

Written Assignments

Book Reports

*** Write a 2-3 page response to *Sorsa Sumamo* (800-1000 words).**

Describe Sorsa's mission strategy with reference to missiological ideas discussed in class.

Also bear in mind the following questions:

In his desire to take the gospel to the Sidama people what serious difficulties did Sorsa face?

How did he overcome those difficulties?

What were the aims and methods of Sorsa in his mission to Sidama?

How did Sorsa obtain financial support for himself and his family?

What were the results of the work done by Sorsa and other evangelists in Sidama?

Do you think that similar methods would work today in places that you know?

*** Write a 2-3 page response to *New Life For All* (800-1000 words).**

Describe the NLFA mission strategy with reference to missiological ideas discussed in class.

Also bear in mind the following questions:

What was the aim of NLFA?

Who participated in NLFA?

What difficulties did they face, and how were those difficulties overcome?

What methods did they use?

What results did they achieve?

Do you think that similar methods would work today in places that you know?

*** Answer the following questions relating to the chapters of *Mission Strategies Then and Now* (200-300 words each).**

1. In what ways was Jesus an ideal missionary?

2. How did Jesus train his disciples for mission?

3. How did Jesus relate to Jewish culture?

How did Jesus relate to Gentile people?

4. How did the twelve apostles introduce the gospel to foreign cultures?

5. How did Jewish culture help Christian mission?

Why did the churches separate from the synagogues?

6. How did Paul introduce the gospel to foreign cultures?

7. In what ways did Christianity change when Gentile fellowships were established?

8. What was the gospel according to Paul?

Describe the life and activity of the churches started by Paul.

9. How did persecution help Paul in his mission?

10. How did Paul respond to cultural issues?

11. How did Paul's character as a man make him an effective missionary?

12. How did Paul train and work with other missionaries?

How were women involved in the life and mission of the early churches?

How were NT missionaries provided with food, housing and other necessities of life?

13. Describe how a Jew and a Gentile might read scripture in different ways.

Describe how global culture, gospel culture and local culture may each affect world mission.

14. Describe and evaluate "tent-making" in the New Testament and the modern world.

Would you advise pastors to become missionaries?

How may we deal effectively with persecution today?

How might pioneer missionaries and holistic churches work together to meet everyone's needs?

What is your view of "miraculous healing" in NT times and our own day?

15. What good opportunities do you think there may be for cross-cultural mission now?

Additional Notes: Choose one section in the Additional Notes and write a personal response to it.

*** Write a brief report on one (or more) of the books listed as required or recommended reading.**

Each report should be about 2 or 3 pages (800-1000 words). The most important things to do are:

1. Identify the *context* of the book. What time and place is it talking about? Why was it written?
2. Summarize the *content*. Does it deal with one subject or several? What does each chapter say? What is the main conclusion of the book?
3. Give your personal *response*. Did you learn anything from this book? What did you agree with, or disagree with? What difference might it make to your life or work?

*** Write a brief report on one (or more) of the documents listed as required or recommended reading.**

Each report should be about 1 or 2 pages (600-800 words).

1. Identify the *issue or problem* raised in the document.
Is this issue or problem relevant to your circumstances or experience?
2. Summarize the *proposal*. What solution to the issue or problem does the document propose?
3. Give your personal *response*. Did you learn anything from this document? What did you agree with, or disagree with?
What difference might it make to your life or work?

Quiz Questions

Answer as many questions as you can

(about five minutes for each question. 2 to 5 sentences for each question).

1. What is missiology?
2. How might a missiologist help a theologian?
3. How might a missiologist help a missionary?
4. What are the greatest needs of humankind?
5. How well could the old covenant meet those needs?
6. What is the gospel?
7. In the New Testament, what is the difference between an apostle and an evangelist?
8. What is the difference between proclamation and testimony?
9. What is culture?
10. What attitude did Jesus have towards the culture of his day?
11. What attitude did Paul have towards the culture of his day?
12. How did Paul take the gospel to the Gentiles and start new churches among them?
13. Would you prefer to start a holistic mission or a proclamation mission? Explain why.
14. Describe the difference between indigenization and indigeneity in cross-cultural mission.
15. Do you think we should send missionaries first to people who are unreached, or to people who are responsive?
16. Do you think we should send missionaries first to marginal (low status) people, or to mainstream (high status) people?
17. Do you think we should start a separate church for each type of person?
18. Describe the normal stages in the process of conversion to Christ.
19. Why have there been rapid mass movements to Christ in certain times and places?
20. What are the most important motives for mission?
21. At their moment of glory, the early North African churches failed and died. What were the reasons for their failure?

22. If you had two minutes to offer the gospel to a nominal Christian, what would you say?
23. If you had two minutes to offer the gospel to a Muslim, what would you say?
24. If you had two minutes to offer the gospel to a person of African traditional religion, what would you say?

Exam Questions

Three hours. Answer four questions.

- * What is the aim of Christian mission?
- * What is the gospel?
- * The apostle Paul is often considered to be an ideal missionary. Is it possible for us to follow his example?
- * What are the differences between rural and urban mission?
- * “When a person is born again, they must reject their own culture.” Would you agree with this statement?
- * “The great missionary task of our day must be reaching immigrants with the gospel.” Would you agree with this statement?
- * “Development work may be pre-evangelistic or post-evangelistic, but never evangelistic.” Would you agree with this statement?
- * How can we motivate Christians for mission and maintain our own motivation as missionaries?
- * Did the Roman Empire and the British Empire help – or hinder – the worldwide spread of the gospel?
- * How much do we need to know about another religion in order to introduce the gospel to those who follow it? What are the most important things we must learn about the other religion?
- * If you are called to become a cross-cultural missionary to an unreached people-group, how would you try to introduce the gospel and start a church among them? What methods would you use?

Essay Questions

Write three essays selected from the following list (3000-4000 words in each essay):

- * How successful do you think missionaries have been in creating indigenous churches? Are the Bible-believing churches in your country now truly indigenous?
- * As a cross-cultural missionary, would you try to follow the methods described in the New Testament, or would you prefer different methods? Explain your answer.
- * In launching a mission to a new area, would you start by proclaiming the truth... or by offering aid and development? How would you decide on your best strategy?
- * The world has been compared to a sinking ship. As followers of Christ, should we man the lifeboats and rescue the perishing... or patch up the ship and keep it afloat?
- * Someone might say, “The culture I was born into is a prison from which I can never escape. The chief obstacle against my conversion to Christ is not my own sin but the sin of the society I belong to and which requires me to conform to its expectations.” What reply would you give to such a person?
- * Someone has said, “Missiologists often emphasize the need for *contextualization*, that is, the need to adapt theological content and Christian forms to the traditions and customs of the people-group hearing the gospel of Jesus Christ. Not many have emphasized the need for *decontextualization*, that is, the need to help Christians move away from those traditions and customs of their culture that contradict the truth of the gospel” (Schnabel E J, *Paul the Missionary*, p.449). In mission today, which would you say is most needed: contextualization or decontextualization?
- * Explain why academic theologians, denominational church leaders and cross-cultural missionaries often find it difficult to understand one another when they talk about mission. How might we encourage better understanding for the benefit of all?
(In your essay make sure you consider the varying assumptions underlying the concept of “mission”.)

* Discuss the idea of indigeneity.

(In addition to other important matters, you might give some consideration to the following questions: If the gospel changes people and alters their personal culture, can a church ever be truly indigenous? How successful do you think Protestant missions have been in creating indigenous churches? Are the African or Indian churches of today truly indigenous? Can they become more indigenous? As a pioneer cross-cultural missionary, how would you attempt to start an indigenous church?)

* Strategic Analysis: From the information in *Operation World*, assess the mission potential of Ethiopia, Morocco, Nigeria and Zambia. If you were responsible for sending five missionary couples to each of these countries, what strategies would you suggest for them?

* Research and discuss a mass movement when many people came to faith in Christ.

(Be sure to consider the following: What was the spiritual condition of the people before it started? What was the social, economic and political context? How and why did it start? How long did it continue? What effect did it have in the short term... and in the long term?)

Here is some advice for writing essays:

1. Read the question carefully. You will lose marks if you do not answer the question.
2. In your introduction explain why this is an important question.
3. If the essay topic is a controversial subject (a comparison of two opinions), you should first state one opinion and then the other opinion. Then give your reasons for supporting the first opinion or the second, or for offering a third opinion.
4. In each paragraph, make one single point.
5. If possible, prove everything you say by using a Bible verse or a quotation or an illustration.
6. In the final paragraph, state your conclusion clearly.

Research Paper

Research and write a report on an AFRICAN or ASIAN missionary or missionary movement that successfully introduced the gospel to a people-group possessing a DIFFERENT religion, culture or language (10-12 pages, 3000-3500 words).

This could be based on books you have read, or information on the internet, or your own experience, or the experience of someone you know personally, or a combination of these. In your report make sure you consider the following questions:

How and why did this mission movement start?

What methods were used?

What problems were there, and how were these problems overcome?

How were issues of culture and language dealt with?

How was the work supported financially?

How long did the mission continue and what were the lasting results?

What missiological strategy was used? (Homogeneous Unit or All One in Christ? Preaching or Holistic mission? Dominionist or Salvationist? Primordialist or Pragmatist? Targeting the Responsive or the Unreached? Marginal or Mainstream? Contextualized or Gathered etc...).

For African men, you might consider Apola Kivebulaya (Congo), Paul Gindiri (Nigeria), Elijah Yisa (Nigeria), Samuel Crowther (Nigeria), John Alangasa (Nigeria), Paul Tsado (Nigeria), Mahay Choramo (Ethiopia), Wandaro Dabaro (Ethiopia), Sawl Salgédó (Ethiopia), Gosaye Zemedkun (Ethiopia), William Wadé Harris (Cote d'Ivoire), Bernard Mizeki (Zimbabwe).

For women, see Vou Gyang (Nigeria), Baloté Amalo (Ethiopia).

For brief biographical outlines and additional sources, see *Dictionary of African Christian biography* (www.dacb.org).

For some early Nigerian missionaries, see Lois K Fuller, *Adventures for God* (NEMI, Jos, 1997), pp.85-156.

For some early Ugandan evangelists, see M Louise Pirouet, *Black Evangelists: the spread of Christianity in Uganda, 1891-1914* (Rex Collings, London, 1978), especially chapter 3.

Wikipedia also has much useful information, quoting from valid primary sources. See, for example, the articles on Sechele, Abdul Masih, Bakht Singh and Sadhu Sundar Singh (<http://en.wikipedia.org>).