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Back Cover: A missionary talks to God

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A missionary talks to God

You have sent me to the peoples of the world
— but not as I had figured it out.

I was going over there to teach
because I was a priest, because I was a white man —
I had all the solutions in my head.

I had to start learning all over.
To speak of Christ, I had to borrow the words
to tell Africans, poor in resources, but
rich in wisdom, what Christ would have told them.

I had to accept to be one
that could be done away with easily
and whose departure would not cause any problems.
I have been blessed a hundredfold
because others, growing in Christ,
have become my masters.
Because from now on it is their community
that is alive
and not the one I had imagined.

As a missionary I had gone to transplant.
Thanks to you I have just sowed.
I see the harvest coming.
It will be a young Church of young nations.
I don't want to miss out on what it will
create on its own.

Lord, thanks
for having opened new horizons for me.

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