

1-1-1999

Editors' Notes

Stuart Love
slope@pepperdine.edu

D'Esta Love
dlove@pepperdine.edu

Charles R. Taber

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.pepperdine.edu/leaven>



Part of the [Biblical Studies Commons](#), [Christianity Commons](#), and the [Religious Thought, Theology and Philosophy of Religion Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Love, Stuart; Love, D'Esta; and Taber, Charles R. (1999) "Editors' Notes," *Leaven*: Vol. 7: Iss. 1, Article 2. Available at: <https://digitalcommons.pepperdine.edu/leaven/vol7/iss1/2>

This Editor's Notes is brought to you for free and open access by the Religion at Pepperdine Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Leaven by an authorized editor of Pepperdine Digital Commons. For more information, please contact bailey.berry@pepperdine.edu.



Editors' Notes

Stuart and D'Esta Love

A new year marks continued progress for *Leaven* in that three of our issues are edited by leaders among Christian churches: Charles R. Taber, *Missions and the Church*; Eleanor Daniel, *Adult Education in the Church*; and Henry Webb, *Restoration Themes*.

We begin with an introduction of Charles R. Taber, our guest editor for this issue, *Missions and the Church*. Dr. Taber, former professor of world mission at Emmanuel School of Religion, was born of missionary parents and reared in French Equatorial Africa. He has devoted his life to crossing the barriers of culture and language in the service of the gospel. He began teaching at Emmanuel in 1979 after six years on the faculty of Milligan College. He belongs to the American Society of Missiology (past president), the International Association for Mission Studies, the American Anthropological Association, and the Association of Professors of Missions (past president). His mission service has included seven years with the Foreign Missionary Society of the Brethren Church in the Central African Republic, five years with the American Bible Society, and four years as a translations consultant with the United Bible Societies. He spent a leave year in 1983–84 in similar work as a translations consultant in West Africa. He also formerly ministered with a congregation in Indiana. Dr. Taber has participated in many national and international missionary conferences and seminars. He has written three books on the Sango language, co-authored *Theory and Practice of Translation* with Eugene Nida, and co-edited or edited two other volumes. His numerous articles have appeared in *The Bible Translator*, *Evangelical Missions Quarterly*, *Missiology*, *Mission*, and in other books, journals, encyclopedias, and magazines. He has served as editor of *Practical Anthropology* and *Gospel in Context*. His book *The World Is Too Much With Us: "Culture" in Modern Protestant Missions* was named by the International Bulletin of Missionary Research as one of the outstanding books in the field in 1991. Dr. Taber is an active member of Grandview Christian Church. He and his wife, Betty, are the parents of five adult children.

Our issue opens with an editorial essay by **DR. TABER** that explores the use and misuse of three words integral to Christian missions—*mission*, *missions*, and *missionary*. Three biblical studies then follow Taber's editorial. **JAMES W. THOMPSON**, in a study of 1 Corinthians 9:19–23, questions whether Paul "self-consciously" adopted a strategy of flexibility in order to advance the gospel. Thompson believes that Paul is defending his work and not "offering a motto for other missionaries." **DANIEL A. RODRIGUEZ** pursues a cultural–diversity study of missions based

on insights gleaned from the New Testament. **STUART L. LOVE** explores the meaning of the statement of Christ found in John 20:21, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you.” The sending of the disciples (and, by implication, the sending of the church) is to be congruent with the missional sending of the Son.

Two articles analyze modern challenges to mission work. **FREDERICK W. NORRIS** asks whether it is a Christian missionary’s role simply to help others take their own religion seriously. Are we to convert people to the Christian faith? Norris believes that we need not abandon our confession of Jesus as God incarnate, the final revelation in the face of religious pluralism. **ROBERT DOUGLAS** centers his thoughts on some major challenges in missions to Muslims. Whether “our primary concern is peace, justice, human development, or evangelism,” Douglas maintains, the challenges of the Muslim world call for “our best thinking, deepest faith, and most innovative and courageous action.”

Contemporary mission vignettes from Campinas, Brazil; Nairobi, Kenya; Maasailand; and Dallas, Texas, are provided by **JAMES W. CRISFIELD**, **CHARLES COULSTON**, **GREG JOHNSON**, and **LARRY JAMES**. **BRUCE SHIELDS** and **KEN DURHAM** write mission-centered sermons. The sermon by Shields was first delivered in the chapel at Emmanuel School of Religion. A valuable guide to resources on world mission is given by **CHARLES R. TABER**. Book reviews, written by **ELEANOR DANIEL**, **SUSAN G. HIGGINS**, **EVERETT W. HUFFARD**, **MARKUS MCDOWELL**, **FREDERICK W. NORRIS**, and **C. PHILIP SLATE**, focus on a variety of mission themes. Finally, **KEN BERRY** rounds out our missional studies with a report of a Bible translation center located in Fort Worth, Texas.

In addition, a biography of Edwin R. Errett is offered by **HENRY WEBB**. **LEE MAGNESS** shares a choral reading that reflects on the meaning of Resurrection morning; and **KRYSTIN D. HIGGINS** provides an index for volume 6 of *Leaven* (1998). Surely, our first issue for 1999 is rich in diversity and content. We rejoice that copies of *Missions and the Church* will be sent to the board members and alumni of Emmanuel School of Religion.

We close with two quotations from letters attributed to the apostle Paul. To the Thessalonians Paul writes, “For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it” (1 Thess 1:8 NRSV). Finally, in the letter to the Ephesians he states, “For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life” (Eph 2:10 NRSV).

D’ESTA AND STUART LOVE