

# IJPM

International Journal of  
Pentecostal Missiology

## Non-Western Missions Edition

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## From the Editor's Desk

### Non-Western Missions: Changing the Face of Missions

Jeffery Nelson, Editor

#### *Introduction*

This issue of the International Journal of Pentecostal Missiology contains articles from prominent influencers in the emerging Pentecostal Non-Western missionary sending world. Authors represent the highest level of missions leadership in the World Assembly of God Fellowship, World Pentecostal Fellowship, as well as Latin America, Europe, and Africa. Authors share not only recent successes, but honestly wrestle with the challenges and growing pains that non-Western sending churches face.

You do not want to miss the article on Carceral Ministry by Jonathan Cantarero. He shares a unique approach to planting churches in America's death row prisons led by prisoners trained in prison.

Finally, Lowenberg's article on the Canaanite woman sheds a fresh perspective on the reason Jesus instructed his disciples to go only to the lost people of Israel first. You may be surprised as I was at the conclusion.

I appreciate the extra work of Brad Walz working with me to put this issue together.

#### *An Airplane View and Current "Snapshot" of WAGF Missions by Brad Walz*

Brad Walz serves as the founding chairman of the World Assemblies of God Fellowship, and President, Latin America Assemblies of God Missions Network. For 37 years Walz has been at the forefront of developing and guiding receiving nations becoming sending nations in missions. His article presents the big picture which he calls the airplane view from 40,000 feet. He also presents a snapshot of the current situation with the hope that with the right person in the right place at the right time things can change for greater impact in missions. Walz is an authority in the field and this article gives great insight into the worldwide picture of state of Pentecostal Majority World missions today.

*Contribution of African Pentecostals in Finishing the Task by Arto Hämäläinen*

Arto Hämäläinen (D. Min) founding chairman of the World Missions Commission of the Pentecostal World Fellowship and Lead Team member of the Missions Commission of the World Assemblies of God Fellowship is another authoritative practitioner in Pentecostal Majority World missions. With his vast experience in developing the sending are for the Finnish Pentecostal Mission, founding chairman of the Pentecostal European Mission (PEM), Pentecostal Asia Mission (PAM) and Africa Pentecostal Mission (APM), there may be no one more qualified to write on the contribution of African Pentecostals changing the face of missions.

*Embracing the New Mission Paradigm with Joy by Murray Cornelius*

Murray Cornelius speaks to non-Western church changing the face of missions from a place of leadership. Murray Cornelius is the Executive Director for Mission Global, the sending agency of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada, with over 300 Global Workers serving in 65 countries. His article encourages Western churches to joyfully accept receiving missionaries from the Majority World into their countries and churches as the result of missions coming full circle.

*Keys to Romania's Growth in their Missions' Vision and Response by Ileana Kopjar (Hrișcă) & Gheorghe Rîțișan*

Kopjar and Rîțișan write from experience and expertise as national and international leaders. They have been involved in sending missionaries from Romania from the beginning. Through the growing pains of a developing church, they have seen success in building a sending agency that is helping the largest Evangelical, but financially challenged, church in Europe find ways to effectively support foreign missionaries.

*Lessons Learned from an Experiment in African National Church Missions by Jeffery Nelson*

In this article I share lessons learned from my experience developing a school of missions for the Kenya Assemblies of God Missions. I had the privilege of serving on the national

missions committee and as chief executive officer of the KAG EAST University we were able to offer solutions to the attrition of missionaries. The school provided encouragement and best practice options which turned the dropout rate of missionaries around.

*Towards a Missiological Approach to Carceral Ministry by Jonathan Cantarero*

This is one of the most exciting articles I have read in years concerning new avenues of missions. Cantarero shares from inside experience how death row inmates are not only coming to the Lord but are becoming trained ministers. Then they are finding ways to apply the Great Commission even behind bars in federal prisons and go into other prisons and share the Gospel. These current death row inmates can be transferred to other prisons and begin evangelism and discipleship programs that result in other inmates becoming missionaries as well.

*Have we Missed the Main Point? The Purpose for Jesus' Encounter with the Canaanite Woman (Matthew 15:21-28) by Doug Lowenberg*

Doug Lowenberg, Ph.D., brings an exegetical article to the journal that challenges readers to consider the reason Jesus told the disciples to not go to the Gentiles early in their ministry. His journey to and healing of the Canaanite woman is unwrapped by Lowenberg with a new and surprising twist. Could it be the disciples were still too prejudiced against the Gentiles for Jesus to allow them to minister to them. Could they minister the saving message of Jesus and the healing power of Jesus before they embraced the unfailing love of Jesus for the Gentiles?

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The *International Journal of Pentecostal Missiology* (IJPM) is a peer-reviewed, electronic journal with periodic publication.

The IJPM seeks to facilitate the engagement, research, and investigation of missiology from within a Pentecostal perspective; to encourage thinking and interaction among Pentecostal missionaries and/or Pentecostal missions scholars; and to provide a forum for dialogue and reflection about issues current within Pentecostal Missions. These parameters allow for biblical, theological, historical, and/or missiological articulations, as well as book reviews based on relevant contemporary works.

Views expressed in the Journal reflect those of the authors and reviewers and are not the perspectives or opinions of the editors, the editorial board, the Assemblies of God Theological Seminary, or the participating institutions.