

Hello from Singapore,

where the humidity and heat is constant and coffee is scarce, beauty is abundant, and order is ubiquitous...almost.

I am here for the 4-14 Window Global summit, a gathering of over 1000 people engaging with children in the name of the Gospel in a range of different contexts - aid & development, churches, mission & evangelism, resource production, etc...

My own participation is in the Academic and Theological Transformation track - generating theological resources and critique for praxis.

This is my fourth overseas conference in twelve months. It has been a rollercoaster ride for a suburban mum from North Boring. How strange that I should find myself in the midst of these conversations!

I have been stretched in understanding the way we label ourselves as 'Christians'.

By the plurality of which we speak when we refer to a 'Biblical Worldview'.

By what counts as 'traditional' and 'orthodox' and also 'radical' in different places.

Most of all I have been challenged by the ongoing tension between the call to empty ourselves, being poured out in humble service in the world, and our compulsion to succeed, win, see results, to make difference in our ministries and missions.

I think of my boys at home, and I know what counts for them: being there. Listening more than speaking. Doing what I say I'm going to do. Hnnnnnn.....

Let's pray for wisdom and discernment and courage and faith - as we are shaped by all our many journeys and connections, influences and contexts.

Grace & Peace, Beth

children
& families

TO: You

FROM: Beth Barnett

