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Foreword by David Watson

I first met the author and his wife at an underground training event in 2003. This highly dedicated missionary couple had given their lives to the peoples of Indonesia, yet were willing to risk losing access to the country they loved to attend my training. For five days we walked together through the biblical basis and processes of the church-planting movement I had led.

There was no way for me to know how to train local peoples all over the world, so my hope was the audience would adapt the approach in a culturally acceptable format for their context. Basically I said, “Here is the material. You will have to make it work in your context.” But this was a horrible way to train, even though the audience was primarily Western.

Globally, my ministry has trained more than 60,000 people since 1997. But most gave up on the process because they were looking for a quick and easy way to reach people for Christ. This approach requires years of hard work, holding fast to the principles that outsiders must diligently train local leaders at all levels, and God will teach those seeking Him through His Word.

When I met this couple I had seen more than 20,000 churches started in my own ministry, but there were no success stories from Indonesia. Yet, the author and his wife were willing to try pursuing a movement there.

Many of us in Kingdom work have seen the value of story-based discovery Bible studies to help both oral and literate learners discover and share the gospel. *STUBBORN PERSEVERANCE* shows how this proven method can help any believer, new or old, quickly grasp and pass on the core values of disciple-making and church-planting movements. This is unique!

Faisal’s story will lead you on a learning adventure to experience the truths of Scripture in a simple, reproducible pattern for training

others in church-planting movement principles and processes. Don't worry about getting so caught up in the story that you forget to note the core principles. Questions following each chapter will help you identify the key lessons.

Have fun with this book! Study it with fellow laborers. Adapt it to your context. Dramatize the material for visual and oral learners. Apply it by conducting your own "Person of Peace" searches and then reading, discussing and retelling the Bible stories and studies.

Use STUBBORN PERSEVERANCE also as a reference. Chapter headings will help you find answers to your questions, and the [appendices](#) are a storehouse of information.

Enjoy the story. Learn the lessons. Pass on what you learn to others. Launching a church-planting movement is not easy, but it will be the most enjoyable hard work you ever do.

Blessings!

David L. Watson, Co-author of

Contagious Disciple Making: Leading Others on a Journey of Discovery

Foreword by Jerry Trousdale

Much of our world is fixated on dealing with Islam. Responses range from bitter hostility to paralyzing fear. Tragically, none of the typical responses reflect Christian values, nor the reality of what God is already doing among Muslims today.

As I documented in *Miraculous Movements*, the Spirit of God is at work in many countries, creating unprecedented receptivity among Muslims to the Gospel of the Kingdom. In thousands of Muslim communities, where Kingdom values and principles shape Christians' response to Islam, God is drawing and transforming Muslims into passionate, grace-filled Christ Followers.

Now is the time for believers to seek God for compassion for Muslims who find themselves victimized by the inhumanity and horror in their communities. This is God's *kairos* moment for His people to embrace a counter-intuitive response of love and compassion in the face of rage and hostility.

STUBBORN PERSEVERANCE will help anyone, male or female, wanting to partner with God and others in seeking disciple-making movements, especially among Muslims. It is really two books in one: a true-to-life narrative of how hundreds of thousands of Muslims have come to Christ, plus fifty pages of [appendices](#) providing detailed guidance for reproducing disciples, with a portion focused on reaching Muslims.

This book will help disciplers anywhere, and will be of extra value to those equipping Muslim Background Christ Followers for obedience-based disciple-making. It is a great complement to other recent resources on Kingdom of God movements among Muslims.

Jerry Trousdale, Director of International Ministries for Cityteam
Miraculous Movements: How Hundreds of Thousands of Muslims Are Falling in Love With Jesus and *The Kingdom Unleashed: How Ordinary People Launch Disciple-Making Movements Around the World*

NOTE TO THE READER

This book uses the vehicle of story to demonstrate church-planting movement (CPM) principles in context, presenting various motivations that lead people to Christ, illustrating discipleship issues new believers face, showing how groups come to function as house churches, and describing a model for how local leaders are developed.

While this story unfolds in a Muslim context, and several chapters give special focus to Islam, the principles can be applied in a variety of contexts, including among Hindus, Buddhists, and animists, and even nominal Christians. Many traditional churches are applying these principles to reach the unchurched and to reproduce small groups and lay leaders. This approach appeals especially to millennials, who hunger for authentic community, self discovery, and social activism.

The characters and circumstances in this book are all based on **real people and experiences**, from our own ministry or the ministries of fellow missionaries or Indonesian believers. This story is about:

- leaders battling discouragement, pettiness, and spiritual warfare;
- Muslims drawn to follow Jesus through dreams, healings, a vibrant personal witness, and bridging verses in the Qur'an; and
- new believers casting off old patterns and living as new creations.

This story illustrates how God heals the deepest hurts, restores broken interpersonal relationships, and transforms individuals and families. It reveals the brutality of persecution, the potential for victory in the midst of suffering, and the power of forgiveness.

This is the story of three couples who study the Scriptures and conclude God has led them to pursue a church-planting movement (CPM) among the Sayang—a fictional Indonesian Muslim unreached people group (Sayang means “beloved” in Indonesian)—and who together stubbornly persevere to see that movement mature.

Under the coaching of an outside mentor, Faisal and Fatima lead the team. They are joined by Yusuf and Nur, and Nasrudin and Amina. Each of them engages and disciples someone, and most of these in turn disciple someone else.

May the Holy Spirit use their stories to inspire and guide you to adapt the biblical principles illustrated here for your own context.

The table below is for your reference, to help with the foreign names of the characters. Arrows indicate who shared with whom.

Faisal (teacher)	→ Ahmad (teacher)	→ Hasan (doctor)
Fatima (Faisal's wife)	→ Inne (caterer)	→ Eka (student)
Yusuf (taxi driver)	→ Haji Ishmael (imam)	→ Sharif (headmaster)
Nur (Yusuf's wife)	→ Aysha (unhappy wife)	→ Wati (bedridden)
Nasrudin (honey seller)	→ Abdullah (radical Muslim)	→ Umar (alcoholic)
	Titin (Abdullah's wife)	
	Saleh (Abdullah's best friend)	
Amina (Nasrudin's wife, nurse)		→ Lily (patient)

Each chapter ends with discussion questions to facilitate both individual reflection and small group discussion toward application of the CPM principles presented.

The frequency of certain foreign words in this story made the standard italicizing of all such words distracting. Therefore only the first occurrence is italicized and explained in a footnote. The glossary also explains these and other uncommon terms.

This story can be read alone, but **the greatest kingdom benefit** will likely come through reading, discussing, and applying this material **with others** under the guidance of a **mentor with movement experience**.

And for this book's future value to you as a manual and reference, I encourage you to *highlight* key points in this book *as the Holy Spirit emphasizes them to you*, such as the [eight questions for every meeting](#) (p. 57), or the [ten essentials of church](#) (p. 184).

Church-Planting *Kingdom* Movements

For this book we define a *church-planting movement* (CPM) as

A rapidly reproducing movement, as in the book of Acts, in which obedient disciples, churches, and servant leaders all reproduce, to transform lives, relationships, and communities throughout a specific people group.

We introduce the word “Kingdom” here to describe CPMs that go beyond winning souls, planting fellowships and developing leaders to emphasize a comprehensive and holistic approach to personal and societal transformation.

While God’s Spirit is birthing movements through many creative CPM models, this book emphasizes integration of two in particular:¹

1. Discovery Bible Study (DBS), also called Disciple-Making Movements (DMMs), emphasizing inductive study, and
2. Training For Trainers (T4T), emphasizing more aggressive engagement with the lost.

Following a pattern based on the Nathan and Kari Shanks’ *The Four Fields of Kingdom Growth* (Appendix B), STUBBORN PERSEVERANCE illustrates one integration of DBS with core elements of T4T.

This updated, 2017 Edition

Endorsements from many practitioners affirmed the widespread value of STUBBORN PERSEVERANCE’s first edition. And translation into Indonesian, feedback from more practitioners, fresh research and additional experience brought further refinement throughout this updated, 2017 edition.

Today (2017), researchers are literally tracking hundreds of CPMs around the world!

¹ MissionFrontiers.org/pdfs/32-35_Smith_KingdomKernels.pdf

STUBBORN PERSEVERANCE:

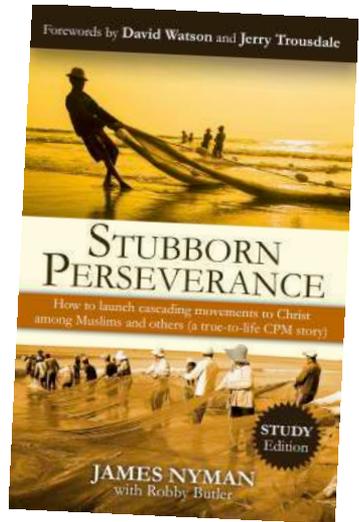
How to launch multiplying movements of disciples and churches, among Muslims and others (a story based on real events).

Why *STUBBORN PERSEVERANCE*?

God is stirring His people to rediscover the power of movements of reproducing disciples and churches, as demonstrated in the New Testament ministries of Jesus and Paul.

Hundreds of such movements have started around the world in recent decades at an increasing rate.

Yet many laborers struggle in the harvest, without the vision and guidance to effectively disciple others to start a movement.



***STUBBORN PERSEVERANCE* addresses this problem:**

Other movement materials left me confused and overwhelmed. They sounded good in principle, but I had no idea how to proceed on my own or explain the concepts to others. This book solves all of that.

— **Don Vincent**, correctional officer pursuing a movement in a prison

***STUBBORN PERSEVERANCE* provides:**

- a unique, inside look at how movements develop, and
- steps for seeking God with others for a movement in your own context.

February 2017 Offers and Invitations:

- **Buy** *STUBBORN PERSEVERANCE* in [paperback](#), get the [Kindle](#) free!
- **Sample** (and share) *ten* chapters of *STUBBORN PERSEVERANCE*.
- **Request** a free PDF copy to:
 - *review* *STUBBORN PERSEVERANCE* (Amazon or elsewhere)
 - *offer* feedback to improve *STUBBORN PERSEVERANCE*,
 - *recommend* *STUBBORN PERSEVERANCE* to others, or
 - *consider* ordering cases at pre-publication pricing.
- **Reserve** cases (~30 books) for \$5/book (a 67% discount)!
- **Join** the global conversation to accelerate movements.