

FORWARD:

Tissa Weerasingha's Book

Forward

Much has been written in recent years on Christian evangelism and discipleship. Some writers have laid solid biblical foundations which are essential for good outreach. Christian witness is the outworking of God's mission to the world, and without his presence and power, evangelism and planting churches are reduced to human efforts. But they do not relate these to strategic principles and real life practices for witness in different human contexts. Other writers stress strategies drawn from experience, but fail to link these to biblical principles, or to stories that help us understand how these apply in real life. Still others give us vivid stories of effective witness, but do not help us understand the theological and communication principles that they illustrate.

Tissa Weerasingha lays out biblical principles for effective evangelism, and outlines different approaches to effective Christian witness in different human settings. He illustrates these approaches with true life cases drawn from his wide ministry in Sri Lanka, and his interaction with church leaders from around the world at the Haggai Institute where he is a member of the faculty. He does not simply set out formulas or even strategies that can be applied without reflection in local churches everywhere. He lays out key biblical principles that provide the deep motivations for evangelism. He shows us how to move from motivation to mobilization for out reach. Finally, he provides clear, well founded modules to help equip ourselves and our churches for credible witness to in our own contexts.

The truths Tissa Weerasingha lays out have great credibility because he is a careful student of Scripture, and because he has developed these lessons in the context of a vital ministry in a most difficult sociocultural setting.

Paul G. Hiebert