Abstract

The work of the kingdom of God is not intended only for the older or the more experienced generation. Neither it is bound to walls and structural institutions. We are in fact the current generation that will be the foundation of the church and the kingdom work. If we faithfully follow the teaching of our Lord Jesus Christ, and then teach others in our communities, we will see our world transform. “How?” You might say? Because, the world wants to see a genuine, realistic person with zeal; the kind of people that are willing to put everything on the line for others to live. In OMC (Overseas Ministry Conference/TPM) 2018, we want to equip students and young professionals to be faithful disciple makers, with a solid motivation that is grounded on love for Jesus our Lord and the zeal of the cross. A passion that is courageous and creative, and ready to commit for the work of the kingdom. We hope to help attendees to learn to execute in excellence, make disciples of people and space, and be God’s faithful servants.

Above all of the ways of how discipleship is carried out, discipleship is motivated in sacrificial love reflecting the love of Jesus Christ himself. Thus, Jesus’ way of discipleship is about caring and teaching his disciples, and living life together walking through day by day with his disciples.
From FICA’s experience, we have learned that the most prominent indicator of successful project is the existence of discipleship. OMC 2018 will continue to build on the lesson learned on entrepreneurship in OMC 2017. If a project can recruit a disciple, the project will not only bear financial fruit, but also create a sustainable long term impact in the community, thus create the opportunity for the gospel to penetrate in and empower the community, even the most insular and hostile ones. We know that American-trained students/professionals have huge capabilities; FICA dreams to see enterprises sprouting from OMC, that transforms a local Indonesian community while also doing business in the global arena.

Beyond learning and improving from the 2017 projects and experiences, we will also learn how to be a disciple makers in our enterprises. Disciple-making starts now. We cannot wait until we finish schools to train and develop this identity. It is not intended to be outsourced to someone in Indonesia. We must start and be disciple makers that impact our communities. We would like to invite you especially to celebrate and reflect on 25th anniversary of God’s faithfulness in TPM through stirring up one another’s thoughts and discussions spurred with love and prayers for our beloved country, Indonesia. So first, we would like to invite you to pray with us so God will give us the identity of disciple makers and that God would raise up his servants to carry through FICA in the many years to come. Would you, our precious brothers and sisters in Christ, come and join us in OMC this year?

Joshua Budi (Joey)
TPM Director 2018, on behalf of FICA team

Leonard Winardi
President of FICA
Theme rationale

The work of the kingdom of God is not intended only for the older or the more experienced generation. Neither it is bound to walls and structural institutions. We are in fact the next generation that will be the foundation of the church and the kingdom work. There is however a 15% decline of millennial Christians in America just between 2007 to 2014 who do not perceive themselves as a Christian which translates to their value of engaging in a church (Pew Research Center, 2015). Similarly, we can predict that a similar trend is happening in the younger generation of Indonesian Christians. Millennials fail to see the purpose of their life as followers of Jesus, and the meaning of going on a mission as a body of Christ. Many only participate in Sunday service as a mere religious practice and undermine the calling to make disciples of all nations.

Faithful discipleship is both the cure and the fuel to the young Christian identity crisis. When discipleship is not intentional, one is prone to fail to see the glory of the grace of Jesus Christ. At a glance, Christianity can look like the radical, unfair, self-righteous sect of people with a lot of religious rules and practices. The “free-thinking” of our generation is quick to judge and prefers to conform to the principles seem to be more sensible to ourselves. Furthermore, the extremes of these results in unreasonable and unhealthy political fights. It is why through discipleship, as one walks together and sharing lives together, people can learn from one another the important values lived out by the mature for the disciples to imitate and resulted in a strong identity that is grounded solely in the grace of Jesus Christ.

On the other hand, we also know that this generation is the new generation that has the capability to bring about change and social justice in the public space. They are thinking out of the box of the organizational structures of church, corporation, or others. We see social enterprises dedicated to poverty alleviation, social justice, gender equality, environmental justice, and many more, sprung up everywhere.

This kind of altruistic behavior however, often is not equipped with a gospel-centered purpose that could have unfolded to become an enterprise that is truly for the kingdom of God. The key element to the success of a kingdomly enterprise is the habit of discipleship. The fact is, every Christians who call themselves disciples of Jesus are called to go and make disciples (Matthew 28:19-20). Making disciples is not just the business of pastors and elders, but all Christians’. Jesus said “Go” and “make disciples”, which means that it is supposed to be a part of our daily lifestyle and motives, even in the context of our life outside of our church community.

Discipleship can be costly to our time and productivity but it will truly teach one to be humble and faithful. God commands his disciples to be stewards of his creation (Gen 1:26-28) and his grace (Titus 2:13-14), thus motivates us to do good works. Unfortunately, too often young people are not included in this process and they fail to learn from the more experienced peers or that the older peers do not trust the minds and new thinkings of the new generation. Colleges,
business schools, seminary do not really teach students how to do this. Admittedly, this is probably the most challenging process of ensuring a sustainable enterprise.

**Elements of Faithfulness**
Areas of poverty, underdeveloped, and unreached by the gospel are some of the very challenging places that God has called us (FICA) to set our eyes to. We desire to partake in God’s work of redemption of **people** and **places** such as described above, for example the land of Papua. An effective discipleship ought to be long-lasting and raises impactful disciples to the broader community. However, we do realize that this will require our unprecedented faithfulness and obedience, somewhat alike to the way God called Abraham to go and leave the comfort of his home without any sufficient clarity besides the Lord’s covenant with him to protect him. We can rejoice that God’s providence is iminent in Abraham’s life until he reaches the land that God has promised him in Canaan.

Faithfulness means having the courage and **boldness to create**. Indonesian students who study overseas tend to lack the confidence and courage to overcome barriers when encountering new culture, risks to create something new such as an entrepreneur would. Our communal culture (Indonesian) often discourage people’s dreams of becoming different in the society that require taking up risks to our safety and economical security. In the Bible, God called Moses to courageously confront Pharaoh, who was one of the most powerful man on earth at that time, even when Moses thinks that he does not have the courage and capabilities to the job, but God only said that God will be with him throughout. It took Moses leaving his palace of comfort of the Egyptian palace to go and lead his people in the wilderness while consistently calling the people of Israel out to remain faithful to God. God wants us to learn to have the **courage to execute** by trusting God when we do not even know how to.

Furthermore, faithfulness also means **withstanding the persecution** that might arise upon us, specifically persecution due to our faith in Jesus Christ. We need to be prepared when the very persecution comes around by setting our grounds firm in the grace of God (Hebrews 11). “Therefore let those who suffer according to God’s will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good.” (1 Peter 4:19). God has called us to remain unceasing in good works even in the midst of persecution. In a place like Indonesia, persecution comes not only from religious and racial intolerance towards the minority. The highly competitive atmosphere of Jakarta creates temptations to chase materialistic gain and attitude of ungratefulness.

Faithfulness finally also means **patience and waiting for God** to act in our works through our life circumstances in prayer and obedience. God teaches us to be disciplined so that we can run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the founder and perfecter of our faith (Hebrews 12:1-2).
Indonesia - most recent context

Religious intolerance

In the past year, religious and ethnic intolerance has become one of our nation’s main issue which caused a lot of anxiety among Indonesian Christians and other minority religions alike. We can be sure that recently, radicalism due to strong propensity to tribalism behavior is rising up and gaining traction in Indonesia, most evidently as we saw Ahok unfairly convicted to the jail and charged with blasphemy and rise of terrorism and radicalism from the church bombings in May 2018. Basic moral standards of truth, justice, and merit were thrown out of the window. People blindly defend their tribes’ sake (religions, race, ethnicity, etc) and get into unnecessary fights, rallies, argumentations and cause them to feel insecure.

In the years to come, we have to bear with the outlook that religious intolerance in Indonesia becoming even more hostile to the gospel and minority groups. Hence, we are left to two options: to escape and ignore this situation or to labor in love and become a light in the darkness, that is, the gospel hope to our nation. We need to be ready even when we are literally confronted in front of our face about our faith. In order to have a confidence in doing so, it is so important to make our faith true and tested and put down our roots deep in the hope of Jesus Christ.

Demographic bonus (Bonus Demografi)

In TPM 2016, we unpacked another reality that Indonesia is going to gain “Bonus Demografi” in 2035 of which we will have a huge surplus of working-class age in the country as a whole (BPS UGM, 2015). This is a momentum that can either be utilized as means for rapid economic growth, or the opposite extreme: widespread of joblessness that quickly can cause poverty and social unrest. For this very reason, we need to equip ourselves to consider a kingdomly-vision entrepreneurship as a personal vocation that can directly cause economic development and poverty alleviation, as well as an indirect medium for carrying the gospel message to some of these challenging places.

Looking at the global context - Importance of timing

All these changes in the society is happening in a rate that is higher than ever that is simultaneously observed in technology, economy, businesses, market, and the sociological structures. Globalization in particular has made us extremely more connected, allowing easier access to move beyond borders as well. In a lifetime, we see countries transform: China and India are rising to the world’s economy powerhouse, creating pressure to the developed western countries. Nothing really stays for a long time anymore. For us, it is becoming even more crucial to understand the timing of our actions, which leads to the ability to make decisions according to the momentary status quo.

Looking at the global context - Increased exposure to global media and education

There is no doubt that the advent of the recent technological development has brought a stark increase in access to the digital media globally. Not only that, but in the recent years, Indonesian government have also sent tens of thousands of scholars to experience advanced
education abroad in world’s top universities, one example is the LPDP program of the Kementrian Keuangan RI. These events combined have thoroughly exposed Indonesians to the western culture and ideas. The next big task then is for us as people of God to be a salt in the dark and help them discern the knowledge and culture that they learned to be mended to be redemptive agents of Christ. This accelerated improvement of knowledge is crucial to be rooted in the Truth as we have seen in the past that foreign education also have a potential to breed political movements that is not just and righteous.

Looking at the global context - Socioeconomic inequality in the rural areas of Indonesia
On the other hand, we also know that at the same time, the rural areas of Indonesia has not quite kept up with such modern advances that the cities and digital technology has and will accomplish. Fortunately, portable digital technology has made information sharing possible even between different places on the globe. Nevertheless, the presence of a real person can never wholly be replaced by technology. An intentional, loving, individual who can establish a more tangible connection, movement of products, and most importantly the gospel of Jesus Christ.

We believe that the prerequisite to identifying our identity and running our race according to God’s calling is being available to execute the risky decisions that it might require out of ourselves. It is ranging from deviation from family or cultural expectations, the normal pattern of career tracks, and many others. God demands us to be ready to innovate and become a pioneer; stepping out and executing even in a moment notice. We see how God moves through Moses’ leadership, delivering Israel on exodus out of Egypt on the night of Passover, after being enslaved for 430 years. He asked the people of Israel to be ready in a moment notice, asking them to eat their last meal in Egypt with their belt and sandals on and not allowing time even for their dough to be leavened (Exodus 12:33). Similarly with how God led David with God’s might, and just 200 men of Issachar who had understanding of time and knows what Israel ought to do, God used a small number of people who has a high awareness of time efficiently (1 Chronicles 12:33).

Worldview and motivation
Nation building and application of knowledge very often will find a roadblock. We ought to leverage our potential which are mainly knowledge and experience from living the US to make an impact in Indonesia. However, the system of a particular newest research advances that we did or learn about is just not set up yet. Thus it is extremely important for us to be equipped with a mentality/mindset of an entrepreneur to make this happen. Even Jusuf Kalla, Indonesia’s current Vice President encourage scholars who are foreign trained to not come home and work as Pegawai Negeri Sipil (PNS) (Tempo 2017) so that they won’t get stuck in the current system that badly needs reinvigorating and change. The fight against sin will be great as we walk in the darkness, fighting against the temptation of corruption, thus we need to be prepared. After this stage is accomplished, and when we have a good system foundations, then we can start thinking about applying our advanced skill-set/knowledge in a developing country such as Indonesia.
More on TPM 2018

In TPM 2017, we also have learned how to engage in economic development through creation of enterprise in the context of rural area, practically by coming up with business proposals. We learned however, carrying on with these business proposals are not an easy task; it requires an extraordinary persistence and faithfulness with a deeply ingrained conviction that can motivate us to keep going.

In TPM 2018, we would like to equip students and young professionals with a solid motivation that is grounded on love for Jesus our Lord and the zeal of the cross. A passion that is courageous and creative, and ready to commit for the work of the kingdom. We hope to help attendees to learn to execute in excellence, make disciples of people and space, and be God’s faithful servants.

When God created the world, on each day of his work, he ended each one by calling it was good. Our God is a creative God and he finds pleasure in the beauty and the art of his workmanship. A Kingdomly entrepreneurship is also a way of worship to our Creator. To be clear, an enterprise here does not always mean a tangible-product-based kind of enterprise. A just and virtuous enterprise which cares for all the stakeholders, from the inner leadership, consumers, even to the sustainability of the community and the physical environment, is one kind of an enterprise that will truly glorify God. It shall create a quality product or service that enable the consumers to enjoy his creation and worship the only true Maker.

Discipleship also reflects the love and care of Jesus Christ. In his short time of ministry, Jesus walked alongside his disciples and teach them his ways patiently and lovingly despite the attitude and the varying backgrounds of his disciples. It gives us the opportunity to

We are specifically going to focus our work and conversation in the context of Papua. It is because in the last few years, God has opened us doors to both connect with people who have began God’s ministry in Papua as well as meeting many Papuan students in our recent TPM 2017. We believe that it is not a coincidence that God has led us this far with such a vision and knowledge about Papua, a place that desperately needs the gospel and restoration of place, people, and souls.

A Missional Vocation

We as Christians need to live by faith daily as we encounter the different circumstances that God has put in front of us. As we discern our own vocations that God has called us to do, it is so important to be humble and faithful; it is only the knowledge of grace that can cause us to turn away from sin and be his faithful servant.

By the grace of God, we have been saved through Jesus Christ. The grace is free but it is not cheap. This realization should motivate us to be zealous in good works (Titus 2:13-14). Because by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life (Titus 3:4).
Our main vocation is to be servants of Jesus Christ as it is laid out in the Great Commission, “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you”. He has shown the very example of missions, that while we were still sinners, Christ himself, by coming down from heaven, pursue us whom so undeserving of his grace (Romans 5:8). This fact gives us all the reasons to go to the dark places and serve him and his people. Paul has invited us: “Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others” (Philippians 2:4), and so we go forth to the dark places, to labor in love, and to serve his people, even if it means to the most challenging places, people, or situation.

Invitation

God’s amazing providence has been very evident through the years as we remember 25 years of FICA’s ministry through TPM. We would like to remember God’s grace and faithfulness that rings true to us and commemorate this year’s TPM especially to the alumni who have carried this organization through together. We would like to especially invite warriors of faith as we reminisce and reflect together God’s work through us together as we pray that God will continue to deliver us in the many years to come. We would like to specifically spend time on reflecting the stories of TPM/FICA Alumni who are already in their journey encountering the many challenges on the ground.

TPM 2018 SPEAKERS

Billy Mambrasar  
**CEO Kitong Bisa**

Gracia Billy Mambrasar is a trained engineer, who is also a social entrepreneur and an education activist. He has been serving in a ministry through a social enterprise since 2009, together with 38 people all across Indonesia called Kitong Bisa ([www.kitongbisa.com](http://www.kitongbisa.com)). Kitong Bisa aims to provide the underprivileged population the English and entrepreneurial education, through informal learning centres. The kids are trained since they were in elementary and once the kids grow up, they create products which will be sold through kitong bisa’s e-commerce platform to wider market in Indonesia and overseas. Kitong Bisa then shares the profit with the incubated entrepreneurs. This ministry has trained for more than 500 low income students in Indonesia, including under-represented group of people such as female.

Billy has received various awards: from the professional fellows from the USA department in Washington DC, Alumnus of The Year Vice Chancellor Commendation from the Australian National University, World Islamic economic forum fellow of Indonesia in Singapore, and Indonesia representative in United Nations Youth Assembly in 2016 in UN Headquarter in New York USA. Billy is currently a student in Oxford University UK, pursuing Master of Science in Business. Billy has been actively involved in the church activities, starting from leading his church Adventist youth, the president of Bandung Adventist student association when he studied in ITB, and actively speaks in different Christian youth events to motivate Christian students to be a servant of God by maximizing their talents to help other people.

Dr. Bob Osburn, PhD  
**Executive Director, Wilberforce Academy**

Bob Osburn has a PhD in international education from the University of Minnesota (2005), where he also was an adjunct lecturer for seven years in the Department of Organizational Leadership, Policy, and Development. In 1978 he earned his ThM in Christian education at Dallas Theological Seminary, after earning a BA from the University of Michigan (1973). He has spent 32 years serving in international student and academic ministry at the University of Minnesota, and successfully launched the 1998 World View for World Healing Conference that challenged international students to engage the deepest needs of their societies on the basis of a Christian worldview. He is the founder of Wilberforce Academy ([www.wilberforceacademy.org](http://www.wilberforceacademy.org)). He has been married to Susan for 42 years, and is the father of four sons.