

# Ict Meeting on Logos 20.9.83

by George Verwer

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*George Verwer discusses the importance of cultural adaptation and teamwork in the ICT training program for missionaries.*

**Duration:** 45:08

**Scripture:** Proverbs 22:29, Matthew 6:33, Romans 12:11, Ephesians 4:29, Colossians 3:23, 2 Timothy 2:2, James 1:5

**Topics:** "Missions"

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## Description

In this sermon, the speaker discusses the challenges and unpredictability of doing God's work in Brahman. They mention the lack of funds and the need to be flexible in their transportation arrangements. The speaker emphasizes the importance of training and preparation for the individuals involved in the work, as they will be the ones representing God to others. They also highlight the pressures and opportunities for growth that come with working in a busy and observed environment.

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## Transcript

And I have our office, our section of the office over there. I'm still very much involved with the team and try to get in on the nights of prayer, especially if we're in town. But we like to get to know the people.

And I wonder if we could just go around and just get your names again and say where you're from. Not that we'll learn it the first time, but we've got to start somewhere. So, good, clear name and where you're from.

I've been living in Scotland for the last three and a half years. Good. Yeah, tell me if some of you are working in other places.

Tell where you're working, that's good. Jonathan from Worthing. Okay.

Gary. Good. Good.

Well, it seems like a very unusual year for our international coordinating team that we have so many men. We've had years where we hardly had any single men. So the Lord always has surprises for us.

We, I think, are still praying for one or two or more people. Maybe the Lord will give them to us. Are we ready to begin? We've already begun.

I want to just share, and I appreciate your taking some notes because we want you to get these things down. And I think one of the things that you always want to keep in mind is that someday you may have to be giving a similar session. Maybe to your own team, maybe out on the mission field somewhere.

Everything we share, we want to keep in mind 2 Timothy 2. These things you've heard, faithful men give that to others also. And in working and training individuals, never cease to be amazed the things that they eventually end up asking. Not just things that are very clear, simple matters in the Bible, but all kinds of questions.

And certainly one of the great needs in Christian work is for wisdom. I've just come from a meeting with the executives of this Bible school, Bible College. And we've just seen how the enemy tries to bring misunderstanding when two different groups are trying to live together in the same building.

And it was a very, very profitable meeting. And I think because of the wisdom that God gave different people in the meeting, we got through that meeting without it becoming a major rift between OM and BBI. The enemy is always trying to divide, always trying to bring confusion.

And that's why we have these times of orientation. And we have quite a few times during the year when there are questions and answers. And that's why we have Jack Rendell as a team leader who is available, not George Verwer, who is generally not so available, spending over half of my time away from London or Bromley.

The theme I want to talk about is entitled, How and Why This Team, ICT, is a Valuable Training Program. Now, you may be involved in Manchester or Carlisle. Some of these things would be valid there.

Most of them would be valid anywhere within Great Britain. We sit back in Bromley and we watch the troops pass through. They share with great excitement, headed for Pakistan, headed for Sudan.

They've got their inoculations. They've got their maps. They're showing you where they're going, Bangladesh, the regions beyond.

And you're going down Bromley High Street to the station to pick up somebody who's just arrived there and doesn't know how to get up to where we are. So we can understand India, that's a training program. Sudan, that's a training program.

But, I mean, Bromley, Kent, training program? And yet, because in the past some people have come in there thinking it was just a piece of cake. Do you know that American expression, I guess? Thinking it's easy. They have fallen flat on their nose.

And it has been interesting to pick them up in the process. Now, my message is a little bit geared toward those of you who are non-English. Non-English means Welsh, Scottish, Irish, American.

And our team would like to have more English people. We are so happy that our English gentleman, Aidan Currie, has agreed to stay on another year, even though, without me knowing it, the Lagos tried to recruit him from underneath our very nose. We'd like to get some English people, and it's good to welcome Dirk to the team.

He's from Northern England, where they tend to despise London. But, anyway, he's come to London, and, unfortunately, he won't be around there so much as he's working with me. My first point is especially

relevant, because one of the reasons this is a training program is that it is a new culture for many of us.

Now, even if you come from rural England, coming into London is like a new culture. And different people from different parts of England think quite differently and approach life quite differently. But for those coming from overseas, it is a new culture, so it provides opportunity for cultural identification, for learning, perhaps even some experimentation.

There's even a difference in language, and I think you've already had a session pointing out some of the problems of language. We have people that sometimes are hard to understand. We had a woman from Scotland down on our team some time ago, and very difficult for the English to understand what she was saying.

I think her problem was linked with not opening her mouth. But I was sitting in a railway station up in Lancashire, where I'm going two weeks from now. We have some meetings.

These men were speaking English, but I could not understand what they were saying. Anyway, it is an adjustment, and, therefore, it is a fantastic training. If we can adjust to a culture that is so similar to our own culture, and it is in many ways, then how are we really going to do among Muslims on the Afghan border, or pygmies in the Congo, or wherever else you're praying about going to? So don't think it's just going to be easy.

It is a challenge. We, as foreigners, can easily offend in Britain, and, of course, it's an area where we need to grow. Number two, it's a training because it's a new climate.

Get these people from sunny California, and they come to England. They've already heard in advance that it's all fog and rain. We get very little fog now in London.

I lived in London during the fog, smog days, and ever since they brought in smokeless fuel, and, by the way, Britain has more rules and regulations than any nation, perhaps, in the world. They brought in smokeless fuel and a few other changes, and you don't get that much fog. Now, Sam from Ireland, who works in our garage, feels that the air in Bromley is bad and polluted, but compared to some of the places I've lived in, I think the air around Bromley is not so bad.

Maybe somebody ought to get one of these gauges, measure the air, and we can know if we're in the danger zone and wear our masks. But it is a different climate. A lot of people make exaggerations.

This summer we've had a lot of sunshine. We haven't had so much rain during certain weeks, but throughout the year it's a little bit dreary for some people. Never found it much of a problem myself.

I don't know. I think somehow Jesus is alive, whether it's raining or whether the sun is out and the sunshine is in the heart. But it can affect you if you're just running on your natural one little half-horsepower engine.

The weather and all these things change you. Up and down you go. But I really think if we're getting what we need from the Lord, then we can adjust to new climates and we can learn how to carry an umbrella or bring a raincoat and make that small adaptation.

Number three, it's a training program because of the range of people with whom we work. Now we are in some ways an international ghetto in Bromley. We can't pretend that we're a rural Britannia English crowd.

We have people from all different countries. And I'm sure many people in Bromley don't understand us. And so it's a challenge.

In our meeting here today it was shared how the people around this Bible Institute, they don't understand what's going on. They don't separate OM from BBI. They think BBI has ships.

And interesting little things get said. But in missionary work the key, far more than geography, is relationships. Learning how to relate to different kinds of people.

And I think we need to take this as a real challenge and learn to relate to the different people God has given us in Bromley. As I'm sure you already know, we have many, many different ministries. Perhaps if we really weighed it up, half of all of our work in Bromley on ICT side is OM Britain.

We're linked with Manchester, with Carlisle. We're under Peter Maiden to take meetings, to show hospitality to anybody connected with OM, maybe a prayer partner, maybe an ex-OMer. We're involved in literature distribution in Britain.

We're involved in evangelism in Britain. We're involved in relating to churches. And our burden is that the whole work in Britain, FFA, Arab World, ICT, STL, it's one body.

Different teams carrying on different types of work, different strategies to some degree, but one body. So that gives us another opportunity to learn because, of course, we have to relate with different people who have different purposes in their work, maybe different hours of work, maybe a different approach to their work. And it'll take you a while to understand that.

Just as if you were going as a new missionary to some country in Africa and Asia, it'll take you a year at least to begin to understand the ground rules. Now, I'm in a little effort to try to understand cricket. And this is a shame, this is a sin, almost, that I've been so long in Britain and don't understand cricket.

But there are some basic rules. You're not going to learn cricket just watching. You have to have somebody explain.

You have to read. And I need to get into that this year. It hasn't been a major priority.

But now that I'm involved in Pakistan, where they are three times more fanatic for cricket than Britain. The British gave it to them. But, I mean, there, you know, you better know what a sticky wick is and understand cricket.

I know that term because preachers use it. They don't understand what it's about. So there's a wide range of people, and it's a training program to get to understand these people.

It's not easy to make in-depth friends in most cultures. Some cultures, superficial friendship is easy. Other cultures, not even that is easy.

But in all cultures, in-depth friendships are more difficult. And one of the challenges for this team is to have some in-depth relationships with British people, not just OM people. And I like the fact that we are not stuck in some missionary headquarters in the middle of the woods.

The Lord bless the Weck and their big Bolstrode Castle out in the middle of the woods in nowhere. I'm sure they can get in cars and drive into London. We are right smack in the middle of a town, and they are

watching.

There's a little tall building next to us. Now there's another one gone up. They can literally look out their windows and watch our running back and forth.

If you back your vehicle out of the OM garage too fast, and you hit somebody, I tell you, it's going to be maybe in the newspapers. It's going to be talked about all through the building. Just like the day we were doing some scrap metal work and junking cars and scrapping cars, and we almost lost our premises as a result of that because it was blocking the pavement.

We're in the real world, and we're not isolated in the woods. Even here, we're a bit isolated. It's a monastic-type place.

I don't like it actually for living long periods of time. All right, for a four-day retreat. But we're right there, and every move will have its ripple.

So it's a great training program because we're called to work with people. We're not called to retire or to monasteries. Number four, it's a good place of training because there are lots of pressures.

Lots of pressures. You're going to think after a while, too many people trying to do too much with too little in too quick a period of time. Already, we're thinking about the Summer Crusade, and we're thinking about the Mexico Christmas Crusade.

Well, how does the Mexico Christmas Crusade affect our team in Bromley? I'll tell you how it affects it. Every year, it takes our leader because Jack is committed to be in my place in Mexico so that I can spend more time in Asia. And every time Jack leaves, we usually have a few little interesting difficulties.

Jerry Davey usually picks me on the phone, picks up the phone and says, you know, what's going on on the ICT? Now, Neil Porter has become rather gifted in being the assistant leader, takes over and usually we survive, but we're very much involved with all kinds of things all over the world. And it creates sometimes pressure on our doorstep. People just arrive.

We had somebody phoning the other day. I'm glad I wasn't there. Wanting us to sign the papers so that he could get into England.

He's an old friend. He claims that he did a favor for me way back somewhere. So why can't I do a favor for him and sign on the dotted line or give my voucher him on the telephone so he could be in England for six months or something.

All kinds of people. And we want to be able to show them the love of Christ. And the ministry of hospitality in our team is not just hospitality house.

We've all got to be hospitable. That little house can't handle what we're attempting. I noticed a tremendous amount of hospitality Peter and Birgitta Conlon have had over the past weeks.

They're over there. People come through. They keep them.

They're in their home. And we have many, many others who are involved in the ministry of hospitality. It's so important, isn't it, people's first impressions.

I'll tell you, the man who's behind that reception desk, the man who's running that little switchboard and handling the things that are done there, the posts and other things, he's an important person. Because these people coming to Brownlee, they're not going to see me. They're not going to go away, wow, that George Ver is a dynamic revolutionary, written revolution of love.

We saw it in action. We arrived and he did this for us and did that for us. No, they're not going to meet me.

They're going to meet the guy sitting behind that window. And if he is uptight because someone put salt in his tea or he got woken up too early or the study program didn't agree with him or he's feeling rejected and so he lets that irritability out, people can read it. You can read people over the telephone.

When you pick up the telephone, sometimes you can tell that person is rattled. And I know that first impressions are very important. So there are pressures.

This provides opportunities for training and preparation to go on to perhaps somewhere else where there's even more pressure. Bombay, I'm sure, can provide greater pressure. Number five, it's a training program because there is a degree of unpredictability.

Is that a word? Unpredictability. You never know what next is going to happen in Bromley. We have to be flexible.

You're just about to get into a van to go somewhere and Sam comes over to the garage at present or somebody and says, look, really, you can't have this van. Somebody else needs it who has a bigger group. You have to go in this Volkswagen bug with year six and your literature.

Just the problem of transportation for this number of people when we've got this budget, this budget, we don't have excess money. You say, why don't we have more money in God's work? Well, you argue that one out with God all you want. But we don't.

We're broke. God does supply. But the work of God is growing.

The problems are great. The need for Bible, the need for literature, the needs for vehicles. In the whole Bombay operation, they don't have a single vehicle.

They don't have a single vehicle. They learn to function, therefore, without vehicles. We have vehicles.

We have a garage. It's an expensive operation, by the way, if you think it's all cheap. But we have also learned to be very dependent on those vehicles, each family.

And therefore, we're often short of vehicles. And there are a number of other factors that make it a little bit unpredictable at times. We need advanced planning.

There are planning meetings going on all the time. But sometimes, even after planning something, an unpredictable factor comes. I remember one year, all of a sudden, Fred Perry and his whole family land on our doorstep.

What are we going to do? He's laboring in Iran. He had to leave Iran because of the war. He arrives back at the international office of OM.

You say, well, no, I'm sorry, you know, it's nice of you to be here, but we don't want you. You have to welcome a missionary when he returns from the field. They have the sense that they're missionaries returning to their home base.

Now, the home base of OM is actually many places. It's New Jersey, Manchester, ICT, it's Mospach. But for them, at that time, they're not interested in Mospach in New Jersey.

They're there, and they're hoping they may get a place to sleep, they may get something to drive, and they might even get a place to live in for a while until they find out where they should be going. So the unpredictableness, which demands flexibility and adaptability, and I always remember from my missionary lectures in Bible college, flexibility, adaptability. You know one of the problems in missionary work is that people coming from highly sophisticated cultures where there's a heavy emphasis on education, America's in that camp, Germany, Sweden, Switzerland, many, many countries are in that camp.

When they go to the mission field, they don't find a slot for their particular training. Even someone who's been trained in computers. What kind of training in computers? What kind of computer? I mean, you could be trained in computers and be recruited into a computer job and you might as well almost be at zero.

Totally different machine, totally different program, different kinds of demands being made on you. That's why they often say a good missionary is a jack of all trades. He can repair his own car.

I'm sure all of you can do that. We need such people in ICT. Dirk was sharing with me that he didn't feel he had much gift yet in that area.

He knows how to repair things around the house because we don't have miracle men. You just phone up and they just come in and repair everything. We have a maintenance crew.

They never seem to catch up. We're a lot of old houses. There are many of us and it's not easy to find people to give a year to going around repairing other people's houses and unstopping drains.

We called the special squad in once to rescue my toilet. They managed to smash the entire toilet with everything running around. That was after we had in the professional plumber.

The professional plumber, he was worse. Praise God for people that are willing to do that kind of work because without them, some of us would not be taking the meetings which bring in the recruits, which bring in a lot of other things. It's teamwork.

We praise God for that teamwork. It's a learning experience. Maybe the Lord wants you to develop some new abilities this year.

You can learn how to change a punctured tire rather than just phoning for the tire puncture. That's a flat puncture squad. Amazing.

Then number six. I've already got into it without realizing it. The many different kinds of jobs, meetings, handling books, hospitality, serving people, personal evangelism, literature distribution, all kinds of areas that you can sharpen up.

Say, well, anybody can do those things. Not many people know how to set up a proper book table in a meeting. The difference between one man setting it up and another man setting up could be a hundred pounds easily.

A hundred pounds easily. In fact, some people, they easily get discouraged when they try to set up a book table. The man says, well, we don't allow books to be sold on Sunday.

So he packs it all in the box and puts it in the back of the van instead of perhaps thinking, well, could we put just two books out and just give them on a donation basis? Oh, well, we'll meet with the elders and see. They decide we can do that. Actually, we have spread that philosophy in the last 15 years all over the country.

That is not our first year. So learning how to set up a book table, learning some of these other basic skills, right down to such practical things as driving in England, which is not like driving in the United States or Sweden. They used to drive on that side of the road in Sweden.

I remember when they changed sides in Sweden seven years ago. In one day, everything suddenly changed overnight. And there were accidents and people were driving into lakes and who knows what else was happening.

But in England, they very much resist certain kinds of change. Decimalization. It was looked at as a giant dragon spewing out its head from the common market.

And now they're trying to get us to think in liters. Most petrol stations still have gallons and liters. And I was in England when that famous day we switched from shillings, pounds and pence to just pounds and pence.

And my people were spewing out venom and crusading down the streets and resisting these changes. But changes do come, even in England. And if you visit such traditional places as Cambridge University and see all the students sitting there in a row for their evening meal and all the people sitting on the high table and they open in prayer and all this, you realize what a nation of fantastic traditions.

And they consider, many of them, those of us coming from America as just naive and our nation is so young we barely know how to put our trousers on yet. And so we must walk with much humility. You talk about, you know, an old building, you know, a hundred years old in America.

They put a big sign on it. Preservation Act. But some of you may be living in hundred-year-old buildings that'll be tearing down in the next couple of months.

So there are many kinds of jobs, lots of opportunity to get thrown into new things. Therefore, it's a good training program. The seventh reason it's a training program is because there's a lot of boring, dull, routine work.

And missionary work is loaded with boring, dull, routine things, even in India. Driving that old truck from Kerala to Kathmandu, five days. I tell you, it's boring.

It may sound like an adventure back here. Just do it. And in mission work today, you can't live on the spectacular.

It's not big crusades and great meetings and revivals springing up overnight through 20 minutes of prayer. There's a lot of slogging. There's a lot of routine.

We need to learn faithfulness in routine things. Maybe caring for our vehicle and maybe caring for property. We have a lot of people giving us temporary use of their homes.

And I tell you, if we leave those homes in worse shape than when we received them, except in maybe some exceptional cases, we hear that. It seems very hard for people to understand in London what a miracle this accommodation is that we have. We are living in an area where every square foot is worth pounds.

Every little room is worth 10, 20, 30 pounds a week, a week. And we all want to stay on minimum prayer target. We couldn't even raise this after seven hours of debate and discussion with the leaders.

You have to have the minimum prayer target. The British have to up it a little bit because they've been so far behind with the international figure. So those of you from Britain, as a year from now, the figure will be a little higher.

The fact is, in Britain, we can't survive on this minimum figure, not really, if we count all the expenses. So we like to encourage people to be more realistic in their praying. And I hope, however feeble your accommodation is, you'll give thanks to the Lord and take care of it.

Take care of it. A house, a small house in London, is 50 to 70 to 80 pounds sterling per week for the... People are just going wild trying to find accommodation. We've had to cut our Arab world team right down.

We just haven't been able to find it. We say, Lord, why is this? And a lot of the immigrants are coming to Britain, take a house and they just divide it up. People are living in one little room with their whole family in London.

They're trying to stop this, but they are, with a little kitchen and they're paying exorbitant rents. The rent system at present in England is against the renter and in favor of the landlord. The laws, the basic rules, makes it very complex.

Makes it a hard country to rent in. So a lot of our accommodation is very unique and we need people who are willing to try to keep it cared for. Number eight, the eighth reason why this is a training program is exposure.

Now, not just because we're in England, but because we're on ICT, we get terrific exposure, all kinds of missionary leaders. We get more visiting speakers, more missionary leaders than most teams. We can learn from these people.

One of the men, the moment he left ICT, went into quite an important leadership position, but when he was on ICT, he was just picking people up from the airport. But he had a very positive attitude toward that. He didn't think of that, oh, no, another trip to the airport.

He thought it was an opportunity to listen to cassette tapes going out and listen to the people he picked up coming back or vice versa if he was taking somebody out. He met a lot of interesting people and they became friends in some cases. So we get a lot of exposure.

We have the audiovisual department with all kinds of interesting films and videos. We have exposure to a wide range of cassettes and books and tapes and magazines. This is what little research we have on an international level.

It was based on this team. It's a department that is greatly weakened because we don't have anybody full time in research. But if you want to find out something about almost any subject, you'll be amazed what we

have in Bromley.

So that to me is a great challenge. It makes Bromley a great stepping stone into other fields. A representative of almost every field in O.M. will eventually pass through Bromley and if you're interested you can get to them.

You have to sometimes take the initiative. And then the ninth reason that it's a training program right there in good old Bromley in London is because they're terrific scope for evangelism. I was telling the India group that you know if they just want to go do personal work and small group work, there's no purpose going to India.

They can do that right in England. You need to go to India for personal work. We've got Indians everywhere we look in London.

Now I was in the process at that time of giving them the challenge to reach the masses which is part of our strategy for the subcontinent. And to reach the masses then we're going to have to go there. But there's fantastic opportunities for witness.

And in 29 years of trying to get people into evangelism, I have discovered that it is not easy. And Jack has discovered this who has oftentimes been a tremendous example on our team in the area of evangelism. He had piles of other things to do trudging out Saturday morning door to door giving out tracts.

And I think this is an area where people easily get disappointed. They somehow picture that when it comes to evangelism, OM has really got it all together. Even though 50% of all the people every year are new.

And even though the leaders, and we do have some very gifted leaders in this. They're spread out over 35 nations. I'm not always attracted to Bromley.

Plus many other factors. I can assure you, make it very clear that we don't have in Bromley a lot of hyper-motivated, hyper-gifted people in evangelism. In fact, often it's a newcomer to the team like Steve Davis a couple years ago who really added a new dimension to our team.

Because in evangelism and OM in general we sometimes get into a rut. Door to door, giving out tracts at the railway station. And then, you know, it's good to get some new ideas.

Don't just think in terms of the official time once or twice a week when there's evangelism. But may your whole life be evangelism. May you have literature in your pockets.

May you be ready for a word of testimony lovingly. I think when it comes to Bromley itself, mass distribution doesn't need to be our main method. But certainly down in London there's the chance to reach masses of people that if you don't give them that tract in London they're often just passing through to the Muslim world or passing through to some other country.

If you don't give them that tract, nobody will. And when I was in London more in a different situation, I used to go into central London all the time and just give out tracts. I used to carry them in many languages and found it very, very challenging.

We used to have family day and take the children with us and do that. So there's great opportunity for evangelism door to door, street work, working with the Arab team, working with churches and I'm sure that

will be presented. And I hope you'll take advantage of it.

Because, you know, I think a lot of talk about evangelism in O.M. is so much hot air. If it's not real to you right there in Bromley, how real is it going to be in Bombay or in the middle of the Muslim world? And I just think it's a challenge to be involved in evangelism in our own home area or what may appear to be a home area. We usually drop our guard when we're in a place like Bromley.

It doesn't seem like the mission field. We don't see demon-possessed people running down the street as you do in Calcutta. You don't trip over a beggar or a leper as you step outside the door in Bromley.

You might encounter a drunk now and then. And therefore, we were deceived. But I will tell you that basically the city of London is in the hands of the evil one.

Sunday morning, sometimes on Sunday I go into the huge, giant market up in the East End and just talk to people and give out literature. It's unbelievable that masses on Sunday morning, they're not in church, come into that market looking for a bargain to go up there and just see it. It's quite a challenge.

And then lastly, God tests us in ways that we do not expect. That's why really ever since you're coming God's training program. And the fact that you're geographically in Bromley rather than West Bengal doesn't mean God is now hindered in his program to train you because he can test you.

We don't know what's going to happen in England. As you know, in England, in the years gone by, we've had terrorism. Remember last summer when that huge bomb went off not far from where some of our people were killing all those people and all those horses.

It was in the press all over the world. We're not in a country with total stability. Compared to many parts of the world, I believe Britain is a haven of peace.

And my flesh, the human side of me, is actually very happy in Britain. You can get so much done. The phones work.

The trains run on time. The buses are there. There's taxis.

There's rent-a-cars. There's unlimited facilities compared to most nations. And we're not Now, if you had come from one other very developed nation to Britain, another developed nation, then you wouldn't notice this.

You see, I've lived four years in India, six months a year. And I've lived in Nepal and Bangkok. Have you ever tried to get across Bangkok? And I've lived in Africa a little bit.

And I tell you, when you come back to Britain, you realize this country is an ideal launching pad to get equipment, machinery, people, out to the ends of the earth. It is a fantastic coordinating base for an international movement like OM. We have the most international airport in the world right down the road.

Notice how many people even come here to Belgium. All go through London. All through London.

We are at the hub. And now we can drive from Bromley to Dover in an hour and a half for years of praying for that motorway to bypass those villages and bypass Canterbury. And it's there now, almost complete.

And it's another hour off the time to Dover, which means using the hovercraft, it's five or six hours from Bromley to Leuven. God has put us in a very key place. He's provided us accommodation.

He's provided us a fantastic warehouse, garage. There are facilities. With that, we have a lot of friends.

Friends giving us equipment. Friends lending us services. Ian Currie was sharing with me one man who's given us thousands of pounds of services, equipment.

And that's something we need to learn at Bromley, how to get other people involved. You know, people want to get involved in helping O.M., but they don't know how to take the initiative. Or they may be afraid of us.

They think we're super spiritual. And as we get people involved, we become friends. We get them into some of those nights of prayer.

And we've often been very weak in this area. I tell you, lives are going to be changed. And we're going to see more people from those local Bromley churches where we're hoping you're going to get involved.

Not only coming to the prayer meetings, but getting involved with us in evangelism. Or we with them. And even joining O.M. on the year program.

When I arrived in Britain, somebody said to me, Britain's a mission field. Every nation's a mission field. Some of Britain's greatest evangelists have gone to evangelize America.

And it's wonderful that the British people welcome Billy Graham and Louise Palau and many lesser lights to the mission field. To come back and help with a task in Britain. Because there's only 10% or 12% going to church.

And that's climbed up in the last 12 years. That includes everybody. Roman Catholics, Jehovah's Witnesses, Spiritists, the works.

The number of born-again evangelicals in Britain. Most people would put at maybe a million out of 50 plus million people. Some would say that's an exaggeration.

But one thing we know, if there are a million born-again evangelical Christians in Britain, considering the rest of Europe, we have the greatest manpower source in Europe for getting workers and prayer. And as I think you probably know, in a miraculous way, God has given O.M. a tremendous credibility with other Christian groups. And we have opened doors.

I just had my invitation for Cambridge University again for 1984. We have people asking us to take more meetings sometimes almost than we can take. And so this provides a great open door and gives us many opportunities to work with people and to mobilize people.

I might only ask that I think this training program is made more interesting by the fact that we have another unique team of Christians right next to us. STL. Very different kind of work with very different historic roots.

They are long before we were. I am in Bromley traditionally because of STL, not ICT. ICT didn't exist.

It was just myself and a secretary. So I think it's a great challenge when we have another team. We work together on something, we pray together, but we have very unique tasks.

And there's some overlapping, but there's some areas where we agree. This is your task. This is our task.

Let's not get in a lot of ba-loo-ba-doo-ba talking about it, but let's get on with it. And this is beautiful because what's one of the biggest problems on the mission field? Mission societies that can't get on with a mission society down the road. And it's a heartbreak on the mission field and it's a stumbling block often to the unconverted.

And I've often thought if we somehow can't get on with our own brothers and sisters in STL and esteem them and work with them and learn how to resolve our problems, and there are always problems. And you know, what are we going to do? We work side by side with a national Pakistani mission society in Karachi. Totally different ideas, strategies, salary system, or whatever else.

So that also provides challenge and preparation for missionary work overseas or wherever the Lord may lead you. Don't think that this, what I've touched in this brief hour, covers our ministries. If you listen to the message I gave the other night on the dynamic headquarters, then you'll know what our ministry is.

Fifteen major ministries were shared. I've had incredibly positive feedback from that meeting, even from some of my leaders who don't always have time to write feedback. So if you want to know in general what the ministry of almost any HQ is or base, then I trust you were in that meeting.

It didn't get recorded, so I'm going to have to give it again sometime as a number of people have requested it. Well, there we are, right on the hour, Jack. Want to take a few minutes for questions? Or is there a next...

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