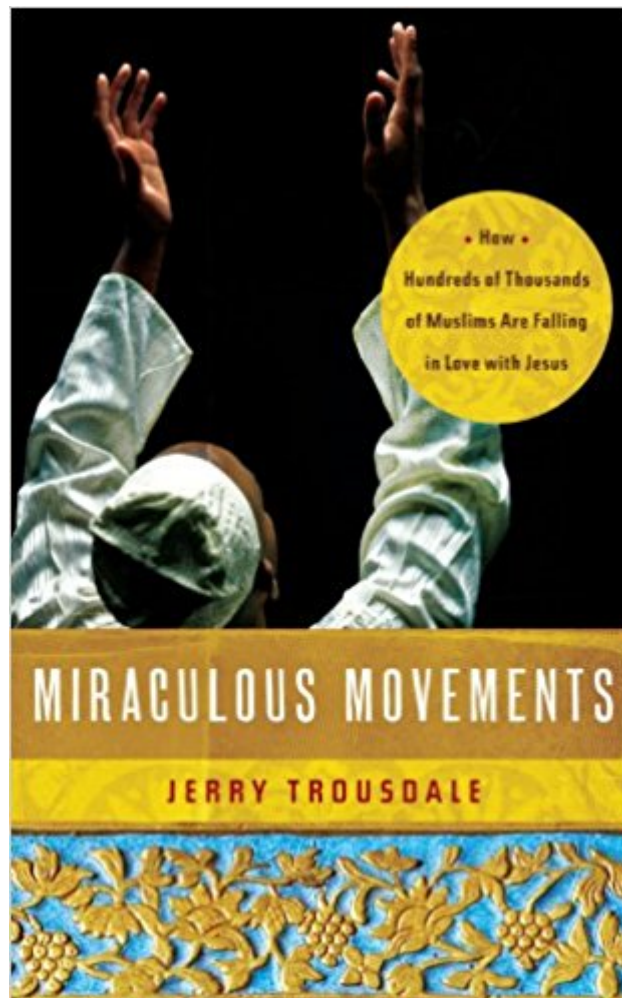




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Miraculous Movements: How Hundreds Of Thousands Of Muslims Are Falling In Love With Jesus



Synopsis

How do the people most resistant to the transformative power of the gospel come to be its most devoted followers? Miraculous Movement recounts an amazing change taking place within Muslim communities where the truth of Jesus Christ is turning around the lives of many thousands of Muslims from more than twenty people groups. Discover through the sometimes humorous, often sobering, but always enlightening and encouraging true stories how imams, sheikhs, and entire mosques are forsaking Islam and embracing Christ. This close look at what the Lord is doing to spread the gospel highlights the key scriptural principles that help Christians reach out in love to share the gospel in their own community. The authors outline the principle of service to others that open doors of opportunity to the work of the gospel. Author Jerry Trousdale works with CityTeam Ministries, an organization dedicated to helping disciples make disciples through CityTeam's own ministry and through training other ministries in more than thirty countries. Features include: Outlines important principles on how to share the gospel with non-Christians Explains how ordinary people can lead neighbors to Christ in love and humility Tells many exciting and encouraging stories of Muslims who have accepted Jesus Describes CityTeam's unique program focused on God's work through disciple-making movements, a strategy that harnesses the power of disciples making disciples and churches planting churches

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Customer Reviews

Jerry Trousdale is Director of International Ministries for CityTeam Ministries, an organization he

joined in 2005. Jerry co-founded Final Command Ministries, an organization dedicated to establishing church planting movements among Muslim people groups. Over the years Jerry has served as a church planter among Muslims in West Africa, in Christian publishing, and as a pastor in California and Tennessee.

Many great stories of how God is using dreams, visions, and people among African Muslims and leading them to Christ. I liked how the author laid out some practical ways to help prod people into exploring and discovering faith in Christ on their own. These are some of the methods we ourselves use to introduce the Roma of Albania to Christ. But, the most profound thing I gleaned from this book was about the importance of intercessory prayer, perhaps something I myself lack. How prayer has opened opportunities to share the Gospel and see the most hardened people come to know the Lord. Prayer is indeed essential. But, some of the content of this book I found a bit troubling. Such as the gross inflation of numbers. "Thousands were led to Christ", and "hundreds of new churches were planted in just a few months", and "hundreds were being baptized". I would be curious to find how the author defines what a church is and what a new believer is. For example, is a family of 4 going through a Discovery Bible Study a church? And does a person's mere mental assent to the existence of Christ make them a believer? Furthermore, as one other reviewer alluded to, it does seem the author is focused more on getting conversions rather than making disciples. Conversions from one religion to another. Despite the few misgivings I have, this is indeed a good book. And, contrary to what proponents of missional movements or CPM would say, this IS just another method of evangelism, albeit certainly a biblical model indeed. As a missionary working in a Muslim context I have found some, not all, of these principals to be helpful in my own work in making disciples. But, as with anything in life, use discernment. As the author states, don't be confined to methods and programs, but instead yield to the Spirit as He works differently in all situations.

Off-stage, beyond the awareness of media reporters, God is working a revolution, drawing increasing numbers of Muslims (and others!) to Himself at an accelerating pace through believers intent on obeying God's word and relying on His Spirit to win and train disciples to win and train others. *Miraculous Movements* is a deeply inspiring and convicting read on its own. When recognized as part of the new move of God that it is, it becomes far more compelling. For more along this line, read *A Wind in the House of Islam: How God is drawing Muslims around the world to faith in Jesus Christ*, *Any-3: Anyone, Anywhere, Anytime -- Win Muslims to Christ Now!*, *Dreams and*

Visions: Is Jesus Awakening the Muslim World?, The Father Glorified: True Stories of God's Power Through Ordinary People, What Jesus Started: Joining the Movement, Changing the World, Breakthrough: The Return of Hope to the Middle East, T4T: A Discipleship Re-Revolution, Contagious Disciple Making: Leading Others on a Journey of Discovery, Matthew 24:14 is nearing fulfillment. Look up, for your redemption is drawing near!

This book presents a collection of extraordinary stories about Muslims who have come to Christ, as well as Discipleship Making Movement (DMM) methods for reaching unreached people groups. The following quotes represent the principles in this book: "Disciple Making Movements spread the gospel by making disciples who learn to obey the Word of God and quickly make other disciples, who then repeat the process." "Without intending to dilute the gospel, the traditional approach to evangelism sometimes settles for making converts, instead of Jesus' final command to 'make disciples . . . teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you'" Trousdale states that "successful disciple making among Muslims is often very counterintuitive to the way that twenty-first-century Christians think." Here are the characteristics of the DMM approach, as presented by the author: 1. Go slow at first in order to go fast later. 2. Focus on a few to win many. 3. Engage an entire family or group, not just the individual. 4. Share only when and where people are ready to hear. 5. Start with creation, not with Christ. 6. It's about discovering and obeying, not teaching and knowledge. 7. Disciple people to conversion, not vice versa. 8. Coach lost people from the beginning to discover and obey biblical truth. 9. Prepare to spend a long time making strong disciples, but anticipate miraculous accelerations. 10. Expect the hardest places to yield the greatest results. Trousdale highlights the vital role of prayer and the work of the Holy Spirit in opening hearts to the Gospel: "Prayer is the greatest weapon that any disciple maker can wield." "Only the Holy Spirit can convince people 'of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment' (John 16:8)" On reaching Muslims with the Gospel, the author writes: "Muslims who have only known Muslim fundamentalism are... profoundly open to the joy, freedom, forgiveness, and assurance that comes with being a follower of Jesus. "... a shockingly high percentage of Muslim leaders are discouraged and disillusioned because they struggle to meet deep spiritual needs in a system built around a very different view of God than the loving God of the Bible." "if you want to touch a Muslim's heart for the gospel, you have to be a genuine friend." The author highlights the importance of Discovery Bible Studies (DBS) and Obedience-Based Discipleship in developing healthy churches. "In the context of Disciple Making Movements, we have seen that the best tool to teach obedience is Discovery Bible Study. Do not teach or preach; instead, facilitate discovery and obedience. "There is a big

difference between teaching knowledge and teaching obedience. A disciple is taught to obey what Jesus commanded." "Making disciples is obedience based: Jesus always expects His disciples to obey Him." The following are characteristics of Muslim-background churches: small house churches, high participation in DBS, multiple self-supporting church leaders who are receiving ongoing biblical training without being extracted from their location, regular prayer and fasting, dramatic healing or deliverance leading to an acceleration in growth, tithes spend on meeting needs of people inside and outside the church as well as for pioneering gospel work in new areas, persecution. Throughout the book, the author presents accounts of dreams, and signs and wonders, which have led to conversions and DMMs. These all punctuate the amazing ways the Lord is at work in the Muslim world.

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