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Alliance for Vulnerable Mission Bulletin

June 2026

Volume 18, Number 6



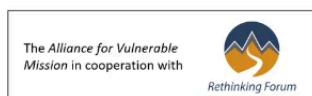
(Archived back-copies [here](#). Subscribe for free [here](#))

Editor: Jim Harries, PhD

The Alliance for Vulnerable Mission encourages some missionaries from the West to engage in their ministries using local languages and resources.

Please suggest contributions to this Bulletin to bulletin@vulnerablemission.org

***Correction:** A subscriber reading last month's bulletin pointed out that Bruce Barron was recently editor of Evangelical Review of Theology, not Evangelical Missions Quarterly. This correction has been made in the online version of the bulletin posted at [Theology on the Web](#).



9th July 2026: Aanand A.

III Cultural imperialism and the new believer
A case study of Hindu devotees of Yesu in South Asia



**Webinar on
9 July 2026**

Register now!

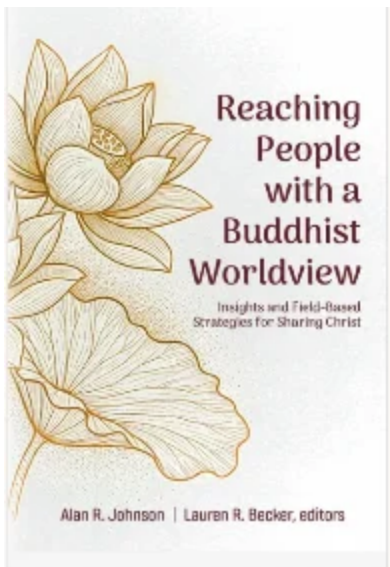
July webinar

In this upcoming webinar, Aanand A. will address missionaries' blindspots in the context of people following Jesus who are embedded in their Hindu backgrounds. Sign up [here](#) for free!



Assuming We Set the Norm?

Dan Bouchelle, president of the Mission Resource Network, suggests that Americans think they are the centre of the world, and that all others should be like them. Their sheer power, means that messages they get from others speak in favour of them, and are inclined to agree with them, even if they don't. This is childish, says the author in [this short blog post](#). Americans (Westerners, who actually are the WEIRD ones, Western, Educated, Industrialised, Rich, Democratic) have much to learn from others!



Reaching People with a Buddhist Worldview: Insights and Field-Based Strategies for Sharing Christ

Available [from William Carey Publishing](#) or on Amazon.

Chris Flanders, PhD, Professor of Missions, Abilene Christian University; missionary in Thailand for 11 years, commented as follows: (Editorial review. Chris Flanders is a member of the Governing Board of the Alliance for Vulnerable Mission).

“Ministry among Buddhists without a deep understanding of Buddhism is like repairing a car blindfolded. Sometimes you get it right, but mostly you are guessing. Protestant churches must take Buddhism seriously. Christianity’s perceived foreignness in Buddhist contexts must be addressed. The Buddhist worldview shapes identity, belonging, and morality. Ignoring this worldview leads to misunderstandings, weakened evangelism, and discipleship gaps. The final chapter of this book is essential reading for anyone serving among Buddhist communities.”



Evangelical Missiological Society 2026

The Alliance for Vulnerable Mission encourages participation in this event.

2026 CONFERENCE THEME:

Theological Anthropology for Missional Engagement

October 9-10 2026

In-person and virtual

Dallas Theological Seminary

[3909 Swiss Ave, Dallas, TX 75204](#)

<https://www.emsweb.org/conferences/annual/>

This year’s theme “**Theological Anthropology for Missional Engagement**” is central to missiological reflection and practice, since acts of gospel witness, service, and cultural engagement all rest on assumptions about human identity, dignity, and destiny. In a rapidly changing world—marked by shifting views of spirituality, ethnicity, gender, technology, and ecology—the church must embrace a biblically faithful and missionally engaged understanding of the *imago Dei*.

At the heart of this year’s theme is the exploration of *Imago Dei* in missional engagement—how human dignity, human rights, and gospel witness flow from being created in God’s image. This perspective grounds reflection on the meaning of being human and how the *imago Dei* shapes evangelism, discipleship, community, and global mission.

2026 Conference – Theme:

***From “the rest” to the “West:”
Global justice, de-coloniality,
and mutuality in Gospel witness***



asm
american society of missiology

June 19-21, 2026

St. Mary's College, Notre Dame, Indiana, USA

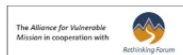
American Society of Missiology 2026

[American Society of Missiology - Annual Conference](#)

The Alliance for Vulnerable Mission encourages participation in this event.

The theme will be *From “the rest” to the “West:” Global justice, de-coloniality, and mutuality in Gospel witness.*

Join AVM Webinars in 2026



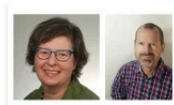
22nd January 2026: George M.

When the Change Begins in Us

Beyond new skills – a transformation of perspective

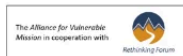


16th April 2026: Deborah Bernhard & Jim Harries



The Limits of Letting Go

Navigating the complexities of submitting to local leadership in Vulnerable Mission



9th July 2026: Aanand A.

Following Jesus as Yesu Bhakta in the Hindu context



15th October 2026: Anna T.

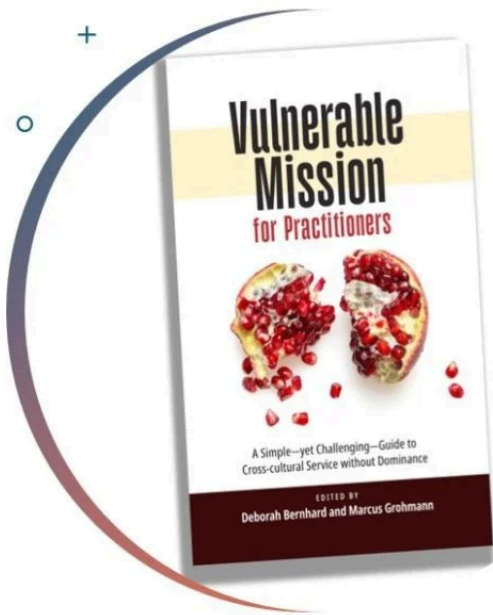


Serving as alongsiders in the Muslim world



Join the AVM Webinars in 2026

The Alliance for Vulnerable Mission (AVM) invites you to its **2026 webinar series**, a space for humble dialogue on mission, language, and culture. Themes include *transformation of self, the complexities of submitting to local leadership, and humbly walking with Christ-followers in different cultural-religious contexts*. These online gatherings bring together a range of voices for shared learning and reflection. To join, please register [here](#).



A compact book for practitioners that explains ...

- what vulnerable mission is
- what it can look like in a variety of cultural contexts
- how vulnerable mission differs from other mission approaches
- why vulnerable mission is so important
- what serving according to the principles of vulnerable mission may require

Explore *Vulnerable Mission for Practitioners*

After its publication in 2025, *Vulnerable Mission for Practitioners* remains available to those interested in exploring the principles and practices of vulnerable mission. The book can be ordered through [Amazon](#) or via the [AVM website](#) in both paperback and PDF ebook formats. A 5-minute AI-generated [podcast summary](#) is also available for a quick introduction.

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- Relating to people through their languages and local resources -



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