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Leaders Must Restore Their Own Foundations Before Trying to Build an Organization, Says Missions Executive

TMS Global VP shares moving story of personal transformation to encourage essential 'life-change, worldview expansion' and help make a difference

NORCROSS, Ga. – Leaders can take people only as far as they have been willing to go themselves, says a missions executive who has shared his story of personal transformation to encourage others to restore their own foundations before trying to build an organization.

Better understanding themselves will equip them to lead more effectively and so make more of a difference in the world, says Romal Tune, senior advisor to the president, diversity and inclusion initiatives, for [TMS Global](#), a Norcross, Ga.-based international missions agency. The organization's several hundred workers are involved in a wide range of leadership, literacy, and relief and medical work in least-reached parts of the world to share the love of Jesus and spread the gospel.

Tune tells how facing his own internal struggles has enriched his ability to serve others in his new book, *Love Is An Inside Job: Getting Vulnerable With God* (FaithWords).

In the book, Tune recounts how he was required to go to counseling after a confrontation with someone he was trying to help while on staff at a megachurch. Initially reluctant, he found healing and wholeness as he began to work through his own troubled story.

Tune's past included being raised in poverty by a single mother who was addicted to alcohol and drugs, running with a street gang, and having to panhandle for money—deep-seated pains that did not just go away when he became a Christian.

An author and speaker widely recognized for his ability to connect group and organizations from different backgrounds, Tune says that his ministry has been enhanced by his ongoing personal growth.

"Understanding more how we are all shaped by our experiences, but that they don't need to define us, has been a huge asset," he says of his own journey, which has included reconciliation with his estranged father. "I am able to listen to people differently."

In addition to personal application, the process of reflection and change Tune details in his book can also be used by organizations, which have their own history and story, he believes.

Love is an Inside Job also includes testimonies from other leaders about how facing their own issues has helped them in their ministries.

Among them is Jorge Acevedo, lead pastor of Grace Church in Cape Coral, Fla., who writes of how "God uses counselors and other mental health professionals to bring about his sanctifying grace in our lives."

Tune's message has been endorsed by TMS Global President and CEO, the Rev. Max Wilkins, who described the book as "a call and a challenge to people, especially men, to get vulnerable with God."

Wilkins said *Love Is An Inside Job* “helps people reframe and overcome the life narratives that are preventing them from living the abundant life Jesus promises His followers.

“We believe that the life journey Romal outlines in his book will help others move toward the same life-change, worldview expansion, and deeper connection to the mission of Jesus, which is ultimately where the abundant life Jesus promises is to be found.”

Founded in 1984, TMS Global is an interdenominational agency with more than 180 missionaries from more than a dozen different denominations. They are involved in diverse activities, including agricultural training, evangelism, church planting, discipleship, literacy, leadership development, medical care, relief and aid, teaching English as a second language, and well drilling.

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