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TH502

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Weekly Reflection – Tennent chapter 1

The first chapter goes through the movement of Christianity. The chapter opens up with Martin Luther showing his displeasure with the Catholic church by nailing his 95 Thesis to the Castle Church door in Wittenberg which is the beginning of the Protestant Reformation. Throughout the chapter it backtracks to the beginning of Christianity to today, showing the many developments and transitions. Christianity transcends cultural, geographic and linguistic lines. We also see the shift of the center of Christianity. Instead of one center there are multiple centers. Originally the center was Jerusalem, and it has spread out to other parts of the world. We get to see Acts 1:8 come alive. Christianity stands through the ages. It is translatable.

Some key learning points that I saw in this chapter is that Christianity is translatable. It can be rediscovered and restated in new global contexts. This we see as Christianity is receding in the Western world and becoming more prevalent in the majority world. The universality of Christianity shows that the moral standards and truths remain the same no matter who comes to the faith. Another learning point for me is to remember that church will face questions that they have not faced before in different regions. These questions are creating potential for theological development.

The missional implications is that the creator of the universe is being seen and experienced throughout the land. Man is being used or allowing themselves to be used to carry out God's mission to save the lost. It took man a while to understand the plan of God so we kept

it in certain regions and amongst certain people. God's mission is being accomplished by all nations being offered the gospel and the gospel reaching the utter most parts of the earth.