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Maule's "Isesomo: God's servant in Congo" (book review)

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Book Reviews



Maule, J. (2017). Isesomo: God's servant in Congo. Carlisle, UK: Langham Global Library. 78 pp. \$14.99. ISBN 9781783681747

Australian minister, film writer, and producer Joshua Maule first met Muhindo Isesomo when he heard him speak at a church in Australia. Ten years later the author began writing his biography, which is the story of a young man who had a dramatic conversion to Christ and, feeling God's call to ministry, became one of the most effective evangelists in his native Democratic Republic of Congo.

Maule does an excellent job of covering the life and ministry of Isesomo, who is still evangelizing in his role as a bishop in the Anglican Church of Congo. It has not been an easy road for him to travel, though, as it has been one in which he dealt with many adversities, including facing death numerous times. In addition, Maule provides an overview of Christianity and its relationship with other religions in Congo. He provides a brief history of the country (for a while called Zaire), and introduces the reader to the culture and challenges of its people.

The book does not contain a bibliography. In addition to conducting extensive research, Maule traveled to Congo twice to interview, not only Isesomo, but also his friends and family. In addition, Isesomo made arrangements for the author to interview people who did not agree with him. If necessary, Isesomo would act as translator, but if another person were available, he would leave the room, allowing a more unbiased portrayal of him and his work to be given.

Some missions classes require that students give a book report of a missionary biography. While this book may be too short to qualify for that, its content would certainly meet other requirements. Although Isesomo is working in his native country, his evangelism to not only the local people but also to thousands of Congolese army personnel certainly would make the book suitable for such an assignment. Also, anyone who is interested in Christianity in Africa would find the book to be very informative and challenging to their faith.

Reviewer

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