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Moreau's "Effective Intercultural Communication: A Christian Perspectives" (Book Review)

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One of the most important things he learns from those at Hope International serves as an inspiration for the hard work of practicing dirty faith: “Mas Deus” (but God). When Nowell encounters a child who seems so broken that he is not sure she would survive, a Hope International volunteer reminds him: “Mas Deus” (But God). But God can work miracles. But God can transform – not only the orphans of the world, but those who practice “dirty faith.” Highly recommended for all readers, *Dirty Faith* is a spiritually challenging read, and Nowell is a compelling author.

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*Reviewed by Paul B. Drake, Library Director, Pacific Islands University, Mangilao, Guam*

*Effective Intercultural Communication: A Christian Perspective* is written by mission scholars as part of the Encountering Missions series by Baker Publisher Group. The authors demonstrate how the discipline of intercultural communication relates to mission and church work across cultures. An understanding of a culture is a key factor in successful communication of the gospel amongst diverse peoples.

The book is divided into four parts. The first three are an introduction to the discipline of intercultural communication, its foundations, and the patterns of communication between cultures. The largest and fourth part discusses putting these principles into practice to develop expertise and competence in another culture. Among the topics included are adjusting to living in another culture, cultural learning, relationship development, evangelism, discipleship, church planting, teaching and learning, team ministry, and a look at issues that will affect intercultural Christian ministry in the future.

The book is well documented with notable Scripture references. A number of case studies discuss churches in intercultural settings around the world followed by reflection and discussion questions. Sidebars augment the narrative; for example Sidebar 5.2 provides “Steps in Language Learning” in the discussion of Language Learning (pp. 79-80). The reference list is extensive, but there are few internet sources cited. The organization and layout of the book works well as a textbook, but will also be valuable for professional reading and personal learning.