REFLECTIONS SO FAR FROM LAUSANNE 3

Posted on October 22, 2010 by Eddie

Category: Church: World

Krish Kandiah has posted his reflections on the first three days of the Lausanne meeting. I have limited (and expensive) bandwidth, so rather than try and write up my reflections, I'm going to steal some of Krish's.

Highlights

> *a)Â Â Â Â The Testimony of the 18 year old girl from China who told her powerful story of losing both her mother (to cancer) and father (to religious persecution in North Korea) and how she wants to become a lawyer / missionary standing those who are being repressed by an unjust regime.*
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> ***b)*** *The testimony of Libby Little who has served as a missionary in Afghanistan only days after the memorial service for her martyred husband stands up and reads a sermon from the blood soaked pages of his journal.*

Lower Lights

> *I would like to suggest that many of the plenary sessions have not advanced the conversation very far. We have heard the need to stand up for truth â€“ but did not have truth sufficiently defined for us â€“ we have heard pluralism denounced without the nuance of how pluralism can help us without leading to relativism. These presentations felt reactionary, there seemed like an overwhelming sense of pessimism, a retraction back to solid ground rather than a sense of seizing the opportunities in front of us. The thinking feeling 20 years out of date with a reactionary approach to Postmodernism without the appreciation of the new aspects of common grace that are shining through at this moment in history. There are some exceptions and the voices from Africa, Latin America and Turkey have been very helpful.*

While I don't agree with the all of the details of Krish's post. I think that he has grasped the central issues here and his whole post is well worth reading.

For my own part, my main aim here has been to meet and get to know people we could work with - from that standpoint the conference has been a roaring success. Some of the plenary sessions have been inspirational, but others have left a good deal to be desired.

The whole story about internet connection here is a complicated one, but effectively, I can only connect at our lodgings. As I'm hardly ever there, and it costs a fortune, I'll not be blogging much, unless the connection is reinstated at the congress venue.