



WILLOW CREEK ASSOCIATION NZ

LEAD WHERE YOU ARE

Alan Vink shares a few reflections on the live Global Leadership Summit (GLS) in Chicago

The live GLS in Chicago was another incredible event. I know I use very generous adjectives to describe this event every year but it really is that good. I count it a huge privilege to have been there in person along with two members of my team this year.

Willow Creek Community Church in South Barrington is an inspiring place to hang out for a week. There's so much going on and all of it so innovative. Imagine 10,000 people in one place spread over two auditoriums... that's a lot of folks and a lot of cars. Needless to say, the car park is huge. I can't remember seeing people anywhere else running into a church auditorium for a seat... yes, a seat towards the front even! At the Saturday night service at the end of the Summit week, Henry Cloud preached a message entitled, 'Never Go Back'—a most interesting take on repentance. You can go to Willow Creek Community Church's website and hear this message if you wish.

Let me now share with you a few comments about some of the GLS content and speakers.

Bill Hybels: *'Hard Fought Leadership Lessons'*

As usual, Bill opened the Summit with another thought-provoking talk full of excellent content. We will open with Bill's talk in NZ.

Susan Cain: *'Quiet: Challenging the Extrovert Ideal'*

This is a most interesting person:

- A graduate of Princeton University and Harvard Law School—and a self-described introvert—Cain's early career was spent on Wall Street as a corporate attorney and negotiations consultant
- Her extensive research into the leadership strengths of introverts became the basis for the book *Quiet: The Power of Introverts in a World that Can't Stop Talking*
- Sparking a conversation about management stereotypes, the book has been translated into 30 languages and became a *TIME* cover story
- Her TED talk, *The Power of Introverts*, ranks among the most watched on TED.com with more than five million views

In her talk, Cain argues that we dramatically undervalue introverted leadership and its irreplaceable contribution to our schools, businesses and ministries.

I would highly recommend her talk and her book which we will have for sale at all GLS venues.

Joseph Grenny: *'Mastering the Art of Crucial Conversations'*

Grenny's talk last year was the most highly rated. So they have invited him back. He is a Social Scientist with impressive credentials. This year his topic is quite different and but again so helpful for all people irrespective of role in life.

Crucial Conversations = key interactions where the stakes are high, when there are different opinions, and when emotions run strong.

Leaders, teachers, colleagues, friends and parents will receive considerable value from this outstanding talk.

Allen Catherine Kagina: 'A Grander Vision'

Commissioner General, Uganda Revenue Authority (URA)

During her 20-year career as a public servant, Kagina has transformed the URA by taking on corruption, increasing service orientation and winning awards for innovation. Sheer brilliance!

Louie Giglio: 'Take the Step'

Louie closed the Summit with a gripping message. What a guy! I loved the talk and the level of his 'self disclosure'. We will also close with Louie as our last message of the summits in NZ.

So there you have a small sampling. We have opted to not include Patrick Lencioni or Erica Fox. Lencioni's talk was quite short and a little repetitive but true to vintage Lencioni. Tyler Perry will NOT be on the Team Edition so you won't want to miss him at a live GLS near you. What an interesting person with numerous Hollywood awards to his outstanding career.

Please go to willowcreek.org.nz for all the up-to-date information, speaker bio's and the GLS highlights video (3 min).

Alan Vink
CEO – WillowNZ
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