



Ngwedla Paul Masiza –

The Baptist World Alliance: A global movement displaying the diversity, love, justice, and gospel of Jesus Christ

Discussion Guide

This resource is designed to help your small group or college class discussion. It's shaped to inspire you to consider new ways to understand the issues discussed in this video. You don't need to answer all the questions. Please allow time for discussion and response.

Materials

1. Person Interviewed: Ngwedla Paul Masiza
2. Theme of Video: The Baptist World Alliance: A global movement displaying the diversity, love, justice, and gospel of Jesus Christ

Preliminary discussion

Consider the questions suggested below to start the conversation for your small group or college class. They'll consolidate the content of the video, after you've viewed it.

1. What were the major themes in this video?
2. How do those themes relate to your life and context?
3. Discuss the difficulties of the content. What was difficult to understand? Was there anything you would like to clarify with the group?
4. Theological method: How is the interviewee's theology and outlook informed and shaped by their practical ministry and context? What approaches do they take in understanding God in the context of their daily life and ministry?

Explore and apply

Explore the major themes raised in the video. Critically engage with the theology. Consider the questions that respond to the issues raised in your preliminary discussion. Apply the answers to these questions in your own setting. Ensure the discussion is specifically drawing on your local setting. Make sure the discussion is relevant to the lives of faith for your small group or college class. Encourage relevant and thoughtful examples from each participant.

1. Paul Msiza is a South African pastor serving as president of the Baptist World Alliance (BWA) from 2015 to 2020. What does he say about his ministry in South Africa, and also about his ministry with the Baptist World Alliance and further afield?
2. Please describe the Baptist World Alliance (its countries, congregations, and numbers of churches and members). <https://www.bwanet.org/>
3. What examples does he give of experiences as the president of the BWA that have stood out for him?
4. What examples does he give of Baptist churches or conventions that are doing innovative or remarkable things?
5. What's been most surprising for him in this role with the BWA?
6. Why is the BWA needed today?
7. What is the vision and mission of the BWA?
8. According to Paul Msiza, why are denominations still relevant and needed today? What do you think?
9. What does he hope to achieve in his role as the president of the BWA?
10. The BWA theme for 2015–20 is "Jesus Christ, the Door." Msiza says, "The door speaks about freedom, and emphasizes the issue of liberty—freedom of religion, freedom of worship, and freedom for justice. The people need to be set free from all sorts of shackles." What are your thoughts about this theme?
11. In his presidential role, Paul Msiza is exposed to the extraordinary diversity of the body of Christ around the globe. How do we celebrate and make the most of this diverse and colorful church?
12. What are the greatest challenges facing the global church today? What about the church in Africa?
13. How can the church make disciples of Jesus?
14. How can the church activate all of God's people in mission and ministry?
15. What social and ethical issues must the church address today?
16. What can Western churches learn from African churches, and from the churches of the Third World?
17. What is the mission of the church? How does it pursue this mission?
18. How can the church renew its theology and mission?

Informing Community

Facilitate the space for your group to respond to the discussion. You might consider this section as a personal time of written journal responses to the following questions.

1. What is God encouraging our group and me, to do?
2. In response to the issues raised in the video, what are areas I want to ask God for forgiveness in? How do I need to change? What does God want me to stand up for?
3. How do I need God to minister to me and my community, for us to better engage with the contextual issues of our community?
4. How can I gain a better understanding of the issues discussed in this video? What do we ask that God would do in our hearts?

Prayer

Spend time in prayer over what you've learnt.

Invite the ministry of the Holy Spirit to clarify, heal, and inspire change for your participants and communities.

Links

Website: www.theglobalchurchproject.com

Books:

Graham Hill and Grace Ji-Sun Kim. *Healing Our Broken Humanity: Practices for Revitalizing the Church and Renewing the World* (IVP, 2018).

Graham Hill, *GlobalChurch: Reshaping Our Conversations, Renewing Our Mission, Revitalizing Our Churches* (IVP Academic, 2016).

Graham Hill, *Salt, Light, and a City (Second Edition): Ecclesiology for the Global Missional Community: Volume 1, Western Voices* (Cascade, 2017).