

PREPARING FOR MISSION IN EUROPE

Mission skills and training

THE MISSING LINK (S)...

How do Europeans see the world?

How do Latin Americans see the world?

How might we see the World, Biblically?

- A postcolonial lens employed in a Western neo-colonial culture (globalisation).
Note the paradox with multiculturalism/pluralism
- A postmodern approach
- Adopting a liberationist hermeneutic
- A prophetic voice from the margins that challenges the seats of power
- Losing control in a fast-changing world that champions elitism

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The reality:-

You, the Latin American cross-cultural missionary are:-

- Preparing for racial prejudice
 - Preparing for social exclusion
 - Preparing for cultural isolation
 - Preparing for economic disadvantage
 - Preparing for legal obstruction
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Skills for mission:-

- Cross-cultural communication
 - Working with Muslims in Europe
 - Working with migrants in Europe
 - Learning from indigenous church leaders and mission workers
 - Working in intercultural teams
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THE MISSING LINK (S)...

How do we complete the full circle of enabling Latin American missionaries to minister effectively and fruitfully in the European context?



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- Macedonian Call

(Acts 16:9 – “During the night Paul had a vision of a man of Macedonia standing and begging him, “Come over to Macedonia and help us.”)

- The Back to Europe (B2E) Movement



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What is the “Back to Europe” movement?

- It is an international ministry network developing a process to mobilize the Church around the world to reach Europe with the Gospel

VISION

- To motivate and assist the European and the Global Church to work together to see the Kingdom of God manifested in the Europe of today and of the future

MISSION

- To connect the different missionary forces with the needs of Europe, in order to show God’s love through sharing the Good News, and engaging in discipleship, the growing and strengthening of God’s people, the planting of new churches and reaching the ‘unreached’

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EEMA (European Evangelical Missionary Association)

~~EAA (European Evangelical Alliance)~~

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What are the main purposes of B2E?

1. Working together

•The “Back to Europe Movement” seeks to join efforts between different ministries and churches in Europe, issuing a “Macedonian call” to the Church around the world

2. To raise awareness of Europe as a mission field

•This movement seeks to strike a missiological balance between the needs of Unreached People Groups as a priority for mission resources, and much of Europe, which has become a field mission with the same need for evangelization

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3. To mobilize the Church around the world towards Europe

- The Church around the world must engage in the re-evangelization of Europe. We seek to mobilize the Church with contextual models, identifying the parameters and profiles of evangelism and church planting

4. To mobilize evangelism among new immigrants in Europe

- Europe is experiencing one of the major people group migrations in history.
- There are more than 55 million immigrants living here. Many of these ethnic groups are unreached people, from limited access countries

5. To assist new missionary sending nations

- We seek to help sending nations explore the types of missionaries needed to reach Europe, and which models of church planting will increase their effectiveness on the field, in partnership with local efforts

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How do we respond?:- The challenge for the receiving church in the UK

- Developing a robust theology of migration and a praxis of generous hospitality (see Darrell Jackson's (NOVA research centre) *Mapping Migration*)
 - A risk-taking missiology – the *missio dei* (incarnation and transformation)
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Cross-cultural mission training in Latin America as part of a two-way process:-

- Cross-cultural training in LA – preparation for going on the field (Kairos – La Paz, Bolivia)
- Cultural adaptation and equipping in the UK (Redcliffe College / allnations) etc. Spain – (iibet)

What about informal training in church settings?

- Educating church leaders in the UK to receive missionaries from LA into their churches

THE MISSING LINK (S)...

Mustard-seed theology...
...is what makes the Kingdom of God grow
