A WORLD OF GOOD
A GLOBAL STRATEGY PODCAST

Alan MacDonald

Season 3, Ep. 1: Global Partnerships (2021)
www.chogglobal.org/S3E1 (60 min)

Key Takeaway

Effective mission work is not about what we accomplish during a short visit but about strengthening local leaders, responding to local vision, and faithfully walking alongside ministry partners over the long term.

SUMMARY

In this episode, Nate and Andrew interview Alan MacDonald about developing healthy and effective global ministry partnerships. Drawing on decades of experience in Mexico, the Philippines, China, and local church missions leadership, Alan reflects on what makes healthy global partnerships thrive. The conversation explores relationship-centered ministry, capacity building, the role of local churches in global mission, and how churches can build mutually beneficial partnerships that strengthen local ministry around the world.

Scripture passage: Philippians 2:1-5

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. *Listen: 14:06-20:45.* Why should relationships come before resources? Why can financial support sometimes create challenges in ministry relationships? What benefits come from investing in trust and relationship first?
2. *Listen: 32:50-48:50.* Alan encourages churches to say "a big yes to a few things" rather than trying to support many ministries superficially. What are the advantages of going "long and deep" with a small number of ministry partners instead of spreading attention across many different projects?
3. What is the difference between helping people and empowering people? How can churches avoid unintentionally creating dependency?
4. What characteristics distinguish a healthy global ministry partnership from a transactional or one-sided relationship?

REFLECTION QUESTION

Think about a ministry, missionary, or organization your church currently supports. How well do you know their vision, challenges, and goals? What is one step you can take this month to move from simply supporting them financially to developing a deeper relationship that encourages and strengthens their work?