

## **Abstract**

This thesis deals with the developing of a Wesleyan theological paradigm for cross-cultural ministry in the Philippine context based on the analysis of the Wesleyan theological framework of the Gospel and culture, the Philippine indigenous theology, and the precedent missiological paradigms of the Gospel and culture to animists and indigenous people.

The documentary analysis attempts to formulate a functional Wesleyan theological paradigm by synthesizing findings from various sources which aims for effective communication of the Christian message to the Philippines context. The correlation involves a critical examination of the Christological model and the nature of Christianity according to the Wesleyan persuasion as well as the in depth study of indigenous texts concerning religious consciousness which focuses primarily on God, Christ, and Spirit. Both theoretical backgrounds were analyzed with the practical missiological models applied previously by the Roman Catholic and Protestant Christianity to animists and indigenous people in Asia. A functional Wesleyan theological paradigm in the Philippine context is the result of this critical synthesis.

The findings in this study lead to the conclusions that cognitive frameworks are effective tools in theological contextualization pursuit. Modes of thinking relatively affect

theological reflections and the perception of Christian truths. The western mind is predicated by the rule of scientific logic or the either/or thinking whereas the Filipino presuppositions are governed by the rule of collective representation or the both/and thinking. Christianity is not bound by any cultural ultimates, ethical norms and belief-systems. Christological paradigm provides an excellent model for contextualization as divine method of Christian communication to all cultures. In the final analysis, theological paradigms are guiding principles that enhance cross-cultural ministry. It indicates the creative relationship between Filipino religious consciousness, the Wesleyan theological framework regarding gospel and culture and the precedent missiological models in relevant contextualization structure.