

PASSION FOR MISSION: GLOBAL VOICES

WHAT IF WE REALLY LISTENED?

THE SEMINARS...

WHAT IF WE REALLY LISTENED TO THE CHINESE CHURCH?



WITH HENRY LU

Henry Lu was born in Xian, China. His spiritual journey began with a simple prayer with a house church sister in China at a young age. He then went through many years of seeking/growing spanning 3 continents. After a teaching career where he engaged with university students and served in local Chinese churches in the USA as a lay leader, Henry and his family moved to the UK in 2007 to join Chinese Overseas Christian Mission (COCM) as a missionary. Since then, he has been involved in mission strategy developments for the Chinese diaspora in the UK/Europe. He finished his MA in mission leadership from All Nations in 2015 and is currently COCM General Director.

During our time together, Henry Lu will help us to understand:

- WHO are the Chinese Diaspora in UK/Europe composed of, and basic demographics
- WHEN did the Chinese Churches begin and their brief development history
- HOW are the Chinese Churches in UK/Europe doing currently, and their relationships with the wider Christian community
- WHAT are the Chinese Churches missional opportunities, aspirations, and challenges

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WITH IAN PRESCOTT

Ian Prescott has been a migrant in East Asia for more than three decades (Philippines, Singapore, Vietnam). He returned to the UK last year and, as GC Catalyst for Diaspora Ministries, Ian and his wife Anne-Marie have been meeting virtually with a cross-section of diaspora leaders to begin to learn about the challenges and opportunities to doing mission together.

There are many diaspora peoples in the UK – groups whose home is in Britain but who still have a strong sense of connection and identification with their ethnic people and original homeland. While some groups are largely unreached, others include many vibrant Christians. Diaspora believers are becoming an increasingly significant part of the evangelical Christian community in the UK. But often they live in separate communities and worship in separate churches. This seminar is an opportunity to share and discuss some of the things we've been hearing as we have talked to diaspora leaders over the last few months.

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WHAT IF WE REALLY LISTENED TO MUSLIM-BACKGROUND BELIEVERS?



WITH HASNA KHATUN

Hasna Khatun is an Ordained Pioneer Minister specialising in Islam and Pioneer Missiology. Being from a Muslim background, she came to follow Christ after the witness of a Jewish friend. She's keen to reference theologies from the Global South as a practitioner, researcher and presenter. She's currently writing about the contextual discipleship of ex-Muslims in the UK.

An approach to the holistic discipleship of ex-Muslims in the Western Church.

The deconstruction of colonial theology: Avoiding the perils of 'MacDonaldisation.'

- What does the discipleship of ex-Muslims look like when it is led by a practitioner and missiologist from a Muslim background?
- What do existing resources and approaches to discipleship look like when dismantled from their colonial heritage?
- What if we were to adopt a liberationist lens through which to view the theology of a number of discipleship approaches?

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WHAT IF WE REALLY LISTENED TO THE AFRICAN PERSPECTIVE?



WITH HARVEY KWIYANI

Harvey Kwiyani is a Malawian mission theologian currently based in Liverpool, England, where he teaches theology at Liverpool Hope University while also providing executive leadership at Missio Africanus, a mission-training initiative that equips and empowers non-Western missionaries seeking to engage Westerners in mission. He has authored several books including *Sent Forth: African Missionary Work in the West*, *Multicultural Kingdom: Ethnic Diversity, Mission and the Church*, and *Our Children Need Roots and Wings: Equipping and Empowering Young Diaspora Africans for Life and Mission*.

There is a strong wind of change blowing in world Christianity. The wind of the Spirit is remixing the nations and reshaping the Body of Christ in the world. All this is God's communicative action that those who have ears need to hear. Through the African church, I believe God is calling us to hear several key postures. First, God calls us to see one another in God's image. Classism and racism, especially among Christians, dishonour God's image. How shall we say we love God when we dishonour the image of God we can see? Second, and building upon the first one, God calls us to be hospitable to one another, recognising that the strangers among us are also images of God. Where hospitality is lacking, life itself is always diminished. And third, because of the first and the second postures, God is calling us through the African church to a multicultural living. Following Christ in a dividing world like the one we live in today calls us to be the instruments of peace and unity. The session will, then, try to discuss the implications of these three postures in Britain today.