



Turning Points

Twenty-First Century Thoughts

Welcome!

*Please help yourself to coffee and snacks
and fill in a name tag.*

**Please take some time to read the
primary source document.**

Opening Group Discussion

- As you think back upon the major turning points we considered in Christian history, is there a particular turning point which particularly struck a chord with you? Why do you think it did?

Women in Faith Historically

- Missionaries
 - Clotilde 475-545 (Clovis, King of Franks)
 - Hilda of Whitby 614-680 (England)
 - Mother Teresa 1910-1997 (India)
- Founders
 - Clare of Assisi 1194-1253 (Poor Clares)
 - Margaret Fell 1614-1702 (Quakers)
 - Catherine Booth 1829-1890 (Salvation Army)
- Theologians/Preachers
 - Catherine of Siena 1347-1380
 - Sarah Crosby 1729-1804 (Methodist)
- Movements
 - Lucretia Mott 1793-1880 (Philadelphia Female Anti-Slavery Society)
 - Frances Willard 1839-1898 (Temperance/Women's Suffrage)

Visibility of Women of Faith

- Gender debates of 20th century
 - Single women missionaries
 - Ordination of women
 - Social and economic roles
- New awareness of:
 - Integral work of women in mission field
 - Publications by Christian women
 - Theological, ecclesiastical and historical accounts reflecting both perspectives

Women in the 21st Century

- 10% of Senior Pastors Women in 2009 (Barna Group poll)
- Women serving in clergy positions doubled in past 20 years (Boston University Poll)
- Women leaders
 - Emily Nielsen Jones (Imago Dei Fund) and Fern Nichols (Moms in Prayer)
- Women Speakers
 - Jennie Allen (If God is Real, Then What... going viral – U.S. and 22 countries)

Rise of Asian Christianity

- **3% Christians in Asian in 70's** (Billy Graham)
 - **30% Christian in Korea**
 - **Yoido Full Gospel Church (800,000)** (2010 Pew Research Ctr)
 - **12% (163 million) Christians in China** (Christianity in China)
 - **13% Christian in Cambodia** (OM International)
 - **10% Christians in Vietnam** (Open Doors)
 - **2.5 % Christians in Taiwan** (Operation World)
 - **150,000 (less than 1%) Christians in Laos** (OM International)
 - **12,000 (less than 1%) Christians Japan** (OM International)

Turning Points: Conversions

- Korea
 - Missionaries (hospital, schools, modernity)
 - Christian Nationalistic leaders (Japan)
 - Billy Graham Crusades in 1970's
- China, Malaysia
 - Economic rise (ethical rules)
 - Beliefs of equality, individual freedom/choice
 - Rise of Charismatic Christianity in 1980's

Looking to the Future

- Asia

- China largest Christian nation by 2030 (Christian Broadcasting Network)
- Asian to have second largest Christian population by 2050 (Africa 1st, Latin America 3rd) (Pew Forum)

- Women

- 37% women enrolled in seminary (Christianity Today)
- 2 to 1 ratio women to men in Christian colleges (Inside Higher Ed)
- 3 to 2 ratio women to men in churches (Austin institute)

Questions to Ponder

- How do we rethink the expansion of Global Christianity when North America and Europe are the Christian minorities?
- How do we become one in Christ with so much diversity?
- How do men and women work together for the kingdom of God?

Council at Jerusalem (Acts 15)

- What are they coming to realize in this council?
- What are the challenges they are facing?
- What conclusion do they come to?