

What Can Western Christians Learn from Churches in the Rest of the World

Churches in the Majority World will forever owe an immense debt of love to Christians in the West, many of whom brought the gospel to them often at great cost. The relationship between Christianity in the West and that in the Majority World was largely one of teacher-and-pupil for a long time. But with the number of Christians in the Majority World now vastly outnumbering those in the West, mission, which used to be “from the West to the rest,” is now being reconfigured as “from everywhere to everywhere.” Thus the questions that must be asked include: Why is the church growing so rapidly in the Majority World? What is God doing over there, and what can Western Christians learn from churches in the rest of the world?

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- **The recovery of the supernatural**

Christianity in the West, under the pressure of Enlightenment thinking, struggles with coming to terms with the supernatural. At the same time, the rapid advance of the gospel in the MW in the last 100 plus years cannot be understood without recourse to the miraculous.

- **Managerial missiology versus dependence on the Spirit**

Does the church grow through careful strategic planning using modern management methods or does it grow primarily through a prayerful dependence on the Spirit's leading?

- **Rethinking our ministerial training and formation methods?**

- Too much on head knowledge; not enough on the heart and spirit

- **“The gospel is the power of God unto salvation of all”: To what extent has Western Christianity lost confidence in the gospel?**

- Democracy and human rights – the Christian roots of Europe

- The Western guilt complex?

- The gospel in the MW: Lamin Sanneh and Robert Woodberry

- **Rethinking persecution: The modern church view persecution with a mix of concern and pity. But this does not appear to be the way persecution is viewed in the Acts of the Apostles.**
 - Lessons from China
 - What is happening in the Islamic world?
- **The problem of nominalism and shallow discipleship: A challenge to both the West and the MW**
 - Korea is a good example
 - Prosperity gospel in various parts of the MW