



**FROM MINUS TO PLUS:**

22 months ago, Vincent Kwon was a homeless drug addict. Today, his restaurant serves as an example of transformation to all of Honolulu.

**SILVOSO MINISTRY UPDATE:**

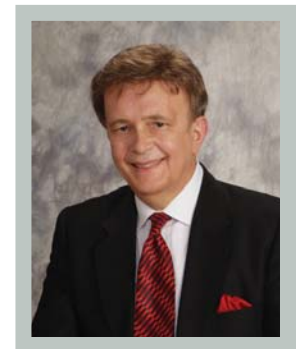
**MAKING TRANSFORMATION REAL  
ACROSS CULTURES AND NATIONS**

SEPTEMBER 27, 2006

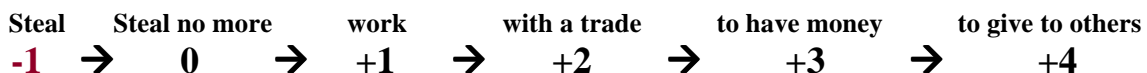
Dear Friend:

This letter comes from my heart and its content is shaped both by extraordinary challenges and unbelievable opportunities. *It will mean a lot to me and to the ministry if you would also read it with your heart.*

Last week I came across one of the clearest AND MOST ENCOURAGING examples of personal and marketplace transformation when I met Vincent Kwon in Hawaii. 22 months ago he was homeless, a criminal drug addict barely surviving in the dark alleys of Honolulu's Chinatown. Today he owns a restaurant with five employees, all of whom are recovering drug addicts like him. His story made front-page news in the local newspaper, bringing hope to many, and also more clients to his restaurant!



St. Paul said, "He who steals, steal no more but rather labor, performing with his own hands what is good, in order that he may have something to share with those who are in need" (Ephesians 4:28). This verse describes an extraordinary progression from *minus 1* to *plus 4* that only God can produce:

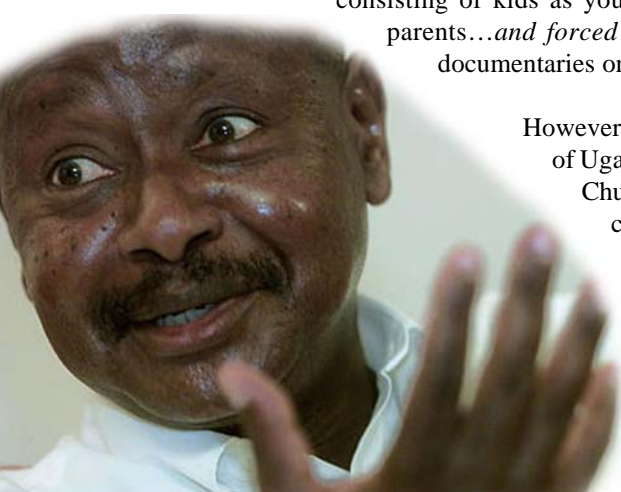


This progression clearly describes the transformation message we preach. Vincent told us recently, "If my employees stay sober for two years and learn the trade, I will set them up with their own food wagon. My goal is to start as many as 100 businesses to see people and downtown Honolulu transformed."

Notice Vincent's focus on souls *and the marketplace*. Awesome! This is the type of breakthrough that makes us wake up in the morning with a smile. Lives *and jobs* are being changed by God.

**SAME MESSAGE, BIGGER ARENA**

In a few days I go with some of our team members to Uganda, a nation that has historically been in the tragic side of the news, beginning with the dictator Idi Amin who killed hundreds of thousands of innocent people, to the more recent children's army consisting of kids as young as 9-years-old who are kidnapped, brainwashed and trained to kill their parents...*and forced to eat them* as an initiation rite! ABC, CBS, NBC and Oprah have all run documentaries on this.



However, on the other hand there is an amazing story still unfolding. The current President of Uganda (left) is the general who deposed Idi Amin. Unfortunately, some misinformed Church leaders told him that being a soldier and a Christian are incompatible positions, causing him to become a backslider. But his wife is an intercessor that never gave up on him. She, along with a number of key Christian leaders, has been ministering faithfully to the President. When he heard the *Anointed for Business* message he realized that God made him a soldier and gave him a mission, like Gideon, *to save the nation*.

President Museveni of Uganda encourages the training of christians to transform the marketplace.

Vincent Kwon photo © Honolulu Star-Bulletin

Through a series of extraordinary events, the Uganda Association of Churches, encompassing 15,000 congregations, *with the President's encouragement*, has invited us to launch a national transformation movement on September 30<sup>th</sup>.

To that end they have selected 5,000 influencers to be trained by us in the principles of transformation to bring transformation to all levels of society. Leading up to this, a canopy of prayer will be raised over the nation, including war-torn areas. Tod Bell, Werner Swart, Rick Heeren and Dave Thompson are facilitating this extraordinary effort. Awesome!

There is no difference between Vincent Kwon, the recovering drug addict in Hawaii, and the President of Uganda. One may have more visibility than the other, but both found their identity in Christ as marketplace ministers, and both are committed to seeing radical transformation come to their sphere of influence; in one case, to a restaurant today and the restaurant industry tomorrow; in the other, to his political office now and to the entire nation tomorrow. A panoramic view of unprecedented opportunities lies before us; after Uganda we go to South Africa, then to Hong Kong, and from there to Argentina where we will train delegates from every continent in addition to thousands of Argentine leaders.



## NOW FROM THE HEART

We stand on this threshold of opportunity with awesome breakthroughs in the past, and many more in the future. But we are also in *immediate* and *tangible* need of funds – \$248,000 – to carry on the ministry because our support throughout the summer was terribly low, about 50% of normal, placing us in a very vulnerable position. It seems that the chaotic international situation coupled with an uncertain economy may have intimidated many donors, causing them to hold back. Humanly speaking, this is understandable, however this is the season to be bold. This is why I am writing to ask for your help.

*Allow me to be as candid as I dare be.* I'd rather not ask for funds. It is our nature to be givers, not takers. But after doing everything with excellence we find ourselves *severely* challenged financially. It is humbling and leaves us no choice but to make this need known to people like you who believe in and care for us. Like Paul, we can say, *“as poor but making many people wealthy,”* undoubtedly a reference to the tension he lived with: aiming high from a low position...and hitting the mark!

We are not quitting. We will fight to the end. We will fire the last cartridge and then charge with our bayonets, and when we run out of those we will fight with our bare hands. We will never quit, but if we could get some artillery support we can win not just this battle but the war. Given our pressing circumstances *and* the ground-breaking opportunities before us, would you make a *significant* investment in our ministry today?

In 1988 when we were on the verge of the breakthrough that resulted in the transformation of Resistencia, the first modern city reached for Christ, we found ourselves in a similar position. We were rich in hope, vision and opportunity, but financially depleted. \$80,000 was needed to go forward. We had exhausted all our human options, but like Queen Esther we decided, *if we perish we perish*, but we will not quit. On the very eve of the battle we got a phone message from the head of a foundation that had heard about us from Peter Wagner. His message on our answering machine still resonates in my mind, *“I heard you are doing a great job and you need money. Call me. I want to help.”* He did, and Resistencia became an icon for transformation and a prototype that has been emulated in thousands of cities. What an awesome return on the investment!

My friend, would you come alongside us at this *critical* hour? We are not asking for personal gifts but for tools to do the work with. I have seldom written so candidly, and I remain in fervent prayer as the battle heats up. Please, if possible, let me hear from you right away.

In Him and for Him,

Ed Silvano

## WAYS YOU CAN HELP:

### PRAY:

- ◆ Please pray for the Lord to raise up the “Vincent Kwons” in all of the nations where Harvest is working.
- ◆ For Ed and the team as they minister in Uganda, South Africa, Hong Kong and Argentina. That nations will walk in their divine destiny.

### GIVE:

- ◆ Please consider making a sacrificial one-time gift toward the *urgent* \$248,000 need to fund our ministry and perfect the transformation prototypes.
- ◆ Help ensure that not only the battle, but the war is won by becoming a monthly or quarterly supporter of Harvest.



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