

Foundations of the World Christian Movement

By Ms. Terry Harris

Foundations of the World Christian Movement is a 3-unit online course that has been instrumental in providing students with challenging insights into the Christian movement and its impact on world history. Epoch events situated into 400 year periods, chronicles the global development and the Christian faith's lasting influence on Western and non-Western culture.

The course is strategically designed to engage students and teacher into vibrant, yet scholarly interactions, allowing each person the opportunity to respond with personal thoughts and relevant academic input. It is a logical next step after Perspectives, and gives a "taste" of the 32-unit study program, World Christian Foundations.

The text readings are articulate and capture the erudite appeal that is so characteristic of the great host of knowledgeable authors who are unmatched by few in the missiological world. Students will emerge with greater understanding of God's plan to bless the nations and how partnering with Him will surely fulfill His purpose in restoring mankind unto Himself.

The Foundations educational approach prepares students for their various ongoing ministries by addressing the historical crisis in relation to God's work among the nations, then and now.

I highly recommend the Foundations online course. It is the foundation on which to build sound missiological principles, guiding students into appropriate communication of the Christian faith, as well as instilling in them a much broader Biblical worldview.

For information about enrolling in the online course or offering the course through a church or school, please contact Beth Snodderly at beth.snodderly@uscwm.org. Course materials can be ordered through our online store at lulu; and one book from

William Carey Library's missionbooks.org website (Walt Kaiser's Mission in the Old Testament).

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Latourette Library's Contribution to Practical Mission Research

I am currently an overseas student pursuing a Masters in International Development from William Carey International University. I have been studying for the last 9 months and just started on my first research paper while in a new culture. Part of my research was to conduct some local interviews with Muslims to get their perspective on monotheism and their perspective on Christianity. Specifically I asked the question, "Do Muslims consider Christianity to be monotheistic like Islam?"

In one such interview a Muslim friend explained to me that I didn't have to become Muslim, I could remain Christian and be a person of faith. However, he told me that I could not believe in Jesus' death on the cross. I was deeply surprised. I thought the only major theological issue between Muslims and Christianity was Christianity's supposed deviation into bi or tri-theism. However, I discovered that the second major issue is the end of Jesus' earthly life.

As a result of this discovery I asked for a follow up meeting and my friend agreed. In preparation for this meeting I got online and began to search the web looking for Muslim scholarship on the topic of the end of Jesus' earthly life. Various articles were mentioned in many of my readings, but over and over I discovered that most of these articles were only available through websites that charged pretty high rates.

Before I lost heart and gave up the search, I tried one more idea. I emailed Latourette Library, on WCIU's campus, and asked if by chance they had the hard copies of the journals in question. Within 12 hours I had a reply and within 24 hours I had the first of the articles sent to me by email. Amazingly, it was the article most needed for my follow-up interview.

As a result, of our follow-up talk, I am now meeting on a more regular basis and developing a friendship. It is a huge help to have these resources available because they are not just helpful in forming my thinking and writing, but in extending truth and hope to others. I'm very thankful to Latourette Library for their help, efficiency, and the much needed library services available for their students.