



Diaspora Resources Bibliography

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Start Here

If you are just beginning to learn about diaspora ministry and build your resource library, we suggest you begin with these resources:

[The Foreigner Among Us.](#) International Project.

Youtube Video. This 10-minute video provides a short overview of God's attitude toward immigrants and then presents a powerful challenge for involvement with the internationals around us.

[God's Heart for the Foreigner.](#) Video by Global Frontier Missions. This five-minute video surveys the biblical rationale for caring for the strangers among us.

[Seeking Allah, Finding Jesus.](#) Qureshi, Nabeel.

Zondervan. 2016. This biography describes Qureshi's journey from Islam to Christianity. At least one organization makes the book required reading for their teams engaging with Muslims because it follows Qureshi's struggle with a series of typical Muslim intellectual barriers to the gospel. Qureshi's last book, *No God But One*, provides further insight into the questions and objections that most Muslims face as they consider following Jesus. Includes a guide for small-group studies.

[Seeking Refuge.](#) Bauman, Soerens, and Smeir. Moody Publishers. 2016. This great new book answers so many questions and provides the resources to help your congregation understand and reach out to refugees. It presents enough

facts to make you stop and say, "Wow!" For example: "At present, fully 60 percent of people of non-Christian religious traditions residing in North America--most of them foreign-born--say that they do not personally know a Christian." *Seeking Refuge* also includes plenty of real-life stories of churches that have gotten involved. Reading about all kinds of congregations making a difference is encouraging and intensely practical. The book is easy to read and well organized. World Relief also offers a free, download **[small-group discussion guide.](#)**

[Strangers Next Door: Immigration, Migration and](#)

[Mission.](#) Payne, J.D. IVP. 2012. Payne is Pastor of Church Multiplication at The Church at Brook Hills as well as a seminary professor and prolific writer. He discusses the tides of immigration and appropriate ways for the church to respond.

[Scripture Earth website.](#) This site offers audio Scripture and written Scripture in a multitude of languages. In some cases, there are many other resources listed as well. If you meet someone who speaks another language, you can guide them to this site and connect them to God's Word.

General Bibliography

BOOKS

[Arrival City](#). Saunders, Doug. Random/Vintage. 2012.

How the largest migration in history is reshaping our world.

[Assimilate or Go Home](#). Mayfield, D.L. HarperOne.

2016. The subtitle, "Notes from a Failed Missionary on Rediscovering Faith" provides a warning of the tone of this book. Mayfield's honest story of her struggles definitely removes any rose-colored glasses as we tackle ministry to immigrants. It is also a sober reminder not to do it alone. How would the story have been different if Mayfield's efforts had been part of the prayerful, collaborative effort of a local church, and if she had been part of a team that had the benefit of good preparation and mentoring? She committed to the Somali Bantu (a historically resistant people group) long before most churches had embraced this challenge or much training had been developed.

[At Home in Exile](#). Jeung, Russell. Zondervan. 2016.

Jeung moved into a refugee community as a young adult and has stayed through the tough times described honestly in this book. The grandson of Chinese immigrants, he identifies with the feelings of alienation and powerlessness his Cambodian neighbors experience, and the book deals with his growing understanding of himself. Fortunately, Jeung is part of a group of people equally committed to sharing the gritty but rewarding life in this Oakland apartment complex. And the church they establish provides support for their personal spiritual health as well as their ministry, even though it also suffers through schism.

[Break Open the Sky](#). Bauman, Stephan. Multnomah.

2017. Bauman, formerly the head of World Relief, calls fear the hallmark of our times and reveals how much fear shapes our thinking, even in the church. His antidote is truth, love, and a despair-defying willingness to risk.

[Diaspora Missiology](#). Wan, Enoch. William Carey. 2015.

Reflections on reaching the scattered people of the world.

[Exodus](#). Collier, Paul. Oxford. 2013. An economist's view on the effects of encouraging or restricting migration.

[Immigration](#). Bourke, Dale Hanson. IVP. 2014. Provides a framework for American Christians who wish to understand the complexity of the issue and the church's appropriate response.

[Mosaic](#). Looney, Jared. Urban Loft Publishers. 2017.

Mosaic is "A Ministry Handbook for a Globalizing World to help ministry leaders to explore cross-cultural outreach in their city." As a new training resource, Mosaic should provide practical guidance for engaging diverse communities. This book may serve as a kind of "crash course" for cross-cultural engagement, and it will be a helpful resource to equip ministry leaders to encounter the various cultures within their community.

[Multicultural Ministry Handbook](#). Anderson, David and

Margarita Cabellon, eds. David Anderson is founder and senior pastor at Bridgeway Community Church, a multicultural congregation in Columbia, MD. Through their BridgeLeader Network, Anderson and the staff help other church leaders "connect creatively to a diverse world" by providing practical advice from their decades of hands-on experience. Now they have condensed what they have learned into this practical guide. The book is designed to help local churches develop and implement a plan to be more intentionally diverse in the way they function internally and in outreach. Chapters address multicultural worship, children's ministry, student ministry, outreach--and much more. Becoming more intentionally multicultural as a church is one essential step to reaching the diaspora around us. Share this book with your church leaders!

No God but One. Qureshi, Nabeel. Seeking Allah describes Qureshi's journey from Islam to Christianity. One reader noted that their organization makes the book required reading for their teams engaging with Muslims because it reveals the intellectual barriers for Muslims to receive the gospel. Qureshi's last book, *No God but One*, provides further insight into the questions and objections that most Muslims face as they consider following Jesus. Includes a guide for small-group studies.

Serving God in a Migrant Crisis: Ministry to People on the Move. Johnstone, Patrick. IVP. Johnstone, the original editor of *Operation World*, uses his

in-depth knowledge of global statistics and trends to expand our understanding of the tidal wave of immigration and the opportunities it creates. The last third of the book describes practical responses for individuals and churches.

Standing with the Vulnerable. Odendaal, Gil. IVP Connect. 2016. World Relief says: These lessons are designed to mobilize the church to engage the great causes of our day, stand with the vulnerable, and meet the needs of our neighbors as Jesus did. They show how shaping our fundamental beliefs and values lead to better actions and results.

BLOGS AND WEBSITES

Evangelical Immigration Table. E-newsletter and video. This collaborative effort publishes a monthly e-newsletter with helpful information. Check out their web page that offers resources for pastors and a 40-minute documentary video called "I was a stranger."

Here's Everyone Who's Immigrated to the U.S. since 1820. Galka, Max. Interactive map.

"How are Muslims coming to Christ?" Farah, Warrick. This eight-part article explains why and how so many Muslims are coming to Christ today. Farah includes eight major themes and interesting conclusions.

"Muslim Connect" Blog. Bennett, Shane. This short, practical, weekly email is designed to help you think about Muslims the way God does. We

recommend: "[Seven Ways You Can Make This Summer Soar for New Americans](#)" and "[Five Surefire Ways to Start a Conversation with a Muslim.](#)"

New Neighbor Bible Website. Wycliffe Germany has launch a Scripture resources website designed for Europeans but which serves as a great resource for anyone. The links include videos and audio recordings, as well as text resources. Almost everything is available online and free of charge. Information on people and languages from Syria, Iraq, Lebanon and North Africa are currently available, and the coverage will be expanded in the coming months.

200 Years of U.S. Immigration in 1 Colorful Infographic. Misra, Tanvi. Website. Interesting animated map of US immigrants over the past 200 years.

BOOKLETS

Borderless Prayer: An Advent Guide to Praying for the People on the Move. Lorance, Katherine. CreateSpace. 2016. This 64-page prayer guide was designed to be used during the 2016 Advent season, but the content is appropriate at any time. The guide aims to represent the diversity of God's purposes for diaspora. Each week of prayer begins with a devotional focused on the life of Jesus and moves on to a

suggested prayer response. Each concludes with practical suggestions for action--ways to connect with God's work with diaspora.

Hindu World Prayer Guide 2017. Website and Guide. The NEW annual Hindu World Prayer Focus calls Christians worldwide to take 15 days, October 8-22, to learn about and pray for our world's over one billion Hindus. The informative

booklet will help Christians know how to pray for those in this major and very diverse world religion at the time when Hindus are celebrating Diwali, the Festival of Lights.

[Know Your Rights.](#) Booklet. Free Download. Several organizations involved with immigrants have recommended this short booklet that covers things immigrants need to know if questioned by police, etc. It's a helpful resource.

[Ten Tips for Exegeting Your Culture.](#) Stetzer, Ed. Does your church want to make an impact on your town or city? How do you start? Suppose you

begin to “think like a missionary”? Ed Stetzer likes to help people stretch their minds, measure reality, and think outside the box. He also knows something about cross-cultural work and missions. This relatively short booklet is one place to start.

[30 Days of Prayer.](#) Annual guide for praying for Muslims during Ramadan. This annual prayer focus during Ramadan is a great way to sensitize your congregation to the spiritual needs of Muslims and to get them praying.

SMALL-GROUP STUDY GUIDES

[be-coming-us.](#) The Rise Project. Here is a free, four-lesson study including a [video series](#) on helping international students and forcibly-displaced people (including refugees).

[A Better Country: Embracing the Refugees in Our Midst.](#) Wu, Cindy M. William Cary. 2017. This is not a light-weight study as it contains a significant amount of history and statistics. The best way to use this book might be as a resource to help develop or enrich a study series. Because the refugee situation is changing fast, some of the information in the charts and the appendix is already out of date. But there is still a lot of valuable information in this guide.

[The Camel Rider's Journal.](#) Garrison, David. WIGTake. Six, one-hour sessions on how to share your faith with a Muslim. DVD and workbook.

[A Church Leader's Toolkit on the Syrian Refugee Crisis.](#) World Relief. Free Download. World Relief has developed a package to help pastors and congregations discuss and act, specifically in response to the Syrian refugee immigration issues. A good resource to share with your senior pastor.

[Ministry to Migrants and Asylum Seekers: A Guide for Evangelical Churches.](#) Park, Nick. Kindle Edition. Free Download. Free Kindle book from Ireland.

[Stand Alongside Syrian Refugees.](#) Word Vision. Downloadable Free Small Group Guide. World Vision has published this free resource. It looks at the broader Syrian refugee crisis, not specifically the issue of reaching out here in the US. But it could still be a great resource.

VIDEOS AND LIVE STREAMS

[A Christian Response to the Refugee Crisis.](#) Free recording of Live Stream. World Relief.

See other videos under the “Start Here” section.

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