

Exodus Global Alliance: missions and values

Exodus Global Alliance represents the next step in developing a more effective, global ministry to people affected by homosexuality. In this issue, Pat Lawrence shares more about the work of Exodus Global Alliance.



Pat Lawrence,
executive director
of Exodus Global
Alliance

When we began this journey we believed that God was asking us to *“Enlarge the place of your tent, stretch it out and make it wider. Do not hold back. Make the ropes longer and its stakes stronger because you will spread out to the right and to the left (Is 54:1-3).”* We knew this meant going to every continent –

becoming a truly global ministry.

The Exodus Missions program

The Exodus Missions program is a key part of going to every continent. There are 155 million homosexuals around the world who need to be reached. Men and women struggle with homosexuality in every culture and country around the world. Estimates of the number in each region who

struggle are shown in the pie chart, below.

They are the largest deliberately unreached people group in the world because many Christians consider them already lost or refuse to reach them.

The majority are in the regions stretching from India to China and the Asia/Pacific region. Because most of the ex-gay ministries are in North America, there are many places outside of North America, where there is no help for people seeking freedom from homosexuality.

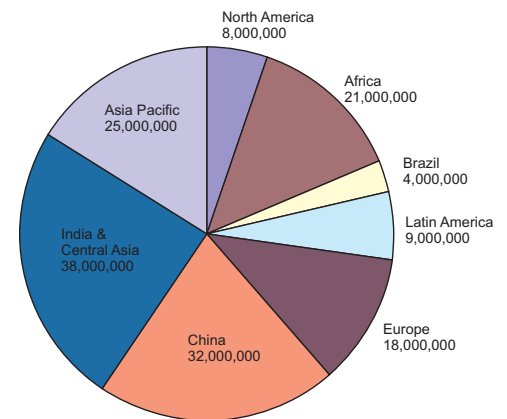
That is why Exodus has expanded the Exodus Missions program. There are now plenty of ways people can serve with Exodus. They can:

- Work with an existing Exodus Member Ministry.
- Work at Exodus’ International Office or one of the Exodus Regional Offices around the world to help them lead and coordinate Exodus’ missions work around the world or in a particular region.

- Help start new ministries in places that currently do not have any ministries.

Pat explains, “You do not need to be ex-gay to serve with Exodus. You can be a recent graduate from school or just retired. You may have a short-term or a life-time to offer. I want to encourage people to contact the Exodus Global Alliance office or send an email to missions@exodusglobalalliance.org telling us about your interest in serving with Exodus Missions.”

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in this issue

Pat Lawrence explains more about the missions program and values that guide the work of Exodus Global Alliance.

Exodus Europe introduces two new member ministries in the middle east and a conference coordinator, Mike Davidson, for future Exodus Europe conferences.

Exodus Africa, Developing Region, introduces a new member ministry called GAYCID in Lagos, Nigeria under the leadership of Kingsley Nwafor.

news from around the world

Europe

Great things are happening in Europe and Africa. A year ago Europe and Africa were combined into one region. This made it very difficult for both regions because they are so different culturally from one another. The International Board accepted Exodus Europe/Africa & Middle East Board's request that they be split into separate regions. Since then, positive developments have been happening in both regions.

Conference Coordinator for Europe



Mike Davidson is the new conference coordinator for Europe.

Exodus Europe now has a **Conference Coordinator**, Mike Davidson. In his role as Conference Coordinator, Mike will work along side the host ministry with conference preparations. He will ensure greater continuity in future conferences, build

on the collective wisdom of running such conferences, and improve the quality and appeal of the Exodus Europe conferences.

This is an exciting step in the development of Exodus Europe. Dolina Geddes, Exodus Europe Chairperson, says, "The annual conferences used to be hosted by the ministries in whichever country the event is scheduled to take place. With the development of new leaders, Exodus Europe was able to take this step to improve their annual conferences."

Asked why he was undertaking this demanding voluntary role, Mike said "I value the work of Exodus Europe, and see the interaction between different ministries within the organization as vital to the witness of salvation for those wanting to leave homosexual lifestyles. We need safe places, and helpful events to encourage us as we seek to find the Lord's will in dealing with our brokenness." His particular goal in 2005 is to make sure the conference has appeal for both strugglers and ministry leaders.

Two New Ministries in Exodus Europe

Exodus Europe also welcomes two new ministries in the Middle East. One is in a Middle Eastern country where safety issues mean that detailed information must not be made public or as the director of this ministry put it, "I would be killed."

The other is in Egypt. The Christian Recovery and Support Ministry of the Kasrel-Dobara Evangelical Church has become a member ministry of Exodus Europe. They provide counselling and support groups to men and women seeking help for sexual addictions, co-dependency and homosexuality. They also find that doors are being opened with Protestant and Orthodox churches in Cairo and elsewhere asking for their help in starting support and recovery groups as they recognize that the old ways of dealing with these problems are not working and there are alternatives that provide real hope and lasting change.



Kingsley Nwafor is executive director of GAYAID in Lagos, Nigeria.

Africa

Exodus Global Alliance introduces a new member ministry in Lagos, Nigeria. The ministry is called GAYAID and is part of the evangelical outreach ministry called

Lifeline Christian Centre. Kingsley Nwafor is its Executive Director. An ordained Evangelist, Kingsley is the President of Lifeline Christian Centre. A graduate of political science, and a post graduate of public administration, Evangelist Kingsley is a dynamic teacher of the Word, a motivational speaker and an author.

Kingsley shares the following about the characteristics of homosexuality in Africa and his calling to minister to people affected by homosexuality. "Traditionally, homosexuality is seen as a taboo in Africa. {According to} tradition, the gods can kill anyone found guilty of homosexuality. Because of Christianity and education, the effects of the gods are not felt as much. But one thing that has not been erased is the stigma of a taboo. Even when people are no longer afraid of the gods, they are still afraid of the reactions of the people to them. This is why an African will do all he can to hide his identity of being gay.

"I entered into ministry to gays because God called me into it. I had my first view of homosexuals in September 2001. A TV station known as "AIT" broadcast a South African talk show program on homosexuality. To my surprise, one of the key speakers, a pastor in South Africa, supported [homosexuality] saying that the way they are is how God created them to be. [This] swelled up compassion in me for them."

“My vision for gays in Nigeria and Africa, is to see individuals that will see themselves in the true state that God created them to be.” KINGSLEY NWATOR

“I never gave this incident much thought until July 2002. I had been asking God for the kind of ministry He was calling me into and what He wants me to preach. In July, the Lord brought back the picture of the program I had watched nine months ago. The impression I had in my heart was “go and liberate them.” This came with the same feeling of compassion I had the first time I watched the program. I asked God, “Why me?” I am not gay. And I felt a gay could do the job better than me. The answer I got to this was that this was the calling of another man who had failed to accomplish it. So God is bringing it my way. Am I to fail also? I did not have peace within me until I accepted it. To God be the glory for finding me worthy of such a task in my nation and continent.

“Homosexuals in Nigeria are seen as demons moving about in human form. Nobody wants to associate with them. Talking about the issue makes people very uncomfortable. People like us that are called to help them are seen in the same likeness with them. Society believes that for us to be involved with them, we must be connected to the act.

“My vision for gays in Nigeria and Africa, is to see individuals that will see themselves in the true state that God created them to be. This will entail setting up offices in most parts of our nation and partnering with other ministries with the same vision in Africa. It is not the will of God that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. The gays should not perish in Jesus name. God who started this shall surely accomplish it in Jesus name. Amen.”



The third Exodus Latinoamérica Conference will be held at Centro Cultural Chulavista, Campus Crusade for Christ's center in Cuernavaca, México (above and below).

Latin America

Exodus Latinoamérica will hold the third Exodus Latinoamérica Conference on September 29 to October 3, 2004 in Cuernavaca, México, “The City of Eternal Spring,” located two hours from Mexico City, at “Centro Cultural Chulavista,” Campus Crusade for Christ's center in Mexico.

The conference is called “**Love shall cover a multitude of sins**”, based on 1 Peter 4:8. The conference is held in Spanish with some of the topics also translated into English. Speakers at the conference will include Betty Van Engen - USA / Ecuador, Esly Carvalho – Brasil, Heisha Fernández - Puerto Rico, Marcos Vinicio – Guatemala, Nori Menéndez – Colombia, Olivia Corral – México, Oscar Galindo – México, Patricia Lawrence – Canada, Sy Rogers – USA, Tim Broach - Caribbean / USA.



There will be people from Central America and South America who want to come for help but cannot pay the conference fees. You can help these people come by providing scholarship money. To do this, send a check payable to Exodus Global Alliance to the Exodus Global Alliance offices in the USA or Canada. Include a note saying your gift is for Exodus Latinoamérica conference scholarships. Gifts from people living in the USA or Canada will receive a tax-deductible receipt.

news briefs

Values that guide us

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Everyone in Exodus Global Alliance is committed to values that guide what we do. One of those values says that we *foster spiritual development and victorious Christian living through accountability to local churches, Exodus leadership and fellow workers.*

Since Exodus' early days, many have understood the importance of accountability in the healing process of an individual's life. True healing and lasting change require deep honesty and accountability to

a person's counselor, support group and family. Long ago, Exodus also learned that accountability of member ministries to an Exodus regional office is also important to ensure the work of each member ministry fully supports God's work of true healing and lasting change. With the formation of Exodus Global Alliance, each region committed to the same kind of accountability to each other, and to the International Office and International Board. Past experience showed that an effective global ministry can not develop when each

region 'does what is right in their own eyes with out accountability to the rest of Exodus.' In Exodus Global Alliance, each region has made an explicit commitment to be accountable to the international leadership and to the other regions.

But it is important to understand that regional accountability does not take away a region's freedom. Each region is free to, and has the authority to, carry out the work of Exodus in their region. Accountability does not override freedom. Rather it means that freedom will be exercised with responsibility.

How Exodus deals with cultural differences is an example of how accountability and freedom work together. Exodus Global Alliance recognizes there are many cultural differences among our worldwide membership. Each region is free to — and has the authority to — carry out the work of Exodus in ways that are culturally relevant for that region. At the same time, each region has made an explicit commitment of accountability to the rest of Exodus that what they say and do will not alter the basic Exodus position that change from homosexuality is possible. In turn, the other regions abide by the Biblical directive not to judge each other over cultural differences. And everyone agrees that when cultures conflict with Biblical principles, then Biblical principles will prevail.

International Conference and Leadership Retreat

In 2005 Exodus Global Alliance will host two events:

Leadership Retreat: May 8-11 and the **International Conference: May 11-14**

Both events will be held in Toronto, Canada.

Leadership Retreat: For the first time in Exodus' history there will be retreat for all of the member ministry leaders. This retreat will bring ministry leaders from every region together to encourage, support and network with one another, and to receive training for ministry.

International Conference: Like the Exodus regional conferences, this conference invites everyone to learn about homosexuality, hear testimonies and join in worship and praise to our God who changes lives through Jesus Christ. Speakers at this conference will include Sy Rogers (USA), Darryl Foster (USA), Benji Devadason (Sri Lanka/Canada), Jenny Li (Taiwan), Carla Pinheiro (Brazil), Pat Lawrence (Canada) and others.

Exodus Global Alliance

A world-wide interdenominational, non-profit Christian organization that serves to:

- Educate and equip Christians and churches regarding the issue of homosexuality and the church's response.
- Proclaim the truth, both scriptural and clinical, in church and society that change from homosexuality is possible.
- Provide opportunities for people to serve as missionaries with Exodus' local ministries around the world or develop new ministries to homosexual people around the world that have no one to help them.
- Refer people to a network of qualified member ministries throughout the world providing counseling and support groups.

Exodus Global Alliance is a charitable organization made possible by your prayers and financial support. All contributions are tax-deductible; gifts are acknowledged and receipted with an annual official income tax receipt. Spending of funds is confined to board-approved programs and purchases. Gifts designated toward an approved program will be used as designated with the understanding that when any need has been met, designated gifts will be used where most needed.