Training Asians to Reach the World

Essays Honoring Everett and Evelyn McKinney for 50 Years in Missions

Dave Johnson
EDITOR
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FOREWORD

Everett and Evelyn McKinney have a great passion for God, ministry, and biblical education. Moreover, they are prayer warriors and have witnessed many miracles in their lives. Somewhere around 2000 my wife and I became acquainted with the McKinneys and immediately knew that this was a couple we needed to connect with often.

Before Everett and Evelyn became missionaries with the Assemblies of God World Missions (AGWM) in 1969, Everett was a ministry team leader at Northwest University, Kirkland, WA, USA (1959-1962). From 1962-1963 and 1967-1968, they served as associate pastors in two different Assemblies of God churches in Washington State, USA. They also pastored Skokomish Indian Assembly of God from 1963-1965.

Their first assignment, as appointed missionaries on the Philippine Field, was at Immanuel Bible Institute (1969-1975) where Everett served as president, business manager and faculty. Evelyn was the Academic Dean and a faculty member. From 1977 to 1984 Everett was the president of Far East Advanced School of Theology (FEAST and now Asia Pacific Theological Seminary - APTS) from 1977-1984; he also served as a faculty member at the institution. Evelyn was a faculty member and served as the Interim Academic Dean and Dean of Students for one year during their time at FEAST. Since 1987 to the present Everett and Evelyn have served as non-resident faculty at APTS.

They have been Bible school educational consultants for the Asia Pacific Education Office (APE0) since 1988. Evelyn serves as the secretary for the Teacher Development & Certification Commission (TDCC) under the Asia Pacific Theological Association (APTA). Both Everett and Evelyn have been a tremendous blessing and
encouragement to the Asia Pacific Region Bible schools as well as those in other parts of the world. Their wisdom, years of educational experience and advice are greatly appreciated and applied in various Bible school contexts!

They have ministered in the Asia Pacific Region for 50 years and continue to do so. Everett and Evelyn have had a traveling teaching/preaching/seminary ministry since 1988. Within this time frame, they have ministered and taught in many places around the world (Continental Theological Seminary, Brussels, Belgium; Southern Asia Bible College, Bangalore, India; Evangel Theological Seminary, Kiev, Ukraine).

God’s calling upon their lives has connected them with many church leaders and students. They walk in the Spirit, step out in faith and live their lives for the glory and honor of God. Students are very important to Everett and Evelyn. A few years ago they could have made the decision to retire from teaching, training and equipping students. But no! They kept going! And they continue to go around the world preparing students as laborers for the ripened harvest fields around the world. They continue to build strong relationships with their students and students love, respect and honor Everett and Evelyn.

Everett and Evelyn have a passion for the Word of God, equipping the students for ministry, and following the leading of the Holy Spirit. Both of them are sensitive to the voice of the LORD. They will stop what they are doing (even if it is in the classroom) and allow the Holy Spirit to have His way! They desire for the student to be people of the Word and to obediently follow the inspired Word. They are cognizant of the students’ ministry environment. In addition to being equipped with the Word, they want the students to have a variety of teaching and preaching skills to be used in the students’ ministry context. They will lead the students to be immersed in the power of the Holy Spirit and instruct the students to give precedence to the leading of the Spirit.

One last observation about this couple is their marriage. They have been married for more than 54 years. My wife and I have watched their marriage. They truly love each other! Has it been easy? No! Are there ups and downs in marriage and ministry? Yes! They strongly believe that when they exchanged their wedding vows, they were ready
for whatever came their way; and they always had the LORD with them to guide their lives through difficult ways and decisions. They take each other’s hands and look towards Christ Jesus from whence comes their help and strength. They have exemplified their marriage before hundreds of students, faculty, administrators and their colleagues. They are more in love with each other than ever before. They have a strong relationship with each other.

I can say with confidence that if there is one thing they desire from you, the reader, is that whatever God has put on your heart and in your mind, accept the call and direction of the LORD, be filled with the Word, and be empowered with Holy Spirit! When you obey and surrender to the command to go and make disciples, the Kingdom of God will grow!

PS: Everett and Evelyn are also expert taco makers!

Dr. Weldyn B. Houger
INTRODUCTION

Dave Johnson

A PTS Press is pleased to offer this volume as a small token of our love and respect for Everett and Evelyn McKinney. The Scriptures teach us that those who serve us well are worthy of double honor (1 Timothy 5:17) and this is our effort to do just that. All of the scholars here are friends, colleagues or former students of the McKinneys and know them well. Each author, following the general theme of Training Asians to Reach the World writes within their specific area of interest.

Rose Engcoy opens this festschrift with a biological sketch of Everett and Evelyn McKinney. From their humble beginnings in rural America, God led them on an amazing journey that has taken them on an international teaching ministry in over 100 countries of the world.

They came into missions the traditional way by going to Bible school, after which they found and married one another and did a stint of pastoral ministry in America before arriving in the Philippines in 1969 to begin their missionary career.

For several years they led a Bible Institute in the central part of the Philippines. Then God called them to the Far East Advanced School of Theology in Manila, now known as the Asia Pacific Theological Seminary in Baguio City, Philippines. After a number of years there, the Spirit moved them into an international, itinerant teaching ministry in which they have continued to this day.

After Engcoy, the articles follow a gradual progression from the cradle to the PhD level. First, Kay Fountain reminds us that theological education begins in the home, not the seminary. The first teachers, then, are parents, not theological educators. Drawing on nine passages
in the Old Testament and several in the New, she makes a compelling case for parental responsibility in spiritual matters. In looking at the situation in Asia after 25 years of involvement in missions there, she laments that so many Asians Christians do not appear to take this responsibility with the seriousness that they should.

Next, Monte Lee Rice delves into Pentecostal hermeneutics. His setting is not the classroom but the pew as he explores how ordinary Pentecostals read the Bible which, he contends, is somewhat different from the way that other Evangelicals examine Holy Writ. He then proposes to address these incongruities by composing a Pentecostalized form of the Lectio Divina (sacred reading). Beginning with an articulation of four qualitative distinctives of the way Pentecostals actually read the Bible, he points us in the direction that he thinks we should go.

Weldyn Houger takes us into the Bible school/seminary classroom to discuss the harmonization of the instructor’s teaching style and the learning styles of the students. He contends that unless these are synchronized to a great degree, learning will be lessened. He then cites the works of multiple scholars that discuss the need, as well as the hows and whys, for this harmonization to take place.

Moving on to graduate and post-graduate level education, my contribution takes us to the nexus between theology and cultural anthropology, focusing on two of Paul’s sermons in Acts. The first is to the Hellenized Jews in Pisidian Antioch in Acts 13:13-42 and the second is his message to the Athenian philosophers on Mar’s Hill in Acts 17:16-34. Here, using the tools of cultural anthropology, I demonstrate the similarities and dissimilarities of the worldviews of the monotheistic Jews and the polytheistic Athenians, making application not only to Asian worldviews, but also how theological education can and must address these issues in modern Asian contexts.

Julie Ma then takes us to the post graduate level of studies, tracing the history of the Oxford Centre for Mission Studies in Oxford, United Kingdom. Rooting the history deep in the evangelical context, especially as it includes the unbiblical division between evangelism and social ministries, she demonstrates how the founding of the OCMS has contributed to healing this unnecessary division. At the same time, she
demonstrates how rooting the Centre in England and following a European philosophy of education that allows for greater flexibility in content and management than its American counterpart has allowed the Centre to focus on missions research, especially in the area of wholistic missions in the Majority World, at the post graduate level. From wobbly beginnings in the 1980s, the Centre has emerged as a primary place of research in the 21st century and through its journal, *Transformation* and it’s book publishing arm, *Regnum Books International*, has made a solid contribution to missiological research.

Finally, APTS President Tham Wan Yee takes us into the world of partnership in missions, especially in theological education. He contends that there are three broadly applied paradigms of partnership, Financier-Partner, Facilitator-Partner and Collaborator-Partner. He weighs the strengths and weaknesses of each and giving evidence as to which one he thinks is best.

We hope you enjoy our efforts to honor our dear friends. Any comments can be sent to us through our website, www.aptspress.org.

*For the Glory of God,*

Dave Johnson, DMiss
Editor