THE EXAMPLES OF CITIES' TRANSFORMATION

God's Message:

They will rebuild the ancient ruins and restore the places long devastated; they will renew the ruined cities that have been devastated for generations.

(Isaiah 61:4)

Good manners give temporary benefits to the world; character gives permanent benefits.

Cali, Colombia

For many years Colombia has been the largest cocaine exporter in the world. Every year this country exports between 700-1,000 tons of cocaine to USA and Europe. Randy and Marcy Mac Millan who were the shepherds of one church, lived near the housing complex of a drug distributor organization. Whenever the distributor wanted to go out from his complex and saw a car or people that would disturb his journey, he would straight away shoot them. Approximately 15 people were killed every day.

Julio and Ruth Ruibal said that there was no unity between churches in Cali. So Julio visited the pastors to ask for forgiveness and to reconcile. Julio and Ruth together with Randy and Marcy started to pray, intercede and fast for their city. Their longing eventually brought impact to other churches - they started to pray together for Cali. In 36 months, the city of Cali was transformed from a city which was full with violence, corruption and famous as a hell pit to a better city. Now, together with the government, God's churches in Cali are changing Cali totally.

Hemet, California

Drugs spirit, New Age, and witchcraft

Hemet, California was famous for its stone heart for the Gospel. Churches were in disorder, they did not unite; their spiritual life and the number of members went down. Its society worshipped the power of darkness. There were many drugs, witchcraft and occult activities in this city. God's plan for Hemet was realized through Ps. Bob Becket and Ps. Gordon Houston. They did spiritual mapping, prayed and loved Hemet's people. Hemet was started to be transformed by the power of God. The membership of occult started to decrease. Some sects and cults left Hemet. Maharishi meditation centre was burnt. Drug distribution decreased. Criminal rate decreased drastically.

Churches united. Four times a year all people gather together for a prayer concert. Love, unity and united prayer have transformed Hemet, and the number of believers increases from 7% to 14%. All churches are able to feel God's movement in that city.

Kiambu, Kenya and Witchcraft spirit of Mama Jane

Kiambu was famous as the graveyard for the fishermen, and was empowered by alcoholism, uncontrollable violence and poverty. Believers experienced victory over the leader of witchcraft by the name of Mama Jane after interceding in prayer cave. The result is amazing. Kiambu becomes a city with lowest crime rate in Kenya. Raping and murder have never occurred in this city again. Economy of the city becomes better and many new buildings are built. Ps. Muthee, who had only 90 people as his church's congregation, now has 500 congregations. Other churches experience growth as well. Prayer has destroyed the power of witchcraft in that city.

Mizoram, India and center of many religious spirits.

Before the Gospel entered, local tribes in Mizoram, India believed in a spirit called Pathan. They used to behead their enemy's head. Having been transformed by the Gospel, the people of Mizoram become the model of society and even become the truest Christians in the world. Mizoram becomes the only state in India where street children, beggars, and illiterate people could not be found. 95% of its society is churched people.

Many cities, tribes and other nations

The Gospel enters Inua tribe in Canada and Alaska. After the center of the power of darkness was destroyed, many people believe in Lord Jesus. In Uganda, churches were almost destroyed, AIDS reached 28.1% and the economy collapsed. In unity and prayer, churches were able to transform its nation. Now AIDS rate becomes 7.4%, economy becomes better and its president signed a statement that he gave Uganda to the Lordship of Jesus Christ on 31 December 1999. At the moment 65% of people of Uganda are born again Christians.

Essence:

Facts have shown us that city and nation transformation can happen if the servants of God and churches unite together to pray for God's visitation for their city and nation.

Reflection:

Do we believe that God's power is able to transform our city and nation according to God's will?

Commitment:

I'm actively involved in prayer movement so that transformation can happen.

Taken from the book "Transformation Journey"

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