

GoStrategic (2015-16): Expansion, Depth, Influence

If I profess with the loudest voice and clearest exposition every portion of the truth of God except precisely that little point which the world and the devil are at the moment attacking, I am not confessing Christ, however boldly I may be professing Christ. Where the battle rages, there the loyalty of the soldier is proven and to be steady on all the battlefield besides, is merely flight and disgrace if he flinches at that point. – Martin Luther

GoStrategic continues to expand both its reach and its influence. This current year saw a number of significant advances in terms of branding, product expansion and increase in our schools both domestically and internationally. Beyond this, the world at large continues to suffer crisis after crisis, much of it related to what we specialize in, namely, highlighting worldviews that align with scripture and brings life or that do not align with God's worldview and brings chaos. Therefore, due to our increased influence we must continue to build more comprehensively so this year-end strategic presentation is for the next two years and beyond.

GoStrategic North America: A Critical Moment for Us All

"...of the sons of Issachar who had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do..." 1 Chronicles 12:32

The United States of America may well be in her darkest hour. Our culture is declining on multiple levels as anyone connected to our perspective and calling recognizes. Our best hope is found in God's most informed leaders coming together and divinely leveraging their influence with strategic actions that produce answers and models. They can't just be "the right answers and the right models"; they must be the right answers for the right questions and the right models for the first-priority issues able to be fixed. We need "bull's eye" answers and models that will prepare us for needed future challenges allowing us to contribute to the needs of the nations.

Social movements occur when a core number of people in a culture are "soaked in the gasoline" of significant causes or injustices and the right people come along with a match to ignite them. This is why we have hope; we see millions of our citizens "soaked" in pent-up frustration awaiting something to define their discomfort and point to a plan that will give them leveraged action that can move the unmovable. Being relevant "salt and light" is the real game.

Follow Your Blockers (A Football Analogy)

Many believe that the time period between now and the 2016 November elections may well be the most important twenty-two months in the last century. What makes them so defining is the issue of how our current social issues will be framed and voted on. These core issues are our nation's "blockers", our attention getters, the definers of our primary social dialogue and the cutting edge of our social commentators, politicians and influence groups. More than that they will likely be the very "little points" that Martin Luther's most famous quote shared above speaks to. They are not simply the defining of our nation's future but the truly transcendent issues The Holy Spirit wants to use His people to both mobilize and define God's universal issues for our own

nation and the nations of the world watching us. Perhaps the church can once again help shape nations and influence the world. Do you believe that is even possible? We do.

We are intending to follow these “blocker” issues, these critical concepts the “fish are feeding on”, (Matthew 4:19) and focus our GoStrategic efforts, product productions and marketing around these issues. We are consolidating and focusing upon mobilizing our students, consulting services and general influence on what we feel are precisely the points that God is touching prophetically in this time. We don’t see this as a risk but a “no-brainer”. Relevance demands no less.

Our efforts will be prophetic not “political” as we stand above parties, and personalities as servants of His Kingdom. We desire to model our decades plus motto of “igniting personal and social transformation”. Over the next two years we are better positioned to influence considerably more people; all we need is more fuel. Our access to multiple thousands of people and leaders, coupled with our product base and networks of relational infrastructure are in place to make this happen. The opportunities of this past year continue to confirm God’s growing influence of GoStrategic through the combination of your giving and our going.

Educating the Faith-Based Community and the “Resident Aliens” As Well

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet that was cast into the sea and gathered some of every kind, which, when it was full, they drew to shore; and they sat down and gathered the good into vessels, but threw the bad away. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come forth, separate the wicked from among the just, and cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth.” Matthew 13:47-59

Those of you who have read my latest book “On The Destiny Of Nations: Resolving The Current Economic Crisis” will remember me discussing the above scripture relative to the role of “resident aliens” in Israel, God’s Kingdom and the shaping of public policy consensus in a democracy (Chapter 3: p.32-5). As we have been saying in our worldview materials for decades, the church must learn Biblical worldview deeply enough to “translate” it verbally into the secular language of the day. We are now in the process of doing just that for the Kingdom’s “resident aliens” who are responsive to truth in principle, but have not yet responded to Christ in terms of salvation. Attached is the material I am currently using to illustrate this essential communications skill.

So here is the list of projects we are now embarking on in North America all of which are designed, in concert with other strategic allies, to seriously impact both the churches social conversation as well as the secular conversation. The secularists by the way are very aware that any significant increase in the religious communities voting activities is a potential game-changer relative to political party election results, especially since only slight more than 50% of stated evangelicals are registered to vote and less than thirty percent of those registered voted in the last general election.

Our Current and Projected Education Commitments

1. Address some 400 global church leaders in a late year meeting in Dallas on how to “disciple nations” using Biblical concepts translated into secular principles (recruiting for our SLT/BLS schools).
2. Create and release, on our Statesmen Project website, Citizen Education materials unlike anything we are globally aware of. Out of this material we are creating 8 to 12 week discussion group materials to be used in small groups in neighborhood studies, church programs, Christian and home school education and business discussion groups. We also plan to create Podcast releases for social media outlets.
3. We have been asked to create a seminar series for church and political activists who lead large network in three countries. This prototype seminar series is already designed and is based on many years of mobilization experience. Its potential effect here in North America could be ground-breaking. The process begins in the first half of 2015.
4. The April 15-18 Transforum in Santa Rosa will host, in addition to our SLT/BLS education focus our first Regional Statesmen Project convergence with multiple training sessions for ecclesia training, Citizen Education groups, Civil Officials-Private sector joint projects and network building. This is “boots on the ground stuff”, and we are expecting significant California and West Coast participation.
5. Prototype Policy Symposiums in both the U.S. and Canada, including the development of “Town Hall” discussions designed to shape the public election debates. Our lineup of potential speakers is impressive.
6. Promote ongoing related networking and marketing through new access to channels developed with church leaders and the expansion of new mailing lists still coming on line.
7. The “City Action Council” products are being re-worked as are other past materials for re-issuance. We have new potential users unaware of the extensive materials GoStrategic already offers. Education-marketing budgets must be significantly increased to reach these growing contact sources.
8. The Statesmen Project has completed Phase One. Over the last three years we have built a significant website with extensive potential uses ([the statesmenproject.org](http://thestatesmenproject.org)), multiple Focus Group leadership teams and forty plus pages of in-process documents available to the “interested public” of citizens looking for practical engagement in both local and national policy and service issues. Please check these carefully constructed materials on the above website.
9. Beyond all this is an almost daily set of new connections coming to us as the “grapevine” continues to lead us to other likeminded leaders who are discovering us as we discover them.

GoStrategic International

As all of the above energy increases, so does our social reputation internationally. Our schools continue to expand into new venues and other languages. Unfortunately, our student expansion has outrun some of our infra-structure and we are finding groups of students using our materials in Third World nations we knew nothing about! That's great but we need to help them help themselves. In developing countries we collect nothing beyond their own nation's school's fees which stays there.

As many of you know BLS has engaged Asia and we had our first Asian Transforum this last July with participants from multiple Asian nations. Longtime S.C.S. leaders Bruce Billington and Gerald Chester taught there with me as well as Terry Moore and other gifted Course Facilitators from BLS schools. As a result we took on board 100 new students which has stretched us to the maximum! Nevertheless, we are advancing the foundations for a significant impact in Singapore, China, Malaysia and Indonesia. Currently, by the time you may be reading this a number of us will have gone back to Singapore for more training sessions with them.

One of our immediate goals is to put more initial capital into the development of the oversight of our international school operations. Up to this point Katherine Gallagher has been the Director of International School Management alone, and we have recently asked long-time GoStrategic Board member Bruce Billington from Upper Hutt, New Zealand to take the new position of Director of International School Relations. Working together they are accelerating our process of further engaging and aiding our national overseers of our schools in Mexico, Central and South America, Europe, Africa, Australia and Asia. It is exciting and will take our student capacities to new levels.

Strengthening GoStrategic International Offices & Legacy Materials

In addition to being a centering point for GoStrategic activities, our offices continue to field requests for materials, connecting with Dennis and our schools. We maintain an active social media presence on Facebook, have recently joined LinkedIn and with our newly updated websites are able to keep fresh our presence on the web. We continue to actively improve our systems as technology and communications change as well as update our materials. We are almost complete with the digitalization of our audio library, preserving classic teachings from our early years. We have also recently updated the book *Winning the Battle* for a new generation- the truth remains the same but the popular culture references and statistics needed to be updated. We have a new DVD series on business to release in the coming weeks along with a new devotional book in the spring.

We are very grateful for what The Holy Spirit allowed us to accomplish so far this year; we are well aware of the pace required to do it. We are also very grateful for the prayers, encouragement and finance so many of you shared with us to make this all possible. Once again, thank you.

This next year and beyond presents huge challenges to us as a nation, and beyond. Yet, we believe God has given us three words to proceed behind as we go into it...Expansion, Depth, Influence. Stand with us again as we continue to press towards all these words coming to pass through us both as a team.