CHAPTER 10

The Holy Spirit and Hospitality: Pentecostal Empowerment for Building Relationships with the World's 800 Million Muslim Women

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Introduction

“Unprecedented”1 was the word used to describe the December 2014, attack by the Pakistani Taliban on a school in Peshawar, Pakistan, that killed 145 people, 132 of them children. The attack was so horrendous it even drew a sympathetic response from the Afghani Taliban, who “criticized the ‘deliberate killing of innocent people, women and children (as being) against Islamic principles' and expressed condolences to the attack’s victims.”2 Yet only weeks went by before the world’s attention was diverted to the “worst militant Islamist assault on a European city in nine years”3 when on January 7, 2015, radical Islamists stormed the offices of the Charlie Hebdo magazine4 killing twelve, and on January 9, took hostages in a kosher market, killing four Jewish men.5 Abubakar Shekau, leader of the jihadist group Boko Haram, which had only days before, on January 3, slaughtered an estimated 2,000 Nigerian citizens, “praised the deadly rampage at the Charlie Hebdo offices in France.”6

2 Ibid.
4 The Charlie Hebdo magazine is known for its satirical images of the prophet Mohammed.

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Nearly every day the news relays stories of attacks connected to radical Islam. In summer 2014, the acronym ISIS\(^7\) began to send chills down the collective spine of global inhabitants due to reports of the group’s unspeakable violence. Acts carried out in ISIS’s attempt to establish an Islamic caliphate in the Middle East have included countless acts of mass execution, beheadings,\(^8\) kidnapping, sexual enslavement, murder,\(^9\) and specific assaults on Christians,\(^10\) including the beheading of four Iraqi Christian children who refused to deny Christ, according to Canon Andrew White, the Anglican vicar of Baghdad.\(^11\) In November of 2015, ISIS claimed responsibility\(^12\) for the “deadliest day of attacks in France since World War II and one of the worst terrorist strikes on Western soil since Sept. 11, 2011\(^{13}\) with the killing of

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\(^8\) Ibid.


