



Every time I would meet with Dr. Ralph Winter in public gatherings or personal interactions I have been positively impressed by him. My first exposure to him was as a graduate student in a Missiology course in 1973. My encounters with him over the decades have included countless *Urbana Student Missions Conventions* as well as at mission congresses and conclaves around the world. How could anyone forget his red hot passion to reach the lost, his big-picture thinking, his relentless flow of stimulating ideas, and his diligent pursuit of the frontiers in global mission.

With his defining plenary address at the 1974 *Lausanne Congress World Evangelization* he captured the attention of the missiological world. Since then he has been a powerful influence through his teaching, writing, mentoring and networking he stimulated hundreds around the world to mobilize and engage in pioneering cross-cultural evangelism.

Thousands have benefited from Dr. Winter's prolific missiological writings. His observations often were thought-provoking and sometimes controversial; his style was often persuasive and sometimes even prophetic. Ralph's massive contribution has significantly shaped and structured the way we approach world evangelization.

Dr. Winter's legacy is more than the *U.S. Center for World Mission, William Carey International University, Theological Education by Extension, American Society of Missiology, Perspectives on the World Christian Movement Study Program, Mission Frontiers*, etc. but how he lived a simple lifestyle and sacrificed so much of his energy, time and resources to expand the frontiers of God's Kingdom.

As a catalytic missiologist, brilliant strategist, pioneering entrepreneur, global networker and tireless mobilizer, Dr. Winter was truly a giant among us!

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