SENDING

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> *The church in the twenty-first century needs to keep the "sending" element of Christian mission in the foreground. Biblical mission is God's mission. Mission is participation in the mission of Jesus Christ, the Lord of the Church, in the power of the Holy Spirit. Mission is not merely church extension, nor is it merely doing good works of compassion. Mission is not to be determined by a mission agency's particular bias or agenda. Today, as many cross-cultural missionaries are sent from and supported by churches and mission agencies in Asia, Africa, and Latin America as the total sent from Europe and North America. yet in the final analysis the "senders" are not the denomination, not the mission agency, not the mega-church or its senior pastor, not a nongovernmental relief agency, self-proclaimed apostle, large relief agency, or a more advanced culture. The Sender is Jesus Christ whose authority defines, circumscribes, limits and propels Christian mission.*

Charles Van Engen inÂ MissionShift.