Why bother with the Global Church?





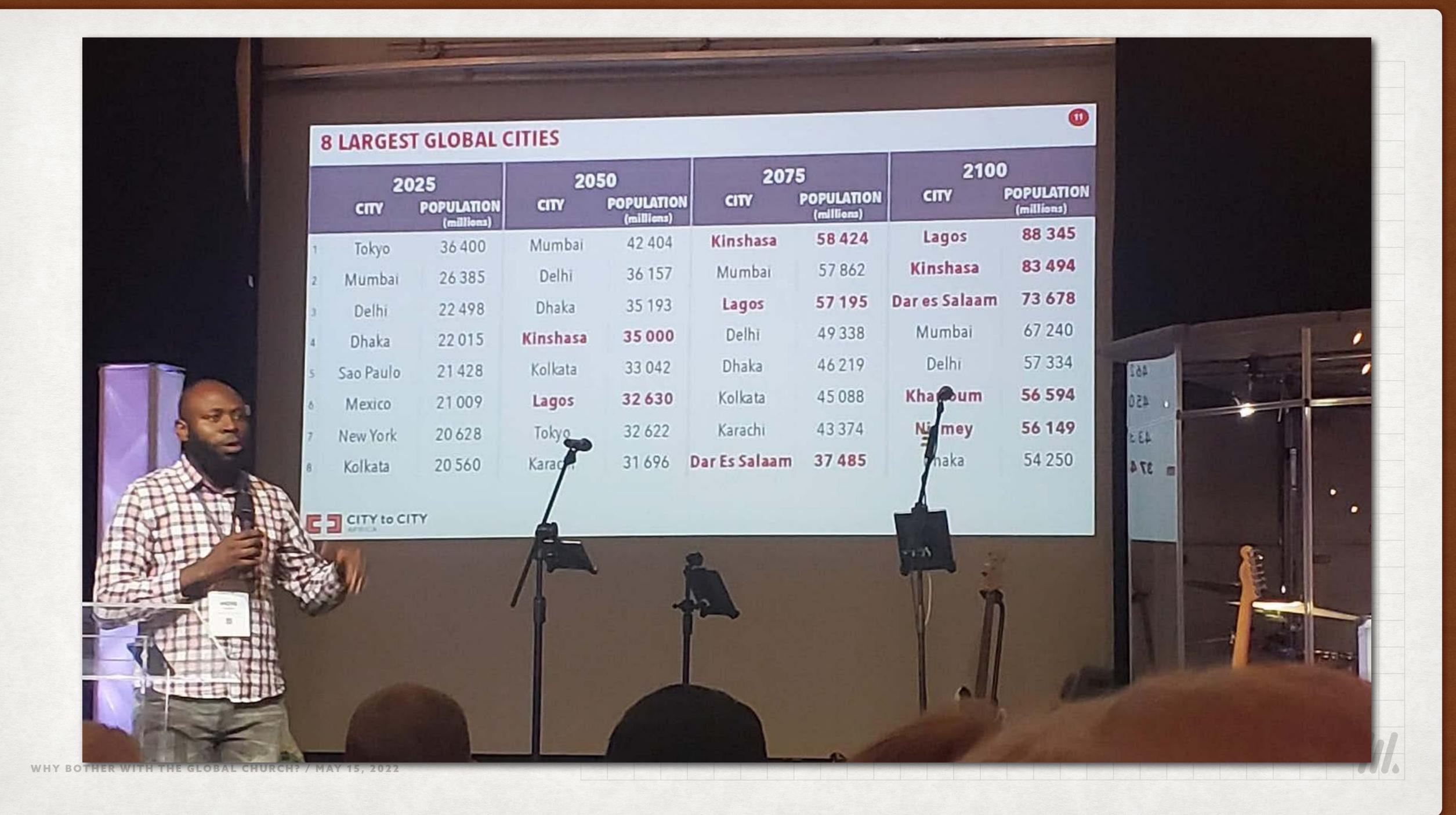
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THEOLOGY AND PRACTICE OF ENCOUNTER.

THE EMBODIED CHURCH

1.3
VULNERABLE
RESILIENCE

EXPOSURE TO THE GLOBAL CHURCH





Philippians 2:5–18 (ESV)

5 Have this mind among yourselves, WHICH IS YOURS in Christ Jesus, 6 who, though he was in the form of God [IN VERY NATURE], did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, 7 but **EMPTIED** HIMSELF, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. 8 And being found in human form, he HUMBLED HIMSELF by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

9 Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, 10 so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. 12 THEREFORE, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your OWN salvation with fear and trembling, 13 FOR IT IS GOD who works in you,

both to WILL and to WORK for HIS good pleasure. 14 Do all things without grumbling or disputing, 15 that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, 16 HOLDING FAST to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. 17 Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering

upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. 18 Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me. The cross is not a defeat reversed by the resurrection; it is a victory proclaimed (to chosen witnesses) by the resurrection....

The center of the revealed mystery of the reign of God is the Cross.

There the power of God is revealed—but it is revealed as weakness.

The glory of God is revealed—but it is revealed as humiliation. The victory of God is revealed—but it is revealed as defeat."

— Leslie Newbigin

THE 2 FRONTIERS OF THE GOSPEL

- 1. The Innermost Part Of My Heart
- 2. The Uttermost Parts Of The World



THE INNERMOST PART OF MY HEART

12 **THEREFORE**, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, 13 **FOR IT IS GOD** who works in you, both to **WILL** and to **WORK** for **HIS** good pleasure.

Gordon Fee: In ALL of Paul's writings:
the PRINCIPLE IS LOVE,
the PATTERN is CHRIST, the POWER is
the SPIRIT and the ultimate PURPOSE is
the GLORY OF GOD.

THE UTTERMOST PARTS OF THE EARTH

14 Do all things without grumbling or disputing, 15 that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish **IN THE MIDST** of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world,

"The Gospel is the truth, and therefore it is true for all men. It is the unveiling of the face of Him who makes all things, from whom every man comes, & to whom every man goes. It is the revealing of the meaning of human history, of the origin & destiny of mankind. Jesus is not only my Saviour, He is the Lord of all things, the cause & cornerstone of the universe. If I think I can keep it to myself, then I do not in any real sense believe it. Global missions are not an extra; they're the acid test of whether or not the Church believes the Gospel."

— Leslie Newbigin

WE NEED A GENUINE RECAPTURING OF THE GREAT COMMISSION

Martin Luther: History is like a drunk man on a horse. No sooner does he fall off on the left side, does he mount again and fall off on the right.