



# Newsletter

Summer 2013

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## Global Discipleship Congress (GDC) By Johnny To

**Worshipping with over seven thousand delegates from sixty plus nations was a heavenly experience!** The Global Discipleship Congress in Manila, Philippines from May 22-25, was a ministry highlight for Sun Koo and me this year. Our focus was learning to return the Church to its disciple-making roots.

### What I Learned from GDC

I can sense that this congress is a movement started by God to bring churches globally to disciple-making before Christ's return. Testimonials confirmed that when church servant-leaders subscribe to disciple-making, the Lord richly provides committed disciple-makers. This unites their congregation to faithfully employ their God-given gifts to fulfill the Great Commission.

In addition, I am continually convicted by the God's messengers in at least two ways.

1. We often missed the Mandate (our WALK with God) while pursuing the Mission (our WORK with God).

In his opening session Rev. **Edmund Chan** took a fresh look at how Moses learns delegation through his father-in-law's mentoring (Exodus 18). This reveals a most pertinent discipleship lesson for today. We must acknowledge that we are a compulsively driven generation. We are caught in a performance trap where work is our identity. In our chronic busyness, we end up majoring on the minor.

2. Disciple-making should start with INCARNATION because serving others brings opportunities to disciple.

Dr. **Robert Coleman** reminds us that when people know that they are loved they will hear. Like Jesus, soul winners are often known as shepherds. Perhaps this is how we can initially reach our generation – in a culture that emphasizes feeling over faith.



Pastors praying over Chief Justice of the Philippines



**Rev. Edmund Chan**  
Co-founder of GDC

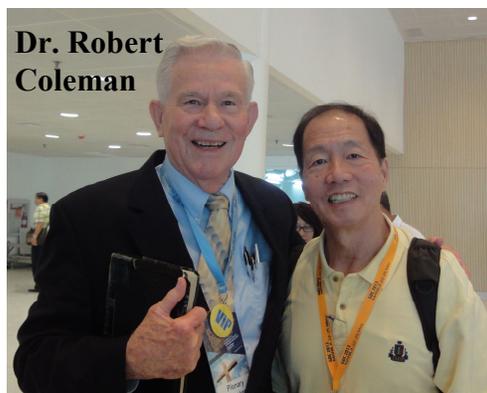


Philippine President **Benigno Aquino III** addressing

OMF International delegates at GDC



**Pastor Peter Tanchi**, GDC Co-founder & Grace Christian High School alumnus



**Dr. Robert Coleman**



GDC delegates from over 60 nations

*How am I Implementing the Lessons Learned (Continuation from page one)*

1. Take time to meet one-on-one with mentee-trainees to share the inner life of our souls I am doing this to follow Jesus' example of teaching His disciples what His priorities and values are because they have been lived before their eyes.

- Let them see my work for God is undergirded by my walk with God.
- Create an atmosphere of transparency in sharing my failures.
- Intensify the development of MCCH staff so that I can delegate part of my ministry to them.
- Encourage staff at the same time, to multiply the ministry.

2. Invest in disciple-makers who incarnate Christ's love through servanthood in meeting the needs of people in their sphere of influence.

This summer Sun Koo and I invited church servant-leaders to learn how to develop emotional health as a strategy for discipleship that changes lives. Participants are required to mentor others while being mentored by us. By the Holy Spirit's illumination, individuals begin to see the hidden negative emotions that kept them from authentically loving God and others. By grieving their loss and sharing this with others who support them, they are able to learn from their past sins and mistakes, and move forward in their discipleship with Christ. This comes as a result of mentors who believe in them when they cannot believe in themselves. Consequently, both mentors and mentees receive joy in seeing God transforming their lives!

**The Emotionally Healthy Church Small Groups** By Eugene Ma  
Two months ago, Belle and I started a few small groups to study The Emotionally Healthy Church (EHC) curriculum provided by MCCH. EHC emphasizes a key point: the Christian's spiritual growth cannot be separated from his or her emotional health. God opened our eyes to see this important field by bringing the brothers and sisters who are in need to form the small groups.

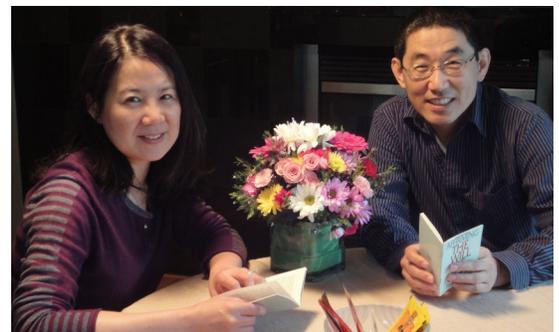
EHC provides six practical principles that direct us to an emotionally healthy Christian life. Each leads us to the truth of the Scripture. During the study we experienced how the Holy Spirit is calling us to open our hearts and to reflect upon our deep personal life, from childhood losses to today's family issues. When our inner issues or needs are revealed through this sharing, we see God start his work to transform our lives.

While leading the small groups, the six principles begin to touch every part of Belle's and my daily life, from the struggles of spousal communication to the issues of bringing up kids. The principles help us to see our true selves that we need to submit to God. Joy and peace start to fill us through the words of God.

As we continue the EHC study, we see that the small groups are becoming safe places for brothers and sisters to share a real Christian life. We grow to be emotionally healthy in the Lord together, and we ultimately can incarnate Christ's love to others.

Thank you for being our prayer partner, please pray for:

1. Couples who received training in the Emotionally Healthy Church this summer continue to incarnate Christ's love in mentoring others to become a more loving, authentic person-towards God, others and themselves.
2. May the Lord impart wisdom to Johnny & Sun Koo as they implement lessons learned from the Global Discipleship Congress in helping MCCH partnering churches to return to the biblical roots of disciple-making.
3. As Sun Koo & Johnny develop MCCH staff may the staff see that their ministry comes as an overflow of their walk with God that creates a safe environment for authenticity & accountability.
4. Ask the Lord to bless Anglo and Chinese church leaders' partnership to reach Chinese students in the Greater Seattle area this fall to have a good start in their returnee ministry.
5. Thank the Lord for Johnny's mother adjusting well to the adult home care facility for the past three months. She appreciates visits & calls from friends and family. She looks forward to church worship, family get-together & recreation at a senior center.
6. Pray for Sun Koo's father as he prepares to move to an assistant living apartment near our home.



**Belle & Eugene Ma**