

Endorsements

Peter M. Sensenig, *Good Guestwork: Christians and Muslims as Guests and Hosts*

This book is a timely and prophetic invitation to follow Jesus where he is most often found—at the margins. With wisdom born of lived experience among Muslims and Christians across continents, the author offers a vision of “good guestwork” that dismantles fear and rivalry and makes space for genuine encounter, healing, and peace. A refreshing and courageous contribution to missiology and interfaith engagement.

-John Azumah, PhD, Executive Director, The Sanneh Institute

In *Good Guestwork* moving personal narrative and thoughtful theological reflection invite Christians into the challenging and beautiful work of loving God and loving neighbor. Sensenig brings readers to Somalia, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Chad, Iran, Kenya, Tanzania, and the USA as he explores what it means for a Christian to be a good neighbor to Muslims and what it means to *be neighbored* well by Muslims. Misunderstandings and threats abound, but there are also miracles, sacred encounters, and delight. Readers will be inspired to move beyond doctrinal differences and to choose the riskier and more faith-filled path of vulnerable hospitality and authentic relationships across religious and cultural divides.

-Rachel Pieh Jones, author of *Stronger than Death* and *Pillars: How Muslim Friends Led Me Closer to Jesus*.

You need this book in your library. Sensenig brings a depth of scholarship and lived wisdom from Zanzibar, Kenya, and Chad – regions rich with Christian and Islamic traditions. Through careful scholarship and personal engagement, this book offers deeply respectful and insightful reflection on hospitality and peace – not merely as social courtesy, but as a spiritual imperative shared across both faiths.

-Joseph Kwoma Ngolla, Eastleigh Fellowship Centre, Mennonite Church Kenya

This timely book is both challenging and inspirational, perhaps even prophetic. There are sentences that will cause the reader to stop and wrestle with Scripture and the Lord about what they've just read. The stories within are parables that upend many of our common assumptions and theological excuses as we relate to Muslim neighbors both near and far. The author makes us uncomfortable – yet also invites us to embrace the kind of relationships and miracle-rich environments for which many of us lack imagination or faith. None of this is just academic for the author and his family; these pages are the fruit of many years of incarnational witness and genuine friendship among Muslims. I recommend it for all who seek to follow Jesus faithfully as both guests and hosts.

-Lorri Bentsch, Mission Team Director, Eastern Mennonite Missions

Good Guestwork invites followers of Jesus into a vital conversation that Western Christians too often neglect. Blending accessible theology with vivid stories, Sensenig shows how our discipleship deepens when we learn from our Muslim neighbors, and how such friendships bear crucial witness to God's peace in a world aching for wholeness.

-Rev. Dr. Bethany McKinney Fox, author of *Disability and the Way of Jesus: Holistic Healing in the Gospels and the Church*

The vital perspective of a Christian guest in majority-Muslim environments. In our rapidly globalizing world, Sensenig's personal, vulnerable stories summon followers of Jesus back to our ancient calling—to love God and our neighbors, even across differences. Eminently readable while grounded in deep theological reflection, *Good Guestwork* offers vital insights for people in every context.

-Jon W. Carlson, Pastor, Forest Hills Mennonite Church

When it comes to dialogue with Muslims, Sensenig knows what he's talking about – and practices what he believes. This book represents the kind of moral imagination that sees peace as a creative art.

-Nik Bredholt, Secretary General, Religion & Society, Copenhagen, Denmark

We need strangers. We need difference. We need bridges. We need to be – not just hosts – but guests. Sensenig's story, lived as an outsider and religious minority, tells of honor, rejection, service, and fear. It's a timely and countercultural message for the global church.

-Dr. Debbi DiGennaro, Eastern Mennonite University

While *Good Guestwork* is clearly focused on Christian-Muslim relations, Sensenig's concepts apply just as well to interactions with other ideological “others.” This is the gentle reminder we need to build friendships and bridges wherever we find ourselves.

-Tim Huber, *Anabaptist World*

In *Good Guestwork*, Sensenig has completely re-imagined the role of missions in an easy-to-read, relatable form. Through his own extensive experience and by sharing his vulnerability with the reader, this important book invites us into the heart of Christ – to see ourselves as guests at God's grand table. A must read for anyone seeking to engage their neighbors near and far.

-Jonathan Rudy, Peacebuilding Global

Sensenig's masterpiece underscores the significance of living as followers of Jesus at the margins. The more our spiritual lives embrace being strangers, the more we reflect the gospel's message of being both guests and hosts. The personal stories here highlight love's power to heal divides – highly recommended.

-Nelson Okanya, leadership consultant and former president of Eastern Mennonite Missions

A strong call to churches in the Western world (and elsewhere) to reexamine their identity and practices in order to embody the ministry of reconciliation.

-Neal Blough, former director of the Paris Mennonite Center

Sensenig dares the Church to reject fear and rivalry and instead embrace the costly way of hospitality with our Muslim neighbors. This book insists that we cannot follow Jesus faithfully while building walls of separation—discipleship means becoming vulnerable guests and generous hosts. *Good Guestwork* is a prophetic call to recover the gospel of peace, to risk friendship, and to discover Christ on the other side of our comfort.

-J. Matthew Barnes, PhD, Vice President, Asbury Theological Seminary