



*Welcoming
Missionaries to the
UK*



Welcoming Missionaries to the UK

Chris Hawthorne
Chris Howles



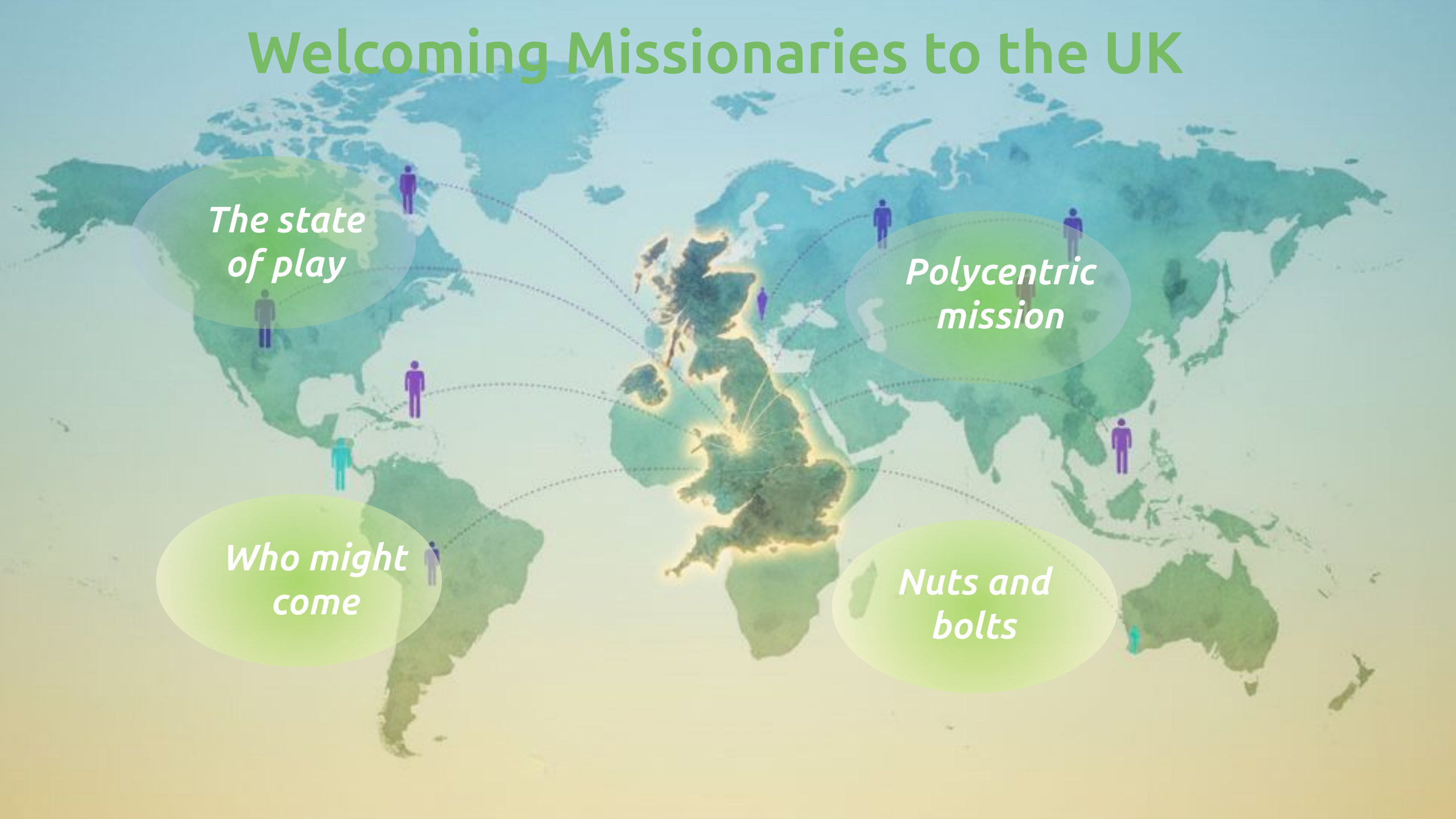
Welcoming Missionaries to the UK

*The state
of play*

*Polycentric
mission*

*Who might
come*

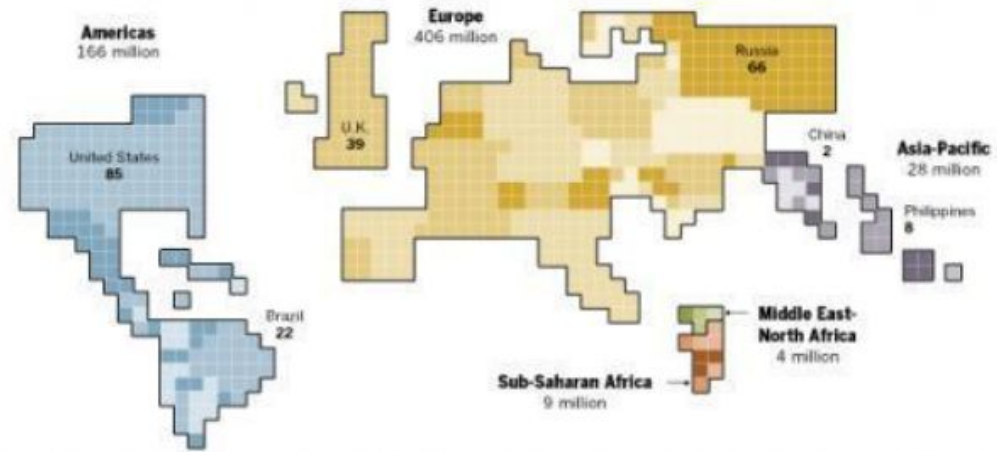
*Nuts and
bolts*



World Distribution of Christian Population

This 'weighted' map of the world shows each country's relative size based on its Christian population. Figures are rounded to the nearest million.

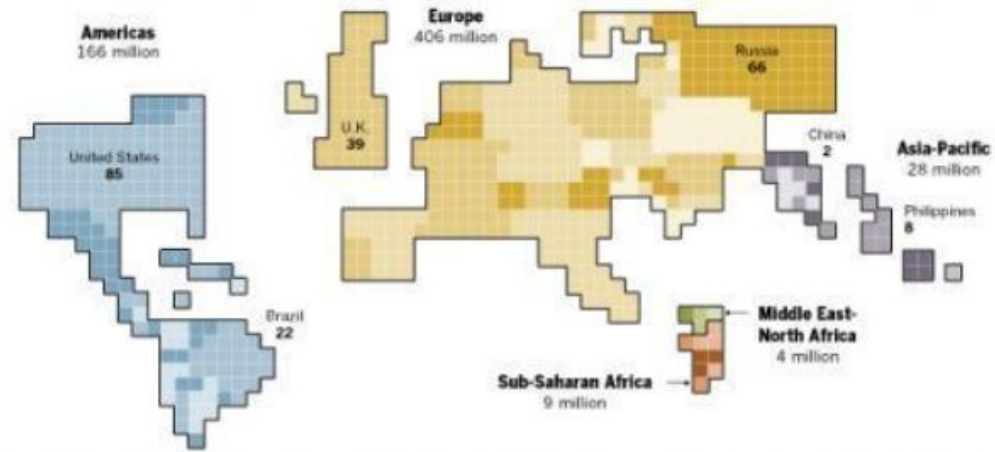
1910



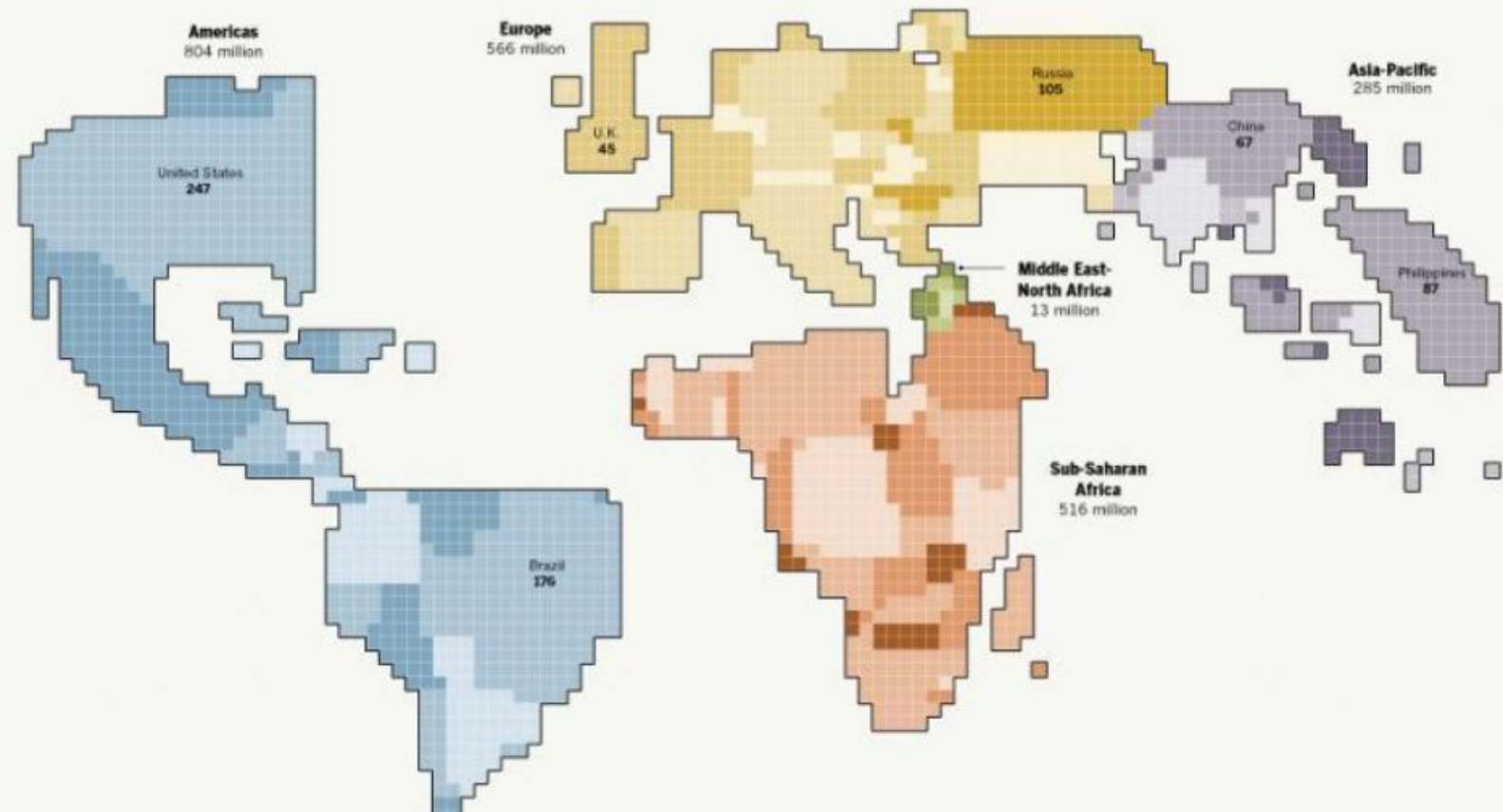
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This 'weighted' map of the world shows each country's relative size based on its Christian population. Figures are rounded to the nearest million.

1910



2010

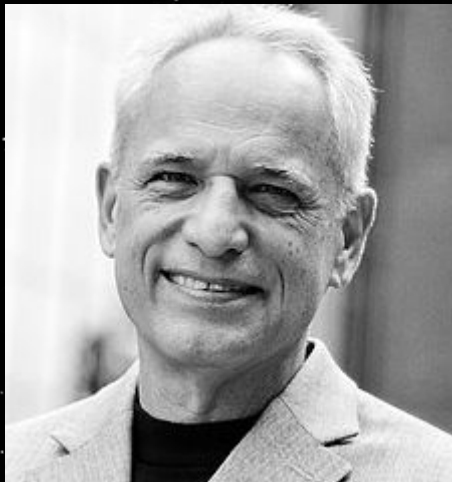
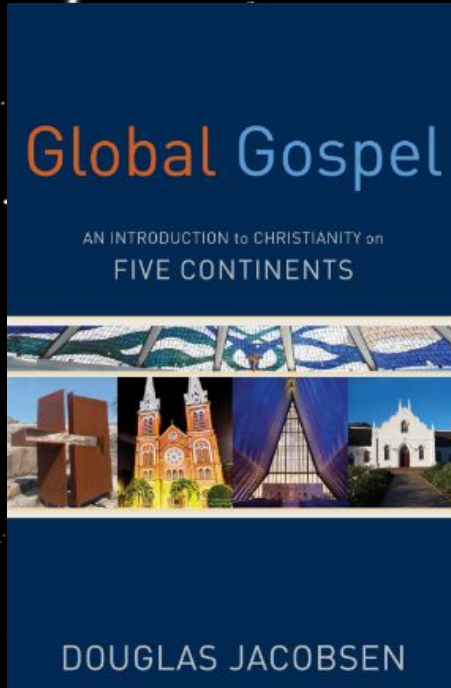


□ = 1 million Christians



Christianity is **not fundamentally tied** to a specific context, culture, or people group.

Instead, it finds a home in **every** culture and place worldwide, **transcending** boundaries of ethnicity, language, and geography.



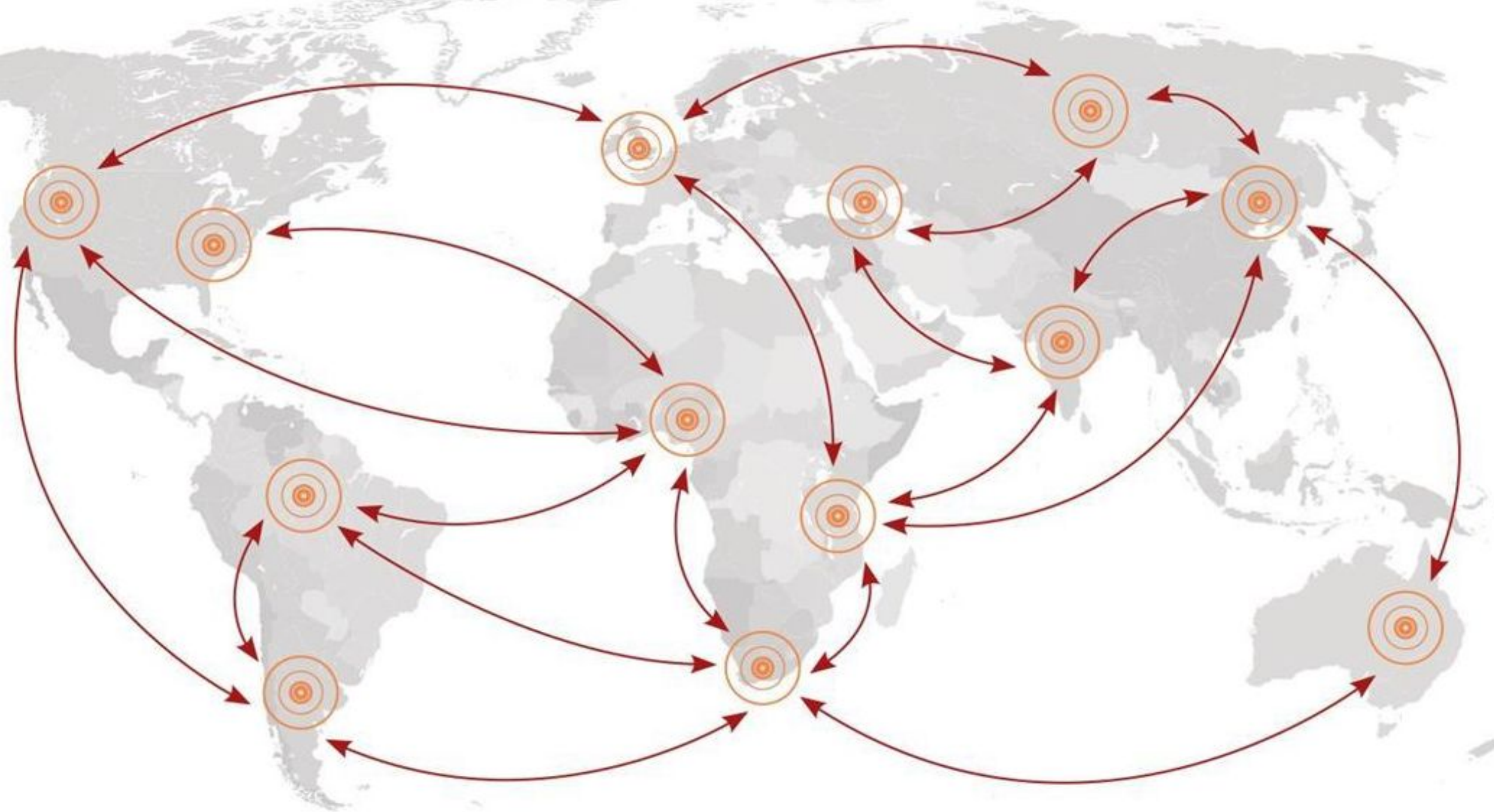
“The glory of creation is evident in the wonderful diversity, bordering on cacophony, that is present in the natural world.

Similarly, the glory of Christianity is best displayed in its interconnected diversity, with different kinds of Christians praising God and caring for their neighbours in a complex, interwoven, and mutually enriching choreography of faith, hope, and love.

That dance...is the global gospel in action.”



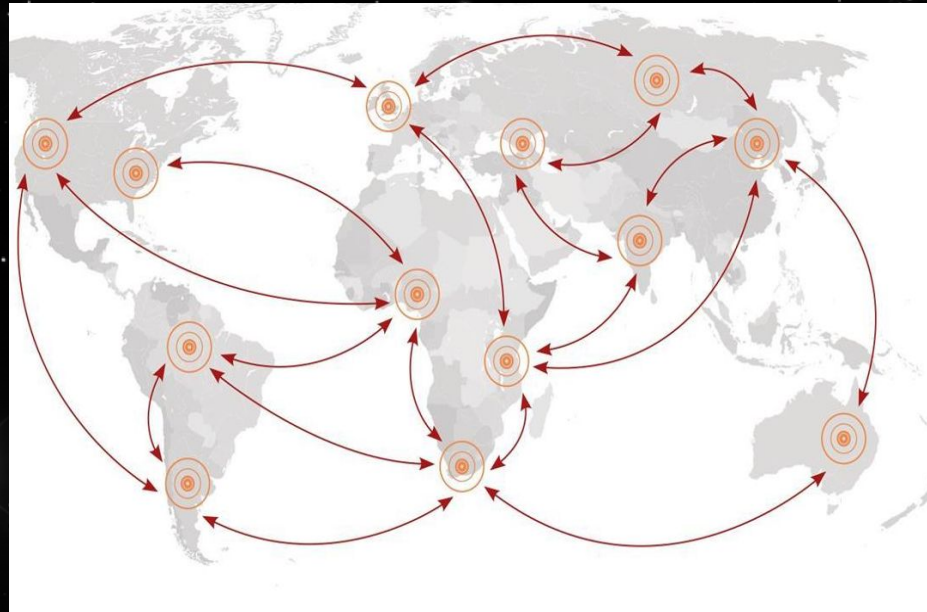
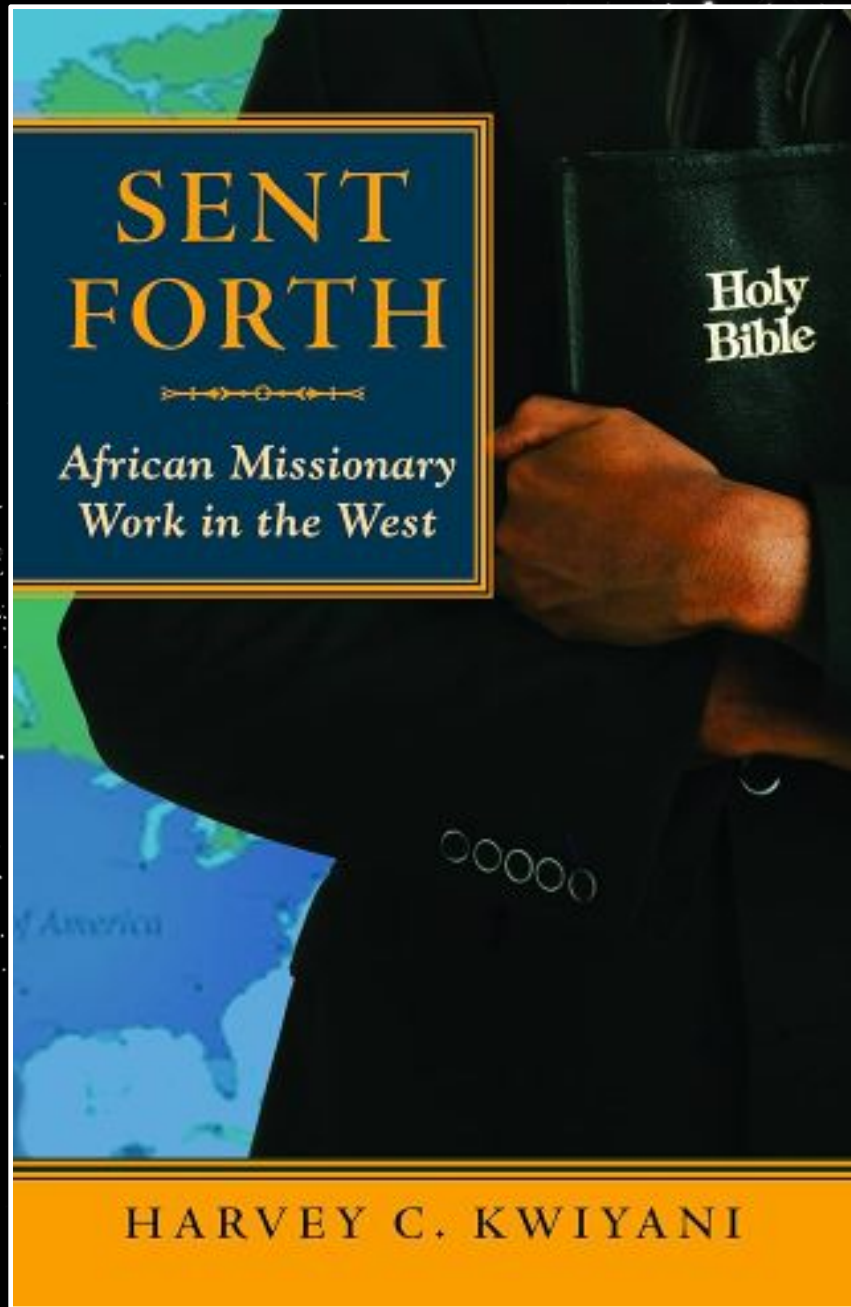












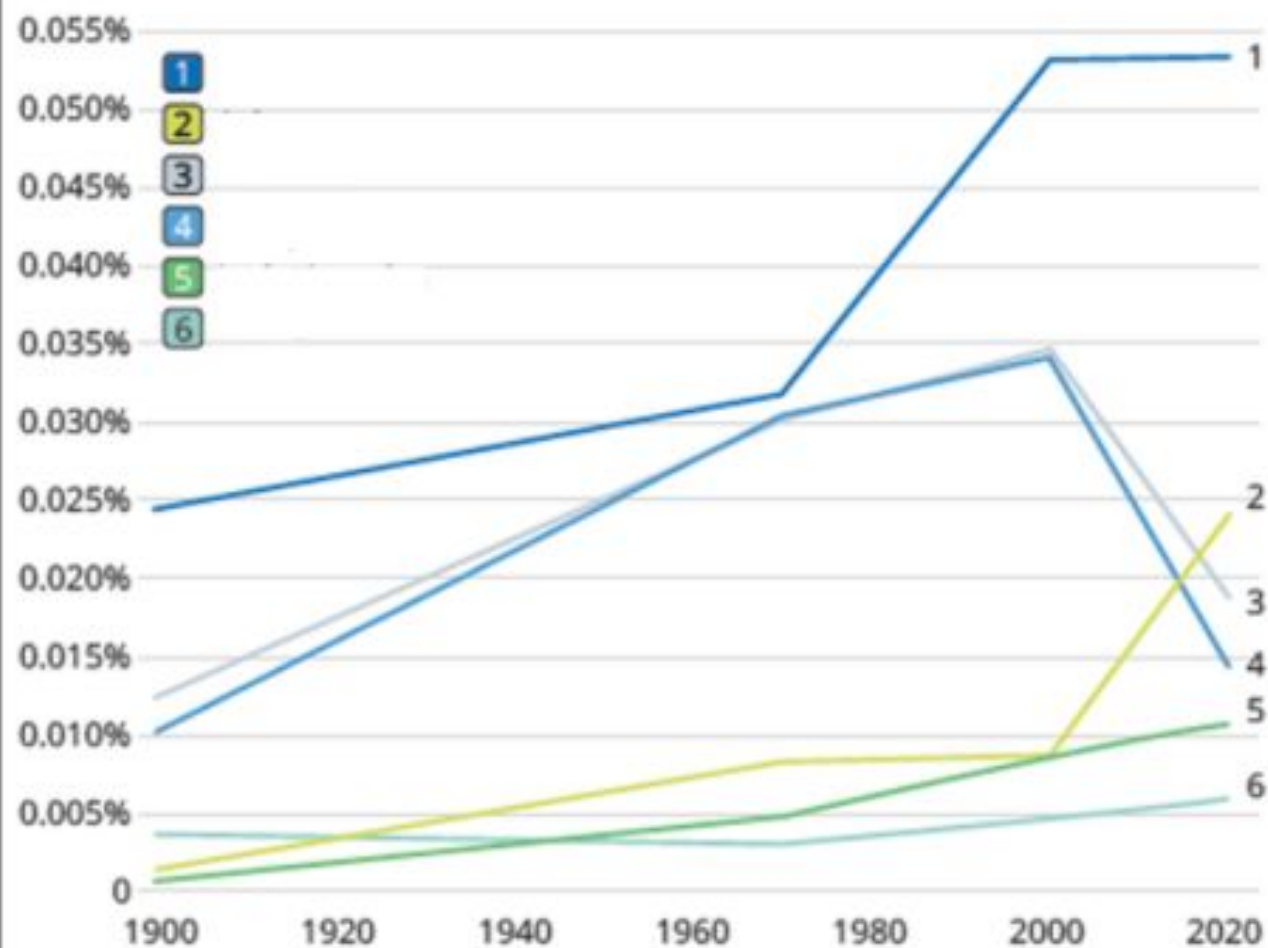
“Today, the continent that was called dark is basking in the light of the gospel and sending its sons and daughters as missionaries to Europe.”

TOP MISSIONARY ACTIVITY



Source: World Christian Database, Accessed March 2023

MISSIONARIES SENT PER CHRISTIAN CAPITA



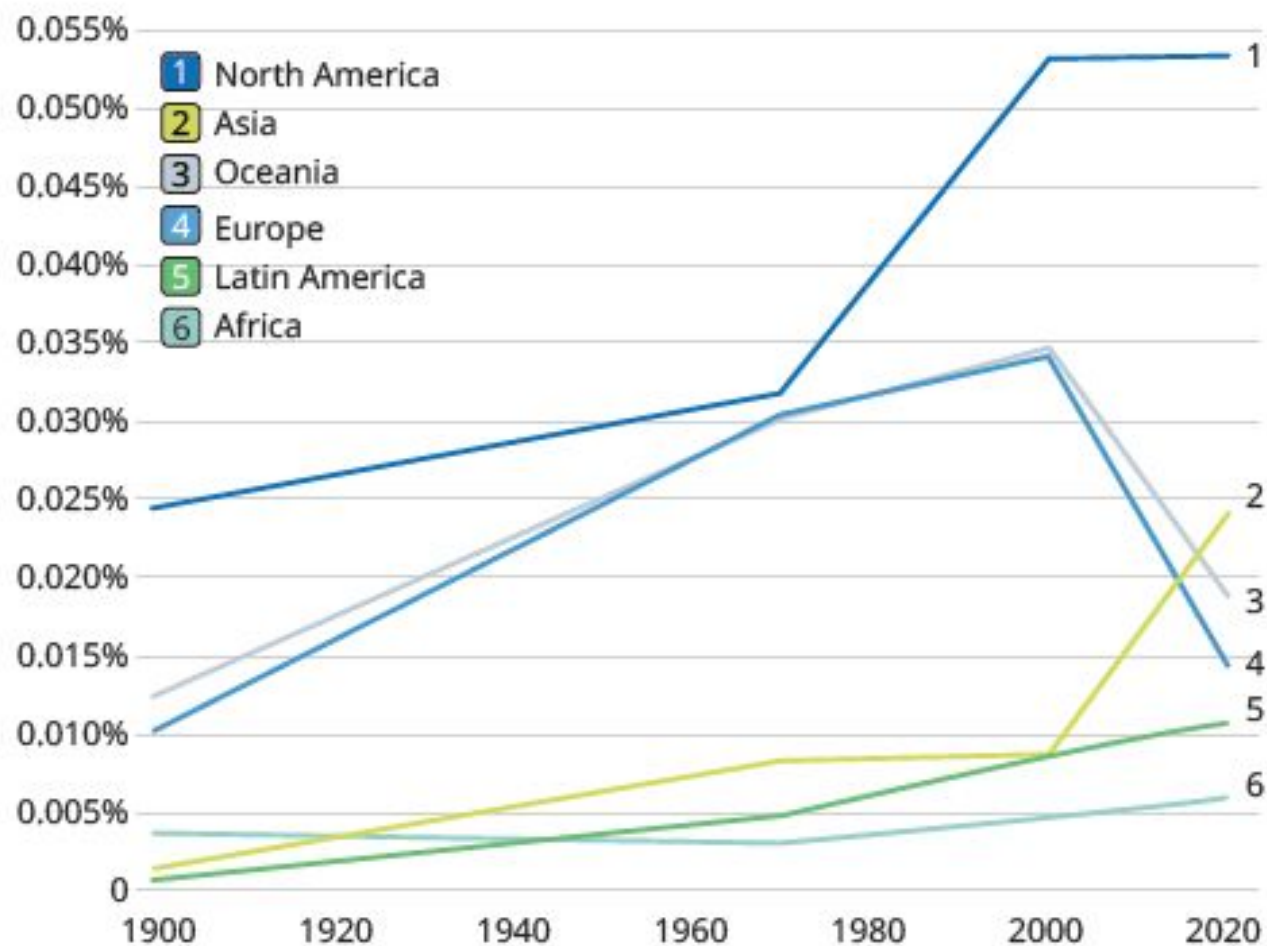
Source: World Christian Database, Accessed March 2023

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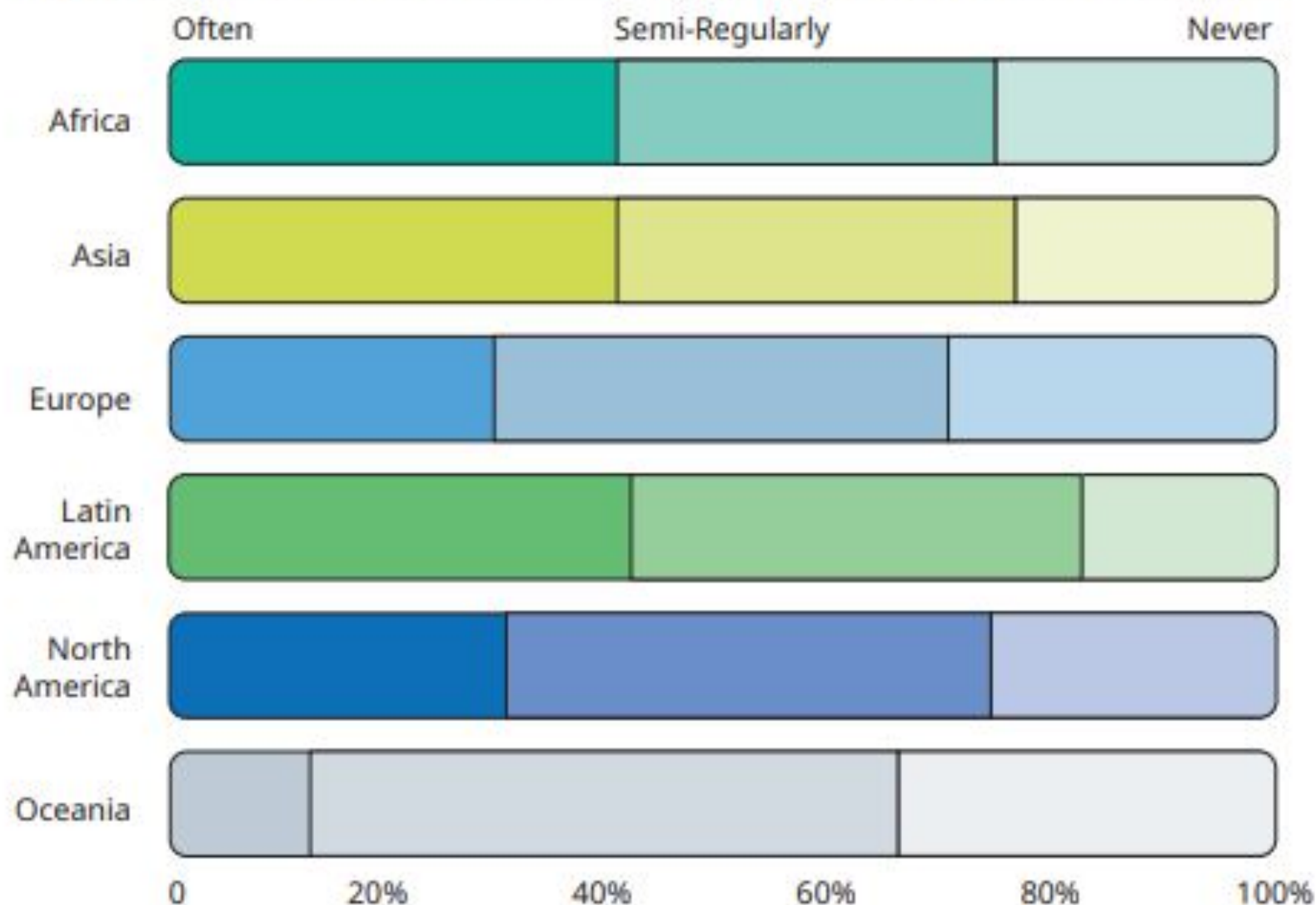
MISSIONARIES SENT PER CHRISTIAN CAPITA



Source: World Christian Database, Accessed March 2023

FREQUENCY OF GREAT COMMISSION TEACHING

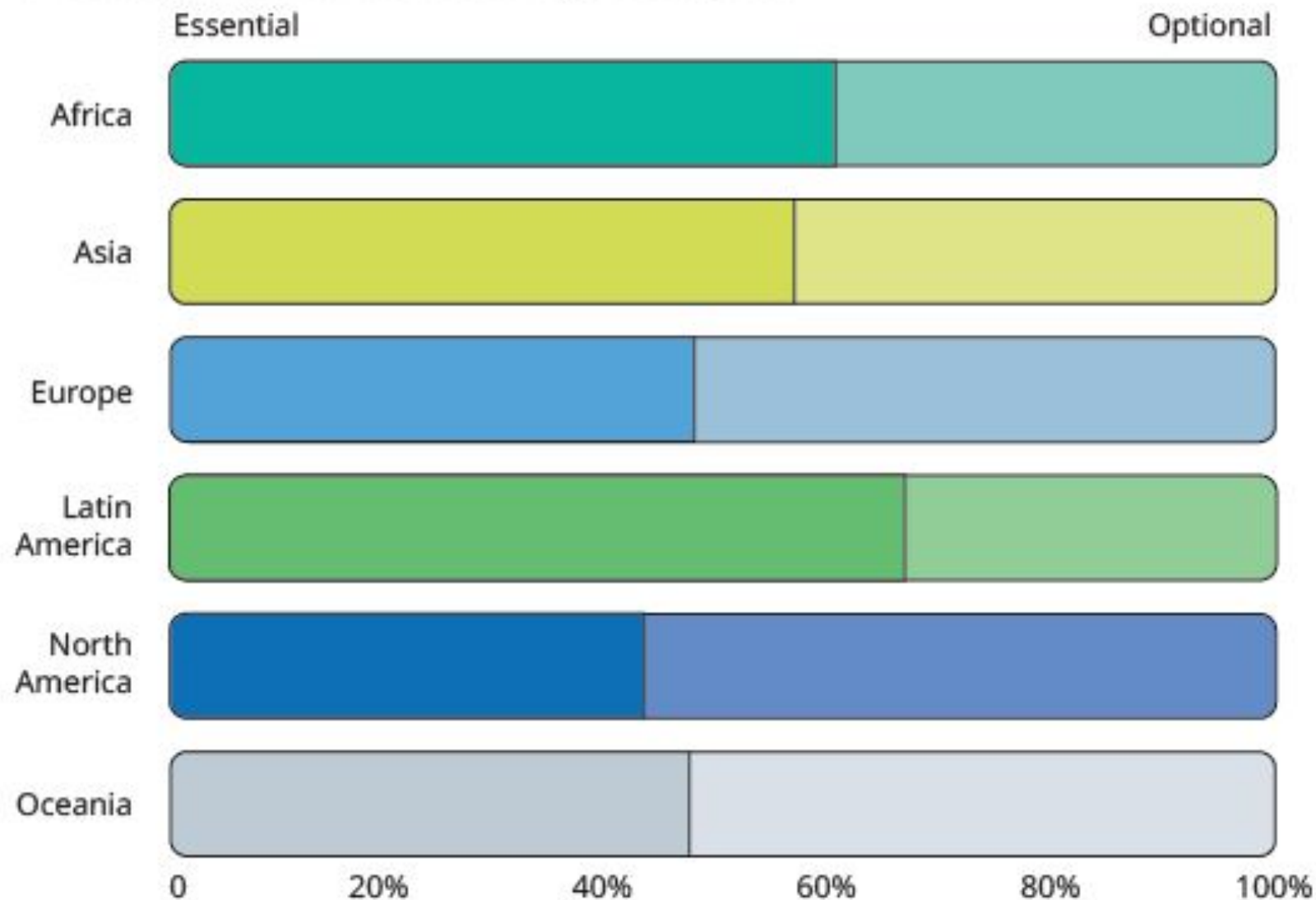
"In your perception, how often do churches teach the Great Commission in your region?"



Source: Lausanne Movement, "Global Leaders Survey," 2022

IMPORTANCE OF THE GREAT COMMISSION

"The average Christian believes sharing the Gospel is:"



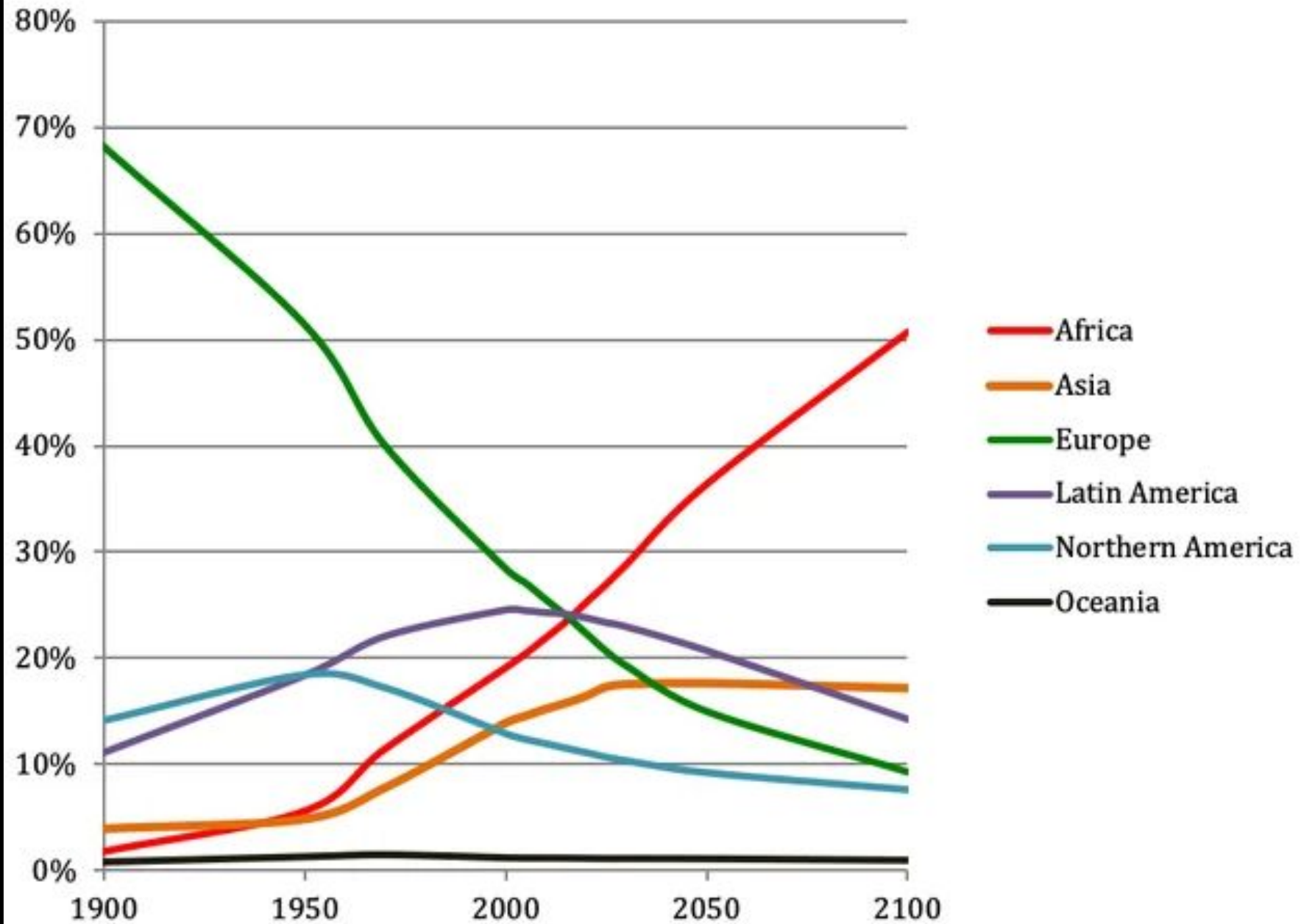
Source: Lausanne Movement, "Global Leaders Survey," 2022



“In Africa, every Christian is a potential evangelist and a majority of them take this evangelistic calling seriously”

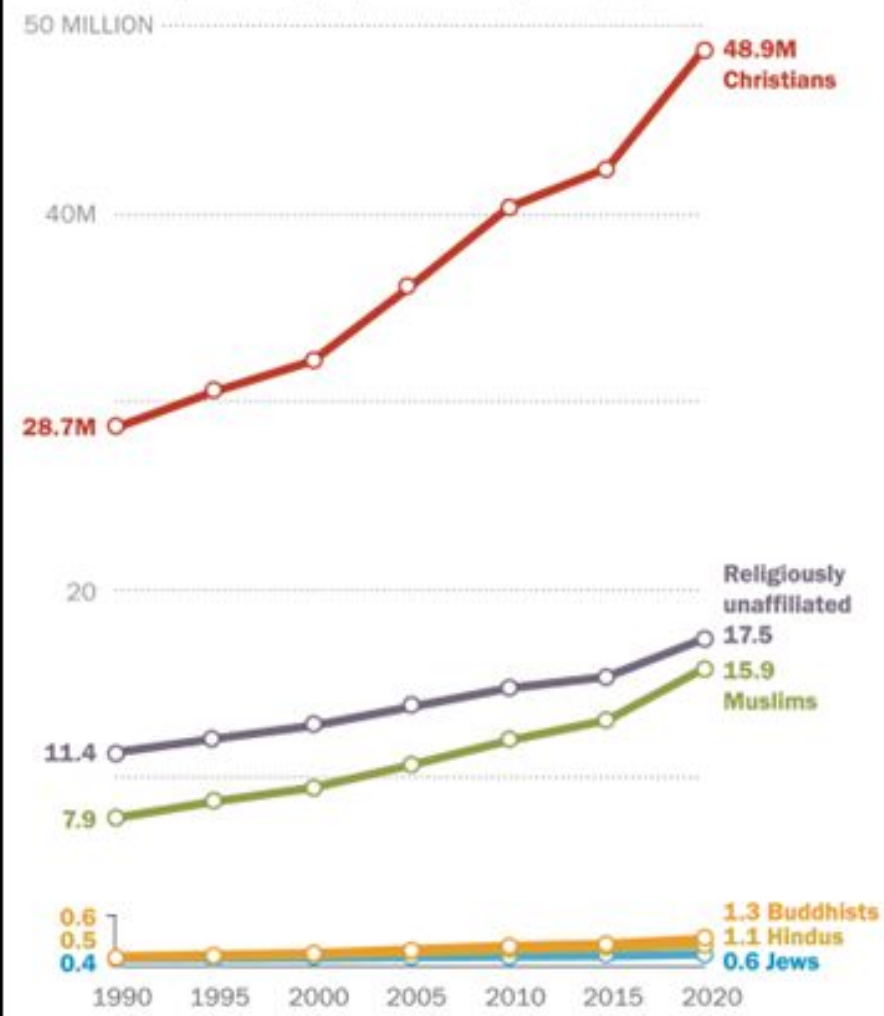
‘The Evangelisthood of all believers’

Percent of the world's Christians in each continent



Migrants in Europe are most often Christian

Number of people in each group who are migrants, 1990-2020

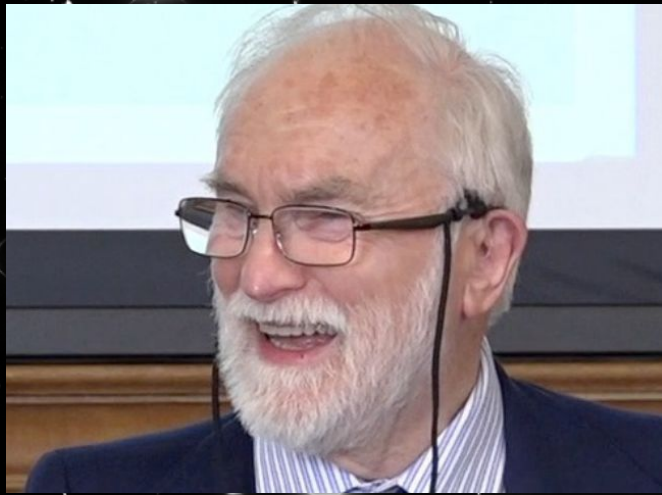


Note: Migrants are all adults and children living in Europe and outside their country of birth. People of "other religions" are not shown.
Source: Data based on migrant counts from the United Nations' "International Migrant Stock 2020" report and religious composition estimates from Pew Research Center analyses of 270 censuses and surveys. The UN makes estimates for each five-year interval. "The Religious Composition of the World's Migrants"



14% of London's population is black (African, Afro-Caribbean)

60% of London's churchgoing population is black



- The late scholar of World Christianity Andrew Walls made a striking observation once when he noted how a century ago, British missionaries were travelling across Africa, proclaiming the gospel and planting churches over there. Today, by contrast, many African Christian parents living in the UK find themselves deeply concerned about the effects secular British culture is having on the Christian upbringing and faith of their children here in Britain.

“A lot has changed in 100 years.”

FOREWORD BY DR. JOSHUA BOGUNJOKO
INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR, SERVING IN MISSION (SIM)

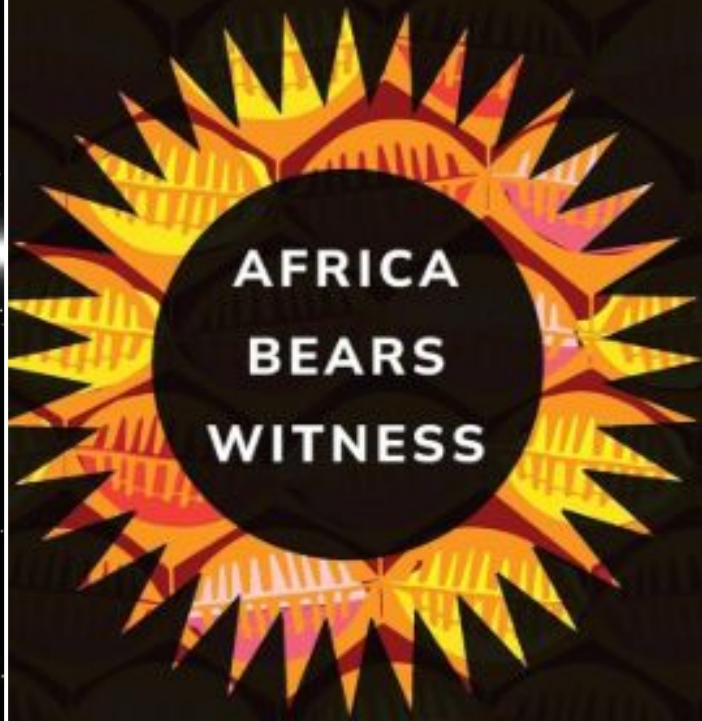
AFRICA TO THE REST

FROM MISSION FIELD TO MISSION FORCE (AGAIN)

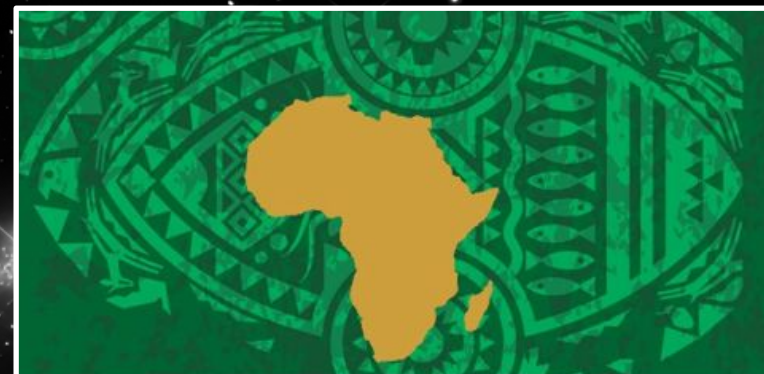


YAW PERBI & SAM NGUGI

EDITED BY
HARVEY KWIYANI



MISSION THEOLOGY
AND PRAXIS IN THE
21ST CENTURY



COMPENDIUM:
CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN

AFRICAN MISSIONS

PAPERS IN HONOUR OF
REV. DR. REUBEN EZEMADU

Edited by:
Kayode Owojori

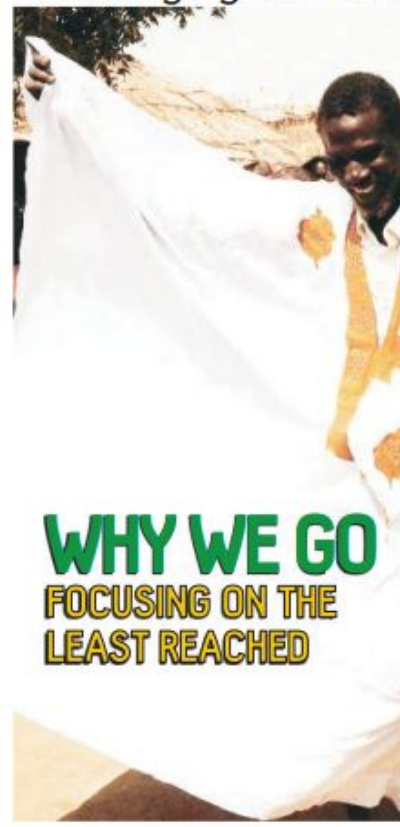
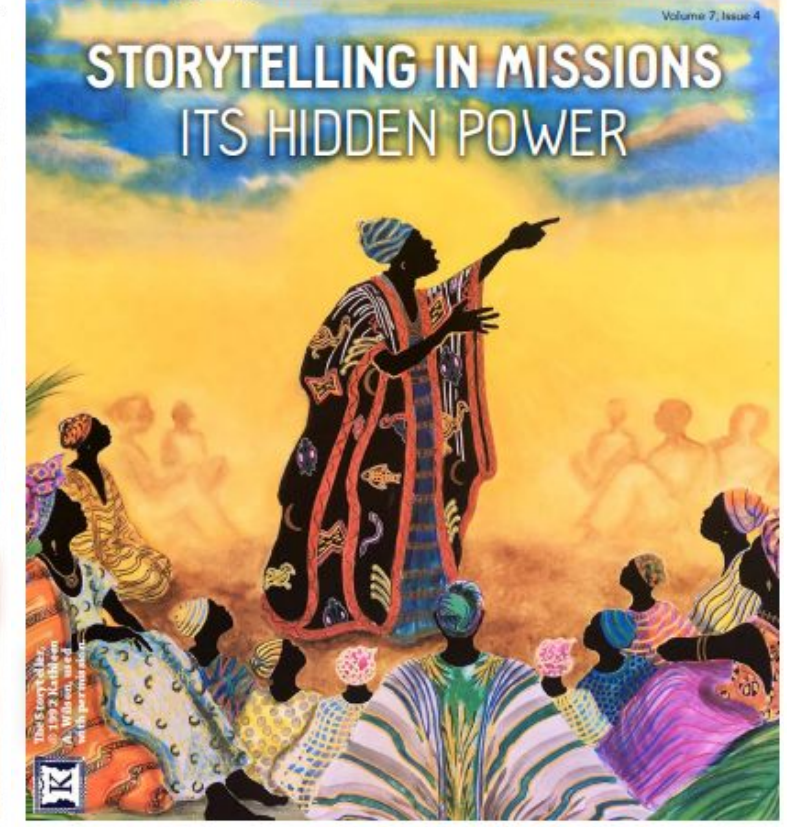
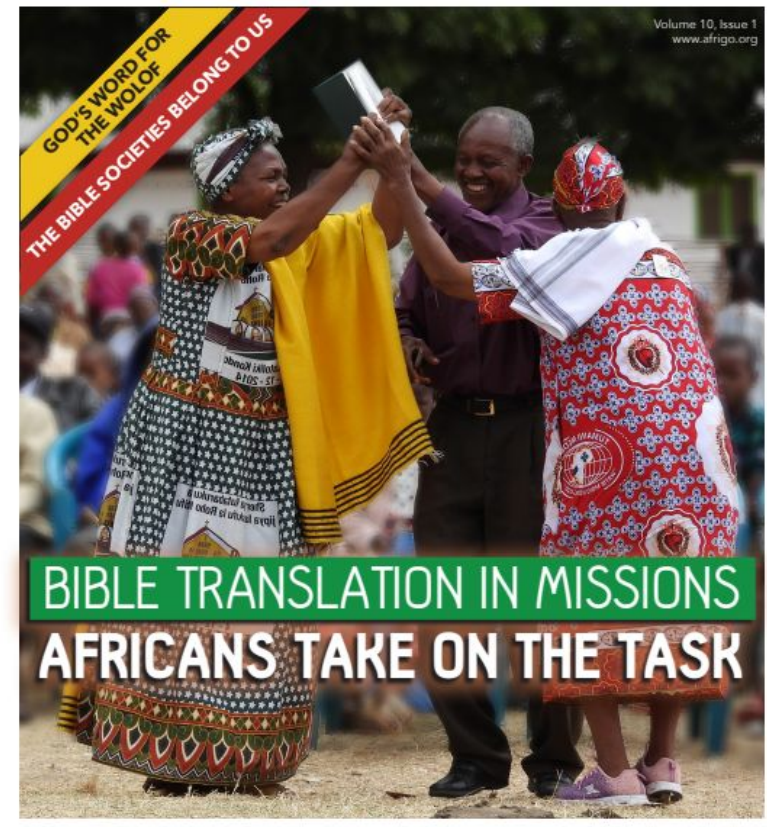
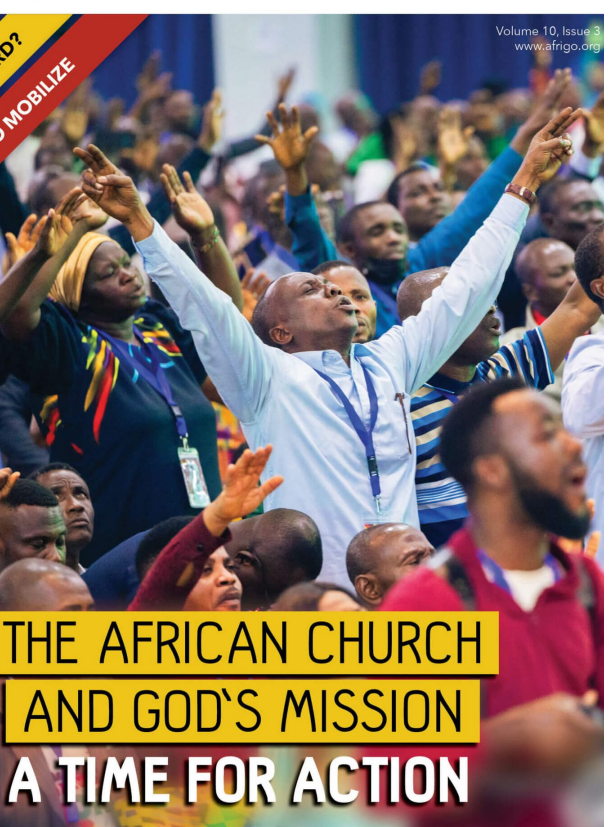
FRIGO AFRI GO AFR

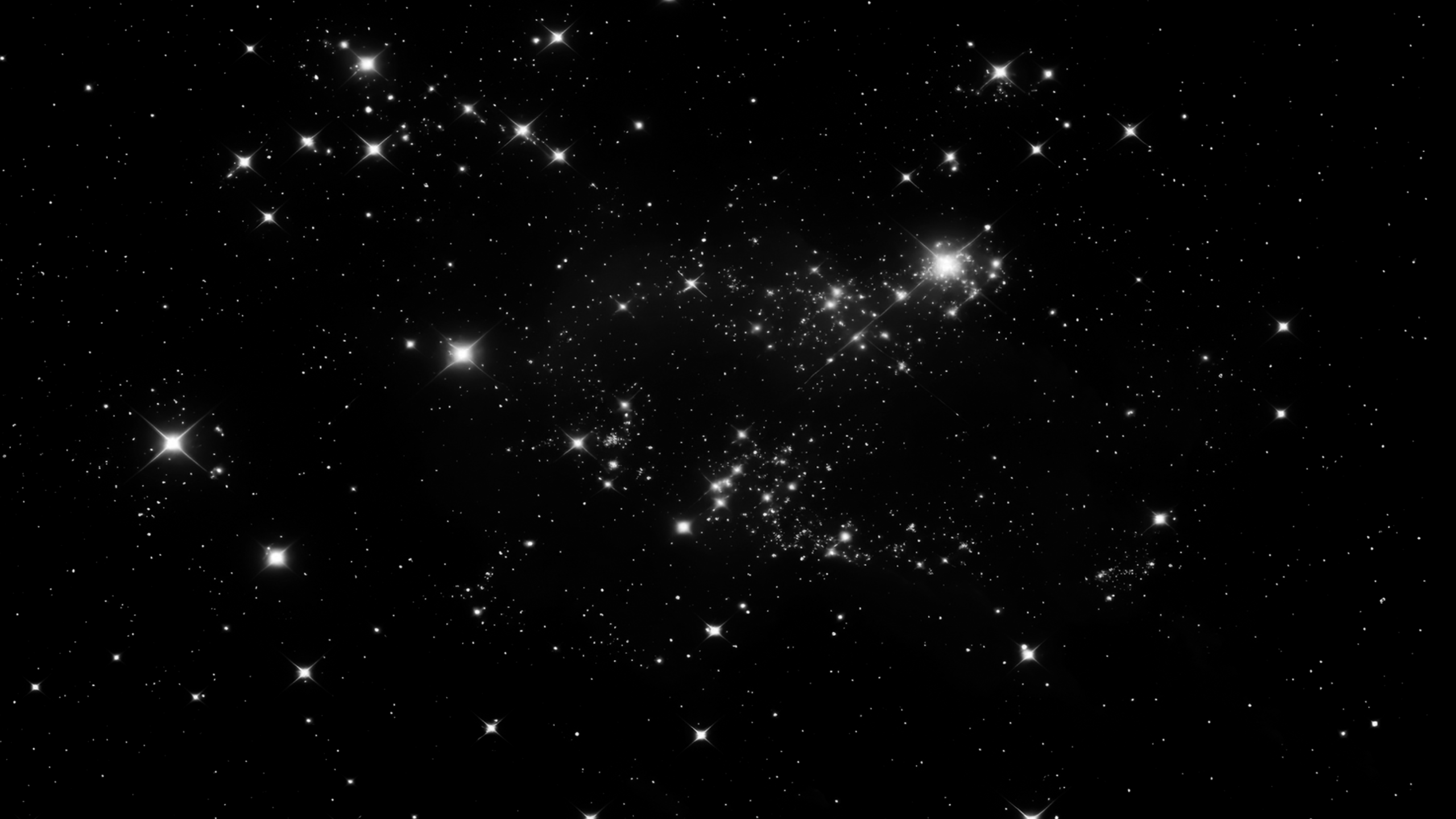
Encouraging the African Church in world mission

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Who Might Come?

A world map with a light blue background. Several purple human icons are placed across the map, connected by dotted lines. Three callout boxes are overlaid on the map: 'Healthy Servants' in North America, 'Zealous Individuals' in Europe, and 'Self Servants' in South America.

Healthy Servants

Trainers/Strengtheners

Ethnicity Planters

Church Planters

Zealous Individuals

Right to remain

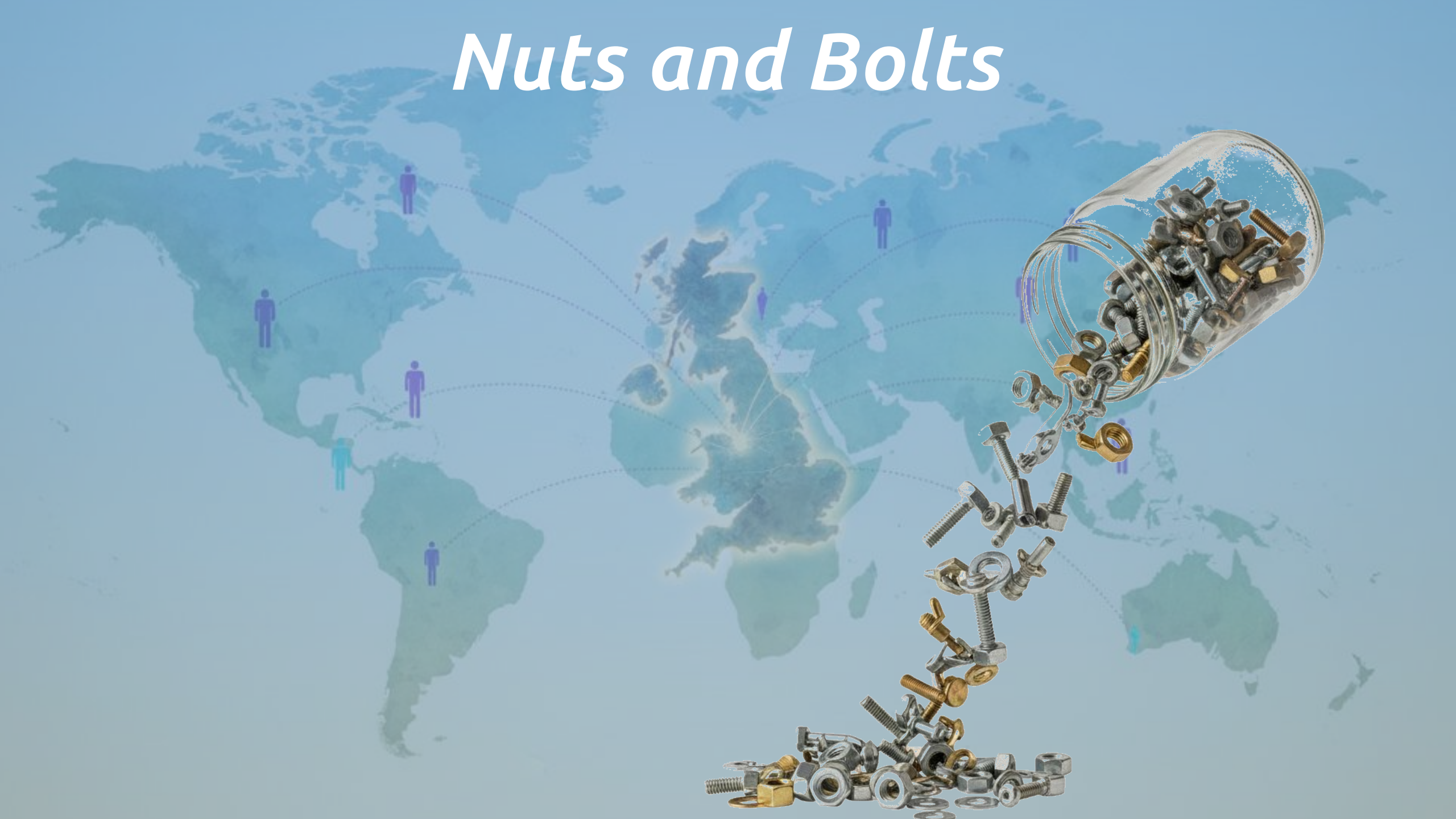
Claiming Asylum

Visa fishers

Self Servants

From any background

Nuts and Bolts



What might (e.g.
African) missionaries
bring to the UK?



Spiritual vitality and vibrant worship
Bold gospel witness and missional urgency
Resilient discipleship under pressure
Communal understanding of church
Fresh theological/biblical insight
Global Christianity perspective
Humility, gratitude, prophetic challenge

Welcoming Missionaries to the UK:

Some considerations as leaders and churches

- Teach reciprocity
- Challenge paternalism
- Address fears
- Encourage curiosity
- Celebrate diversity

Prepare to
Partner



- Adapt language
- Explore culture
- Negotiate rhythms
- Clarify expectations
- Listen well

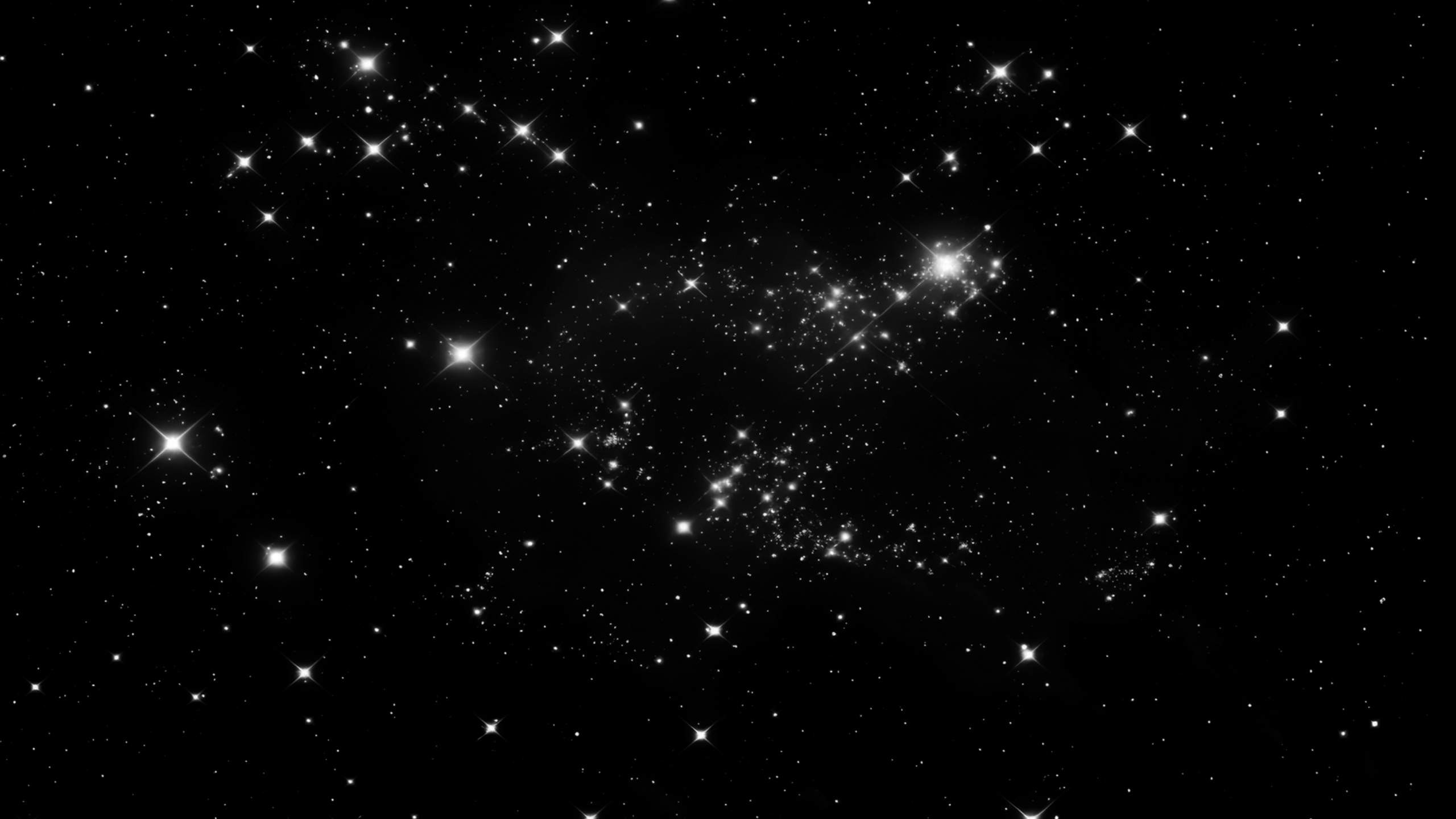
Support
Settling in

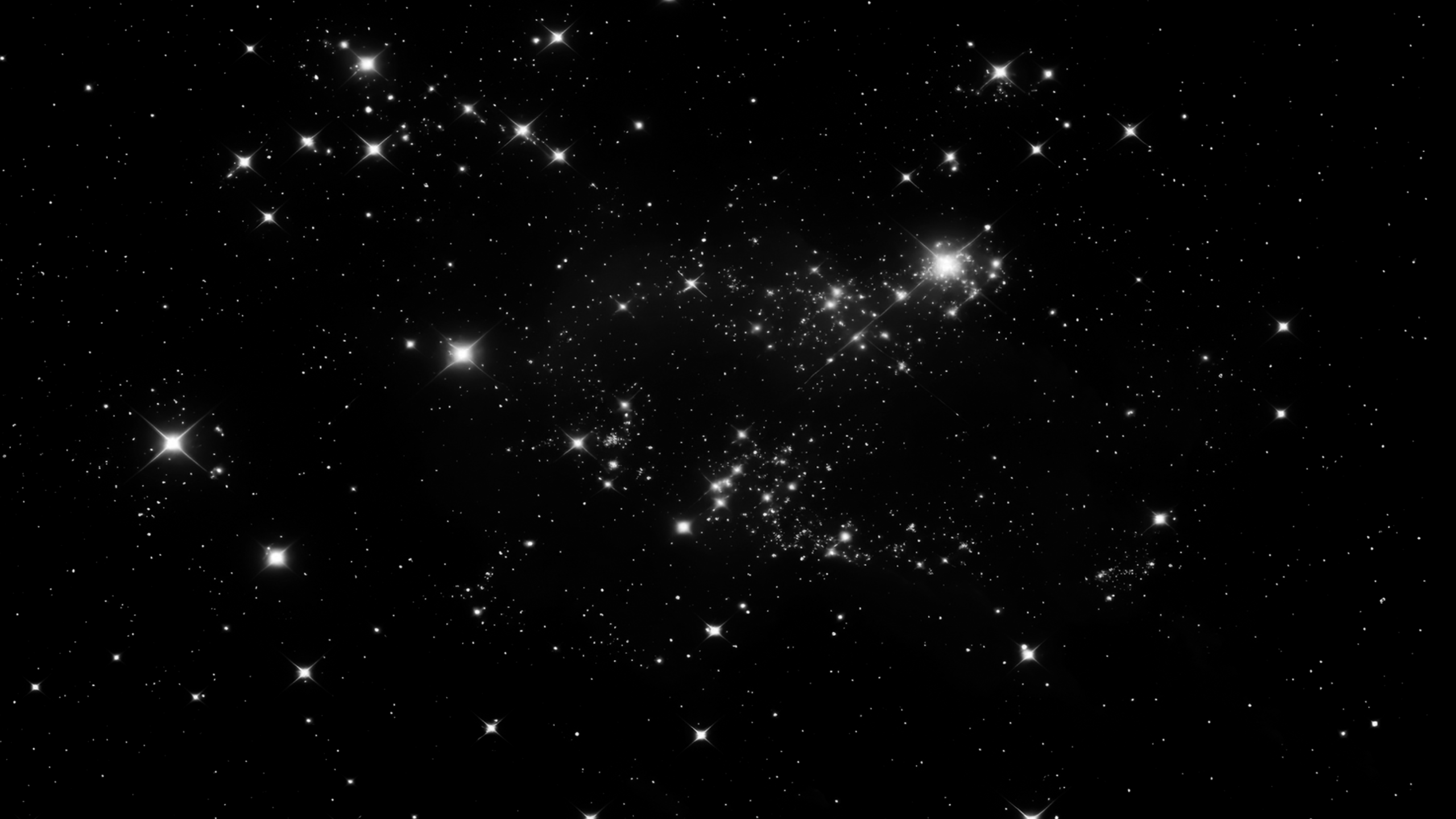


- Promote responsibility
- Encourage contextualisation
- Provide support
- Model patience
- Validate struggle

Deepen in
Discipleship









SENT FORTH

African Missionary
Work in the West

HARVEY C. KWIYANI

REVERSE IN MINISTRY & MISSIONS: *Africans in the Dark Continent of Europe*

*An Historical Study of
African Churches in Europe*

ISRAEL OLOFINJANA

instant
apostle



Turning the Tables on Mission

Stories of Christians from the
global south in the UK

Edited by Rev Israel Olofinjana

CURRENT STATUS OF THE GREAT COMMISSION

INTRODUCTION

Measuring the progress of the Great Commission is an infinitely complex task which aims to track the ineffable movement of God. Yet, we can measure a wide variety of human activity faithful to the great commission. The following reports on the current status of a wide variety of traditional missiological measures.

CURRENT STATUS GLOBAL CHRISTIANITY

% CHRISTIAN AFFILIATION* BY COUNTRY



YOUNG AFRICA, AGING WEST
Sub-Saharan Africa's youthful Christian population ensures the region's centrality to global Christianity for decades to come. Christianity will increasingly be a religion of the aged in Europe and North America.

THE AMERICAS

Countries in the Western Hemisphere maintain their centrality to the world Christian movement even as Western European nations fall out of the top ten for the first time in modern history.

GROWTH AND DECLINE
Over the past century, Christianity witnessed its most marked growth in Sub-Saharan Africa and its most marked decline in the Middle East, North Africa, and Western Europe.

% OF GLOBAL CHRISTIANITY

Ranking of Countries



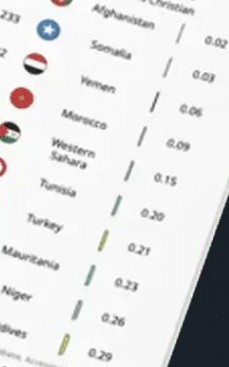
MEDIAN AGE

Christian Median Age by Region



LOWEST % CHRISTIAN

Countries with Lowest % Christian





How to say "No" or "Not Yet" to missionary candidates

"Our job as senders is to rely on his Spirit and the wisdom of others as we identify, assess, and develop potential missionaries and trust that he will show us when to say "Yes," when to say "No," and when to say "Not yet." Crucial for mission agencies to know when, and how, to make tough decisions like this. Ryan Martin writing for The ever-excellent Upstream Collective blog.

GENERAL (well worth your time)

(1) Pray for missionaries to enjoy the culture

Praying for missionaries can be a struggle, especially in the absence of recent news. This fun post from a US missionary in Central Asia highlights something all missionaries would value prayer for: to enjoy aspects of local culture that are very different to their own.

(2) God's sovereign supply in support raising

"God wants missionaries to be sent, and he is sovereign over their going. Therefore, we can trust him in support raising." Maybe you've read an article something like this before. I have. But I also greatly appreciated reading something like this again. Evan Smith writing for Reaching and Teaching International.

(3) 3 Bad reasons to pursue missions—and 3 good ones

"I just can't see myself making a difference here"... "If only I could plant a church where I'm in charge"... "My life isn't having an impact right now." Have you ever heard such things from prospective missionaries? Or said/felt them yourself? Some helpful reflections here from Alex Kocman for the ABWE blog.

AUDIO/VISUAL (podcasts & videos)

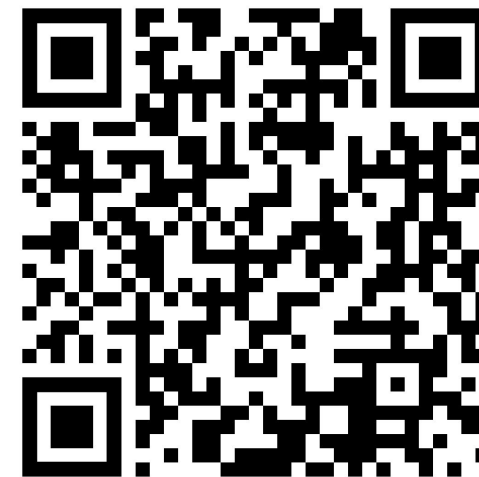
(Click here for a full list of 100+ mission-related podcasts)

(1) Reinterpreting hospitality

Massively enjoyed and benefitted from this 45min 'Love the Stranger' podcast episode with Dr. Harvey Kwiyani (Centre for Global Witness and Human Migration at Church Mission Society, Oxford) speaking about Christian hospitality in the context of migration. It's spoken from and for a primarily UK context but actually has huge resonance I believe with US and other global listeners too. Highly recommended.

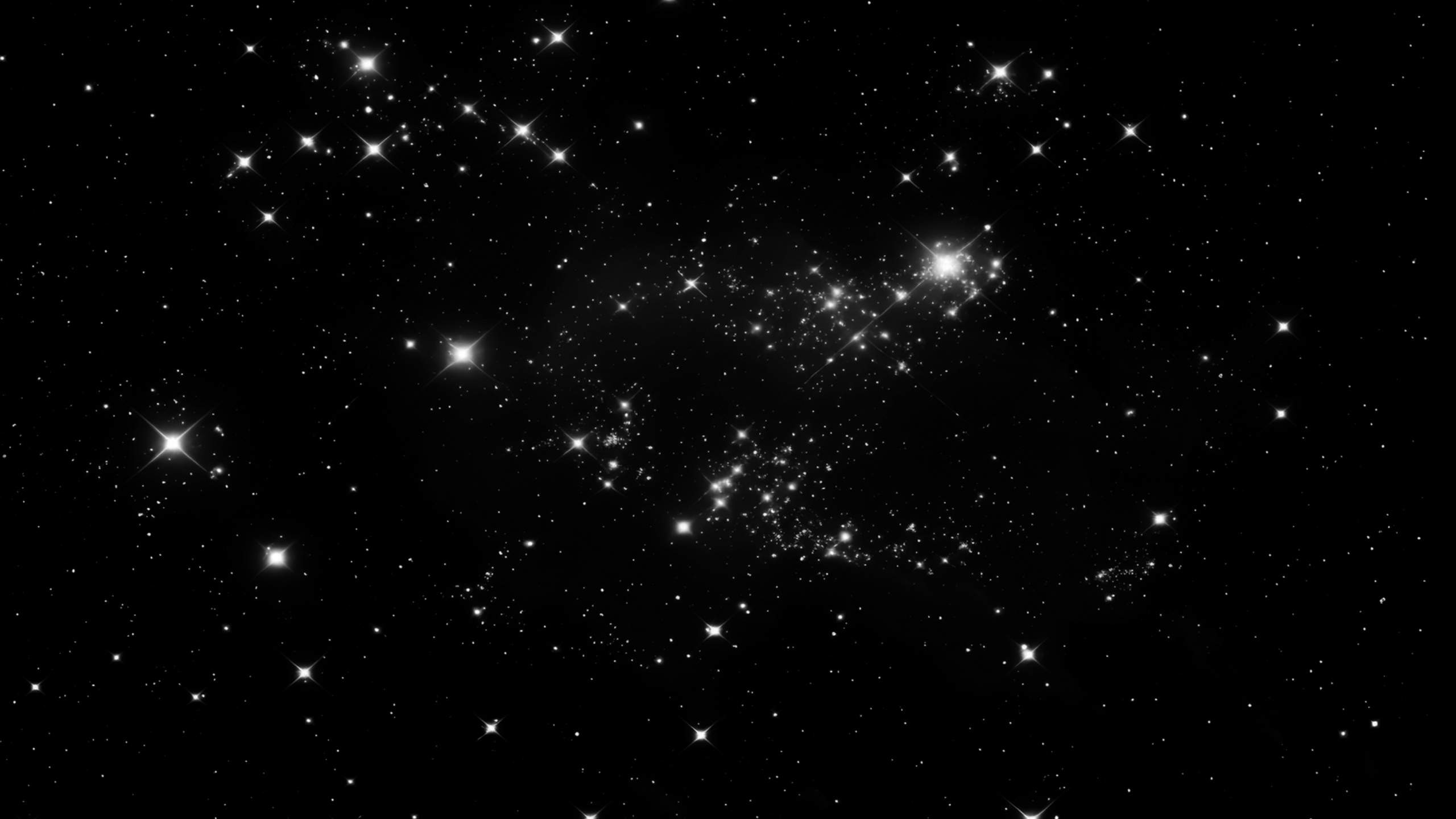
(2) Diaspora missions

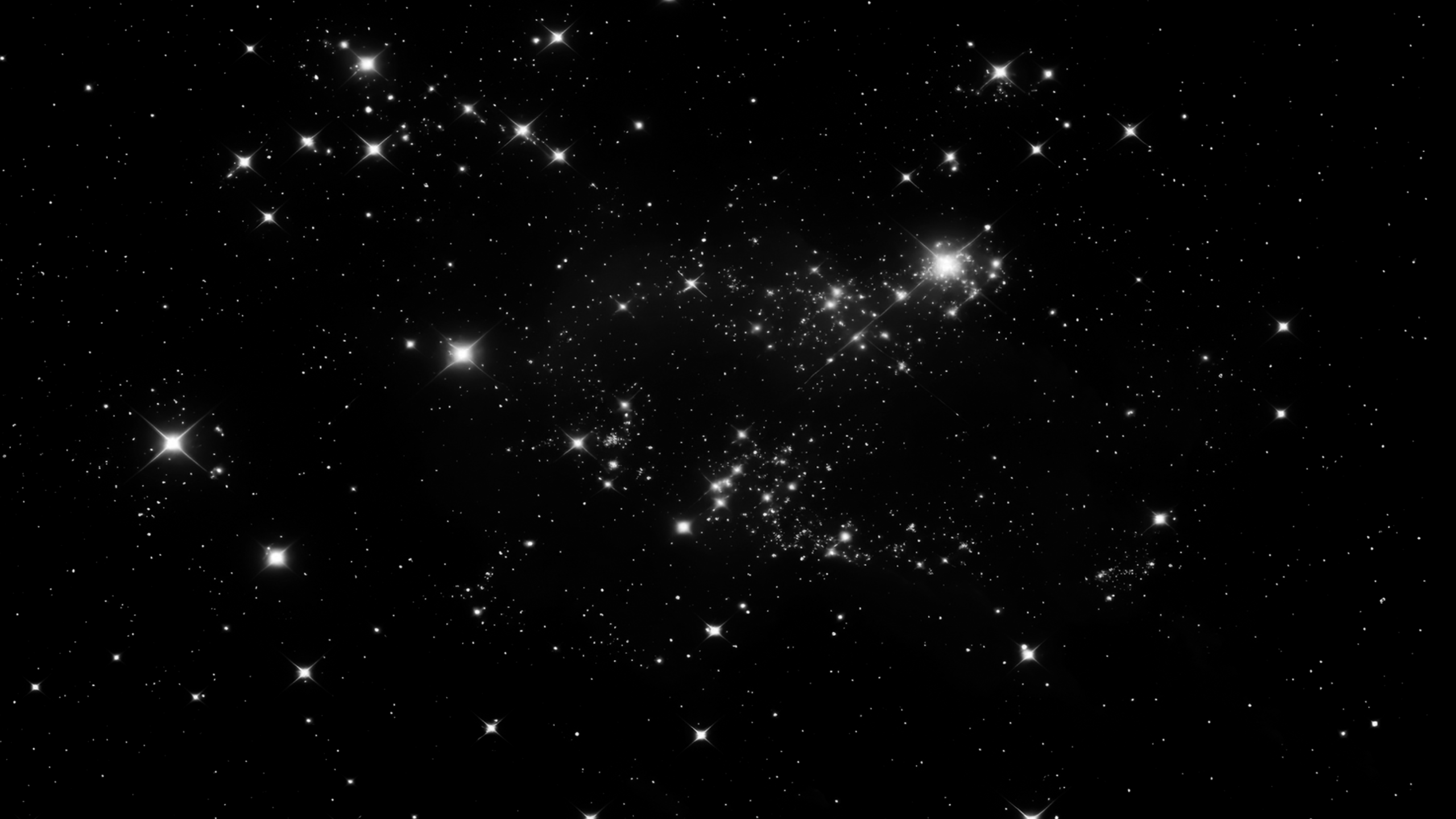
Keelan Cook and Scott Hildreth on whether immigration to the US should be considered an opportunity or a challenge (threat?) for American churches today. I really appreciated the

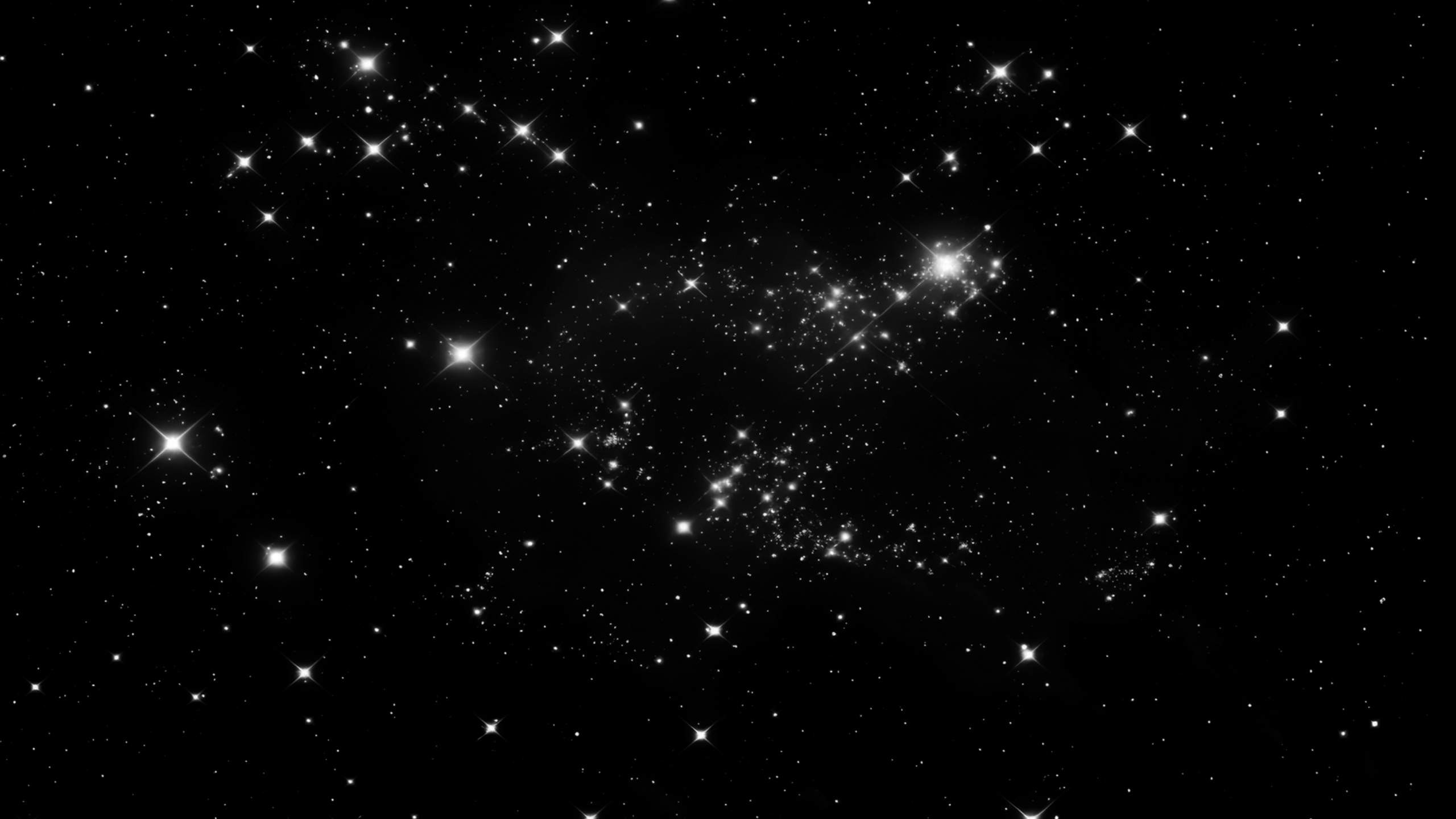




*Welcoming
Missionaries to the
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THE FOUR MOST DANGEROUS
WORDS IN THE GLOBAL CHURCH
I. DONT. NEED. YOU.



Seoul
INCHEON
서울-인천 2024



“The mission of God is the same, whether it involves Europeans working in Africa or Africans working in Europe. Our language must reflect an awareness that the same God who sends Westerners also sends Africans, Asians, and Latin Americans.

We commonly [speak of] mission as something that Westerners do in other parts of the world while people from Africa, Asia, and Latin America only do ‘reverse mission’ or ‘diaspora mission’. This is not justifiable.

Polycentric mission cannot happen when Western Christians believe they are superior or higher than the rest of us. In this century of world Christianity, there should be no second-class missionary. Any segregation in our missionary movements renders the whole idea of polycentric mission unattainable.”