

Full Gospel Business Men's

# VOICE



**RICHARD SHAKARIAN—  
FGBMF'S NEW  
PRESIDENT**

# WELCOME FGBMFI'S NEW PRESIDENT

We welcome to the leadership of FGBMFI, our new president, Richard Shakarian.

Though we feel a deep loss at the passing of Demos Shakarian, our beloved founder, it was his total desire that Richard follow him as president of FGBMFI and he made every provision for this prior to his passing. He said,

"God anointed Richard for this task and I also anoint him."

Oral Roberts, who had affirmed Demos Shakarian as the first president of FGBMFI, also affirmed Richard Shakarian as the second president. He gave the following eulogy as he conducted Demos' funeral:

"Before he died, Demos put everything in order...he had passed the mantle to his son, Richard. The new president of Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship is Richard, the second president. And I want you to know, Richard, as I affirmed your father, Demos, as he founded this great movement, I affirm you as the president and leader of Full



Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International, the finest group of businessmen this world has ever known.

"Through the ministry of FGBMFI, hundreds of thousands of men in the business and professional world have been won to Christ, are being won to Christ, and will be won to Christ in the days ahead. And with the installation of Richard, the oldest son of Demos and Rose, the work of Full Gospel Business Men will continue unabated and with new strength and anointing. The founder/leader has



finally joined with the Creator of us all, and they have talked it over, and I know that the answer is, 'Go forth.' Richard, the future is bright." ■

**Editor's Note:**

We felt it important for you to know the spirit and leadership of our new president. Through the following testimony you will be able to look in his heart and get acquainted with him.

## A WORD FROM RICHARD SHAKARIAN

The day following my father's service all the officers, and most of the vice-presidents, and many directors had come from around the world. As we met, we knelt in prayer and I asked the Lord to speak to me. Immediately His voice within said, "Richard, YOU ARE TO BE A GREAT ENCOURAGER." Wonderful! He gave me my first assignment. I am your encourager. You see...

You are the one who reaches out.

I am the one who encourages you!

The anointing of the Holy Spirit is very precious upon you, men. Millions are waiting for your anointed testimony...your gifts...your anointings!

I can never fill the shoes of my father,

and I will not try, but he instructed me well in the Lord, and taught me to hear the voice of God. My father and I talked together of the gentle love that conquers sin, strife, and all the works of evil. We talked of the millions of men to be unlocked to God's forgiveness, and the millions of men sitting on the sidelines not knowing how to release their anointings and gifts.

We talked of the day when millions of businessmen around the world will rise, not in the power of their business, or brilliance of mind, but they shall arise to the work of the great harvest, with the fresh fire of the Holy Spirit. A new dimension of power for our time. ■



*FGBMFT's new president, Richard Shakarian received his mantle of leadership from his father and Fellowship founder, Demos Shakarian.*

# A LIFE-LONG COMMITMENT TO JESUS

by *Richard Shakarian*

**M**y early years were spent living on a dairy farm with my parents and all those cows.

I always loved the Lord, and it seemed as if I was always witnessing to businessmen. My grandfather would have businessmen at his home. There the food would be prepared in a separate kitchen outside of the home by the ladies. And the men would sit in the living room in front of the big fireplace, talking about business. Suddenly my grandfather would say, "Richard, stand here in the center." There before my father and grandfather and the wealthy businessmen of the Armenian commu-

nity, he would have me tell them about the Lord Jesus.

As a young boy of seven years of age there I was standing in the center of the room, telling them the story of Jesus. This was my grandfather's way of bringing the Lord to sometimes otherwise hardened men. But it was also my way of giving expression to the Lord Jesus Christ and what He meant to me.

Just before my 13th birthday, I wanted to receive the baptism in the Holy Spirit.

One night I was praying. I started about 9 p.m. Emptying self. More of Jesus, and less of me. Emptying, empty-

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*Richard and Vangie Shakarian*

ing. I saw a scene. I was climbing a mountain, seeking God. The Lord said, "Will you give this up?" The Lord was asking me for future things. Decades ahead in my life. I didn't know that then. "Will you give Me this?" "Yes." "Pray a while. Will you give Me all?" "Yes, Lord," I said.

Hours later, in prayer, I saw the Lord. The power of the Holy Spirit came upon me at the midnight hour.

My life was changed. My mother said she never saw anything like it. "You're completely changed and so on fire for Jesus."

I told everybody I met about the Lord. I asked my dad to let me go to Fred Jordan's soul-winning school. "Oh, they won't let young people in," he said. "But I'll take you to the president." At that time they were teaching soul-winning in a six-week course.

When we got there Fred asked, "Why do you want to come?" I started pouring my heart out. He said, "Come on in." That summer he let four young people in. One of them was Willie Jordan who now heads that ministry.

I was the youngest and was made president of the youth group. We started witnessing on the streets.

When summer ended we went back to our different schools and worked to start Bible clubs on campus. We were threatened. We were under tremendous persecution, but God began blessing. We started winning young people to the Lord. Then we said, "Let's have a field day." There is nothing like the imagination and zeal of youth. What is a field day? Every Saturday we would

all get together, then go out and witness. That was a field day. Winning people to Christ! And the results started pouring in.

Fred said, "I have a five-night, 15-minute broadcast and I'll give you Friday night for your youth department. Well, we set up our rules—no one could be on that radio program, including any of us, unless they won somebody to the Lord that week, or unless you were a new convert that week. Talk about fresh testimonies. We were winning souls every day!

The United States Congress invited me and I spoke to their prayer group of congressmen on Capitol Hill about the power of Christ to deliver young men from drugs and sin.

## **BANK OF AMERICA PRESIDENT**

The president of Bank of America said to my father, "You know, Demos, your son came in here and made an appointment with me. When he came back, I asked him what he wanted to talk about. He was trying to win me to Jesus. Can you imagine your son, Richard, trying to win me to Jesus!"

## **THE WEALTHIEST BUSINESSMAN**

As I was praying, one of the wealthiest men in town kept coming before me. He owned the Ford/Lincoln dealership in Downey. I just had to talk to him. Walking by his dealership on my way home from school I went in and said, "I want an appointment with Mr. Sachs. I'm Richard Shakarian and I'd





*Richard headed up some very successful grand openings for Reliance Dairy outlets. Hundreds attended these gala events.*

like to have an appointment with him tomorrow if I could. It will have to be after school because I'm in school until three o'clock." They said, "Fine, come at 3:30."

It was one of those old style offices. He had every kind of animal head on the wall you could possibly imagine. I thought I better not make a mistake or I might be on the wall, too. As I sat across the big desk from this dignified man—at that time I was 14 years old—we began to talk. I didn't know what to say. Finally he asked, "Richard, what did you want to see me about?" I said, "Mr. Sachs, I have a message for you." "What is it?" he asked. I said, "Jesus loves you very much, and I want to tell you how I got this message. Our family really loves the Lord, and we pray a lot. Every time I prayed in the last three weeks you have come up be-

fore me. The only thing I know is that Jesus wants you to know how much He loves you." We went on from there, as he received the message of Christ.

Three months later this man died from a cancer he didn't know he had when I talked to him.

Yes, from earliest youth I have always loved to win businessmen to God!

During my high school days I founded 300 Bible clubs across America, and as far away as Australia, with about 10,000 young people receiving Christ as Saviour.

## **RICHARD AND EVANGELINE**

**M**y wife, Evangeline (Vangie), and I fell in love at Southern California College. She is the daughter of Oscar and Elizabeth Klingsheim. Elizabeth had received the baptism in the Holy Spirit in Norway as a young girl and the Lord called her to serve as a

missionary in China. After returning to America, she married Oscar and they became ministers with the Assemblies of God.

Vangie and I have been happily married since 1955. We have four beautiful daughters: Denice, Cynthia, Brenda and Suzanne. We also are the proud grandparents of three grandchildren.

## AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS

While working with my father and grandfather at Reliance Dairies, Vangie and I were sent by Oral Roberts as speakers for the first World Action Team. The team was composed of five of us young people. At the age of 25 I looked forward to seeing the many that would come to Christ.

This was an 80-day world tour that took us to 26 nations in Latin America, South America, Africa, Europe, India, Asia, and the Middle East. The door was open for us to meet with government leaders and to minister through crusades, films, music, and personal witness.

We were to leave on Sunday morning. I was attending the World Convention in Tulsa, which finished on the Saturday before. All week I had been leading the youth portion of that convention. The last night we had a banquet for 150 people, in a beautiful Grecian-style ballroom.

It was during the benediction that God moved in a beautiful way. As he finished praying, the young man on my right began speaking in tongues, a



language he didn't know, French, as it turned out. The young man on my left, Lee Braxton's son, Sharod, was a professor of French. I was between two live wires—God was giving to one a message in French, and to the other the interpretation.

Then, something really special happened. Everyone in the room was overcome by the Holy Spirit as His mighty presence fell in our midst. Twenty-five minutes later I woke up, I was on the floor. I opened my eyes. No one was standing. I couldn't see across the room. It was the glory of God like a fog that filled the room.

After a few minutes I got up, but I still couldn't see across the room. I took a few steps forward and realized





*(Left) Richard and Vangie Shakarian tour the pyramids on their 80-day world evangelism tour. (Above) Richard distributes tracts to eager Africans. (Right, top) Richard witnesses to a group of Buddhist monks. (Right, middle) Richard has a 1960 meeting with Franz Amrehn, mayor of West Berlin. (Right) bottom) Richard is invited to participate in the first expedition to Mt. Ararat, in search of Noah's Ark.*



that there was a mighty presence of God. It was so powerful that I fell to my knees again in awe of His overwhelming presence.

What a fitting beginning, as the next morning we began our trip around the world. As we spoke of the love of Christ, people came to the Lord. I'll never forget the prisoner in the state prison in Puerto Rico, who could not answer the altar call along with those on the field, but he signaled with a towel through the bars in his window his acceptance of Christ. Or the church along the river in Colombia, with bullet holes in the door, where 800 gathered. Hundreds came to Christ. Or the large congregation at the church in a basement in Paris. Or the thousands who



*(Below, top) Former minister of justice of Thailand was saved at this banquet in Bangkok. (Below, bottom) Richard meets with leaders in Indonesia.*



came to Christ in Africa. The outpouring of the Holy Spirit in Egypt. Or blind Lechemy Sorinson, a little girl who received her sight in India screaming, "I can see, I can see." Or the Buddhist temple where by invitation I spoke of Jesus for three days to people who had never heard that wonderful name. Or the young people in Japan asking, "What is truth?" Yes, I learned that all mankind yearns for the forgiving, liberating, joy-giving power of our Lord. And it was during this trip that over 15,000 people from many lands came to Christ as Saviour. Oh what a joy!

## **WORKING IN THE DAIRY**

**W**orking with my father and grandfather in the family dairy was a wonderful experience. As a young man I began working in the creamery plant. Then as we developed a new concept of drive-in dairy stores, soon I was developing promotions and running our dairy store. The Lord so blessed the business that we could not take care of all our customers. At busy times the cars were in the street. We opened store number two, then number three. Soon I found myself locating property,





building the store buildings, arranging our promotions, and selling the milk through 28 stores. Of course, I didn't do this by myself. By that time I had over 300 employees under my direction. Every day started early and ended late. The endless work, producing, processing, trucking, displays, selling, promotions, and building goodwill with thousands of customers. We became California's largest dairy retailer. It did not happen by accident. Over a period of time I developed a wonderful team. We enjoyed opening new stores and making new friends. All the leaders were Christians. We had great team spirit. It seemed there was almost nothing our team could not accomplish. During those years Dad traveled extensively, establishing FGBMFI. His father, Isaac, was in full charge.



*Three generations of Shakarian men oversee the operation and development of Reliance Dairies: Isaac, Demos and Richard.*

Working in his late years so his son, Demos, could do the work of the Lord. All the times were not easy. I remember well having lived through the hard times that my father sometimes spoke of. Many businessmen have been greatly encouraged to hear of God's

help. When there was no way except to get up in the morning and say, "Lord Jesus, I look to You. You're my hope, my help, my life." Some of Dad's tests were not easy, and some were not short, but God always walked with him and brought him out.

## EDITOR'S WORD

It was during these years in addition to the many Christian travels and outreaches, Richard helped many people. He would organize the business community, industry and service clubs to help those in need. On one occasion 1,000 families were helped. Richard began the International Milk Relief Program. Working through Rotary

Clubs, he was able to send fine young breeding bulls to the universities of many lands. Using artificial insemination, these bulls were able to raise the milk-producing capacity of thousands of cows in these nations. As a result, much more milk was available for the children of the world.

He received many honors, including a resolution by the California State Legislature.



*(Above) As part of the Milk Relief Program, Richard donates a prize bull to Israel. (Left) Richard receives a special proclamation from the County of Los Angeles.*





## REACHING YOUNG AMERICA

I launched a major effort to reach the youth of America. We held some 30 outreaches around the nation and ministered to hundreds of thousands.

Reaching out to young America we had set a goal of 100,000 conversions in one year. Our format was great music and anointed personal testimonies.

The following testimony will give you some idea of the effectiveness of this work.

The first youth outreach that I conducted on a large scale was in San Bernardino, California. I rented the Orange Showgrounds, the largest indoor facility in the city. Nicky Cruz, Andrea Crouch, the Disciples, and one of the prominent sports athletes joined me.

That night there was an absolutely fantastic turnout; it was the all-time record crowd for the Orange Showgrounds. I believe there were over 6,500 attending. The whole place was completely jammed.

A Baptist pastor brought many people from his church. Later that night when I talked to him, he said, "Richard, when you gave the altar call, my niece jumped over the rail, scrambled down and ran to the altar. My mother ran down to receive the Lord! Nineteen from my church accepted the Lord as their Saviour tonight!" He was just thrilled with the move of God in that meeting. These were among the 800 who received the Lord that night.

At the Portland outreach, with a full



*16,000 young people gathered together for the Portland, Oregon outreach.*

house of 16,000 in attendance and 2,000 locked out, a tremendous ovation rocked the Coliseum as Jesus Christ was welcomed as honored guest. There was a great sense of the presence of Jesus. At the altar call, in two minutes, over 3,000 people responded to the invitation. Many were weeping as they accepted Jesus Christ as Saviour. That night eight sisters from a foster home accepted the Lord. One entire family received the Lord together; a doctor and his wife; a young man out of prison five days; 80 people from a busload of 87—all received the Lord as Saviour. These were only a few of the many beautiful miracles wrought by God.

Space doesn't permit to tell of the many great crusades in Phoenix, Dallas, San Diego, Bakersfield, St. Louis, Minneapolis, Chicago, and on and on. Thousands were set free by the Holy Spirit to receive Christ and they became part of God's family!

## **TESTIMONY FROM THE 1993 BOSTON WORLD CONVENTION**

**I** have had a lifelong commitment to Jesus as my Saviour and Lord. I have never turned my back on Him, and never consciously deviated from His path. In a full life that brings maturity



*Richard Shakarian addresses the men at the 1993 Boston World Convention.*



there are times of suffering. In my life this has drawn me closer to the Lord. Several years ago, I was in the oil drilling and production business. After initial success, the price dropped from \$40 to \$10 a barrel. It seemed there was nothing I could do. Hundreds of oil companies and even some banks went down. In these troubled times some came against me. Today, I believe I got ahead of God and entered into a business that I should have avoided.

One Saturday morning, my wife took me to the hospital. I quickly realized I was not coming out without major work. I keenly felt the business load for every company and individual that might be involved. We called our pastor. I wanted a complete restoration of God's perfect will in my life. As we prayed I humbled myself to God and asked Him to forgive me. The Lord seemed to walk into the hospital room. The Holy Spirit filled me till I could hold no more. I began to prophesy over my family. Then I prayed forgiveness and blessing for everyone who had come against me or hurt me. Oh, the wonderful peace of God! Then I said, "Lord, live or die, I trust You. If You have a work for me to do upon this earth, then let me live to do it." Oh, the balances of God!

The next day, without fear, I described to the doctor the adverse affects of a pre-surgery test. As I talked with him I suddenly became unconscious. I was at the point of life or death. The doctor failed to bring me out. He called the blue team. My wife and

parents, praying nearby, saw them rush in. With a few seconds to go I came back. My mind was clear. I saw the new medical team and I knew God had a plan for my future that was not yet completed. Thank You, Lord, I completely rededicate my life to You. Let Your will alone be done in my life.

Friend, I wish I could say differently, but I have discovered that through suffering I have found new levels in Christ Jesus. Recently, the Lord has spoken to my heart. He said He had given me something precious, His anointing. Protect it. Do not strive with any man. Walk in love. Walk in forgiveness. As I begin this new phase of my life, I would like to humble myself and ask you, my dear brothers, if I have offended you, forgive me. And if you feel you have done something against me, I have long since forgiven you.

He who forgave us all wants His forgiveness to flow through us to a world bound in sin.

**Editors Note: This word was given to all the men at the 1993 Boston World Convention.**

## THE SOVIET UNION

**W**e were destined to start the first chapter of Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship in the Soviet Union. It was May 1990 when a small group of businessmen joined my wife, Vangie, and me as we traveled to the Soviet Union. Paul and Joyce Toberty were in that group.

I met the communist government leaders from Armenia in Los Angeles. They invited us. This was the official

invitation that opened all the doors for stadiums, arenas, television and printing to Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship. The invitation came because we were businessmen. At that time it was still under full domination of the Soviet Union and of the communist regime.

In our preparations, I came across the prophecies given by St. Gregory to the first Armenian king to accept the Lord and turn the entire nation over to Christianity. That was 1,600 years ago. I realized that prophecy was still for today. If I would give the prophetic word to the men of Armenia, they would rise to the call of our Lord, just as they did 1,600 years before.

*Richard Shakarian and FGBMFI team members packed out stadiums to overflowing in their historic airlift to Armenia.*

Upon arrival we were given the royal treatment. The Christians had set up meetings and the government gave, without charge, stadiums, halls and arenas. In those days the communists were in charge, but they would not charge us a penny. The government sponsored our meetings by providing these great facilities. Our travel within the country and our lodging were also without cost.

We asked for the largest sports arena in the land for the final service in the capital. Their reply was, "Are you sure? There are not enough active Christian people in the whole land to fill that." We insisted, however, and they gave it to us.

From the very beginning the power of the Lord was mighty upon the people. In the first meeting alone, as I spoke to 4,000 people, I told them the





*The Gospel of John is prepared for printing—  
on the Central Committee Communist press—  
for distribution in the Soviet Union.*

prophecy given by St. Gregory in 301 A.D. was the Word of the Lord. As the Word of the Lord it would never lose its power. And as I spoke, the Holy Spirit would speak to their spirit on the inside. Then I gave the prophecy and the invitation for men only.

Tears filled their eyes and streamed down their faces. In that first meeting 800 men gave their lives to Jesus Christ. I looked down at the altar, their hands were raised, and they were crying out to God, tears coming down their faces. I looked around and saw young men from Armenia with men of other republics, standing there shoulder to shoulder with their hands raised and tears coming down their cheeks, crying out to God. I turned to my right, there were young Russian soldiers in full uniform, standing, weeping and crying out to God, their hands were raised to the Lord. The captor and the captive were both bowing at the feet of the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords. What a mighty revival began that day. Through the week 10,000 men answered the call, to give their lives to Jesus Christ and to evangelize the Soviet Union as laymen to reach out for Jesus Christ.

We distributed 20,000 copies of the Gospel of John, which had been printed on the Central Committee Communist press and paid for by Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International.



When the government officials asked, "What else can we do for you?" we answered, "Put us on television." So the next night we all shared on live television how Jesus Christ had changed our lives. On our final night, 15,000 came to the meeting—4,000 couldn't even get into the stadium! That night alone, 6,000 people committed their lives to Jesus.

Around 1:00 a.m. Paul and I found ourselves in the home of one of the top officials. He was a very kind man, but when we began talking, he asked some hard questions. He looked me right in the eye and asked, "How did you do this?" I didn't know what he was asking, so I said, "What do you mean? Do what?" "How is it that you came to the city one week ago, you had nothing—no organization, nothing—and in one week you filled the biggest stadium we have with thousands of people. How did you do it?" I replied, "It's very simple; we didn't do it. God did! If the people are hungry for their spirits to be fed and someone says, 'High on the hill overlooking the city in the stadium you will be fed,

your spirit will be nourished,' they will come." The official hung his head. Then we shared what Jesus meant to us and asked him if he would like to receive Jesus. He said he would and we prayed with him.

I will never forget another small stadium filled with curious people earlier that week. Flags flying, Mt. Ararat in the background. The Lord Himself seemed to walk among the people. A great disturbance broke out. It was a man mute for 30 years who was suddenly healed. A lady who'd been lame for 40 years was healed. And there were many more. It seemed we were simply bystanders, watching God at work as, for one-and-a-half hours, miracles abounded in that stadium.

Afterwards, a well-dressed lady, who was a leader in the communist party came to me and said, "Mr. Shakarian, I'm an atheist." I thought she hadn't stopped me just to tell me that, so I asked, "And?" "I have arthritis, and haven't been able to lift up my hands or arms for many years without excruciating pain. While you were speaking I was cured." She raised her arms. I

asked, "Now will you accept that there is a God?" She looked up at her hands in the air and said, "Yes." I went on, "Will you accept Jesus Christ as Lord in your life?" Looking at her hands still in the air she said, "Yes," and right there on that stadium track she received Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour. It was just like when Jesus healed the unbelieving. First, the demonstration of His power, then their acceptance of Him.

## FIRST USSR CHAPTER

The Lord began to move among the Armenian and Russian men. Many were engineers, contractors, doctors, shoe repairmen, farmers, scientists and others. Like the first meeting in Los Angeles the founding of the first chapter in the Soviet Union had humble beginnings. I gave the vision, the men testified, we prayed, and in less than two years these men, full of the Holy Spirit, have founded 19 chapters. Praise the Lord!

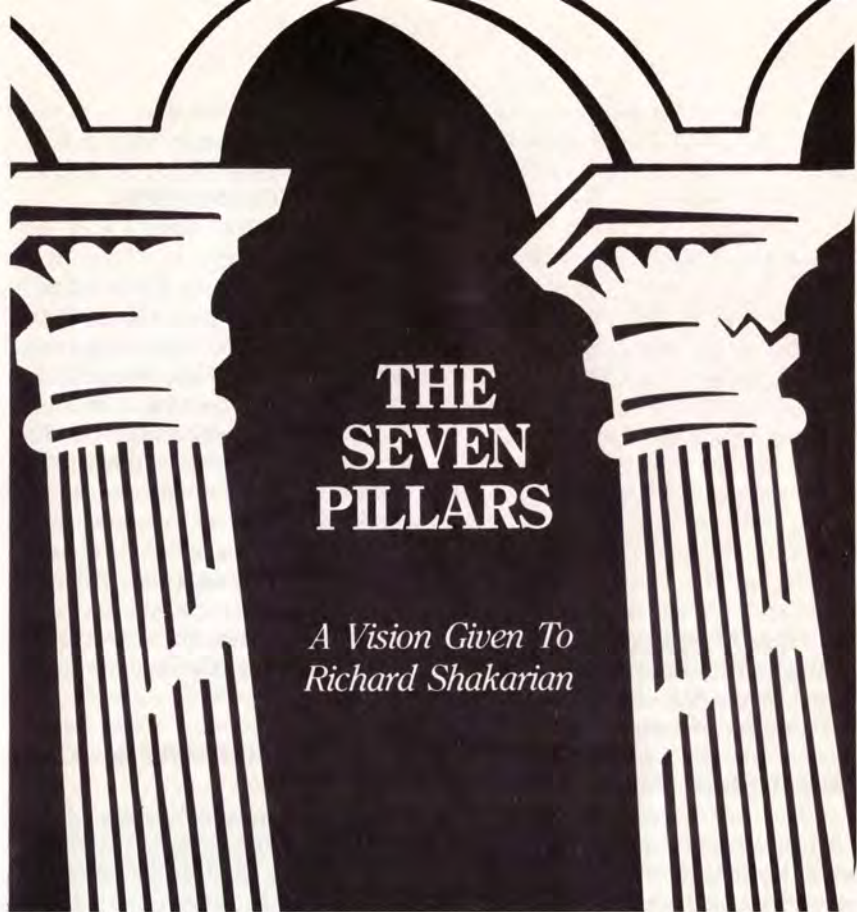
## THE VISION OF THE FELLOWSHIP

I feel very strongly that the Fellowship was built upon the vision given to my father, Demos Shakarian, and that it will continue to progress upon this foundation. This vision for the Fellowship will never change. The Lord gives revelation to each of us to help us be better prepared to carry out His work. I believe I saw the glory and power of the Lord for this last day great outpouring of His Holy Spirit.



*Local Armenian leaders assisted FGBMFI leaders, Paul Toberty, center, and Richard Shakarian, right.*





# THE SEVEN PILLARS

*A Vision Given To  
Richard Shakarian*

## THE GLORY OF GOD

**I**t was noon on a beautiful California day. I was sitting in the lobby of the old Biltmore Hotel where the first conventions of the Fellowship were held.

It was December of 1986, and I was at a very low point in my life. But I have learned not to despise those times because as we draw very near to our Lord He can speak to us in ways

we would otherwise miss.

As I sat in that big chair, the Lord began to speak to my heart. "There is something about Myself I am going to reveal to mankind." I said, "But Lord, why are You talking to me? I feel that if You were to line up all the men on earth, perhaps I would be at the end of the line."

The word of the Lord came again, stronger this time. "There is something



alone, knowing Jesus.

### **THE HOLY SPIRIT LAST DAY OUTPOURING**

The word continued...“Then My pillar, the Holy Spirit, as I revealed to My prophet Joel, the greater anointing of the last harvest, the outpouring upon all flesh.” As the word continued, I saw the second pillar descend from heaven and enlarge the beginnings of God’s temple and habitation with men. As I saw this scene before my eyes the word continued...“And millions upon millions have found shelter under My power.”

And there they were, new millions finding shelter and coming to God’s great pillar of truth, the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in the last days to modern man.

### **HEALING AND DELIVERANCE**

“And as I brought My pillar of truth, My healing and delivering power, and millions have found shelter under this pillar.” Then I saw the third pillar. The healing and deliverance ministry came into the realm of mankind.

### **THE RETURN OF ISRAEL**

Once again, I pleaded, “Lord, show me more that I may understand Your ways and how You are dealing with mankind.” Then I saw the scene as His fourth pillar came from heaven into the realm of man. It enlarged the area and I saw new millions come to it...it was the promise of God to Abraham.

about Myself I am going to reveal to mankind, My pillar of truth.” “But Lord,” I protested, “I have never heard of Your pillar of truth. What is it?”

### **SALVATION BY FAITH**

The word continued. “Just as I revealed My pillar of truth, the just shall live by faith, and the people received salvation by faith in Jesus Christ.

“That pillar is a continuing shelter for millions upon millions of men. It stands and millions are added to it. My truth has come that men may know Me.”

At this point I saw the pillar. It came from heaven. ‘The just shall live by faith.’ It settled in a great courtyard of mankind. The first pillar in God’s house. It stood alone and I saw millions coming to that pillar, gathering around, receiving forgiveness...by faith in Him



Yes, I saw it in the vision and I have seen it in my lifetime. God's promise kept after all these years.

## **GOD IS A GOOD GOD**

Then the fifth pillar. "I allowed mankind to see My nature, I anointed Oral Roberts to declare 'God is a good God.' This pillar will stand as millions upon millions of men seek shelter under My goodness."

Then I saw it come to mankind, as it extended the house of God upon earth millions came and discovered the nature of God Himself. I personally remembered the angry preachers and angry legalistic men who wanted to know why this young man, Oral, could get up, and with a simple declaration loose the hold of fear, domination and legalism that had kept people under bondage.

But the people rejoiced to know a

forgiving, loving God who was on their side fighting the destruction of Satan. For all time men now knew that God is a good God.

## **CALLING MEN BACK TO GOD**

Then the sixth pillar, "As I called My servant, Demos Shakarian, to proclaim, I am calling men back to God." This pillar of truth that came from heaven into the realm of mankind, revealed to the world that in these last days, as at the first, "I will use ordinary men. My gifts, callings and talents I have given to ordinary men **WILL COME FORTH**. For I call the men to a higher calling, and millions upon millions have found shelter under this pillar, and it shall stand as men gather themselves unto me. For I have called them for such a time as this. They shall see the fields of harvest, purchased with the blood of the Lamb of God. Their eyes shall become single for theirs is the harvest. Millions upon millions more will come. They will find shelter under the pillar."

Now there were six pillars standing in the giant courtyard of mankind. They were in a rectangle, three on each side, unconnected, with millions milling about each pillar, others going back and forth between them.

Then I saw a scene in heaven. A magnificent pillar was being prepared. So beautiful, ornate and large. "Lord, could it be Your second coming?" "No, not yet. This is My mighty dwelling power, the wonders, those things hitherto reserved as acts of God the Father will come among men."





## THE COMING GLORY OF GOD

The scene changed to the gate of heaven. The angels were busy with the finishing touches. Then came the launching from heaven to earth. It was as if the pillar of fire and pillar of cloud that preserved Israel in the wilderness joined the seventh pillar. As it settled into the realm of mankind it came to the center of all the other pillars. **RIGHT IN THE CENTER OF ALL MANKIND.** It was larger, more ornate, taller, more beautiful. Suddenly, everything in the realm of mankind completely changed. Before these pillars were standing by themselves with millions around each one, now suddenly the cloud became a **ROOF OF LIGHT.** It tied all the pillars together for the first time. The house of God, His temple of safety and power for the last day man. **THE FIRE** became a golden radiance such as I have never seen before surrounding the center pillar and spreading out with anointing and power, falling upon the people.

**ALL THE PEOPLE TOGETHER** knelt and worshiped God, no one was contrary or out of order.

•••••

**THE LIGHT...** was radiant between all the pillars. But, like a laser, there was no light beyond the boundary of God's pillars of truth.

**DARKNESS...** like no other was beyond the pillars. The ungodly groping in complete darkness. Darkness you could feel. They could see into the light, but they were in darkness.

**FEAR...** of almighty God was upon

all those outside of our Lord's protection.

**SOUND...** like a mighty dynamo came from the seventh pillar and filled the whole earth. It is the sound of the power of our Lord.

Yes, fear was upon evil rulers, for there is the power to bring them down, as in Moses' day.

**POWER...** to bring down ungodly kingdoms. Power like our generation has never known, will be released in the final harvest.

For **OUR LORD HIMSELF** will personally direct this great last day harvest.

- For His blood is still in the earth, it is at work today.
- For the Father has declared it "For God is not willing that any should perish."

## MILLIONS ARE WAITING

In the very first chapter meeting Oral Roberts said, "Let it be the power of God alone, not by the mind of man, but by His Holy Spirit alone!"

Oh, who can fulfill the vision? Only the Holy Spirit through anointed men!

When Jesus left this earth, ordinary men stood up... a fisherman, a doctor, a tiller of fields. Now clothed with a fresh anointing from on high these men gave their testimony. They had been with Jesus. They told of the blind who received sight, the leper cleansed, the cripple now leaping and praising God, the sinner forgiven, their testimony, what they saw and heard!

Today, as we humble ourselves before the Lord, and receive a fresh anointing



of fire from heaven, the wonders of God to our generation shall come forth. Like the apostles of old, we men shall change the world.

## I BELIEVE

I believe...the anointing upon each of our men is very significant.

I believe...there is a new, higher threshold of spiritual conflict coming.

I believe...God has called FGBMFI into being for such a time as this.

I believe...our generation will be given greater power.

I believe...God is calling men who will put Him first before themselves.

I believe...millions of Full Gospel Business Men will bring in the great harvest at the end of the age.

I believe...God wants you and me to enter in for that which the world knoweth not...He is about to do.

## OUR DESTINY

Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship, through our testimony, will let the world know: there is salvation in Jesus by faith; there is the promise of the baptism in the Holy Spirit; there is the hope of the delivering and healing power of God; there is assurance that we can enter God's promised land; there is proof that "God is a good God;" there is the tremendous work of "calling men back to God" and there is the tremendous thrill of bringing the glory and wonders of God to a spiritually darkened world...our Lord's harvest field. ■

# THE PROPHETIC WORD

The story of the Shakarian family begins at the foot of Mount Ararat in little Armenia. For those in this difficult land, the prophetic word of God was very important.

By prophecy, my great-grandfather led his family to America. God had warned them through the prophetic writings of an 11-year-old boy of a terrible massacre to come. One of these writings is still unopened.

Because of their obedience, God took them out of harm's way, and brought our family to within one mile and one year of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Azusa Street in Los Angeles.

My grandfather, Isaac, starting with just three cows, was greatly blessed. As was Isaac in the Old Testament.

Demos Shakarian, my dad, gave birth to a new phenomenon: businessmen giving their personal testimony. Oh, what power is unleashed when under fresh anointing of the Holy Spirit men tell the forgiving power of Christ in their lives.

**A POWERFUL ITALIAN PASTOR  
—Prophetic word given to Richard  
Shakarian before the men of the  
Men's Advance, Redlands,  
California, 1987**

“Yea, oh brother Shakarian, saith God unto thee, ‘I have ordained thee that thou shalt follow in the steps of thy father. Thou shalt move in leadership in this organization. Thou shalt be a Solomon. Thou shalt follow the steps of thy father, yea, in this ministry. For I have ordained thee, saith God. Thou art a unicorn in the making. I shall strengthen thee. Fear not to take this position, saith God unto thee, for I have ordained that thou shalt move forward. I shall gather about thee a strong leadership, far stronger than thy father which has gone forth through the years. Thou shalt not fear. Thou shalt move for I have strengthened thee in administration, in multiplying investments of God. I will give you the blessings of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Thou shalt be unmoveable if thou fasteneth thy eyes upon Jehovah-Jirah,’ saith God.”

**ANAHEIM WORLD CONVENTION  
—ULF EKMAN, JULY 7, 1990**

Given by Ulf Ekman under a powerful anointing. He walked in front of Richard on the platform and pointed at him as he spoke.

*Prophecy to Richard Shakarian:*

“There have been several things that have been trying to pull you away. There have been people that said, ‘You are only in it because of your father. You only have it because of your father.’ But YOU KNOW...YOU KNOW YOUR TIME...you know your CALLING. It has not really been developed

yet, BUT YOU KNOW that you have been CALLED WITH THIS MAN (pointing at Demos). You have been CALLED TO WORK WITH THIS MAN. YOU HAVE BEEN CALLED in the Spirit of God TO CARRY THAT WHICH YOUR FATHER WAS GIVEN FROM HEAVEN, and the people that have been rejecting you, and attacking you, I WILL DEAL WITH THEM, says the Spirit of God. BECAUSE I DO NOT SEE AFTER THE FLESH. I say GO! Do what I’ve put into your heart! So BE BLESSED and LIFT YOUR HEAD UP, and do not let people put you down, BECAUSE I HAVE PUT YOU IN A POSITION, and I WILL strengthen you. I WILL strengthen you, and more REVELATION WILL COME, and some of the businesslike ways that you are so used to, will just cease and you will see in the Spirit instead and there will be an easier way to go and that will add strength.

“And then, oh in the future. Oh, in the future for the second part of your calling. THE CROWDS!...THE CROWDS!...THE CROWDS...preaching and the teaching of My Words, says God.”

**PROPHECY—SEATTLE CONVENTION, NOVEMBER 28, 1992**

“I am going to do a new thing in this organization. Enlarge the walls for the building is too small for the work that I shall do in this day. I have prepared workmen in abundance from outside the wall, men from every profession and trade with the skill and the



gifts required to rebuild the temple. I have seen the weakness of the structure, I shall remove the walls within that divide, and I shall remove envy, strife and division. I shall strengthen the building and enlarge the walls for I AM the Master Builder and you shall see within one year that it has begun to come to pass."

### **BREAKTHROUGH PRAYER MEETING—FGBMFI HEAD- QUARTERS, APRIL 6, 1993**

#### **Joyce Toberly—**

"For surely purity shall come, saith the Lord, or I will not move. And there has been that which has brought division, and that which has fought against the vision, and yet I speak unto you and I say, I am working and I have been working that those who are contrary might be revealed, that I might show Myself strong among those who will stay true. For verily, saith the Lord, I have brought a cleansing, and it has not been pleasant, but it has been My work. And now I shall raise up those who shall walk before Me in singleness of heart and singleness of mind, and I will root out, and I will destroy all who would come in pretense, saith the Lord. So be ready for My arm has been laid bare. And surely I have begun a work, and when I begin a work who can say no to Me, and who can turn back that which I have determined, saith the Lord. Look not for that which shall bring thee to nothing, but look to that which shall cause thee to rise up and do valiantly for souls, saith the

Lord, it shall surely be."

#### **Chuck Flynn—**

"Thus saith the Spirit, because you have chosen to build your house upon the Rock, yea when the wind will come and the rains descend and the floods will yea increase, you're built upon Me, saith the Lord. And you've been hit from every side, but the testimony of My Son, and the power and the anointing of My grace is within you, therefore you will see it and be glad, for My glory and My authority are upon you, so prepare your heart. I will release you with that anointing, and that power, and that visitation, and the avenging sword is in the land. I'm preparing the Pentecostal authority, which is the harvest of the end time. And because there will not be the ministers in the pulpit that will be able to cope with the great visitation, yea the stadiums shall be filled with the praises of Almighty God. Therefore, you will prepare your heart and I will lay My hand upon thee with maturity of message, and vision, and power, and love. And, therefore, you'll see the reason to give a reason for the hope within you. Yea, your house shall stand. Amen."

### **LONGSHOREMAN PROPHET DENNIS, APRIL 7, 1993**

"Shakarian, let My Shekinah glory carry the ministry.

"Shakarian, let My Shekinah glory carry the ministry.

"Shakarian, let My Shekinah glory carry the ministry." ■

# **FGBMFI LEADERSHIP TEAM**

**D**emos had spent much time in prayer before his homegoing in the selection of anointed leadership. The following men were chosen to serve, and now will be assisting Richard Shakarian, along with Treasurer Paul Toberty, whose testimony follows on page 28.

## **JOHN CARRETTE**

is the International Executive Vice-President. Appointed by Demos Shakarian in 1993, he was born and raised in Guatemala, Central America. John is part of a hotel family and owns three hotels in Guatemala.

His family includes his lovely wife, Charlotte, and four children.

John gave his life to Jesus Christ in 1969 while serving with the U.S. Army in Vietnam. It was there that he learned his most important lesson: Jesus is Lord! This lesson has been applied to John's family and business life as well as his ministry.

Serving the members of our Fellowship is John's greatest delight. He believes the prophetic vision received by Demos Shakarian: "In these days, God will pour out His Spirit upon *all* flesh."

John wants men everywhere to enter into a loving, living relationship with Jesus Christ and to help them take His gospel to the nations.

## **WAYNE MITCHELL**

is our International Secretary, a native Texan and Spirit-filled Houston businessman. He serves the Lord as a witness in all areas of his business and social life. Wayne's professional and business career is the building of heavy industrial plants and process facilities nationwide and internationally for more than 40 years. Wayne has served as president of an industrial engineering and construction firm as well as his own industrial consulting company for project management services. The past 17 years he has served in the business organizations of Brown & Root, Inc. at their world headquarters located in Houston, Texas, developing new business on a global basis. Wayne is also a vice-president and international director of FGBMFI and serves on the Executive Board. Wayne was appointed to his new position by Demos Shakarian in June of 1993.

Wayne surrendered his heart to the Lord Jesus at an early age in full commitment for the rest of his life. He has served FGBMFI for more than 30 years in a leadership capacity under the anointing of the Holy Spirit.

Wayne was married for 44 years before his wife passed away. He has two children and three grandchildren.

## **SI RICKMAN**

is a real estate developer and business executive. He is President and Chairman of the Board of Kiamichi Wilderness, Inc. (recreational land development), Pine Tree Development Corporation





*John Carrette*



*Wayne Mitchell*



*Si Rickman*



*Roger Johnson*

(real estate development) since 1975; and President, Xanax Services, Inc. and President, Coupon America, Inc.

Si has been a field representative and chapter president in the Fellowship for many years and now serves as an international vice-president and international director. He also was appointed chairman of the Ministry Task Force by Demos Shakarian.

Si and his wife of 38 years, Nell, live in the Dallas/Fort Worth area and have three children and eight grandchildren, all serving the Lord.

Si has made a commitment to serve Richard as he did his father, Demos, and see the vision fulfilled before Jesus returns.

Si has learned, mostly the hard way, that only through serving Jesus can anyone be happy or have true success, which is love, joy and peace in your heart.

## **ROGER JOHNSON**

is Executive Vice-President for the United States. He resides in Lebanon, Ohio, where he owns and operates

Johnson Realtors, Inc. He has been a licensed real estate broker for the past 22 years and is a state-certified licensed appraiser and a developer.

Roger has served as an international director of FGBMFI in Ohio and has shared his testimony on Trinity Broadcasting Network-TBN, channel 26 in Dayton, Ohio, channel 40 in Canton, Ohio and also "Good News" television program for FGBMFI. He served for 12 years as a state trustee for the Church of God as well as chairman of the state layman's board. He is presently serving as vice-chairman for the Warren County Metropolitan Housing Authority.

From the onset of his business career, Roger prospered in all of his pursuits. However, at the age of 40 he found himself challenged with adverse business developments. It was the beginning of the recession of the early '80s and for five years he met crisis after crisis, but never without faith and trust in his new-found spiritual life.

He and his wife, Sue, have been married 32 years and are a living testimony of the power of prayer and the faithfulness of God.



# COMMITTED TO THE ULTIMATE

Paul Toberty  
Tustin, California

I had the feeling that the Lord was smiling as He looked down on my wife, Joyce, and me. Our business had never been in better shape. We were in the process of developing our largest building project ever, a major office and industrial complex.

That wasn't the only thing that gave us cause to rejoice. We had started in business 15 years before, shortly after being married. Our plan was to go into full time service, on the mission field. But our plans were drastically changed when the mission board of our organization declined to send us, with a rather terse, "There are no openings. Don't

call us, we'll call you." Joyce and I were both fully committed, Spirit-filled believers, who had loved the Lord and served Him since early childhood, and the closed door unsettled us. It wasn't until the Lord spoke to my heart, telling me that He had not rejected us, but loved us, and had good things for us if we would simply keep on following Him, that we began to look with confidence in the direction of the building business.

Shortly after that, God spoke to us through a prophet for the first time. We had just attended our first FGBMFI convention, in Phoenix, Arizona. There Richard Shakarian, whom I had met



while we were both involved in youth ministries, invited us to have lunch with his father and Dr. Roll, an ambassador who had served under seven U.S. presidents. We could hardly believe what we heard that day—men of God discussing the things of the Spirit of God and His moving, things we had not known or imagined. Our hearts were stirred within us. These were not preachers, but like the men of Issachar, they understood the times and knew what the people of God ought to do. It wasn't called the "Charismatic Movement" then. It was only 1962, but the move had begun and the world would never be the same. Neither would Joyce and I.

We made one of the most important decisions of our life as we drove home to California. We would join this organization of businessmen. The following Sunday morning, not knowing what we had decided, our pastor came off the platform to lay hands on me and declare, "The decision you have made has not been your decision," saith the Lord, "but it is My decision and I am going to make you a steward in My Kingdom."

The years that followed were exciting. I became first a chapter president, then an international director. We traveled to chapters and conventions, became part of airlifts to England, Wales and Ireland, and even led a group of 33 men on an airlift to Vietnam. As we served God with all our hearts, we saw double blessing. As fruitful as our ministry became, right along side, we became fruitful in business. God's words of reassurance were coming to pass!

Being a builder gives you a different

view of things, and it wasn't hard to see that the Fellowship was crowded out of its offices in downtown Los Angeles. The solution seemed simple—find some land, sell the old building and build a new one, better suited to the needs of an international organization called of God to fulfill a worldwide vision. Demos and the international directors agreed, and for two years, as head of the Finance and Building Committee, I worked hard, finding the land, working with architects, getting Planning Commission and City Council approvals, and acting as general contractor as the building was built. But there were times during those years that I cried out to God, "Lord! When am I going to have time to take care of *my* business?" God's reply was simple and to the point. "You take care of *My* business, and I'll take care of *your* business." It is a contract I have never cared to break.

In the fall of 1973, the men at Trinity Broadcasting Network called, wanting me to go on the board of that brand new Christian television ministry. At the time, it wasn't much. They were renting time on a station while trying to get to the place where they could purchase it. I was reluctant to take on any new commitments. Seeing my reaction, Joyce commented, "You told the Lord you would do anything He asked you to do."

Being on the board of Trinity Broadcasting led just where I had anticipated. But, as with everything we had experienced so far, it also led to a time of excitement and joy. We had the great privilege of being involved firsthand

with what has been aptly called the "Miracle Birth of TBN." At a point where the purchase agreement to buy Channel 40 was complete, the doors closed against us. Paul and Jan Crouch and Joyce and I had already put up all the personal guarantees of which we were capable. Now we had to raise enough money to pay off \$25,000 in equipment and there were at least \$100,000 in back bills that had to be assumed. No bank would give us the time of day. Many people had written the ministry off as a failure.

Paul Crouch and I were trying to figure out what to do when the Lord dropped an instruction into my spirit. I knew exactly what to do—write the checks! All the checks to all the creditors who had to be paid right now, or else. Paul was quick to agree. We both watched the accountant's horrified look as he gathered his belongings and quit. We had gone too far for him, and left our senses completely. But we never planned to mail those checks with no money in the bank to cover them. We were simply being obedient to the first step God had directed us to take.

Early that same evening our friend, Chuck Flynn, gave us a word from the Lord. It was from the Living Bible, where God spoke to Moses at the Red Sea, "Quit praying, and get the people moving!" In a matter of an hour we were on the air, laying the checks before the cameras and telling the people that if we were to have a station, those checks must be covered by the end of the month. God must surely have been smiling down on us, and on all of His

people, as they marched into that station, bringing not only \$250,000, but nearly \$1,000,000!

But I have a feeling that the smile on God's face as He looked down on Joyce and me a year or two later was very different. Now it was not just a smile of approval at our joy and obedience, but a wise and knowing smile that said, "All right. Now it's time for Me to teach you some things of value. Now it's time to get you ready for the work I have for you."

It began as a feeling—a feeling that I was to resign all of my involvements in ministry. God had put it into my heart that He had something else He wanted me to do, and I shared that feeling with Joyce. She tried to argue me out of it, protesting for several months. Finally, after prayer with Chuck and Mary Ann Flynn, the word of the Lord from John 12:26 came alive to her, "If anyone would serve Me, he must continue to follow Me..." God spoke to her heart, saying, "Joyce, you can stay where you are, have all the titles and all the responsibilities, but you will no longer be serving Me, because I am leading you in a different direction, and in order to serve Me, you must follow Me." There was a great deal of uncertainty as to where the Lord was leading us. We might have had a clue if we had continued to read the passage. Verse 27 says, "Now my soul is troubled and distressed, and what shall I say? Father, save me from this hour of trial and agony..." We came to agree that it was God speaking to us, and we must obey. There was no other choice.



That ability to agree with each other had not always been there. Early in our marriage, we found we were unable to agree on anything. Many times we both felt we had made a terrible mis-



*Paul and Joyce Toberty outside their offices in Anaheim, California.*

take in marrying. As much as we desired to serve the Lord, as much as we loved Him, we were still almost continually at odds with each other. We knew our fighting didn't please God, but we were helpless to change. It was at a church in Long Beach, four years into our marriage, that the pastor, David Schoch, laid hands on us and began to prophesy. He did not know us well, and had no idea what was going on between us, but he spoke these words, "You have been one in flesh, but I am going to make you one in Spirit, and I am going to make your marriage an

example of My relationship to the church." God's beautiful words! What can compare to His Word to us! That day I broke and said, "Lord, I just see myself." That's where it had to start, not with someone else, but with what was wrong with me. That was where the turning point came. After that it was a whole new relationship. God brought us into agreement of spirit, a spiritual element that had been lacking. Many times, when we share our testimony, people come up with marriage problems. There needs to be a spiritual relationship. God wants to bring two people together, not only in the bond of marriage, but also in the Spirit.

Not long after I resigned all my positions, KYMS, a Christian radio station, moved into our office complex in Orange, California. After the station moved in, I began to have a feeling that KYMS was going to be sold. The manager thought I might be right, since the owners were not committed to a Christian format and had just purchased another station in the San Diego area. I wrote them a letter, asking if the station was for sale and enclosed a good faith deposit. The initial response was, "No, we are not interested in selling KYMS." But something told us we would hear from them again. Sure enough, there was another contact, and this time we were told they were ready to sell.

An agreement was entered into, and the FCC lawyers were at work, making all the necessary preparations for the transfer of the license. Suddenly we received word that one of the owners had changed his mind, and the deal was

off. There was no need in the natural for us to buy KYMS. Our business had always been building, and I loved it. But we were into this by what seemed to be the leading of the Lord, and so we



*Paul and Joyce Toberty share during an outreach to the Soviet Union.*

set ourselves to fast and pray, asking God's will in the matter. Did He want us to have it? He did, and KYMS was ours, together with KRDS-AM in Arizona and KLTT in Colorado. We were in the radio business.

I really didn't know anything about radio. The knowledge I got from television was being involved in getting the license, the financing, and so forth. But the actual management was a whole different business. After we got KYMS, it was as if we were blocked as far as revenues and growth. It really concerned us. Had we missed God? Why

were we seeing this kind of a shortfall? Where was God's smile? There seemed to be only one sensible course of action. "We have to sell these stations, get rid of them and take our losses." But instead the Lord spoke to us—not audibly, but through our spirits and His word—and He told us not to sell. He told us over and over again, every time we tried to back out.

The wisdom of expanding into another field entirely has been proven in the last few years. The wisdom was God's, not mine. But as the real estate market here in California and elsewhere has taken a severe downturn and dramatic devaluation, I have had men sit in my office and congratulate me on having branched out into communications. They have come along later, after the days when I felt like a foolish man for not selling out. If I had not listened to God, if I had not obeyed His instructions, even at a high cost to me, I can only guess where I would be right now. Certainly I would have continued to expand my real estate holdings if God had not forced me to invest so much time and money in the radio stations. Was he smiling after all, as I kept my commitment to obey, even when I didn't want to?

Things didn't look very good to the men on the road to Emmaus, either. They thought all the miracles were over, the Lord had left them. But they were wrong. And it's not over for Full Gospel Business Men. As much as we all loved Demos and appreciated him, a tremendous man used of God, we are at that same point. Those men on that



lonely road were about to be part of the Pentecostal experience. It was just around the corner—a whole new vista.

When Joyce and I interviewed David DuPlessis, one of the great patriarchs of the charismatic movement, I asked him a question, "David, what do you see as the next great move of God?" Without hesitation he replied, "Whole nations will turn to the Lord. Including Muslim nations." Back in the late '70s that answer seemed hard to believe. But Smith Wigglesworth had prophesied to David DuPlessis and described to him the move we had already seen, and the next move, too, and DuPlessis had lived to see the first half come to pass. We will see the last half fulfilled, as our eyes are opened and we see a whole new sweeping evangelism like has never been seen before. It's easier to believe now, in light of world events.

I think Demos, DuPlessis, Smith

Wigglesworth are all up there waving us on. They're saying, "That's right. Keep on going! Richard [Shakarian, FGBMFI's new president], and all of you down there, you're going to see whole nations being swept in, leaders, and all over night." It's not going to be a lengthy thing. It's going to happen suddenly, and we are right on the threshold.

Full Gospel is in 120 countries, but there are still about 100 more to reach. Tell the Lord you are available, that you will do whatever He asks you to do. You never know what country the Lord might call you to, but if you are available, He can open one of these countries and you could go down in eternity as having been responsible for the salvation of that nation. And then you will know the smile of the Lord, saying, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant!" ■

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# VOICE

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**WHO WE ARE** Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International was founded in 1952 by Demos Shakarian to reach men for Jesus. One year later, God gave him a vision of the people of every continent, revealing that the ministry of the Fellowship would result in people everywhere being brought to Jesus and linked in loving community. That vision is becoming a reality through the Fellowship's ministries, now touching 120 nations and transcending denominational, racial and cultural barriers. Men interested in participating in this exciting end-time ministry are invited to write: Chapter Department / FGBMFI / P.O. Box 5050 / Costa Mesa, CA 92628.





# FGBMFI NEWS



## 9th Pan African Assembly Report

Africa, a global region of FGBMFI, holds an annual assembly meeting when all countries in Africa which have established chapters functioning are encouraged to attend and the recent meeting was the ninth, which took place in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Fifteen nations were represented by the 250 people who came—the biggest gathering so far, and South Africa was blessed by hosting all these dedicated, praying people. The countries were Angola, Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Gabon, Ghana, Guinee, Kenya, Sierra Leone, Senegal, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe and there were observers from Austria, Germany and the USA.

This year the Lord led us to have an "Equipping of the Saints" teaching

*Attendees gather together at the 9th Pan African Assembly held in Johannesburg, South Africa.*

seminar/workshop instead of a convention, concurrently with the Council Meeting. The "equipping" was done by Jim Dermanoski from Olympia, Washington; Elijah Maswanganyi, Jimmy Wilson and others from South Africa. Tommy Archibald from Johannesburg blessed the ladies at a special ladies' meeting with "The King and His Crown" teaching, with Mrs. Christiana Darko from Ghana giving a powerful supportive testimony. Altogether, everyone was touched by the Lord and departed being better equipped than before to be a disciple for Jesus in their own countries, and leaving a country blessed by their prayers for a peaceful transition to a new constitution. Mel Tari was the main



# BRIEFS

## Holy Spirit Moves Mightily at Brazil Convention

Richard Shakarian just returned from Brazil where they had 11,000 attending the night meetings at their Full Gospel Business Men's Convention. He was greeted warmly and introduced immediately as the new International President. Hundreds were saved that week, and on Saturday afternoon Richard Roberts joined him and the two of them, side by side, laid hands on over 2,000 of the chapter leaders. A powerful shock wave of God's presence was manifested as hundreds were moved by the great power of the Holy Spirit.

speaker at the closing banquet on Friday evening, giving an anointed message stating that "this conference is the beginning of God's move to unify in our diversity—we must stop blaming others, so we can hear from heaven. Command the blessings! God will release the wealth of the nations for the Gospel!



*(Above) International Director, Custodio Pires, left, and Richard Shakarian stand in front of the soon-to-be new Fellowship headquarters for South America. (Left) Richard Roberts, right, joins Richard Shakarian at the podium of the Brazil Convention.*

## **"His Spirit Moves On"**

Dick McCarley sends in this update to a recent Columbus, Ohio banquet:

We are a small chapter but with a very steady attendance, 27 members with about 50 at banquets and 20 at luncheons.

Some months ago we held a banquet where we invited 51 football players and eight coaches of the London, Ohio high school to be our guests. This presented two great—but wonderful—problems: where to seat them and how to pay for it. But, praise Jesus, both needs were taken care of.

The next month when they came, we had 94 people with football players and coaches singing, shouting, clapping, praising, hugging, and being slain in the Spirit. Many lives were turned around that night and because of our giving we had over 100 at our next meeting.

Recently, I had a call from a truck driver in Memphis who had been given a copy of *Voice* magazine with our phone number on it. He lived in Ontario, Canada, was on his way to Texas and wanted prayer. Praise God!

We have a wonderful opportunity to pass out *Voice* magazines and witness to over 150,000 people that will be at an international stunt pilot's air show here in Columbus. We thank God for giving us *Voice* as a witnessing tool.

## **Southern California Couples' Advance**

National Director Harold Rounds reports on a very successful advance held at the Highland Springs Resort. Twenty-nine couples attended, and greatly enjoyed special guests Paul and Joyce Toberty, who spoke and ministered in the power of the Holy Spirit.

A unique aspect of the advance was

the "couples ministering to couples" session. God blessed in a mighty way as they shared and really got involved in this personal ministry. This format really worked—with much blessing from the Lord to make it one of the best advances they've ever held.

## **"Secrets of the Anointing" Conference Blesses Ohio**

This report comes from John Maher, Columbus, Ohio:

All I can say is "Thanks be to God!" The "Secrets of the Anointing" Conference was *great!* I took 16 pages of notes. It was *exactly* what was needed; what was said *needed* to be said. It was restoration.

Our chapter has since been freed from bondage. Other men have risen up and enthusiastically embraced the restored vision. And we are growing, moving ahead, planning big and reaching out to the lost in new, creative ways.

We're reaching new people, targeting new groups, and watching our revitalized chapter willingly and enthusiastically endorse, participate in and fund these efforts.

## **Update From Jackey Beavers**

When gubernatorial assistant Jackey Beavers appeared on the cover of *Voice*, many workers in the Georgia State Capitol brought copies to him to autograph. At first, he started to modestly decline...until the Holy Spirit spoke.

Beavers recalls the Spirit saying, "I can do more in 15 minutes than you've done up here in seven and a half years."

"So we started taking them everywhere," says Jackey. "We put that *Voice* in all the judges' offices—city, county, state, Supreme Court...and city



officials, city and county jails. We also put 1,000 in the prison system. So many people wanted them, we ordered 2,000 more."

A member of the Atlanta chapter, Beavers stepped down when Joe Frank Harris completed two terms as governor. But he immediately switched to the state's Corrections Department, where he serves as an executive assistant.

In his new position, he is counseling prisoners and organizing a network of volunteers who can help inmates readjust to society upon their release. The program is aimed at cutting Georgia's recidivism rate; presently 60 percent of the state's ex-convicts return to confinement within three years.

As part of this effort, Beavers has designed Project 75/15, aimed at reducing the prison population and preventing high-risk youngsters from getting into trouble. With the latter, Jackey visits schools to present positive role models to youth.

And wherever he goes, a *Voice* will be by his side.

"One afternoon I gave out 50 copies at a school and I could have given away 500," he says. "The response has been unreal."



# 6 STEPS TO SALVATION

*Men still cry, "What must I do to be saved?" The Bible provides a clear answer.*

- 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, ye shall all likewise perish" (Luke 13:3). "Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out" (Acts 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 thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt 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 believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16). "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth 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 Saviour and invite You to manage my life from this day forward. Amen."*

**Write us to tell of your decision. We'll send you a booklet, "Now That You've Received Christ." Our mailing address: FGBMF1/Box 5050/Costa Mesa, CA 92628.**

# FELLOWSHIP EVENTS

## ISRAEL INT'L. CONV. Nov. 1993

Contact: Tony John  
5 Lime Rd., Normanby  
Cleveland T66 0DN England  
(44) 642-461189

## TANZANIA NAT'L. CONV. Nov. 5-6, 1993

Arusha, Tanzania, Cent. Africa  
Contact: John A. Njau  
P.O. Box 2541, Arusha  
255.57.2521, 255.57.3051

## CAROLINAS COUPLES' ADV. Nov. 5-7, 1993

Ft. Caswell Baptist Camp  
Southport, NC  
Contact: Ike Williams  
4982 NW Road NE  
Leland, NC 28451, 919-655-3587 or  
James Smith, 919-266-1756

## NO. NEW ENGLAND REG. CONV. Nov. 11-13, 1993

Sheraton Tara, Nashua, NH  
Contact: Dick Morin  
P.O. Box 338  
Hudson, NH 03051  
603-742-4652

## SO. CALIFORNIA MEN'S ADVANCE Nov. 12-14, 1993

Highland Springs Resort, Beaumont  
Contact: Harold Rounds  
946 Holmes St.  
Calimesa, CA 92320  
909-795-8787

## ZAMBIA NAT'L. CONVENTION Nov. 12-15, 1993

Lusaka, Zambia  
Contact: David Chitundu  
P.O. Box 30080  
Lusaka, Zambia  
22.17.22, 29.23.61

## SOUTHEASTERN NEW YORK RALLY Nov. 20, 1993

Loew's New York Hotel, NYC  
Contact: Daniel J. Staatz  
2176 Grand Concourse  
Bronx, NY 10457-2003  
718-584-0155

## 19TH OKI REGIONAL CONV. Nov. 25-27, 1993

Holiday Inn, Dayton Mall, Dayton, OH  
Contact: Duane Kinnison  
P.O. Box 1386, Fairborn, OH 45324  
513-879-3943 or  
Steve Wilson, 513-386-2135

## COTE D'IVOIRE NAT'L. CONV. Dec. 2-4, 1993

Abidjan, Ivory Coast  
Contact: Simon Nandjui  
08 BP 862, Abidjan 08  
225.41.54.07, Fax 225.44.00.50

## 34TH WASHINGTON INT'L. REG. CONV. Jan. 21-23, 1994

Hyatt Regency Hotel, Arlington, VA  
Contact: FGBMFI  
Washington Conv. Office  
4106 Sunburst Ct.  
Alexandria, VA 22302  
703-971-6115

## OKI MARRIED COUPLES ADV. Feb. 25-27, 1994

Kings Island Inn, Kings Island, OH  
Contact: Duane Kinnison  
P.O. Box 1386  
Fairborn, OH 45034  
513-879-3943

## CAROLINA' MEN'S ADVANCE Mar. 25-27, 1994

Ft. Caswell, Baptist Camp,  
Southport, NC  
Contact: Ike Williams  
4982 NW Road NE  
Leland, NC 28451  
919-655-3587

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# CONTENTS

## WELCOME FGBMFI'S NEW PRESIDENT

*As Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International enters a new era in leadership, we felt it important for you to know the spirit and qualifications of our new president, Richard Shakarian. Through his testimony you will be able to look into his heart and get to know this anointed leader.*

**2**

## COMMITTED TO THE ULTIMATE

*Early in his professional life, Paul Toberty learned intensely the importance of commitment and the wondrous possibilities that lay in store for those who were willing to wait for the Lord's ultimate in their lives.*

**28**

<i>Welcome FGBMFI's New President</i> . . . . .	<b>2</b>	<i>FGBMFI Leadership Team</i> . . . . .	<b>26</b>
<i>A Word From Richard Shakarian</i> . . . . .	<b>3</b>	<i>Committed To The Ultimate</i> . . . . .	<b>28</b>
<i>A Life-Long Commitment To Jesus</i> . . . . .	<b>4</b>	<i>FGBMFI News Briefs</i> . . . . .	<b>34</b>
<i>The Seven Pillars</i> . . . . .	<b>19</b>	<i>Six Steps To Salvation</i> . . . . .	<b>37</b>
<i>The Prophetic Word</i> . . . . .	<b>23</b>	<i>Fellowship Events</i> . . . . .	<b>38</b>
		<i>National Directors</i> . . . . .	<b>38</b>

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