

PERSPECTIVES READER

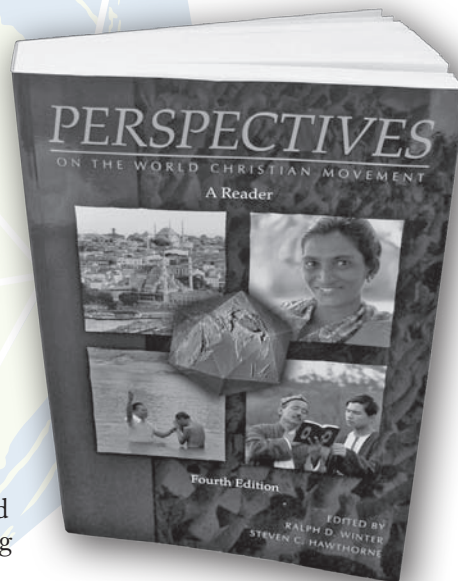
4TH EDITION SHIPS

The Fourth Edition of *Perspectives on the World Christian Movement* is ready for Perspectives extension classes in January, 2009. Leaders of the Perspectives Study Program have been working since the fall of 2006 to update and refine the curriculum. A core team of five people worked with many of the larger community at the USCWM in Pasadena. Dozens of Perspectives coordinators across the country and the world were frequently consulted during the process.

Co-editor Steve Hawthorne reports that the lesson structure, basic themes and core ideas have been refined more than they have been changed. The fourth edition will be familiar to the tens of thousands of people who have worked through the *Perspectives* course. The fifteen lesson titles are almost identical. But much has changed. Many articles have been retained but greatly revised, even though they carry the same title. Some have been edited to simplify the language or to organize them more clearly. Other articles have been updated with up-to-date figures, current vocabulary or emerging ideas.

In the Fourth Edition, counting all the sidebar articles and the two forewords, there are 172 articles, with 65 of them new to the book. The book remains the same length as the Third Edition, with 800 pages overall. That means that many articles were edited to be shorter. And new articles tended to be much shorter. Of the editorial portion, the new material (177 pages) is about 23%. There are now 152 authors, with 61 of them new to the book. Compared to the Third Edition, the number of women contributing as authors nearly doubled from 9 to 17. The number of non-western authors increased from 9 to 21.

In the biblical section new articles clarify the powerful idea of blessing, explore how God endowed humanity with responsibility for creation care and delve into the tricky issues of contex-



tualizing Christ-following movements. A few new items by recognized scholars show how the truths of the kingdom of God give hope that the pursuit of God's mission aims to overcome evil and display signs of Christ's life and righteousness in the present age.

In the history section new material recounts the fascinating story of how the gospel moved to the east, the surprising change of how the Christian movement is shifting to the global south and the encouraging reality of mature non-western mission movements sending more missionaries than are being sent

from the West. Look for a summary of research that dispels some of the anecdotal myths about missionaries harming societies.

The culture section contains some new material about orality and oral learning strategies. There is more about story-telling that presents the gospel in ways that connect with and yet eventually transform the worldview of receptor societies. New material delves into the complexity, beauty and value of ethnicity in a globalized, urbanized world in which many feel themselves to be part of multiple peoples. Another set of articles explores the complexity of missionary identity with integrity in a globalized, terrorized, pluralized world.

In the strategy section new material lifts the definition of churches above the institutional features to the reality of Christ being obeyed as Lord. Around the simple reality of Christ being served as king in dynamic church movements, the hope of the kingdom of God to withstand evil and to bring significant change to society becomes practical. Some of the new articles describe dynamic church planting movements, bearing fruit in two ways: bringing about significant changes in culture and society, while at the same time multiplying rapidly to bring the gospel throughout entire peoples and cities. For many the highlight will be several new case studies describing the dramatic and costly

work of God among the unreached. A new section about world Christian discipleship is designed to help every believer move beyond filling roles and integrate their lives with others to fulfill God's greater global purpose.

Perspectives alumni and instructors will want to get their copy of the Reader as well as the companion Study Guide. The Study Guide has been significantly revised. The lesson titles are largely the same. But every lesson has been changed to some extent. 🌐

Perspectives on the World Christian Movement A description of articles and sidebars—new to the 4th Edition Reader

The Biblical Perspective

Mission and God's Earth

Christopher Wright—God's concern for all He has created and how that concern relates to Christian mission.

Blessing as Transformation

Sarita D. Gallagher and Steven C. Hawthorne—Explores the promise of blessing for the nations in the book of Genesis, showing that God brought about tangible, social and relational benefits among neighboring peoples in the days of Abraham and his immediate descendants.

The Story of Blessing Prevailing Over Curse

Richard Bauckham—A brief look at blessing as one of the macro themes of the Bible.

Building for the Kingdom

N.T. Wright—Balanced view of the present and the future that helps avoid the extremes of triumphalistic activism and passive escapism.

The Kingdom of God in the Life of the World

Leslie Newbigin—True mission brings about change as signs of the kingdom by confronting the power structures of this world, not aligning with them.

To Inaugurate His Kingdom [sidebar]

N.T. Wright—To keep mission from becoming social activism that merely serves diverse ethical agendas, we must keep the inauguration of the kingdom firmly rooted in the death and resurrection of Christ.

Become Like, Remain Like

Harley Talman—Explores the implications of Paul's example of identifying with those he was trying to reach and encouraging new believers to retain their existing relationships. (Based on 1 Cor. 7 and 9)

A New Creation [sidebar]

David Anthony—Integrating issues of identity for new believers from Corinthians and Galatians.

The Historical Perspective

Asian Christianity: Facing the Rising Sun

Scott Sundquist—Reviews the five advances of Christianity into Asia from the 1st century to the present day with lessons for mission today.

Three Mission Eras: And the Loss and Recovery of Kingdom Mission

Ralph D. Winter—A new summary of Winter's widely known three eras of Protestant mission showing the interplay of mission priorities and secular history.

The Social Impact of Christian Missions

Robert D. Woodberry—Sociological evidence for the positive social impact of missions during the colonial era.

The State of the Gospel

Jason Mandryk—Survey of the status of global Christianity as of 2006 with a view towards world evangelization.

No Longer Emerging

Beram Kumar—Introduction to the vitality of mission sending from the majority world.

The Surging Non-Western Mission Force [sidebar]

Bruce A. Koch—Evidence that the size of the non-Western cross-cultural mission force has surpassed that of the traditional Western mission force.

Majority World Sending [seven reports]

Reports on mission sending from leaders from Africa, Brazil, Korea, India, China, the Philippines and Latin America.

Now is the Time

Bill Taylor—Western perspective on global partnership.

Old Ways for a New Day

David Ruiz—Non-western perspective on global partnership.

New Pioneers Leading the Way in the Final Era

Yvonne Wood Huneycutt—An analysis of Ralph Winter's 30-year old projection that the third

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and final era of modern protestant mission would become characterized by majority world mission sending.

From Western Christendom to Global Christianity

Todd Johnson, Sandi Lee—Christian movement is now a global reality with tremendous diversity that raises new issues and challenges.

The Next Christendom: The Coming of Global Christianity

Philip Jenkins—The demographic shift of Christianity means that the influence of Western views of Christian belief and practice will inevitably diminish in the face of the vitality of Christian movements in the Global South.

The Cultural Perspective

Understanding Culture

Lloyd Kwasst—A classic simple treatment of worldview, values, beliefs and behavior.

Is God Colorblind or Colorful? The Gospel, Globalization and Ethnicity

Miriam Adeney—Addresses the value of cultural diversity as an expression of God-given creativity and its implications for service and worship. Also explores the value of ethnic churches in a globalized world.

Created to Create Culture [sidebar]

Erich Sauer

Clean and Dirty: Cross-Cultural Misunderstandings in India

Paul Hiebert—Uses an insightful comparison to show how beliefs shape behavior and perceptions of behavior.

Making Disciples of Oral Learners

International Orality Network—The majority of people in the world are primarily oral learners. Explores the implication for Christian communication.

Transforming Worldviews Through the Biblical Story [sidebar]

D. Bruce Graham—The power of transforming worldview by connecting the Biblical story to a people's own story.

Finding a Place and Serving Movements Within Society

Paul G. Hiebert—A new compilation of existing material that addresses effective missionary roles and the need to understand the impact of social structure

on cross-cultural communication. Expanded material on social structure in urban contexts.

Culture Shock: Starting Over [sidebar]

Paul G. Hiebert

Closing the Gap [sidebar]

Donald N. Larson

Identity with Integrity: Apostolic Ministry in the 21st Century

Rick Love—Proposes the need to reshape the core identity of missionaries in a globalized and interconnected world.

Google-Proof Transparency [sidebar]

L. Mak—Genuine love and professional excellence are essential to establish credibility with those prejudiced against missionaries.

As Unknown, Yet Well-Known: Commending Ourselves as Servants [sidebar]

Bob Blincoe—A transparent identity that brought protection in a dangerous environment and paved the way for others to follow Jesus.

Missions and Money

Phil Parshall—Examines the complexity of finding an acceptable role in poorer societies for westerners who are wealthy by global standards.

Different Views Concerning Relationships and Money [sidebar]

Joseph Cumming—A contrast between common Western and Non-Western views of money and relationships.

The Role of the Righteous Rich [sidebar]

Jonathan Bonk—Outsiders may do well to learn how to function within the culturally assigned role of the “righteous rich.”

Discovering the Holy Spirit's Work in a Community

T. Wayne Dye—An examination of the Holy Spirit's role in bringing about progressive conviction of sin and transformation within churches and whole communities.

The Strategic Perspective

God's Symphony of Effort [sidebar]

Ralph D. Winter—Quantified summary of diverse resources and approaches to world evangelization.

Christ Movements in the Hindu World

H.L. Richard—Sums up the history, complexity and hope of Christward movements in the Hindu world.

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Cities and Salt: Counter-Cultures for the Common Good

Tim Keller—How church movements need to be a transforming influence on urban societies.

Wiping Out HIV

Kay Warren—A heartfelt story of one evangelical who could simply not stay uninvolved when confronted with HIV/AIDS.

The Church—The Greatest Force on Earth [sidebar]

Rick Warren—Why churches are a powerful vehicle for tackling tough global problems.

Organic Church

Neil Cole—A fresh look at the essence of what it means to be a church.

Church Planting Movements

David Garrison—Analysis of the phenomenon of church-planting movements.

Mission Comes Home

Andrew Jones—One missionary discovers the need for cross-cultural mission at home.

Insider Movements: Retaining Identity and Preserving Community

Rebecca Lewis—Articulates the value and distinctives of insider movements.

Three Types of Christward Movements

Rick Brown, Steve Hawthorne—A comparison of features of people movements, church planting movements and insider movements.

Beyond Loving the World: Serving the Son for His Surpassing Glory

David Bryant—A new look at what it means to be a “World Christian” that challenges common assumptions.

Life on Purpose

Claude Hickman, Steve Hawthorne, Todd Abrend—Explores the practices and disciplines of effective World Christians.

Live with Intentionality

Caroline Bower, Lynne Ellis—How everyone can work with others to find ways to contribute their gifts, skills and opportunities to fulfill the mission of God.

Just Willing

Casey Morgan—Young couple wrestles with the question of being “called” into mission.

All or Nothing?

Greg Livingstone—Those considering cross-cultural ministry need to ask the right questions.

Be a Church Whisperer [sidebar]

Larry Walker—Wisdom for moving local churches toward greater mission involvement.

Missio Dei or “Missio Me?” Short-Term Missions and God’s Global Purpose

Roger Peterson—How can short-term missions make long-term contributions to missions.

Restoring the Role of Business in Mission

Steve Rundle—Explores the history and contemporary modes of integrating enterprise with mission.

Blessing Berabistan: Doing Mission Differently [sidebar]

Nicole Forcier—Mixing business and mission requires a new kind of church support.

Tentmakers: Integrating Work and Witness [sidebar]

Ruth Siemens—A closer look at the biblical support for tentmaking.

New Case Studies

The Zaraban Breakthrough (case study)

Ken Harkin, Ted Moore—The insightful story of a breakthrough of the gospel that combines an amazing array of key principles — all seemingly orchestrated by God.

Planting Churches: Learning the Hard Way (case study)

Tim and Rebecca Lewis—Lessons learned from decades of pioneer church planting.

A Movement of God Among the Bhojpuri of North India (case study)

David Watson, Paul Watson—A look at one of the more famous contemporary church planting movements.

Ourselves as Servants: Latin American Workers in the Middle East (case study)

Andres and Angelica Guzman—A Latin American medical team tells their story.

A Movement to Jesus Among Muslims (case study)

Rick Brown—A story of how the gospel can spread spontaneously between groups.

The Awakening of the Persian Church (case study)

Gilbert Hovsepian, Krikor Markarian—The story of the modern rebirth of the Persian Church. 🌐