

## EMBRACING WORLD LEADERS IN OUR MIDST

### Decades Ago:

- An Alternative Plan: a prayer in InterVarsity student magazine that asked God to bring the nations to the U.S.
- Only 100,000 international students with a handful of individuals and churches reaching out to them

### Today's Realities:

- International students come with a goal of receiving an American education and to expand their career options and influence in the future
- The 2017 statistics show China, India, South Korea, Saudi Arabia, Canada, Vietnam, Taiwan, Japan, Mexico, and Brazil, as the top 10 sending countries in the U.S.
- In Canada there are nearly 500,000 international students with China, India, France, and South Korea as leading sending countries.
- There are over 300 presidents and prime ministers of countries around the world who were once international students in the U.S.
- Future world leaders in government, education, business, health, the church and the home are studying on our campuses
- God is behind this movement of people; future influencers who are sitting in our classrooms, living in our dorms, eating in our school cafeterias, shopping in our stores

### Three Reasons We Should Open the Doors of Our Lives, Homes, and Churches:

- For God's sake
    - We open the doors so that God's glory will be made known among the nations
    - The 4 leading countries (China, India, South Korea, and Saudi Arabia) represent the 3 major religions in the world: Buddhism, Hinduism and Islam
    - We do it because God's desire is for international worshippers from every tribe, language, people and nation
    - God is pleased and honored when we make disciples of all nations
  - For the international students' sake
    - They need to experience our radical hospitality, our unconditional love
    - They need us to be their friends and advocates, especially in our volatile global political climate
    - They enjoy being part of our family
    - They need to see models of Christians in the workplace and at home
    - They need an intelligent conversation about the world and life in general
    - They need Jesus
  - For our sake
    - Our worldviews are in need of expansion
    - We need the Christian international's vibrant faith and passion for the gospel
    - International student converts from other faiths know the full cost of following Jesus – their suffering and commitment put us to shame
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