I hope you will enjoy the articles in this 60th Anniversary Edition of the BIMI World. Most of the articles focus on what the Lord has been doing through BIMI during the past decade. If you would like to read more about our first 50 years, please visit www.bimi.org/onlineMags/101world.

### Counting on Christ

As we celebrate and consider 60 years of ministry, we are thankful for all God has accomplished. We have seen many changes in our world during the past six decades. Events like the Vietnam War, Neil Armstrong’s moon landing, the fall of the Berlin Wall, and the 9/11 terrorist attacks serve as examples that affected the entire world. This year, we are experiencing the Coronavirus pandemic, which will undoubtedly cause major global changes. These unprecedented events have brought about unprecedented opportunities and have underscored the need to continue Counting on Christ as we carry out His Great Commission.

I would like to believe that BIMI missionaries and their supporting churches have also had a worldwide effect during the past 60 years. Whatever good has been accomplished in God’s harvest field through BIMI has been because of Jesus Christ. As we look to the future, it will only be by Christ’s enablement that a worldwide impact can become a reality. Preaching the Gospel to every creature is a job that requires a complete and constant counting on Christ. But how can we truly count on Christ? To answer that question, I would like to mention three critical components of Counting on Christ.

First, we must be continually RELINQUISHING TO HIM everything we have. This is an ongoing, voluntary, and a complete surrendering (Romans 12:1–2; Philippians 3:7–8). In order to do this, we must recognize that we are only stewards and that we are to be faithful stewards of all we possess (1 Corinthians 4:2). It is also important to realize that we, in our own strength, can do nothing (John 15:4–6). Thus, we need to allow God to do His work in us, through us, and for us—recognizing our weakness to experience His power.

Second, we must be constantly RELYING ON HIM. It is essential that we rely on Him in every way—relying on Him as a child relies on his father (Matthew 7:7–11), as a sheep relies on its shepherd (Psalm 23), as a branch relies on the vine (John 15:4–5), and as a friend relies on a friend (John 15:13–15). It is also imperative that we rely on Him for every thing. We can totally count on Him to provide what we need spiritually, physically, mentally, emotionally, and financially. In addition, it is essential that we rely on Him in every place. Whether we find ourselves in the middle of a storm, on the top of a mountain, at the bottom of a valley, or in the midst of a fiery trial, we must unconditionally rely on Him. God promises that when we truly rely on Him, we will experience His provision.

Third, we must be confidently RESTING IN HIM. We must rest in WHO HE IS. Jesus Christ is Lord of lords, King of kings, Almighty God, Prince of Peace—and on we could go. We must also rest in what He has done. He made peace with God through the blood of His cross, providing a way for all mankind to be reconciled to God the Father (Colossians 1:20–22). Additionally, we must rest in where He is. Not only is Jesus at the right hand of the Father interceding for us (Romans 8:34) but is also abiding with us always, even unto the end of the world (Matthew 28:20). Furthermore, we must rest in what HE WILL DO. Christ will build His church (Matthew 16:18), He will be our co-laborer (Matthew 11:28–30; 1 Corinthians 3:9), He will save all who call on Him for salvation (Romans 10:13; 2 Peter 3:9), and He will come again (John 14:1–3; 1 Thessalonians 4:15–18). When we truly rest in Him, we can experience a peace that passes all understanding.

Despite the many changes in our world since the official organization of BIMI on June 28, 1960, one of the things that remains the same is our dependence on Jesus Christ. When BIMI began 60 years ago, we were Counting on Christ. Today, we are still Counting on Christ and as we look to the future, we will continue Counting on Christ. Our desire is to relinquish everything to Him and experience His power, to rely on Him and experience His provision, and to rest in Him and experience His peace. Fulfilling the Great Commission requires God’s inexhaustible power, provision, and peace to proclaim His everlasting Gospel to an ever-changing world.

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