

Building Multicultural Churches by Tony Thompson tackles a critical issue in today's church: fostering genuine unity amid growing ethnic and cultural diversity without succumbing to superficial conformity. Drawing from his experience leading a multicultural church in Luton, a town renowned for its diversity, Thompson provides a roadmap for churches to reflect the rich, inclusive vision of God's kingdom.

Inspired by the transformative impact of immigration on Britain since the 1945 British Nationality Act, Thompson explores the church's historical reluctance to embrace immigrants and offers practical insights for authentically integrating people from all backgrounds into worship, leadership and community. He emphasises that unity in Christ celebrates differences rather than erases them, challenging churches to break down barriers of ethnicity, culture, and class as envisioned in Scripture.

Rejecting claims that engaging in diversity is merely 'woke'. Thompson urges Christians to reclaim the biblical mandate for reconciliation and unity. Incorporating global perspectives, he highlights the importance of learning from diverse voices to build inclusive, gospel-centered communities.

This book is a thoughtful reflection and a call to action, inspiring leaders and congregants alike to create multicultural churches that embody God's wisdom and serve as a powerful witness in a divided world.

In my opinion, Tony is a prophetic trail-blazer, particularly as a white, male Brit and church leader. His book is one to trawl through and bring in a catch slowly, facing the pain in God's heart and human beings' hearts with a glistening sense of biblical hope for a better future. Can the mould be broken of heaps of homogeneous churches here in Britain? I am hopeful it can.

Andrew Whitman, pastor and author of When Jesus Met Hippies: The Story and Legacy of the Jesus People Movement in the UK

Tony Thompson started and led Hope Church in Luton for over 20 years, and is married to Anne. He seeks to enable churches to work together across Luton, as a member and Chair of Churches Together in Luton Executive. Tony has a history of involvement in starting churches in the UK.

Tony enjoys running and reading in his leisure time and has completed the London marathon on numerous occasions.



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Valuing Ethnic Diversity

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