



VOICE

Full Gospel Business Men's VOICE International



The Vision... is PEOPLE



Times Have Changed

It is time for powerful business people to reach their nation for Jesus Christ.

We live in a troubled world where millions of people are hurting. As we follow our Vision we must always remember that **"The Vision is The People"**.

Going out of the box... out of the ballrooms... To the businesses, factories, government, and universities. This is the calling for FGBMFI. It first began when I was deep in prayer and the Lord spoke to me... **"Praying for one person in every family in the nation."**

By being obedient to this command, it brought reality to the Vision that my father Demos had seen... millions of people being released from chains of bondage into the joy of a better life in Jesus Christ

Today around the world we celebrate with the tens of millions whose lives have been changed by Full Gospel Businessmen's Fellowship International.



The Vision... Is The People!

By Richard Shakarian
International President

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FULL GOSPEL BUSINESS MEN'S FELLOWSHIP INTERNATIONAL

**THE LARGEST CHRISTIAN BUSINESS
MEN'S ORGANIZATION IN THE WORLD!**

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WHO WE ARE

Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International consists of businessmen on every continent working in every aspect of the marketplace. Our Vision is that the light of Jesus shall shine forth from each of our men into every culture, nation, race, language, and creed. That vision is becoming a reality through the Fellowship's ministries, now touching 150 nations and transcending denominational, racial and cultural barriers. Men interested in participating in this exciting end-time ministry are invited to write to the address below.

TO OUR MEMBERS AND PARTNERS

If you are experiencing difficulty in receiving Voice, or if there is variance in the way your name appears, please return the undesired label. If you are getting ready to move, send a label with your new address sixty days in advance to the International Headquarters. If you have a testimony that will glorify GOD and bring others to JESUS through Voice, we would like to invite you to submit your story to the International Headquarters as well.

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Even When Everything is GONE... K O M O

I don't know what
would've happened
if I hadn't join in
FGBMFI 30 years ago.
It's all started when I
heard the testimony
of a Hong Kong
businessman about
how God took control
in his business. I used
to think that God
only works inside the
church;



ANTAKON

I didn't know that God also works in businesses. I used to also think that only priests can serve the Lord, so I followed many priests to wherever they go, just for the sake of taking a little bit of share in their ministry. But we are business people; we are supposed to follow God and not His ministers. I thought that this is the place where I should be at.

I have been working in the publishing business for 40 years. When we became a well-known company in Thailand, there are many other big companies that want to work with us, so we grow even more. I started licensing with an

international company; which was a shortcut to global business.

When you hold a license, you don't have to work so much, because the license provider will provide the tools and design. This became a problem later; the creativity of our company decreased since everything has been provided by the issuer of the license. Yes, this is a very big problem since creativity is a major factor in my business for winning the market.

In 1999, a tragedy occurred. My office and storage area were caught on fire, and I was trapped on the third floor with two employees from the accounting department.



My storage was full of paper, which definitely is the best media for fire, so all the exits were closed in no time. There was a balcony on the third floor, which was close to another building- however, the distance was still almost two meters away. And it's the only exit that we have. "God save us, save all the data in the computers, and don't let the fire spread to other buildings," I prayed in despair.

I don't know how we did it, but we were finally able to jump through the balcony to reach the other building, and I live to watch my building burned to ashes from up close. But my prayer was answered, we were all saved, the fire didn't spread to other buildings, even the data was saved after we checked it. But on the dark side, everything was gone- and I didn't have any insurance at all. But I managed to still lift my praise to God; I prayed and cried, "Even when everything is gone, with or without my business, I will still serve You Lord."

I had lost everything in that one unfortunate day. The only thing left for me was a greeting card license from Hallmark; which brought another problem instead of luck. I had to pay expensively for the cost of the license and I had no assets to sell, while the cost for the license on the past three years had been increasing. So, in order to pay the highly charged license, I had no choice but to sell everything that I had.

I questioned God, "What should

I do, Lord? The license is the only valuable thing left. If I let the license go, all my other competitors would be racing to get it and that would end my existence in the business." But God told me to let the license go and build my own brand from scratch. At that time, I still had another 6 months until the end of the contract, so I spoke to God, "Lord, at least wait until the end of the contract term, or wait until I get another contract before I let go of this one." I tried to bargain, but however God said no. He told me to do it right away. So, I released the contract and tried to make a new brand. And I felt God was really with this new business of mine; the sales were increased several times much more than my previous business. I even exported my own brand now. Last month, I held a meeting with all the leaders of the supermarket, and they told me that my sales were increased 300% from the previous years. It's all happen in just a couple of years.

It is really amazing to watch how God can change everything upside down. Today, I have becoming a leader in this business. Nonetheless, I never take this blessing for granted; I work whole-heartedly in every orders; avoiding reckless and arrogant attitude. We have to be a good example for our working community. We can't order others to do something if we don't want to do it ourselves.

Recently, I met my business partner, who apparently had been



injured in a work-related accident. His hand was crushed by a printing machine, almost shapeless. Doctor told him that it would take two months of operation to fully reconstruct his hand again; yet the procedure couldn't help the hand to function again. I heard God speaking to my heart, and so I asked him, "God wants to heal your hand and give this business to you, can I pray for you?" He agreed to do it; so, in the midst of many people among the 'open business meeting', I prayed for him. And I prayed so hard that everybody can hear it, I prayed loudly so that his crushed hands can hear it. In the beginning, there was no response. However, as soon as I shouted, 'in the name of Jesus, heal' I could see that his hand moved a little. As time passed by, his hand started to recover, until my partner healed perfectly.

I told him to go to the doctor again, and try to X-rayed his hands, just to see what the doctor would say. And so he did. The doctor was confused, since the result of the current X-ray and the previous one resembles two hands of totally different people. The previous one looked very badly injured, with all the cracks and bones all over the place, while the latter are intact and perfect as if nothing ever happened to it. Lord Jesus' works in our life are really amazing!

We will always face business challenges every day; but I believe we have spiritual solutions. My

sales manager is a prayer warrior. Whenever he sees a decrease in the number of sales, he would go around all the supermarkets which are displaying our products and pray for it. Miraculously, our sales number would increase in the next day. This habit makes the entire supermarket and store workers get used to it; in fact, they would ask him to pray for them for their problems and sicknesses whenever he came. His visits are always being expected. Moreover, one of our business competitors even came just to be prayed for by our sales manager for his sickness; apparently, he has heard stories from supermarket workers that they were healed by his prayers. And our competitor was also healed afterward.

Our competitors came up with so many innovations; they even copied our works. Yet their sales number is still way below us. They even held a special meeting on how to be able to defeat us. One question was raised in the midst of them: "What is it that they have and we don't?" And an answer was given: that we have Jesus working with us. It is true that God is the answer to all your questions. So now, come and bring all your burdens to Jesus, and He will become an answer to all your life's questions.

Komo Antakon is a leading businessman in publishing and serves as National President for FGBMFI Thailand and Regional Vice President for South East Asia.



Captivated by Christ



Dr. Saeed Hosseini

I was born in Tehran, Iran in 1960 into a Muslim family. My dream of coming to America was fulfilled when I landed on the shores of New York City in 1973.

I was here to visit my brother and as God would have it, I ended up staying and attending school in Lexington, Kentucky. I started college at the age of 15. Imagine a young boy among men. Needless to say I was enjoying a life of partying and experiencing what I thought was fun. With no supervision, I was free to experiment everything that came my way. College courses came very easy to me so without much effort I finished college with a B.A. in Computer Science with a minor in Business.

My last year of school I met my

wife, Cynthia and after three years of dating we married in 1979. At the time, I was still a Muslim and she was Mormon. We were the M & M couple as I like to refer to us. Growing up in Iran in a Muslim environment and also my father a successful businessman, I witnessed much that was totally confusing and contradictory. My father was a great businessman and also very involved with his religious group of men, much like Full Gospel Businessmen. Because of what I had seen growing up, at this point I stayed far away from religion and religious people.



It, frankly, turned my stomach.

My goal in life now was to be successful and make lots of money. After all, I was in America, Land of Opportunity. In 1980, I started to work part-time as a delivery driver for Domino's Pizza. When I discovered the company it was on a great expansion phase and opportunities of owning my own store really appealed to me. I joined the management team as a trainee, then manager and ultimately became supervisor for the area in Lexington, Kentucky.

In 1984, we moved to Highwood, Illinois, (a suburb of Chicago,) to pursue a dream of ownership and success by opening our first store. Success came quickly and overwhelming to the point where we were opening stores every three to six months to keep up with the growth. By 1986 I had to face a great challenge or dilemma in my life because my life success had already surpassed my 15 to 20 year goal I had set for myself. I found myself looking for happiness and contentment in more and more worldly possessions not realizing that they all left me even more dissatisfied and empty. Alcohol, drugs, cars, nothing was working; all was short-lived and temporary. Everything lost its glitter very quickly only to leave me emptier and more discontent than ever before. I found no peace, joy or happiness in anything I tried. Thoughts of suicide were very frequent in my mind.

One day in 1986 after talking

to my wife and contemplating separation and divorce, she suggested for us to try church since we had tried everything else and failed. What did we have to lose? All of the sudden the thought was appealing and not appalling as it was before. Never would I have set my foot in a church. As I said before, I was a Muslim. But now I was ready to try anything. God had been there all along and I didn't know it.

We walked into a small Assemblies of God church in Mundelein, Illinois. Wow! What I saw and felt was amazing! Never before did I feel a sense of love and peace as I did that day. I wanted what these folks had so bad that I was willing to pay for it at any cost. But God was extending His Grace to me for free. Grace was unknown to me because as a Muslim all your salvation is based on good works and even then it is never enough or at least you are not sure. So it took me months to learn this and accept it. The questions were many and the tug of war between my mind, heart and spirit had come to a point that it was unbearable. What do I do God? Show me Yourself! I need to know you are real!

On October 21, 1986, on that faithful day, a message in tongues proved to be my salvation and the answer to all my questions. I heard that day in my language, "Saeed, you ask if I'm real. I'm real. Take the next step and receive My Grace and I will show you much more." That day



I ran to the altar. Up to that point it felt as though my feet were chained to the pews, but not that day. I received Jesus and I was born all over spiritually and every other way. I now had hope because God made Himself real to me in one instant. Truly He came to seek and save a lost soul (Luke 19:10.) I found out later that my wife, Cynthia, walked the aisle the same day.

My life took on a new meaning and direction after that experience. The things of the world started to lose their flavor and the Word of God became my food. Although I wanted more of God there was still a pull from the world. By 1987 I had become an expert in fencing. Not the sport, but the ability to jump and operate on both sides of the fence. On one side Christian world and on the other business world, separate from God. I would become and act like those I was with according to my environment. God was calling me deeper and I was fighting Him.

In 1988, I had an infection in my body and back that caused me much pain. I was bedridden for months during this time and the pain was so bad that I cried out to God to heal me and I would change. I watched TBN 24/7 and one late night I saw a man named Demos Shakarian and he was talking about his life and a free book called, "Happiest People on Earth." I ordered it and read it over and over. Immediately I located a local chapter in North Shore Chicago. and the first place I went to after I was able to



walk was a meeting at that chapter. The speaker's name was Dick Mills

He pointed to me and said, "You in the red tie and cane and stand up!" He proceeded to read my mail. He told me all about my past, present and then he said, "Stop running, God wants you." At the end of the meeting I was looking for someone to help me join the chapter. I became involved, serving in every capacity from 1988 to 1993, ending as Chapter President the last two years. That experience changed my life forever and those years made me realize how to become a Christian businessman.

It was during this time that my father came to visit me after a five year separation. He was very impressed with my success as a businessman.

He also kept telling me that I was different. I was not sure how he would react about my conversion to Christ so I was not quick to respond to him. After many times of him asking, I asked him whether he thought the change was better or for worse. See now, I no longer drank or smoked or did any of my old habits. He then said, "Oh it is very good!" So with fear and trembling with uncertainty

about his reaction, I told him. To my amazement his response was, "If this is what becoming a Christian does then tell me more about it." That opened the door for me to tell him much about my conversion. He attended church with us regularly and in April, 1989; he came to an Easter pageant and raised his hand to Christ. A few months later, he was



hit by a car and died instantly. Praise God for His mercies.

By 1993, we owned 13 pizza stores and two Chinese delivery stores. I was convinced that God had called me to be a businessman and lifted me up to bring finances for His Kingdom; after all I was very good at it. A group of friends at church came and said they were planning a mission trip to India and



**Praying for
pastor Tommy Barnett**

in their prayers they were sure that God wanted me to go. I asked for time to pray about it, not having any intention to do so, only to buy time to say no later. I said I would support them and they could go as I was too busy with the growth of my new company, my schedule was full.

A year later they asked me again. By this time we had sold all the stores and closed down the Chinese delivery company. Every excuse I gave before for not being able to go was removed by God so I went. I had just arrived in India in the house we were staying at and my friend's mother, the moment she saw me started to say something out loud. I was informed that she was

prophesying over me in tongues saying, "He wants you, all of you, not your money, but you!" She said, "I see you preaching in front of thousands of people in stadiums. Yes, God's calling you and your whole family." Now He had my attention. I said, "God, You can have me, but you have to bring it to me, I will not go looking for it."

I thought it was going to happen quickly, but for two years after that experience God remained silent. It was at this time that we held prayer meetings at our home almost every night with our friends. I already had the discipline for prayer as a Muslim, but God was birthing in me the love and passion for prayer and preparing Cynthia and I for our future work.

Through several God ordained circumstances, we moved to Arizona in 1996 and started attending Phoenix 1st Assembly. Pastor Tommy Barnett, wow! What a church! I didn't know such a thing existed. We felt so at home. We saw an endless sea of opportunities to serve God. We became active in every area we could help and held prayer meetings at home, eventually moving them to our church when it grew too large for our home. I bought a rental business as well in the meantime doing both. In July, 2001 I received a call to meet with our Executive Pastor, Dale Lane. During that meeting he informed me that one of the pastors on staff was leaving and a position was opening and Pastor Barnett wanted to offer me the position. I



then heard the voice of God clearly, "It has come to you just as you asked so you know it's from Me." I said yes immediately. The plan was for me to start October 1, 2001. But then the date was changed to Monday September 11, 2001. We all know what happened on that tragic day. I was so fearful my first day at work. God, what have I walked into? I asked Pastor Barnett if he thought it would be better for someone else to take my position in light of what had just occurred. Without hesitation he said that this is from God. We don't understand His timing, but He is always on time and never makes a mistake. His affirmation of me gave me confidence and boldness to serve the Lord even more with great zeal and determination.

God has done so much since then. In April, 2007, we opened up the 24 hour Prayer Pavilion of Light in Phoenix at Prayer Mountain and I have had the privilege of being a part of Pastor Barnett's vision and dream of 30 years of this Prayer Pavilion becoming a reality.

We have seen so many miracles, over one thousand people healed of cancer through our cancer support group, just to mention a few. We're connecting with prayer warriors around the world through cell phone prayers, live streaming and videos. Our Global Prayer and Fasting 365 Network has over 100,000 people connected praying world-wide. You may join by going to www.prayerpavilion.org. The Lord has

done so much; however, I know the best is yet to come.

II Chronicles 16:9a:

"For the eyes of the LORD run to and from throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong on behalf of those whose heart is loyal to Him."

God has had a great plan for my life all along. When I stopped running and began yielding to His plan, I began to truly live and have been on the greatest ride of my life. Perhaps you have been riding the fence. The Bible says decide this day who you will serve (Joshua 24:15).

Say yes to Him completely and watch what He will do with your life. If He can use someone like me, He can use anyone who says, "Here I am, I'm yours, I will, use me."

Dr. Saeed Hosseini received his doctorate of divinity degree from Phoenix University of theology in 2010. He is the founder of the global prayer and fasting network 365, a world-wide chain of 24/7 intercession. He also serves as Prayer Pastor under the leadership of Pastor Tommy Barnett at Phoenix First Assembly of God. Saeed joined the staff of phoenix first assembly on 9/11/2001 and has been leading the 24 hour phoenix Prayer Pavilion of Light at Prayer Mountain since inception in 2007. He also serves as Honorary Ambassador for Convoy of Hope international. His passion is to help people achieve greater intimacy with God through prayer, his wife, Cynthia, and their family



THE VISION IS THE PEOPLE

Richard Shakarian

The Vision given to Demos Shakarian 59 years ago has inspired millions of men and women around the world. Demos Shakarian was a man of great passion. He had a life changing experience with God early in life. From that moment on, he was convinced that the power of Christ is both real and strong to help people today.

One day he was talking with his friend, Ed Tunks, in the parking lot of Ed's new supermarket (it was one of the first supermarkets in Southern California). Ed opened the trunk of his car and

showed Demos his guitar.

Demos said, "Did you ever play any songs of praise to God on that guitar?" Ed, who was a hardboiled businessman, said, "Demos, I left that all behind



years ago.” Dad said, “Ed, why don’t you sing me one of those songs?” Ed picked up the guitar and began to sing one of the old hymns of worship to God. Soon tears were coursing down the rough-hewn cheeks of Ed Tunks. In a few minutes, using the trunk of the car as an altar, Demos and Ed prayed together as Ed turned his life to Jesus Christ.

This is the calling of FGBMFI. Don’t miss any opportunity to allow the power of God to change the lives of those around us. He will do it as we make ourselves

available.

Mr. Richard Shakarian followed his father, Founder Demos Shakarian, as International President and has served in this capacity for the past 18 years.





Richard Shakarian, Humberto Arguello, Roger Gonzalez in Russia



Meeting with Indo



Vice - President of FGBMEI Ukraine Ihor Solovyov



Meeting in



FGBMEI Russia Pres & Wife, Andrey Zlobin & Rita



Russia To



Indonesian Leaders



Dinner Meeting in Indonesia



Armenia



Dinner with Armenian &
Russian Leaders



Tour By Boat



Meeting in Indonesia

A studio portrait of an older man and a woman. The man, on the left, has white hair, wears glasses, a dark suit, white shirt, and a striped tie. The woman, on the right, has blonde curly hair and is smiling, wearing an orange top with a floral pattern. The background is a mottled studio backdrop.

More Than Just A Businessman

MARK TAYLOR

As a small boy, my grandfather - Mike Vivian Taylor - would take me walking through the city of Bridgetown, Barbados. He was a very astute and successful businessman, who owned a wholesale food distribution business that supplied many of the food outlets in various parts of the country. More than that, he was a strong believer in Jesus Christ. Through the business that God provided for him, he was able to fund the planting of many churches. He took his relationship with the Lord seriously.



Our weekly walks together, would take us where all the major businesses were located, including his business. I was amazed at the friends that he had, and how many people from all walks of life knew him. No matter their position in life, whether the street cleaner, the bank manger, or those in government, he knew them all by name. They all respected and loved him. They called him "Mr. Mike" and everywhere he went, people were drawn to him. At that young age I had no idea why. I always thought it was due to my grandfather being a successful businessman; but it was more than that, as later I was to learn. What really drew them to him was that he lived a life of love much like Jesus Christ. Wherever he went, he always had a kind word to share, he would encourage and lift up those who were down, he would pray for them and their business, he would assist those in need by acts of kindness. His life not only influenced those who knew him, but resulted in me finding Jesus Christ in 1960. This too, is how the Holy Spirit planted the seed pertaining to marketplace ministry in my own heart at a young age.

When I was fourteen years of age my family relocated to Toronto, Canada. Soon after relocating, my grandfather passed away. What a sense of loss I felt! There are times when I reflect on the life of my grandfather, and the times we shared together. He was a man of

much wisdom, much of which he imparted to me. I wish he were still around today, but I am so thankful for the foundation he laid in my life, which I am building on today. One day I will be with him again.

Although I accepted Jesus Christ into my heart as a small boy, I still didn't develop a personal relationship with Him until 1993. Not being raised in a Christian home, and my grandfather not being around, I ran and drifted away from the Lord; sin entered into my life and almost totally destroyed me as I sought after all the material possessions that are available in the world. I was my own man, and everything was about me, my heart was hardened, as success was my only goal. All I saw in my life, as a young boy, was my father and mother working to make ends meet. Work and success seemed to be the only way.

God continued to reach out to me. At the age of twenty-three I became the largest shareholder and CEO of the largest printing and packaging facility in the Caribbean Region. Perhaps my unusual success is attributed to a generational blessing from my dear grandfather - Mike Vivian Taylor. I have received many miracles, one being able to borrow millions of dollars from a commercial bank with very little equity. Something unheard of, but with God all things are possible.

Almost at rock bottom, and contemplating suicide, the year 1993 was a real turning point in



my life. I had a personal encounter with Jesus Christ that changed my life. I promised Him from that day onward, I would always walk with Him all the remaining days of my life. This encounter took place one morning as I knelt and cried out to Him for help. As I was kneeling and resting on a couch in the family room, I felt a hand touch me on the back of my right shoulder. I looked around to see who it was, but no one was there. As I continued in prayer, again I felt the hand on my shoulder. Again, I looked around and no one was there. There was no one at home at the time, so I knew it was the Lord confirming that He indeed was hearing my prayer, and knew of my difficult situation. He then spoke to me about the condition of my heart, and gave me a powerful message that I share with many today. The scripture He gave me was, "For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain", Phil. 1:21.

In 1995, I married my wife, Sharon who is a strong believer in Jesus Christ, and in 1997 God blessed us with a beautiful daughter who we named Elizabeth. Elizabeth accepted Jesus when she was just three years old and was filled with the Baptism of the Holy Spirit at the same time. She is a young lady of strong faith and today she is serving God and

doing exceptional well in her studies

After restoring my relationship with Jesus in 1993, I became very involved with the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International (FGBMFI), and later became Vice President of the Barbados Chapter. In 1998, my family and I relocated to Destin, Florida.

Today God is using me in my position as a Life and Business



Coach, and Regional Coordinator of the FGBMFI. The marketplace is the focus of the ministry God has given me. With over thirty-five years of corporate experience, I know how lonely the job at the top can be prior to my encounter with the Lord, Jesus Christ. The good news is, it does not have to be that way. Every individual has a choice to make: a choice of whether to continue just as they are, or whether to make the better choice of coming into a relationship with Jesus Christ. He alone can overcome every trouble that you have, and



make you a new person.

Today, God is using Sharon and me to touch lives in the marketplace. Individual lives are being transformed and individuals are finding their created purpose. Today through the ministry of FGBMFI we are ministering to business entrepreneurs and leaders and helping them bring their businesses under the umbrella of the Lord



Jesus Christ and His blessings. It is important that we build under the blessings, rather than the curse. Jesus came to liberate us from the bondage and curse, so that we can experience His joy and His blessings.

God's move into the marketplace will bring the issue of our identity in God into the community, business, political and national arenas. We will never understand who we are until we understand whose we are and what we are here for. Likewise, we will never understand what we are here for until we understand

our calling both individually and corporately.

We have seen God transform individuals and corporations. We have seen God provide finances, healings, restore relationships, set people free and so much more. We encourage you today to experience the presence of God in your life, your family and in the business sphere where He has positioned you.

My question to you today is, who is the captain of your ship? Do you have that personal relationship with God that you can hear His voice pertaining to the decisions you need to make in your family and business?

You find true success in Jesus Christ, by allowing Him to be your Chairman and CEO, by living a life in relationship with Jesus Christ that allows you to hear His voice, and be obedient to His will for your life. After all, He wants you to succeed. There is just no other way, and Jesus does give you that second chance, He awaits you with open arms and He has never stopped loving you. He won't let you down; He is the way, the truth and the light.

Mark has a professional executive coaching, training and development practice. His company is "Glory@Work" - www.gloryatwork.org. He also serves as the Southeast Regional Coordinator for the United States FGBMFI.



Free at Last

Francis Owusu

The story started when I was just twenty two years old. I had come all the way from Ghana to the buzzing city of London, in order to further my education and get out of the strict parental control. I studied at the London School of Economics and Political Science. I was young and looking forward to a good life with lots of fun. Well, my sort of fun, anyway; which included boozing and partying all day long. But after I had finished my first degree, something strange happened to my body- back then, I didn't know that it would change my life.

One morning I woke up with a sharp pain around my rib cage; and soon, severe pains in heart and some dizzy spells followed on. Immediately, I sought for some medical advice to find out the culprit behind these symptoms. The next months of my life were occupied by visits to various

medical specialists who conducted extensive tests - and it all came back with zero results. No one can explain the cause of my sickness. I hadn't been to church for years so when a friend suggested me to seek for divine intervention, I readily obliged. I attended several church programs hoping to be healed. I didn't know the Lord then



Francis Owusu and his wife Jennifer

so I was just hoping to be healed, so that I could get back to my life of 'fun'. But the pains persisted. I also consulted other non-Christian religions, with no success.

However, as a long-time drinker, I ran to the comfort of alcohol. I would go to parties and clubs, get drunk and just drive back home absent-mindedly. One day, while I was driving home from one of these outings, I got arrested by the police for driving under the influence (DUI). I was taken to court, and banned from driving for one year! Suddenly, life wasn't fun anymore and I became quite frustrated with it.

Regardless of my bad habits

and mysterious yet persistent sickness, I gained my Management Accountant qualification, and decided to come back home to Ghana. In my homeland, I established a frozen food import and distribution business with my brother. During this period, I was still drinking to suppress my pains.

Then one day, I met a man who told me about the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International and invited me to a breakfast meeting. After much persuasion, I accepted the invitation and asked my wife to accompany me to the meeting. We both enjoyed it thoroughly; and for the first time in my life, I heard



business and professional people, not pastors, talk about what Jesus had been doing in their lives.

In that meeting, the Lord opened my eyes to look unto him for deliverance- one truth that I had missed all these years. During the altar call, I immediately surrendered my life to Christ and thus begun a personal relationship with Jesus.

I became very active in my chapter's fellowship, but healing eluded me for several years- even though I was greatly encouraged by the testimonies of others. One evening, whilst all alone in my bedroom (my wife and children were on holiday abroad), I knelt down to pray and asked the Lord why he still hadn't healed me. The Lord then spoke to my heart; he said that that he could not heal me when I was evading taxes in my business. Being guilty of the offence, I immediately repented and asked for forgiveness. The Spirit of the Lord then overwhelmed me and I felt like a heavy burden had been lifted off me.

The Lord directed me to the book of John on the Last Supper. Whilst reading the passage, I had this extraordinary spiritual experience which left me completely broken; I was weeping and decided to serve God faithfully and truthfully.

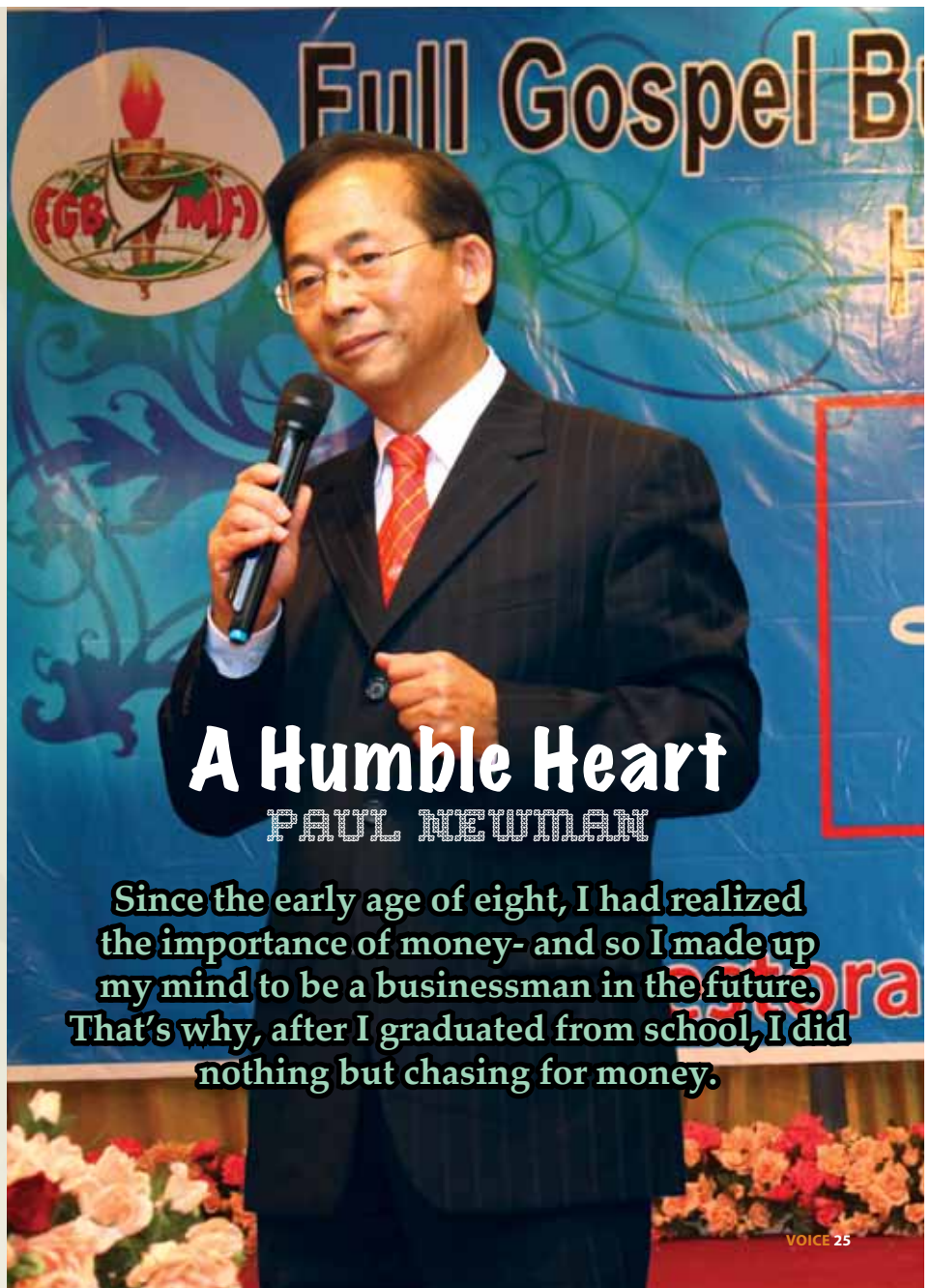
The following morning, I woke up strongly believing I had been healed. But around noon, again I felt a sharp pain in my heart and suddenly the thought came to me

that I had not been healed and would never be healed. But I rebuked this thought right away and confessed my healing.

About forty eight hours later, in the early hours of the morning, I felt a tap on my shoulder and immediately woke up. I was alone, yet I knew whole-heartedly that the Lord had woken me up and that my time of healing had come. I knelt down beside my bed and cried unto God to heal me. I then lay prostrate on the floor and lost consciousness, I don't know for how long, but suddenly the power of God entered me and lifted me unto my feet. I burst out speaking in tongues like I had never done before. I also remember saying, "My eyes have seen the glory of the Lord."

When it was all over and I came to my senses, I had been healed. I had suffered pain and anguish for nineteen years of my life, but now I'm free! I am indeed grateful to God and feel so thankful that I belong to a fellowship such as the FGBMFI. The Lord has been using me tremendously in this fellowship and I continue to witness God's glory to the world. "So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed." (John 8:36)

Francis Owusu is an International Director at Large; lives with his lovely wife Jennifer and the couple is blessed with three children and He is co-owner of a leading 4 star hotel in Ghana.



A Humble Heart

PAUL NEWMAN

Since the early age of eight, I had realized the importance of money- and so I made up my mind to be a businessman in the future. That's why, after I graduated from school, I did nothing but chasing for money.



I owned an auto import business when I was 26 and had made a lot of money at such young age. Thus, I became very arrogant and bad tempered. I once fought with six police officers alone, since I used to be a boxer at school.

I planned on retiring at the age of 30, but my father said that it was too early. So I came to the US to establish a branch of my auto business office. During the 1990s, my business was one of the largest car exporters to Taiwan, Hong Kong and China. Making easy money was a daily routine for me that time; and as my business branched out successfully to real estate investment, I became even more

proud and arrogant. And that's when God started to discipline me.

Due to my business, I was not able to go back to my hometown Taiwan until 10 years later. The first time I flew back to Taiwan, I met my current wife Pauline in the airplane. She was the flight attendant at that time. When I first met her, I could not control myself and fell in love with her immediately. I told her that I was going to marry her. She was

very young, very pretty, very smart and very elegant. I admired her very much. We then got to know each other. After that trip, I followed her all over the world. No matter where she flew to, I always followed her to the same place. I chased her for

thousands of miles. When she flew to Europe, I flew to Europe. When she flew to Asia, I flew to Asia too. When she flew to Hawaii, I also flew to Hawaii. No matter where she went, she could always see me there too. I touched her and inspired her finally and we got married in 1995. This was an amazing story. It was a miracle! God created such miracle. I used to be a Buddhist, she brought me to the

Lord Jesus. I got to know God and believe in God because of her.

One time, my business got crashed out of the blue. It fell so hard, so sudden. I knew I had hit the rock bottom yet I still got that all-arrogant attitude.

During an occasion, I met the President of Marshall Island, who apparently was planning to establish an ocean paradise that would have included a resort, a golf course and



**I finally realized
that life is prone to
uncertainty. Human
beings could not predict
or control anything.**



a casino. The paradise would also be complemented with a special immigration authority, providing services on passport-related procedures.

At the same time, the Taiwanese government was planning to store its nuclear waste on one of the islands of Marshall. Considering my good relation with the president, the Taiwanese government sent me to be the contact person for this issue. I was so surprised that the President of Marshall Island accepted our conditions at the second round of negotiations. The total amounts of money involved in this nuclear waste business were US\$ 2 billion

At the scheduled time of nuclear waste management's contract signing, the President of Marshall Island suffered a heart attack and died in a Hawaiian hospital. Well, I used to be very proud of all my successful business deals; but the sudden passing of the president left me profitless and restless. I kept on asking: why didn't it happen sooner? Why didn't this happen later? Why did it happen at the crucial moment, when we were about to sign the contract? I could not figure out the reason.

So I folded up all my businesses in Marshall Island and came back to Los Angeles. A week later, I received a phone call from Richard Ting, my very rich friend in Las Vegas. He invited me and my wife to visit him in Las Vegas; he showed us his real estate investments and treated us

with lavish meals there. Then, he offered us the opportunity to be his developer and turn his real estate holdings into income properties and in return, agreed to give us a share of the profit. His only condition was for us to move to Las Vegas. I told him that I need some time to think about it.

After another week, Richard called me again and told me that he was talking with the Playboy Company to develop a casino together. Richard wanted me to be his partner. The casino's theme would be a space station and customers could experience space walk in it, thanks to NASA technology. It was such an amazing idea. My job was to recruit 30 investors, each investing US\$ 1 million. In exchange, the investors would get a US residency along with the return of their investment. This is indeed an ideal arrangement for all the parties involved.

After we signed our development contract, I went back to Taiwan searching for investors. On the second day in Taiwan, I got a phone call from my US office and learned that Richard Ting had passed away because of heart attack. I was totally shocked.

I felt like there was a "God" in the universe to control everything. I thus felt that no matter how smart you were, no matter how perfect your plan was, the Lord would be the only one to make it happened. The Lord would be the one to give it and take it away. From that moment, I started



to let the Lord to be my Savior.

I was invited to give my testimony in a FGBMFI meeting in 2001. I found out that the FGBMFI was a platform for God's gospel. It was aimed at influencing people by people. I was much honored to be a part of it. I was elected as the chairman of the West LA chapter of FGBMFI in 2005.

I attended the international meeting of FGBMFI in Panama in the year 2007. Gatherings such as these, as well as local chapter meetings I have witnessed in countries like Nicaragua, have transformed the community, changed the society, and changed the country. I am confident that the Lord will use FGBMFI to bring prosperity to the world.

I encouraged my wife, Pauline Lai, to establish a women's FGBMFI in 2008. It gained over 200 members after only one year. Now it has three chapters. The men's Chinese-speaking FGBMFI in the San Gabriel areas has over 9 chapters now. Each chapter holds weekly gathering to lead the unbelievers to accept Jesus as their personal Savior.

Looking back to my past times, I feel so glad that I've made the right decision. After I accepted the Lord as my Savior, I experienced a drastic transformation in my life. I became a humble and gentle person. I found out the true meaning, direction, and value of my life. I was no longer that

old person who was arrogant and bad-tempered. I was no longer the previous person who would fight with policemen. I was no longer the previous person who ignored people and disrespected others. In the past, I had nine lawsuits at the same time. Now, I am totally a new person. The past has gone forever. I have become a new person. I leave



Paul and his wife Pauline Lai

all worldly temptations behind. The Lord lives in me now, and I am filled with The Spirit of peacefulness and joy. Both my wife and I serve the Lord together through the FGBMFI. Indeed now I am one of the happiest people in the world as experienced by Demo Shakarian, the founder of FGBMFI.

**In 2011, Paul Lai was elected "Hall of Fame for World Chinese Role Model" and "Personal Portrait Stamp Album". He claims that all his fame and honor belongs to the Lord.*

SIX STEPS TO SALVATION

1 ACKNOWLEDGE
"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." (Romans 3:23)
"God be merciful to me a sinner." (Luke 18:13)

2 REPENT
"Except ye repent, you shall all likewise perish." (Luke 13:3) "Repent therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out." (Act 3:19)

3 CONFESS
"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9) "If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus, and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved." (Romans 10:9)

4 FORSAKE
"Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD ... for He will abundantly pardon." (Isaiah 55:7)

5 BELIEVE
"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." (John 3:16) "He that believes and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believes not shall be damned." (Mark 16:16)

6 RECEIVE
"He came unto His own, and His own received Him not. But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name." (John 1:11-12)

WHY NOT MAKE YOUR ETERNAL DECISION NOW?

"Lord Jesus, I believe You died for my sins and I ask your forgiveness. I receive You now as my personal Savior and invite You to manage my life from this day forward. Amen."

YES! I have made my eternal decision. I have read the Six Steps to Salvation and have asked Jesus to be my personal Savior.

Please send me the booklet "Now That You've Received Christ."

Signature _____

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

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Phone : 949 461 0100 Fax: 949 609 0344



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Note: At the International Director's meeting, International Officers, Regional Vice-Presidents, International Director's and International Director's At-Large may participate. Only International Directors may vote

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