



AROUND THE WORLD

OCTOBER 2023

MATTHEW 9:37-38

*“The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few.
Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into His harvest.”*



Jonathan Ortlip
Founder & President

The harvest is plentiful...There are millions of children and youth playing football every day with no direction, with no organization, and with no Gospel message. Yet their hearts are ready and open to receive the Good News of Jesus communicated and lived out by coaches who can reach the next generation.

But the workers are few...I believe our responsibility as Christ’s Ambassadors is to look for more workers, to pray for more workers, and to train more workers. It’s all about the mobilization of coaches whose character and hearts are as Christ followers. But before we can train more workers, we have to find more workers.

Where do we find more workers?...We find them in the existing Church. Partnering with the Church, working through their structures and training their people as coaches. This allows many more workers to be sent into the fields all over the world. We realize that we have a very important role to play with the Church in the world today and we are grateful for increasing opportunities to come alongside churches and denominations to do so.

Please pray that we will understand and to play our role more fully, for greater impact in the Kingdom of God.

When we make decisions, we shouldn’t just ask “*What is good for Ambassadors Football?*”.

Our primary question should always be “*What is best for the Kingdom of God?*”.

Thank you for your prayers and support.



AMBASSADORS
FOOTBALL

AFRICA

INNOVATIVE IDEA FILLS THE GAP

In Africa we see a gap in the community: boys and girls across the continent do not have access to footballs. Too often we see one coach working with 50-100 players using only a couple of balls. What would it look like for us to stand in that gap and to dream of a day where every child has access to a ball?

In Rwanda, our Ambassadors office had this conviction that having more footballs available for children would lead to more children being reached with the gospel of Jesus. So, they did the research and started producing balls that can stand against the toughness of some African fields. To date they have trained 26 ball makers and made 356 footballs, providing jobs to some coaches and parents of the children we reach out to, and giving more opportunity to communicate the love of Jesus through this beautiful game.



PRAYER REQUESTS

Churches to grow in the vision for football to be used as ministry.

More personnel, resources, and equipment for each country.

The coaches' discipleship journey and the impact on their players.



Africa - In Africa there are more and more opportunities to partner with large denominations whose pastors and volunteers are being empowered to use football for discipleship. We see kingdom impact on a greater scale than ever before. With a focus on developing coaches as father figures and disciple makers we make sure that the kind of impact we have is not just wide, but deep and holistic. Multiplying discipleship through football ministry is reaching a predominant fatherless generation as Christ followers.



Did you know?

In August over 1,000 boys and girls attended the Rwanda National Football Camp, with all their footballs made by the Rwanda office. Even the Federation leader was impressed with the quality of the balls.



CONGO



KENYA



LIBERIA



MOZAMBIQUE



NIGERIA



RWANDA



SOUTH AFRICA



ZAMBIA

STEPPING OUT IN FAITH

How do we impact the players in our clubs? Discipleship is key. We do this by sharing God's Word, living out our faith, and getting the kids outside of their comfort zones and giving them a chance to minister as well.

Over the past few years, a number of women's teams have gone out from the Cleveland office to various countries around the world. Inspired by that history and seeing what these teams were doing, we were able to assemble a high school girls team from the club in Cleveland to travel to Ireland. The team's outreach included playing several matches, ministering to over 1,900 children at schools, helping at a church football camp, and serving with a local church. Some of the believers on the team shared their testimony for the first time while the Gospel was shared a number of times through skits and talks with the other teams.

Our club is dreaming and planning to make tours like this happen on a regular basis.



AMBASSADORS
FOOTBALL

THE AMERICAS



PRAYER REQUESTS

That young people who served would continue to seek Christ.

Those who served would be called to ministry with Ambassadors.

Church partners will continue their community outreach with football.



The Americas - One of the words we use to describe what Ambassadors does is Mobilize. Over 300 young men and women served in US programs this summer. Over 20 countries were represented in various programs. Throughout the USA over 1,700 children and their families were impacted through our programs. Groups went to Mexico, Germany (to minister to Ukrainian refugees), Costa Rica, Holland, Ireland and South Africa. Young people are being envisioned, trained, and mobilized to impact the next generation.



Did you know?
There are over 46 million foreign-born people in the USA. The gain in 2022 was as big as the previous four years put together.



BOLIVIA



BRAZIL



CHILE



COLOMBIA



EL SALVADOR



HAITI



MEXICO



PERU



USA

MAKING DISCIPLES IN INDIA

Joseph, our leader in India has been training coaches across the country to become disciple makers. The training is focused on helping coaches to understand the essence of the Great Commission. The coaches gain insight and the skills needed to train others from different sectors of society in how to use football as ministry. This past August 22 aspiring coaches from 13 different cities across India participated at a week-long training event in Kalimpong, West Bengal.

One coach told Joseph, *“Football is my passion and doing ministry through football is my calling. This training has given me lots of insights on how to do this for His glory.”* Other coaches agreed that the training is great for making disciples, *“It will surely help more believers to grow in their spiritual life and build God’s Kingdom by sharing the Good News.”*



PRAYER REQUESTS

Asia has many large countries with some of the world’s largest populations. Reaching these people requires more workers. Pray for more workers for the harvest and the provision to train and support them.



Asia - Making disciples who then make disciples. This vision has helped our leaders across the region to work in partnership with like-minded organizations and churches. This has enabled us to reach out to children, youth, and young adults in different communities, churches, schools, and colleges through football ministry.



Did you know?
India’s population is an estimated 1.4 billion people.
More than 50% of the population is below the age of 25.



GROWING MINISTRY IN SPAIN

Ambassadors Football Spain has flourished in Granada, Spain since the year 2000. Throughout the years, they've expanded to three other cities nearby. Last year God surprised us through a partnership with YWAM that led to a football ministry in Bilbao, in the north of Spain.

Bilbao is in the Basque Country, which is very different from the other regions because of its desire for independence from Spain. The city breathes football and stops every time there's a match of Athletic de Bilbao, their biggest team. This has created a great opportunity to use football as ministry in Bilbao and the work has begun.

The Ambassadors Football ministry in Bilbao is flourishing so much so that in less than a year they've had their first tournament with more than 50 participants. We're seeing God opening doors in Spain and we're excited that His Word is being preached in places like the Basque Country through the Ambassadors Football Ministry.



AMBASSADORS
FOOTBALL

EUROPE



PRAYER REQUESTS

For the ministry in the Basque region to grow through His will.

Continued strong ministry taking place in Granada.

That we are able to reach more of Spain with football ministry.



Europe - The roots of Ambassadors Football ministry in Spain are firmly planted in the city of Granada. The ministry group there has a very strong futsal (a 5 vs. 5 version of football played on a court similar to a basketball court) ministry that reaches many youth who would never attend church. This ministry has seen many marginalized youth come to know Jesus as their Savior. For the past six years Ambassadors Football Great Britain has taken a team to Granada to minister alongside of them through futsal.



Did you know?

Bilbao is the largest city of the Basque Country, with 350,000 people.

The second largest city is Vitoria-Gasteiz with more than 238,000 people.



ALBANIA



CROATIA



CYPRUS



CZECH



GREAT BRITAIN



N. IRELAND



NETHERLANDS



SERBIA



SLOVAKIA



SPAIN

CALLED TO BE

A SERVANT HEARTED MISSION...

We aim to follow Christ's example by focusing our service on others, corporately and individually. Our desire is that the message of Jesus is not just heard, but also seen in the way we serve the Church and work with each other.

WORKING AS ONE TEAM GLOBALLY...

We strive to be a team that is not about nationalities or titles, but one that functions interdependently. We are a smaller unit within the larger body of Christ. This is where the different parts serve, love, and complete each other to be all that God intends for us to be.



THROUGH FOOTBALL...

The most popular sport in the world, the beautiful game, is the common denominator. We take football seriously because this universal language and culture allows us to connect with others in a uniquely powerful, yet simple way.

DEVELOPING INNOVATIVE STRATEGIES...

We do not change the message, but we adapt our methods or develop new ones to deliver the message to a changing world in the most effective and relevant ways.



TO MOBILIZE THE CHURCH...

The purpose of our offices and programs has always been, and must continue to be, to model, mobilize, and multiply the church of Jesus Christ. We do not exist to build Ambassadors Football, but rather to come alongside the Church to build God's kingdom together.

SO THAT DISCIPLES ARE MADE IN EVERY NATION



Ambassadors Football is a 501c3 non-profit and accredited by ECFA. If you would like to make a donation to the ministry please follow the link below.



Donation checks should be made payable to **Ambassadors Football**. Please be sure to add a note designating who/what the donation is for and mail your donations to:

Ambassadors Football, PO Box 847, Twinsburg, OH 44087-9921



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