

In Others' Words

In this department, we highlight resources outside of the IJFM: other journals, print resources, DVDs, web sites, blogs, videos, etc. We welcome suggestions, but cannot promise to publish each one. Standard disclaimers on content apply. Due to the length of many web addresses, we sometimes give just the title of the resource, the main web address, or a suggested search phrase.

Reclaiming the M-Word Revisited

While not “new news,” *Christianity Today's* first cover story of 2014* is explosive. Based largely on the meticulous research of sociologist Robert D. Woodberry, Andrea Palpant Dilley's “The World the Missionaries Made” examines the impact Protestant missionaries have had on the health of nations. *Warning: Woodberry's thesis is as counter-cultural as it is politically-incorrect.* Her article will definitely whet your appetite to read Woodberry. We recommend his “Reclaiming the M-Word: The Legacy of Mission in Non-Western Societies”—reprinted in *IJFM* in 2008, it originally appeared in *The Review of Faith and International Affairs* in 2006—or the condensed version in your 2009 *Perspectives Reader*. Audio of a very accessible talk he gave on this crucial topic is available on the Hill Country Institute's website (hillcountryinstitute.org), as are all 31 pages of his extremely well-documented “The Missionary Roots of Liberal Democracy,” published in the prestigious *American Political Science Review* in 2012. Enjoy!

Syria, Iraq and Laos Lead Bible Distribution Surge

ChristianityToday.com summarizes the latest encouraging statistics on Bible distribution from UBS in “Countries that are Bad for Christians are Good for Distributing Bibles.” The article is also disturbing, especially if you're an American.

Joke by “Mipsterz” Provokes Reaction and Discussion

What started as a joke by some Mipsterz (Muslim Hipsters) sparked some serious discussion on NPR's Code Switch blog. Check out the video, but especially the comment section.

Doctoral Dissertations on Mission: Ten-Year Update

For something really different (from the previous item anyway), check out *IBMR's* “Doctoral Dissertations on Mission: Ten-Year Update, 2002–2011 (Revised)” by Robert Priest and Robert DeGeorge. Don't expect to hear Jay-Z rapping in the background as you begin to read, but the content is no joke. Priest and DeGeorge conclude from their survey that “the fields of missiology, of mission studies, and of world Christianity are in transition.” Many trends warrant discussion, but here's one: only 3% of the dissertations focused on countries in World A (World B, 43%; World C, 54%). See internationalbulletin.org/files/html/diss-list-2002-2011/2013-04-195-priest.pdf. Our thanks to Cody Lorange for the tip and our next entry.

From the Realm of the Non-Traditional

Cody Lorange (who spoke at ISFM 2013) lists his favorite missiological blogs at codylorance.blogspot.com/2014/01/on-muslims-coming-to-christ.html. The names alone—Circumpolar, Indigenous Jesus, TallSkinnyKiwi, The Long View, The World is Our Neighborhood, Acrossculture, Faithful Witness and Missiologically Thinking—almost demand investigation. (As an aside, is it time for *IJFM* to change its name? *ijfm* is the best we could come up with for now. Should that stick, you can expect more *mipster* “missiological hipster” material.) Back to more serious discussion, Cody raises in his blog the question of “traditional missiology publishers” in a digital age. He says:

By the way, if you haven't noticed, there is a tremendous amount of really great missiology that is being done in the non-traditional realms of blogs and other social media outlets. As traditional missiology publishers struggle to transition from print to digital/online formats to keep up with the times, a solid cadre of excellent missiologists have produced and are producing truly top-notch resources that are being heavily consumed by all manner of missionary practitioners.

Reactions? Read the blogs and let us know what you think.

A Wind in the House of Islam

David Garrison's *A Wind in the House of Islam* is now available (February 2014). In it he shows that something unprecedented has happened in our lifetime. While 1400 years of Muslim-Christian encounter have seen Christians by the millions assimilated into the “House of Islam,”

[d]uring this same time period, we can document only 82 Muslim movements to Christ. By movements, I'm referring to at least 1,000 baptisms over a two-decade period, or 100 church starts among a Muslim people over a two-decade period. Now here's what's remarkable about what's happening today: 69 of history's 82 movements have occurred in the past two decades alone!

Garrison logged over 250,000 miles over a three-year period and interviewed over a thousand people in their homelands about why they turned to faith in Christ and what they actually believe. See windinthehouse.org for more. **IJFM**

**Editor's Note: The careful reader will notice that this July–September 2013 issue is partly composed of material created in late 2013, early 2014. While we strive to be forward looking, such anachronisms are due to production delays, not to special prophetic giftings possessed by our staff. We apologize in advance for any inconvenience.*

Finally, our thanks to Leith and Andrea Gray for alerting us to some of the material here. Found an item worthy of mention in *In Others Words*? Please contact us at editors@ijfm.org.