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Women's Effective Leadership in Contemporary Taiwanese Churches [Dissertation Notice]

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Onongha, Kelvin Okey (2014).
Towards a missiological model for worldview transformation among adherents to African traditional religion in Yorubaland.
 Ph.D., Andrews University.

Seventh-day Adventist missions in the western region of Nigeria are a century old, yet reversion to pre-Christian practices such as divination and sorcery are reported, especially during periods of personal crisis. This qualitative study sought to understand the influence of the traditional worldview on the practices of divination and sorcery and to develop a model that would move the Yoruba Adventists from dependence on these practices to a biblically shaped faith and praxis. Using a grounded theory approach, data were collected from two focus group discussions and from face-to-face interviews with five pastors, five diviners, and three members who had once consulted diviners.

Concepts that emerged from the analyzed data revealed the need for a theory of worldview transformation. This theory entailed having better biblical explanations to counter existing worldview assumptions, the exigency of encountering the power of the Gospel in a power-oriented context, and the importance of experiential relationships with Christ to replace the role of diviners in that context.

The study culminated in a worldview transformation model that would lead Yoruba Adventists away from dependence upon pre-Christian customs to a biblically shaped worldview, and authentic faith and discipleship. Central to this worldview transformational paradigm is the Adventist doctrine of the Great Controversy.

Park, Yoo Jin Deborah (2014).
Women's effective leadership in contemporary Taiwanese churches. Ph.D., Biola University.

The purpose of this grounded theory study was to understand and describe key factors contributing to the success of Taiwanese women leaders in the predominantly male context of contemporary churches in Taiwan. Participants included five effective female senior pastors and fourteen followers from these leaders' churches. Data were collected using in-depth, semi-structured interviews and participant observations.

Data analysis yielded six major leadership characteristics in three dimensions: (a) Interactive dimension—spiritual leadership, relational leadership, and team-building leadership; (b) Task dimension—organizational leadership and productive leadership; and (c) Change dimension—visionary leadership. There is no rigid, linear, step-by-step progressive relationship among the six characteristics; rather, the linkage is reciprocal. Further, despite individual differences, all six major leadership characteristics were present in all leader participants. Also, while all leaders clearly saw spiritual leadership as the most essential, all the qualities were deemed important.

Rosalita, Ira Lee (2013). *Biblical eldership and leadership.* D.Min., Asbury Theological Seminary.

Elders and leaders of the church are selected from the congregation to provide spiritual care and direction for the members; the overall spiritual oversight of the church is in the hands of committed men and women who are confirmed by the congregation. This study examines the biblical knowledge of elders and leaders of Ipil Alliance Evangelical Church using the lessons provided by the