritual formation mostly centered around the need to be a good boy and obey the Word of God as I was instructed through my church. More sincere moments included times of prayer for friends whom I desired to also know Christ.

High school and college years were spent with sporadic interest in spiritual things as my devotion to Christ was compromised by athletic, academic and social pursuits. A serious moral failure on behalf of my pastor resulted in personal cynicism and less interest in spiritual things. Eventually I surrendered my life to Christ because of the emptiness of my self-centered efforts for acceptance and significance. This personal conviction resulted in a rededication of my own efforts to be a better christian. The marriage breakdown of my pastor and his family influenced a decision to become a christian counselor and help people with their life problems.

Introduced to GFI: After getting my education and practicum, my new counseling role was dedicated to helping people improve their circumstances, relationships and life by using proven counseling methods. During this time the staff of our counseling center attended GFI training in Denver as part of our personal development. Little did I know that this training would radically change my approach to counseling and living. I discovered the exchanged life message based on the liberating truths of the cross. I did not know I actually needed to help people see the insufficiency of their self-sufficiency. I had never seen this and I needed it first for myself.

Ministry and Missions: In the years that followed, Dr. Solomon helped me find a fellowship group in Washington State and eventually I became the director of an office in Seattle. I hosted various GFI conferences and became a friend of the ministry. In 1988 I traveled to Brazil with Dr. Solomon to speak at seminaries and churches. This was my first introduction to missions. After a seven year period of time as a pastor, I was called to lead a Grace Ministries Discipleship Counseling ministry in Budapest that served numerous eastern European countries. As a family we moved there for four years and then I continued serving as president for seven years after. This overlapped with five years of ministry in China (this is confidential), training underground church leaders and missionaries who had an objective to fulfill the vision of Hudson Taylor to bring the gospel to the middle east through Chinese rather than western missionaries. These were exciting opportunities to bring the message and resource materials to these leaders.

Considered as New President: My support of the integrity of the message, my experience in missions and ministry team (office) leadership made me a strong candidate to be considered as the new president of GFI. My life, marriage and ministry were put into a new perspective through my original training at GFI. My desire is to communicate the message of the cross with transparency and authenticity. The truths of the cross and the exchanged life are true, regardless of the fact that I am experiencing them at the moment. My wife has reminded me of this. I have come to know that I can have a love relationship with God through Jesus Christ and somehow at the same time Christ lives His life through me. God made this possible.

Looking Ahead: It is impossible to assemble on one page the most significant events that have occurred in my spiritual formation. More has come through brokenness and surrender than through ministry achievement. I do know that we first of all desire to live daily individually and as a couple out of the fullness of life given through Christ and that we have given ourselves completely to this future calling and we trust that with good health and your support that we can commit a good ten years to this chapter of our life and pass the baton on to the next generation.

My blog is at Robclogg.wordpress.com