

# Celebrating 30 Years at Zaventem April 1995

by George Verwer

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*George Verwer reflects on 30 years of OM in Zaventem, highlighting the importance of teamwork, leadership, and communication, and emphasizing the need for prayer and financial support.*

**Duration:** 45:07

**Scripture:** Psalm 99:9, Isaiah 6:3, Matthew 6:33, Romans 12:1, Hebrews 13:15, Revelation 4:8

**Topics:** "Missions"

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## Description

In this sermon, the speaker reflects on a past discussion with friends about their commitment to never leave each other. The speaker then transitions to discussing the importance of worship and offering our lives to God as a sacrifice. They encourage the congregation to sing the worship song 'Holy, Holy Lord God Almighty' and listen to a song by Keith Green. The speaker also mentions a video done by Australians that can be borrowed, but there is a limitation on the size of free books given out. The sermon concludes with a prayer for the continuation of serving and extending God's love to the world.

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## Transcript

It's interesting how we ended up ever being in Zaventem. Sometimes you think these things are, you know, great prayed through heavy-duty revelations. God guiding his servants.

But in fact, a young Dutchman saw me in Chateau in 1962 and challenged me to live in southern Netherlands. Lindbergh, part of the Netherlands, said, if you live there, because just before that I was living in London, but my heart was really on the continent, before that I had been living in Spain. And since my father was from the Netherlands, I thought maybe God wants me back in that country.

And this young man, Rudy van Luzen, said, this is where to go. Show me on the map. I went there.

I moved to Gulpen in 1962, the end of 62, and asked Jonathan to stay in England. That was much colder. An old military camp that no one had stayed through in the winter for many, many years.

It was at that time that I went back to the States and met Steve Hart and Ray Lynch, a man named Tiny Snell. We ended up living in a small house in Gulpen with a Dutchman named Dick Schvart, the first leader really of Benelux. But I found living over there with the way things were happening in my life that I was always coming to Zaventem to catch the plane.

I even came by helicopter once to Zaventem Airport to catch a plane. And I can remember it as if it were a couple of years ago saying to Dick, I think it was Dick driving the car, it may have been somebody else. But I said, this is where Owen belongs, in this town, the very town, Zaventem.

And at that time, Europe was under the leadership of Conrad Sondereger and was sort of bogged down in deep mud in Switzerland, at least around that period. I think after 63 and Greg and a few others headed out for the first teams to India. And at that time in Zaventem, we only just had a Benelux, a little operation in the center of town.

I don't know the details, but I can tell you OM didn't have any money to buy a factory and wasn't planning on buying any property. I had a memo written against the purchase of property. I think it may be a couple of later.

Again, we always think these things are just sort of miraculous provisions from God. He doesn't really know anything, God. The people of God don't have the information.

But that we only just pray and God answers. That was always a great distortion in OM. It used to upset me a lot.

Because God, from the earliest days of OM, used information, communication to touch people's hearts. We're criticized heavily by a few ex-OMers, not many. Because today not only do we communicate information, but we take offerings and we've thrown off that old way of thinking.

Not faith, not prayer, not hard work. But the silence thing that really upset and confused a lot of people and set such a bad example that literally thousands who wanted to become missionaries never did. You can throw out a quick phrase about that.

You know, it wasn't God's will, that's always easy. But in fact, when people left OM, they went to the lions. Because though I knew how to communicate even before I was ever saved, and was constantly raising money through my own little methods, like preaching Luke 14.33, the average person who left OM within a year, and I can tell you from history, because I'm in touch with thousands, I correspond with at least half of you off and on over the years, they couldn't put it together.

And the unreality about finance, and the wrong worldview that many of us had at that time, was a great hindrance. We're not bitter about that, we're not resentful about that. But I praise God, as the movement grows older, it can mature.

It can learn new things. And it's those willingness to change, that willingness to change, that willingness to just adapt and to do things in a new way, I believe, that kept OM on the cutting edge right to 1995. With recruits, continuing to grow every single year, with the budget double, triple, quadruple what it was.

With STL alone growing so fast, it had become a separate company, it's now one of the largest book companies in the entire world outside the United States, with 300 employees, operating out of a warehouse in which we could put seven of these. Of course, I have new problems. Nothing's ever perfect.

We're as aware of some of our weaknesses today as we ever were in history. I've always lived most of my life on the precipice of agnosticism, unbelief, and sheer depression and unadulterated doubt. But somehow God was always there.

Or I remember in the old days, if God wasn't there, Greg Livingston was around. I remember so well, as I always have trouble facing crowds, facing large conferences and being this leader, going to Greg and just pouring it all out, all my fears and doubts, you know, what's going on, and facing all these people. I was always a person that wanted to just go one person at a time.

Our first team to Mexico, there was only three of us, and I had trouble handling that, they both left. Praise God, one of them is Dale, he came back later on when he saw the light. But I am excited about where OM is today.

I don't have the authority I used to have, praise God. But I am so excited about the people that God has given us. And I would encourage you to be involved where OM is today.

Don't let some little change, the music is a bit more upbeat, which I love, I always felt a lot of that old music was boring. We've got this mime, we've got these creative things, and that's brilliant, we used to think we were a little bit creative, I think we were, I mean with some of our faces, we didn't need to put any paint on them. And we are just so excited.

But just to finish the story here, when the idea was come to get this place, it wasn't just a matter of prayer. There was a man on the team with me, a friend who was my professor at Moody Bible Institute, a miracle he was with us, a man of his sort of distinction, his age, his capability, somehow he was involved, and at the time this place was offered, he received an inheritance. And in those early days amazing things happened with inheritances.

Later on some of them wanted back, that was a problem. But somehow it came together that this man would buy the Solomton. And he said, well, I think you better buy it in your name.

I think we got it in our name. But we gave him a letter, because he had all the money, and he wasn't ready to give it all. This was everything from his inheritance for his whole life.

I said, well, I don't remember what we said exactly, but we made a deal. I say this because now that I'm more in aggressive fundraising, people think, you know, Verwar is now a deal maker, he's not fellowshiping with Jesus enough, he's slipping in the original, he's raising money, he's got these matching funds, double matching funds, give your tie and get some pie, all kinds of tricky things. But that dear brother, and this needs to be in history, we made a deal.

Steve Hart was overseeing it, and we agreed, he bought this place and we would pay him back over many years. And many years later, I think he got all the money back, and we got Solomton, in a sense, completely paid for. God works with so many different people, and one of the things I always find so embarrassing is somehow being introduced, and I get a great introduction tonight, but in some places I get introduced as this great leader.

I just say with all my heart, it's teamwork. Today I was speaking at a volleyball rally out in Genk, spoke about teamwork, because volleyball is so exciting, because it's teamwork. And that's the story of Belgium, that's the story of Solomton, many of the teams are not here, some of them are in heaven, and we who are leaders, we just feel so humbled by the people who have stood with us, if not in the work, in their financial support.

And I just say this with all my heart, the people who have given financially to this work, some of them all their life, I think of Everett Langley, he never did make it too well in O.M. as a mechanic, and he and I so

desperate to get money went in business in Bangkok, and I get thrown out of India in 68, we were going to make the real bucks, because Vietnam surplus was selling cheap, and we bought tons of this surplus, and we were going to sell it, and Everett knew how to do this among laid-back Minnesota people, but he didn't know how to handle backstreet Bangkok Chinese business people, and that business didn't do too well, and eventually I think we shipped some of it here to Solomton, and we bought some sleeping bags, and tool boxes, and old stopwatches, and all kinds of...

God taught us so much through our mistakes, we did make a lot of mistakes, and we old-timers shouldn't be ashamed of our mistakes, or embarrassed by our mistakes, that's what life's about.

I made mistakes in my marriage up till about 15 minutes ago, but here my wife and I have been faithfully married to one another for 35 years, it might amaze you to know that my youngest child Krista is 30 years old, she was born just around the time that this was happening here, and she was our youngest, Benji was born when OM first came to Europe, and began to explode in Madrid, and he's 35 years old with me, it's teamwork, it's God overruling our blunders, I'm known now around the world for this original proverb, where two or three of the Lord's people are gathered together, sooner or later they'll be a mess, somebody wrote me yesterday and said, I think you ought to write a book about this, we could put some of your pictures on the cover, and as we think of 30 years in Belgium, we

think of 30 years in Solomton, do not think we're just running around patting ourselves on the back, because sometimes sin did get in, sometimes people got in the flesh, sometimes wives especially, because I think OM has always been tougher for women than men, and they got the wrong side of the stick many, many times, we're ashamed of the things that were wrong and sinful, but it would be absolutely wrong for us to dwell on those things, to get discouraged because of failures, or because we think we miss plan A, or we miss plan B, we miss plan C, I tell young people today, some of them at 21 are already on their second, third marriage, I say, look, you're feeling down, you don't think you're on plan A, you don't think you're plan B, plan C, you feel you're up there on plan E or F, I say,

look, praise God for a big alphabet, press on, some of you, some of you, as sure as you're sitting here, you know you miss plan A, before you ever came on OM, you may have missed plan B, you may have missed plan C, you may have been through terrible difficulties, I had the privilege of sort of being in contact with thousands of OMers, some of them only once a year, but I feel committed to pray for them, and I prayed for many of you, at least half of you in this room, quite regularly over the years, I can't do much more, a letter of prayer, half the time we're still broke, in case you think it's all just so different, the ship a few weeks ago was a quarter of a million into red ink, Dale Roton committed to this vision for 28 years, literally running around the world, on a fundraising trip,

and a mobilization trip, he called me from Malaysia, he said, you know, we've got a man here, he doesn't really understand that much about OM, about pray for him, I had met him before, only once, a man that went in business when he was 80, in 1987 he went in business, and by 1983, he was one of the richest men in the land of Malaysia, and of course these kind of people generally don't give, to things like OM, Dale and I prayed, I just got a fax, or was it a phone call, I got the information from Malaysia, this man accepted the challenge, to pay for one-tenth of all of the fuel, Dale was on a fuel raising trip, one-tenth of all the fuel, for both ships, for one year, about \$50,000, do you think that's any less, an answer to prayer, than when we prayed for Zaventem, do you think it's any

less an answer to prayer, than when we first went to Mexico, we've always been hot, on communication, in fact, it was another businessman, pouring amazing money, into certain aspects of the work, in OM more than ever, one aspect can be experiencing, blessing financially, and another aspect can be suffering, we try to rectify that, but it's much harder, than some of the philosophers think, who gave us this new policy, in which every field is really, to some degree, on its own, and I want to just be real honest, one of the toughest fields in OM financially, to keep going, is OM Belgium, and I don't think Zaventem, is that much farther behind, and it would be an enormous encouragement to them, if some of you, because of being here today, would put these two fields on your prayer list, and on

your financial support list, even if it was a small amount, because that small amount at least tells them, hey, you still care for Belgium, OM has so many things going now, fuel for the ship, that's fairly attractive, I told Dale, we've always been fairly blunt with each other, I said Dale, if you can't raise money for the ship, forget it, because the ship is the most attractive thing we have, with several million dollar budget per year, but that wasn't all the money we needed, for that quarter of a million in debt, in Kuwait, God opened doors, and the book sales, were \$60,000 a day, I know, we didn't exactly plan that, when we first prayed, for the ship ministry, because it means in three days in Kuwait, they saw more book sales, than Lagos cost us, so when we did lose that, old ship on

the rocks, as long as there were no lives lost, we really weren't too upset, since we had thought of scrapping it, shortly before that, and because of a lot of sentimentality, and perhaps me not plugged into the Holy Spirit or whatever, we were very fond of Lagos, especially the engines, which were so good, we were about to build some kind of mini aircraft carrier, on the deck of Lagos, to make it bigger, that was going to cost a quarter of a million, and God rushed in, in his sovereign way, and took that ship from us, by the way, those of you who have a lot of nostalgia about Lagos, can get a tour through the Beagle Channel, and see Lagos, it's still there, somebody actually sent me a photograph, I'm excited about the future, the greater days are ahead, greater days, if Billy Jones can

say amen to that, the rest of you ought to stand on a chair, and I just want to ask you, to just keep on praying, I want to ask you, when you meet other XOMers, who may be disgruntled, because it's not done exactly the same way, it used to be, why don't you try to give them a copy of Grace Awakening, or ask them, ask them to try reading the New Testament, it's so helpful, it's so helpful, the New Testament, when they get to 1 Corinthians 13, they will get back to the really strong, original principle of XOM, which wasn't firstly, some of these funny things we got known for, like sleeping on the floor, my wife remembers here in this, we live with our children in this warehouse, we slept on the floor, and there was only boxes between our bedroom, and the children's bedroom, eventually when

we got a lot of other people into this box thing, we learned how to play music, at appropriate times, this is not what a work of God is built on, these are just secondary issues, which actually still take place in some cases, because plenty of XOM teams, to this day are having it rough and tough, in places like Pakistan, in India, and other lands, in fact India right now is 35 degrees centigrade, so whatever, whether you're a bed or a floor, that doesn't much matter, when the temperature goes up that high, but help us find, the prayer partners and the supporters, who we need, to keep going, with 2600 full time missionaries, with 80 nations, with 2 ships, with literature projects that involve, 1, 2, 3 million dollars a year, and we're constantly turning down projects, it's a heavy load, I

have faced in the last decade, phenomenal discouragement, I have almost quit many times, in fact if God hadn't raised up Peter Maiden, to be my associate director, and the more front runner, in the day by day

hassles and problems, I don't know, I don't know if I would have made it, if God hadn't given me the team of people, in London around me, willing to work so hard and be so patient, with the likes of me, especially my wife, I don't know if I would have made it, but a lot of XOMers are no longer in touch with us, we know some of them we have heard, I stood up in front of many hurt Singaporeans, we hurt so many Singaporeans, in those first couple of years, they had expectations when they joined the miracle ship, that were beyond calculation, and we didn't understand Chinese culture,

Singaporean culture, we were a cultural hodgepodge from day 1, and survived on God's grace, and heavy overdoses, but that wasn't the strong message, that many of these young people knew, even from their churches, I remember standing in front of a group of them, maybe 15 years ago, beginning to weep, apologizing for our sins against them, we are very aware of people we have hurt, we are not only aware of the XOMers, whose marriages are going well, we are in touch with XOMers, whose marriages are breaking, right at this moment, but brothers and sisters, we have learned by the grace of God, that even that is not the end of the road, and the message of XOM today, I believe is the same, it's a message of love, it's a message of grace, it's a message of knowing God, it's a message of going the

extra mile, it's a message of forgiveness, and with it of course, the discipline, the prayer, the evangelism, and I believe this generation of young people, some of them your own children, has as much potential as any generation, but only God, only God can bring that into reality, well who brought our potential into reality in 1962, or 72, or 82, or 92, only God, can do what we want to see done, in the coming years, our dreams, our visions, tying into the 82,000 movement, in 10 days time, many of us will be in Korea, to this wild network we just attached ourselves to, where they are praying, believing, and trusting, that everybody in the world will have the gospel, at least in some small way, by the year 2000, and that, somehow every people's group, may at least have something started

among them, that's much tougher, by the year 2000, what a thrill to think of, what so many of our graduates are doing, it's staggering to the mind, over 100 organizations, trace their birth, back to somehow, OM, directly or indirectly, Greg is our best publicity really, as he goes around the world, having been the founder of Frontiers, an organization that has, how many hundreds in the Muslim world? 600, with Frontiers alone, on the cutting edge in the Muslim world, now esteemed, as a very outstanding missionary work, to the Muslim world, we can talk about a lot of other people, many of the organizations, trace their birth back to us, are quite small, there's Tiny Snell, who really was the first mechanic here, but he didn't live very long, as he died in a motor accident north of here,

shortly after starting his own ministry, and his son-in-law and his daughter, have carried that ministry, to this day, a small unknown ministry, that has served thousands of people, and I know that many of you, if not all of you, have been serving, and have been giving, and have been praying, and doing your part, in small little ministries, never despise a small thing, because OM was mighty small, for a long time, and some of us, we had our own way, with our wrong ideas, perhaps, and spiritual things, would have fought, to keep it small, I was totally opposed to it, ever going over a thousand, to challenge people to leave OM, and join other missions, and the consensus sort of changed, somewhere in the 80s, and the leaders, as we had these area leaders meetings, said you've got to let

these brothers and sisters, in South Africa, in Brazil, in Korea, you've got to let them, do what you did, when you first came to Europe, and went from 262 to 2063, at least in the summer, and many hundreds in the year program, profits are predicting, OM will be 5000 strong, by the year 2000, scares me right out of my shoes, and perhaps I'll be at least retired, from my international leadership position, by then I don't

know, but certainly I don't plan on retiring, from preaching and teaching, since my chief mentor is Billy Graham, who is 77 or 76, and just had the biggest campaign, of his entire lifetime, with a potential audience, of a billion souls, whether they reach that goal or not, I don't know, but the reports I'm getting back, are staggering to the imagination, I think of the

fact that in March 5th, 1955, and Steve Hart was at the meeting, Billy Graham spoke in New York City, and one lad, me, prayed for by a dear old woman, only there because of a Christian businessman, giving me a free seat on a bus, got converted to Jesus, isn't it amazing, isn't it amazing, I don't know if you realize, that I seem to be able to speak better, to the young people, the teenagers in the 20s club today, than I did when some of you first got involved, and maybe I offended you, because somehow, the young people get so stirred, when they hear of my struggles, and my failures, and my battles, the porno troubles, the hot temper, the irritability, all the things that I wrestled with most of my life, and by the end of the meeting, young people who never felt that God really could use

them, they weren't spiritual enough, didn't know the word of God enough, still having trouble in this area or that area, by the end of the meeting, when they hear me speak, they want to recommit their lives, or dedicate their lives, or get converted, because I guess in their minds, they realize that God can use, a character like that, then there is hope, for me, in my last major tour of South Africa alone, at the end of a week, with university students, 191 signed on the dotted line, to be missionaries, Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever more, and the same Jesus, that helped this ragtime band, so-called fly-by-night dangerous organization, Operation Mobilization, to get its roots, originally in Europe, so hard, so hard it was, for my wife and I arrived in 1960, in

Spain, under Franco, in 61 and 60, when I got thrown out of Russia by the KGB, after they discovered I wasn't a spy, and didn't want to keep me any longer, the same Jesus, who saved Leo Pro out there, in Austin, who saved Krista Eicher, in Madrid, and hundreds and thousands of others, is wanting to do greater things, in the final years of this millennium, some of us sitting here, will be gone by the year 2000, that's just, perhaps a law of averages, Philip Morris may only be with us, for a few more weeks or months, battling cancer, with everything he's got, but humanly speaking, not winning, though he is convinced with all of his heart, he told me straight point blank, the other day, that heaven is where it's at, and he's ready to go, brothers and sisters, I could talk for hours about

some of the people in this room, especially this one right here, but the time is gone, but I know this, we're all together on the same team, we're all in the body of Christ, some of us have bigger mouths, we all have different gifts, but we're all on the same team, and we want to thank you, to whatever degree you've been able to do it, with all of your other ministries, which are equally as important, to involvement with OM, so many things that God is doing, in your local church is probably more important, but we want to thank you, for whatever degree you've been able to give, you've been able to pray, you've been able to love, you've been able to help, we want to thank you, for being on the team, and trust that maybe in the future, we can do even more together, to express our

appreciation, in this room right to the left, we want to give every one of you, a free book, we know with a crowd like this, it would be impossible to determine what book to give, some of you have read, some of the books I've been pushing for years, so we have a range of about 100 different books, we figure with 100 different books, we might have something, that everyone could appreciate, after the first book which is free, you can buy a book, but that is a loaded one as well, because if you buy that book even for a couple of pounds, or a few Belgian francs, you will get a free, \$10 OM t-shirt, now I know, I think I actually

preached in the 60's, against t-shirts, but I tell you, when I saw my wife, in this OM t-shirt, I knew this was it, that's not true, but we'd like you, I'm sure

people are going to stay, you know this whole thing of going to bed early, we had never believed in that, we hope you're going to stay, fellowship with people, but that room is there to the left, you all get a free book, the second book you have to purchase, you can pay for it any time, up to the year 2000, we take post-dated checks, so the second book you have to buy, one way or the other, you get a free t-shirt with that, and after that of course you can buy other books, you can borrow video cassettes, because that's the way we're communicating about OM today, it's through OM news video, done by some wonderful Aussies, you can borrow one of those videos, there's one little limitation on it, the books we're giving free, are all less than 1 inch thick, so if it's over 1 inch, in other

words it's a big expensive book, then you have to buy it, let me show you some of the differences, for instance, Operation World is over 1 inch, so we can't give that free, but we're giving it at half price, and it's probably the greatest missionary book of all times, only a Dutchman would have the nerve to say that, 2 centimetres, anything over 2 centimetres, is not free, but we'll give Operation World half price, and some of you know the story of this book, if you can handle one more story, this book when it was first published completely died, had a terrible cover, bookshops returned it, it was dead, and I found it on the bottom of my shelf, I don't know how it got there, at 64 Tweedy Road in Bromley, Kent, now pavement is over that spot, it's amazing how many houses around the world

that we had rent free, we were the last human beings to ever live in, in most houses, what can we say of automobiles, only in Nepal where they resurrected vehicles repaired in this place, some of them sent out of here 15 years ago, are on the road, public transportation in Nepal today, if you were ever a mechanic in Zaventem, you must for a final surge of energy go to Nepal, we are arranging those tours at a very reasonable price, but we hope you will get a copy of Operation World, and there's one of the wonderful t-shirts that you can get, they come from Malaysia, I think they're illegal actually, at least they turned them back from the United States when they discovered where they were made, they are what you call an all size t-shirt, but if it doesn't fit you the first time, you can

stretch it and wash it and then try again, that's another one that we're not giving free, though I think it may be the right size, a very expensive book, but today when young people come on OM, we teach them about finance, we teach them about how to relate to your church, how to raise support, what are the problems, where does prayer come in, where does faith, and this is one of the books published by Moody Bible Institute, we have another one by YWAM, and we have a worldwide program networking with mission societies throughout the world through the 82,000 movement to teach this generation of new missionary recruits, and there's probably 25,000 trying to get to the field right now around the world in one way or the other to teach them how to make it happen, it's one of the most exciting

things I've ever been involved in, and somehow God's opened the door for me to speak to this gathering of students in Korea in about two weeks time, they thought I might be able to get one or two minutes, it was mainly all Koreans, we're all there for a big meeting conference of Christian leaders, but this is a separate thing in a stadium of Korean young people, just got a fax, they're giving me 25 minutes to speak to this 100,000 Korean young people, and they're hoping that this meeting and many other events will lead to the mobilization of 20,000 Koreans into world mission, they are now the fastest growing group within Operation Mobilization in terms of growth, so we give books like that, we sell them as well, there's the children's edition of Upworld, again, that one has to be at half

price, there's another one that looks like it's over that number of centimeters, Ray Lynch is right behind John Todd, John Todd is an ex-OMer, now enlisted in the Guinness Book of Records, an Irishman, who's visited every single nation in the world, and he's listed in the Guinness Book of Records, and he wrote this book, it's a secular book for the non-Christian, with an indirect pre-evangelistic firecracker planted in a couple of places, including mention of our fellowship, John Todd often pops into our nights of prayer there in London, and here's one of the ones you can get free, Debbie Meroff, professional writer with OM for a number of years, it's not just about the ship, it's OM stories, very easy reading, so many of us, so many of us have struggled with unanswered prayer, that's

been probably the greatest struggle in my life, probably 90% of my prayers, my big ones especially, you know, the evangelization of Afghanistan, it's not been answered, I'm still hanging in there, and this book, When Heaven is Silent, has been such an enormous help to so many people, in fact it was Philip battling panel cancer that read this, and so urged me to push this book, and I sort of dedicate this to him, When Heaven is Silent, a great man of God, he knew power in prayer, he's written other books about prayer, but his son committed suicide, some think that would be about the ultimate that a man could go through who's a Christian leader, but God kept him, and there's another brilliant book that perhaps will be at half price, about SIM, the mission that Ted Davey is now involved

with, and many of us have highly esteemed all these years, well normally, my normal approach is I give the books in the beginning, but I knew you'd all want some kind of change, there's been many, many paradigm shifts in OM, and I'd ask you to try to bear with us as you discover the new Operation Mobilization, because if young people are to join in large numbers, they don't want to join the old Operation Mobilization, that's your OM, we've, you know, we've bled, we've suffered, we've prayed, we did all kinds of things, but the young people today want to join the new OM, and they're not worried if there are a few OMers around, certainly I've never felt much rejection from the young people, but they do want us to listen to their ideas, they do want us to perhaps consider new ways to

evangelize, and new ways to plant churches, and so we listen to things that come out of, say, Willow Creek, or AD2000, or all kinds of places where amazing things are happening, there's a drama being shown in the United States right now, I've only got a little bit of information, literally tens of thousands are coming to Christ through this drama, I've never heard of anything quite like it, and some of you know that there's just a lot of amazing things happening in the world today, we can't go into that, so we are happy for OM1995, the new OM, we're repackaging the year program, it will not be called anymore One Year with OM, or OM Year Program, how did we ever have such a boring title all these years?

We changed Love Europe way back in 89, the new year program will be something probably quite different, World Action Teams, is the present name, or Global Teams? Global Action Teams, we have to float it around for a while, because almost every name you can conceive of for a new program, somebody's already got, so we've retreated from the last five names, but we're somehow hoping that Global Action Teams may stick, become the new repackaged year program as we move toward the year 2000.

We need your help, we learned a hard way in OM, money is five times harder to get than people, we got people lined up from here to Chile, most of them had their hands out, we need finance, and if you've got any questions about it, I'd love to have personal fellowship.

God bless you, let's go for it, to the year 2000, where we're going to have a mega reunion, probably in Moscow. Amen! Applause Applause Applause So before we close, there are refreshments at the end, coffee, tea, refreshments, and of course the book table through here, there is also a copy of the latest number 10 Operation Mobilization news video, which does have a section on OM Zaventem, that can be borrowed, and you are very welcome to see that, and actually some of the earlier ones also show some scenes of the Ministry of OM Belgium, I forget which number it's on, do you know offhand? They're hard to get, they're gone for 50 quid a shot. Anyway, it's good to subscribe to it, and get them regularly.

So I think in closing, I'd like for us to sing one song, and I'd like us to listen to a song. So let's go a little back some years, and we'll sing a worship song to finish, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty, and then right after that, a song that we've been actually playing with translation in the different rallies, we'll listen to it just in English, from Keith Green. That puts us a little more into the modern times.

Open your eyes, and we'll close with that. So let's sing together, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty. And as we do it, let's worship Him, and let's offer our lives to Him, even as we sing, because that's the sacrifice of worship that the Lord is looking for.

Not just our words, but our hearts, bodies, time, energy, whatever we've got, may it go to Him. Let's stand and sing together. ■ ■ Holy, Holy, Holy, in the morning thy Son shall rise to thee.

Holy, Holy, Holy, God in three Persons, Blessed Trinity. We, all the saints adoring, Have a crown of blossoms here. Cherubim and cherubim, Falling down before Thee, Praise her and adore Thee, Though sinful men Thy glory may not see.

Holy, Thou art holy, There is none beside Thee, Perfect in power, Really holy, holy. Glory shall praise Thy name, In earth and sky and sea. Holy, holy, holy, Merciful and mighty, God in three Persons, Blessed Trinity.

And a few other poems were at our, I think, breakfast table in our house. And we had a discussion about how the future would go. This is many years ago.

And I remember that we somewhat said to one another, whatever happens, we will never leave one another. We will never leave one another. And I've often thought back about that particular discussion.

And I think Toast and I often thought about it as well. I left the WEM ten years ago, exactly to the date. And I am just an ordinary day-by-day struggling businessman, trying just to live from one day into another.

Some might not believe that. But I tell the truth. And I say this because Thursday evening, I'm so fully aware of the fact that indeed that, although often I thought that we had betrayed one another, on that we will never leave one another.

But I understand, I think in a better perspective today, that actually we have not left one another. We are together still before an unfinished task, the same task. Probably we are within other social boundaries, other situations, other responsibilities.

But there's one thing which is true for all of us. Older as we are, some thirty years older as when we started, we still have the same task. And I am tremendously challenged to be here tonight together with all of you and just continue, let us just continue together.

And carry each other's burdens and together be carrying the burden of this world. Shall we pray? Father in heaven, we thank you for your tremendous love for us. You have not left us.

You have stayed with us. You gave us indeed the A, B, C and of the alphabet opportunities. And Lord, we in this way also would like to continue with you.

We thank you Jesus that you are ours and that we can say that we are yours. And we do pray Lord indeed. We are not praying for many mighty miracles, but just small daily miracles in our own lives.

Revive us, bring us back to the calling that you have called us with many years ago. Lord that we will be there recommitted with our lives and with all what we have in order to just fulfill the task which is unfinished. I do pray for operation mobilization.

I pray for this country Belgium and for the OM Belgium team. And indeed Lord, today it is just exactly the same as twenty or twenty-five years ago. It's hard to get recruits.

It's hard to find the finance. We pray for OM Zalander. We thank you Father for the many years of faithful serving and servants who worked in this place.

And who also like Edwin presented that to us tonight, want to continue, want to be servants as that is their mission statement. Lord Jesus, we thank you for the fun, for the cheerfulness of this evening. We once again want to say to you Lord that we love you and that we want to extend your love through our own lives to one another and to this world.

And Lord now dismiss us with your joy we pray. In Jesus name. Amen.

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