

Christian Reformed World Missions



Missions Toolkit

Our Top Picks of
Missions Resources,
Materials and Curricula

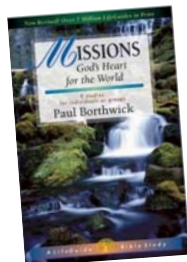
Helping Christian Reformed Churches to fulfill the Great Commission



Christian Reformed
World Missions



Bible Study



Missions: God's Heart for the World

by Paul Borthwick

- Intervarsity Press © 2000
- 9 session bible study that includes leader's notes

Where you can find it:

- at most local Christian Bookstores as part of the *LifeGuide Bible Studies*
- on-line bookstores

Approximate price: \$7.00 USD / 8.99 CDN



Signs & Wonders Today: A Reformed Look at the Spirit's Ongoing Work

by John Algera

- Faith Alive Christian Resources © 2006
- 10-12 session Bible study on the work of the Holy Spirit in scripture and today's age

Where you can find it:

- Faith Alive Resources: 800-333-8300 or www.FaithAliveResources.org

Price: \$13.25 USD / 15.95 CDN

Why we recommend it:

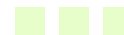
This Bible study "helps participants discover their part in God's plan to reach out to the world – through Jesus and through ambassadors like us. The call to "missions" is not for a select group but is part of God's call to every Christian. Topics include: blessed to be a blessing, God's attack on racism, diversity in heaven"

It's engaging, easy to use, very accessible, and hits all the major missions themes. Regardless of what a church's missions program looks like or which organization they're connected with, this resource hits the ball out of the park.

Why we recommend it:

This book reexamines biblical teaching on the Holy Spirit (including the healing of diseases, casting out of demons, mass conversion, deliverance from prison, speaking in other languages, and other extraordinary events), and discusses if does God still does such signs and wonders today.

It addresses the spiritual world in a cross-cultural context, and presents a Kingdom perspective. Many examples and stories from the mission field are used. A great resource for prayer team or small group.



Missions Education & Curricula



Plugged-in to Missions

by Christian Reformed World Missions

- 6 DVD set plus resource DVD
- each DVD can be adapted for lessons 30 – 90 minutes in length
- Each DVD presents a different topic. Includes video clips, discussion questions, activities, and prayer items.

Where you can find it:

- Faith Alive Resources: 1-800-333-8300 or www.FaithAliveResources.org

Price: \$125 USD & CDN

Why we recommend it:

From Islam to Voodoo, missionaries and national believers face challenges abroad that are also found in North America. This DVD curriculum helps the curious and the world-minded Christian to discover these challenges and get plugged in to God's mission.

Engaging, easy to use, professionally produced and hip. Not only introduces the ministry of WM, but the broader topics as well. Well structured to facilitate discussion with help from the host. Works with very little if at all no preparation. Appropriate for highschool youth group, cultural studies, catechism, adult bible study, and small groups.



Which Way to God?: A Christian Look at World Religions

by Thea Leunk.

- 10 session course for high school students, young adults, or adults.

Where you can find it:

- Faith Alive Resources: 1-800-333-8300 or www.FaithAliveResources.org

Price:

- Leader Guide \$16.50 USD / 19.45 CDN
- Student: \$8.95 USD / 10.55 CDN
- DVD: \$39.95 / 47.15 CDN

Why we recommend it:

Explains the basic beliefs and practices of Islam, Judaism, Hinduism, and Buddhism. Participants are better equipped to evaluate the religious beliefs of their friends and neighbours, and become more confident in their own faith.

Excellent! This curriculum uses various media and interactive activities (such as inviting a Buddhist monk to share or visiting a Hindu temple) to demystify world religions and help us as Christians understand and befriend our neighbours at home and abroad. Presented in a fun and interesting way.

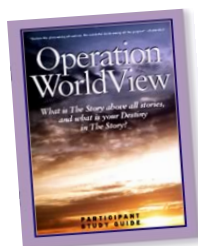
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CONSTITUTION REFORMER

WORLD
MISSIONS



Operation WorldView by MissionONE

- 4 DVD, 8 session series that teaches the biblical foundation of missions
- Includes leader guide and participant guides plus other supplementary material. Appropriate for adults.

Where you can find it:

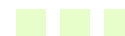
- online: www.missionone.org

Price: \$259 USD / standard DVD edition

Why we recommend it:

This curriculum helps participants to see "God's grand love story" for all peoples. Based partially on the life-changing course, Perspectives on the World Christian Movement, it introduces the biblical, historical, cultural, and strategic aspects of world missions.

This program teaches the basics about God's redemptive plan, and why we "do" missions. Great for an evening worship service or adult education class. Could be used in a similar fashion to *ALPHA* (dinner & discussion). The leader's guide is clearly laid out and very detailed in what to do, how to prepare lessons.



Reference Books



Operation World by Patrick Johnstone and Jason Mandryk

- Paternoster © 2005
- Prayer handbook and reference guide, containing info for all continents and every country in the world.

Where you can find it:

- Online US: www.gmi.org
- Online Cdn: www.chapters.indigo.ca

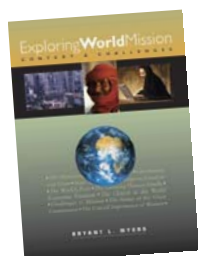
Approximate Price:

\$15.29 USD / 15.29 CDN

Why we recommend it:

Operation World is the definitive prayer handbook and reference guide. Packed with informative and inspiring fuel for prayer about every country of the world, it is essential for anybody who wants to make a difference.

A "must have" resource for churches, missions committees, mission reps, prayer teams, and high school classrooms. It gives not only the religious statistical info that other reference books lack, it includes updates on answered prayer, and ongoing prayer requests.



Exploring World Mission: Context & Challenges by Bryant L. Myers

- World Vision International © 2003
- Reference guide displaying charts, maps and graphics to explain world needs and mission trends.

Where you can find it:

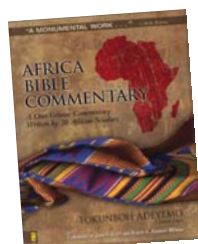
- www.worldvisionresources.com and www.amazon.com

Price: \$11.95 – 14.95 USD

Why we recommend it:

This resource book draws on the most current data available to bring you the most meaningful picture of where mission is heading in the next century and why.

It's a handy tool for a church missions committee or the school classroom. The graphics and charts examine trends in population, economics, politics, religion, children, and the church. A summary of conclusions is provided. Colourful. Great for visual aids in missions presentations or newsletters.



Africa Bible Commentary General

Editor Tokunboh Adeyemo

- Zondervan Publishing © 2006
- a one volume commentary by 70 African scholars

Where you can find it:

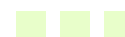
- www.zondervan.com
- online bookstores

Approximate Price: \$26 USD / 30 CDN

Why we recommend it:

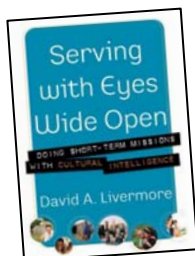
Written by African theologians and produced in Africa, it is the first one-volume commentary ever created to help pastors, students, and lay leaders in Africa apply God's Word to distinctively African concerns, yet its fresh insights will have a universal appeal.

This would make a great gift for a pastor. The commentary enriches biblical teaching and sermon illustrations as it comes from a non-western yet Kingdom perspective. This is important as churches seek to be more diverse and sensitive a multicultural context.





Short Term Missions & Cross-cultural Partnerships



Serving With Eyes Wide Open: Doing Short-Term Missions with Cultural Intelligence by David A. Livermore

- Baker Books © 2006, 192 pages
- Unpacks the assumptions related to short term missions, and equips the reader so that the experience blesses the participant and respects the receiver.

Where you can find it:

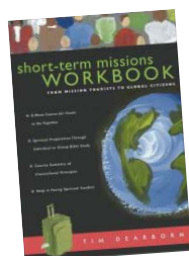
- www.bakerbooks.com
- on-line book stores

Approximate Price: \$10.39 USD / 10.94 CDN

Why we recommend it:

A cautionary tale for opening our eyes to the reality of short-term missions, Western assumptions and how mistakes and naiveté of participants can hamper effectiveness and relationship building. Describes how to create *Cultural IQ*, and impacts information that every "goer" needs to know.

This book is a MUST READ for anyone going on short-term missions (especially leaders), and any church involved in international partnerships. It addresses the trend that short term missions is becoming more of a travel adventure than missions ministry, and how these trips can be redeemed through a commitment of sensitivity and learning.



Short-term Missions Workbook: From Mission Tourists to Global Citizens by Tim Dearborn

- InterVarsity Press © 2003
- 8 week course, 126 pages
- A workbook for anyone (team or individual) going on a short term missions experience

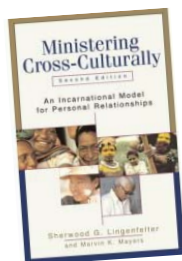
Where you can find it:

- www.bakerbooks.com
- on-line book stores

Why we recommend it:

Going on a short-term missions trip can be a life- and faith-transforming experience. However, an unprepared team can wreak havoc on each other and the people they intend to serve. To get the most out of such a missions trip, you need to go prepared. This workbook provides a great foundation: gaining a biblical perspective on the world, cross-cultural understanding, building good team dynamics, and preparing for reentry.

This is one of the best short-term orientation tools out there for teams. Great coverage of content. The books is also very flexible to enable team members to work some sections individually, and others as a group.



Ministering Cross-Culturally: An Incarnational Model for Personal Relationships by Sherwood G. Lingenfelter and Marvin K. Mayers

- Baker Academics © 2003, 128 pages
- Addresses the tension that arises in working across cultural lines, and explores how to deal with conflict

Where you can find it:

- www.bakeracademic.com
- on-line book stores, local bookstores

Approximate Price: \$10.39 USD / 10.94 CDN

Why we recommend it:

Examines the significance of the incarnation for effective cross-cultural ministry; demonstrating that Jesus needed to learn and understand the culture he lived in before he undertook public ministry. Describes what basic values are, and unpacks the tension points in cross-cultural relationships ie. differences in perception of time, exercising judgment, handling crisis, goals, and self-worth.

An excellent resource for pastors /leaders involved with or desiring to start a church to community / church / ministry partnership. Gets to the deeper issues for those wanting to establish a healthy ministry relationship outside of their own culture, whether abroad or in the community.



The Global Church by Oscar Muriu

Urbana 2006

- DVD of a plenary speech at InterVarsity Christian Fellowship's student missions conference (Dec 28/06 pm)
- minutes

Where you can find it:

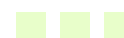
- InterVarsity Store online: shop3.gospelcom.net/epages/IVCF.storefront

Price: \$19.99 USD

Why we recommend it:

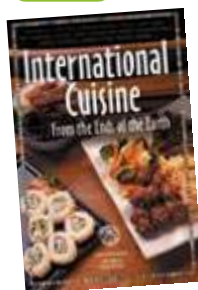
There is exciting growth in the African Church. Missions in the global church is shifting and changing. Oscar presents models and strategies for future mission partnerships between the global North and South.

This powerful presentation is a wake up call to the new realities of missions, of what that means to be part of the global Body of Christ. Great for a short-term team orientation, or viewing during a worship service.





Missions Emphasis



International Cuisine . . . to the Ends of the Earth by Christian Reformed World Missions

- CRWM © 2006, 95 pages
- cookbook featuring 89 international recipes
- includes a menu planner, ideas for missions emphasis dinners, and stories.

Where you can find it:

- Faith Alive Resources: 800-333-8300 or www.FaithAliveResources.org

Price: cookbook \$8.50 USD /10 CDN

Why we recommend it:

This unique cookbook includes international recipes provided by our missionaries in 21 different countries. Use the menu planner and mission emphasis suggestions to plan an ethnic dinner at your church. Or cook up some of the distinctive recipes for your family to enjoy. Makes a great gift for the food lovers in your life.

Wonderful for a Mission Emphasis event, an ethnic dinner, potluck, missionary presentation, or just to have something different for dinner. All of the ingredients should be readily available at your local supermarket or ethnic food store. Available in spiral book and CD format.



Get Cooking! Fundraising Kit by Christian Reformed World Missions

- Includes all materials needed to start a fundraising campaign, by selling the International Cuisine cookbook

Where you can find it: www.crwmm.org

Christian Reformed World Missions
US:800-346-0075 CDN: 800-730-3490

Price: \$10 USD /12 CDN

Why we recommend it:

The kit allows any church group (missions committee, short term missions team, youth group, etc) to raise funds for their own mission activities by selling cookbooks. The kit includes posters, a cookbook, easel, sign up sheets, planning guide, submission form and more. You don't have to purchase the cookbooks in advance. The Get Cooking! Kit allows you to obtain the books for \$5 USD/\$7 each. When your group offers them for a suggested donation of \$10 USD/\$12 CDN or more, you can raise \$5 or more for each book ordered.



Missions Celebration Kit by Christian Reformed World Missions CRWM

- Worship manual and planning resources for a missions emphasis Sunday.

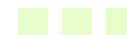
Where you can find it: www.crwmm.org

Christian Reformed World Missions
US:800-346-0075 CDN: 800-730-3490

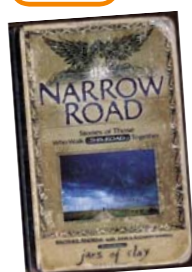
Price: free

Why we recommend it:

Specifically geared for a CRC audience, this kit is not just for Pentecost. Ideas can be useful for any missions emphasis event: dramatic readings, children's message, song suggestions, order of service, sermon starter, and other ideas for celebrating missions (banners, flag presentations, etc). A great resource for a missions committee, missions rep, or worship planners to have on hand for a special mission focused Sunday or missionary visit.



Missions – General



The Narrow Road: Stories of Those Who Walk This Road Together

By Brother Andrew with John & Elizabeth Sherrill

- Fleming H. Revell (Division of Baker Book House) © 2001, 336 pages
- a biography of Brother Andrew, aka "God's Smuggler", who transported Bibles into "closed" countries.

Where you can find it:

- online bookstores, local bookstores

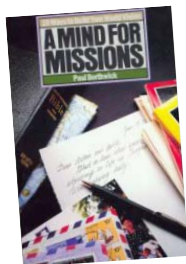
Approximate Price:\$13.25 USD/13.86 CDN

Why we recommend it:

Directed toward a teen audience, Brother Andrew's powerful story is interspersed with stories of and information about the persecuted church. The foreword is written by the contemporary Christian music group Jars of Clay, and includes a CD of their song "This Road." It will challenge all those who read to put themselves in the place of Brother Andrew and persecuted believers. It will also challenge them to discover their place in God's plan.

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Top Picks of Missions Resources
Materials and Curricula



A Mind For Missions: 10 Ways to Build Your World Vision by Paul Borthwick

- NavPress © 1990, 167 pages

Where you can find it:

- online bookstores, local bookstores

Approximate Price: \$13.25 USD / 13.86 CDN

Why we recommend it:

Discover 10 building blocks for sensitizing yourself or your group to the needs beyond our borders. From prayer and giving to currents and lifestyle choices, Borthwick leads to practical ways of sharpening your world vision right where you live.

This is an oldy, but goody – a great starting point for anyone interested in missions or for a new church missions rep. The book begins with teaching on the biblical call to missions, and how current events, travel, prayer, lifestyle choices and meeting mission workers can increase the passion for and understanding of missions.



Children's Resources



Hand in Hand: Helping Children

Celebrate Diversity by CRC Publications and the Reformed Church Press

- CRC Publications © 1997
- 5 sessions to celebrate diversity, available in two session formats (45 min or 90 -120 min)
- Grades 3 - 6

Where you can find it:

- Faith Alive Resources: 1-800-333-8300 or www.FaithAliveResources.org

Price: \$39.95 USD / 19.45 CDN

Why we recommend it:

Help stop prejudice and racism by teaching children to celebrate diversity, offers a wide array of learning activities: cross-cultural dialogue, drama, music, off-site options, Bible stories and culture-based stories. Use as stand alone or resource book in Sunday school, school or VBS.

Teaches children multi-cultural sensitivity and how to embrace diversity. Although geared to a USA context, it still has great impact on helping children develop as Global Christians ie. the world is your neighbourhood. Extremely adaptable lessons & activities.