

Tompkins: Editorial
Editorial

This issue of the *Journal of Adventist Mission Studies* contains a variety of thought-provoking articles. Through its contributions from around the globe, the issue demonstrates that the Adventist movement is grappling with what it means to follow God in context. Following God in different contexts leads to unique challenges and questions, such as how should worship take place among ethnic congregations in Brazil or to what extent should the charismatic movement influence and impact the work of the Adventist Church, as two articles discuss. These are fundamental questions that deserve thoughtful responses, which both articles demonstrate.

But in other parts of the world, questions of allegiance and its influence on faith-based practices of those who have recently begun to follow Jesus are paramount. Two articles focusing on different regions of Africa give unique and timely perspectives on these issues. While there are no simple answers, Ray Bida and Temesgen Besha, in their respective articles, provide valuable insights that should inform Adventist mission thinkers on these challenges.

The journal issue also includes a well-researched piece on a family who served the Adventist Church in China for many years. Michael W. Campbell, a leading Adventist historian, describes a fascinating story that has not been told. As with many historical works on mission, it provides thoughts that can and should influence how mission is understood and discussed in the present.

Finally, Petr Cincala provides a fresh look at nature and what it can tell us about the Creator and author of mission. In light of the state of the planet today, this is a timely article that can catalyze what we hope are more articles on the relationship between God, the earth, and mission. If we are to be relevant to the world of the present, this is a topic we cannot afford to ignore.

While all these articles have their own unique contributions, they share in common the desire to foster thinking and creativity in mission rooted in the *Missio Dei*. I pray that you are blessed and challenged by what you read in this issue of the *Journal of Adventist Mission Studies* and that it pushes you to continue to reflect on your own experience of God in whatever context you are currently in.

Andrew Tompkins, *Managing Editor*