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FOREWORD

Anyone who knows me will know that I tend to be a bit of a missional geek, a gatherer and synthesizer of ideas that collate around the missional task of the church in the twenty-first century. I've devoted much of my life to living missionally, developing our understanding of it in as many tribes of Christianity and on as many continents as I've been able. I believe it's the direction Christianity is going, and indeed is the direction it must go, if it's going to survive and thrive in increasingly post-Christian world. Developing a biblical missional theory, a viable strategy, as well as encouraging praxis has been the defining work of my life.

Following the thought line of James 2:17—that faith without works is dead—so also, a theory or a strategy without practice is dead. One can have the best missional theology, be the leading expert in missional theory, and be able to explain every missional structure and concept. But if one can't propel missional ideas out of their head and into their life, it doesn't matter. In that sense, *A Field Guide for Everyday Mission* is a valuable contribution to the missional conversation. This book fills a crucial gap, addressing some of the most common practical questions about missional life, in easy-to-follow answers. It's not an overly theoretical book, nor an academic one. It's not just for pastors and leaders; it's a helpful book for you: the everyday Christian, yearning to know how you can carry out God's call to hands-on mission in your already-too-busy, and yet oh-so-ordinary, life.

I have known Bob Roberts for years and have great love and respect for him. He has a proven track record of missional engagement, both locally and globally. From his extraordinary dedication and ongoing work in Vietnam, to getting to interact with well-known diplomats across the world, to training thousands of church planters over the past twenty years, Bob knows how to live a life on mission, and how to lead others to do the same.

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