

“...EMPOWERING PASTORS & LEADERS OF CHURCHES WITH MOSTLY NEW AMERICANS, WHO ARE REACHING THE WORLD!”

NEW ROOTS MINISTRY

AMBASSADOR, REPRESENTATIVE...

...Shining within darkness, bringing sight to the blind, giving living water to the thirsty. These are what our community, as well as the world, mostly need from us pastors, leaders, and churches.

George Hunter, author of *Radical Outreach*, has written: “80% of the churches to whom the



Being God's ambassador is a huge honor and responsibility! Ambassadors are a country's representative who meets with presidents and prime ministers.

harvest in the United States is entrusted are stagnant or declining. Although 20% are growing, most grow by receiving transfers from other churches. Less than 1% grow substantially by “conversion growth.” He goes

on, “Most pastors understand themselves not as “fishers of men” but as “keepers of the aquarium.”

I believe that most pastors—preachers, pastoral care, chaplains, youth and children pastors, or directors of evangelism—understand deep down that our main mission is to be fishers of people who are lost, and to encourage all of our people to make new disciples. While we know that, as society seems to change quickly, including morally, and as the needs and demands of our churches



Credit to Rory Arnold, Flickr

increase, we get stuck in mostly being keepers of the 99 safe lambs, rather than leading the 99 to join us in finding the lost ones who the good shepherd went out to find in Luke 15. →→

We offer Driver Training for new American adults, so they can get their driver's license. If somebody needs this, please inform them.

We continually offer Timothy Leadership Training. If people in your church may be interested in this good program for becoming equipped as Christian leaders, please let me know.

Everyday-Ambassador Practicum is a one-afternoon-workshop to learn to express our personal God-stories, and interact with those who don't know Him.

Check out www.sfnnewroots.com/our-ministries

Pastors, some of you personally came out of darkness, into the light of Jesus. Some of you who are pastors of Kunama, Oromo, Sudanese, or Nepali people, have people in your churches who came out of the darkness of Islam, Hinduism, or Buddhism, and into the light of Jesus. Many of you have people within your ethnic groups who remain spiritually broken and in darkness.

I finished my DMin (doctor of ministry) studies recently. It was about learning what motivates people—both believers and non-believers—to talk spiritually. Now I am sharing what I have learned. When you have time,

please visit this webpage, where you can watch short, 10-minute videos on what I learned--

PeaceWithinReach.com/dmin

I have also developed this webpage, which describes how I hope to help churches now and into the future--

PeaceWithinReach.com/Specially-for-churches

Here is something to think about as we are God's ambassadors (2 Corinthians 5:20): Os Guinness, an author and theologian, suggests asking two questions for each religion:

- Does it adequately deal with human dignity?
- Does it adequately deal with evil and suffering?

I have asked that of a few of

my friends who are Hindu or Muslim. As I tell them that I ask that of myself, too, it gives good opportunity for discussion.

As well, I have been sharing the [Jesus Film](#) app and the [Discover Bible](#) app with some of my friends who are of other religions. These apps for your smart phone can be useful as we are ambassadors for God and His good news for people.

As always, it would be my pleasure to buy us coffee and food, and hear about your journey. If you are interested, please let me know—(605)376-6330.

---Fred Wilgenburg

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