

# In Others' Words

*Editor's note: In this department, we highlight resources outside of the IJFM: other journals, print resources, DVDs, web sites, blogs, videos, etc. 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. Finally, please note that this April–June 2014 issue is partly composed of material created later in 2014. We apologize in advance for any inconvenience caused by such anachronisms.*

## The Case for a Local Asian Theology

Why are so many Asian churches Pentecostal? In an August web-only publication of *Christianity Today*, Richard Mouw reviews an excellent new book by Simon Chan which asks that question among others. *Grass Roots Asian Theology: Thinking the Faith from the Ground Up* takes a look at the startling contrast between an ordinary Asian worldview of reality (Paul Hiebert's "Excluded Middle") which includes demons, witchcraft, sorcery, venerated ancestors and the "living dead," and the standard evangelical (but functionally agnostic) Western Christian worldview. Read this outstanding review (and then read the book) to better understand the Asian theology which is emerging, a robust theology which has its feet on the ground, and a biblical commitment to the power of the Holy Spirit to deliver ordinary people from evil.

## Learning to Love the Enemy in Iraq

From CNN's Religion Blogs in August 2014 here is a story that is chock-a-block with good news straight from the heart of Northern Iraq. In it, a young man (who has lived with his family in Iraq for years despite the ongoing violence), writes about his NGO, Preemptive Love Coalition ([preemptiveove.org](http://preemptiveove.org)) which has helped over 1000 small children obtain open-heart surgeries in Turkey, Israel, and now in Iraq proper. Why are so many children being born in Iraq with congenital heart and other defects? One guess is the DU (depleted uranium) and other chemicals from Iraq's weapons of war.

## For-Profit Businesses, Impact Investments, and the Kingdom of God

In the September 2014 issue of *Christianity Today*, in an article entitled "Meet the New Kingdom Investors," Rob Moll writes about devout Christian businessmen and the dynamic ways they are helping to transform different parts of the world. See [www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2014/september/meet-new-kingdom-investors.html](http://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2014/september/meet-new-kingdom-investors.html). This article contrasts China's large scale and exploitative purchases of African land and mineral rights with global impact investments by Christian investors. The Ukrainian example

given is a powerful one. This article reminds us of the new networks seeking to establish real profit-making businesses with a social impact. Business4Transformation (B4T) is a mission effort spearheaded by Patrick Lai that is striving to link Kingdom investors and mentors with missions-minded entrepreneurs already on the field. For the next OPEN Expo of B4T in North America, see: [www.openexpousa.com](http://www.openexpousa.com). Check out Lai's book *Tentmaking: The Life and Work of Business as Mission*. For the book mentioned in Moll's article, here's the link for *When Helping Hurts* by Stephen Corbett and Brian Fickert: [www.chalmers.org/when-helping-hurts](http://www.chalmers.org/when-helping-hurts).

## Paul Through Mediterranean Eyes: Cultural Studies in I Corinthians by Kenneth Bailey

In the *International Bulletin of Missionary Research*, July 2014 issue, we are treated to a great review of Kenneth Bailey's book *Paul Through Mediterranean Eyes: Cultural Studies in I Corinthians*, referenced by Kevin Higgins in his *IJFM* 31:1 article on the missiological implications of I Corinthians 8-10. But Gregory R. Perry, a New Testament professor at Covenant Theological Seminary, takes a look at three of Bailey's other themes: his treatment of Isaiah 28, his handling of the body metaphor, and his reference to Oriental versions of the Bible to help distinguish the meaning of I Corinthians. Perry's last paragraph alone is worth the tiny effort required to login or to start your free subscription to *IBMR* online.

## Don't Miss these July 2014 EMQ Articles

For those of you with EMQ (*Evangelical Missions Quarterly*) annual subscriptions, Stan Nussbaum in "The Breakthrough Process" makes a persuasive plea for missionaries on the field to engage in ongoing research—research methods less formidable than a MA thesis or doctoral thesis, but substantive enough to lead to actual breakthroughs. In "Saying the Shahada" Gene Daniels brings receptor-oriented communication theory to this thorny issue of religious identity for Muslim-background believers.

In "The Chinese Church: The Next Superpower in World Missions?" Kevin Xiyi Yao has written a brief but excellent analysis of the burgeoning missions movement coming in the next decade from China. Citing some astonishing 2011 statistics gathered by a Korean missiologist [40% of urban believers are preparing for mission; 22% of ministers from mid-size cities are involved in overseas missions; and 18% of professional urban believers are involved in overseas missions (Li 2011, 12)], Yao thoughtfully looks at the challenges ahead—the biggest of which is education and training in missions, Bible, language and culture. It seems very timely that a Chinese translation of the *Perspectives on the World Christian Movement* curriculum will be available early 2015. **IJFM**