



*Welcoming the Stranger:
Justice, Compassion & Truth
in the Immigration Debate*

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Thinking Biblically About Immigration

A Christian Response

Immigration is one of the most complicated issues of our time. As voices on all sides argue strongly for action and change, Christians find themselves torn between the desire to uphold laws and the call to minister to the vulnerable. In *Welcoming the Stranger* Matthew Soerens, an immigration and citizenship counselor at World Relief, and Jenny Hwang, director of advocacy and policy for the Refugee and Immigration Program of World Relief, share personal stories of their work with immigrants, debunking myths and misconceptions along the way. They detail a plan for immigration reform that is compassionate and just.

- What is Comprehensive Immigration Reform?
- How can we minister to those breaking the law?
- What does scripture say about immigration?
- What benefits do immigrants offer to our nation?

What Can the Church Do?

Immigration laws are tough to navigate, and a well-meaning pastor or church member can easily and unknowingly lead an immigrant astray in their journey to become a citizen. *Welcoming the Stranger* guides individuals and churches as to how they can best serve immigrants, as well as how to specifically “welcome the stranger” and show them God’s love. Rather than limiting missionary work to foreign countries, congregations are learning to be missionaries to their surrounding neighborhoods. With so many immigrants needing economic help, fellowship or a shoulder to lean on, churches are stepping up to fill the void. The church can be a safe haven where a person’s background doesn’t matter. By offering immigrants acceptance and love they are well-served and the church is strengthened as well.

- What organizations provide legal assistance?
- How can the church involve immigrants?
- How do we care for immigrants as our neighbors?
- How can the church meet the needs of immigrants?