

WORLD OUTREACH

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**Steve and Cornelia
Körner**



Seeing the Bigger Picture

“I’m not called to ministry.”

This is how Steve Körner would have responded years ago to the notion of attending Charis Bible College. He, like many, believed that Bible school was only necessary for aspiring ministers, and no one else. Why would anyone else go there? But Charis is much more than a theological institution. Perhaps those who believe the contrary have been misinformed about what ministry can look like.

“Three years after I got born again, I had kind of a revelation that God had a plan for my life, in the sense of being a full-time minister,” Steve explains, “which I resisted because I had a wrong idea of ministry. I just wanted to follow Jesus, not to be a pastor.” Then Steve encountered

Andrew Wommack and his perspective changed. “For me, it was Andrew who showed me there was a practical way to do ministry.”

When Steve discovered Charis would give him the practical instruction and training he needed to answer the call of God on his life, he had to attend! “This was something that really attracted me to Charis,” he says, “It’s not like, ‘Well, you go to Charis Bible College, and you’ve got to be a full-time minister.’ No, there are many other ways. You can go into business, politics, media, and things like that. So, this is really what attracted me to Andrew. Living with Jesus is a way for the *whole* life and not just for the *spiritual* life.”

So, Steve continued to run his business as a master electrician while attending Charis. But on the flight back home from his second-year mission trip, something changed. “I recognised I couldn’t do this anymore, dealing with my company and dealing with the spiritual things that God was showing me at school,” he says. “And I heard God say, ‘You don’t have to,’ which was freeing but also kind of frightening because I didn’t know what to do next.” However, it wasn’t long before Steve realised that God was leading him back to the call he had been given years before. “Sixteen years later, listening to Andrew and attending Charis was God’s way of bringing me back to the call He had on my life.”

This led to Steve surrendering his life to God's plan. "I waved the white flag before God, saying 'I'm willing to do whatever You want to do with me.'" But this time, Steve had a more complete understanding of what ministry looked like.

After graduating from the third-year Ministry Track at Charis, Steve worked part-time at AWM and Charis in Birkenfeld, Germany. Today he is the full-time director, and also the director of the AWM office in Germany. The AWM office has translated twenty-three of Andrew's books into German and, in 2015, started work on translating the *Gospel Truth* television program as well.

Steve is excited about the future of AWM and Charis

Germany as he is moving both the ministry and school campus to the Frankfurt, Germany area. During this transition year, 2019-2020, the school is specialising in their Saturday Hybrid program.

People attend Charis and get more than they ever imagined. Students are equipped to make a difference in whatever path God has called them to. That is Steve Körner's story. This is thanks to our *World Outreach Partners*, whose support makes stories like Steve's possible. Now he is in a position to help others realise their calling, as he once realised his.

"My biggest testimony is how I recognise that God brings people together in one place, equips them, and binds them together for a greater purpose.

Everyone had come, in a sense, for themselves - how they can go and figure out God's plan and the purpose of God for them. But during their time at Charis, they recognised that God has a bigger picture. He brings people together and kind of multiplies the potential of every single one . . . For me, it's really something that I always use also for the *new* students, getting them to recognise 'It's not an accident that you are with the people that are sitting next to you. It's something that God intended, and there's a bigger purpose than your own future.'"

Veronica preaching the Gospel in the business district of Kampala. Hundreds were saved and filled with the Holy Spirit.

TESTIMONY:

I have attended Charis Bible College for four years. As a single mother of two children, taking courses part-time has always been the best option for me. I've had a lot of time to anticipate what it would be like to go out of country on a missions trip. I've heard stories and I've seen pictures. But until my feet touched the soil of my destination, Africa, I couldn't understand the beauty in full.

We set out as a team of sixteen to Uganda and spent twelve days away from home. While on the trip, I was face to face with my own weakness and unbelief. I lived fully dependent on the Holy Spirit to guide and help me. There were times I didn't know what to pray for; the Holy Spirit would give me pictures, and I would begin to pray. We witnessed Jesus heal blind eyes, deaf ears, sore muscles, and heartbreak; we even witnessed demonic deliverances. All of this was by His power and not ours.

I had one mission, a picture God gave me: to love. Greater love has no one than this than to lay down his life for a friend.

So many men, women, and children were born again and gave their lives to Christ. We gave away over 400 Bibles, baptized many in the Victoria River and, in two days, fed over two thousand families. My favorite experience wasn't one thing; it was everything. I call Africa my home because I've never experienced raw love, like Jesus, in any other place. Nothing greater than to serve and bring the Father's children home. Every seed sown matters for eternity. It is an honor to be a servant of Christ.

- Veronica Bonham, graduate of Charis Sherman (Texas)



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