

Article Review

Yumi Cha liy@allianceu.edu

Program: Masters of Divinity

Alliance Theological Seminary

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What is one concept that stood out to you in this article?

Now global Christianity is undergoing a renaissance between cultures. We seek global Christian revival by sharing mutual problems and insights that occur in each other's cultures.

What implications does this concept have for leading in the church?

The author gave various examples from the Bible while explaining the flow of the current global mission field. Among them, two opinions about the good Samaritan were very helpful. Scholars read the parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37) through two different lenses. Some read it through the lens of the Samaritan and the result is to employ the Samaritan as a model of the compassionate church. Some read it through the lens of the victim and the result is to employ the victim as the paradigm of the oppressed.¹ In the first view, we must help whoever is injured. The Bible does not give the exact identity of the injured person. We don't know who he is. We have to help whomever he is in trouble with.

From January-February, our church held a series of fundraising events. We were preparing a fundraiser for Ukraine but the Syria-Turkey earthquake happened. In particular, since our church was working by sending missionaries to Turkey, we were able to accurately hear the damage. That's how we raised money and sent it to Syria first. The very next week came a severe cold. We heard that people forcibly moved from Texas to New York to go through this winter without a proper warm coat in the first cold they experience. Our church immediately recruited new coats. Those who could not bring a coat made an offering. More than 200 coats were collected. And a large amount of offering was delivered. After that, I was able to do a fundraiser for Ukraine, which had already been suffering from the war for a year. I was concerned that it

¹ Intercultural Theology in the Multicultural Context of World Christianity: Issues, Insights, and Interactions, David Thang Moe, *Currents in Theology and Mission* Vol. 46 No. 3 (July 2019)

might be burdensome for the church members to raise money several times in a row. But this is the mission God has entrusted to us. The church must help those in need, no matter who they are. Because God suffers with those who suffer. This is because Jesus came to this earth to hold the hand of those in need and to cry with them. So, through this first view, I thought about the purpose of the church's existence once again.

The second is the behavior of the Samaritan who breaks the boundary in contrast to the Levites and priests. It was predictable that the Levites and the priests will help the robbers. Someone more related to them, and expected them to help. But they didn't help. An unexpected Samaritan came to his aid. I think this is the part that the Korean immigrant church needs to break.

We are a diaspora church. Obviously, we think of the Korean people first. We worship in Korean and eat Korean food. Most of the church members are Korean. That is why our thoughts remain on missions targeting Koreans Missionaries. The missionaries we do are also 100% Korean. Difficulty in communication is the biggest problem, but we shouldn't be obsessed with missions through Koreans only. We have to break down that wall. If Koreans do missionary work only through Koreans, there is a limit. That's why we have to break down the wall even more. In particular, the Korean immigrant church conducts many worship services in English through the worship of the second generation, and other Asians and other races often participate in these English worship services. In such an environment, there are also children of other ethnicities who attend Korean English worship services from an early age. In this way, I think it is necessary to lower the threshold of the church.

What needs to change in your life as a result?

I have to tear down the wall first. As I study, I realize every time how big the prejudice I already have is. I thought of myself as an open-minded person, but there are many customs that

have already hardened in me. We need to practice seeing all those things through the eyes of Jesus. I need to practice always looking back to see if these are my thoughts or Jesus' thoughts.

References:

Intercultural Theology in the Multicultural Context of World Christianity: Issues, Insights, and Interactions, David Thang Moe, *Currents in Theology and Mission* Vol. 46 No. 3 (July 2019)