Immigrants and refugees are in the news almost every day with people lining up on both sides of the issue with ideas on how to deal with them. More important than one’s feelings though are the biblical principles that should guide every Christian in deciding how to relate and treat the strangers coming to our countries. Four excellent articles offer help in discerning the issues from a biblical perspective.

Nicholas Miller and Janna Quetz offer several helpful concepts that should guide in developing a theology of refugees and Charles Van Engen’s article suggests additional biblical principles to that should help discern God’s hand in bring immigrants to Western countries where God’s people can introduce them to a God they have never met or known.

Samia Sanchez relates case studies on caring for refugees in Germany while Ingrid Slikkers and Orelia Daye share information on the importance of Christian churches and individuals providing love, care, and daily assistance to those fractured by the trauma of being a refugee.

For those interested in better understanding who the “children of the East” are, Richard Davidson presents an excellent in-depth article from a biblical perspective as he identifies them as present-day Muslims living in Arabia and near-by areas in the Middle East.

Another article that is timely and well-written is Richard Doss’ article on insider movements. Some have been too quick to discredit insider approaches, but the arguments that Doss presents need to be taken seriously by any mission-minded follower of Jesus Christ.

Bruce L. Bauer, editor

The next issue of the Journal of Adventist Mission Studies will focus on case studies dealing with contextualization. If you or someone you know has been involved in presenting a topic, ceremony, or some aspect of Christian mission in a contextualized way, please write it up and submit it for publication. We need to help others see the variety of ways the gospel can be presented in biblically faithful ways while being culturally sensitive and relevant.