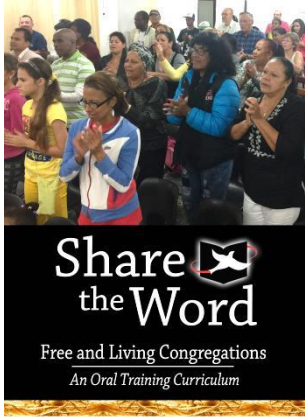


FREE AND LIVING



Dr. Kevin Olson

*"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness."
2 Timothy 3:16*

Luther's Small Catechism and the Fundamental Principles of the AFLC make up the content of the Free and Living Congregation book. These two publications are core values of who we are and what we believe. This new book will make these foundational documents available in an oral strategy. It seems fitting that this work is being done during the 500th Anniversary of the

Reformation. The World Missions Committee wants to use this curriculum as a supporting document for the planting of new congregations. It may also become a study tool for the greater body of Christ as well.

For the last several months this book has been a primary ministry focus. The rough draft will be completed by the end of May for review by the Ambassador Institute Board and the World Missions Committee. Here are the chapter contents of the book.

BELIEVER

1. Power of the Word
2. Study of the Word
3. Word as Law
4. Word as Gospel
5. God the Father
6. Jesus the Son
7. Holy Spirit
8. Worship
9. Prayer
10. Salvation
11. Baptism
12. Lord's Supper

ECUADOR



The Cross-Cultural Ministry class returned from their two weeks of ministry in April. They worked alongside of Pastor Darwin Paacha, Aletheia Bible School, and Paz de Dios church in Cuenca.

Their presentations emphasized the creation, the fall, and the redemption which they shared with three schools. There was a clear response to the gospel from the students at the schools and great friendships formed with their fellow Bible school students.

The 10 AFLBS students each stayed in individual host homes. The language barrier was initially a challenge, but they soon realized how much they could communicate when they tried. That experience was listed as their highlight from the time. All of students have an interest in further missions. One of them, Emily Olson, plans to return to Ecuador for her fourth time to assist with Aletheia Bible School this summer.

One topic from class emphasized that the world has come to the United States and there are opportunities to do cross cultural ministry where ever we live. These students are more prepared to see the world around them and to live as global Christians through this training.



THE AFLC FAMILY

Will you be at the Annual Conference or at the FLY Convention? These two big gatherings are a chance for our greater AFLC family to connect, get updates, and to encourage each other. We are also planning visits for the fall and would love to meet with you regardless of how many people there are. We need one another in this kingdom building process!

CUBA

Last July, Pastor Kevin received a call inviting him to share the Oral Training Strategy with a group of house churches in Cuba. The World Missions Committee approved an initial exploratory trip and now a second to better understand their doctrinal beliefs and their openness to Free Lutheran distinctives.



Cuba began to have some religious freedom after 1992 when the governmental leaders held a televised dialog with the church leaders and apologized for actions of the past. Since that time people have been having a great spiritual hunger. House churches have sprung up across the country because public gatherings are limited to 25 people at a time. The church in Cuba has gained a reputation that they are there to help people in need and people's lives have been transformed by faith in Jesus.

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CHURCH

13. Church Foundation
14. Church Invisible
15. Church Gathering
16. Church Orderliness
17. Church Revealed
18. Church Gifting
19. Church Unity
20. Church Cooperation
21. Church Discipleship
22. Church Discipline
23. Church Finances
24. Churches Mission

LEADER

25. The Character
26. The Selection
27. The Call
28. The Shepard
29. The Servant
30. The Sword
31. The Family
32. The Neighbors

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Thank you for your support and your prayers for the Ambassador Institute. We finished 2016 \$3124 above budget, but we have been falling 20% behind our budget these months. There are many good AFLC ministry needs, and we encourage your continued support of them. Please join us in prayer and consider a one-time gift to boost our support back into balance.

CUBA

On the 23rd of May, Pam and I will be going to Cuba. This will be my second exploratory trip to this formerly closed country. World Missions wants to know details about their doctrinal beliefs. There is a great spiritual hunger and the introduction to the training was much appreciated.

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2017-7



"You then, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus."
2 Timothy 2:1

Graduations are celebrations, even when there are only four graduates. Although there are only four, all four of them have high positions and they have all begun teaching other classes.

2016 had been a difficult year for the Ambassador Institute in Uganda. All seven of the ministry team members plus Nate and Rhoda had struggled enormously last year and the message of hope that they needed to hear was of the grace that is in Christ Jesus. Tracy said, "The problems that we have been facing cannot be solved by money. Only the message of hope in God's Word can offer us anything." In the midst of great personal struggles, the team helped lead the number of classes from four in January to 31 in April. There are 265 students represented in those 31 classes.

The team broke the classes into seven regions or zones. Each area has a team member in charge of it to oversee the work. Namyonjo David was added to the board because of Wanume Fred's year and a half long battle with family illnesses.



2017-8



"Endure hardship with us like a **good soldier of Christ Jesus**. No one serving as a soldier gets involved in civilian affairs-- he wants to please his commanding officer." 2 Timothy 2:3-4

Both Emmanuel and Dr. Annan Kumar are good soldiers for Christ Jesus. These two men are leading the two largest classes in India. Dr. Annan's class consists of business leaders and adults from the town of Baapatla. They meet three days a week for 2-3 hours rain or shine. He provides some type of snack for all of the students in his class at every meeting.

Emmanuel travels by train twice a month to reach Rajamundry. He leads an evening class on a roof top for two nights and then returns on a night train that next evening.

Anil is another good soldier for Christ Jesus. He has been the chairman of the Ambassador Institute in India. He started a class in his home congregation last November. He and his wife Monica have two girls.



WAYS TO PARTNER

- **LEARN:** Learn how to use an oral strategy in your congregation. Order a book of the curriculum. Do a Skype call with Pastor Kevin or a missionary.
- **PRAY:** Bring copies of monthly updates or prayer letters to your Bible Study group for intentional prayer. Send e-mails asking for updates.
- **SEND:** Support a trip to one these countries. Support someone going long term or short-term. Support a project within the country.
- **GO:** Go along on one of Pastor Kevin's trips or join a team with Journey Missions. Sign up as a short-term assistant for three to nine months.
- **MOBILIZE:** Plant the vision of doing international ministry into the heart of someone from your own circle of influence. Start an oral training class.
- **WELCOME:** Invite people from other cultures to your home for a meal and share life with them.



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UGANDA MISSIONARIES

Brent and Emily Raan have recently accepted an invitation by World Missions to serve in Uganda. They are planning to move in September. They will start working in Jinja with the Ambassador Institute Board and will be considering the greater World Mission ministry of planting churches as well.



Micah and Famke Berger are home on furlough through December. They are looking to raise their support and return to the remote far north eastern corner of Uganda in the town of Karenga. They have been learning the language of Karamajong and building relationships with the leaders of the area. They are hoping to start an Ambassador Institute class in that area when they return next January.

Nate and Rhoda Jore moved into their new home last November. They have come through several challenges since then including multiple cases of Malaria, getting a work permit to stay in Uganda, getting the Ambassador Institute back to full health, and mentoring teachers who are leading the second generation of Romans classes. They are hoping to focus on starting house churches in this next season of ministry.



*"Entrust to reliable men
who will then be qualified to teach others."*

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