

Ryan Roach. *Preaching Without Borders: The Challenges and Blessings of Expository Preaching in a Multi-Ethnic Church*. Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock, 2022. 148 pages. \$20.

Preaching Without Borders is written to two types of expository preachers. One is the expository preacher who leads a multi-ethnic church, and the book encourages them to communicate to the local church more successfully. The other type is the expository preacher who leads a church that does not consist of a multi-ethnic church but is in a multi-ethnic neighborhood. Roach encourages these pastors to communicate to their multi-ethnic neighborhood more efficiently. To accomplish these purposes, the first two chapters discuss the necessity for cross-ethnic preaching and provide a philosophy for a cross-ethnic ministry. Roach asserts that because all ethnicities were made in God's image and are loved by God, preachers are obligated to engage in cross-ethnic communication. He also points to Peter and Paul preaching to people of different ethnicities to further solidify his premise. Chapter three encourages preachers to consider how they can integrate the methods of intercultural communication into expository preaching for the purpose of reaching people of multi-ethnicities.

Chapter four is the central part of the book and focuses on the reasons preachers must explain the unchanging gospel in ways that are understandable to different ethnicities. This chapter also discusses how the gospel addresses racism. Chapter five explains the place of expository preaching in multi-ethnic churches, with chapter six describing the possibilities and opportunities for this type of preaching.

Chapter seven focuses on what can happen when preachers refuse to adapt to the needs of the multi-ethnic church family, including the loss of relevance and connection with the concerns of young adults. Chapter eight provides useful recommendations for expository preachers who want to make modifications to their preaching for the purpose of reaching people of different ethnicities with the gospel. Specifically, this chapter encourages preachers to study themselves, the people within the local church they serve, the community in which the local church resides, and God, so that they can become effective expository preachers to various ethnicities.

Roach cautions that his book is not a step-by-step guide on preaching, multi-ethnic ministry, or intercultural communication. Nevertheless, the book achieves its purpose of encouragement and forthrightly addresses the threat that racism poses to local churches. The book's greatest strength is that the author provides multiple real-life examples of confronting racism and creating multi-ethnic ministry. Roach explains his goal for the book by stating, "My hope is to challenge pastors to consider the hard task of preaching outside of their comfort zone . . . it is my prayer that the reader will be challenged to think more deeply about how to present the truth of God's word" (24).

Furthermore, while not its stated purpose, the book implicitly urges the reader to question any form of racism that may exist within their own heart, including imaging Jesus as having white skin or feeling anger when hearing languages other than English spoken in the community. This book is highly recommended to any expository preacher, especially those who desire for their local church on earth to reflect the multi-ethnic church in heaven (Rev 7:9). For that reflection to become a reality, expository preachers need to create sermons that speak to multiple ethnicities, and this book encourages preachers to do just that.

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