

A SPOTLIGHT ON:

# Melba Padilla Maggay



*Getting to know the  
INFEMIT community*



Quezon City,  
Philippines

SPOTLIGHT SERIES

# Context



# Biography

"If I hadn't become a Christian, I would have been in prison, too."

Melba came to faith in university when she joined InterVarsity. She was a student and a young professional during the time of Martial law in the Philippines, which had a profound impact on her understanding of her vocation. Many of her colleagues were imprisoned for their criticism of the government. She even lost her first job as a reporter when the government was shutting down the free press.

# Biography

Mentored by



Miriam Adeney



Rosemary Dowsett



Andrew Walls

Melba did research on gospel and culture issues under the auspices of Tyndale House in the early 80's. At that time, there was no one in Cambridge who could advise her on the subject, so she was connected to Dr. Andrew Walls, who advised her and continued to mentor her through the years.

# Her Influence...

**"...As the Spirit leads"**

Melba and her colleagues Mac Bradshaw and Bill Dyrness and a number of her university friends founded the Institute for Studies in Asian Church and Culture (ISACC), with a desire to discern and respond to the needs of Filipino society as Christians. Melba is a true pioneer. She has often been moved to start new ministries or projects based on the Spirit's leading, even when uncertain about how things would work out. Melba has often been moved into action by her anger at evil and injustice and her attentive listening to the Spirit.



# Her Influence...

Melba helped frame the Micah Declaration in 2001, along with René Padilla, Dewi Hughes, and Tim Chester. She succeeded René Padilla as President of Micah Global in 2012. She has written several books and spoken at events across the world. Most of the holistic mission leaders in the Philippines have been mentored by her or her writing.

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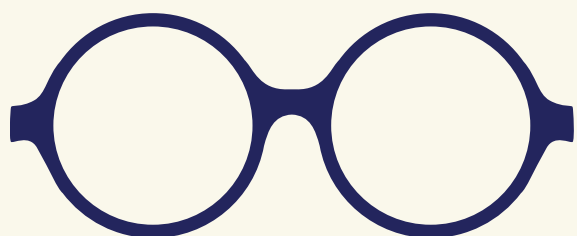
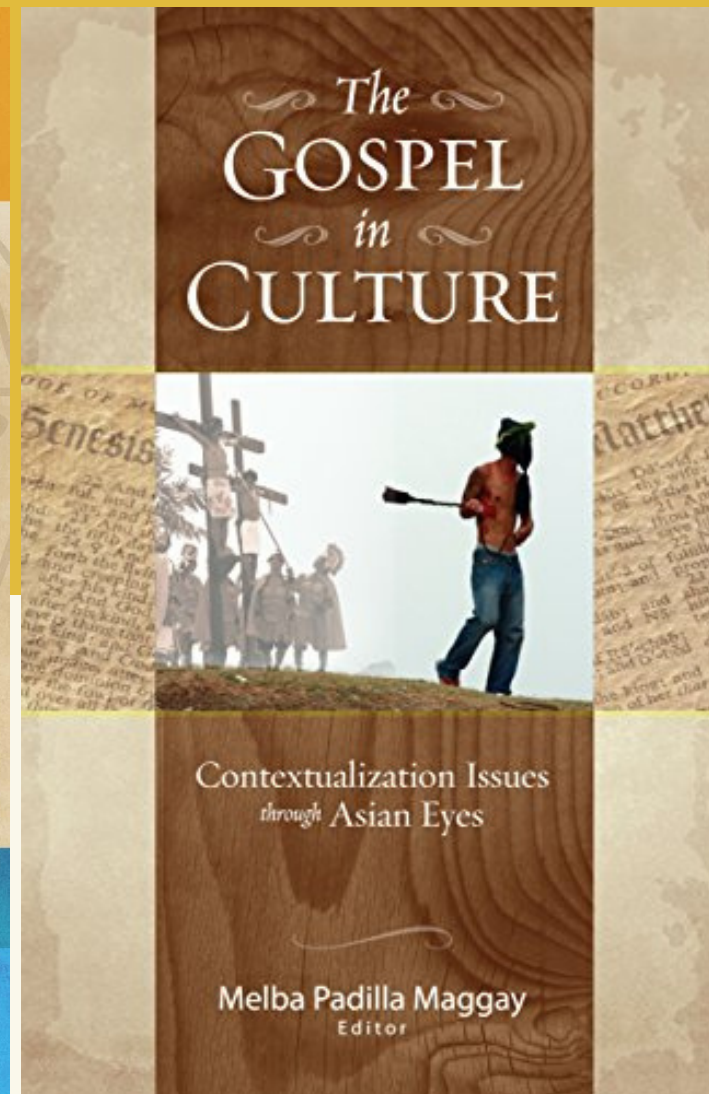
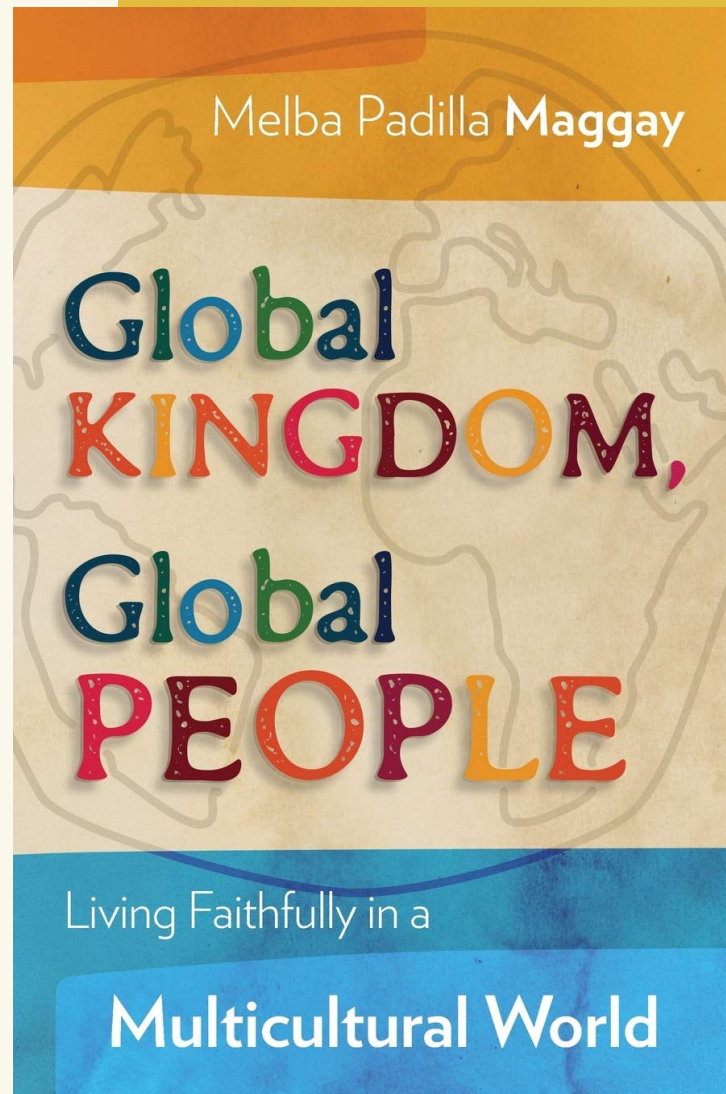
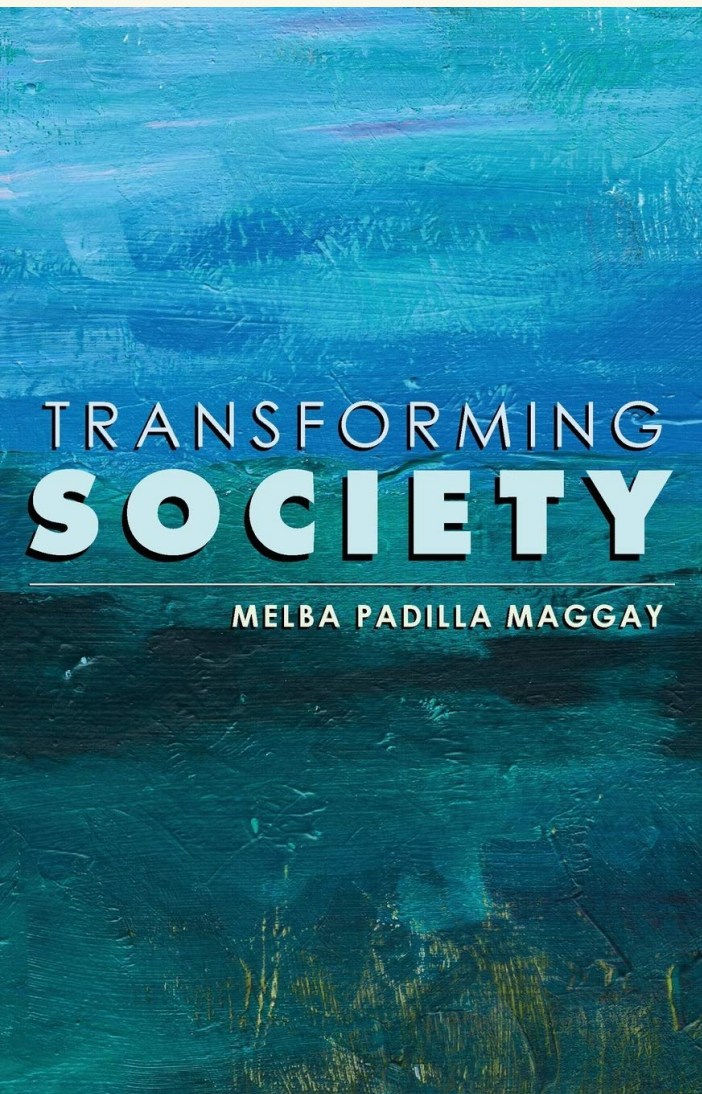
Let's ask the Lord  
together

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A COMMON PRACTICE OF MELBA'S IS  
TO INVITE PEOPLE INTO "A  
HERMENEUTICAL COMMUNITY"  
IN ORDER TO DISCERN THE LORD'S  
LEADING TOGETHER

# START HERE:

THE ESSENTIAL READER



## WATCH:

[The Global Church Project interview](#)



# LEARN MORE

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

### READ:

- [Rise up and Walk](#)
- [Filipino Religious Consciousness](#)
- [A Clash of Cultures: Early American Protestant Missions and Filipino Religious Consciousness](#)

### WATCH:

- [Videos](#): Weekly live webinars from ISACC (in the vernacular) and *ISACC Reflections* - webinars in English

### FOLLOW:

- [ISACC](#)
- [Langham](#)
- [Inquirer.net](#)

# SOURCE:



To learn about Melba's influence, we decided to ask one of her mentees. Fhabi Fajardo has been mentored by Melba for 20 years. Her own ministries include supporting Melba and leading Playback Theater, an improvisational storytelling method that serves as a psychosocial intervention for people who have experienced trauma.