



1. Why “One Voice”?

1) The people groups at the ends of the earth: The “peoples” referred to in Acts 1:8 and Matthew 28:19 refer to groups of people beyond nationalities to specific ethnic groups. The charge to go to Jerusalem refers to the Jews, to go to Samaria refers to those who were half Jewish, and thus those who are of mixed ethnic marriages and to the ends of the earth refer to those who are non-Jews. America is that very land that houses those non-Jews. This is the reason the Bay Area is the first mission field for our Korean churches. Thereby, the Bay Area holds a key for evangelism of the whole world.

2) America is filled with resources for missions: there is a very exciting fact with respect to languages. In California, of the population of those 5 years old or older, 43.1%, or 14,751,000 people, speak a language other than English. That breaks down to 44.2% or 342,000 people in San Francisco and 55.5% or 489,000 people in San Jose who are bilingual. (American Community Survey 2009, U.S. Census

Bureau). This means that half of the Bay Area are potential missionaries that God can use to go into the other nations to spread the gospel in their languages.

a. America as a whole has 481 people groups, and 327 language groups. California has 215 language groups. (www.peoplegroups.org; U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2008 American Community Survey). Of the seven million people (7,150,739; Census 2010) in the bay area, there are more than 70 minority groups, 1,780,376 people (Census 2000) are present in this mission field.

b. There is a surge in the Asian population. According to the results of the Census for the past ten years, the total US population went increased by 9.7%, whereas the Asian population increased by 43.3%. Among the Asian population, the Indian population increased by 69.4%, the greatest population increase. In California’s case, the Asian population saw the largest increase (from 2000 to 2010, an increase of 31.5%).

3) America has gone from being a race struggle to a religious struggle: Many people come to America with their own religious systems intact. In *A New Religious America -How a Christian Country Has Now Become the World’s Most Religiously Diverse Nation* (2001), author Diana Eck says that America’s problem in the 21st century will not be a race struggle, but a struggle over religion. There are Muslim services being conducted in Rhode Island’s U-hall office, in one school gym in Oklahoma City, and in a showroom in Northridge, CA.

4) Immigrant churches’ dual mission (Isaiah 49:6) Korean immigrant churches