

# Session 02

## The Theology of a Stranger – Solomon's Prayer



## Session Overview

1. The Theology of a Stranger – Introduction
2. **The Theology of a Stranger – Solomon's prayer**
3. The Theology of a Stranger – Jesus was an Immigrant
4. The Theology of a Stranger – Christians as Strangers in the World
5. The Theology of a Stranger – The Example of the Multicultural Congregation

## Session Summary.

In this session, Dr. Beck shows that God continually uses the foreigner, the immigrant, and the stranger to be a blessing to the nations. We will look at Solomon's prayer for the temple, the Israelites being called to be a blessing to their enemies, and the crucial role of a prostitute in the salvation history of the world.

# Discussion Questions

1. Dr. Beck shared an incredible story of a Romanian prostitute that came to their church community in Frankfurt, Germany. How did this story impact you? What are some ways we can connect with the "Rahab's" in our midst?

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2. What does Solomon's prayer in 1 Kings 8:41-43 say the result is of doing "whatever the foreigner asks of us?"

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3. Have you ever been a stranger, or would you consider yourself a stranger now? If you do not have experience as a stranger, can you think of any experiences in your life that have made you feel like you were isolated or worthless? Do you have experiences in abusive relationships? How may these be useful in planting multicultural, Gospel communities?

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4. Why do you think God chooses to work through the stranger or the least of these?

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5. Jeremiah 29: 4-7 shows God calling the Israelites to be a blessing to the Babylonians, their enemies, whom God allowed to conquer Israel and lead them into exile. What would it look like for us to be a blessing to our enemies as an intercultural Gospel community?

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6. As you think of your church community and culture, what are some potential thoughts, actions, or practices in the community that may feel unwelcoming or isolating to the stranger or people from cultures?

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7. Dr. Beck shows the pattern of God continually using the foreigner and the immigrant to be an instrument and a blessing of God to the nations. After hearing this session, what are you feeling led to do, in order to be a part of how God is working through the stranger to bring about his salvation to all the peoples of the world?

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