



## Diaspora Resources Bibliography

Published by the Philadelphia Regional Diaspora Network

### Start Here

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

**[Across the Street and Around the World.](#)** Marie, Jeannie. Thomas Nelson. 2018. This brand-new book is an important resource for every church and church mobilizer. Its 230 pages are absolutely packed with stories that draw readers into essential how-to and how-not-to principles. The content is divided into three sections: (1) local, cross-cultural outreach, (2) short-term ministry and mobilizing/giving/praying, and (3) going global. The first five chapters are a wonderful tool to motivate and prepare your people for diaspora ministry right now. The book would be a great group study guide but can also be used by individuals, especially in a mentoring context.

**[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.](#)**

**[Scripture Earth website.](#)** This site offers audio/ written Scripture and resources in many languages. 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.

**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.

## 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

**Hindu World Prayer Guide 2018.** Website and Guide. The annual Hindu World Prayer Focus calls Christians worldwide to learn about and pray for our world's over one billion Hindus. The guide is designed to take you through 15 days of prayer, although it can be used all year. 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.

[Seek God for the City](#). Waymakers. 2019. This 64-page color guide contains 40 days of prayer, ideas for prayer walks, prayers for 40 different groups of people, and more. Seek God for the City covers the 40-day time span from Ash Wednesday through Palm Sunday (March 6 through April 14, 2019). Each prayer is birthed from scripture, carefully and prayerfully written with a faithfulness to God's Word. You will not be praying alone but with thousands of churches across the world for these 40 days. This is an excellent opportunity to grow your hope and anticipation of what God is going to do.

[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.

## EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

[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.

[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.

[The Engage Course](#). Horizons International. This is a dynamic and interactive learning experience that

consists of an in-depth weekend retreat and six weekly sessions of videos and lesson plans that will empower your witness to Muslims.

This course provides insightful cultural, biblical and historical information about how to reach Muslims in your own back yard or around the world. Each week your group will watch two 25-minute video presentations on different topics about Muslims. The presenters have years of practical experience reaching Muslims, so you'll come away with plenty of new information about the mindsets, backgrounds, cultures, families and the religion of Muslims.

[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.

## 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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Additional information about the Philadelphia Regional Diaspora Network can be found [online](#). Contact us at [info@PhillyForAll.org](mailto:info@PhillyForAll.org).