

### My Word ... by Les Lofquist

We have been in communication with our brothers over in Manipur, India who are with the [Zo Christian Bible Church and Thangkhal Bible Church](#). Both fellowships are IFCA member organizations representing over 20,000 believers in close to 100 churches.

At the 2009 Convention in Kalamazoo during a report from Dr. Dongza Thawng of Manipur we learned that a major rat infestation has killed almost all their crops and the people in their churches are starving due to a terrible famine.

Bamboo trees cover much of Manipur. About once every 100 years the bamboo flowers. The seeds of bamboo are very high in a protein that increases the fertility rate of rodents. Last year the bamboos flowered and the rodent population exploded. The rodents consumed most of the standing grain, nuts, everything. The dear believers in Manipur are subsistence farmers. The once-in-100 year rat infestation has caused a famine, and our brothers are in a desperate situation.

The IFCA Benevolence Committee has approved this as an IFCA-wide project under the accountability of the Benevolence Committee. We are issuing this appeal to all the IFCA men and churches for emergency relief funds for the Manipur Famine. Our goal is to raise between \$10,000 and \$20,000 to be sent over by September 10. They have an account in Manipur to which we can direct the money. Dr. Dongza Thawng has returned to Manipur and together with the elders of the Zo and Thangkhal Bible Churches they will oversee the money and the purchase and distribution of rice.



If you'd like to help this desperate need in Manipur, send a check by September 8 (**made out to IFCA International**) to the *IFCA Manipur Emergency Relief Fund* at P.O. Box 810, Grandville, MI 49468. You can also [make your donation on line through the IFCA Website](#).

Thanks for your involvement in meeting this need and please remember to pray for our brothers and sisters in Manipur.

"There are three things that earthly riches can never do; they can never satisfy divine justice, they can never pacify divine wrath, nor can they ever quiet a guilty conscience. And till these things are done, man is undone." - **Thomas Brooks**

### Warrior Ministry

Newly installed Director of Chaplaincy, Rob Meyer was born on a small farm near Colesburg, IA. He majored in sociology and psychology at Iowa State University, graduating with distinction (in sociology and USAF ROTC) and with a commission as a 2nd Lieutenant in the USAF in 1975.

Given a desire to pursue ministry, Rob transitioned to the USAF Reserves but needed some "real life" experience before entering seminary studies. He served as a city police officer (Ames, Iowa) after graduating with distinction from the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy in 1978. Shortly after graduation he met and married Chris, a Registered Nurse.



At Dallas Seminary, Rob earned a ThM in 1983, majoring in Christian Education. Following seminary, he taught at Southern Bible Institute in Dallas and served three years as senior chaplain at the Evansville (Indiana) Rescue Mission. During that time, Rob served as pastor-teacher for the Mission chapel and weekly radio program on WGBF. Working with many veterans through the mission, Rob felt God's call to pursue the military chaplaincy.

In 1988, Rob entered the Army and completed the Chaplain Officers Basic Course at Ft. Monmouth. After serving more than three years as a battalion chaplain in the 194th Armored Brigade at Fort Knox, Rob was assigned to the 501st Aviation Regiment in Camp Humphries, Korea. Returning to the states in 1992, Rob completed the Chaplain Advanced Course at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey and moved to Fort Hood, Texas.

After three years as a battalion chaplain in the First Cavalry Division, the Meyer family moved to Kunia, Hawaii where Rob worked as senior chaplain for the 703rd Military Intelligence Brigade. In 1999, the Chief of Chaplains selected Rob to attend a year of study at the Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. Upon graduation, he returned to Fort Hood and served as Brigade Chaplain in the First Cavalry Division. In 2000, he transitioned to Headquarters, III Corps, where he served as the primary "G-3" chaplain planner and trainer for III Corps Unit Ministry Teams.

Rob deployed to Iraq (2005-06) and served as senior chaplain in the International Zone and United States Embassy in Baghdad. He ended his Army chaplain career (2009) as the Deputy Command Chaplain at First Army Headquarters in Atlanta, Georgia.

He currently lives in Nevada IA where Chris is an RN at Storey County Hospital. They have two children: Adria, a staff specialist and accountant in Portland, OR, and Stephanie starting her third year of studies at Iowa State University where she is also enrolled in the Marine Corps ROTC program.

*Bible Churches  
Chaplaincy*

*Committed to Biblical Ministry*



*The Endorsing Ministry of IFCA International*



There are currently twelve IFCA-related churches involved in a **sponsoring** partnership with a [VISION AMERICA church plant project](#).

- **Grace Bible Church** (Portage WI) - *Faith Bible Church* (Rio WI).
- **Edgewood Bible Church** (Edgewood WA), **Lewis and Clark Bible Church** (Astoria OR) & **Helvetia Community Church** (Hillsboro OR) - *Antioch Bible Church* (Beaverton OR).
- **Byron Center Bible Church** (Byron Center MI) & **Grandville Bible Church** (Grandville MI) - *Arabic Baptist Church* (Oak Park MI).
- **Quentin Road Bible Baptist Church** (Lake Zurich IL) - *Cape Baptist Church* (Cape Coral FL).
- **Community Bible Church** (Paris IL) & **Portage Bible Church** (Portage IN) - *River's Edge Bible Fellowship* (Pecatonica IL).
- **Grace Bible Church** (Colorado Springs CO), **Fairmount Bible Church** (Golden CO) & **Mesa Hills Bible Church** (Mesa Hills CO) - *Severance Community Church* (Severance CO).

VISION AMERICA needs your help in order to reach its goal by the addition of 88 more sponsoring churches. There are **two ways in which you can provide help**.

**First:** Are you aware of other church plants, in addition to those listed above (*in italics*), that meet [the criteria](#) for qualifying as VISION AMERICA Church Plants? If you know of any, we need that information in order to make it available to churches considering becoming VISION AMERICA churches by sponsoring such a plant. Please provide such information by sending an e-mail to [va@ifca.org](mailto:va@ifca.org).

**Second:** Has your church seriously considered participating in this Great Commission endeavor of planting biblically sound churches across America? By its involvement in sponsoring a church plant on some level your church can become a VISION AMERICA Church and thus help IFCA to reach the goal of 100 such churches. Information on [how your church can sponsor a VISION AMERICA church plant](#) can be found on the web. Simply review those options and select a plant to sponsor from the [current list of VA church plants](#). Once your church has decided at what level of sponsorship it desires to be involved, it needs to be enrolled as a VISION AMERICA church by [filling out a brief form online](#). It's that simple.

Is there any question whether your church should be involved at some level in the Great Commission endeavor of planting biblically sound churches in this country? Why not take that step today!



## Vision World

IFCA International Church Planting

Has your church decided to be a [VISION WORLD](#) church?

At the convention in Kalamazoo this summer we launched the concept of VISION WORLD and challenged churches to be a part of this movement. In essence, it is a commitment from a church to preach and pray about sending one of their own to the mission field. This should probably be a goal of your church anyway. But is it part of the DNA of your church? Is this an aspiration that receives your constant attention? Does your congregation regularly hear about it from the pulpit? Is it part of your written vision statement? Becoming a Vision World church will make a major statement to your church that this is important.

We are seeking 100 churches which will very deliberately and proactively preach and pray about recruiting missionaries. [Learn more](#) about this important IFCA International emphasis on the web! The goal of VISION WORLD is to see more vocational workers surface out of IFCA churches in the next couple of years.

**THE TARGET: To enlist 100 churches in 2009 to pray intentionally that God would raise up international vocational missionary church planters from their number, resulting in identifying 100 new international workers from IFCA churches by June 2011.**

IFCA International is a "fellowship" of pastors and churches. The purpose of "fellowship" is not merely to share a cup of coffee. Intrinsic to the definition of the word is that we are working together. Having a common vision is foundational to koinonia. At the core of IFCA fellowship is our desire to move forward together with VISION AMERICA and VISION WORLD.

Many in Kalamazoo indicated their desire to go back and build enthusiasm and commitment with their church before signing up. Has that happened yet? If so, please let us know by going to the [VISION WORLD web page](#) and clicking on the [VW Church Enrollment](#) link. We want to hear from you.

It is going to be a joy to see what God does as He launches this vision among our churches.

Literature and DVDs for  
VISION AMERICA AND VISION WORLD  
are available for use in your church!  
Please [contact the IFCA Office](#)  
to request what you need!



**A Matter of the Heart** – *Biblically Handling Conflict in the Local Church*

Someone once said, “The heart of the problem is the problem of the heart.” Read it again. It’s true. The heart of any matter; any issue of conflict, is a matter of the internal dynamics at play in the heart. It is true in individual relationships, and it is true in the life of the local church. It could be said, “The heart of the local church problem is the problem of the heart of the church.”

The apostle Paul was a master of the spiritual heart. In dealing with the Corinthian church – a church he loved dearly, and yet the one that hurt him the most – he challenged them at the heart level. Consider the following passages that make the point.

**2 Corinthians 2:4** “For out of much affliction and anguish of heart I wrote to you with many tears; not so that you would be made sorrowful, but that you might know the love which I have especially for you.”

**2 Corinthians 3:2-3** “you are our letter, written in our hearts, known and read by all men; being manifested that you are a letter of Christ, cared for by us, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts.”

As one works their way through Paul’s letter to the Corinthians it become self-evident that his greatest concern was for their spiritual hearts, and the key to genuine biblical correction and lasting reconciliation was dependent upon heart change and transformation (see further, 2 Corinthians 3:15-18; 5:12; 6:11; 7:2-3; 9:7-8).

The IFCA Conciliation Committee has produced a practical manual designed to aid you in developing a heart for biblical peacemaking. You can find this manual and other helpful information including an article devoted to this topic in the VOICE March/April 2007 [on the web](#). Conciliation Committee members are available to speak to your Regional or local church.

“It is said that in some countries trees will grow, but will bear no fruit because there is no winter there.”

**-John Bunyan**

**9:38 Prayer Memo: Good News, Bad News, Solution!**

**Good News:** The number of those who have asked to receive the periodic [9:38 Prayer Memo](#) so that they can be praying for VISION AMERICA and VISION WORLD related matters has been growing!

**More Good News:** Internet Service Providers (ISPs) have been clamping down on spammers in an effort to fight the scourge of spam.

**Bad News:** One element of the strategy of ISPs is to limit the number of e-mails that can be sent from one source in either a given instance or, in some cases, over a given period of time. This hinders our ability to quickly send the Prayer Memo to its subscribers.

**Solution:** The 9:38 Prayer Memo has been moved to a mail list server which effectively avoids the filter of the local ISP.

**How this Affects YOU:** If you wish to continue receiving the 9:38 Prayer Memo, or if you wish to begin receiving it you must re-subscribe/subscribe by sending a blank e-mail to: [938prayerteam-join@ifcamedia.org](mailto:938prayerteam-join@ifcamedia.org)

You will then receive a confirmation e-mail with simple instructions for confirming your subscription.



The IFCA Ministry Referral Service functions as an interface between IFCA related ministries looking for individuals to fill positions of ministry and individuals who are seeking a place of service. For a number of years the IFCA Ministry Referral service has been hosted and maintained by our brother Steve Spacek, of [Help Ministries](#). Early this year it was decided to fully integrate the service with the [IFCA website](#) and that has been accomplished. The service is now located in the [Member Resources](#) area of the IFCA Website. As of August 31, the old service, hosted and maintained by Steve, will no longer be functional. Consideration of the best method to achieve the migration of data from one system to the other resulted in the decision to have each user re-enter their information in the new system. (next column)

This approach will also achieve the objective of making sure that the new service is begun with current information.

**What This Means For You:**

If you are currently listed as a ministry in search of an individual or an individual in search of a ministry and you want to continue to be listed in the IFCA Referral service you MUST visit the new location and enter the information for that listing. If you are not currently listed, but would like to be, you must use the new system as of now. For full instructions on accessing and using the new system [click here](#).

**The Regional Leader**

If you are a member of a Regional leadership team/executive committee, a Regional Representative or a member of IFCA Board of Directors, you are requested to subscribe to the new bi-monthly publication, “**The Regional Leader**”. This e-publication will be distributed on the 22nd of each evenly numbered month, beginning on August 22 (one week from today). The purpose of this publication is to encourage and help equip our Regional Leadership teams for the responsibility that they have in representing IFCA International on the Regional level and in ministering to IFCA men and churches in that Regional. Please subscribe today by sending a blank e-mail to [theregionalleader-join@ifcamedia.org](mailto:theregionalleader-join@ifcamedia.org) Respond as directed in the confirmation e-mail and you are all set.



**PRAYER PROMPTERS**

- VISION AMERICA church planters to take their place in the fields of harvest in America; at least 88 more IFCA related churches to enlist in VISION AMERICA by sponsoring a new church plant.
- VISION WORLD churches that will preach, pray, identify and send church planting missionaries to the foreign field.
- MANIPUR RELIEF - a quick and generous response to the need and open doors of Gospel ministry for the churches in Manipur
- IFCA FINANCES - continued provision of the needs of our Fellowship in order that we might carry on the ministry we have been entrusted with.