

## **Ryan Keith Gimple, Ph.D.**

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Assistant Professor, College of Christian Studies, Charleston Southern University

### **EDUCATION**

#### **Ph.D. Applied Theology: Missions** 2018

Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary

Cumulative G.P.A. 4.0

Dissertation Title: *Integrating Transformative Learning Theory with Covenant Epistemology: An Exploration of the Missiological Implications*

Advisor: Bruce Ashford

#### **M.A. Intercultural Studies** 1996

Certificate of Teaching English as a Second Language

Wheaton College Graduate School

Cumulative G.P.A. 3.915

#### **B.A. Christian Education and Modern Languages: German** 1995

Wheaton College

Cumulative G.P.A. 3.69

### **MINISTRY EXPERIENCE**

#### **International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention** 1997–2016

19 years of continuous full-time missions service in Asia

#### **Team Member of City Team** 1997

University English Teacher. Student evangelism, discipling, and inductive Bible study.

#### **Team Leader of City Team** 1998–2003

Supervised a team of missionaries seeking to plant multiplying churches throughout a large Asian city. Planned and led numerous volunteer trips and summer English programs. Facilitated the printing and distribution of evangelistic literature within Asia. Mentored new personnel.

- Strategy Coordinator for City Team** 2003–2006  
 Developed strategy plan for facilitating church planting movements in the city. Trained Asian church leaders in church planting movements and Training for Trainers. Opened a business in Asia. Facilitated numerous medical volunteer trips to engage the medical community of the city.
- Supervising Strategy Coordinator for a Region in Asia** 2006-2010  
 Continued above duties as strategy coordinator, but also supervised and supported four strategy coordinators of other cities in the region. Facilitated relief efforts and the training of Asian house church volunteers immediately following a devastating earthquake.
- Team Strategy Leader for a Muslim People Group** 2010–2013  
 Engaged East Asian Muslims in relationship and evangelism. Assisted in planning and leading a Strategy Coordinator Training for Asian Christians. Facilitated two internship cycles of Asian cross-cultural missionaries working with Muslims.
- Associate Cluster Strategy Leader for Mongolian Peoples** 2011–2012  
 Supervised via distance a small IMB team focused on Mongolia. Participated in planning of future strategy and requesting new personnel. Personally visited and researched the Buryat people in Russia. Planned and led a strategy coordinator training for Mongolians in Ulaanbaatar.
- Associate Cluster Strategy Leader for Muslim Peoples of East Asia** 2013–2015  
 Responsible for IMB’s ministry to all Muslim people groups in East Asia Affinity. Provided leadership for IMB personnel focused on Muslims spread across East Asia.
- Training and Learning Strategy Leader for Unreached People Group Cluster of East Asia Affinity** 2016  
 Responsible to facilitate a learning environment to equip personnel and partners to plant healthy multiplying churches among unreached people groups. Organize and facilitate cluster-wide trainings.

## **FORMAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Charleston Southern University Faculty, Assistant Professor 2016–Present  
Courses Taught:  
Survey of the Old Testament (multiple sections Fall 2016, Spring and Fall 2017, Spring and Fall 2018, Spring 2019, Spring 2020, Spring 2021)  
Survey of the New Testament (multiple sections Fall 2019, Fall 2020)  
World Religions (Fall 2017, Fall 2018, Fall 2020)  
Christian Missions (Spring 2017, Spring 2018, Spring 2019, Spring 2021)  
Introduction to Ministry (Fall 2016, Fall 2017, Fall 2018, Fall 2019, Fall 2020)  
Introduction to Church Planting (Spring 2018, Spring 2019, Spring 2020)  
Church Planting Strategies and Methods (Fall 2018, Fall 2019)  
Missions Area Study: East Asia (Spring 2018)  
SPT: Evangelism (Spring 2021)

Cross-Cultural Communication and Comparative Methods of Anthropology Spring 2016  
An Asian Provincial Level University Anthropology Department

Cross-Cultural Evangelism Fall 2015  
Theological Training Initiative of East Asia Region

## **NON-FORMAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Why and How of Missions to Muslims Apr 2016  
Northeast House Church Leader Missions Conference

The 3-D Gospel and Cross-Cultural Servanthood Mar 2016  
Unengaged Unreached People Group Missions Internship “3-1-3 Program”

Partnering with Chinese House Churches in Ministry to Muslims Feb 2016  
Silk Road Conference (multi-organization missions conference)

Islamic Belief and Any-3 Evangelism Oct 2015  
Northeast House Church Network Seminary

Any-3 Evangelism Training May 2014  
House Church Training

Missions to Muslims Apprenticeship (Cycle 2) Sep-Dec 2012  
Apprentices from East Asian City

Biblical Basis for Missions and Ministry to Muslims Asian House Church Cooperation	Sep 2012
Missions to Muslims Apprenticeship (Cycle 1) Apprentices from Northeast Asia	Mar-June 2012
National Strategy Coordinator Training House Church Missionaries	Oct 2011
National Strategy Coordinator Training for Mongolians Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia	June 2011
Cross-Cultural Ministry Training House Church Network	June 2011

### **ACADEMIC CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

“Enoch Wan’s Relational Realism and Implications for Discipleship.” Presented at Evangelical Theological Society Southeast Regional Meeting	March 2018
“Covenant Epistemology and Diaspora Missiology: Therapy for <i>Theologia Viatorum</i> ” Presented at Evangelical Theological Society Annual Meeting	November 2019

### **WORKSHOPS**

Cypress Immersion Church Planting Workshop,	May 7-8, 2019
Send Institute Church Planting Professors Meeting, NAMB	Aug 5-6, 2019
Duke Center for Spirituality, Theology and Health Research Workshop	Aug12-16, 2019

### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

Evangelical Missiological Society  
Evangelical Theological Society

### **MEDIA CONTACTS**

Rickey Ciapha Dennis Jr., *The Post and Courier*, “Church-planting Tough, but Rewarding for Charleston Area Pastors.” September 23, 2018.

## **DISSERTATION**

Title: *Integrating Transformative Learning Theory with Covenant Epistemology: An Exploration of the Missiological Implications*

Defended Successfully: August 2018

Integrating Jack Mezirow's transformative learning theory with Esther Meek's covenant epistemology to form "covenant transformative learning theory" provides insight into the process of worldview transformation and has implications for cross-cultural missions, including methods of making disciples, planting churches, and cross-cultural missionary training. Because worldview transformation produces a change in the tacit patterns by which we perceive and interpret reality, this dissertation argues that a "covenantal transformative learning theory" provides a biblically consonant epistemological basis and a learning process to facilitate worldview transformation for cross-cultural disciple-making.