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Coming back to the vision

Bruno Berthon, FGBMFI President, France

Summary of Leuven European Leaders Seminar

Two significant events took place in the European Region over the last months. They are living proof that the FGBMFI **vision is fully alive** and productive. They are the:

Paris Bercy Convention (May 1997): 20,000 participants overall, from 25 nations – night meetings had more than 10,000 people. There was a good deal of media coverage and participation by the churches. All in all there were very positive reports from participants and Christian groups alike. About 2,500 people made decisions to follow Christ during the event. There were also many healings and spiritual manifestations.

Budapest Outreach (August 1997): at the invitation of local political authorities, various outdoor outreach meetings were held in public parks. The events used music and laymen's testimonies from various nations. The result was many spectacular healings (blind, deaf, lame...), great reports, and good coverage by the news media were made.

Let's outline some **key points** that explain the **success** of projects like Paris Bercy:

a. the way the organising team work together.

1. **The projects** were not humanly planned, but **received in prayer** from the Holy Spirit each step along the way. There was a **great deal of prayer** organised as strong spiritual battle went on. There were many attacks and dangers.
2. They worked together in **unity, humility, and team work**.
3. **Things were well planned and professional**, involving strong personal **commitment** both in time and personal involvement.

b. patterns followed by the groups – shown by God in prayer:

1. Real outreach

The Fellowship breaks out of hotel walls and make contact with other people.

When some do not come to our meetings, we must go out to them – reaching them where they are. Jesus told his disciples “to go out...”

It is interesting to note that most miracles during the Budapest outreach occurred during the outdoor meetings, not the indoor ones.

2. Our laymen's ministry is based on testimonies

Our meetings are not to be religious. We are simply men telling other men about the reality of God in our lives (see the way Demos describes it in 'The Happiest People On Earth'). Ordinary men sharing Jesus in the market place.

There were no evangelists in Bercy or Budapest, only testimonies given by ordinary men. Ministry took place on the spot with signs and wonders following.

3. Looking for visibility

There was visibility before the world, from people in responsibility, by churches, and the media. For far too long outsider have seen us as a kind of private club. We have to be public. Jesus' ministry was very public, even though he did make private time to pray and teach his disciples.

For the Paris Convention extensive public relations efforts were made towards the churches, the media, and people in authority.

4. It was a service to the whole Body of Christ

The Fellowship does not work in isolation. It must be a servant to the Body in its commission to share Jesus to the world. This involves networking and going out to the churches, prayer groups, and Christian ministries, involving them.

Extensive contact was made for the Bercy Convention by the Chapters

with churches:

1. to inform them directly about the event
2. to ask for their prayer support
3. to encourage them to participant
4. to find helpers for the outreach
5. to establish follow-up for new converts

Many believers, who are not members of FGBMFI, worked with us. Testimonies and music groups came from various church backgrounds, not all were involved with FGBMFI. Other ministries served in areas such as lighting, video, logistics, advertising, and the bookstore.

As a result about 100 ministries from every possible denomination, were willing to appear on the follow-up list in the information packs given to new converts.

5. Agents for God's revival

We are to be 'full gospel' demonstrators, and agents for the coming revival.

Both the Bercy and Budapest meetings resulted in life changing experiences. Many people have become aware of a mounting move of the Holy Spirit in our world today. Christians have been encouraged and filled with a new zeal for the great commission.

In Leuven, leaders told about outreach ventures organised in other countries, which are moving in the same direction:

- Adverts for chapter meetings were put in secular newspapers, together with a Voice testimony. These adverts were paid by Christian companies not all related to FGBMFI (Switzerland).
- Outreach to business men is being done through professional organisations (Sweden)
- Outreach to prison was done in co-operation with other Christian ministries (Malta)
- Outreach in commercial exhibitions was done with distribution of Voice (Denmark)
- Outreach to church goers was done when chapters helped local churches organise special testimonies dinners (UK)

The message the Lord seems to be giving in every part of Europe is very clear:

- Go out to the world
- Share the simple message of God in your day to day life
- Be visible
- Be a link to unite Christians via their testimony to the world.
- Be servants of the whole body.
- Manifest God's salvation and healing power right where you are.

Let's go back to our nations with this message and **put it into practice.**

This is a **God given vision to the Fellowship.** It has not changed.

Let's come back to it and we will see the promised fruits. **Enter into the vision intensified.**

Please give us the e-mail address for any chapter not yet getting these news reports. E-mail all addresses to 100444.1300@compuserve.com

Thank you,
Blair Scott
International Publications Director

Outreach Agenda

1 st November 1997:	National Day of Prayer and Fasting.
6 th -8 th November 1997:	Guatamala National Convention.
7 th -9 th November 1997:	Wessex Convention.
8 th November 1997:	North East (North) Regional Men's Breakfast.
13 th -16 th November 1997:	Canadian National Convention, Edmonton, Alberta.
17 th -23 rd November 1997:	Kniebis/Schwarzwald, Germany.
6 th January 1998:	New Years Seminar, Denkendorf, Germany.
9 th -11 th January 1998:	National Leaders Weekend, Versailles, France.
16 th -18 th January 1998:	Management Seminar, Berlin, Germany.
16 th -18 th January 1998:	Georgia Men's Camp, USA.
23 rd -25 th January 1998:	Chapter Leaders Seminar, Strassbourg, France (for French & German languages).
17 th -21 st February 1998:	World Convention, Manila, Philippines.
17 th -21 st February 1998:	Hohenstein-Ernstthal, Germany.
13 th -15 th March 1998:	Chapter Presidents Weekend, Dijon, France.
20 th -22 nd March 1998:	Training Seminar, Beilngries, Germany.
27 th -28 th March 1998:	Swedish National Convention, Gislaved, Sweden.
May 1998:	Israel Jubilee.
9 th -10 th May 1998:	Italian National Convention, Venice, Italy.
21 st -23 rd May 1998:	Men's Camp, Vichy, France.
14 th -22 th October 1998:	Jerusalem Outreach Convention.
24 th -25 th October 1998:	Driebergen Convention, Holland.¶

Please be sure to inform the FGBMFI Publications about your conventions, outreaches, and airlifts as early as possible so that we can advertise your events.
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