New Frontiers: Redefining Christian Ministry in 21st Century Contexts

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Church leaders and consultants, theology teachers and students face complex issues for ministry in today’s contexts. We are in post-Christian, post-multicultural, post-global, post-digital world where society is experiencing discontinuous change. Leadership expectations are changing and we need innovative approaches for communicating what still really is good news.

To grapple with some of these issues, a conference of ministers, academics and students was convened by Harvest Bible College on August 23-24, 2012. The book New Frontiers: Redefining Christian Ministry in 21st Century Contexts is a compilation of the best papers, with contributions from fifteen authors, and published by Mosaic Press in 2013. It is edited by Jon Newton who is Head of Research and Biblical Studies at Harvest Bible College in Melbourne, Senior Minister of Harvest Bible College, and author of the book. The book is a collection of essays written by a team of leading experts in the field of Christianity.

The book is divided into several parts, each focusing on a different aspect of ministry in a post-Christian context. The first part discusses the challenges facing ministry in a post-Christian context, including the decline of the traditional church, the rise of new forms of religious expression, and the influence of postmodern thought. The second part focuses on the role of the church in a post-Christian context, exploring the possibilities and limitations of traditional models of church life.

The third part examines the role of ministry in a post-multicultural context, considering the challenges and opportunities of working in diverse communities. The fourth part looks at the role of ministry in a post-global context, exploring the implications of globalization for the church and for the practice of ministry.

The fifth and final part looks at the role of ministry in a post-digital context, exploring the ways in which technology is changing the way we think about and practice ministry. The book concludes with an essay by Jon Newton himself, reflecting on the challenges and opportunities facing ministry in a post-Christian context.

The book is a valuable resource for those interested in the future of the church and the practice of ministry. It offers a thoughtful and comprehensive analysis of the challenges and opportunities facing the church in a post-Christian context, and provides practical insights and suggestions for those working in ministry today.