

# Viv Grigg

**MA in Transformational Urban Leadership**  
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**Viv Grigg: prophetic voice, missions entrepreneur, viral networker, servant among the urban poor.**

As a young graduate, and in quiet dependence on God to provide, Viv Grigg went to live in the slums of Manila, pioneering churches and development. He has been a prophetic voice calling from the slums of Manila, Calcutta, Sao Paulo, Los Angeles... inviting many thousands to live in apostolic communities among the poor. These works have created a plethora of organizations that transform poverty in over 40 cities. He attributes the fruit of this to the overflowing work of the Holy Spirit on these who choose to live the cross among the poor.



He coordinates the *Encarnação Alliance of urban poor movement leaders*. Their grassroots city learning networks of slum pastors in 3 years established over 1800 new churches.

As an academic trained in theology, community organization, and urban anthropology, and as Director of Urban Leadership Foundation, he catalyzed the *MA in Transformational Urban Leadership (MATUL)* now with 8 partnering institutions globally. In 2009, he relocated from New Zealand to be an Associate Professor to Azusa Pacific (one of the partners) to lead their MATUL expansion. He is author of 7 books including the paradigm-shifting *Companion to the Poor*, whose call to radical incarnation among the poor and lifestyles of simplicity has challenged many. His recent *Spirit of Christ and the Postmodern*

*City* predicts a future beyond postmodernism. *Economic Discipleship* has answers to the present ethical dilemmas of capitalism. See [www.urbanleaders.org](http://www.urbanleaders.org) for more information.

## Some Academics

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- PhD (Theology), Auckland University, New Zealand. 2006. Fields: Pneumatology, Urban Theology, Urban
  - Leadership, Sociology of Religion (University Scholar)
- M.A. (Missions) Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena, CA, USA, 1987 Fields: Urban Anthropology, Community Development
- Certificate of Accomplishment in Tagalog, Manila, Philippines. 1980
- Post Grad Dip. Teaching, Christchurch Teachers College, Christchurch, New Zealand 1973.
- B.E.(Elect). Canterbury University, Christchurch, New Zealand, 1973.

## Some Conference Involvements

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- 1989 **Lausanne Congress on World Evangelization**, Manila. 2 Sessions on "*Ministering to the Urban Poor.*"
- 1993 **VisionNZ Congress** plenary on "*Reaching the Cities*"
- 1995 **Global Congress On World Evangelization**, Seoul, Korea. Plenary Session. Leader of the AD2000
  - Cities Network.
- 1996 **Mission Korea 96**, a gathering of eight student movements, plenary on "***The Cry of the Urban Poor***" and seminars.

- 1996 **AD2000 Urban Poor Network**, Hong Kong. Leadership team, several seminars, plenary
- 1997 **Vision NZ Congress** plenary on "Transformation of the Nation."
- Over twenty-five *City Leadership Consultations* in nations and cities.
- 1997-8 **Korean Students for Christ** plenary address, "The Poor Wise Man" and seminars
- 1998 **Asbury Seminary, Kingdom Conference**, keynote speaker, "The Cosmic Christ in Cities From Hell"
  - and forums.
  - " *The Incarnate Christ in the Underside of Anti-Christian Megalopolises*
  - " *The Poor Wise Man and YTREVOP the Demon*
  - " *Releasing Holiness: Fires of Reconciliation, Restitution and Citywide Revival*
  - " *Discipling the Poor: The Challenge of Integrating Social Responsibility, Evangelism and Discipleship*
  - " *The City of God is a Multiethnic Party - Starting Now!*
  - " *Cosmic Christ - Transformer of the Soul of a Nation*
- 1996, 1997, 1998 **Australian AD2000 National Leadership Consultations** as plenary speaker "Jesus Christ in the Underside of Cities from Hell."
- 1999 **Vision for Auckland Huis**, organizer, keynote address on "Six Battlefronts in Auckland"
- 2000 **Transformational Conversations: Developing Indigenous Theologies** hui, Auckland, facilitator.
- 2001 **Biola Missions Conference**, addresses, "Reaching the Poor of Asia's Mega-Cities", "The Judgment of
  - *God on a Postmodern City*".
- 2002 **Wheaton College Missions Week**: Keynote Speaker
- 2002 Encarnação Network, Brazil, organizer. **Training Incarnational Workers in the Slums**
- 2004 Encarnação Network, Bangkok, organizer, **50,000 from the Slums to the Slums**
- 2006 Encarnação Alliance MATUL Commission, Chennai, organizer.
- 2008 **RENAS** (Network for Social Action), Brazil, keynote speaker, "Jesus' Seminary in the Slums"
- 2009 **Igreja Relevante**. Sao Paulo, Brazil. "[Igreja Relevante e Incarnacional](#)"
- 2009 **Revitalization Consultation**, Asbury Seminary, "The Spirit of Christ and the Postmodern City"
- 2010 (October) **Asbury Seminary Kingdom Conference**. Wilmore, KY.
  - *The cosmic integrator and community transformation: Apostolic orders among the poor*. Keynote address
  - *Robin Hood the deacon: Vocation and the global diaconate*. Keynote address
  - *Jesus seminary in the slum*. Seminar
  - *Transformational urban conversations: 30 years of building global urban networks*. Seminar
- 2011 **Evangelical Missions Society** (South-Western), *Transforming the post-Post-modern City*.
- 2012 **MissionsFest**, Vancouver, Canada. January, and Lancaster, PA. **50,000 from the slums to the slums**. Plenary speaker and seminars.
- 2012 (April). *Uma igreja relevante encarnada*. Plenary at the **Conferência Missionária do Estado de São Paulo (CMESP)**, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
- 2013 **Justice Conference**, Hong Kong. **Movements in the Global Slums** and **Justice and Land Rights**. Workshops.
- 2013 *The Kingdom of God and Land Rights*. **Compassion for All**, Mumbai, India.
- 2013. *Discovering God Among Them – The God Conversation*. Plenary keynote address

presented at the **Bridges Conference: Discovering Life with the Unchurched**. Lake Hughes, CA.

- Discovering Their Language – The City Conversations - Conversing the Gospel. Plenary keynote address presented at the **Bridges Conference: Discovering Life with the Unchurched**. Lake Hughes, CA.
- 2013 (February). *Multiplying Millions in Holistic Slum Movements: Apostolic and Diaconal Perspectives*. Presentation given at the second gathering of the **International Society of Urban Missions**. Bangkok, Thailand.
- 2013. *Theology and Practice of Land Rights*. Conference plenary address and workshop presented at the **Call2Compassion and Justice** conference. Mumbai, India.
- 2013. *Economic Discipleship: Vulnerability to Liberate the Vulnerable*. Paper presented at the annual conference of the **Alliance for Vulnerable Mission**. Norwalk, England.
- 2014 CMESP. *O Reino de Deus e Economia Solidaria*. Plenary at the **Conferência Missionária do Estado de São Paulo (CMESP)**, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- 2014 February, **MoveIn**, Toronto.
  - Plenaries:
    - "The Poor Wise Man" See also Whiteboard explainer video, "The Poor Wise Man"
    - "Hovering Spirit, Creative Voice"
  - Seminar
    - "Developing a Poor Peoples Church"

## Global Educational Leadership

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- Encarnacao Alliance Training Commission, Chairman
  - 2006 Encarnação Alliance MATUL Commission, Chennai
  - 2007 Encarnação Alliance MATUL Commission, Manila
  - 2009 Encarnação Alliance MATUL Commission, Nairobi
  - 2011 Encarnação Alliance MATUL Commission, Nagpur
  - 2012 Encarnação Alliance MATUL Commission, Nairobi, Kenya
  - 2013 Encarnação Alliance MATUL Commission, Kampala, Uganda

## Some Publications

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### Books

- 1984 *Companion to the Poor*, Albatross Books: Sydney.
  - (2nd edition 1990 MARC: Monrovia, CA, revised and updated, 2004 London: Authentic. 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, 2014 Auckland: Urban Leadership Foudation).tr. in Portuguese 1988 *Servos Entre Os Pobres*, Comibam/Aura Books: Sao Paulo , Brazil.(revised and updated, 2007, Ultimato)tr. in German 1990 *Mit den Armen leben*, Wolfgang Simson Verlag: Lorrach. tr. in Spanish 1994 *Siervos Entre Los Pobres*, Nueva Creacion: Buenos Aires and Eerdmans. tr. in Korean 1995,
    - , IVP: Seoul.
- 1992 *Cry of the Urban Poor*, MARC (revised and updated, 2004, London: Authentic).
  - tr. in Portuguese. 1994 *O Grito Dos Pobres Na Cidade*, Missao Editora: Sao Paulo.
- 2000 *Creating an Auckland Business Theology*. Auckland: Urban Leadership Foundation.
- 2009 *The Spirit of Christ and the Postmodern City*. Auckland: Urban Leadership

- Foundation and Asbury: Emeth Press.
- 2010 *Economic Discipleship*. 5<sup>th</sup> Edn. Auckland: Urban Leadership Foundation.

### Some Booklets

- 1985 *Servants Movements: Protestant Orders with Vows of Non-Destitute Poverty*. Urban Leadership
  - Foundation
- 1986 *The Lifestyle and Values of Servants*, Urban Leadership Foundation. 1998 *Vision for Auckland*. Urban
  - Leadership Foundation, 32pp.
- 2001 *Biblical Reflections on Land and Land Rights*. Urban Leadership Foundation. 64 pp.

### Some Professional Papers and Articles

- 1987 "Sorry the Frontier Moved!" *Urban Missions*, 4:4 (March 1987),12-25. tr in Portuguese . "Desculpe! A Fronteira Mudou-Se." *Teologico*, Sociedade Dos Estudantes de Teologia Evangelica: Sao Paulo
- 1989 "Cities of God - Cities of Men." 3 part series in *Challenge Weekly*: Auckland , November 1989.
- 1987 "The Urban Poor: Prime Missionary Target." *Evangelical Review of Theology*, July 1987, pp 261-272.
  - Reprinted 1989 in *Urban Ministry in Asia*, chap 18 , Asia Theological Association, pp 185-197.
- 1989 "Squatters, The Most Responsive Unreached Bloc." *Urban Missions*, 6:5 (May 1989), 41-50.
- 1992 "Church of the Poor." In *Discipling the City: A Comprehensive Approach to Urban Mission* Baker: Grand Rapids, Michigan, 159-170.
- 1993 "Reaching the Cities." In *Vision New Zealand Congress*, Vision New Zealand, 429 Queen Street , Auckland.
- 1993 "Intercessors and Cosmic Urban Spiritual Warfare." *International Journal of Frontier Missions* Vol 10:4
  - Oct 1993. tr into Korean in 1995 by the Korea AD2000 Movement and Beyond by Jubilee Tech International.
- 1995 "Spiritual Warfare and the Poor in the Gateway Cities." In *Praying Through the 100 Gateway Cities*, C. Peter Wagner, Mark Peters, eds. YWAM Publishing: Seattle. tr. into Korean by the Korea AD2000 Movement and Beyond by Jubilee Tech International. tr. into Portuguese "La Guerra Espiritual y los Pobres en las Ciudades de Acceso". In *Orando por Las 100 Ciudades de Acceso a la Ventana 10/40*, C Peter Wagner, Stephen Peters y Mark Wilson, eds. Editorial Unilit.
- 1997 "Transforming the Soul of Kiwi Cities." In *New Vision New Zealand Vol 11*(1997) , Bruce Patrick, ed.,
  - Auckland: Vision New Zealand.
- 1997 "Transforming the Soul of the Nation." In *New Vision New Zealand Vol III* , Bruce Patrick, ed., Auckland: Vision New Zealand.
- 2000 *Urban Theology as Transformational Conversation: Hermeneutics for the Post-Modern Cities*, Auckland: Urban Leadership Foundation.
- 2011. Urbanization. In J.B. Green (Ed.), *Dictionary of scripture and ethics* (pp. 799-801). Grand Rapids, MI, Baker Book House.

## Some Popular Articles

- 1979-80 "Discipleship", "Discipleship and Self", "Discipleship and Possessions." *Reach Communique*, Manila: Reach, Vol 1:2, 2:1, 2:3
- 1984 "The Poor Wise Man and ytrevoP the Demon." *The Reaper*: pp 16-19. Bible College of New Zealand: Auckland. August 1984. Reprinted in *World Mission Guide*, World Christian Magazine: Los Angeles, pp 9-11, 1988
- 1987 "The Poor Wise Man of Calcutta." *Urban Missions*, 5:2 (Nov 1987): 43-44
- Korean Translations of articles in *Gospel and Context*, 1995:8, pp 76-81, 9:112-117, 1996, 1997
- 1988 "Of Barefoot Dentists... and Rich Young Rulers." *Urban Missions*, May 1988
- 1992 "AD2000 Cities Track Partnering Missions to Reach Cities." in *AD2000 Cities Track News*, Vol 1:1.
- 1992 "A Crucial Hour for the 1000 Least Evangelized Cities", In *Cities and Slums News*, Vol 1:2, June 92

## PowerPoints

Some of these presentations may be found on <http://www.authorstream.com>. Search for Viv Grigg.

**Websites of courses** on *Urban Spirituality, Community Economics, Movement Leadership, Writings Reign and Realities, Urban Poor Churchplanting, Urban Realities, Grassroots Churchplanting* etc. may be found on <http://www.urbanleaders.org/home/training.html>

