

Check out our previous newsletters!



onthehorizon Horizons International – June 2019 Newsletter



Note:

For best results, right-click on links and select "open in new window". This will save your place in the newsletter and not require reloading the PDF.

EQUIPPING GENERATIONS TO DISCIPLE NATIONS

IN THIS EDITION:

2019 LEBANESE
PASTORS' BANQUET

MINISTRY UPDATES

TURKISH WORLD
MINISTRIES LAUNCH

BRIDGING THE GAP:
EASTERN VS.
WESTERN THINKING


**Horizons
INTERNATIONAL**
proclaim. disciple. equip.



ESTABLISHED

JAN. 1ST, 2019

MEC ANNOUNCES: THE LAB!

The Language Academy of Beirut (LAB) is part of the MEC's strategy to facilitate the Great Commission in the Middle East and beyond, providing language learning for missionaries in Lebanon and also creating opportunities to share the gospel with non-believers through literacy and foreign language classes.

The LAB provides language teaching in two broad categories:

- 1. Language Acquisition as Ministry:**
English, French, and Arabic literacy for locals and refugees, as a way to share the gospel with them.
- 2. Language Acquisition for Ministry:**
Arabic for foreign missionaries, English and French for local believers, designed to equip them for sharing the gospel in Lebanon, the MENA region, and beyond.

Our language acquisition for ministry component focuses on training and equipping nationals from the Middle East and North Africa (MENA), as well as foreigners coming to the MENA region. For local believers who seek to serve in missions, English language skills open up global opportunities and also allows them to serve in administrative positions within Horizons—whereas Arabic and French lessons help foreign missionaries prepare for missions across the entire MENA region.

LAB classes take place at the MEC in Beirut, as well as at Horizons' lighthouse ministry centers throughout Lebanon. This offers missionaries invaluable interaction with local teachers, experience with Middle East ministry, and short missions trips throughout Lebanon. Several people around the world have requested online Arabic lessons, so the LAB is currently developing online course offerings! We are planning out course schedules, recruiting more tutors, making technical preparations, and we hope to roll out our online school in the coming months.

Do you want to learn a language in Beirut or online? Email us at connect@horizonsinternational.org.

MIDDLEEASTCENTER.ORG



UNITING TO BRING THE GOSPEL TO TURKISH PEOPLE



TURKISH
World Ministries

Horizons is proud to announce the launch of a new initiative, Turkish World Ministries! Staff members **Yuksel and Dijle Kurada**, who are both Turkish Christians from Muslim backgrounds, are building and leading this ministry. Their goal is to broaden outreach to Muslims by powerfully bringing the gospel to Turkish-speaking people around the world.

Turkish World Ministries will offer spiritual covering, evangelistic and discipleship training courses, counseling, and other services to the global Turkish-speaking community. This year, **Horizons will host TWM's first conference in Colorado, from August 1-4**, to unite Turkish-speaking believers and to share TWM's vision for the future.



Worldwide, over 250 million people speak the Turkish language, but less than 1% identify as Christian. Turkish speakers represent one of the most unreached language groups in the world, and we thank God that He is providing new and exciting opportunities to reach them with the gospel.

horizonsinternational.org/TWM

THE NATIONS AT OUR DOORSTEP

Praise God! In Boulder, one student from Japan who has been engaging in conversations about Jesus with International Crossroads (IC) staff members this semester, has said that he wants to become a Christian! Please help us lift this student in prayer as he takes this step of faith.

This student met our staff at one of our semi-monthly Friendship Friday dinners, which are hosted in conjunction with local churches and open to all CU students. This semester, 20-30 international students have attended these dinners, local church volunteers have joined the team to build trust with students. The dinners are held at a dormitory and outreach center operated by International Crossroads, which creates a sense of family and community for international students at CU Boulder. It is a place where they hear of and experience the love of Christ.

This fall, IC is partnering with a local church to bless students with 20-40 free bikes that they can use for the school year. The future is a busy and encouraging as IC commits themselves to loving and serving international students.



horizonsinternational.org/international-crossroads

EMPOWERING THE CHURCH FOR THE GREAT COMMISSION



On March 12th at Le Royal Hotel in Beirut, Lebanon, Horizons International hosted our **4th Annual Pastors' Banquet** to promote and celebrate the growing unity of the Lebanese Church. Leaders from churches and evangelical organizations all over the region attended the ceremony, making it the largest banquet in Horizons history.

Through our Lebanon headquarters in Beirut, as well as our lighthouse ministry centers throughout the country, Horizons finds ways to connect and partner with Lebanese churches and communities. Through our work to understand the needs of local church leaders, we provide necessary aid, resources, media assistance, and training to strengthen the Lebanese church in its mission to communicate the gospel confidently.

The Pastors' Banquet is an excellent indicator of Lebanese church leaders' enthusiastic response. Four years ago, at the first annual banquet, representatives from only 25 churches attended—whereas this year, the banquet hosted representatives from 80 churches and organizations!



Procession of the Banquet

Horizons' Director of Church Relations, Khalil Abdelahad, commenced the ceremony with a speech on the responsibility of every generation to incorporate their lives in obedience to the Great Commission. Horizons' Director of Field Ministries, Boutros Wehbe, followed the opening remarks with a time of praise and worship as he sang songs from his new album, *Omri Elak* (My Life Is Yours). Pierre Houssney, Horizons Executive Director, then shared about his calling to serve the Church in Lebanon and the strategic vision of Horizons supporting Evangelical Churches throughout the region.

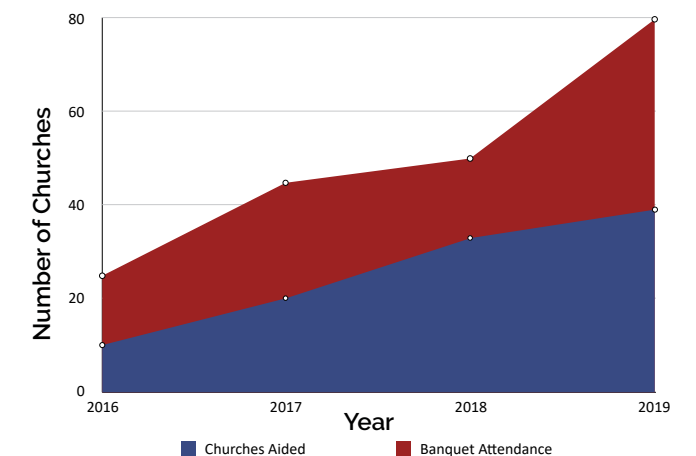
Georges Houssney presented a powerful challenge to the church leaders, emphasizing the ultimate importance of the Great Commission as the mission of everyone in the Church. He then presented honorary plaques to three prominent leaders of Lebanon's evangelical community for their numerous contributions in service to God and the nation:

- **Dr. Salim Sahyouni** – Former President of the Evangelical Community in Syria and Lebanon
- **Joseph Kassab** – Newly elected leader of the Evangelical Supreme Council
- **Dr. Edgard Traboulsi** – Member of Parliament in the Lebanese Government



The banquet was a success, and a historic opportunity to gather such a large number of Lebanese pastors and esteemed guests. The attendees expressed their admiration for the event and commended the role of Horizons International in supporting the Church, in Lebanon and throughout the Middle East.

Growth of the Church Empowerment Project



BRIDGING THE GAP

WESTERN PERSPECTIVES



EASTERN PERSPECTIVES

When Westerners share the gospel with people from Middle Eastern backgrounds, they are often hindered by differences in Western thinking, derived from Greek and Roman tradition, and Eastern perspectives founded upon Hebrew and Arab tradition. This article will help you understand how you can better relate to Muslims and Middle Easterners through their cultural lens. Please note that not all Muslims are Eastern thinkers, and that these are only helpful generalizations; more than anything, we depend on the Spirit of God to direct us in relating and evangelizing to Muslims.

How Westerners and Easterners Think Differently

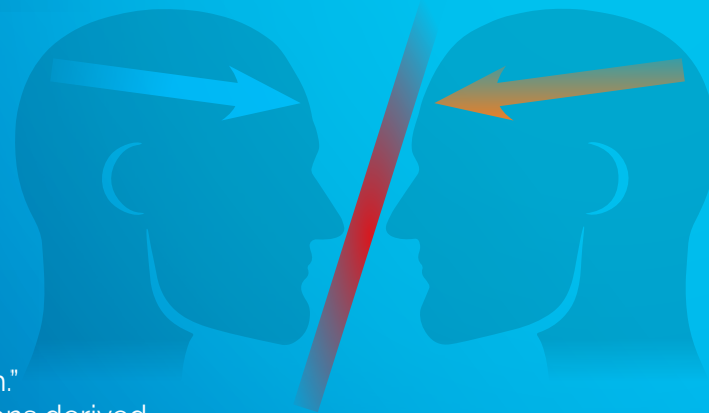
1. The Role of the Individual: Westerners value individuality, personal agency, and personal pursuits. Easterners value communal allegiance, obligations, and harmony. Westerners view conflict as polar, whereas for Easterners it is more flexible and multi-positional.

2. Logical Flow: Westerners value "step logic." Consequences are thought of in terms of chains of events: $a \rightarrow b \rightarrow c$. Easterners value "group" or "cloud" logic, in which the consequences of thought spread out in all directions, creating a web of repercussions.

3. Reasoning Style: Westerners value deductive reasoning—hard, narrow conclusions, dependent on presuppositions, seeking resolution and "Truth." Easterners value inductive reasoning—soft, broad conclusions derived from observed patterns, which accommodate mystery, tension, and seeming contradiction.

4. Mode of Delivery: Westerners value content over character; message over messenger. They generally consider the message on its own merits, and would characterize personal criticisms of the messenger as intellectually weak. Easterners, however, typically value character over content; messenger over message. They respect force of conviction, deeming an idea worthy if its presenter is seen as strong or admirable. In Matthew 7:28, the crowds were astonished because Jesus spoke with authority.

5. Proving Your Case: To Westerners, logical arguments themselves demonstrate truth. Using stories as evidence is dismissed as "anecdotal" rather than factual. To Easterners, narrative demonstrates truth; examples make a case. Argument alone is perceived as hasty and susceptible to manipulation.



How to Express Yourself

Effectively with Eastern Thinkers

1. Speak with Authority.

Do not be harsh, proud, or impersonal, but speak with conviction and courage. Steer the conversation. Do not fear conflict or rejection.

2. Slow down. Take your time!

Delay punch lines and control the pace. Don't give easy answers; make them ask! You can also involve Easterners by asking them to finish your sentences.

3. Story-tell Through Parables.

Story-tell the gospel through parables and object lessons. Stories are better than proofs for the Eastern thinker; they cannot argue with them because "it's just a story" and stories show wisdom and experience. Share relevant stories from the Bible and your life.

- Use humor, point out hypocrisy, turn things on their head (Example: Nathan used story and symbolism to prompt David to unknowingly condemn his own actions).
- Use a conversational, give-and-take oratory style, but remember where you are going.

4. Don't Fall for Diversionary Tactics.

Stay focused and on course. Control the scope of conversation and engage the listener by asking them questions. When you encounter a question that may divert the conversation, respond with your own agenda, much like a politician.

5. Understand and Teach Biblical Symbols.

Symbolic parallels in the Bible are powerful, meaningful, and beautiful to eastern minds. While telling stories, be sure to focus on how Christ fulfills the symbols and prophecies of the Old Testament. Examples include numerous biblical characters as well as objects like Bread (God's Word, Christ's Body, Christ's People), rock, water, blood/wine, sacrifices, and temple imagery. Such symbolic parallels can be found in early Eastern church writings, like Ephrem the Syrian.



The information in this article was adapted from the Engaging Islam Institute (EII) curriculum. Other topics include Islamic belief and practice, Muslims' common misunderstandings about the gospel, relationships with Muslims, Muslim discipleship, and more. EII training also includes practice through discussion, role-playing, and real street evangelistic outreaches. We will host a two-week Engaging Islam Institute in Beirut, Lebanon, August 26-September 6 2019. Featuring over 12 hours of street outreach to Muslims, coursework, and discussion time, it is our most transformational training for believers hoping to understand Muslims and reach them with the gospel.

Learn more about this exciting and informative course at engagingislam.org

CUBS TO LIONS

Do you know Christians from Muslim backgrounds we can invite for a week of transformative teaching?

Cubs to Lions is one of our fastest-growing and most popular training programs. For Christians from Muslim backgrounds, coming to Christ is exciting—but remaining in Christ is difficult. Our Cubs to Lions events help them to adjust to new communities, face persecution, and develop a practical Christian worldview. Both new and mature believers from Muslim backgrounds learn to navigate their new life in Christ through insightful teaching by experienced Middle Eastern teachers.

Throughout the Cubs to Lions course, new believers develop into mature Christians, and mature believers learn to disciple and teach others. Christian life requires discipline and training to transform our minds, hearts, and lifestyles. Cubs to Lions students learn how Jesus can practically address the *real and unique* problems they face daily.

UPCOMING CTL EVENTS:

Denver, Colorado
July 8 - 12, 2019

France
July 22 - 26, 2019

Vancouver, BC, Canada
August 12 - 16, 2019

Register ASAP... Spaces are filling up quickly!

\$100 course tuition covers flights and accommodations. Scholarships are also available.

www.engagingislam.org/cubs-to-lions

GLOBAL SUMMIT 2019



Horizons International staff members are traveling from ten different nations for the June 17-21 Global Staff Summit in Lebanon! This organizational gathering only happens every three years and represents a special time for the Horizons family to connect and receive fresh vision for the future. With 125 staff members expected to attend, this will be our largest Global Staff Summit yet!

Would you pray for effective vision casting, smooth logistics, and the fruition of God's plans during this important event?

Horizons International • PO Box 18478, Boulder CO 80308-1478 • 303-442-3333
main@horizonsinternational.org • horizonsinternational.org



Yes! I want to reach the world for Christ!

Enclosed is my one-time monthly gift of \$_____ to support
missionary/project: _____

Plus a one-time monthly gift to:

Where most needed: \$_____

Lighthouses: \$_____

International Student Ministry: \$_____

Middle East Center: \$_____

Training Ministry: \$_____

Biblical Missiology: \$_____

Donate with a credit card at **horizonsinternational.org/give**
or call **303-442-3333** for assistance.

