

“I MUST VISIT ROME ALSO”

Acts 19:1-22

Key Verse: 19:21 “After all this had happened, Paul decided to go to Jerusalem, passing through Macedonia and Achaia. ‘After I have been there,’ he said, ‘I must visit Rome also.’”

Thank God for blessing us to have 5th GLEF. Do you know what GLEF stands for? GLEF stands for Global Leadership Empowerment Forum. As GLEF stands for, the purpose of GLEF is to raise up the next generation leaders who can carry on preaching the gospel of Jesus not only to the end of the world, but until Jesus comes again.

God enabled us to organize GLEF from Summer 2018 under the leadership of Dr. Peter Chang and Late Dr. Paul Chung. It is good for us to remind of 5 years history of GLEF to acknowledge that GLEF is God’s work of Holy Spirit for saving many lives in this generation and until Jesus comes again.

	When	Title & Key Verse	Where/How	Event
1 st	July 24-Aug 6, 2018	“You will be my witnesses” (Acts 1:8)	Princeton, New Jersey	Under leadership of Dr. Peter Chang & late Dr. Paul Chung Sonesta Princeton, 510 Hamilton on construction, KBG Global
2 nd	July 29-Aug 7, 2019	“A Kingdom of Priests” (Exodus 19:5,6)	Bonn, Germany	2019 European Conference 510 Hamilton CO Great Persecution started KBG Europe Dr Peter Chang’s succession to Peter Schweitzer
3 rd	Aug 3-Aug 10, 2020	“Let us start rebuilding” (Nehemiah 2:17-18)	New Brunswick Bonn, Germany	Covid 19
4 th	Aug 2-Aug 9, 2021	Jesus’ spiritual authority (Mark 10:45)	New Brunswick Bonn, Germany	Covid 19 Dr. Paul Chung to Heaven
5 th	Aug 1-Aug 8, 2022	Let us fix our eyes on Jesus (Heb 12:1-3)	New Brunswick Bonn, Germany	Covid 19 510 Hamilton Stabilized as GLEF

I want to study today’s passage with three topics. First, The importance of raising up the global leaders, equipped with the Holy Spirit. Second, The methodology of raising up the global leaders. Third, The vision and dreams of the global leaders.

First, The importance of raising up the global leaders, equipped with the Holy Spirit. (1-7)

Paul began his third missionary journey by going through Galatia and Phrygia, strengthening the disciples (18:23). Here, the disciples mean “global leaders.” On his first and second journeys, he mostly did mass evangelism; he did not pay attention to discipleship training. But on his third journey he makes a great effort to train disciples. From his third journey of mission, Paul realized the importance of raising up disciples for saving many lives more effectively and productively and from generation to generation. For this reason of raising up global leaders, Paul made a vow by shaving his head at Cenchrea (18:18c). He did not shave his head to become a Buddha monk, but to train disciples. Msn. Peter Kim made his decision to be the full time missionary in 2018 when God started GLEF ministry. He did not shave his head to train disciples, but he made his tremendous effort to raise up global leaders, coworking with M. Dr. Peter Chang

and Late Dr. Paul Chung. M. Peter Kim is the man of having a clear focus. He is quite and slow. But he has a clear focus. However, it is not easy for anybody to focus on training disciples for 5 years and many years to come. Rather, many dream of having mass evangelism or enjoy of participating in mega church. Many people do not want to hear the word "training to be disciples." But thank God for M. Peter Kim's decision to focus on the ministry of training disciples and raising up many global leaders through GLEF.

At Ephesus there was a man named Apollos, a brilliant and eloquent scholar of Alexandria. He spoke with great fervor about Jesus, accurately. But his message was incomplete because he knew of the baptism of John the Baptist but not about the Holy Spirit. He mainly taught the baptism of repentance but not the grace of Jesus Christ or the help of the Holy Spirit.

While Apollos was at Corinth, Paul came to Ephesus. (1) When Paul arrived in Ephesus, he found some disciples and asked them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" They answered, "No, only John's baptism." Even though Paul found some disciples of Jesus, they did not know about the Holy Spirit. They only knew John's baptism. It seems like they were taught and trained under Apollos. So Priscilla and Aquila, who had joined Paul at Corinth, invited Apollos to their home and explained the way of God more adequately (24-26). As a result, Apollos was able to prove from the Scriptures that Jesus is the Christ (27,28). To the disciples, Paul also explained that John's baptism was a baptism of repentance, but the baptism of Jesus is the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

What happened when Paul explained about Jesus who gives the baptism of the Holy Spirit? Look at verse 5. "On hearing this, they were baptized into the name of the Lord Jesus." A miracle happened. It was a great work of God that the disciples who only knew about the baptism of repentance received the baptism of Jesus which is the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Is it a miracle? Yes, it is a miraculous work of God. I was born as a third generation of Christian. Even though I knew about Jesus from my mother's womb, my spirit was always sorrowful and was full of complaining about everything. My spirit was like that of the beggar. I was a slave of my petty desires for grabbing something in my hand, and was a slave of my love – love for recognition, love for woman and love for money and fame. I could not see beyond my noses. However, from my freshman in college, God called me to study the Bible in UBF, along with M. Joseph Lee Sr and M. Rebecca Lee since 1980. Through Bible study, I learned about the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit came upon me. Then, all my complaining spirit and sorrow disappeared completely and the Holy Spirit has led me to think about how and what to give and eat a lot with all. I have been controlled by one word of Jesus, "You give them something to eat." Romans 8:6 says, "The mind of sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace." The Holy Spirit can set our mind completely free to think of God and his kingdom. The Holy Spirit drives out fear from our hearts, fills us with God's love and makes us really strong (Ro 8:15).

Through 5th GLEF, we must study the work of the Holy Spirit as a part of discipleship training. These days many preachers do not teach the meaning of Jesus' suffering, death and resurrection. They also do not teach the giving spirit of Jesus. Rather, many preach welfare Christianity based on the spirit of pragmatism and many other good things. But we must know that Christianity is not a philosophy of Esau. As the main essence of global leadership discipleship, we must teach people the work of the Holy Spirit, and that Jesus is Christ the Lord.

Second, The methodology of raising up the global leaders (8-20).

Paul entered the synagogue. The twelve men he had baptized followed him. Paul spoke boldly in the synagogue, arguing persuasively about the kingdom of God (8). The theme of his three-month lecture was the kingdom of God. Our theme in Bible teaching should be the kingdom of God. However, some Ephesians refused to believe the message of kingdom of God since they wanted to hear about how to make a lot of money which make them be extremely interested. Not only that they refused to believe, but also, they publicly maligned the Way.

What did Paul decide to do with Ephesians who refused to listen? (9) Then Paul left them. Look at verse 9c. “He took the disciples with him and had discussions daily in the lecture hall of Tyrannus.” There he talked about Jesus and the Holy Spirit. He also planted the hope of the kingdom of God for two years again and again. Here we learn that Paul is the founder of GLEF. For two years, in the lecture hall of Tyrannus, Paul developed the inductive and intensive Bible study of planting one word of God in the hearts of many disciples with Holy Spirit until every disciple accepted one word of God into their hearts. Do you have one word of God planted in your heart? During Covid last three years, Garry Sams has texted me saying “Good morning!” around 4 am to 5 am all most everyday except Sunday. Upon greeting each other, we talked about how to make money daily basis. Starting Jan 2022, Garry was hit hard with Covid and almost lost his life in emergency. I repented my sins of not trying to plant one word of God in his heart. I asked God in my prayer for him that God may give his life back to him so that I can have a chance to preach the word of God so that he can live for preaching the gospel. Now, I thank God for giving Garry his life back so that we have the worship service together, listening to the one of God.

Through his bible study for two years, Paul planted the vision with professionalism through which every disciple can be self-motivated Executive Bible teachers and who can see Paul’s spirit as their own asset for building up the foundation of their lives. The result was remarkable. All the Jews and Greeks who lived in the province of Asia heard the word of the Lord (10).

Third, the vision and dream of the global leaders (21-22). Look at verse 21. “After all this had happened, Paul decided to go to Jerusalem, passing through Macedonia and Achaia. “After I have been there,” he said, “I must visit Rome also.”

Paul is the global leader who had the vision of visiting Rome, not for tourism, but for preaching the gospel even in his chain. Paul is the greatest global leader who had the dream of raising up global leaders for the next generations. His single purpose of training disciples was to save many lives through the gospel of Jesus. When Paul had the vision of visiting Rome, God blessed him to execute his vision even in chain. Visiting Rome in chain looks miserable, but in fact, it is the safest way to visit Rome under God’s providence. Act 23:11 says, “The following night the Lord stood near Paul and said, “Take courage! As you have testified about me in Jerusalem, so you must also testify in Rome.”

When Mother Barry left for Korea who was divided and destroyed by civil war like Ukrain, she did not have a great vision for world mission. Then God led her to cwork with Dr. Samuel Lee. God blessed their ministry to transform Korea into a missionary-sending country. God led them to pioneer Germany, America, Canada, Russia, and many other nations. Now our UBF

ministry prays together to send out 100,000 missionaries by 2041. NJ UBF prays to participate in the vision of raising up 100,000 missionaries and bible teacher by raising up 7,000 bible teachers and missionaries along with 1500 house churches.

After succession of his ministry in Bonn UBF to Shep. Peter Schweitzer, Dr. Peter Chang prays to visit Turkey not for his tourism, but for raising up disciples. Thank God for Dr. Peter Chang's unending vision and dream of raising up global leaders. Under Dr. Peter Chang's vision and dream of raising up global leaders, God may save many lives in this generation and in the generation to come until Jesus comes again.

In Genesis, Joseph was sold to Egypt as a slave by his own brother. In Egypt, as a slave, he was misunderstood by his boss and was put into prison. However, God trained Joseph through many sufferings and difficulties to be a global leader who could see God's vision of saving many lives through him. He made a confession before his brothers, saying "You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives." (Genesis 50:20) Dr. Peter Chang who is going through a lot of misunderstandings and humiliations by his brothers in Christ may have the same confession like Joseph, saying "You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives."

In this passage we learn three points. First, The importance of raising up the global leaders, equipped with the Holy Spirit. God wants us to live the Christian life by the power of the Holy Spirit. When we ask, he gives the Holy Spirit to us. Second, The methodology of raising up the global leaders. Where there is devotion to the word of God and to disciple training, there will be a great work of God. Third, The vision and dreams of the global leaders. God's vision is for the evangelization of the whole world in our generation. We can have this great vision when we commit our lives to God's work. May God help each of us who are participating in 5th GLEF to focus on studying the Bible until all grow as global leaders like Paul in this generation.