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## PRESS RELEASE

### Empowered21 to Host 'Amsterdam2023' Conference to Unite Believers in Fulfilling the Great Commission by 2033

TULSA, Okla., February 8, 2023 – Empowered21, a relational leadership network representing the more than 650 million Spirit-empowered Christians, will host <u>Amsterdam2023</u>, a threeday conference and one-day stadium event on June 21-24, 2023 at Amsterdam RAI & Olympic Stadium. The international event will feature influential leaders and powerful speakers gathered to launch a decade of unprecedented evangelism to get the gospel to every person on earth by 2033.

With the goal of catalyzing a new era of evangelism by re-personalizing the Great Commission, Empowered21 believes that Amsterdam2023 will kick off the most significant decade of growth in the history of the Church by calling Christians to fulfill the Great Commission by the year 2033—significantly marking the 2000-year anniversary of the Crucifixion and Resurrection of Jesus and the birth of the Church on the Day of Pentecost.



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"I believe we're entering the most important decade of evangelistic effort in the history of the Church," shared Empowered21 Global Chair, Dr. Billy Wilson. "For the past 2,000 years, Christians have been praying for the fulfillment of the Great Commission. Today, we're closer than we've ever been before. It's imperative that we come together prayerfully and collaboratively, fully committed to take the news of Jesus to every person on earth."

"The international event will feature more than 150 + influential leaders and powerful speakers to launch this transformative decade. Amsterdam2023 will equip believers from across the globe to:

- Collaborate cross-culturally about the Great Commission
- Innovate new ways to reach more people with the Gospel
- Experience the power of the Holy Spirit
- Inspire a greater vision of God's heart for the world

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""A new era of evangelism is dawning," said Dr. Wilson. "We have the technology, we have the resources and we have the people. Let's finish the task. Join us in Amsterdam as we intercede, collaborate and mobilize to reach the world with the message of Jesus."

Participating Ministry Leaders:

- EA. Adeboye, Redeemed Christian Church of God
- Brian Alarid, America Prays & World Prays
- Glyn Barrett, Audacious Church
- Andy Byrd, YWAM
- Christine Caine, A21 and Zoe Church Europe
- Stephan & Anne Christiansen, Jesus Church
- Chroma Worship
- Dunamis Music
- Russell Evans, Planetshakers
- Ben Fitzgerald, Awakening Europe
- Claudio Freidzon, Rey de Reyes Church
- Alton Garrison, Acts 2 Journey Initiative
- Mart Green, Hobby Lobby
- Bobby Gruenewald, YouVersion
- Nick Hall, PULSE
- Teo Hayashi, Dunamis Movement
- Desmond Henry, GNE
- Rob Hoskins, OneHope
- Cindy Jacobs, Generals International
- Dr. Todd Johnson, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary

- Cash Luna, Casa De Dios
- Wonsuk Ma, ORU
- Nathan Morris, Shake the Nations
- Niko Njotorahardjo, Gereja Bethel Indonesia Joe Oden, Freedom City Church
- Andrew, Kevin & Wendy Palau, Luis Palau Association
- Terry Parkman, OneHope and Empowered21
- Planetshakers
- Goodwill Shana, Word of Life International
- Bekele Shanko, CRU Ethiopia
- Ed Stetzer, Wheaton College Billy Graham Center
- ORU Worship
- Jean-Luc Trachsel, Europe Shall Be Saved
- Mattheus van der Steen, Harvest Fields
  International
- Mark Varughese, Kingdomcity
- Rick Warren, Finishing the Task
- Markus Wenz, Gospel Forum
- Billy Wilson, ORU and Empowered21

For more information or to register, visit amsterdam2023.com.

#### About Empowered21

Empowered21 is a global Spirit-empowered movement working to connect the generations for blessing, impartation and a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit in the 21st century. Its U.S. office is on the campus of Oral Roberts University, of which Empowered21 Global Chair Dr. Billy Wilson is president. To learn more, visit <u>empowered21.com</u>.



## BACKGROUNDER

The vision of Empowered21 is that every person on earth would have an authentic encounter with Jesus Christ through the power and presence of the Holy Spirit by Pentecost 2033.

The nonprofit ministry aspires to help shape the future of the global Spirit-empowered movement throughout the world by focusing on crucial issues facing the movement and connecting generations for intergenerational blessing and impartation.

Empowered21 seeks to accomplish its mission through the following five purposes:

- To unite the global Spirit-filled movement togethering intergenerationally for the purpose of seeking a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit in the 21st century.
- To focus the energy and resources of the Spirit-empowered global church on the harvest and challenges before it.
- To provide a platform for addressing the crucial issues facing the 21st-century Spiritempowered church.
- To discover contemporary methods, vocabulary, spiritual grace and relational favor needed for engaging every generation in Spirit-empowered living.
- To witness greater convergence and collaboration of Spirit-empowered ministries around the world.

The Empowered21 Global Council is made up of 82 leaders of Spirit-empowered denominations, para-church ministries and churches with significant global impact. The Empowered21 Global Council establishes the focus of the movement, gives inspirational oversight to 14 Regional Cabinets across the world, and helps bring resources to bear on crucial issues faced by the Spirit-empowered Church.

Global Council members include Dr. Billy Wilson, Dr. Young Hoon Lee, Dr. Heidi Baker, Bill Johnson, Robert Morris, Andy Byrd, Russell Evans, Daniel Kolenda and Cash Luna, among many others.



### Dr. William M. (Billy) Wilson

Oral Roberts University President, Pentecostal World Fellowship Chair & Empowered21 Global Chair

Dr. William M. Wilson is a leading voice in the Spiritempowered movement, one of the fastest growing movements in history. With more than four decades of executive leadership experience, Wilson is recognized globally for his unwavering ethics in leadership and as a champion for new generations of Spirit-empowered leaders. His unique ability to foster global partnerships brings together leaders from various cultures, ethnicities, and spheres of influence.



During Wilson's tenure as the Empowered21 (E21) Global Chair, E21 has become what is recognized as the world's largest Spirit-empowered relational network. E21 brings together ministry leaders, scholars, evangelists, and next-generation voices who collectively represent over 650 million Christians worldwide. Since 2010, E21 has expanded exponentially with 14 regional cabinets around the world and numerous working groups, such as the recently formed Global Prayer Alliance.

The vision of Empowered21 is that "Every person on earth would have an authentic encounter with Jesus through the power and presence of the Holy Spirit by Pentecost 2033." In pursuit of that vision, E21 will bring together Great Commission-focused ministries in Amsterdam, from June 21-24, 2023, with the goal of launching a new era of evangelism around the world. E21 has developed the EveryONE initiative to fund frontline evangelistic efforts for those who have not yet heard the Gospel.

In addition to his strategic role with E21, Wilson is the fourth president of Oral Roberts University (ORU). He began his tenure in June of 2013 and has led the University through consecutive years of historic growth. Under Wilson's leadership, ORU's enrollment has reached unprecedented numbers. In the Fall of 2021, ORU achieved the largest year-overyear recorded percentage growth in over 25 years. ORU is also recognized as one of the Top 25 most diverse universities in America. As part of ORU's continued expansion, Wilson launched new educational outcomes (Spiritual Integrity, Personal Resilience, Intellectual Pursuit, Global Engagement and Bold Vision) through ORU's Whole Person learning model, which develops graduates for leadership success and has resulted in a 99.57% placement rate.

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He has spearheaded numerous campus improvements including the first new student housing on campus since 1976 and the establishment of the Global Learning Center, a hub for global education and augmented/virtual reality learning. Wilson led the \$50 million, 50th Anniversary campaign to a successful conclusion. Presently, the "Whole Leaders for the Whole World" campaign is nearing completion, raising \$77 million for scholarships, three new buildings including a campus Welcome Center, Media Arts Center, the J.D. McKean Library, and the David and Barbara Green Centre for Global Leadership. Another \$5 million was raised for the new Fenimore Fisher Graduate School of Business, which includes a fully-operational Trading Floor. In addition, \$21 million is being raised for the Mike Carter Athletic Center and a substantial renovation of the Mabee Center Arena, including new blue seating, a spectacular concourse, and additional suites.

Additionally, Wilson is a sought-after Bible communicator whose weekly television program, "World Impact with Dr. Billy Wilson," has inspired and empowered viewers from a biblical worldview in over 150 nations in multiple languages.

Wilson also serves as Chair of the Pentecostal World Fellowship, an at-large member of the board of the National Association of Evangelicals, and in leadership positions with the International Christian Embassy Jerusalem, American Association of Presidents of Independent Colleges and Universities and the Tulsa Regional Chamber of Commerce.

He has authored several books, including Father Cry, Foundations of Faith, Fasting Forward and his latest book, Generation Z: Born for the Storm.

Wilson and his wife Lisa reside in Tulsa, Oklahoma. They have two children and seven grandchildren.



#### Caleb Wehrli

Executive Director of Empowered21

Caleb Wehrli serves as the Executive Director of Empowered21, a ministry initiative of Oral Roberts University. He is known as a kingdom leader, mobilizer and relationally gifted visionary. He has over 20 years of experience in executive leadership roles through missions, church planting, and leadership initiatives in over 60 countries. He is focused on helping ministry leaders from around the globe unite in fulfilling Christ's mandate of reaching every person on earth through the power of the Holy Spirit



#### Ashley Wilson Assistant Director, Empowered 21

Ashley Wilson serves as assistant director at Empowered21. A graduate of Lee University, Ashley has served as a church planter, pastor and as the national field director for the Awakening America Alliance. As the administrative coordinator for the 2006 Azusa Street Centennial, he led operational logistics to host 50,000 international attendees in Los Angeles for the 100th anniversary of the modern-day out-pouring of the Holy Spirit. Ashley and his wife, Jamie, are the proud parents of Anna, Aaron and Amelia.



## FACT SHEET

#### About Amsterdam2023:

In 2033, the world will celebrate the 2,000-year anniversary of Christ's crucifixion, resurrection and the birth of the Church on the Day of Pentecost. Empowered21 believes the decade leading up to 2033 will be a defining one, a decade in which it's possible for every person on earth to hear the Gospel.

On June 21-24, 2023, Empowered21 will host <u>Amsterdam2023</u>, a three-day conference and one-day stadium event at Amsterdam RAI & Olympic Stadium. The international event will feature 150 + influential leaders and powerful speakers to launch a decade of unprecedented evangelism to get the gospel to every person on earth by 2033.

Featured Speakers:

- E.A. Adeboye
- Paul Adefarasin
- Brian Alarid
- Heidi Baker
- Glyn Barrett
- Andy Byrd
- Christine Caine
- Anne Christiansen
- Stephan Christiansen
- Russell Evans
- Ben Fitzgerald
- Ruben Flach
- Claudio Freidzon
- Alton Garrison
- Mart Green
- Bobby Gruenwald

#### Featured Worship Artists:

- Chroma Music
- Dunamis Worship

- Nicky Gumbel
- Nick Hall
- Teo Hayashi
- Desmond Henry
- Rob Hoskins
- Cindy Jacobs
- Bill Johnson
- Dr. Todd Johnson
- Daniel Kolenda
- Yonghoon Lee
- Cash Luna
- Wonsuk Ma
- Nathan Morris
- Niko Njotorahardjo
- Joe Oden
- LaDonna Osborn

- Andrew Palau
- Kevin Palau
- Wendy Palau
- Terry Parkman
- Samuel Rodriguez
- Goodwill Shana
- Ed Stetzer
- Jean-Luc Trachsel
- Mattheus Van Der Steen
- Mark Varughese
- Rick Warren
- Eric Watt
- Markus Wenz
- Billy Wilson
- Sharon Witton
- Tuck Yoong Yang
- Brother Yun
- Lindy & The Circuit Riders
- Opwekking Band
- ORU Worship
- Planetshakers



# SUGGESTED INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

- What is the mission of Empowered21?
- What is the Spirit-empowered Global Church?
- Why is it important to collaborate with global leaders across denominations?
- What is Amsterdam2023? Why is this event of prayer and collaboration so critical at this time in history?
- What do you believe needs to occur within the next decade to fulfill the Great Commission by 2033?
- How would you describe the "new era of evangelism?"
- How do you see the Holy Spirit moving in the world right now? Why is this significant as it relates to the Great Commission?
- How do you foresee Amsterdam2023 setting the stage for the next decade of movement in the church?
- How has the power of the Holy Spirit impacted your own life?



# WEBSITES & SOCIAL MEDIA

#### Empowered21:

- Website: <u>empowered21.com</u>
- YouTube: Empowered21Network
- Twitter: @empowered21
- Instagram: @empowered21
- Facebook: @empowered21

#### Amsterdam2023:

• Website: <u>amsterdam2023.com</u>