

Greetings from SIM Australia



... for our partnership in the gospel

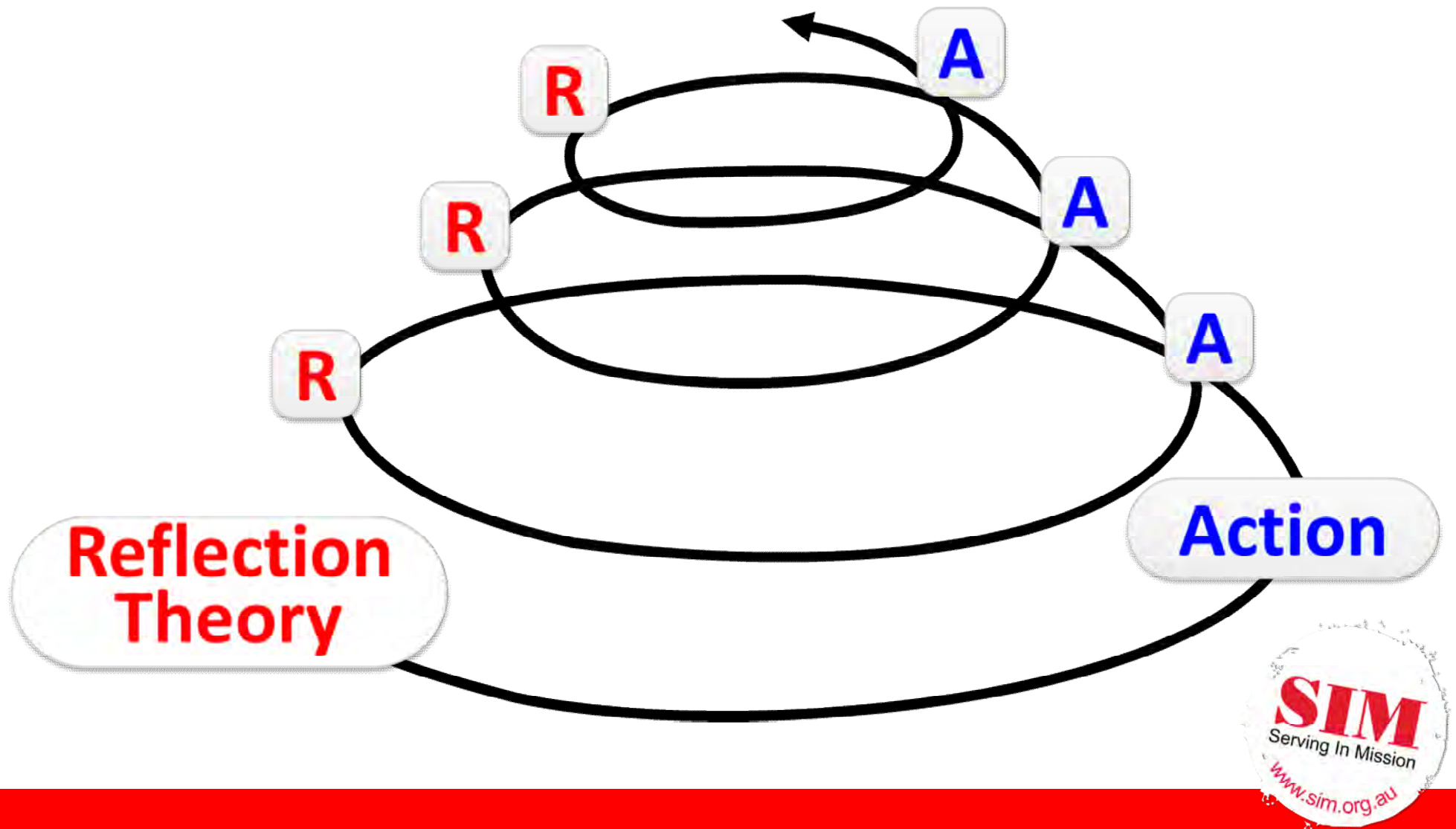


Following Jesus in His Harvest



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Reflection/Theory - Action Upward Spiral



John 4:26-30 NIV

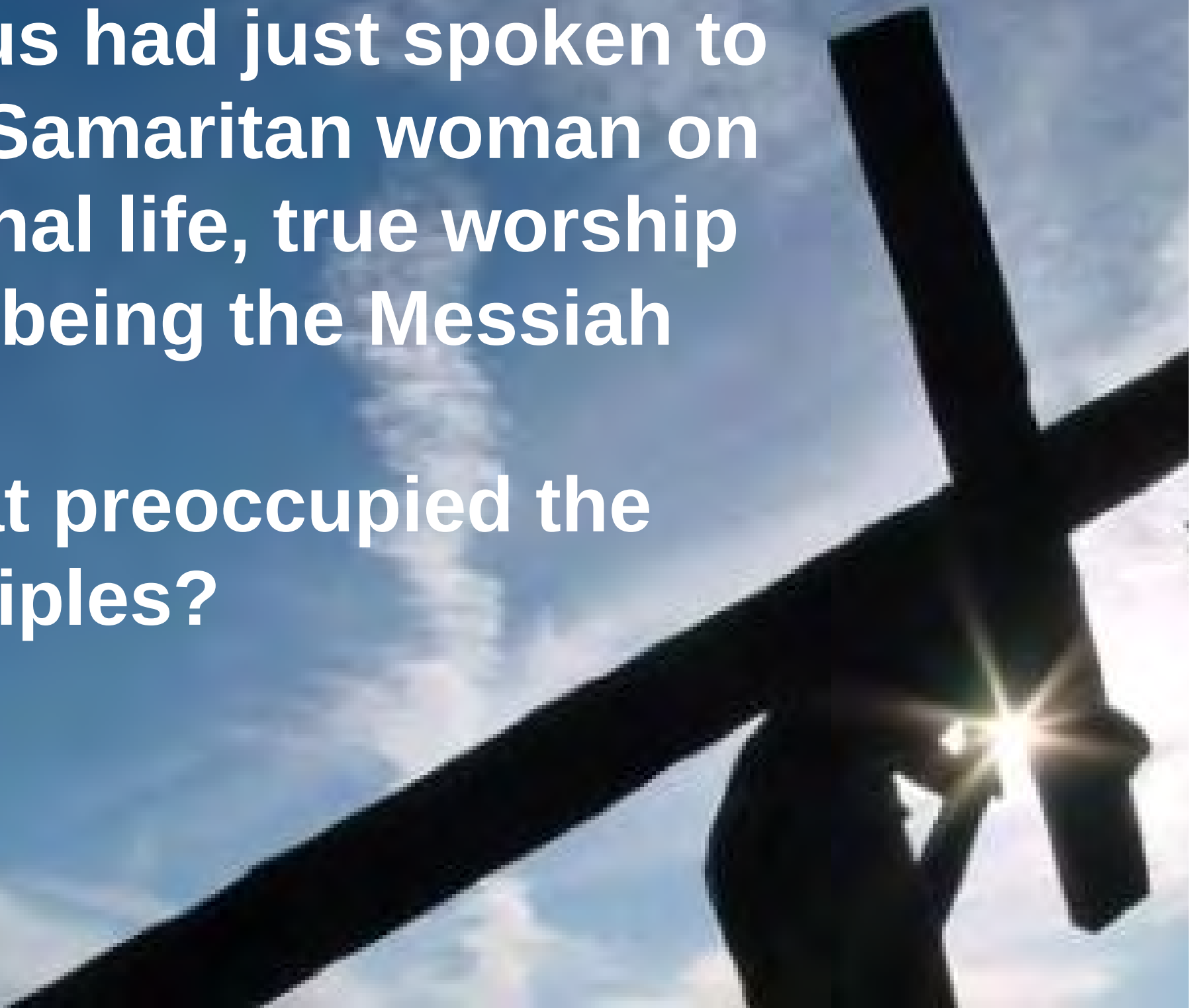
Then Jesus declared, “I, the one speaking to you—I am he.”

Just then his disciples returned and were surprised to find him talking with a woman. But no one asked, “What do you want?” or “Why are you talking with her?”

Then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town and said to the people, “Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Messiah?” They came out of the town and made their way toward him.

**Jesus had just spoken to
the Samaritan woman on
eternal life, true worship
and being the Messiah**

**What preoccupied the
disciples?**



John 4:31-33 NIV

**Meanwhile his disciples urged him,
“Rabbi, eat something.”**

**But he said to them, “I have food to
eat that you know nothing about.”**

**Then his disciples said to each other,
“Could someone have brought him
food?”**

John 4:34-35 NIV

“My food,” said Jesus, “is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work.

Don’t you have a saying, ‘It’s still four months until harvest’? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest.



What elements of our culture blind or distract us (as individual, leaders, churches) from seeing the harvest?



What do we need to **practise** in order to see God's harvest and be his harvesters?



Whirlpool of self-absorption

Struggles

Career

Fears

Lifestyle

Mortgage

Possessions

Identify where you might be tempted to be self-absorbed?

The World's Definition of Success Essentially according to what you **POSSESS**



Jesus directly contradicts the world

Watch out!

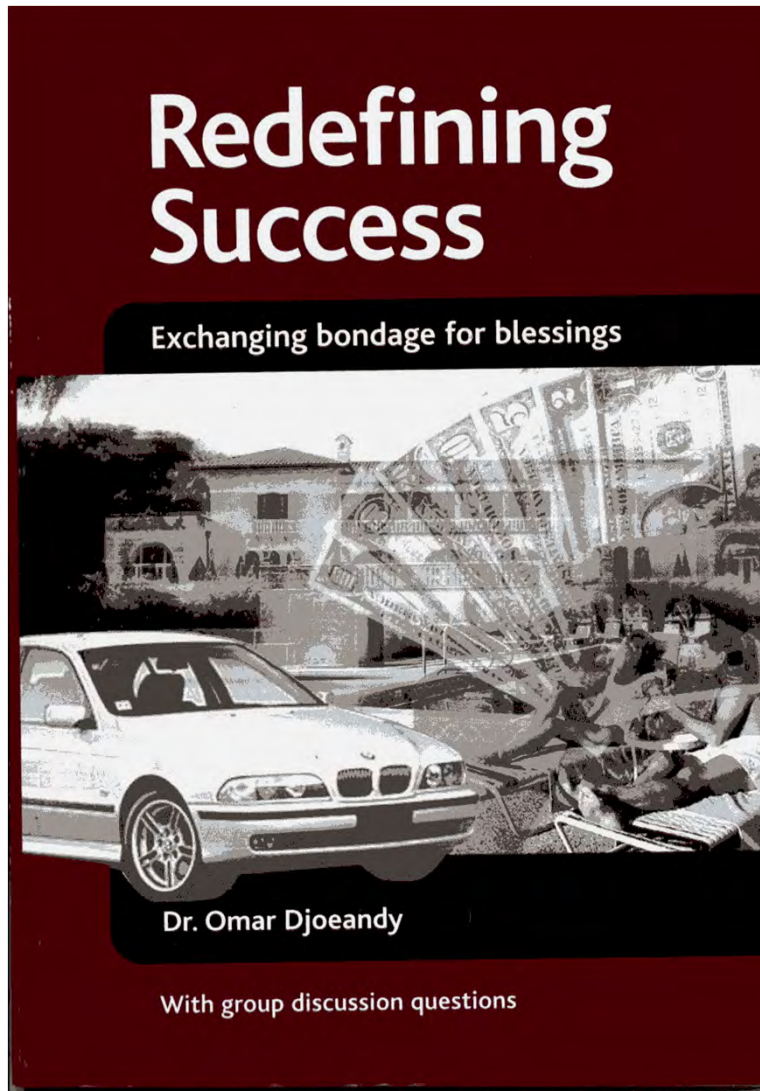
**Be on your guard
against all kinds
of greed;
a man's life does
not consist in the
abundance of his
possessions**

**“Real life is not measured by how
much we own” (Luke 12 NLT)**



REDEFINING SUCCESS

according to Jesus



**Dependent upon God
as children**

***(more than self-
sufficiency)***

**Kingdom-centered
*(more than self-
absorbed)***

Generous to the poor

1. Fight the worldly culture

- Whirlpool of self-absorption
- Redefining success



Matthew 9:35-36 NIV

Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

See the harvest - pray for workers

Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few.

Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.”

Matthew 9:37-38 NIV



Matthew 10:1,5a NIV

Jesus called his twelve disciples to him and gave them authority to drive out impure spirits and to heal every disease and sickness ...

These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions..

**started in 1893 by three
courageous young men**

**They obeyed Christ's
commission**



Tragically two died of "fever"



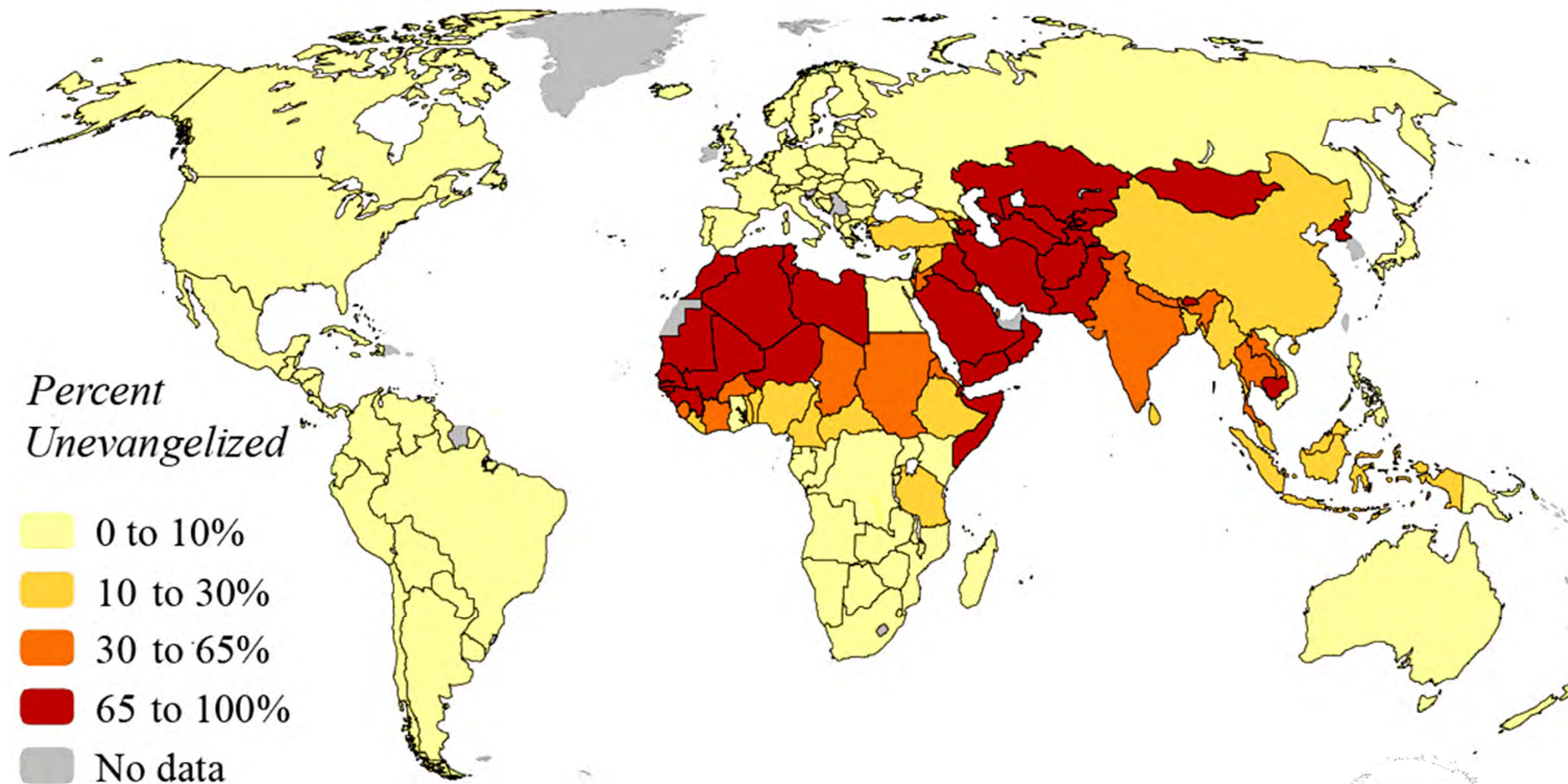
NOW Over 1800
missionaries in 70
countries



Nigeria ECWA
6,000 churches
6 Million
believers
3,000
missionaries

“Operation World” - Current Reality

Percent Unevangelized Per Country



**Waiting to hear about Jesus
Maybe they are “unreached” because no
one has gone to be with them?**



**The Huge Need Can Be
Overwhelming**



2. Empowered to be Christ's Witnesses (harvesters)

Jesus' Mission for us Acts 1:8

“ you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be

my witnesses

in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.



2. Empowered to be Christ's Witnesses (harvesters)

Do you see the harvest?

- **Local – Jerusalem, Judea**
- **Cross-cultural – Samaria**
- **Global – To the ends of the earth**
- **Simultaneously and life-long**

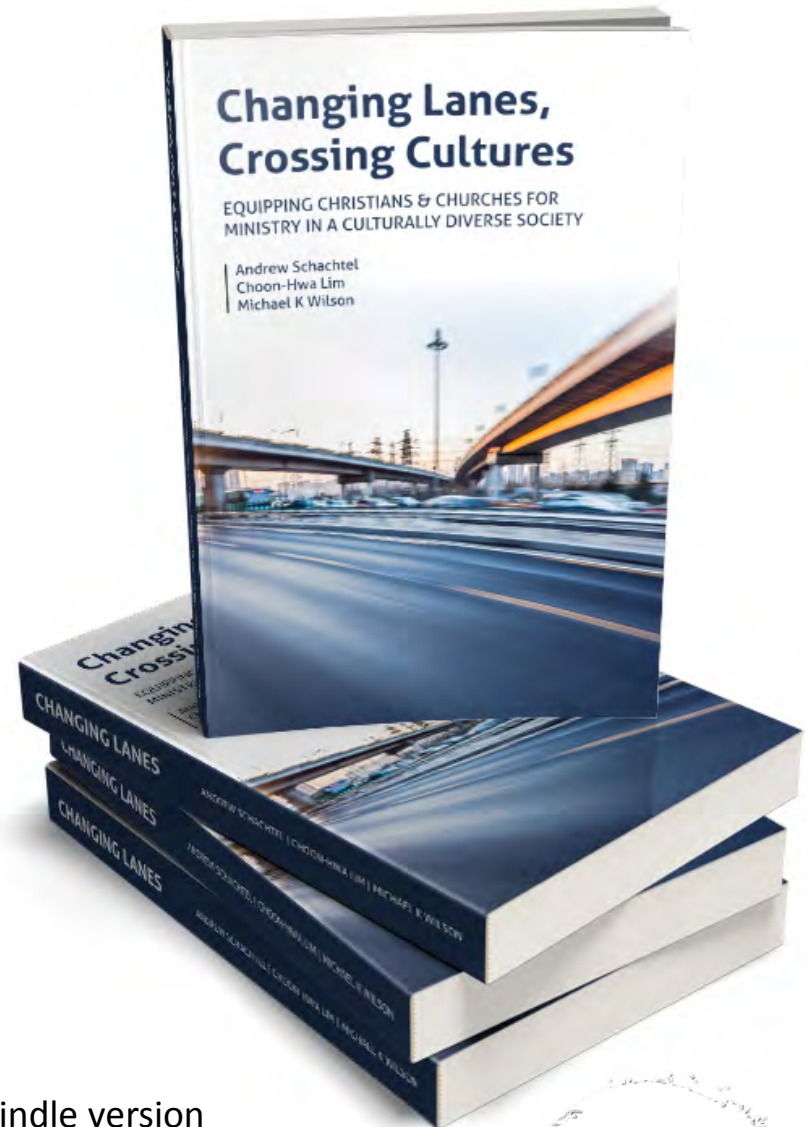
***Where are you and your church being
Christ's witnesses/harvesters?
Local, cross cultural and global***



Changing Lanes, Crossing Cultures

Equipping Christians and Churches for Ministry in a Culturally Diverse Society

- The WHY, WHAT, HOW and WHEN of vibrant cross-cultural ministries
- Biblical motivation for cross-cultural ministry
- Steps to overcome obstacles
- How to get involved
- Many helpful anecdotes and case studies.
- Thought-provoking questions for reflection and discussion.
- Written for anyone to pick up and read.
- Small groups can study it over 6 sessions



Available from Interserve (\$18) or Koorong. Also a Kindle version



3. Actions Required

Do All “JUST DO IT”

- ✓ **Pray**
- ✓ **Give**
- ✓ **Send**
- ✓ **Go**



***Local, Cross-cultural,
Global - Simultaneously!***



4. Motivation



- ✓ **Avoid guilt or fear**
- ✓ **Love for God and people**



Paul in
2 Corinthians 5:14-15

**“For Christ's love compels us,
because we are convinced
that one died for all, ... that
those who live should no
longer live for themselves but
for him who died for them
and was raised again.**

JESUS
is worthy
to be
worshipped
by all nations

