



 Abingdon Press®

SPRING & SUMMER 2018 TRADE CATALOG

 UPPER
ROOM BOOKS®

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A large, abstract watercolor splash in shades of orange and brown, centered on a white background. The splash has irregular, feathered edges and a textured appearance.

CHRISTIAN LIVING



Release: January 2, 2018 **Price:** \$22.99
 Jacketed Hardback **ISBN:** 9781501856426
Size: 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 320
BISAC: FAMILY & RELATIONSHIPS / PREJUDICE



KEY FEATURES

- Helps for parents, communities, church leaders and educators.
- Suggested answers for tough questions children ask.
- Age-appropriate help for parents and their children.
- Resources for events and workshops for parents, churches, and schools.
- Parents realize they aren't alone in tackling complex questions of race and identity.
- Provides an opportunity for parents to role play difficult conversations.

RAISING WHITE KIDS

Bringing Up Children in a Racially Unjust America

Jennifer Harvey

Help children function well in a diverse nation.

Raising White Kids is a book for families, churches, educators and communities who want to equip their children to be active and able participants in a society that is becoming one of the most racially diverse in the world while remaining full of racial tensions. For white people who are committed to equity and justice, living in a nation that remains racially unjust and deeply segregated creates unique conundrums.

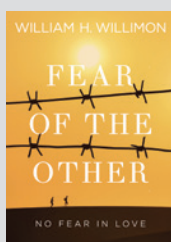
These conundrums begin early in life and impact the racial development of white children in powerful ways. What can we do within our homes, communities and schools? Should we teach our children to be “colorblind”? Or, should we teach them to notice race? What roles do we want to equip them to play in addressing racism when they encounter it? What strategies will help our children learn to function well in a diverse nation?

Talking about race means naming the reality of white privilege and hierarchy. How do we talk about race honestly, then, without making our children feel bad about being white? Most importantly, how do we do any of this in age-appropriate ways?

While a great deal of public discussion exists in regard to the impact of race and racism on children of color, meaningful dialogue about and resources for understanding the impact of race on white children are woefully absent. *Raising White Kids* steps into that void.

Dr. Jennifer Harvey is a writer, speaker, and professor at Drake University. Her work focuses on racial justice and white anti-racism. Dr. Harvey's most recent books include *Raising White Kids: Bringing Up Children in a Racially Unjust America* and *Dear White Christians: For Those Still Longing for Racial Reconciliation*. Dr. Harvey also contributes to *The New York Times* and *Huffington Post* and is ordained in the American Baptist Churches (U.S.A.). She lives in Des Moines, Iowa.

COMPARABLE TITLES



9781501824753
\$14.99



9781501837593
\$15.99

NEVER ALONE

Exchanging Your Tender Hurts for God's Healing Grace

Tiffany Bluhm

No matter what you are going through, you are never alone.

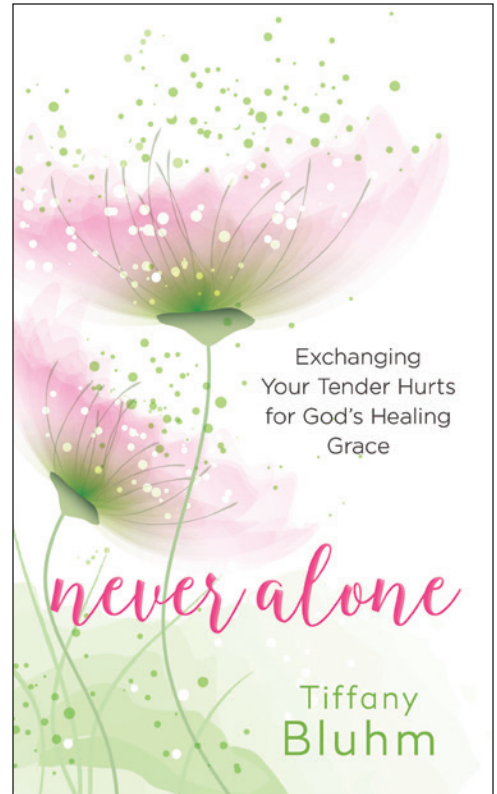
From the time we're little girls, we long to be loved and accepted—from the playground to the lunchroom to the places where we live and work as grown women. We do our best to prove we're lovable and to avoid being left all alone. But the truth is that it's impossible to walk through life without experiencing the pain and loneliness of betrayal, shame, guilt, loss, judgment, or rejection. These wounds can shape our views of ourselves, others, and God and even make us question if we are worthy of love and acceptance. Whether old or new, our heartache can convince us there's no one who understands or cares. Yet Jesus tells us a different story.

In *Never Alone*, author Tiffany Bluhm offers hope and encouragement that as our plans, hearts, and lives change, God does not miss a beat. What we may have mistaken for absence was only our mind questioning his goodness and grace. Tiffany reveals the depth and healing power of Jesus' unconditional love for us and how we will never escape his love. We do not possess that kind of power. If we are willing, we can discover the sacred truth that we indeed, are never alone.

Accept your invitation to find healing for your deepest hurts as we experience the unfailing companionship of Jesus—the Rescuer and Redeemer of broken lives and wounded hearts.

Bible study also available (see catalog page 22).

Tiffany Bluhm, author of the *Never Alone* trade book and Bible study, is a speaker and writer who is passionate about helping women come to know their value and purpose because of a loving, redeeming God. In a style that speaks to women right where they are, she shares insights from a life spent chasing after Jesus while walking alongside women from suburbia to the inner city, jails and brothels, and the slums of Kolkata. Tiffany is an advocate for international adoption, speaks regularly at conferences and events, and writes for a number of websites, print publications, and popular blogs, including the YouVersion Bible app, *Deeply Rooted Magazine*, and *ScaryMommy.com*. She lives in Tacoma, Washington, with her husband and two sons, and blogs at TiffanyBluhm.com.



Release: February 6, 2018 **Price:** \$16.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501848636

Size: 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 240

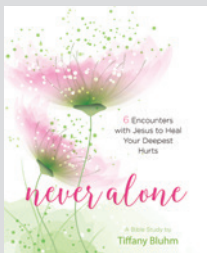
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / PERSONAL GROWTH



KEY FEATURES

- Claim or reclaim our value, worth, and role in the Kingdom.
- Recognize we are dearly loved and unconditionally accepted.
- Find healing from rejection, disapproval, betrayal, abandonment, and other hurts.
- See how the past affects our communion with God and others.
- Exchange shame and guilt for freedom.
- Lean into desperate moments.
- Gain a holy perspective through gratitude.
- Find belonging through belief and courage.

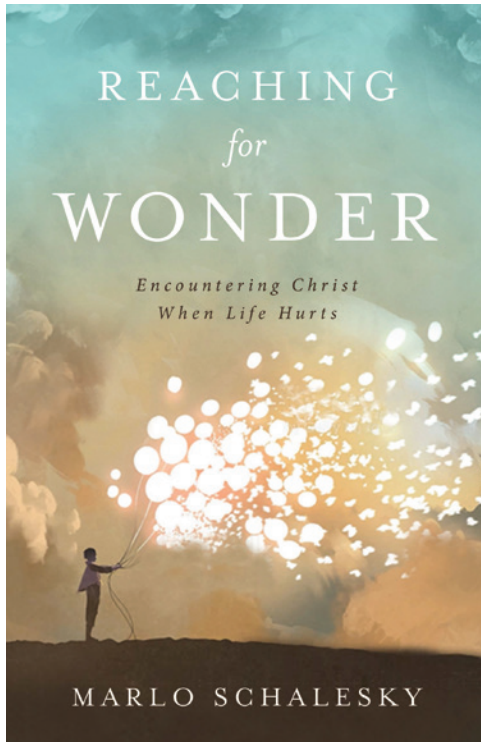
BY THE SAME AUTHOR



Bible Study

9781501845826

\$16.99



Release: March 20, 2018 **Price:** \$16.99
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501857782
Size: 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 240
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / SPIRITUAL GROWTH



KEY FEATURES

- Restores hope when life's plans have gone awry.
- Encouragement for those feeling distant from God.
- Reassurance for difficult times.
- Promotes a deeper and more vibrant faith through trust in God.

REACHING FOR WONDER

Encountering Christ When Life Hurts

Marlo Schalesky

Find restoration and healing for your weary soul.

Sometimes life hurts. Sometimes you've struggled, and stumbled, until it even hurts to hope. Perhaps you've faced a spiritual crisis of disappointment, doubt, or a feeling of distance from God due to unanswered prayers and painful circumstances. But what does it mean to encounter Christ in those times? What does he say to us when we have nothing left to say? How do we see him when pain has silenced our prayers and blinded our souls?

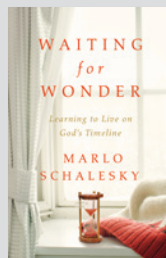
In *Reaching for Wonder*, Marlo Schalesky explores fifteen of the New Testament's one-time encounters with Christ to illuminate the surprising character of a God who transforms our pain into wonder. Because sometimes life isn't at all as we want it to be... Because we lose the wonder in the hardships of life ... Because encountering Christ changes everything...

Like those who have gone before, following God's call isn't about easy faith, a life of effortlessness, or every prayer answered when and how we want. Instead, it's about encountering God so deeply, so significantly, that everything about your circumstances, about your life, about you, changes because of God.

In these New Testament stories you'll find guidance to a deeper understanding of God's plan for you, a more vibrant faith, and a fuller trust in God. Plus you'll find hope in knowing that your life may not be as you had envisioned it, but is one in which God is doing a mighty work.

Marlo Schalesky is an award-winning author of ten books, including *Waiting for Wonder: Learning to Live on God's Timeline* and a companion leader guide, *Wrestling with Wonder: A Transformational Journey Through the Life of Mary*. A regular speaker and columnist, she has also published nearly 1,000 articles in various Christian magazines, including *Focus on the Family*, *Today's Christian Woman*, *In Touch*, and *Marriage Partnership*. Marlo lives with her husband, six young children, nine horses, two dogs, five cats, two parakeets, ten rabbits, two chinchillas, three hamsters, and a bunch of fish in a log home in Salinas, California. Find out more at VividGod.com.

BY THE SAME AUTHOR



Trade Book
 9781501820106
 \$16.99



Leader Guide
 9781501823572
 \$12.99

THE BLESSINGS OF MOTHERPRAYER

Sacred Whispers of Mothering

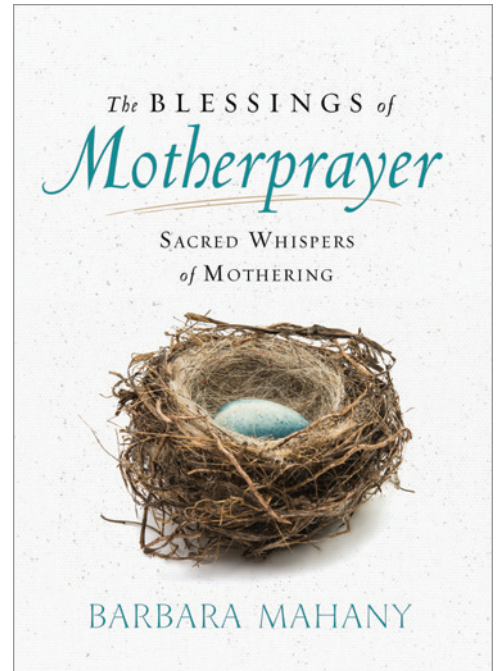
Barbara Mahany

Prayer, in words or loving acts, is one of the essential tools God bestows on mothers to calm their hearts and equip them for the whole of mothering and being fully alive.

Inspired by her book *Motherprayer: Lessons in Loving*, Barbara Mahany presents *The Blessings of Motherprayer* a lovely gift book featuring wisps of inspirational writings to carry you through the day, the hour, and whatever comes your way. The book is a patchwork quilt of inspiration and prayer, with a smidge of recipes. These meditative notes on mothering magnify the wonders and wisdoms of loving with a wide-open heart. They reveal that no matter which way you look at the motherhood role and parenthood, it is essential that every stitch along this broadcloth of hope, faith, and unwavering trust be knotted with and held firm by prayer.

The devotional is rich in reminders to slow time, and savor the blessing of each and every hour of each and every season of mothering, be it the rare quietude of time alone, or amid the cacophony of the daily bustle. Discover powerful quotes, heart-scripted prayer, and stories that invite you to pay attention, cradle your loved ones in prayer, and see the sacred lessons in loving. Be inspired to view life through a magnifying lens in search of God, to probe the nooks and crannies of our everyday, and find opportunities to infuse and focus on the holy in our extraordinary ordinary day-to-day.

From the front pages of *The Chicago Tribune* to her revered page-two columns, **Barbara Mahany** has opened her heart and told her stories and the stories of her family's life that have drawn in thousands of readers for decades. Bracingly honest and heartachingly daring, she explores the sacred mysteries with a voice recognizable and clear. Barbara is a sought-after speaker, retreat leader, writing teacher, and author of *Motherprayer* and *Slowing Time*. She lives with her husband, Blair Kamin, and two sons in Wilmette, Illinois. Learn more about Barbara at BarbaraMahany.com.



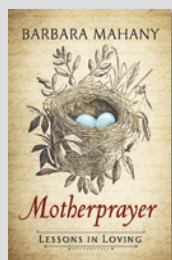
Release: April 3, 2018 **Price:** \$16.99
Hardback ISBN: 9781501857829
Size: 5 x 7 **Pages:** 208
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / DEVOTIONAL



KEY FEATURES

- Support and inspiration to mothers, and mother figures, of all ages.
- Inspirational readings focused on the holy through ordinary experience, making it immediate, profound.
- Encouragement for how to recognize and give thanks for one's life, actions, families, and situations.

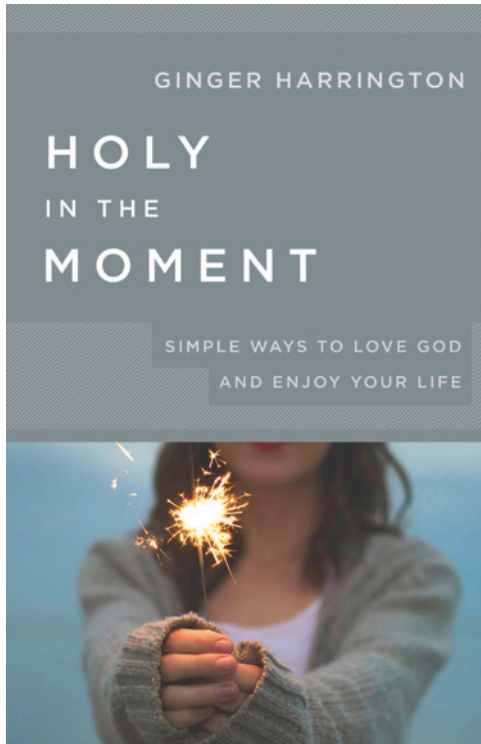
BY THE SAME AUTHOR



9781501827273
 \$18.99



9781426776427
 \$15.99



Release: March 6, 2018 **Price:** \$16.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501857805

Size: 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 240

BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / SPIRITUAL GROWTH



KEY FEATURES

- Helps women discover the practical power of trusting God in times of anxiety.
- Introduces the need for mindful choices to trust God in the moment.
- Explains practical ways to be holy by choosing to rely on God's wisdom, moment by moment.
- Looks at biblical foundations of forgiveness, acceptance, joy, and peace that unleash love for Christ.
- Explores act of abiding in Christ, rather than tasks.
- Shows living a praying life through continual conversation and communion with God.
- Helps establish daily choices to embrace truth and reject lies.
- Encourages choosing to have a good attitude to develop the foundation of joy.

HOLY IN THE MOMENT

Simple Ways to Love God and Enjoy Your Life

Ginger Harrington

Discover the difference choosing holiness in the moment can make in your life.

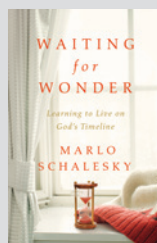
Enjoying life (zoe) in Christ comes in the choices we make moment-by-moment. Ginger Harrington invites women to discover how intentional choices made in the moment can become holy habits. With a refreshing perspective, she shows that holiness isn't a rigid standard to keep but a gift to receive through a vital relationship with God, who makes us whole.

Holy in the Moment explores the practical power of choices to grow in holiness without the pressure of perfectionism. Through gentle encouragement, biblical insights, and applicable ideas learn to discern feelings and overcome distractions and shame, adapt God's equation for obedience, live a praying life, discover methods for practicing holiness in parenting and the importance of rest, embrace biblical love and forgiveness, and understand how work becomes holy.

Re-energize faith with simple choices to love God, embrace truth, and enjoy every moment of life with practical ways to be holy by choosing to trust God, rely on his wisdom, and live from his resources.

Ginger Harrington is an award-winning blogger, speaker, and ministry leader. A military spouse and mom of three, Ginger helped create the *Planting Roots: Strength to Thrive in Military Life* military ministry where she now serves as coordinator of publishing overseeing content, speaks at regional conferences, and assists with social media. Her GingerHarrington.com website is slated to supply LightWorkers.com, a faith/family site being launched by Roma Downey and Mark Burnett, with ongoing features. She also writes for *Planting Roots* and guest posts for *Guideposts*, *(in)courage*, *The Praying Woman*, *For Every Mom*, and others. She lives in Woodbridge, VA.

COMPARABLE TITLE



9781501820106

\$16.99

WHAT MATTERS

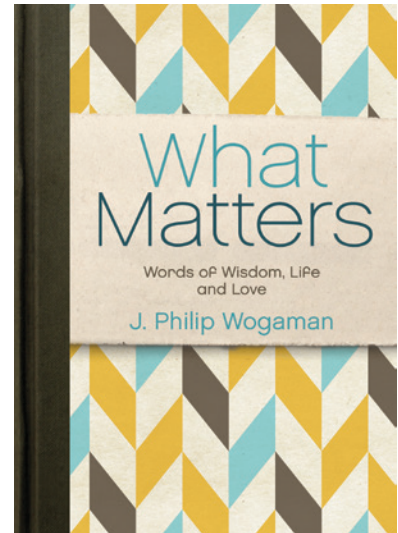
Words of Wisdom, Life, and Love

J. Philip Wogaman

Decipher what you can and should believe in.

In this “letter” to the next generation, Wogaman, a pastor, ethicist, and grandfather draws on a wealth of experience to share what truly matters. Today’s young people yearn for authenticity and truth. However, the important aspects of truth, character, politics, community, family, education, religion, and vocation can get muddled by our cultural experiences. *What Matters* addresses our broader cultural issues in the twenty-first century world. Explore why many young people have become disillusioned about major aspects of contemporary life. Wrestle with why is it hard to accept religious assumptions that were taken for granted in an earlier era. Contemplate the difficulty of seeing beyond self-serving politicians. Come to appreciate why religious, political, economic, and educational institutions still matter. By tackling tough questions about today’s world, we can come to better understand what’s truly worth believing in, and how our decisions and actions build a life that matters.

J. Philip Wogaman is former Sr. Minister at Foundry UMC in Washington, D.C. where he counseled Pres. Clinton during his presidency. He’s also formerly the Prof. of Christian Ethics at Wesley Theological Sem. (dean from 1972-83), president of the Society of Christian Ethics of the U.S. and Canada and the Amer. Theological Society, and an Interfaith Alliance founding board member. He lives in Silver Springs, MD.



Release: March 20, 2018 **Price:** \$13.99
 Hardback **ISBN:** 9781501859793
Size: 5.5 x 7.625 **Pages:** 144
BISAC: RELIGION/ CHRISTIAN LIFE/ SPIRITUAL GROWTH



THE PATH OF COMPASSION

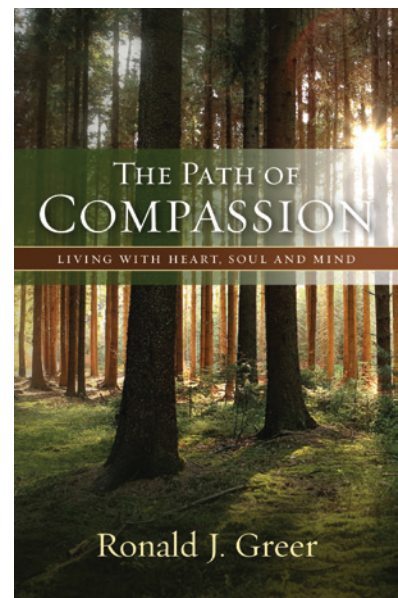
Living with Heart, Soul and Mind

Ronald J. Greer

Learning to live and love with compassion.

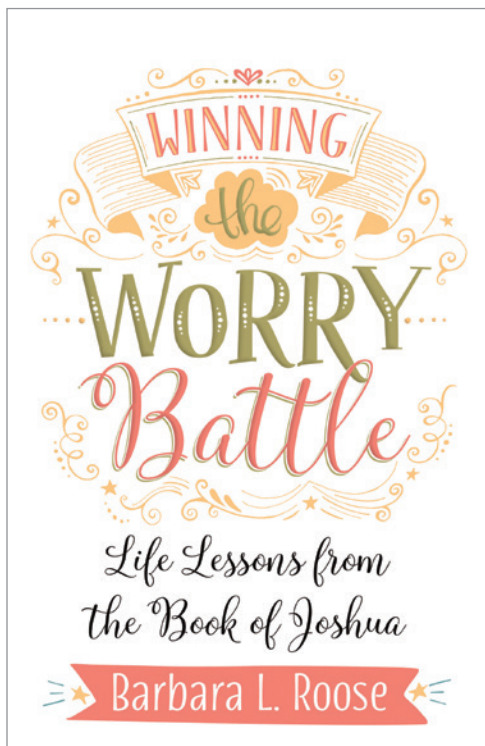
Greer, a seasoned pastoral counselor, explores engaging heartfelt empathy into an attitude of love and acts of kindness. The book is based on the foundational truths of the scriptures to love God “with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind” – and to love “your neighbor as yourself.” In three sections, he explores the loving compassion of the heart, soul, and mind helping persons of faith to mature into ever-deepening levels of grace, be more available with spiritual and emotional intimacy, and learn the dynamics of compassion to grow into their deepest and most caring selves.

Ronald J. Greer is the Dir. of the Pastoral Counseling Service at Peachtree Road UMC in Atlanta, Georgia, having been with this ministry for over thirty years. He is an ordained UM minister, a Fellow of the Amer. Assoc. of Pastoral Counselors, and a Clinical Fellow of the Amer. Assoc. for Marriage and Family Therapy. He has a BS. from Louisiana State Univ., a MDV from Candler School of Theology at Emory Univ., and a Th.M. in pastoral counseling from Columbia Theological Sem. He has authored *Now That They Are Grown*, *Markings on the Windowsill*, and *If You Know Who You Are, You’ll Know What To Do*. Find him online at RonaldJGreer.com.



Release: February 6, 2018 **Price:** \$16.99
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501858512
Size: 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 208
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / SPIRITUAL GROWTH





Release: April 17, 2018 **Price:** \$16.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501857843

Size: 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 240

BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / SPIRITUAL GROWTH



KEY FEATURES

- Be equipped with practical advice and tools for overcoming worry.
- Learn what it means to fight in faith and how to do it.
- Gain courage and confidence in God's promises and faithfulness.
- Experience God's victory in daily struggles and bigger battles.

WINNING THE WORRY BATTLE

Life Lessons from the Book of Joshua

Barbara L. Roose

Be victorious over worry in your life!

Have you ever tried to fight worry with faith and felt you were losing the battle? Have comments like "God's got this!" or "Just pray about it" left you feeling more burdened? We know we shouldn't worry, but the reality is that we all do. Whether it's personal worries about loved ones and daily circumstances or broader concerns about the world, we long for something more than platitudes to help us put feet to our faith and win the worry battle.

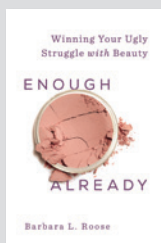
Many Christians don't have a full understanding of what the good fight of faith means. They try to live by faith but in the face of everyday trials and failures, they find themselves discouraged, wondering if they've done something wrong or if living by faith only works for others. The problem for most is a lack of understanding regarding what faith is and how it works. This book, inspired by the Book of Joshua, reviews three tools a person can develop to *Fight In Faith*: embracing God's promises, courage and commitment under pressure, and practicing radical obedience while waiting for God to deliver your victory.

Just as God gave the Israelites victory over their enemies and generously blessed them when they fought in faith, he promises the same for us. Following the examples of bold faith that God gave his people, we'll be equipped to bravely fight in faith and overcome both daily struggles and bigger battles. We'll be victorious in our fight of faith so that we not only radically transform our lives but unequivocally impact society.

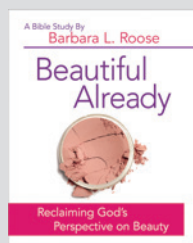
Bible study also available (see catalog page 26).

Barbara L. Roose is the author of the *Beautiful Already: Reclaiming God's Perspective on Beauty* Bible study and *Enough Already: Winning Your Ugly Struggle with Beauty* book. She's a popular speaker who encourages women to connect and apply God's Word at conferences and events across the country, including She Speaks. She blogs at BarbRoose.com and hosts the "Better Together" podcast. Previously she was the Exec. Director of Ministry at CedarCreek Church in Ohio and co-led their Fabulous Women's Conference reaching over 10,000 women in five years. Barb and her husband, Matt, live in Toledo, Ohio, and have three daughters.

BY THE SAME AUTHOR



Trade Book
9781426789014
\$15.99



Bible Study
9781501813542
\$15.99



Bible Study
9781501813603
\$16.99

HEAVENLY MINDED MOM

Embrace What Matters Most

Katie Bennett

Re-infuse hope and meaning into your everyday life.

The lives of moms are all too often consumed with wearisome, empty striving. We work to keep up appearances, meet worldly standards, and find satisfaction in the offerings of this life such as success, admiration, and ease. However, God has set eternity in a mother's heart, and deep inside, we long for more.

In *Heavenly Minded Mom*, author and blogger Katie Bennett beckons mothers into a new way of viewing our present reality by rising above the ordinary and routine to see a bigger plan and purpose for motherhood.

This uplifting book offers moms the wisdom of Ecclesiastes, wrapped in the hope of the Gospel, and presented in bite-sized portions. The 90 compelling meditations, scripture readings, and invitations to journal and reflect, will encourage moms to reevaluate how we envision our lives and to claim a heavenly mindset towards our mothering tasks. These inspirational readings will help us discover a new way of looking at our responsibilities as a mom through God's eyes.

Embrace a simpler life filled with God's promises and love as you reflect on God's powerful work as it has woven through your past and present in anticipation of its impact in the future and your spiritual legacy.

Katie Bennett, author of *Heavenly Minded Mom* and the Top Mommy Bloggers' *Embracing a Simple Life*, beckons mothers into a new way of seeing their present reality. An educator by trade, she stepped out of the career world and embraced a no frills, no extravagance or excess lifestyle. Just Jesus and her family—clearing out the excess and making the most of what matters most. Katie and her family live in the St. Louis, MO area. Follow her on Facebook.com/EmbracingaSimplerLife and embracingasimplerlife.com.



Release: April 17, 2018 **Price:** \$14.99
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501845529
Size: 5 x 7 **Pages:** 208
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / DEVOTIONAL



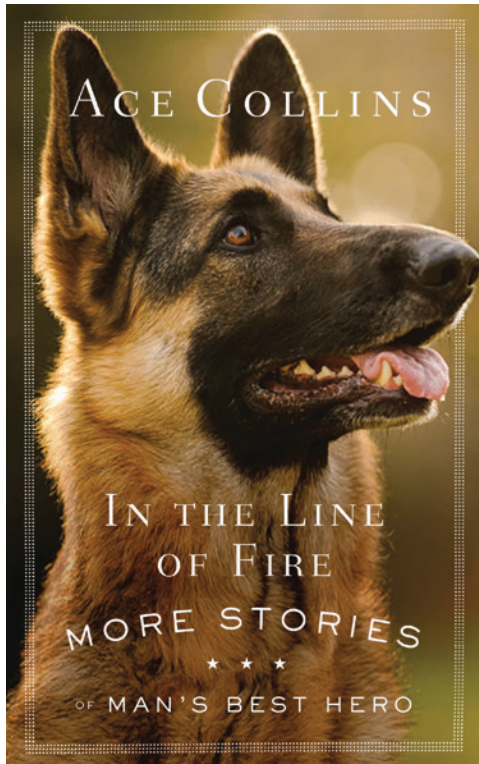
KEY FEATURES

- Questions and Bible study for personal reflection or starting group discussions.
- Recall moments of God's power in your life.
- Inspires you to stop reaching for the next thing in your life and start seeking God.
- Remember that God is faithful, we are in this together, and there is a plan for our lives.
- Feel confident in God's character and promises.
- Know you are loved no matter what.

COMPARABLE TITLE



9781501827273
 \$18.99



Release: May 15, 2018 **Price:** \$16.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501841866

Size: 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 224

BISAC: PETS / DOGS / GENERAL



KEY FEATURES

- Tales of dog heroism.
- True dog stories that inspire dog lovers everywhere.
- Stories of dogs that serve the military, law enforcement and medical field.
- Lessons about courage, faith, and loyalty.

IN THE LINE OF FIRE

More Stories of Man's Best Hero

Ace Collins

Heroes come in all shapes and sizes, and some even have paws.

Dogs have become more than mere pets, in the eyes of many these companions are friends and family. But when it comes to dogs that serve in the military, law enforcement, and medical field—they become equal members of the team. Each day, these canines' actions and reactions to often difficult situations impact the personal safety and care of men and women as they serve their communities and country.

In The Line of Fire: More Stories of Man's Best Hero shares moving and exciting stories of a dozen amazing canines whose lives have been constantly on the line. Dogs that have assisted Navy Seals, tracked criminals, set forth on life-saving missions, and even became goodwill ambassadors, empowering those with whom they work and often changing their industries forever.

Their incredible missions showcase the most positive aspects of the units with whom they've worked, while serving as narratives that teach mankind about courage, faith, and loyalty. After hearing these often edge-of-the-seat tales you might be encouraged to emulate the very animals that serve us.

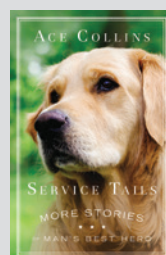
Ace Collins is the best-selling and award-winning author of more than sixty titles, both fiction and nonfiction, including *Man's Best Hero*, *Service Tails*, *Lassie: A Dog's Life*, *Music for Your Heart: Reflections from Your Favorite Songs*; *The Stories Behind the Best-Loved Songs of Christmas*; *Stories Behind the Hymns That Inspire America*; and *Untold Gold: The Stories Behind Elvis's #1 Hits*. Ace frequently speaks across the country and on radio and has appeared on national television shows, including *Good Morning America*, *The Today Show*, *CNN*, *Fox & Friends*, *Entertainment Tonight*, and many more. When not busy writing, Ace also works as a magazine editor and graphic designer. He and his wife, Kathy, live in Arkadelphia, Arkansas, with their collie Baby and their blind collie Sammy, who is their hero.

BY THE SAME AUTHOR



9781426776618

\$15.99



9781501820076

\$16.99

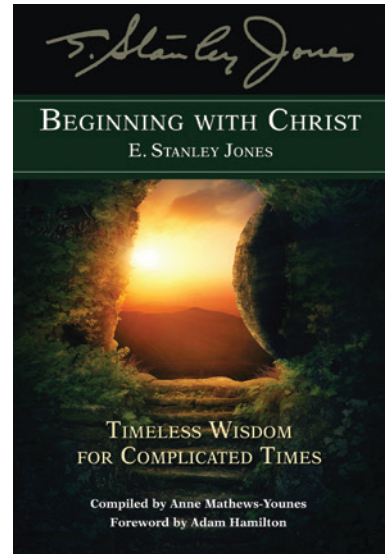
BEGINNING WITH CHRIST

Timeless Wisdom for Complicated Times

E. Stanley Jones

For E. Stanley Jones everything centered on Jesus is Lord. It shaped his extensive career as a missionary evangelist. In this book, compiled by his granddaughter Anne Mathews-Younes, selections from his devotional writings appear organized by theme and arranged chronologically as he wrote them. Readers can recognize how Jones's own spiritual journey progressed over time, how well he was able to understand human experience, and his rapport with people. These themes are timeless, and in some ways the church is still catching up with him new to E. Stanley Jones will become fans; preachers and speakers find material to quote from; and longtime readers will appreciate these selections in light of their more recent experiences.

E. Stanley Jones (1884-1973) was called "the world's greatest missionary evangelist" by Time magazine in 1938. He spent 70 years traveling throughout the world, presenting Christ as the universal Son of Man without the trappings of Western culture. He delivered tens of thousands of sermons and lectures, traveled 50 weeks a year, and often spoke two to six times a day. His message had a life-changing impact on the millions who heard him speak or read his books.



Release: February 20, 2018 **Price:** \$16.99
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501858710
Size: 6 x 9 **Pages:** 288
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / DEVOTIONAL



WHEN YOU PRAY

Daily Practices for Prayerful Living

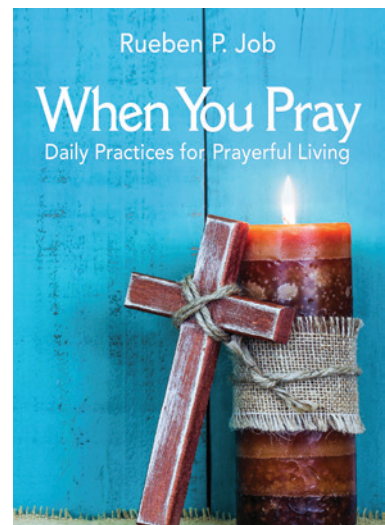
Rueben P. Job

Prayer is one of the most important areas of a Christian's life. Written in 2010 by spiritual formation leader, Bishop Rueben P. Job, *When You Pray* has reached over 20,000 readers since its publication.

His daily prayer guide offers a full year of readings and scripture and is an excellent tool to use in daily prayer time.

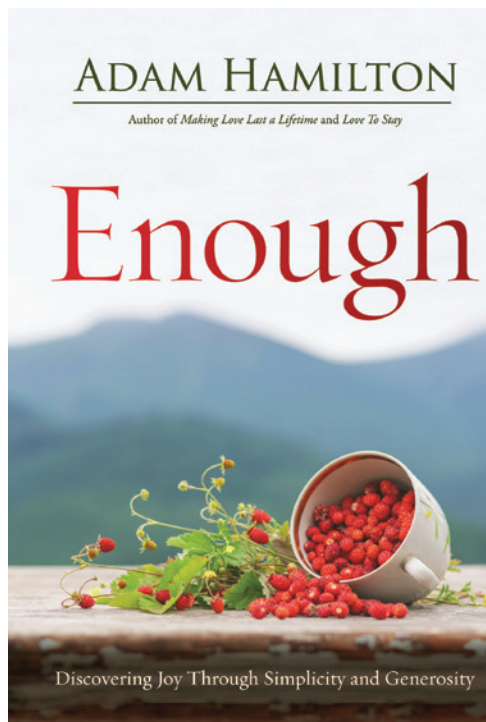
Each four-page weekly segment includes daily office of scripture, prayer, offering of self and blessing, a brief essay from the author, and collection of quotes from well-known voices in spiritual formation. The new edition will include the same weekly scripture suggestions and essays with refreshed quotes and additional material and prayers. In addition, readers will find helps in the back of the book offering ways to explore prayer as a group or as a family.

Rueben P. Job was a United Methodist bishop, pastor and acclaimed author and served as World Editor of The Upper Room publishing program. Best-known for the classic book, *Three Simple Rules: A Wesleyan Way of Living*, he also authored or co-authored *A Guide to Prayer for Ministers and Other Servants*, *A Wesleyan Spiritual Reader*, *Living Fully*, *Dying Well*, *Listen*, and co-edited *Finding Our Way: Love and Law in The United Methodist Church*. Bishop Job also chaired the Hymnal Revision Committee that developed the 1989 *United Methodist Hymnal*.



Release: April 3, 2018 **Price:** \$18.99
 Paperback (Flexibound) **ISBN:** 9781501858536
Size: 5 x 7 **Pages:** 272
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / PRAYER





Release: February 20, 2018 **Price:** \$14.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501857881

Size: 5 x 7 **Pages:** 160

BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / STEWARDSHIP & GIVING



KEY FEATURES

- The Leader Guide contains everything needed to guide a group through the four-week study including session plans, activities, and discussion questions, as well as multiple format options.
- Readers will understand the nature of true forgiveness and how to give and receive it.
- Provides scriptural encouragement for freedom through forgiving oneself as much as others.
- Short, readable chapters with personal stories.
- Perfect size and price to give as a gift.

ENOUGH

Discovering Joy through Simplicity and Generosity

Adam Hamilton

Learn how to reclaim a healthy biblical perspective on money and possessions

Money has great power in our lives. Used wisely, it is one key to accomplishing our goals, providing for our needs, and fulfilling our life purpose. In recent years, many of us ignored the wisdom of the past when it came to managing and spending our money. Credit card debt soared, savings rates plummeted, and our home equity became something to be tapped into and spent rather than a source of security in retirement. We felt an insatiable desire for more. And we found ourselves spending tomorrow's money today in order to have what we hoped would satisfy. The result of all of this was not greater happiness and satisfaction, but greater stress and anxiety. *Enough* is an invitation to rediscover the Bible's wisdom when it comes to prudent financial practices. In these pages are found the keys to experiencing contentment, overcoming fear, and discovering joy through simplicity and generosity. This book could change your life, by changing your relationship with money.

*"We Americans love our stuff. We're living in a fast-paced, me-first, instant-gratification world, and it's finally catching up to us. Debt is out of control, homes are in foreclosure ... even banks are going out of business. What the world needs today is the message of contentment and simplicity, and that's exactly what Pastor Adam Hamilton delivers in *Enough*."*

Dave Ramsey, New York Times Best-Selling Author and Nationally Syndicated Radio Talk Show Host

Adam Hamilton is senior pastor of The United Methodist Church of the Resurrection in Leawood, Kansas, one of the fastest growing, most highly visible churches in the country. The Church Report named Hamilton's congregation the most influential mainline church in America. Hamilton is the best-selling and award-winning author of *Moses, Creed, Half Truths, The Call, The Journey, The Way, 24 Hours That Changed the World, John, Revival, Not a Silent Night, Enough, When Christians Get It Wrong, and Seeing Gray in a World of Black and White*, all published by Abingdon Press. Learn more about Adam Hamilton at AdamHamilton.org.

UPDATED
& NOW IN
PAPERBACK!

COMPANION PRODUCTS

Stewardship Program Guide w/ Flash Drive		9781501857928	\$39.99
DVD		9781501857935	\$34.99
Leader Guide		9781501857904	\$12.99

WHY?

Making Sense of God's Will

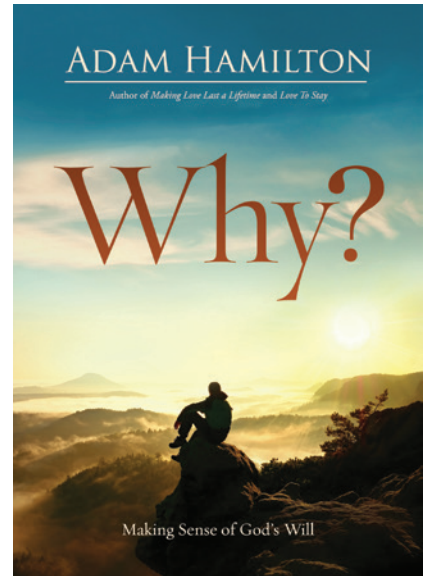
Adam Hamilton



Bring fresh insight into an age-old question of how to understand the will of God.

Where is God when tragedy and suffering strike? When the ground shakes, and a poor nation's economy is destroyed; when the waters rise, washing away a community's hopes and dreams; when a child suffers neglect and abuse; when violence tears apart nations, where is God? If God is all powerful, and if each one of us is a beloved child of God, then how can God allow tragedy and suffering to mar his creation? In *Why?*, best-selling author Adam Hamilton brings fresh insight to the age-old question of how to understand the will of God. Rejecting simplistic answers and unexamined assumptions, he lays out core ideas for comprehending God's plan for the world, including:

- God will not take away our free will, even when we use it to grieve him.
- God will never abandon us, especially in the midst of our suffering.
- While God is not the author of suffering, God will bring blessing out of tragedy.



Release: February 20, 2018 **Price:** \$12.99
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501858284
Size: 5 x 7 **Pages:** 112
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / PERSONAL GROWTH



COMPANION PRODUCTS

DVD w/ Leader Guide		9781426741463	\$39.99
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FORGIVENESS

Finding Peace Through Letting Go

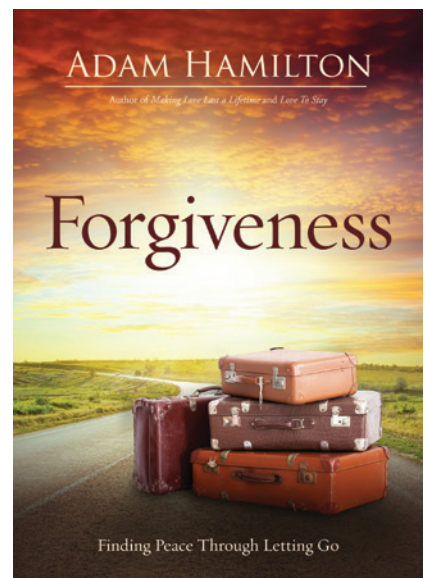
Adam Hamilton



Forgiving others is the key to freeing yourself.

There is nothing more crippling than holding on to anger. Anger, more than any other emotion, has the power to consume all aspects of our lives, distort our sense of purpose, and destroy our relationship with God.

In the passionate and life-changing book *Forgiveness: Finding Peace Through Letting Go*, bestselling author Adam Hamilton brings the same insight that he applied in the bestseller *Why?* to the challenge of forgiveness. Hamilton argues that revelation comes when we realize that forgiveness is a gift we give ourselves rather than to someone else. He also contends that only when we learn to forgive others and ourselves can we truly receive forgiveness from God.

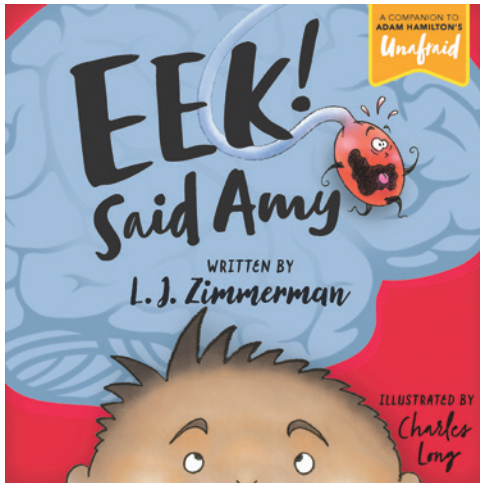


Release: February 20, 2018 **Price:** \$14.99
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501858499
Size: 5 x 7 **Pages:** 176
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / PERSONAL GROWTH



COMPANION PRODUCTS

DVD w/ Leader Guide		9781426756689	\$39.99
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Release: March 20, 2018 **Price:** \$9.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501858659

Size: 8 x 8 **Pages:** 36

BISAC: JUVENILE NONFICTION / RELIGIOUS / CHRISTIAN / GENERAL



EEK! SAID AMY

Adam Hamilton and L. J. Zimmerman

Meet Devon. Devon is a little boy that introduces readers to his friend Amy the AMYgdala! Amy helps Devon feel emotions, including fear. Through his friendship with Amy, Devon learns that fear helps him stay safe, but sometimes he needs to face his fears. This child-friendly companion piece to Adam Hamilton's *Unafraid* gives parents a tool to talk to their children about fear and faith. *EEK! Said Amy* includes additional resources for parents to explore fear and anxiety with their children.

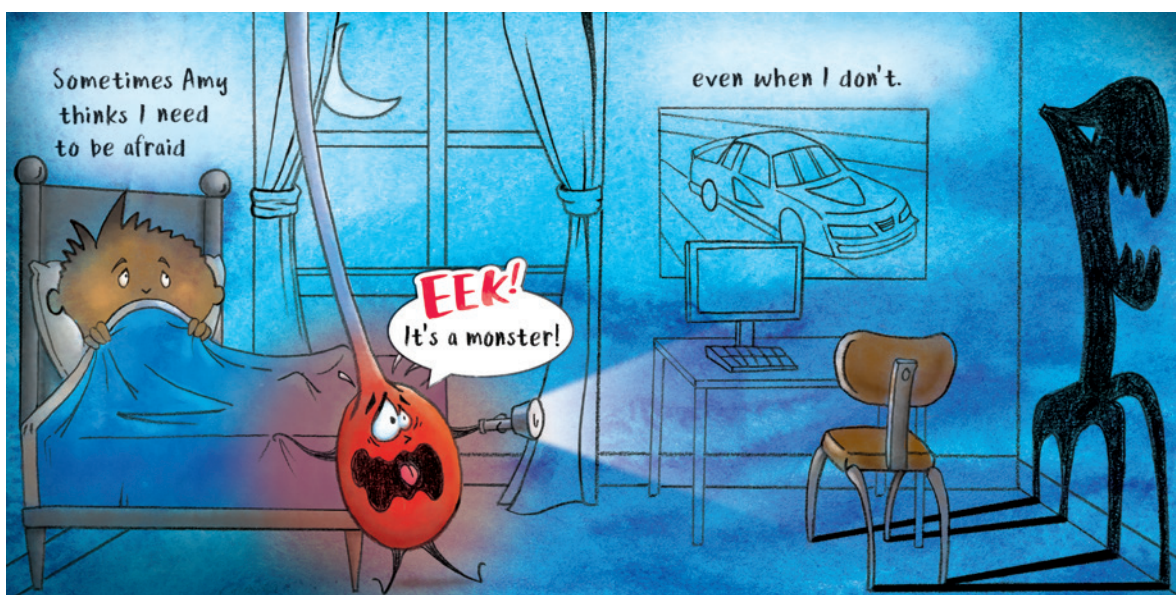
Recommended for ages 3-7.

L. J. Zimmerman holds a Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies from the University of Pennsylvania, and a Master of Divinity from Candler School of Theology at Emory University. Before coming to the United Methodist Publishing House, L. J. served as a Christian educator and minister to children, youth and adults in various congregations. She is the writer and editor of *Deep Blue Middle Elementary* and editor of *Deep Blue Rotation Stations*. L. J. enjoys witnessing the gift of children's spirituality through teaching Sunday School and leading Children's Worship. She also loves biking around Nashville, knitting sweaters, and hiking with her dog Luna.

KEY FEATURES

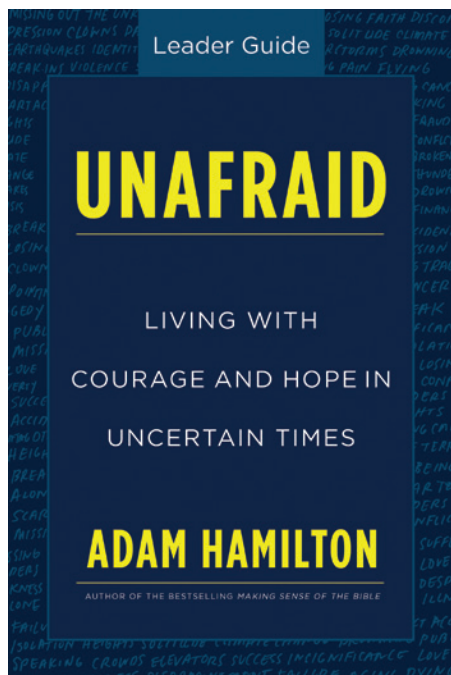
- Whimsical, entertaining illustrations.
- Practical, faith-based suggestions for dealing with fear.
- Parent tips and additional resources.
- Children-friendly companion piece to Adam Hamilton's bible study *Unafraid* (see page 18-19).

Sample spread





BIBLE STUDIES



Leader Guide

Release: March 6, 2018 **Price:** \$12.99
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501853739
Size: 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 64
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / SPIRITUAL GROWTH



KEY FEATURES

- Participants will learn to identify those anxieties and fears that are holding them back from experiencing God’s best for them.
- Participants will consider practical steps for overcoming their worries and fears and instead embrace courage and hope by trusting in the promises of God.
- Videos feature Adam Hamilton in six 10-12 minute sessions.
- The Leader Guide contains everything needed to guide a group through the six-week study, including session plans, activities, and discussion questions, as well as multiple format options.

UNAFRAID

Living with Courage and Hope

Adam Hamilton

Break away from your worries and fears, and learn to live with courage and hope.

Americans are anxious people. A recent study found that one in five of us has an anxiety disorder and we spend over \$2 billion a year on anti-anxiety medications. Often our life events play a significant role in our worries and fears.

In this study based on his book *Unafraid*, Adam Hamilton explores the most common worries and fears experienced by Americans today. Hamilton draws on the latest research, therapeutic insights, biblical principles, and personal experience to untangle the knots of fear and truly embrace Jesus’s recurring counsel to his followers: “Do not be afraid.” He considers practical steps for overcoming these fears, and reflects upon fear in the light of Scripture and a faith that promises again and again that we don’t need to live in fear. We can live with courage and hope.

Adam Hamilton is senior pastor of The United Methodist Church of the Resurrection in Leawood, Kansas, one of the fastest growing, most highly visible churches in the country. The Church Report named Hamilton’s congregation the most influential mainline church in America. Hamilton is the best-selling and award-winning author of *Moses*, *Creed*, *Half Truths*, *The Call*, *The Journey*, *The Way*, *24 Hours That Changed the World*, *John*, *Revival*, *Not a Silent Night*, *Enough*, *When Christians Get It Wrong*, and *Seeing Gray in a World of Black and White*, all published by Abingdon Press. Learn more about Adam Hamilton at AdamHamilton.org.

Unafraid trade book available from Convergent Books
 9781524760335, \$22.00

COMPANION PRODUCTS			
DVD		9781501853753	\$39.99
Youth Leader Guide		9781501853821	\$11.99
Children’s Leader Guide		9781501853845	\$18.99

FINAL WORDS FROM THE CROSS

Adam Hamilton



The words he saved for last.

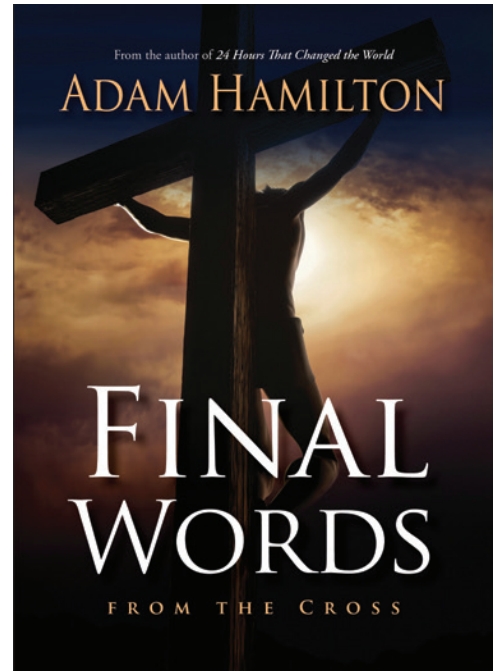
In life and in death, Jesus' words were powerful and meaningful. Despite the serious effort and increased pain required for Jesus to speak as he hung on the cross, Jesus spoke six "final words"—statements that have much to teach us about Jesus, his Father, and ourselves:

- Father, Forgive Them
- Today You Will Be with Me in Paradise
- Behold Your Son... Behold Your Mother
- My God, My God, Why Have You Forsaken Me?
- I Thirst
- It Is Finished... Into Your Hands I Commit My Spirit

In *24 Hours That Changed the World*, Adam Hamilton took us on a Lenten journey through the last day of Jesus' life. Now in this inspiring follow-up book, Hamilton explores these final words as seen and heard through the eyes and ears of those who stood near the cross.

Each chapter begins with the biblical account followed by a first-person story as might have been told from the viewpoint of one of the characters at the cross. Then the chapter explores the meaning of Jesus' dying words for our lives today. Following the last statement, a postscript recounts the words Jesus spoke following his resurrection, including what truly were the final words Jesus spoke while walking this earth.

Adam Hamilton is senior pastor of The United Methodist Church of the Resurrection in Leawood, Kansas, one of the fastest growing, most highly visible churches in the country. The Church Report named Hamilton's congregation the most influential mainline church in America. Hamilton is the best-selling and award-winning author of *Moses*, *Creed*, *Half Truths*, *The Call*, *The Journey*, *The Way*, *24 Hours That Changed the World*, *John*, *Revival*, *Not a Silent Night*, *Enough*, *When Christians Get It Wrong*, and *Seeing Gray in a World of Black and White*, all published by Abingdon Press. Learn more about Adam Hamilton at AdamHamilton.org.



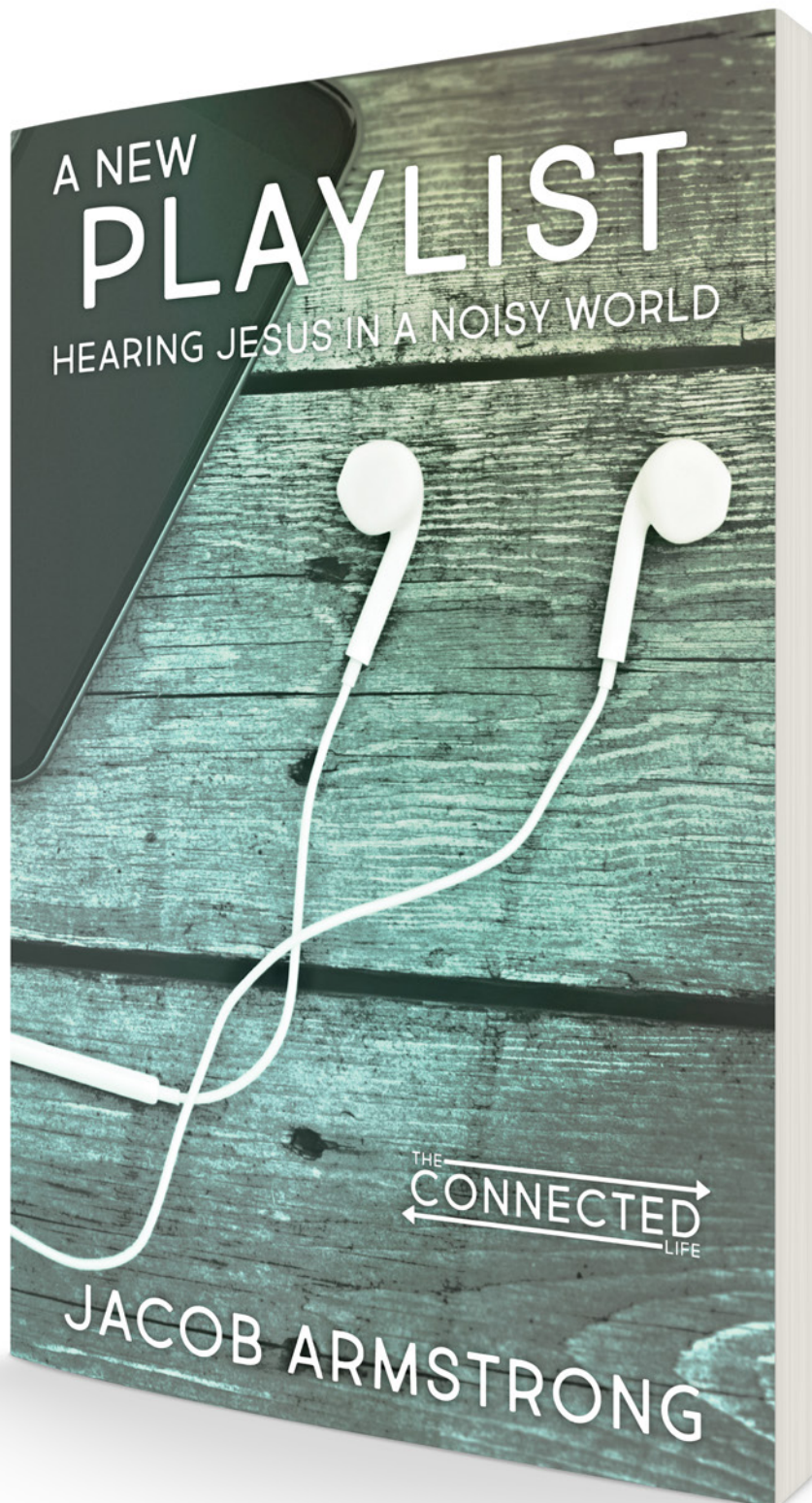
Release: February 20, 2018 **Price:** \$14.99
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501858475
Size: 5 x 7 **Pages:** 160
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN EDUCATION / ADULT



KEY FEATURES

- The perfect follow-up resource to *24 Hours That Changed the World*.
- Seven-session DVD featuring Adam Hamilton helps launch discussion in the small-group experience.
- Personal approach helps the reader to imagine being at the foot of the cross.
- Using character stories and research, Hamilton brings new insights to the crucifixion narrative.
- Final session on the Emmaus experience brings a fresh twist on Jesus' last words.
- Simple and streamlined Leader Guide helps facilitate discussion in small groups.

COMPANION PRODUCTS			
DVD		9781426746833	\$39.99
Leader Guide		9781426746840	\$11.99



A NEW PLAYLIST

Hearing Jesus in a Noisy World

Jacob Armstrong

Create a new playlist for your life that has you saying yes to Jesus.

Whether we know it or not, we are living with a playlist. Caused by schedule overload and multiple distractions the playlist sounds like this: You have to do everything. You have to say “yes” to everything. You are supposed to be in all places at all times.

Jesus gives us a different playlist. It says: You are supposed to do two things: love God and love your neighbor. Saying no is often the best yes. You can only be at one place at a time. This book addresses the anxiety, distraction addiction, and schedule overload that result from listening to the world’s playlist and gives us permission to hear and live by Jesus’ words.

KEY FEATURES

- Learn to cut through the distractions in life to hear more clearly from God.
- Learn to say “no” to people more often so you can say “yes” to God’s best for you.
- Perfect for Christians at all stages of their spiritual journey.
- Book can be a stand-alone resource or combined with the DVD and Leader Guide for a six-week study.
- Also available: *The Connected Life: Small Groups That Create Community*

Jacob Armstrong is the founding pastor of Providence Church in Mt. Juliet, Tennessee. Providence’s vision is to see those who are disconnected from God and the church find hope, healing, and wholeness in Jesus Christ. Jacob is the author of *Treasure*, *The God Story*, *Upside Down*, *Loving Large*, *Interruptions*, *The New Adapters* and *Renovate*.

Release: February 6, 2018 **Price:** \$14.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501843471

Size: 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 128

BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / SPIRITUAL GROWTH



COMPANION PRODUCTS

Leader Guide		9781501843495	\$12.99
DVD		9781501843518	\$34.99

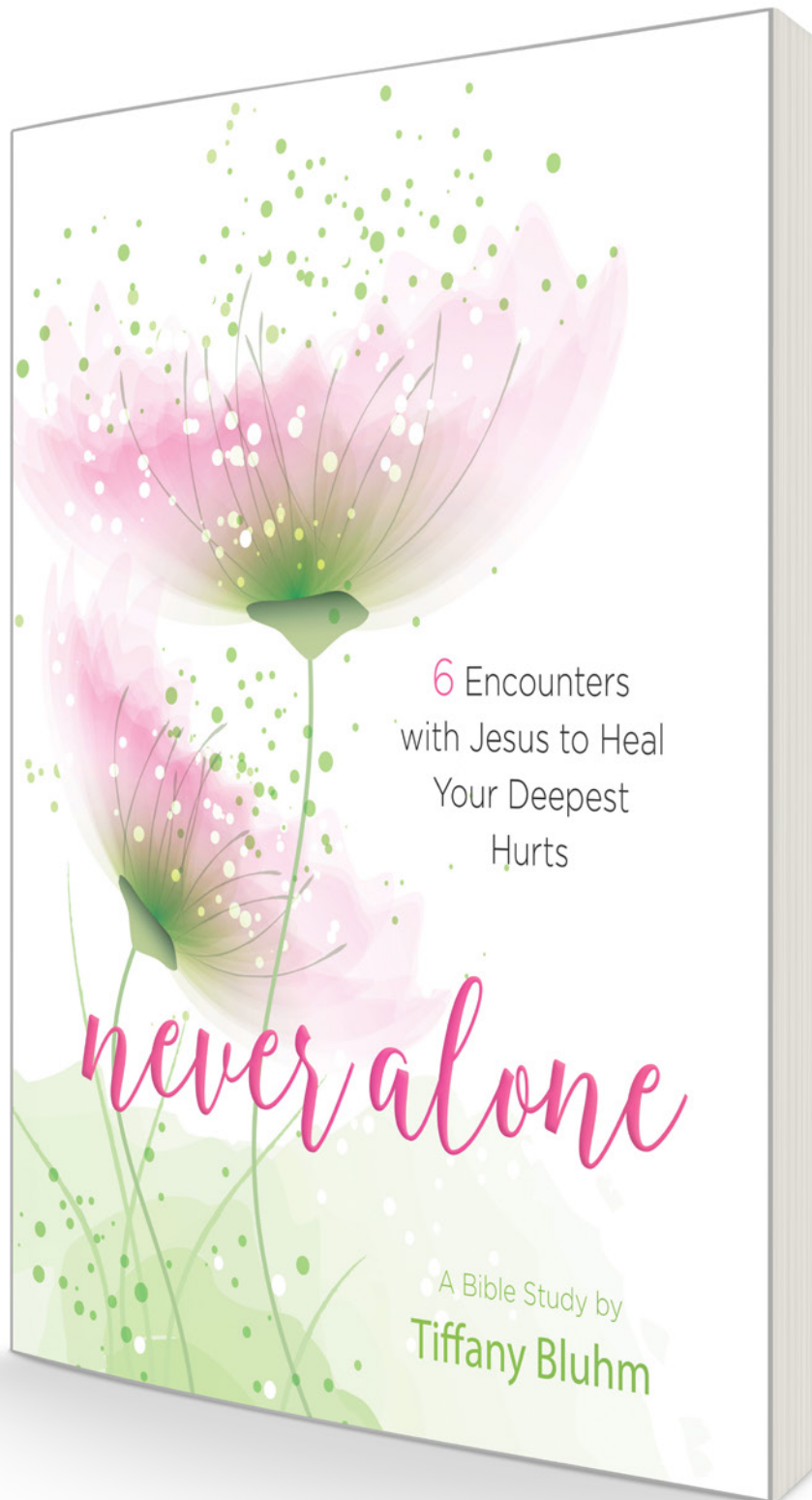
OTHER TITLES IN THE SERIES



Renovate
9781501843365
\$14.99



The Connected Life
9781501843457
\$16.99



NEVER ALONE - WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

6 Encounters with Jesus to Heal Your Deepest Hurts

Tiffany Bluhm

No matter what you are going through, you are never alone.

From the time we're little girls, we long for love and acceptance--from the playground to the lunchroom to the places where we live and work as grown women. We do our best to prove we're lovable and avoid being left all alone. But it's impossible to live life without experiencing the pain and loneliness of betrayal, shame, guilt, loss, judgment, or rejection. These wounds shape our views of ourselves, others, and God and make us question our worth and wonder if anyone understands or cares. Yet Jesus tells us a different story, promising we are never alone.

This six-week study reveals the healing power of Jesus' unconditional love through encounters He had with six hurting women in the Gospels: the woman caught in adultery, hemorrhaging woman, woman at the well, woman who anointed Him, Mary Magdalene, and Mary, Jesus' mother.

Each encounter reveals a compassionate Redeemer offering hope, second chances, and grace-giving love—helping us recognize and embrace our value and indispensable role in the Kingdom. With powerful teaching and authentic sharing from her own life and others, Tiffany Bluhm invites us to find healing for our hurts as we experience the unfailing companionship of Jesus—the Rescuer and Redeemer of broken lives and hearts.

Study components, each available separately, include a Participant Workbook with five days of lessons per week, Leader Guide, DVD with six 20-25 minute sessions (with closed captioning), and boxed Leader Kit containing one of each component.

KEY FEATURES

- 6-week in-depth Bible study on Jesus' encounters with six women in the Gospels.
- Claim or reclaim your value, worth, and role in the Kingdom.
- Recognize you are dearly loved and unconditionally accepted.
- Find healing from rejection, disapproval, betrayal, abandonment, and other hurts.
- See how the past affects communion with God and others.
- Exchange shame and guilt for freedom.
- Gain a holy perspective through gratitude.
- Find belonging through belief and courage.

Tiffany Bluhm, author of the *Never Alone* trade book and Bible study, is a speaker and writer who is passionate about helping women come to know their value and purpose because of a loving, redeeming God. In a style that speaks to women right where they are, she shares insights from a life spent chasing after Jesus while walking alongside women from suburbia to the inner city, jails and brothels, and the slums of Kolkata. Tiffany is an advocate for international adoption, speaks regularly at conferences and events, and writes for a number of websites, print publications, and popular blogs, including the YouVersion Bible app, *Deeply Rooted Magazine*, and ScaryMommy.com. She lives in Tacoma, Washington, with her husband and two sons, and blogs at TiffanyBluhm.com.

Participant Workbook

Release: February 6, 2018 **Price:** \$16.99
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501845826
Size: 8 x 10 **Pages:** 208
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / WOMEN'S ISSUES

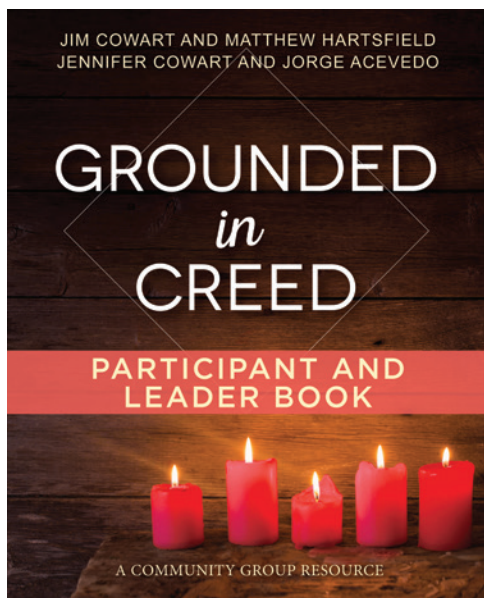


COMPANION PRODUCTS

Leader Guide		9781501845840	\$14.99
DVD		9781501845864	\$49.99
Leader Kit		9781501845871	\$79.99

ALSO AVAILABLE

Trade Book (see pg 5)		9781501848636	\$16.99
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Release: February 6, 2018 **Price:** \$12.99
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501849121
Size: 7.5 x 9.25 **Pages:** 112
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN MINISTRY / ADULT



KEY FEATURES

- Weekly memory verses.
- Study notes with additional commentary, background, or insights on the passage being studied.
- Application questions to help go beyond Bible study to biblical living.
- A six-week focus on core affirmations that Christians hold true for six weeks helps highlight the wide diversity of beliefs about Christian life together that are represented in every congregation.
- Groups bring focus, clarity, and accountability for the consequences of their shared beliefs.

GROUNDED IN CREED

Participant and Leader Book

Jim Cowart and Matthew Hartsfield
Jennifer Cowart and Jorge Acevedo

Understand core Christian beliefs.

This offer to community groups (and small groups of any kind) is a six-session study based on the Apostles’ Creed, which has served the church for nearly 1500 years as a basic summary statement about core Christian beliefs. This participant experience expands on the principle that “Growing People Change” their hearts and lives. This growth is accomplished by (1) understanding what changes in belief come through turning away from the practices that separate us from God, and (2) reflecting about our relationship to God while learning how to think theologically. The six sessions are:

1. I believe
2. In God
3. In Jesus
4. In the Spirit
5. In the Church
6. In the Promise

Grounded in Creed consists of a Participant and Leader Book and DVD with six video sessions.

Jim Cowart is the founding pastor of Harvest Church, a United Methodist congregation in Warner Robins, GA, near Macon. Jim serves as a trainer and coach, helping pastors launch and maintain healthy church environments.

Matthew Hartsfield is the lead pastor of Bay Hope Church in Tampa, Florida.

Jennifer Cowart is the executive pastor at Harvest Church. She co-preaches and directs Discipleship and Emerging Ministries.

Jorge Acevedo is the lead pastor at Grace Church, a multi-site United Methodist congregation in southwest Florida.

COMPANION PRODUCT

DVD 10-Pack		9781501849138	\$69.99
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THE JOY STEALERS

Overcoming Obstacles to Hope and Happiness

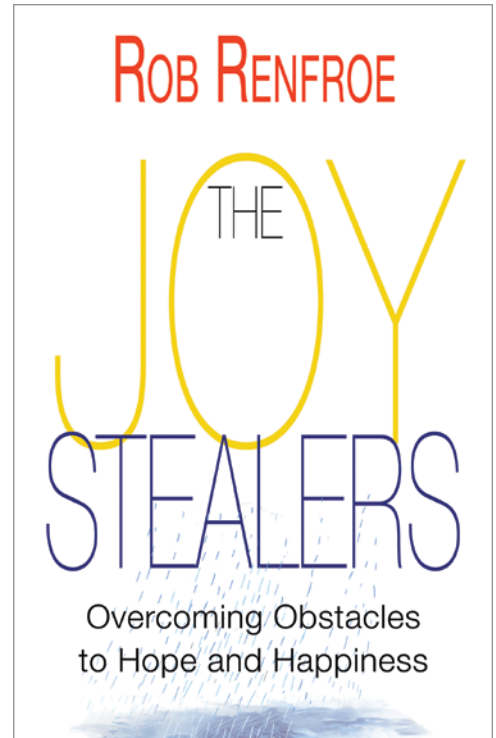
Rob Renfroe

There are many things that can steal your joy, but only if you let them.

What’s stealing your joy? Are you dealing with marriage problems, painful relationships, disobedient children, health concerns, financial struggles, or just the daily stresses and strains of life? Regardless of our circumstances, it’s true that in Christ we have everything we need for joy—the forgiveness of our sins, the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, a purpose worth living for, and the assurance of eternity with God. But whether we actually live with joy or allow something to take it from us is a choice each of us makes every day. Living with joy is a decision we make again and again as we’re continually faced with joy stealers such as worry, bitterness, guilt, negativity, and busyness.

Pastor and author Rob Renfroe addresses these common joy stealers and suggests how we can overcome them by making five simple yet transformational decisions that, through the power of the Holy Spirit, will enable us to have overflowing joy and be a continual blessing to others. A final chapter on living with joy provides encouragement and help for living in the fullness of God’s joy each and every day.

Rob Renfroe is Pastor of Discipleship at The Woodlands UMC in Houston, Texas; leader of the popular men’s Bible study Quest, attended by over 500 men; and the author of *The Trouble with the Truth* and *A Way Through the Wilderness*. He also is President of Good News—a national organization committed to the doctrinal integrity and spiritual renewal of The United Methodist Church. He and his wife, Peggy, are the parents of two adult sons.



Release: March 20, 2018 **Price:** \$14.99
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501857997
Size: 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 144
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / SPIRITUAL GROWTH

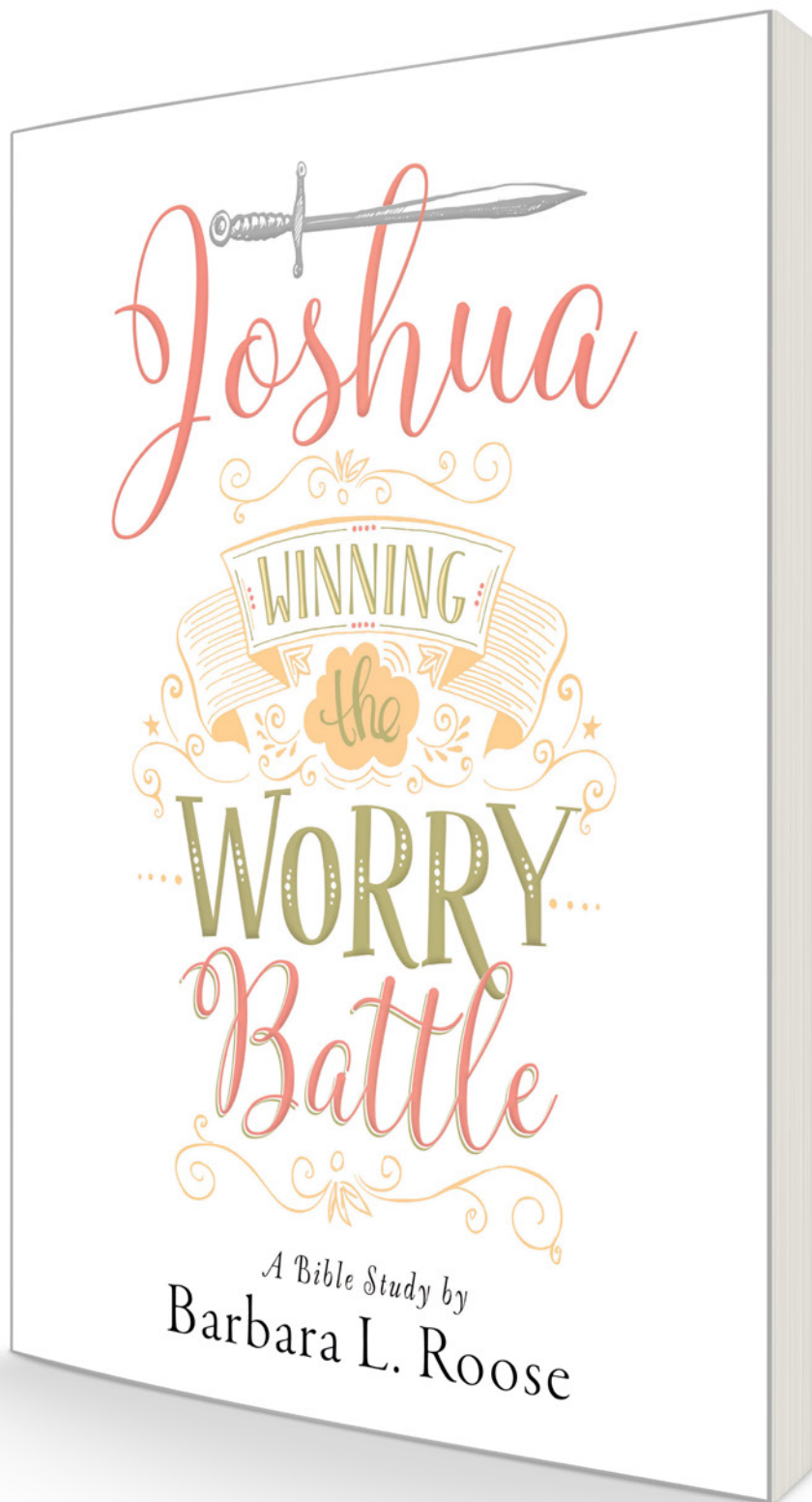


KEY FEATURES

- Readers will find help for ridding themselves of worry, bitterness, guilt, negativity, and busyness and learn how to choose joy instead.
- Explores five decisions that can help to enable us to live with overflowing joy.
- Book can be a stand-alone resource or combined with the Leader Guide for a small group, six-week study.
- Additional components for a six-week study include a comprehensive Leader Guide which includes a link to short downloadable video clips that can be used as lead-ins to group discussion.

COMPANION PRODUCT

Leader Guide		9781501858017	\$12.99
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JOSHUA - WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Winning the Worry Battle

Barbara L. Roose

Be victorious over worry in your life!

Have you ever tried to fight worry with faith and felt you were losing the battle? Have comments like “God’s got this!” or “Just pray about it” only left you feeling more burdened? We know we shouldn’t worry, but the reality is that we all do at times. Whether it’s personal worries about loved ones and daily circumstances or broader concerns about what’s happening in the world, we long for something more than platitudes that will help us put real feet to our faith and win the worry battle.

In this six-week Bible study on the Book of Joshua, we will join God’s people as they arrive on the edge of the promised land only to find themselves in hostile territory, faced with fear and uncertainty. As we dig into the story of how Joshua and the Israelites claimed God’s promised victory, we’ll discover that winning the worry battle requires more than having faith; it requires learning to fight in faith! Following their bold, courageous footprints, we’ll learn how to fight in faith as we internalize God’s promises, draw strength from God’s faithfulness, act in obedience to God’s commands, and believe what our limitless God can do. Through in-depth study of how God gave the Israelites victory over their enemies and generously blessed them, too, we’ll be equipped with biblical wisdom, encouragement, and practical tools that will enable us to overcome our daily worry struggles as well as the bigger battles of fear that we face. Study components, each available separately, include a Participant Workbook with five days of lessons per week, Leader Guide, DVD with six 20-25 minute sessions (with closed captioning), and boxed Leader Kit containing one of each component.

KEY FEATURES

- 6-week in-depth Bible study on the Book of Joshua.
- Uses tangible reminders (such as stones and scarlet rope) to reinforce application and commitment.
- Learn what it means to “fight in faith” and how to do it.
- Gain confidence in God’s promises and faithfulness.
- Develop bold, courageous faith.
- Be equipped with practical tools for overcoming worry.
- Experience God’s victory in daily struggles and bigger battles.

Barbara L. Roose is a popular speaker and author who is passionate about connecting women to one another and to God, helping them apply the truths of God’s Word to the practical realities and challenges they face as women in today’s culture. Previously she was the Executive Director of Ministry at CedarCreek Church in Perrysburg, Ohio, where she served on staff for fourteen years and co-led the annual Fabulous Women’s Conference that reached more than 10,000 women over five years. Barb enjoys teaching and encouraging women at conferences and events across the country, including She Speaks. She is the author of the Bible study *Beautiful Already: Reclaiming God’s Perspective on Beauty* and the book *Enough Already: Winning Your Ugly Struggle with Beauty*. She also writes a regular blog at BarbRoose.com and hosts the bi-monthly “Better Together” podcast. Barb and her husband, Matt, live in Toledo, Ohio, and are the parents of three beautiful daughters.

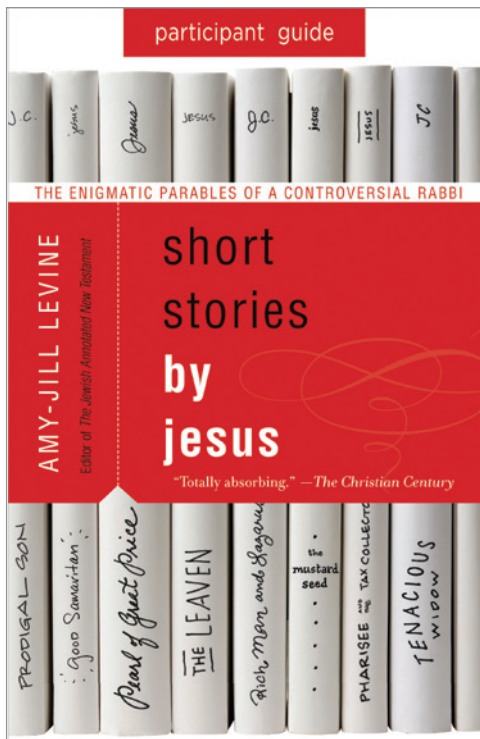
Participant Workbook

Release: April 17, 2018 **Price:** \$16.99
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501813603
Size: 8 x 10 **Pages:** 208
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE /
 WOMEN'S ISSUES



COMPANION PRODUCTS			
Leader Guide		9781501813627	\$14.99
DVD		9781501813641	\$49.99
Leader Kit		9781501813658	\$79.99

ALSO AVAILABLE			
Trade Book (see pg 10)		9781501857843	\$16.99



Participant Guide

Release: March 20, 2018 **Price:** \$12.99
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501858161
Size: 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 128
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / SPIRITUAL GROWTH



KEY FEATURES

- Amy-Jill Levine exposes the misinterpretations of many of the teaching parables of Jesus and makes them lively and relevant for modern readers.
- Includes Participant Guide, Leader Guide, and DVD featuring renowned biblical scholar, Amy-Jill Levine.
- The study highlights the main points of the parable discussions and makes the main book more accessible to readers.

SHORT STORIES BY JESUS

The Enigmatic Parables of a Controversial Rabbi
 Amy-Jill Levine

Explore a fresh and timely interpretation of Jesus' most popular teaching parables.

Jesus was a skilled storyteller and perceptive teacher who used parables from everyday life to effectively convey his message and meaning. Life in first-century Palestine was very different from our world today, and many traditional interpretations of Jesus' stories ignore this disparity and have often allowed anti-Semitism and misogyny to color their perspectives. In this Bible study based on her book, *Short Stories by Jesus*, Amy-Jill Levine analyzes these "problems with parables," taking readers back in time to understand how their original Jewish audience understood them. With this revitalized understanding, she interprets these moving stories for the contemporary reader, showing how the parables are not just about Jesus, but are also about us—and when read rightly, still challenge and provoke us two thousand years later. This participant guide provides an introduction to the main text as well as further Scripture commentary and reflection questions.

Amy-Jill Levine is E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Professor of New Testament Studies at Vanderbilt University Divinity School. She is the author of numerous books and articles on Christian origins, anti-Jewish theologies, feminism, formative Judaism, and the search for the "Historical Jesus." She has written *The Misunderstood Jew: The Church and the Scandal of the Jewish Jesus*; edited a twelve-volume series, the *Feminist Companions to the New Testament and Early Christian Literature*; and been awarded grants from the Mellon Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the American Council of Learned Societies.

COMPANION PRODUCTS

Leader Guide		9781501858185	\$12.99
DVD		9781501858208	\$39.99

A CRAZY, HOLY GRACE

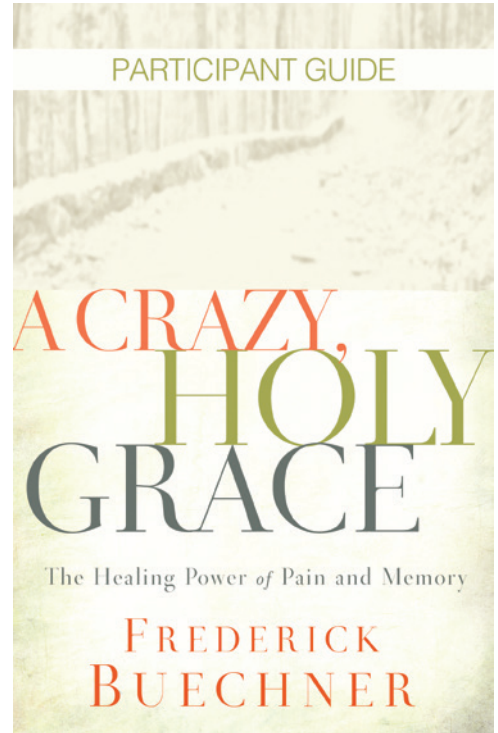
The Healing Power of Pain and Memory

Frederick Buechner

When pain is real, why is God silent?

This Bible study, based on acclaimed author Frederick Buechner’s book *A Crazy, Holy Grace*, examines his collection of essays on pain, loss, and the healing power of memories. Participants will explore God’s tender grace and learn how to be stewards of the pain in our lives. In addition, participants will cover such topics as the power of hidden secrets, loss of a dearly beloved, letting go, resurrection from the ruins, peace, and listening for the quiet voice of God. The study includes additional commentary and questions for a four-week Bible study with summaries for each essay as well as study questions and prompts for reflection and discussion.

Frederick Buechner is the author of more than thirty published books and has been an important source of inspiration and learning for many readers. A prolific writer, Buechner’s books have been translated into twenty-seven languages. He has been called a “major talent” by the *New York Times*, and “one of our most original storytellers” by *USA Today*. A finalist for the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Award, Buechner has been awarded honorary degrees from institutions including Yale University and Virginia Theological Seminary.



Participant Guide

Release: May 15, 2018 **Price:** \$12.99
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501858314
Size: 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 96
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / SPIRITUAL GROWTH



KEY FEATURES

- Readers will learn how to close old wounds with the memories of past goodnesses and graces from God.
- Includes Participant Guide, Leader Guide, and DVD that expound upon the main text.
- The essay format provides for consideration of four discrete texts, one never before published.
- The readings and study guide offer a strong introduction to the work of Frederick Buechner for readers who are new to his writing.

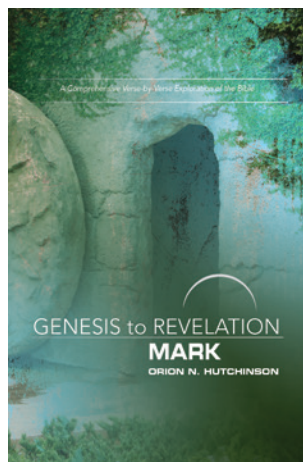
COMPANION PRODUCTS			
Leader Guide		9781501858338	\$12.99
DVD		9781501858352	\$39.99

GENESIS TO REVELATION

A Comprehensive Verse-by-Verse Exploration of the Bible

One of Abingdon's most beloved Bible studies has been updated!

This revision of the Abingdon classic Genesis to Revelation Series is a comprehensive, verse-by-verse, book-by-book study of the Bible based on the NIV. These studies help readers strengthen their understanding and appreciation of the Bible by enabling them to engage the Scripture. The simple format makes the study easy to use. Each volume is 13 sessions and has a separate leader guide.



MARK

Study the book of Mark, starting with the beginning of the gospel and ending with the movement from darkness to light. Some of the major ideas explored are: the master teacher, the miracle worker, down from the mountain, and the last mile of the way.

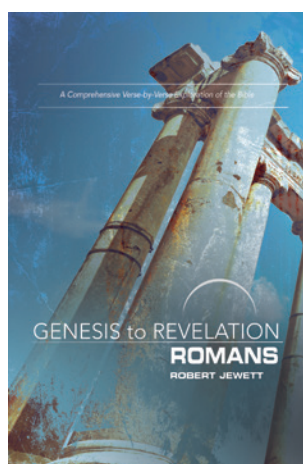
Participant Book		9781501855016	\$12.99	February 20, 2018
Leader Guide		9781501855047	\$13.99	February 20, 2018
Large Print Participant Book		9781501855023	\$13.99	February 20, 2018



LUKE

Study the book of Luke, beginning with a review of Jesus' birth and boyhood and ending with him experiencing Calvary and resurrection. Some of the major ideas explored are: keys to Jesus's public ministry, Jesus being recognized as the Messiah, the life of discipleship, use and abuse of power, and Jesus's response to difficult questions.

Participant Book		9781501855061	\$12.99	February 20, 2018
Leader Guide		9781501855092	\$13.99	February 20, 2018
Large Print Participant Book		9781501855078	\$13.99	February 20, 2018



ROMANS

Study the book of Romans, beginning with an introduction to Paul and following through his life and his call. Some of the major ideas explored are: his purpose and situation, righteousness and wrath, being set free from sin, new life in the Spirit, and a tolerant ethic.

Participant Book		9781501855115	\$12.99	February 20, 2018
Leader Guide		9781501855146	\$13.99	February 20, 2018
Large Print Participant Book		9781501855122	\$13.99	February 20, 2018

KEY FEATURES

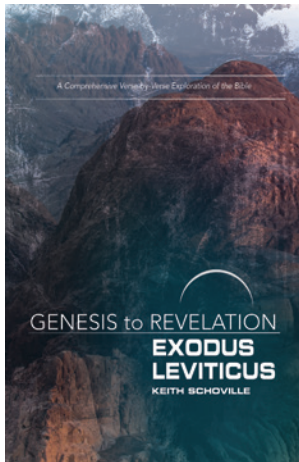
- Questions about the selected Bible passage for each session.
- Space to answer questions and make notes.
- NIV Translation.
- Participants will gain a better understanding of the bible and become more comfortable discussing the Bible.

BISAC: RELIGION / BIBLICAL STUDIES / OLD TESTAMENT

Participant Books
Paperback | 5.5 x 8.5 | 120 Pages

Leader Guides
Paperback | 8.5 x 11 | 120 Pages

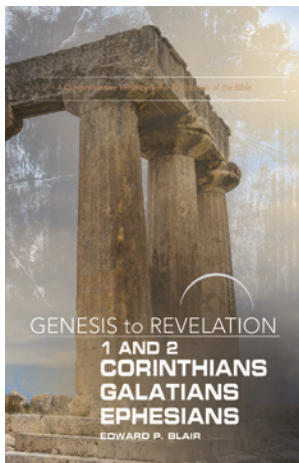
Large Print Participant Books
Paperback | 8.5 x 11 | 120 Pages



EXODUS, LEVITICUS

Study the books of Exodus and Leviticus, beginning with Moses’s story and ending with the priests and their duties. Some of the major ideas explored are: Passover and exodus, covenant laws, instructions carried out, worship and laws.

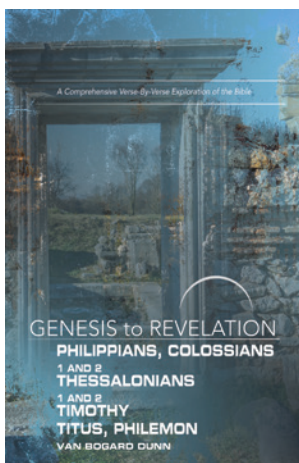
Participant Book		9781501855160	\$12.99	April 17, 2018
Leader Guide		9781501855191	\$13.99	April 17, 2018
Large Print Participant Book		9781501855177	\$13.99	April 17, 2018



1-2 CORINTHIANS, GALATIANS, EPHESIANS

Study the books of 1 and 2 Corinthians, Galatians, and Ephesians, and delve into the church. Some of the major ideas explored are: knowledge and love in the church, worship, open-hearted sharing, the false and true apostles, and the divine plan.

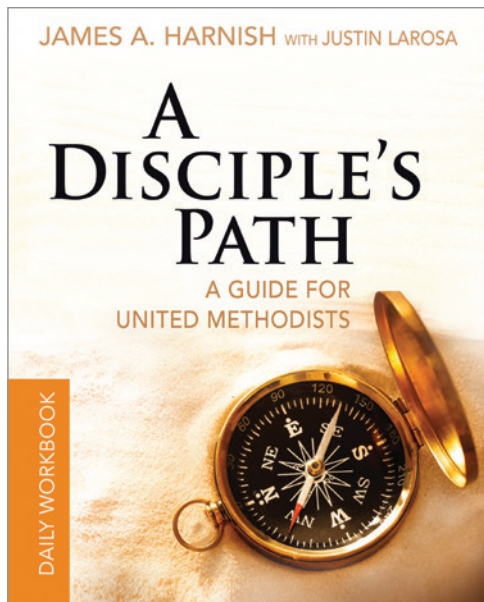
Participant Book		9781501855214	\$12.99	April 17, 2018
Leader Guide		9781501855245	\$13.99	April 17, 2018
Large Print Participant Book		9781501855221	\$13.99	April 17, 2018



PHILIPPIANS, COLOSSIANS, 1-2 THESSALONIANS, 1-2 TIMOTHY, TITUS, PHILEMON

Study the books of Philippians, Colossians, 1-2 Thessalonians, 1-2 Timothy, Titus, and Philemon, beginning with Christ’s obedience and ending with the Christian refreshment. Some of the major ideas explored are: obedience, faith and action, coming of the Lord, Christian endurance, and the life of grace in the church.

Participant Book		9781501855269	\$12.99	April 17, 2018
Leader Guide		9781501855290	\$13.99	April 17, 2018
Large Print Participant Book		9781501855276	\$13.99	April 17, 2018



Daily Workbook

Release: June 5, 2018 **Price:** \$14.99
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501858123
Size: 8 x 10 **Pages:** 128
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN MINISTRY / DISCIPLESHIP



KEY FEATURES

- Directs us towards a path of faithfulness to Jesus Christ and helps us to live more Christ-like lives.
- Perfect as an introduction for new church members or as a renewal for existing members.
- Guides us in faithfully fulfilling our membership vows of prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness.
- Guides us in time-tested practices of spiritual discipline.
- This Companion Reader provides deeper insight into the spiritual practices essential to the life of discipleship.

A DISCIPLE'S PATH

Deepening Your Relationship with Christ and the Church
 James A. Harnish with Justin LaRosa

Discipleship within the context of the United Methodist heritage and tradition.

A Disciple's Path is an engaging approach to discipleship from a distinctly Wesleyan perspective that is perfect for a new member class or other small group. The six-week program guides individuals to take the next step in discipleship and become dynamic followers of Jesus Christ and engaged, vital members of the local church. The study combines a Wesleyan understanding of our growth in God's love and grace with the time-tested practices of spiritual discipline expressed in the membership vows to uphold the church with our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. Participants will develop spiritual practices, discover their unique gifts, and become engaged in ministry that brings transformation in their own lives, the lives of others, and the world.

This Daily Workbook contains six weeks of daily readings (five per week) that guide participants in learning and practicing seven essential spiritual disciplines: Prayer; Scripture; Corporate Worship; Small-group Community; Financial Generosity; Gifts-based Service; Invitational Evangelism. Each day's reading includes a Scripture, a message for the day, questions and prompts for personal reflection (with space provided for recording responses), and prayer. A special introductory section includes material on the history, beliefs, and structure of the church and answers to frequently asked questions.

James A. Harnish is the author of numerous books and Bible studies, including *Make a Difference*, *Strength for the Broken Places*, *Simple Rules for Money*, and *You Only Have to Die*. He is an acclaimed pastor and ordained elder in The United Methodist Church who has led congregations throughout Florida, most recently Hyde Park in Tampa where he served for twenty-two years. In 2014, after forty-two years of active ministry, he retired from full-time ministry and moved to Winter Haven, Florida, where he lives with his wife, Marsha, and enjoys writing, reading, and playing with his grandchildren.

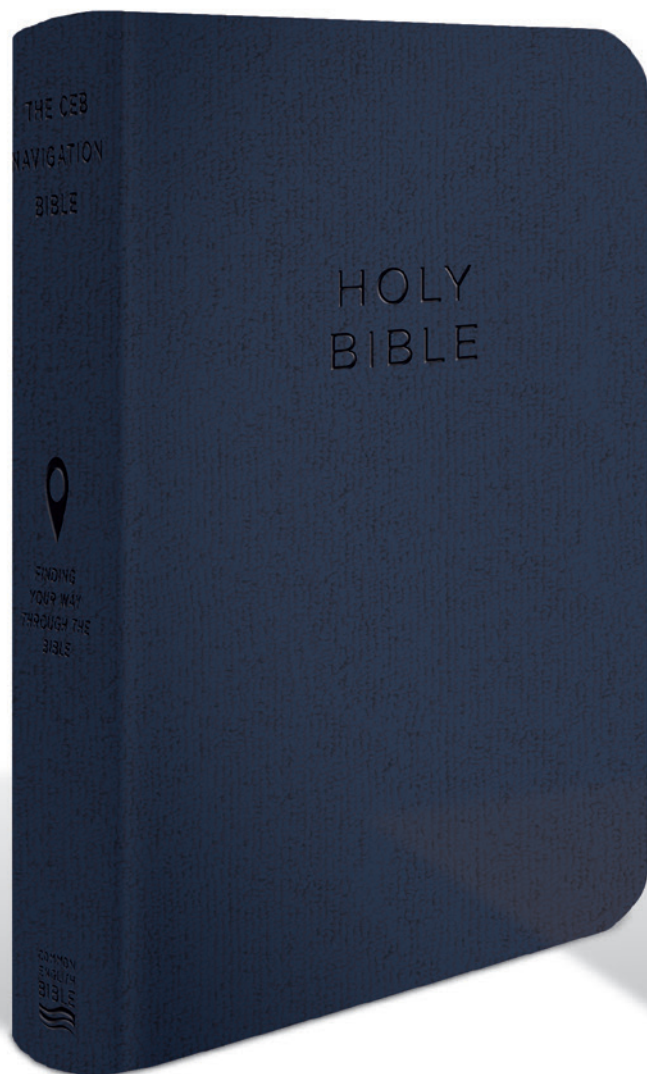
Justin LaRosa is a licensed clinical social worker and Deacon who leads the new ministry of Hyde Park United Methodist Church in downtown Tampa, Florida. He served for eight years as the Minister of Discipleship, working with a team of leaders to facilitate the process of organizing, training, empowering, and supporting laypersons. Justin is co-author with James A. Harnish of *A Disciple's Path* and *A Disciple's Heart*.

COMPANION PRODUCTS

Leader Guide with Download		9781501858031	\$25.99
Companion Reader		9781501858147	\$12.99
DVD		9781501858055	\$39.99

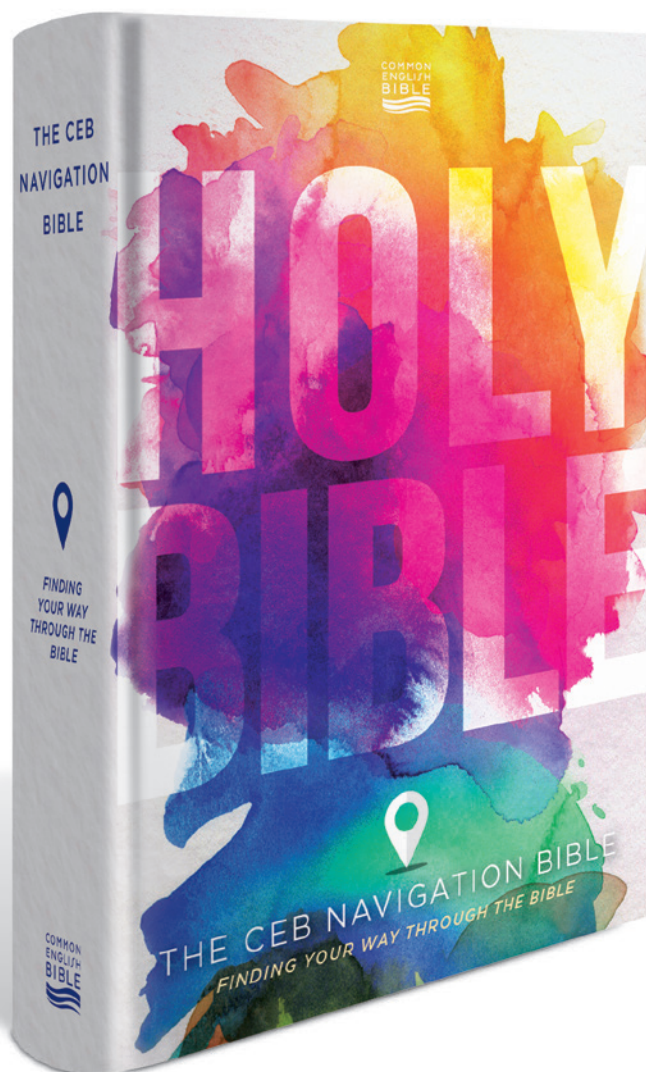
A large, abstract watercolor splash in shades of teal and blue, centered on a light beige background. The splash has irregular, feathered edges and a textured, painterly appearance. The text 'COMMON ENGLISH BIBLE' is overlaid on this splash.

COMMON ENGLISH BIBLE



Release: May 15, 2018 **Price:** \$34.99
Decotone **ISBN:** 9781609262136
Size: 5.375 x 8.375 **Pages:** 1584
BISAC: BIBLES / COMMON ENGLISH BIBLE / STUDY





THE CEB NAVIGATION BIBLE

Finding Your Way Through the Bible

Do you wish you knew more about the Bible but don't know where to start?

The CEB Navigation Bible is an easy introduction to the challenging world of the Bible. From a guide to looking up passages to a dictionary of terms, it has everything a person who is new to the Bible needs to quickly become comfortable exploring this ancient book and start growing in faith.

Ideal for many readers including Bible study leaders, new believers, and young people.

Available in two bindings: a graphic hardcover for repeated use, such as in a classroom, and a beautiful dark blue leather-like cover for those wanting a finer binding.

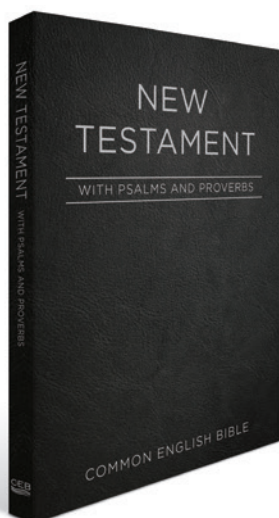
KEY FEATURES

- Brief introductions to each book of the Bible, complete with main characters, places, and memorable passages.
- Notes that are factual, devotional, and inspirational.
- List of favorite Bible stories and passages (with page numbers).
- 16 maps with index.
- Dictionary of Bible terms.
- Guide to using a Bible.
- Reading plans (with page numbers).

In a survey of almost 4,000 Common English Bible readers about their Bible-reading needs, 97% said this Bible was one they would buy or recommend.

Release: May 15, 2018 **Price:** \$26.99
 Hardback (Casebound) **ISBN:** 9781609262143
Size: 5.375 x 8.375 **Pages:** 1584
BISAC: BIBLES / COMMON ENGLISH BIBLE / STUDY





Release: February 6, 2018 **Price:** \$3.99
Flexibound **ISBN:** 9781609262129
Size: 3.5 x 5.25 **Pages:** 512
BISAC: BIBLES / COMMON ENGLISH BIBLE /
NEW TESTAMENT & PORTIONS



CEB POCKET NEW TESTAMENT WITH PSALMS AND PROVERBS

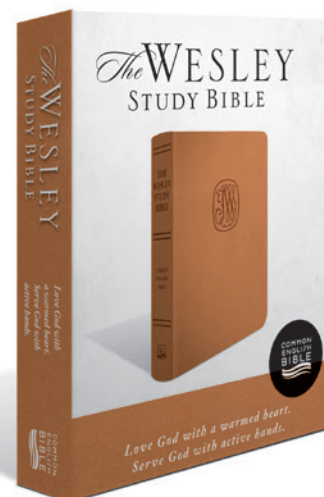
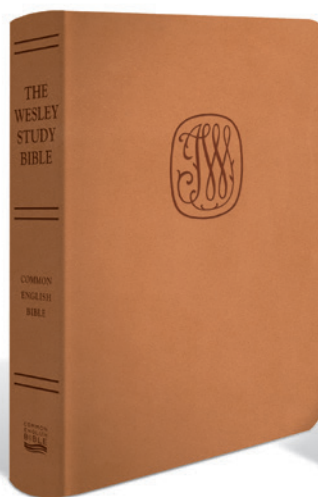
This pocket Bible's convenient size is ideal for outreach or as a personal Bible.

The CEB Pocket New Testament with Psalms and Proverbs is the ultimate portable companion for personal ministry or as a low-cost gift for others. Designed to fit conveniently in a shirt or pants pocket, it includes the full text of the beloved Psalms and Proverbs in addition to the New Testament.

An affordable and compact edition for personal and ministry use, this CEB is ideal for use in outreach because the translation removes language barriers to ensure a natural, enjoyable reading experience for everyone.

Group uses include:

- Inviting people to holiday services and other events.
- Welcoming visitors to a congregation or small group study.
- A thank-you for ministry volunteers.
- A resource for camping ministries and retreats.
- Outreach resource for events and missions.



Release: February 6, 2018 **Price:** \$59.99
Bonded Leather **ISBN:** 9781609262105
Size: 6.1875 x 9.1875 **Pages:** 1728
BISAC: BIBLES / COMMON ENGLISH BIBLE /
STUDY



THE CEB WESLEY STUDY BIBLE CLOVER HONEY BONDED LEATHER

Lead an abundant life, grow as a faithful disciple, and find new avenues to serve.

By studying The CEB Wesley Study Bible, readers will share God's grace and find the good gifts God has for them. As God transforms them through study, they will be inspired to transform the world. Contributors from across the Wesleyan family join together to help others experience God in fresh ways.

The Wesley Study Bible highlights the depth of John Wesley's perspectives on scripture and features accessibly written notes and articles contributed by pastors, theologians, and Bible scholars. Easy-to-understand explanations of core terms encompass the following themes: eternal life, forgiveness, grace, heaven, holiness, justice, and mission.

KEY FEATURES:

- Revised page design for easier study.
- Holiness of Heart & Life articles provide relevant lessons for today's Christians.
- Wesleyan Core Term notes provide a context and history of the theology of the Wesleyan faith.



CEB DEEP BLUE KIDS BIBLE COMPASS

Kids will dive deeper into God’s Word with this unique and award-winning children’s Bible.

This engaging, interactive Bible offers four-color icons and illustrations throughout with a wealth of notes, historical facts, book introductions, devotionals, and other interactive elements to capture inquisitive young minds. The Deep Blue Kids Bible encourages a thirst for God’s timeless message as young readers join three life-like kids in discovering the Bible and what it means to their lives. For children 7 to 12.

This new leather-like Decotone cover highlights the compass call-out of the Deep Blue Kids Bible and symbolizes the guidance biblical study can provide in a young person’s life.

KEY FEATURES INCLUDE:

- 4-color throughout.
- Presentation page.
- In-text subject headings.
- Bible dictionary.
- Eight full-color maps exclusively from National Geographic.



Release: April 17, 2018 **Price:** \$36.99
 Decotone **ISBN:** 9781609262112
Size: 5.3875 x 8.3875 **Pages:** 1472
BISAC: BIBLES / COMMON ENGLISH BIBLE / CHILDREN





NRSV CHILDREN'S BIBLE HARDCOVER

A new cover revitalizes this classic NRSV children's Bible.

For adult readers of the NRSV who want a consistent Bible-reading experience for the children in their home or church, this NRSV Children's Bible is one that kids 8 to 12 will enjoy reading.

Children will:

- memorize key verses of Scripture that will stay with them for a lifetime,
- learn and understand the will and attributes of God,
- continue to seek and align their life to God's will,
- learn about people and places of the Bible,
- learn to apply the Scripture in their lives today.

This new NRSV for children contains callouts that provide content designed to enhance the NRSV text. Icons draw attention to the specific types of callouts.

Release: March 20, 2018 **Price:** \$29.99
Hardback ISBN: 9781501858758
Size: 5.5 x 8.75 **Pages:** 1544
BISAC: BIBLES / NEW REVISED STANDARD VERSION / CHILDREN



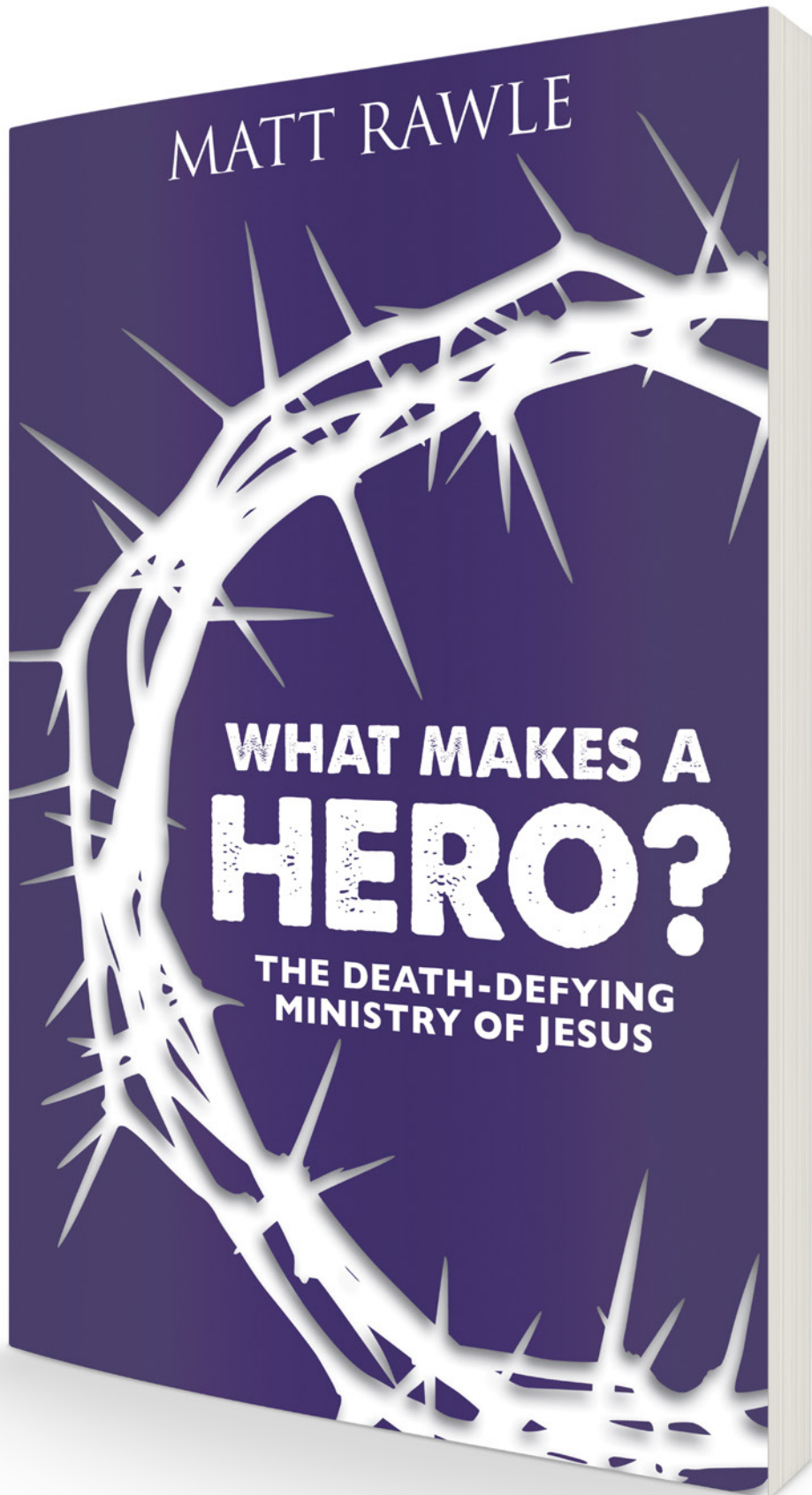
- **PATH**—The will of God, God's words, the message of Jesus.
- **COMPASS**—What the Bible says about how to align your life with God's will.
- **FLASHLIGHT**—Key verses worth memorizing.
- **POINT SIGN**—Facts about the Bible lands and life in Bible times.

Sample spread

The spread shows two pages from the Bible. The left page is titled 'Mark' and contains an introduction to the Gospel of Mark, explaining its authorship and purpose. It includes a callout box with a flashlight icon and a drawing of Jesus and his disciples. The right page is titled 'Mark 1' and contains the beginning of the Gospel, including 'The Proclamation of John the Baptist', 'The Temptation of Jesus', 'The Beginning of the Galilean Ministry', and 'The Baptism of Jesus'. It features several callouts with icons: a path icon for 'The first people Jesus called to be his followers were fishermen on the Sea of Galilee...', a compass icon for 'The first people Jesus called to be his followers were fishermen on the Sea of Galilee...', and a point sign icon for 'Jesus Calls the First Disciples'. The text is interspersed with these callouts and includes footnotes at the bottom.



INSPIRATIONAL & SEASONAL



WHAT MAKES A HERO?

The Death-Defying Ministry of Jesus

Matt Rawle

How does Jesus redefine what it means to be a hero?

What Makes a Hero? offers us an image of what it looks like to be victorious over trials and temptations. Looking at pop culture heroes and others through the lens of faith, Matt Rawle shows how Jesus turned the concept of hero on its head.

In keeping with his theme, “Pop in Culture,” the book examines how good vs. evil, right vs. wrong, and overcoming adversity are fundamental to how Christians understand salvation. Heroes help us discern the good, fight for what’s right, define identity, execute justice, spark revolution, and save lives. Rawle enters the Gospel story to tell quite a different victory story—one obtained through humility, obedience to the cross, and an empty tomb. How does Jesus redefine what it means to be a hero?

KEY FEATURES

- Readers will look at pop culture heroes through the lens of faith alongside the countercultural example of Jesus as a hero.
- Readers will learn to examine culture more closely, in order to rediscover and reinvigorate their Christian faith.
- A six-week study perfect for Lent and beyond.
- DVD features the teaching of Matt Rawle in 10-12 minute sessions.
- Leader Guide includes complete session plans for facilitating the study.

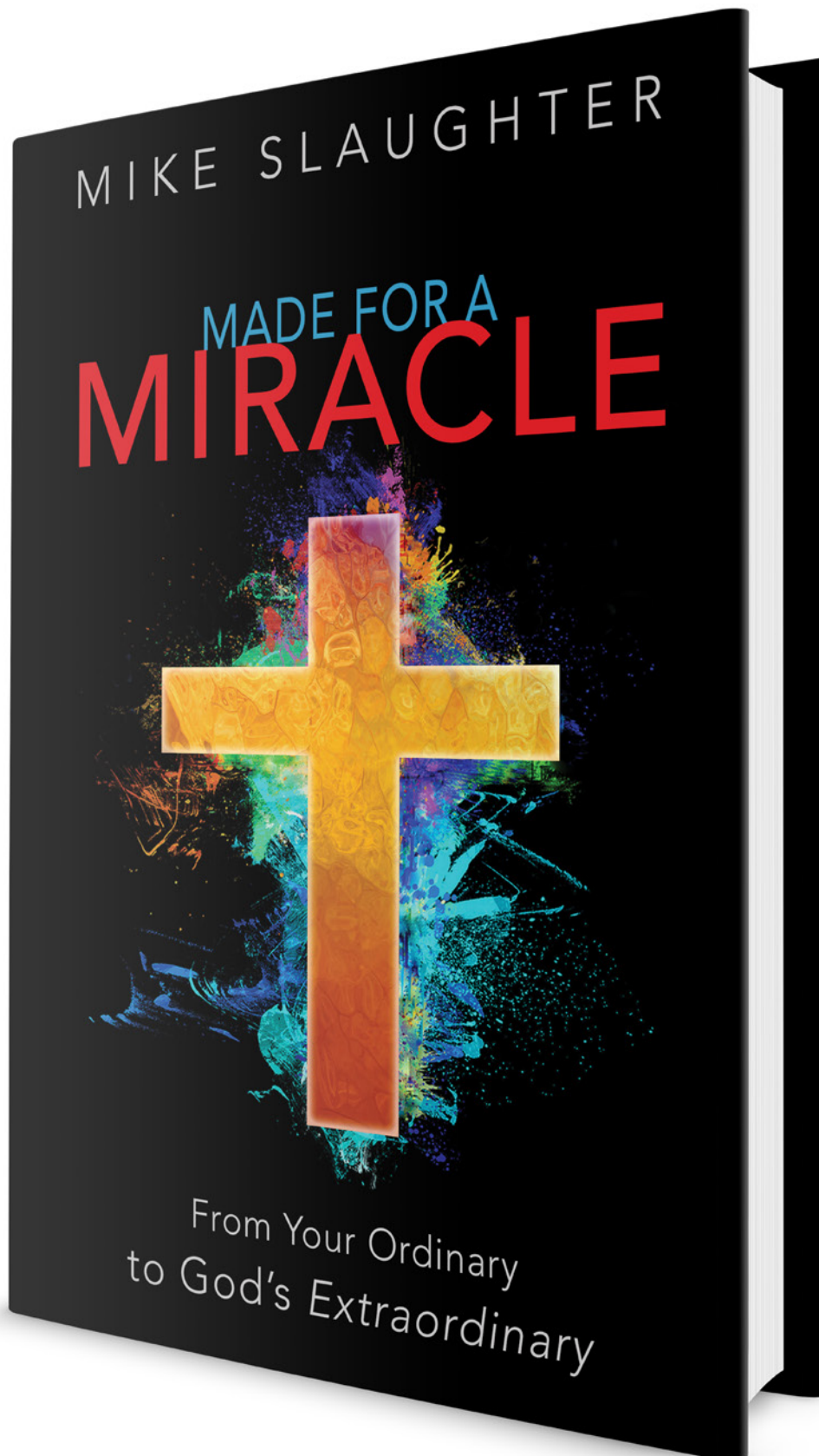
Matt Rawle is Lead Pastor at Asbury United Methodist Church in Bossier City, Louisiana. Matt is an international speaker who loves to tell an old story in a new way, especially at the intersection of pop culture and the church. He is the author of a new series of books titled *The Pop in Culture Series*. The series includes *The Faith of a Mockingbird*, *Hollywood Jesus*, *The Salvation of Doctor Who* and *The Redemption of Scrooge*.

Release: December 19, 2017 **Price:** \$16.99
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501847929
Size: 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 144
BISAC: RELIGION / HOLIDAYS / EASTER & LENT



COMPANION PRODUCTS

Leader Guide		9781501847943	\$12.99
DVD		9781501847967	\$39.99
Youth Study Book		9781501848032	\$11.99
Children's Leader Guide		9781501847912	\$18.99
Flash Drive		9781501848056	\$34.99



MADE FOR A MIRACLE

From Your Ordinary to God's Extraordinary

Mike Slaughter

Use your God-given gifts and talents to become part of God's miracles.

At some time in our lives, most of us have prayed for or hoped for a miracle—an event that seems impossible but is brought about by God's transcendent power. But when miracles occur, did you know that you have a role to play? If that's true, what's the catch? What do we have to do? What's it going to cost us?

Popular author and pastor Mike Slaughter examines the two components of every miracle: divine action and human responsibility. For a real miracle to take place, we must act with God, using whatever gifts, talents, and abilities we have and directing them toward God's work. We need to follow the examples of Mary in the birth of Jesus, Jesus' followers when he healed them, and Jesus' disciples after he rose from the dead. This Lent and Easter, use your God-given gifts and talents for God's glory, and get ready to be made for a miracle.

KEY FEATURES

- Readers will understand the two components of every miracle: divine action and human responsibility.
- Readers will learn to claim their gifts, talents, and abilities and direct them toward God's work in the world.
- Perfect for Christians at all stages of their spiritual journey.
- Book can be a stand-alone resource or combined with the DVD and Leader Guide to create a six-week study.

Mike Slaughter is the Pastor Emeritus at Ginghamburg Church. Under his leadership, Ginghamburg Church has become known as an early innovator of small group ministry, the Church "media reformation," and cyber-ministry. Mike is the author of multiple books for church leaders, including *Down to Earth*, *The Passionate Church*, *Change the World*, *Dare to Dream*, *Renegade Gospel*, *A Different Kind of Christmas*, *Spiritual Entrepreneurs*, *Real Followers*, *Momentum for Life*, *UnLearning Church*, and *Upside Living in a Downside Economy*.

Release: December 19, 2017 **Price:** \$18.99

Hardback **ISBN:** 9781501841385

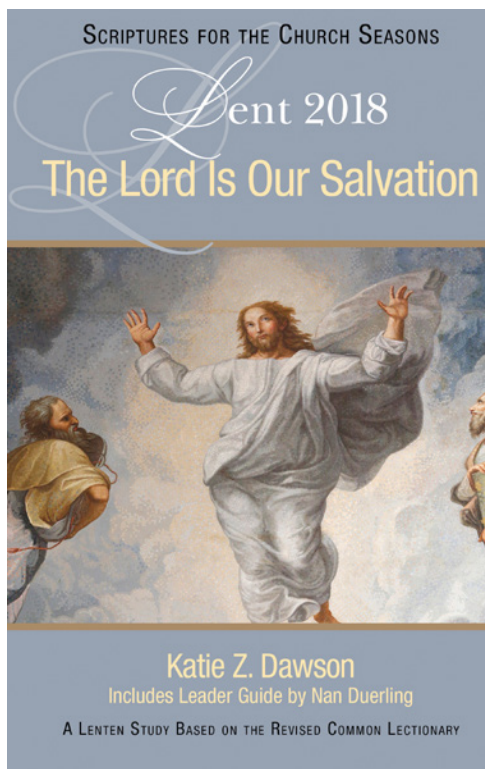
Size: 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 144

BISAC: RELIGION / HOLIDAYS / EASTER & LENT



COMPANION PRODUCTS

Large Print		9781501841408	\$19.99
Leader Guide		9781501841415	\$12.99
DVD		9781501841439	\$39.99
Youth Study Book		9781501841507	\$11.99



Release: December 19, 2017 **Price:** \$9.99
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501847899
Size: 6 x 9 **Pages:** 112
BISAC: RELIGION / HOLIDAYS / EASTER & LENT



KEY FEATURES

- Offers opportunities to reflect on God's redemptive action and explore means of grace that help us experience transformation.
- Based upon the Revised Common Lectionary Scriptures for year B of the church year, including the Old Testament, Epistle, and Gospel readings.
- Readers will find a leader guide with suggestions for starting and leading small groups, Bible background, and discussion activities.
- Calls us to celebrate God's salvation and new life offered through Jesus Christ.

THE LORD IS OUR SALVATION

A Lenten Study Based on the Revised Common Lectionary

Katie Z. Dawson

Leader Guide by Nan Duerling

Explore the restoration and wholeness of God's redeeming love.

The Lord Is Our Salvation invites us to explore God's saving and redeeming love through a study of the Scripture readings for Lent and Easter. Author Katie Z. Dawson invites us to a deeper understanding of the salvation Christ offers by exploring the various ways God restores us and our world to wholeness. In this book, first published in 2014, Dawson opens the Scriptures to show God's redemption at work in the men, women, and communities of the Bible. In her personal and insightful reflections, readers will hear a call to embrace Christ's salvation in their lives and in the world around them during the Lenten Season. Based upon the Revised Common Lectionary Scriptures for year B of the church year, a three-year cycle of Bible readings.

The study includes commentary and reflection on readings from the Old Testament, the Gospels, and the Epistles and offers the opportunity to explore these key Bible readings in a seven-session study.

The study book includes a leader guide with information about the season of Lent, suggestions for starting and leading small groups, Bible background, and discussion activities.

Katie Z. Dawson is currently the lead pastor at Immanuel United Methodist Church in Des Moines, Iowa. At Simpson College she studied communications, religion, and physics, and she then received her Master of Divinity from Vanderbilt Divinity School. Katie and her husband, Brandon, enjoy playing disc golf, spending time with family, and their two cats, Tiki and Turbo. When she can find the time, Katie blogs at SalvagedFaith.com.

ALSO AVAILABLE

Large Print		9781501848902	\$10.99
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EMBRACING THE UNCERTAIN

A Lenten Study for Unsteady Times

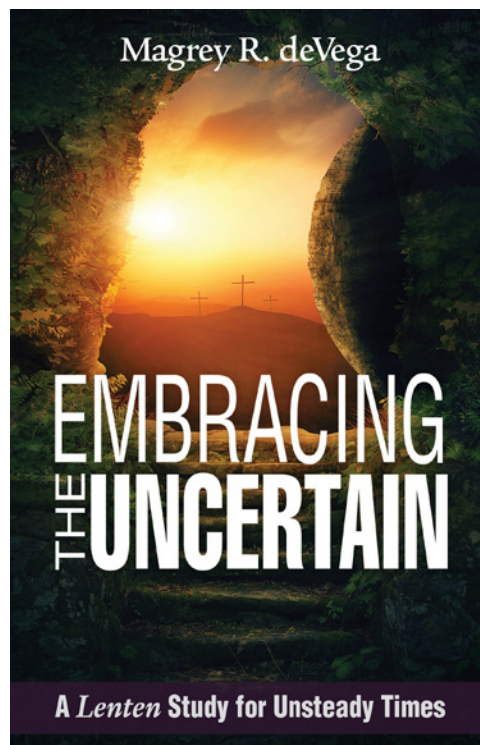
Magrey R. deVega

Learn to engage and wrestle with life's uncertainties this Lenten season.

Just turning on the news lets us know we are living in uncertain times. Economic instabilities, eruptions of violence, and natural catastrophes can alter the lives and landscapes of entire communities. Our individual lives are often just as unsteady: relationships can break, plans can falter, and confidence can fail. Uncertainty can definitely be uncomfortable. The reality is that in our fast-changing, unpredictable world there are few guarantees in life. It's those who are willing to embrace uncertainty and make the risky decision to follow Jesus despite the many "unknowns" who will reap the greatest rewards.

Embracing the Uncertain invites readers this Lent to engage and wrestle with life's uncertainties, not ignore them. The first six chapters focus on six post-Transfiguration, pre-Passion stories in the Gospels. Each of these stories are signposts in the gospel narrative, pointing down at a world filled with uncertainty, but pointing us forward to a cross that can show us how to follow Jesus with courage, hope, and obedience. Includes discussion questions that can be used in small-group Bible study session or for personal growth.

Magrey deVega is the Senior Pastor at Hyde Park United Methodist Church in Tampa, Florida. He is the author of *Awaiting the Already: An Advent Journey through the Gospels*. He is also the Leadership Editor for *Covenant Bible Study*, overseeing the weekly small group classroom experience. He is a contributor to the *The Abingdon Creative Preaching Annual 2016*; *Feasting on the Gospels: John*; and the forthcoming *Ultimate Lectionary Sermon Series Guide*. He has written leader's guides and program manuals for numerous small group materials including *Counterfeit Christianity: The Persistence of Errors in the Church*; *Earn. Save. Give: Wesley's Simple Rules for Money*; and *Five Marks of a Methodist: The Fruit of a Living Faith*. He is a graduate of United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio, and Eckerd College in St. Petersburg, Florida, and he is the father of two daughters, Grace and Madelyn.



Release: December 19, 2017 **Price:** \$12.99
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501840586
Size: 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 96
BISAC: RELIGION / HOLIDAYS / EASTER & LENT

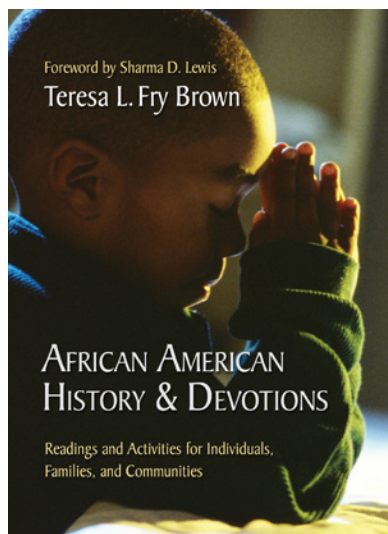


KEY FEATURES

- Perfect for Christians looking to be challenged and inspired by deep reflection.
- Includes discussion questions and a practical focus for each week for small group study.
- Readers are invited to embrace and wrestle with life's uncertainties, not ignore them.

ALSO AVAILABLE

Large Print		9781501840609	\$13.99
40 Devotions for Unsteady Times		9781501848094	\$9.99



Release: January 16, 2018 **Price:** \$5.99
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501849558
Size: 5 x 7 **Pages:** 64
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE /
 DEVOTIONAL



AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY & DEVOTIONS

Readings and Activities for Individuals, Families, and
Communities

Teresa L. Fry Brown

Foreword by Sharma D. Lewis

**Celebrating heritage, deepening faith, and building community
through interactive devotions.**

Twenty-eight devotions for individuals, families, or small groups, including a scripture verse, a reflection on the scripture, related activities for each day, and a prayer. This intergenerational devotional is great for use during Black History Month, but can be used at any time.

Teresa L. Fry Brown is the Bandy Professor of Preaching at Emory University's Candler School of Theology in Atlanta, where she became the first African American woman to attain the rank of full professor. She holds a PhD from Iliff School of Theology in Denver and is ordained in the African Methodist Episcopal Church.



Release: December 19, 2017 **Price:** \$10.99
 Brochure **ISBN:** 9781501846922
Size: 3.75 x 9 **Pages:** 48
BISAC: RELIGION / HOLIDAYS / EASTER & LENT



THE SANCTUARY FOR LENT 2018

(Pkg of 10)

Katie Z. Dawson

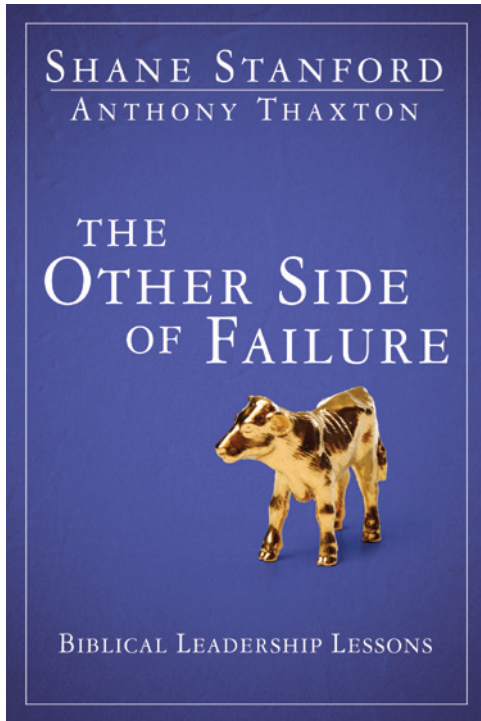
Devotions for each day of Lent.

The Sanctuary for Lent 2018 contains brief readings for each day in Lent, including a suggested Scripture, a short devotion, and a closing prayer. These daily readings help readers faithfully journey through the wilderness of Lent as they prepare to experience the joy of the Resurrection. Sold in packs of 10, the booklets are designed to fit in a #10 envelope, enabling churches to include them in Lent mailings, especially for those unable to attend services, and making it easy to mail to visitors or share as a part of homebound or prison ministry.

Katie Z. Dawson is currently the lead pastor at Immanuel United Methodist Church in Des Moines, Iowa. At Simpson College she studied communications, religion, and physics, and she then received her Master of Divinity from Vanderbilt Divinity School. Katie and her husband, Brandon, enjoy playing disc golf, spending time with family, and their two cats, Tiki and Turbo. When she can find the time, Katie blogs at SalvagedFaith.com.



LEADERSHIP, THEOLOGY & BIBLICAL STUDIES



Release: March 20, 2018 **Price:** \$19.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501841699

Size: 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 176

BISAC: RELIGION/CHRISTIAN CHURCH/
LEADERSHIP



KEY FEATURES

- Explains the Biblical principles of failure revealed in the stories of “fantastic failures” whose whole lives reveal the fruit of God’s faithfulness.
- Exposes the lie of self-sufficiency that fuels cultural models of success and failure and occludes the significance of God’s faithfulness and favor.
- Details the benefits and spiritual fruit of failure by redefining success from the perspective of God’s faithful love and purpose for the world.
- The DVD contains six episodes of onscreen conversations with Shane and Anthony and a PDF of the leader guide in the book (with discussion questions and exercises for small groups, prayer focus exercises, opportunities for service, a daily Scripture reading for each chapter studied, and suggestions for further study).

THE OTHER SIDE OF FAILURE

Biblical Leadership Lessons

Shane Stanford and Anthony Thaxton

Some of the most important stories of spiritual maturity in Scripture happen due to the failures of those we consider closest to God.

Many leaders look to those in Scripture and the more spiritually mature and accomplished around them and assume they have never experienced the same life-altering setbacks that afflict other mere mortals. Or, they imagine that the strongest in the faith could never make serious mistakes or make the kinds of devastating choices that undermine career, family, and faith. For many, failure is almost a foreign concept to what it means to live and lead faithfully in this world.

As Shane Stanford and Anthony Thaxton demonstrate, some of the most important stories of spiritual maturity in scripture happen due to the failures (not the successes) of those we consider closest to God — one only has to mention Noah, Abraham, Moses, David, Peter, Paul... the list goes on and on... as examples of the best of our faith whose lives were significantly shaped and impacted because of their failures. While we do learn much from their successes, understanding the impact of their contribution to God’s Kingdom calls us to paint the entire picture, including the failures.

Shane Stanford (MA, Duke University; Doctorate, Asbury Theological Seminary) is Senior Pastor of a 5,000+ member church in Memphis, Tennessee. Dr. Stanford is the author of numerous books, including *The Seven Next Words of Christ*, *The Cure for the Chronic Life*, and *The Eight Blessings: Rediscovering the Beatitudes*. His memoir, *A Positive Life*, details his life as an HIV+ and HepC+ hemophiliac, husband, father, and pastor. He is the co-host of the *Covenant Bible Study* program, now used in over one thousand churches. Dr. Stanford married Dr. Pokey Stanford, and they have three daughters.

Anthony Thaxton is the Producer and Director of Creative Design for Christ Church Global (a media outreach ministry of Christ Church - Memphis). A renowned painter and videographer throughout the Southeast USA, Anthony has received numerous awards and recognitions for his art and various productions. Anthony is also the Producer/Director of the *United Methodist Hour*, a TV/Radio ministry that airs in over 30 million homes, and he is the Executive Producer for *We Believe in Memphis* and *You Matter*, both ministries of Christ Church - Memphis.

COMPANION PRODUCT

DVD		9781501841712	\$29.99
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SACRED RESISTANCE

A Practical Guide to Christian Witness and Dissent

Ginger Gaines-Cirelli

Get empowered to speak out and act in troubled times.

In the midst of polarized communities and nations, religious leaders across the theological spectrum are seeking help with how to respond and lead in troubled times. The need for courage to speak out and act is ever-present, because every generation faces a new set of fears and troubles. Author Ginger Gaines-Cirelli pastors a church in the heart of Washington DC, adjacent to the White House, which actively works to bring justice and help for marginalized communities, refugees and immigrants, and the endangered earth. She inspires and leads this work through preaching and by organizing and developing strong leaders, deeply rooted in a well-developed theological understanding. Pastoral warmth and compassion characterize the recommended practices.

Sacred Resistance addresses these questions, among others:

- When Christians see that something is wrong in our nation or community, how and when should we respond?
- When we see multiple instances of 'wrong', how do we choose which ones to address?
- How can pastors and other leaders faithfully take risks without violating relationships with the congregation or denomination?
- What historical, biblical, and theological safety nets can be relied on?
- How can we take care of ourselves and one another, so that our ministries and lives are sustained?

Ginger Gaines-Cirelli is the Senior Pastor at Foundry United Methodist Church in Washington, D.C. She previously served as pastor at two other beltway area United Methodist Churches, St. Matthew's and Capitol Hill. She earned a M.Div. at Yale Divinity School and was a Princeton Theological Fellow. She served as a general editor for the CEB Women's Bible.



Release: May 15, 2018 **Price:** \$14.99
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501856853
Size: 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 128
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN MINISTRY / GENERAL



KEY FEATURES

- Delivers practical help from an experienced pastor to those who yearn to speak out or act appropriately in times of trouble.
- Provides a framework for discerning what to do, when to do it, and how to lead others.
- Offers ideas rooted in scripture and theologically thoughtful, which will equip them to act.

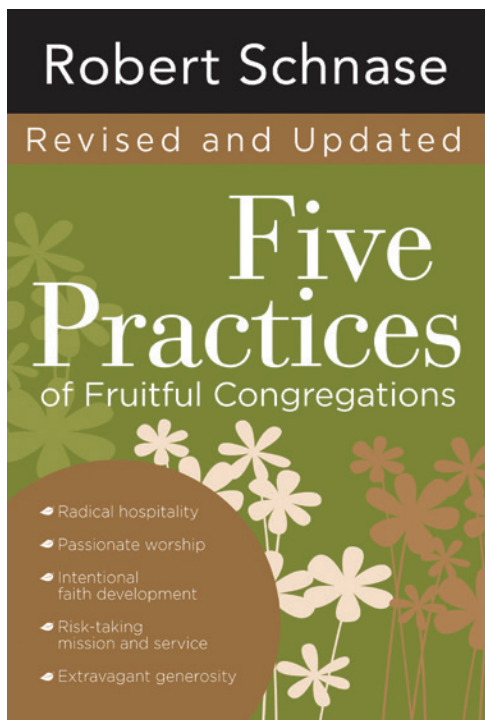
COMPARABLE TITLES



9781501837593
\$15.99



9781501814266
\$17.99



Release: May 15, 2018 **Price:** \$18.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501858871

Size: 6 x 9 **Pages:** 160

BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN CHURCH / LEADERSHIP



KEY FEATURES

- Specific examples of successful use of the Practices from innovative church leaders in various ministry settings.
- The original Five Practices of Radical Hospitality, Passionate Worship, Intentional Faith Development, Risk-Taking Mission and Service, and Extravagant Generosity revised and updated for today's Christian communities.
- New practical ideas and wise guidance from one of the Church's most enduring and visionary leaders.

FIVE PRACTICES OF FRUITFUL CONGREGATIONS

Revised and Updated

Robert Schnase

Take a new, practical look at the transformative practices of Radical Hospitality, Passionate Worship, Intentional Faith Development, Risk-Taking Mission and Service, and Extravagant Generosity.

Over the past ten years, thousands of church leaders successfully transformed congregations with the principles from the original *Five Practices*: Radical Hospitality, Passionate Worship, Intentional Faith Development, Risk-Taking Mission and Service, and Extravagant Generosity. However, much has changed in the world and the Church. Leaders have discovered new ways to implement the *Five Practices* in settings that were not imagined when the original book was released. This revised and updated edition of the ministry leadership classic includes a significant amount of new material.

How are the practices being used now, in new types of congregations? How has each practice changed in the last decade? What new issues or concerns do leaders need to consider in relation to each practice?

This revision provides leaders with a “next step” look at the original practices. Schnase gathered ideas and other content from ministry leaders who have been using the *Five Practices*, and explains how those ideas work, how leaders adapted the principles to their own settings, and how they expanded them. A new preface redefines “Congregations” given their evolving nature. When the original book was written, the new forms of Christian community either did not exist or were barely known. Since the original book, there is more variety, diversity, and experimentation in worship. This new version gives instruction and specific ideas for how we might best serve today's world.

Robert Schnase is Bishop of the Rio Texas Conference of The United Methodist Church. Schnase is the author of the original *Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations*, a best-selling book on congregational ministry.

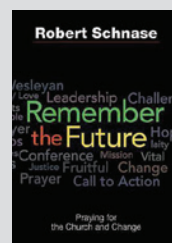
BY THE SAME AUTHOR



9781426776137
\$15.99



9781630882983
\$9.99



9781426759222
\$9.99

HOW TO PREACH A DANGEROUS SERMON

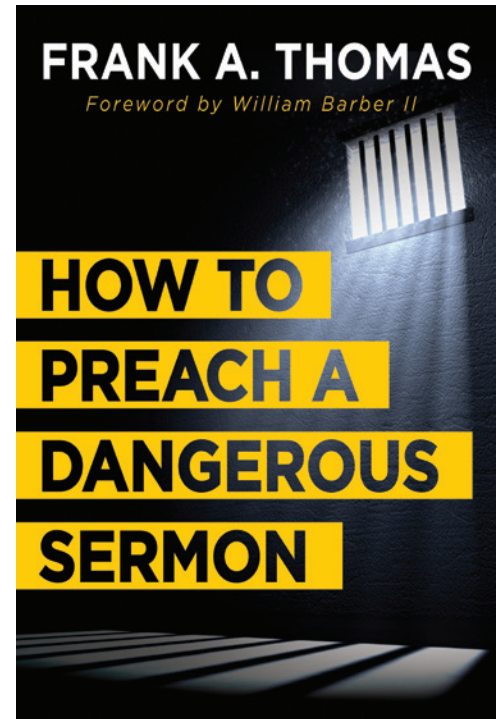
Frank A. Thomas

Preaching that causes actual turnaround in the hearts and lives of hearers.

Learn to use four characteristics of “preaching with moral imagination” to proclaim freedom for all. The author describes the four characteristics using examples like Robert F. Kennedy, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Prathia Hall, and the Moral Monday Movement, along with musicians and other artists of today. Moral imagination helps the hearer to see what they cannot see, to hear what they cannot hear--to inhabit the lives of others, so that they can embody Christ and true freedom for those others.

This book equips and empowers preachers to transcend their basic skills and techniques, so that their proclamation of the Word causes actual turnaround in the hearts and lives of their hearers, and in their communities.

Frank A. Thomas currently serves as Nettie Sweeney and Hugh Th. Miller Professor of Homiletics and Director of the Academy of Preaching and Celebration at Christian Theological Seminary of Indianapolis, Indiana. Thomas also authored *American Dream 2.0: A Christian Way Out of the Great Recession*. He holds a Ph.D. in Communications (Rhetoric) from the University of Memphis, D.Min. degrees from Chicago Theological Seminary and United Theological Seminary, a Master of Divinity degree from Chicago Theological Seminary and a Master of Arts degree in African-Caribbean Studies from Northeastern Illinois University. He also serves as a member of the International Board of Societas Homiletica, an international society of homiletic professors.



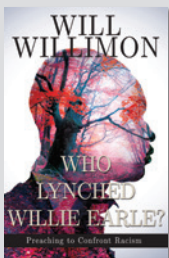
Release: February 20, 2018 **Price:** \$17.99
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501856839
Size: 6 x 9 **Pages:** 128
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN MINISTRY / PREACHING



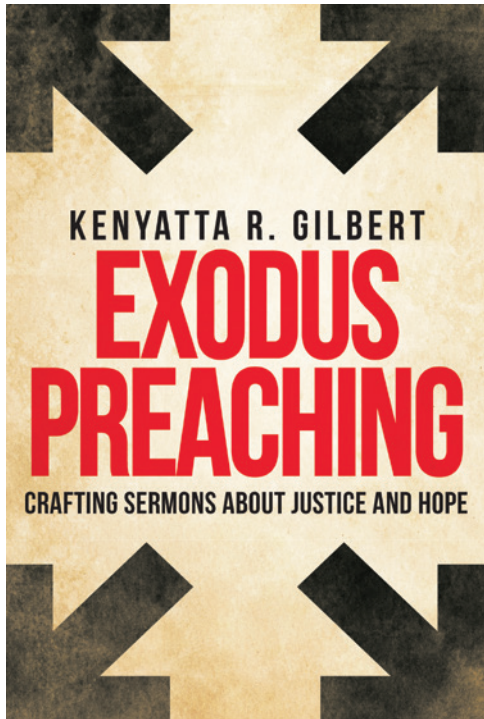
KEY FEATURES

- Four distinct characteristics of preaching with moral imagination.
- Contains some of the most influential and effective sermon material of the 20th and 21st centuries as examples.
- Demonstrates how to preach into the intersection of theology, social action, politics, and God’s kingdom/justice.

COMPARABLE TITLE



9781501832512
 \$17.99



Release: March 20, 2018 **Price:** \$21.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501832574

Size: 6 x 9 **Pages:** 112

BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN MINISTRY /
PREACHING



KEY FEATURES

- Focus on the distinctive character of the prophetic voice is the first of its kind.
- Theologically robust, contextualized sermons are included as examples.
- Each chapter ends with practical how-to suggestions for the working preacher.
- Accessible to a broad audience of preachers and students of homiletics.

EXODUS PREACHING

Crafting Sermons about Justice and Hope

Kenyatta R. Gilbert

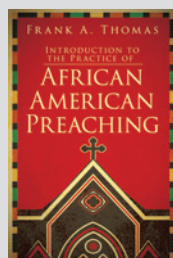
Effective preaching during intense social change, racial unrest, and violence.

Exodus Preaching is the first of its kind, an exploration of the African American prophetic rhetorical traditions in a manner that makes features of these traditions relevant to a broad audience beyond the African American traditions. It provides readers a composite picture of the nature, meaning, and relevance of prophetic preaching as spoken Word of justice and hope in a society of growing pluralism and the world-shaping phenomenon of racial, economic and cultural diversity. African American preachers have distinctively invested great symbolic significance in the Exodus story, the messianic witness of Jesus, and the prophetic literature for developing and shaping prophetic sermons. Kenyatta Gilbert demonstrates how four distinctive features of discourse can shape sermon preparation, for effective preaching in a period of intense social change, racial unrest, and violence.

Gilbert includes dozens of practical suggestions and five practical exercises to equip the reader for preaching in new ways and in new environments. He offers a holistic approach, fully equipping the reader with the theological and practical resources needed to preach prophetically.

Kenyatta R. Gilbert (Dr.) is Associate Professor of Homiletics at the Howard University School of Divinity in Washington, DC. He is author of *The Journey and Promise of African American Preaching* and *A Pursued Justice: Black Preaching from the Great Migration to Civil Rights*. Dr. Gilbert is an ordained Baptist minister and founder of The Preaching Project: Restoring Communities through Spoken Word. See more at ThePreachingProject.org.

COMPARABLE TITLE



9781501818943

\$34.99

WILL WILLIMON'S LECTIONARY SERMON RESOURCE: YEAR C PART 1

William H. Willimon

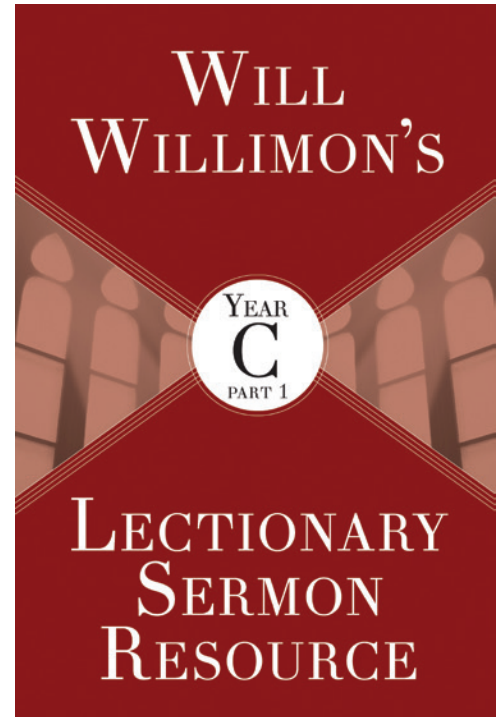
Just what you need to begin the journey toward a sermon!

Will Willimon is widely acclaimed as one of the top ten preachers in the world. For each Sunday of the Christian year, Will provides just what you need to begin the journey toward a sermon. This guide will stoke, fund, and fuel your imagination while leaving plenty of room to insert your own illustrations, make connections within your congregational context, and speak the Word in your distinctive voice. Guidance from Will Willimon is like sitting down with a trusted clergy friend and asking, "What will you preach next Sunday?" Year C Part 1 (Advent through Easter) is part of a six-volume set that includes years A, B, and C (2 volumes per year) in the Revised Common Lectionary.

Each week of sermon resources includes:

1. Readings
2. Theme title
3. Introduction to the Readings
4. Encountering the Text
5. Proclaiming the Text
6. Relating the Text

Feeling most at home behind a pulpit, **Will Willimon's** deepest calling is to be a preacher and truth-teller of Jesus Christ. He is Professor of the Practice of Christian Ministry at Duke University Divinity School. He retired as Bishop of the North Alabama Conference of The United Methodist Church, after having served for 20 years as faculty member and Dean of the Chapel at Duke University. He lives in Durham, North Carolina. Will Willimon has published many books, including *Fear of the Other: No Fear in Love*, as well as *Pulpit Resource*, a preaching subscription service on MinistryMatters.com.



Release: May 15, 2018 **Price:** \$24.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501847271

Size: 6 x 9 **Pages:** 336

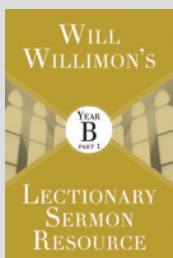
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN MINISTRY / PREACHING



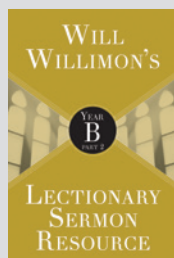
KEY FEATURES

- Selected readings, themes, and introductions to the lectionary passages for every Sunday in the first half (Advent through Easter) of Year C in the Revised Common Lectionary.
- "Encountering the Text" and "Proclaiming the Text" reflections to help you move from Bible to sermon.
- "Relating the Text" observations for sermon illustration or use in bulletins or on the church's website.

BY THE SAME AUTHOR



9781501847233
\$24.99



9781501847257
\$24.99



Release: April 17, 2018 **Price:** \$14.99
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501858932
Size: 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 128
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / FAMILY



KEY FEATURES

- Hear directly from Christian attorneys involved in the fight for legal same-gender civil marriage.
- Learn how the state and the church are in partnership when it comes to recognizing a marriage between any two persons who love each other exclusively and who promise to cherish each other.
- While most books examine ancient sources for the church's teaching about marriage, this book shows how and why a Christian congregation should support the rights for marriage equality for any couple willing to make the solemn promises of holy matrimony.
- Through compelling stories and cogent legal insight, the authors explain how devout Christians can reconcile with each other concerning the civil right and the sacred pledge to marry before God and other witnesses.

THE FIGHT FOR MARRIAGE

Church Conflicts and Courtroom Contests
 Phillip F. Cramer and William L. Harbison

Unique perspectives from Christian attorneys on the front lines of the U.S. Supreme Court marriage equality battle.

For leaders in governments and in churches, marriage equality is the most contentious civil-rights dispute in the 21st century. During an era where nearly half of all marriages end in divorce, same-gender couples now have the federal civil right to marry, too. At a time when 62 percent of Americans approve of same-gender marriage, according to June 2017 Pew Research, churches are being forced to come to terms with whether to recognize and affirm these faithful partnerships as sacred covenants.

Attorneys Harbison and Cramer, faithful and active members of a United Methodist congregation, brought one of the cases to the US Supreme Court, which resulted in the 2015 landmark decision that permits persons of the same gender to marry. They bring a unique legal and cultural perspective to the controversy.

For the four couples Harbison and Cramer represented, marriage is not an issue to be resolved, but a sign for these couples of their faithful promise to love each other. *Each couple married for several reasons, including their commitment to love and support one another, to demonstrate their mutual commitment to their family, friends, and colleagues, and to show others that they should be treated as a family. They also married to make a legally binding mutual commitment, to join their resources together in a legal unit, and to be treated by others as a legal family unit, rather than as legally unrelated individuals. Finally, each couple married so that they could access the legal responsibilities of marriage to protect themselves and their families, just as heterosexual couples do.* —Aleta A. Trauger, Federal Judge

With a first-hand account of the respectful courtroom drama concerning marriage in America. Harbison and Cramer show why states care about marriage, why the church got involved in marriage more than a thousand years after Jesus's earthly ministry, and how the church and the state function in partnership.

Phillip F. Cramer graduated with highest honors from the Vanderbilt University Law School. He represents clients in high profile civil rights cases, having brought cases to vindicate immigrant rights, women's rights, voting rights, privacy rights, and marriage equality. Previously, Cramer worked as a trial attorney in the Honors Program of the Department of Justice, Antitrust Division. He serves as chair of the Administrative Board at Nashville's Belmont United Methodist Church.

William L. Harbison, a cum laude from Harvard Law School, works in corporate law and with trusts and estates. He served as President of the Tennessee Bar Association and Nashville Bar Association. He is a Member of the Tennessee Supreme Court Board of Law Examiners and a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation.

OUR STRANGELY WARMED HEARTS

Coming Out Into God's Call

Karen P. Oliveto

Coming out into one's authentic, God-created self fosters spiritual renewal and call to ministry.

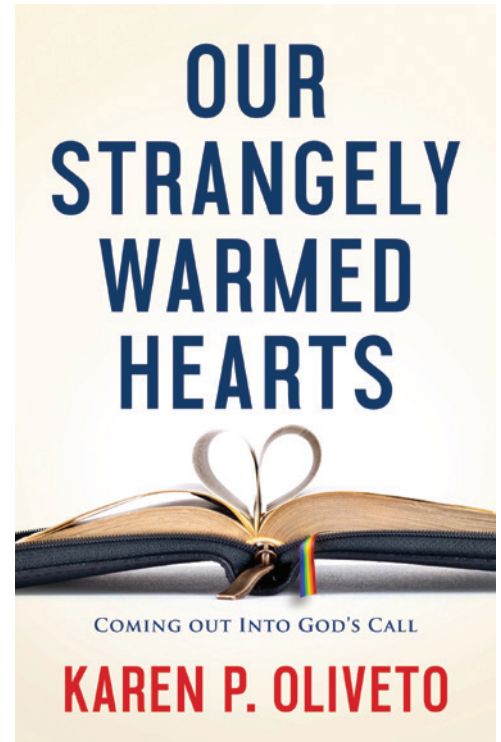
As John Wesley discovered his true spiritual identity, he experienced a strangely warmed heart. Through poignant stories and well-reasoned principles, Karen Oliveto discloses why and how spiritual renewal and a personal call to ministry emerge in the strangely warmed hearts of lesbian and gay Christians.

In The United Methodist Church (and other Christian denominations), it is difficult or impossible for lesbian, gay, transsexual, and bisexual clergy or laity to become a visible and outward channel for God's saving grace. This book traces the history of the church's struggle with homosexuality, highlighting critical incidents in the culture and church polity which shape the church's response. The controversy is deeply rooted in how God's people are searching the scriptures, which are interpreted as a means of grace for some and as a rulebook for others. This book includes first-person narratives of LGBTQ persons faithfully serving in a denomination that denies their calls and—in some cases—their presence. These stories will show how the coming out process is deeply spiritual as one grows into an authentic, God-created and graced self.

"You are the one who created my innermost parts; you knit me together while I was still in my mother's womb. I give thanks to you that I was marvelously set apart. Your works are wonderful—I know that very well."
Psalm 139:13-14 (CEB)

[Bishop Karen Oliveto] is sharing the love of Jesus, and meeting people where they are, no matter who they are, and no matter what they think about her. She loves them. —Kent Ingram, senior pastor of First United Methodist Church in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Karen P. Oliveto is Bishop of the Mountain Sky Episcopal Area (Colorado, Wyoming, Montana, Utah and a small portion of Idaho) for The United Methodist Church. Previously for eight years, she served as senior pastor of the 12,000-member Glide Memorial United Methodist Church in San Francisco. She is the first woman to serve as senior pastor at Glide, the fifth largest United Methodist congregation in the U.S. She is the first woman to serve as senior pastor in one of the denomination's 100 largest U.S. congregations. Karen is the first openly lesbian bishop in The United Methodist Church. Her wife Robin, a nurse anesthetist, is a deaconess in The United Methodist Church.



Release: April 17, 2018 **Price:** \$17.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501858918

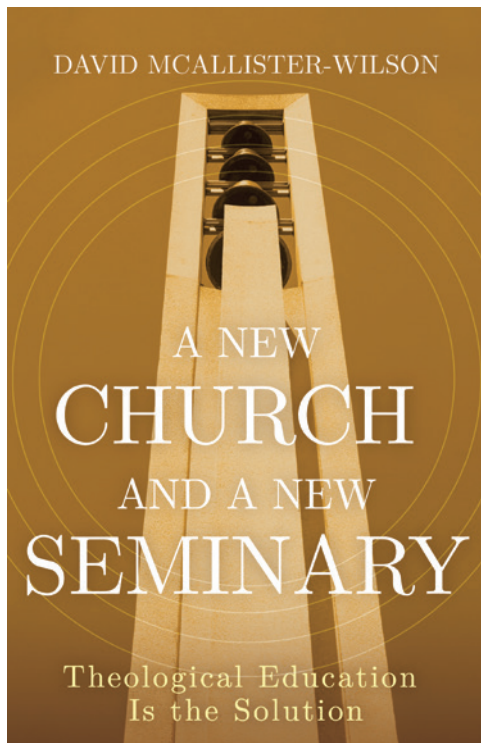
Size: 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 128

BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / FAMILY



KEY FEATURES

- Tells the stories of personal spiritual renewal for gay and lesbian Christians who come out to family, friends, and coworkers.
- Describes principles for a healthy spiritual renewal process for LGBTQ participants within faith communities.
- Provides narrative cases from gay and lesbian clergy that demonstrate God's convincing call into effective ministries.



Release: May 15, 2018 **Price:** \$19.99
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501858895
Size: 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 128
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN CHURCH /
 LEADERSHIP



KEY FEATURES

- Examines the actual causes for decline in congregations.
- Evaluates consumer-oriented innovation that does more harm than good.
- Proposes how progressive evangelicals can make life relevant to the gospel.
- Proposes what will likely happen to transform the seminaries that forge partnerships with the leaders of congregations.

A NEW CHURCH AND A NEW SEMINARY

Theological Education Is the Solution

David McAllister-Wilson

The future of the church and the future of the seminary are inextricably linked.

Mainline churches have been declining for a long time due to changes in secular and consumer culture, demographics radically adjusting normative family structure, and a theology based in consumer marketing rather than mission-driven vitality. Now we realize that the church is free to not just make the gospel relevant to life but to make life relevant to the gospel.

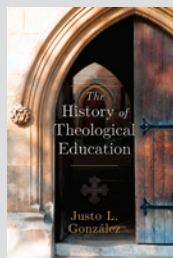
Conservative evangelical Christianity was able to focus on relevance prior to its ascendancy on the national stage. Methodism requires a similar period of confessional self-definition. We are going through these confessions now in the debate about our stance toward homosexuality.

Many students and professors go to seminary *to fix the church*, because they realize that the futures of the church and its seminaries are inseparable. Seminaries provide scholars for the church, who learn how to think, who learn how to take the long view, who shape identity, who foster a *culture of calling*.

A new kind of Methodist progressive evangelicalism is regenerating, which lives the great commandment (love) and the great commission (reproducing disciples) on a global scale. Before, seminaries prepared pastors to maintain healthy churches in stable neighborhoods. Now, every neighborhood is changing and many churches are losing their members and their confidence. They long for a recovery of their sense of mission and a new kind of leadership. A new kind of seminary is regenerating to foster hope, wisdom, creativity, and engagement with the great issues of our day.

David McAllister-Wilson is president of Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C. As an ordained elder in the Virginia Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church, his main areas of interest are revitalizing the mainline Protestant church and excellence in church leadership.

COMPARABLE TITLE



9781426781919
 \$39.99

JESUS VS. CAESAR

For People Tired of Serving the Wrong God

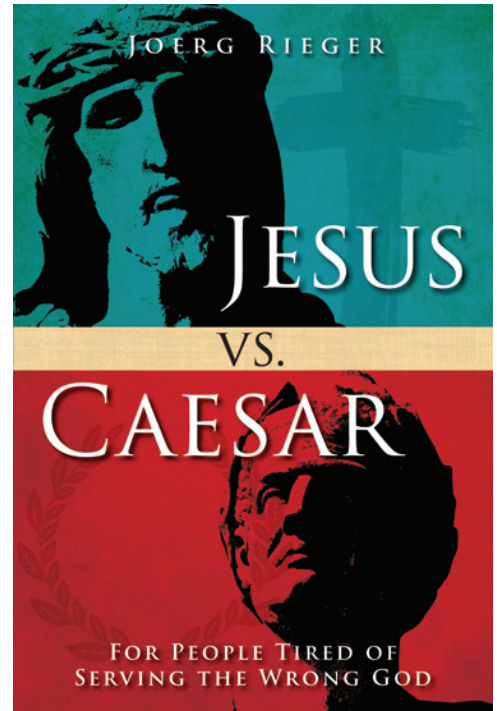
Joerg Rieger

The tension between true religion and false religion lies within Christianity itself.

When we observe a tension between Jesus and Caesar, we acknowledge that a fundamental tension remains at the heart of Christianity. When this tension is poorly understood, Christians face disastrous consequences. The tension is not between religion and atheism or secularism. Nor is it between organized religion and personal spirituality. The tension is located within the heart of Christianity itself because it is a radical conflict between true and false forms of Christian faith. Jesus embodies and exposes this tension in ways that illuminate both how God is with us and what must change for a world that participates in God's life.

This book serves as an indictment of the pieties of empire, whether government, corporate or any other forms of the faith that dominate and exclude. One form of Christian faith (Jesus) versus another form of Christian faith (Caesar). Whom and what will we trust and serve? What did Jesus disclose to the religious, economic, and political worlds of Israel and Rome? This tension between true and false forms of religion is also deeply rooted in the Jewish traditions. The Hebrew prophets were gravely concerned about established forms of Jewish religion that appear to be respectable but result in oppression. The prophet Isaiah hears the voice of God pronouncing judgment: "You serve your own interest on your fast day, and oppress all your workers" (Isaiah 58:3). True religion loosens "the bonds of injustice" (Isaiah 58:6) while self-serving religion is false religion. This tension between true religion and false religion is a critical opportunity for those who would follow Jesus instead of "Caesar."

Joerg Rieger holds the Cal Turner Chancellor's Chair in Wesleyan Studies and is Distinguished Professor of Theology in the Divinity School and Graduate Department of Religion at Vanderbilt University. Before that he taught at Perkins School of Theology. His Ph.D. is from Duke University and he is an ordained elder in the North Texas Conference of The United Methodist Church.



Release: March 6, 2018 **Price:** \$19.99
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501842672
Size: 6 x 9 **Pages:** 160
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN THEOLOGY / GENERAL



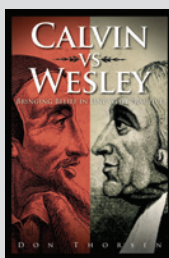
KEY FEATURES

- Provides fresh insights into the actual tension between the God of Jesus and the gods of the empire.
- Readers will be introduced to a reading of Christ and Culture that brings national and party loyalties under absolute fidelity to the God of Jesus Christ.
- Readers will see the difference between true and false religion through the lens of God who is with us in Jesus as savior, not emperor.

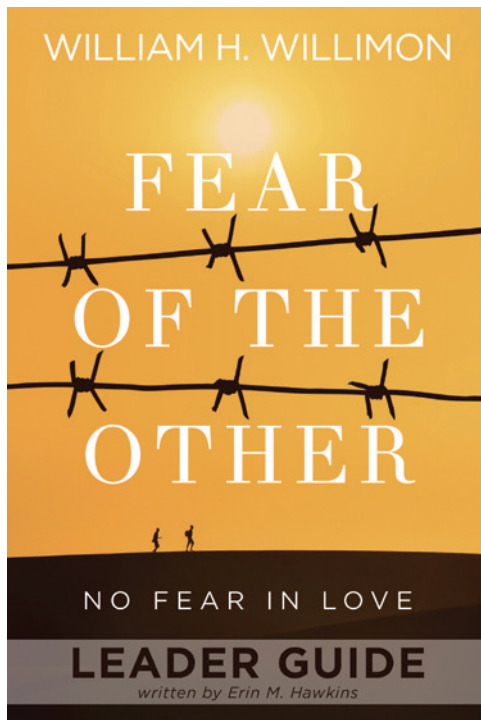
COMPARABLE TITLES



9781501804205
\$19.99



9781426743351
\$17.99



Release: August 15, 2017 **Price:** \$9.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501857300

Size: 6 x 9 **Pages:** 32

BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN THEOLOGY / GENERAL



KEY FEATURES

- DVD (co-hosted by William H. Willimon and Delia C. Ramirez) and Leader Guide help lead groups through discussion of issues related to fear of differences, issues of immigration, and other current social issues.

FEAR OF THE OTHER LEADER GUIDE

No Fear in Love

William H. Willimon and Erin M. Hawkins

There is a distinctively Christian way to engage the so-called “outsider” and “stranger.”

This five-week video-based small group study (DVD and Leader Guide) companion to the book, *Fear of the Other: No Fear in Love* invites readers to consider the Gospel command to love (and not merely tolerate) those considered to be “Other” or outside mainstream Christian culture. Rooted in the faith of Israel and the Christian story and vision, Willimon – in an onscreen conversation with Delia Catalina Ramirez – brings a non-technical, Wesleyan perspective to bear on what may be the hardest thing for people of faith to do: keeping and loving the Other as Other. Emphasizing the biblical mandate to receive Others in their particularity and difference as gifts and mysteries bearing the grace of God, this study also offers a strong critique of the privileged who all too often rush to language of reconciliation and evade the huge inequalities surrounding conversations and practices dealing with xenophobia and injustice.

Rooted in the New Testament understanding of Gentile outsiders grafted into the covenant community, this study invites readers to an on-the-ground faith that hearkens to a soliciting and revealing God – the God who comes to us again and again through so-called outsiders, strangers, immigrants, and those without status.

Feeling most at home behind a pulpit, **Will Willimon’s** deepest calling is to be a preacher and truth-teller of Jesus Christ. He is Professor of the Practice of Christian Ministry at Duke University Divinity School and retired Bishop of the North Alabama Conference of The United Methodist Church, after serving for 20 years as faculty member and Dean of the Chapel at Duke University. He lives in Durham, North Carolina. Will Willimon has published many books, including his preaching subscription service on *MinistryMatters.com*, *Pulpit Resource*, and *Fear of the Other: No Fear in Love*, both published by Abingdon Press.

Erin M. Hawkins is General Secretary of the General Commission on Religion and Race. She is the lead official of the denominational agency that cultivates racial inclusion and the full participation of all people into the work, witness and life of The UMC. She holds a Masters degree in Organizational Development from American University, and a Masters degree in Public Policy from Indiana University.

COMPANION PRODUCTS

DVD		9781501857249	\$29.99
TRADE BOOK		9781501824753	\$14.99

REVELATION AS CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE

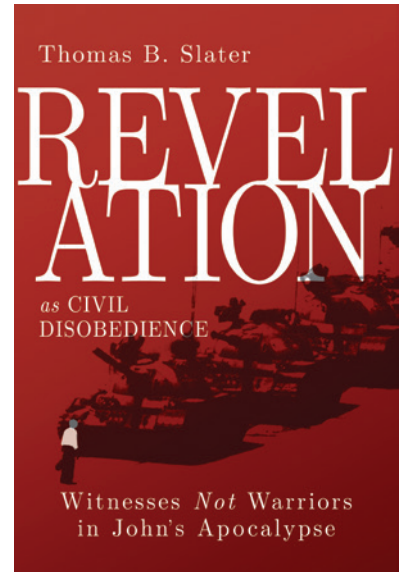
Witnesses Not Warriors in John's Apocalypse

Thomas B. Slater

Judgment belongs solely to God and Christians must wait faithfully for God to act.

The book of Revelation is a form of civil disobedience that focuses upon sustaining a faithful witness in spite of the consequences. Many decry the violent nature of the book without noting that Christians are never encouraged to take up arms. Along those same lines, many laypersons see the book as a justification for military intervention against Satan and his minions. They too miss the fact that the book of Revelation never tells Christians to arm themselves. Rather, Christians defeat evil by witnessing faithfully. Both sides would be challenged to rethink and reassess their respective positions given the stress on faithful witness in the book.

Thomas B. Slater is Professor of New Testament Language & Literature. He teaches introductory and advanced courses in New Testament studies and New Testament Greek. His Ph.D. is from King's College London. He is an ordained elder in the Georgia North Region of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, and holds positions on denominational committees.



Release: February 20, 2018 **Price:** \$29.99
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501841743
Size: 6 x 9 **Pages:** 144
BISAC: RELIGION / BIBLICAL STUDIES / NEW TESTAMENT



JESUS DARKLY

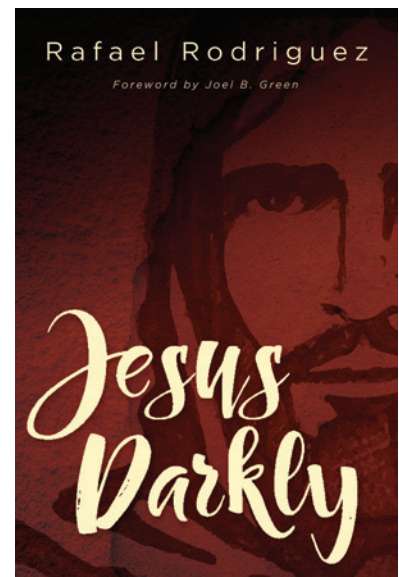
Remembering Jesus with the New Testament

Rafael Rodriguez

The witness of scripture helps us remember Jesus well.

New Testament students have not always been well served by study of the historical Jesus, which tends to segregate Jesus from his significance vis-à-vis Israel's scriptures and God's agenda as this is developed among the New Testament writers in the living context of a faith community's memory. The witness of scripture does in fact help us remember Jesus well. The Bible is one story, from beginning to end – a story of God putting God's family back together. Its plot develops in multiple, sometimes competing, ways. It exhibits the full range of human emotions and, perhaps surprisingly, it claims that these are also God's emotions. But on every page, we hear the call of a God whose family has chosen an early inheritance instead of an intimate relationship. That God – pictured as a parent, often a father – beckons God's children, inviting them to return and to sit at the table, clothed by mercy and affirmed as God's very family.

Rafael Rodriguez is Professor of New Testament in the School of Bible and Theology at Johnson University in Knoxville, TN. His Ph.D. is from the University of Sheffield. His research has focused on questions of early Christian tradition, especially on the interface between Hebrew biblical tradition and the stories from and about Jesus.



Release: May 1, 2018 **Price:** \$29.99
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501839115
Size: 6 x 9 **Pages:** 184
BISAC: RELIGION / BIBLICAL STUDIES / NEW TESTAMENT



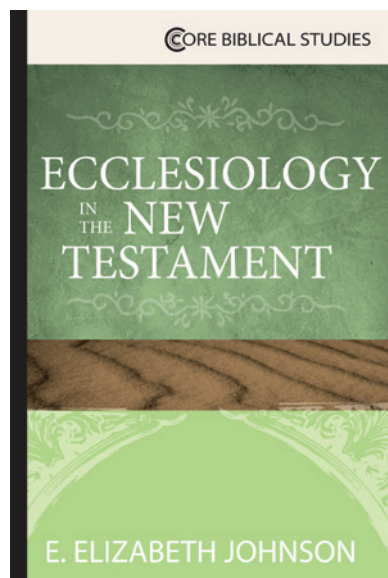


Release: March 6, 2018 **Price:** \$29.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781426766374

Size: 6 x 9 **Pages:** 190

BISAC: RELIGION / BIBLICAL STUDIES / NEW TESTAMENT



Release: June 5, 2018 **Price:** \$29.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781426771934

Size: 6 x 9 **Pages:** 192

BISAC: RELIGION / BIBLICAL STUDIES / NEW TESTAMENT



THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

John T. Carroll

Explore the diverse ways that the New Testament presents the meaning, activity, and significance of the Holy Spirit.

In an area of study that is sometimes neglected and often debated, this book offers readers fresh insight through careful attention to the different ways the New Testament writings present and interpret the Spirit of God. With Carroll's guidance, readers will gain a sense of the identity and activity of the Spirit manifest in the cultures and literature that informed the New Testament and its earliest audiences. The author also maps the distinctive views of the Holy Spirit in the New Testament books, employing a literary "close reading" of texts where the Spirit figures prominently. Readers discover that for the writers of the New Testament all of life is touched by the Holy Spirit. And for human beings this life is lived in the awareness of God's presence, sustained in hope through adversity and pain, open to change and new possibilities, and equipped and empowered to act boldly and speak prophetically by wise Spirit shaped discernment. The Spirit in the New Testament is a creative force sustaining, fostering, and restoring life – the first and last word both whispered and even shouted as the divine breath animating embedded and embodied human life and community.

John T. Carroll is the Harriet Robertson Fitts Memorial Professor of New Testament and Director of the Program for Excellence in Teaching and Learning at Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond, Virginia.

ECCLESIOLOGY IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

E. Elizabeth Johnson

How the New Testament writers talk about the Church.

The earliest Christians thought of themselves in communal terms. They did not simply make individual commitments to Jesus as God's messiah; they constituted themselves as communities shaped by the in-breaking of God's realm. They likely learned to do so from Jesus himself. When he summoned an inner circle of his followers and numbered them twelve, he signaled that his ministry had the character of a reform movement within Israel. In his work of preaching, healing, exorcism, and prophetic sign actions, Jesus shaped his followers into what would eventually become the church. By transgressing contemporary religious and social boundaries in his ministry, he planted the seeds of the church's later inclusion of non-Jews. This book will investigate New Testament texts about the church from a comparative standpoint. That is, the various authors adopt different metaphors for their communities—family, assembly, nation, priesthood, and so on—to make varying claims about how they ought to live together and how they ought to live among their neighbors. In their descriptions of themselves as the church, Christians implicitly and explicitly describe their theology but also the Roman empire, the Jerusalem temple, the synagogue, popular philosophical circles, and first-century domestic order.

E. Elizabeth Johnson is the J. Davison Philips Professor of New Testament at Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Georgia.

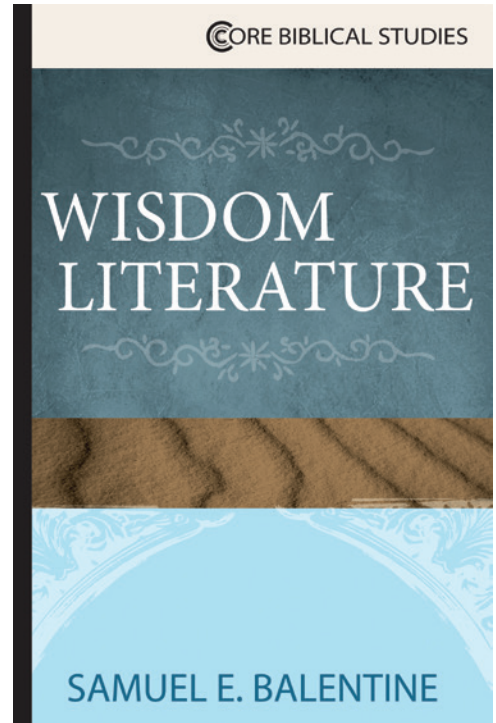
WISDOM LITERATURE

Samuel E. Balentine

Wisdom literature is foundational to our life and learning.

If the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom formed in the life of faith, its end is nothing less than the shaping of a moral self and community attuned to the character of God. This pursuit of wisdom is an ongoing journey, never a simple arrival. For the wisdom writings of the Old Testament, the pursuit of wisdom calls for the ongoing attainment of instruction, insight, shrewdness, knowledge, prudence, learning, and skill. And persons who attain wisdom think more deeply, are more discerning, and have a keener insight into the complexities and nuances of decision making. For a world-perspective that assumes the power and reality of divinity, being wise means living ethically - and to live ethically, one must be in a constant intellectual pursuit of meaning. The book details the structure, themes, and contribution to both ancient and modern society of Job, Proverbs, and Ecclesiastes. The chapters on Sirach and the Wisdom of Solomon will discuss the consonance and dissonance with "canonical wisdom," giving special attention to the development of their core ideas. The book will conclude with a chapter on Wisdom's abiding legacy.

Samuel E. Balentine is Professor of Old Testament at Union Presbyterian Seminary. A highly regarded scholar who served on the faculty of Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond for 10 years, Dr. Samuel Balentine joined the Union-PSCE faculty in September 2004. He is the author of four books, including a commentary on Leviticus in the *Interpretation Bible Commentary* series (John Knox Press) and *The Torah's Vision of Worship* (Fortress Press, 1999). He has edited or co-edited numerous books and scholarly journals, and written nearly three dozen articles for significant journals in biblical studies.



Release: July 3, 2018 **Price:** \$29.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781426765025

Size: 6 x 9 **Pages:** 192

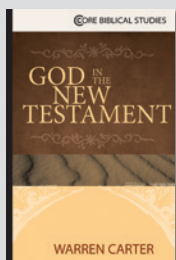
BISAC: RELIGION / BIBLICAL CRITICISM & INTERPRETATION / OLD TESTAMENT



KEY FEATURES

- Examines key theological issues, significance, and consequences for belief in the God of the Old Testament.
- Details religious and cultural contextual issues that are relevant to students.
- Readers will have a clearer understanding of God's relationship to the world and be able to speak to historical and theological concerns, issues, and questions about God.
- Readers will have a clear grasp of the context from which and to which the Wisdom literature spoke.

IN THE SAME SERIES



9781426766336
\$29.99



9781426771958
\$29.99

TRIUNE LOVE



John Wesley's Theology

K. Steve McCormick

Release: June 19, 2018 **Price:** \$49.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781426753190

Size: 6 x 9 **Pages:** 384

BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIANITY / METHODIST



KEY FEATURES

- Gives an introduction to the theology of John Wesley and shows how Wesley believed theology and Christian living intersected.
- Shows why Wesley was a deliberate Trinitarian and how failing to recognize this resulted in missteps for the Methodist movement.
- Readers will have a firm grasp on the basics of John Wesley's life and thought. Readers will understand the importance of Wesley's view of theology for Christian living.
- Readers will understand how a Trinitarian methodology can be used as a heuristic device.

TRIUNE LOVE

John Wesley's Theology

K. Steve McCormick

John Wesley's robust view of the Church and Christian life is rooted in a Trinitarian theology of love, wonder, and praise.

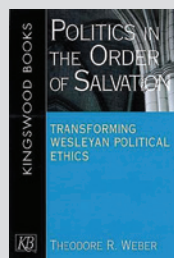
God is with us and in us for the redemption of the world, the New Creation gathered into God's life as it mirrors and participates in the glory of God's love. With a Trinitarian approach firmly in view, this book maps John Wesley's understanding of the connections and trajectories of God's Triune love as it illuminates what is unique to each of Wesley's salient doctrines of the Christian life.

At a very early age, the Church of England began to form and shape John Wesley's vision of God with its abiding faith and rich theological narrative that drank deeply from the Church catholic. Eventually, what emerged was a catholic spirit—the universal love of God—that connects all Christians to the Church and gives to them the necessary “means of grace” to participate in the “hope of glory.”

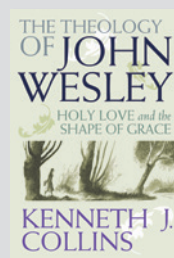
What did John Wesley do to make his Christian Anglican heritage his own? Wesley assimilated the ‘Way’ of the “Primitive Christian Faith” into his own synthesis of the “Scripture Way of Salvation.” Moreover, Wesley would connect his “Scripture Way of Salvation” to God's promise of “New Creation,” and then hold these two together with his doxological vision of a missional ecclesiology. “Methodist Connexionalism” was the Trinitarian lynch pin to hold his twin doctrines of soteriology and eschatology together.

K. Steve McCormick (Ph.D.), is Professor of Historical Theology and William M. Greathouse Chair for Wesleyan-Holiness Theology at Nazarene Theological Seminary.

COMPARABLE TITLES



9780687316908
\$39.99



9780687646333
\$38.99

THE JOURNAL LETTERS AND RELATED BIOGRAPHICAL ITEMS OF THE REVEREND CHARLES WESLEY, M.A.

Frank Baker, Richard P. Heitzenrater
& Randy L. Maddox

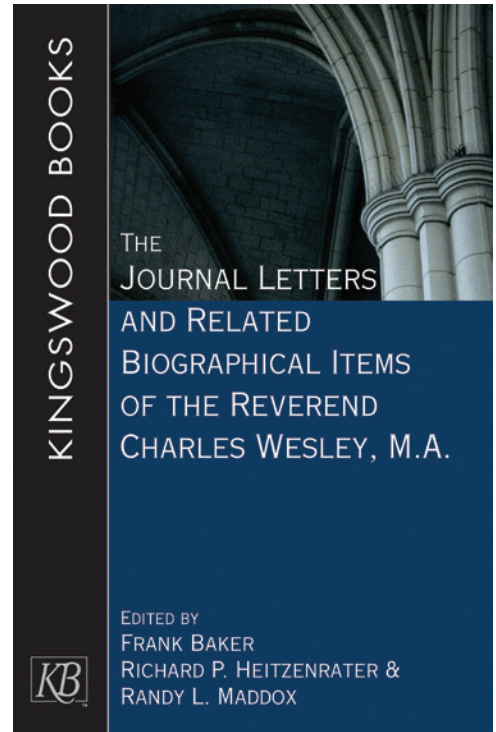
Charles Wesley's Journal is crucial to an understanding of the beginnings of the Wesleyan/Methodist movement.

As a primary record of one of the founders of the Wesleyan/Methodist movement, Charles Wesley's Journal is crucial to an understanding of the beginnings of that movement. Since it provides important background to the context of Charles Wesley's own lyrical theology expressed in sacred poetry, it is likewise absolutely essential for anyone who wants to understand the context out of which Wesleyan theology, worship, spirituality, hymnody, and conferencing emerged. For a church or movement which avers that "it sings its theology," Charles Wesley's Journal is an imperative. This volume is part of a series dedicated to providing a complete and accurate published collection of Charles Wesley manuscript items beyond his sermons and verse. The various items included in the series constitute crucial primary texts for study of Wesley's life, his ministry, and his increasingly contentious position within Methodism in his later years. The first two volumes of the series were devoted to Charles Wesley's Manuscript Journal, a single bound item held at the Methodist Archives and Research Centre. The present volume gathers a number of scattered items (the majority also held at MARC), many of which are earlier—and more complete—drafts of material in the Manuscript Journal. The third major component of the series is publication of all of Charles Wesley's surviving personal correspondence, which are replete with material of biographical and larger historical interest.

The late **Frank Baker** was Professor Emeritus of English Church History at Duke Divinity School and editor of two volumes in the Works of John Wesley (Bicentennial edition). He was an expert on Wesleyan Methodism, and a rare book and manuscripts collector.

Richard P. Heitzenrater is William Kellon Quick Professor Emeritus of Church History and Wesley Studies at The Divinity School, Duke University, Durham, North Carolina; and General Editor of the *Bicentennial Edition of the Works of John Wesley*. He is also a member of the board of Kingswood Books. He lives in Durham, North Carolina.

Randy L. Maddox is William Kellon Quick Professor of Church History and Wesley Studies at The Divinity School, Duke University, Durham, North Carolina; and Associate General Editor of the *Bicentennial Edition of the Works of John Wesley*. He is a recognized authority on both John Wesley's theology and the theological developments in later Methodism. Maddox is an ordained elder in the Dakotas Conference of The United Methodist Church.

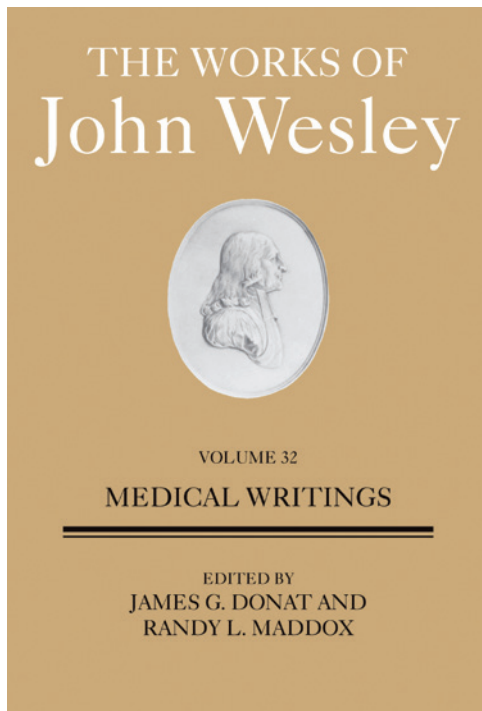


Release: March 20, 2018 **Price:** \$74.99
Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501854965
Size: 6 x 9 **Pages:** 576
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIANITY / METHODIST



KEY FEATURES

- The text is faithful to Charles Wesley's Journal Letters. It is unaltered and fully transcribed.
- All shorthand passages have been deciphered and made accessible.
- All scriptural passages have been identified and indexed, along with indexes of personal and place names.



Release: August 7, 2018 **Price:** \$59.99
 Hardback **ISBN:** 9781501859014
Size: 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 724
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIANITY / METHODIST



KEY FEATURES

- The text is faithful to John Wesley's key medical writings on health and wellbeing. It is unaltered and fully transcribed.
- All shorthand passages have been deciphered and made accessible.
- Insofar as possible all quotations, prose and poetical, have been identified and noted in the footnotes.
- All Latin quotations have been translated and where possible identified.
- All scriptural passages have been identified by biblical book, chapter, and verse.
- There will be indexes of biblical passages, personal names, and place names.
- The date of each published piece is in bold type for easy identification.

THE WORKS OF JOHN WESLEY VOLUME 32

Medical Writings

James G. Donat and Randy L. Maddox

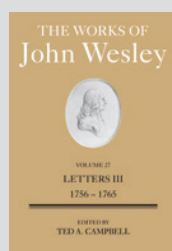
John Wesley published a collection of advice for preserving health and treating diseases, and his *Primitive Physick*, went through twenty-three editions in Wesley's lifetime—among the highest number of anything that he published—and stayed in print (and use!) continuously into the 1880s. Those who are aware of this collection, and have glanced at a few of his prescriptions for ailments tend to dismiss it in bemusement. Far from being an amusing avocation, John Wesley's interest in health and healing was a central dimension of his ministry and of the mission of early Methodism.

As a primary record of one of the founders of the Wesleyan/Methodist movement, John Wesley's Medical Writings are crucial to an understanding of the beginnings of that movement, its reflection of the context from which it emerged, and its lasting impact on English and American Methodism and the broader culture. For a church or movement that declares salvation and wholeness as works of divine presence impacting embodied life in the real world, Wesley's reflections on human health are not just relics of a pre-medical age but reveal a deeper sensibility about spiritual health pertinent to the Church's ongoing commitment to flesh and blood human health and flourishing in the real world.

James G. Donat graduated from McCormick Theological Seminary and the Wellcome Institute, University of London, receiving the PhD in the history and philosophy of science/medicine. He is an independent scholar with work focusing on John Wesley and medicine.

Randy L. Maddox is William Kellon Quick Professor of Church History and Wesley Studies at The Divinity School, Duke University, Durham, North Carolina; and Associate General Editor of the Bicentennial Edition of the Works of John Wesley. He is a recognized authority on both John Wesley's theology and the theological developments in later Methodism. Maddox is an ordained elder in the Dakotas Conference of The United Methodist Church.

IN THE SAME SERIES



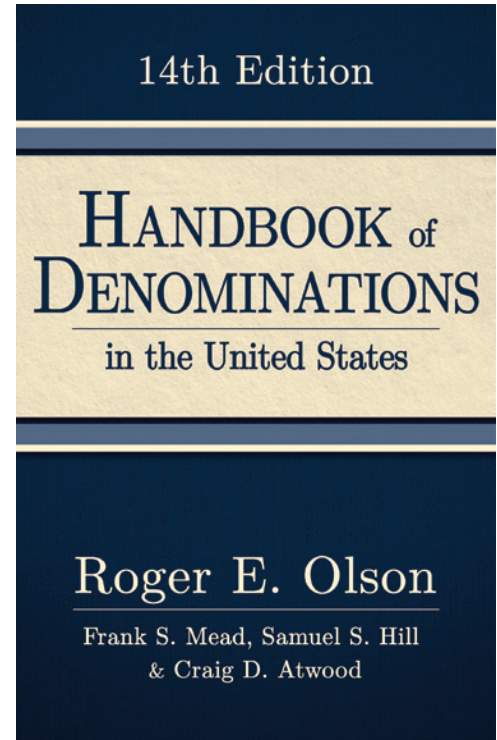
9781501806223
\$59.99

HANDBOOK OF DENOMINATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES, 14TH EDITION

Roger E. Olson

The Handbook of Denominations in the United States has been the gold standard for reference works about religious bodies in America. It is a helpful resource for clergy, laity, journalists, and researchers. This authoritative guidebook to U.S. religions is grouped in family categories of Abrahamic religions, arranged chronologically: Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. The information for each group within these families has been provided by the religious organizations themselves and focuses on the denominations' doctrines, statistics, and histories. The 14th edition is completely updated with current statistics, new denominations, and recent trends. The book has been made more useful and manageable by moving very small groups into broader articles while giving more detail and description to the large and influential denominations.

Roger E. Olson is Foy Valentine professor of Christian theology and ethics at Baylor University. A past president of the American Theological Society (Midwest Division), Olson has been the co-chair of the Evangelical Theology Group of the American Academy of Religion for two years. An expert in historical theology, he is a frequent preacher, teacher and speaker for local churches and organizations.

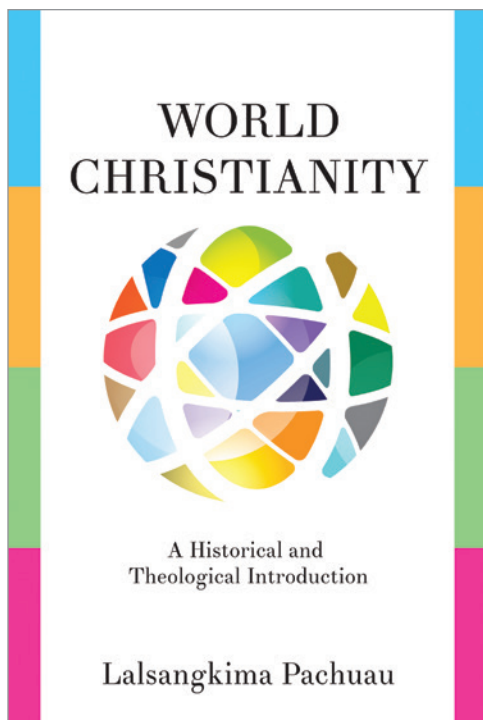


Release: May 15, 2018 **Price:** \$29.99
 Hardback **ISBN:** 9781501822513
Size: 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 432
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIANITY / DENOMINATIONS



KEY FEATURES

- Current membership statistics and denominational contact information.
- Articles describing the history, significance, beliefs, and practices for all major religious groups in the United States.
- Select articles for related groups of smaller denominations (fewer than 10,000 members).



Release: July 17, 2018 **Price:** \$34.99
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781426753183
Size: 6 x 9 **Pages:** 216
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN CHURCH / HISTORY



KEY FEATURES

- Gives history, theological framework, and global trends of World Christianity.
- Shows how and why Christianity is growing in non-Western contexts.
- Shows how non-Western Christianity is affecting Western Christianity.
- Readers will see the fruits of denominational cooperation and missional emphases.
- Readers will have a firmer grasp on why and how Christianity is growing in non-Western contexts.
- Readers will find how new ways of living the Christian faith can impact their own views of Christianity.

WORLD CHRISTIANITY

A Historical and Theological Introduction

Lalsangkima Pachuau

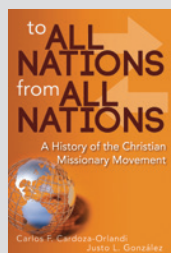
Non-Western Christianity is reshaping Christianity for all of us.

Christianity is vibrant and growing in the non-western “majority” world and Christianity is changing as a result. Pachuau surveys the current trending approaches to recognizing and investigating “world Christianity” and explores the salient features of the demographic changes that mark a measurable shift in the center of gravity from the northwest part of the globe to the southern continents. This shift is not just geographical. World Christianity is ultimately about the changing and diversifying character of Christianity and a renewed recognition of the dynamic universality of Christian faith itself: Christianity is a shared religion in that people of different cultures and societies make it their own while being transformed by it. Christianity is translatable and adaptable to all cultures while challenging each with its transformative power. Pachuau also charts the theological reestablishment of the missionary enterprise founded on understandings of God’s mission in the world (mission Dei), a mission of cross-cultural gospel diffusion for missionary advocates in the majority world but one of near neighbor missional engagement for the contagious Charismatic Christianity of the majority world.

This book is both a descriptive study and a thoughtful analysis of world Christianity’s demographics, life, representation, and thought. The book also gives an account of the historical emergence of World Christianity and its theological characteristics using a methodology that stresses the productive tension between the universal and particular in understanding a fundamentally adaptable Christian faith.

Lalsangkima Pachuau is the John Wesley Beeson Professor of Christian Mission and Dean of Advanced Research Programs at Asbury Theological Seminary. After teaching at the United Theological College, Bangalore, India, for seven years, Dr. Pachuau joined the faculty of Asbury Seminary in 2006. He was the editor of *Mission Studies: Journal of the International Association for Mission Studies* for eight years (2004-2012). He has also served as a visiting professor in a number of institutions in Asia and Africa. Ordained by the Presbyterian Church of India, Pachuau is a member of Transylvania Presbytery of the PCUSA. His Ph.D. is from Princeton Theological Seminary.

COMPARABLE TITLES



9781630885762
\$59.99



9780687064038
\$41.99

THE ABINGDON PREACHING ANNUAL 2019

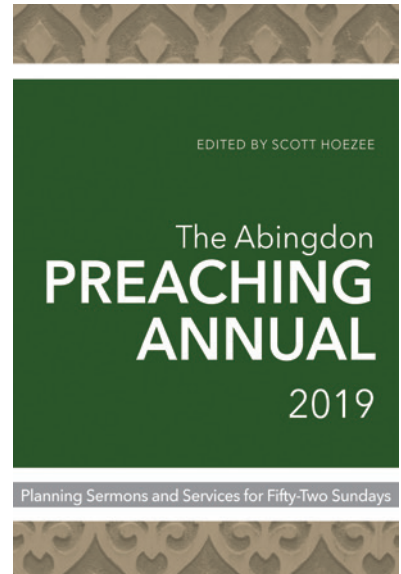
Planning Sermons and Services for Fifty-Two Sundays.

Scott Hoezee

The Abingdon Preaching Annual 2019 is a source of inspiration and edification for pastors, who so rarely are on the receiving end of preaching.

Each week's entry includes: A Primary Theme, Secondary Themes, and Worship Helps. The volume also includes essays on preaching topics, full sermons, and sermon series ideas. *The Abingdon Preaching Annual* is designed to spur the preacher's imagination, offer fresh, intriguing ideas and point the preacher in a good direction.

Scott Hoezee is an ordained pastor in the Christian Reformed Church in North America. He serves as the Director of the Center for Excellence in Preaching at Calvin Seminary.



Release: April 3, 2018 **Price:** \$26.99
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501858857
Size: 6 x 9 **Pages:** 192
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN MINISTRY / PREACHING



THE ABINGDON WORSHIP ANNUAL 2019

Worship Planning Resources for Every Sunday of the Year.

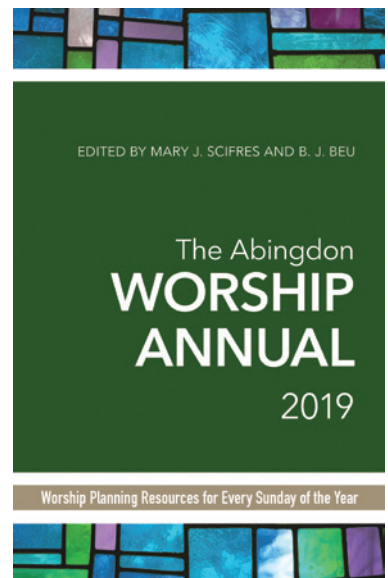
Mary J. Scifres and B.J. Beu

The trusted planning resource for traditional and contemporary worship.

Weekly worship planning materials to assist pastors and worship leaders. Using a theme idea based on the lectionary readings, each week's offering of prayers and litanies follows a basic pattern of Christian worship: Invitation and Gathering, Proclamation and Response, Thanksgiving and Communion, and Sending Forth. Alternative ideas for Praise Sentences and Contemporary Gathering Words are offered for contemporary worship settings. Available with purchase, access to a PDF of printed text.

Mary J. Scifres is a United Methodist pastor, teacher, and consultant who inspires and equips twenty-first-century leaders in creative worship, church growth, visioning, and strategic planning. She is co-author of *The United Methodist Music and Worship Planner* and its ecumenical counterpart, *Prepare!*, and author of the worship evangelism book *Searching for Seekers*.

B. J. Beu has served churches in the United Church of Christ for the past twenty years. Beyond his work on this resource, he has contributed sermons to *The Abingdon Preaching Annual*, developed and led worship services for his conference's Annual Gathering, and served on the worship team for the UCC's General Synod in 2013.



Release: May 1, 2018 **Price:** \$26.99
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BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN RITUALS & PRACTICE / WORSHIP & LITURGY





Release: April 17, 2018 **Price:** \$25.99
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BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN RITUALS &
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BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN RITUALS &
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PREPARE! 2018-2019

An Ecumenical Music & Worship Planner

David L. Bone and Mary J. Scifres

A weekly worship planning book for pastors and musicians.

An all-in-one resource that helps both the music director and pastor plan the worship services for each Sunday and holy day of the year, the 2018-2019 edition Prepare! is lectionary based and places everything at your fingertips:

- Calendar format that helps you plan the entire choir year, from September through August.
- Eight or more suggested hymns for each service keyed to 16 hymnals from at least 7 different denominations, including: *Africana Hymnal*; *The Baptist Hymnal*, *Chalice Hymnal (Disciples of Christ)*, *The Faith We Sing*, *Glory to God: The Presbyterian Hymnal*, *The Hymnal 1982 (Episcopal)*, *Hymns for the Family of God*, *Lutheran Book of Worship*, *The Presbyterian Hymnal*, *The New Century Hymnal (United Church of Christ)*, *Renew! Songs & Hymns for Blended Worship*, *Songs for Praise and Worship Singalong Edition*, *The United Methodist Hymnal*, *Voices United*, *Worship & Song*, and *Worship III (Roman Catholic)*.
- Complete lectionary text of the Old Testament, Psalm, Epistle, and Gospel readings, using the New Revised Standard Version or Common English Bible translation.
- Reproducible worship planning forms.
- Resources for holidays and special days.
- Suggestions for prayers, solos, anthems, visuals, and much more.

KEY FEATURES

- Resource is spiral bound to make it easy to use when planning worship.
- Users have everything needed at a glance for each Sunday and holy day of the year, allows for customizing the service to meet the needs of a congregation.
- With this all-in-one resource for a full year of worship planning, including full lectionary texts for each week, worship will be meaningful and strengthen participants' relationships with God.

David L. Bone is Executive Director of The Fellowship of United Methodists in Music and Worship Arts. He lives in Nashville, Tennessee.

Mary J. Scifres is a United Methodist pastor, teacher, and consultant who inspires and equips twenty-first-century leaders in creative worship, church growth, visioning, and strategic planning. She is co-author of *The United Methodist Music and Worship Planner* and its ecumenical counterpart, *Prepare!*, and author of the worship evangelism book *Searching for Seekers*. A graduate of Boston University, she holds both the Master of Divinity and Master of Sacred Music degrees. Mary lives in Laguna Beach, California.

THE UNITED METHODIST MUSIC & WORSHIP PLANNER 2018-2019

David L. Bone and Mary J. Scifres

A weekly worship planning book for United Methodist pastors and musicians.

An all-in-one resource that helps both the music director and pastor plan the worship services for each Sunday and holy day of the year, *The United Methodist Music and Worship Planner 2018-2019* is lectionary-based and places at your fingertips:

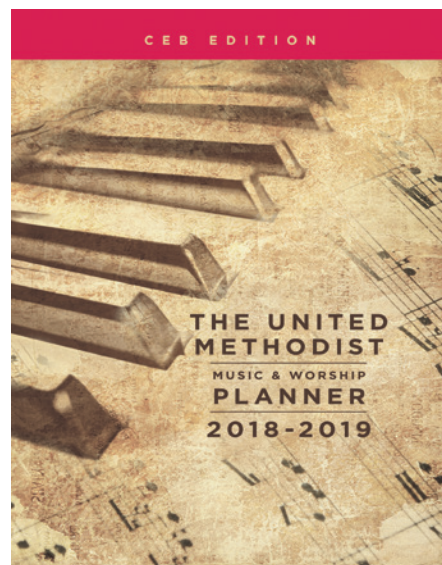
- Weekly pages in spiral-bound format that help you plan the entire worship year, from September through August.
- Eight or more suggested hymns for each service keyed to United Methodist worship resources: *The United Methodist Hymnal*, *The Faith We Sing*, *Worship & Song*, *The United Methodist Book of Worship*, and *The Africana Hymnal*.
- Complete lectionary text of the Old Testament, Psalm, Epistle, and Gospel readings, using the New Revised Standard Version or Common English Bible translation.
- Reproducible worship planning forms.
- Resources for holidays and special days.
- Suggestions for prayers, solos, anthems, visuals, and much more.

KEY FEATURES

- Everything needed at a glance for planning worship including full lectionary text for each week and holy day of the year.
- Having eight or more suggested hymns for each service keyed to United Methodist worship resources: *The United Methodist Hymnal*, *The Faith We Sing*, *Worship & Song*, *The United Methodist Book of Worship*, and *The Africana Hymnal*.
- Reproducible worship planning forms; resources for holidays and special days; and suggestions for solos, anthems, and visuals.

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Release: April 17, 2018 **Price:** \$25.99

Spiral bound **ISBN:** 9781501856471

Size: 8.5 x 11 **Pages:** 144

BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN RITUALS & PRACTICE / WORSHIP & LITURGY



Release: April 17, 2018 **Price:** \$25.99

Spiral bound **ISBN:** 9781501856495

Size: 8.5 x 11 **Pages:** 144

BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN RITUALS & PRACTICE / WORSHIP & LITURGY





Release: May 1, 2018 **Price:** \$9.99
 Calendar **ISBN:** 9781501858697
Size: 8.5 x 11 **Pages:** 32
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN RITUALS & PRACTICE / WORSHIP & LITURGY



THE UNITED METHODIST WORSHIP PLANNING CALENDAR 2019

Worship planning at a glance.

Whether one is the pastor of a small congregation, a music director, or a member of a large worship planning team, this unique tool can help create and capture weekly worship service details: sermon topic, hymns, anthems, acolytes, lay readers, and special services such as communion or baptisms. The planning chart provided for each Sunday includes: the lections, liturgical day, liturgical colors, and hymn suggestions from United Methodist-specific hymnals and song books. The standard month-at-a-glance format includes all the features of a great standard calendar including U.S. and Canadian national days, beginning and ending dates for Daylight Saving Time, major Jewish observances, and more.



Release: May 1, 2018 **Price:** \$16.99
 Spiral bound **ISBN:** 9781501858666
Size: 6 x 9 **Pages:** 160
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN CHURCH / ADMINISTRATION



THE UNITED METHODIST CALENDAR & WORKBOOK 2019

Keep track of appointments and worship plans.

An enhanced appointment calendar for clergy, choir directors, church school workers, and all church staff. View appointments for the entire week in one spread. It includes United Methodist-specific worship planning information, and extra space on Sunday to record special details related to worship services. Spiral-bound, it also includes a month-at-a-glance section, pages for recording contact information, National days for the U.S. and Canada, and the dates of Daylight Saving Time.

ALSO AVAILABLE

Personal Planner Edition		9781501858673	\$16.99
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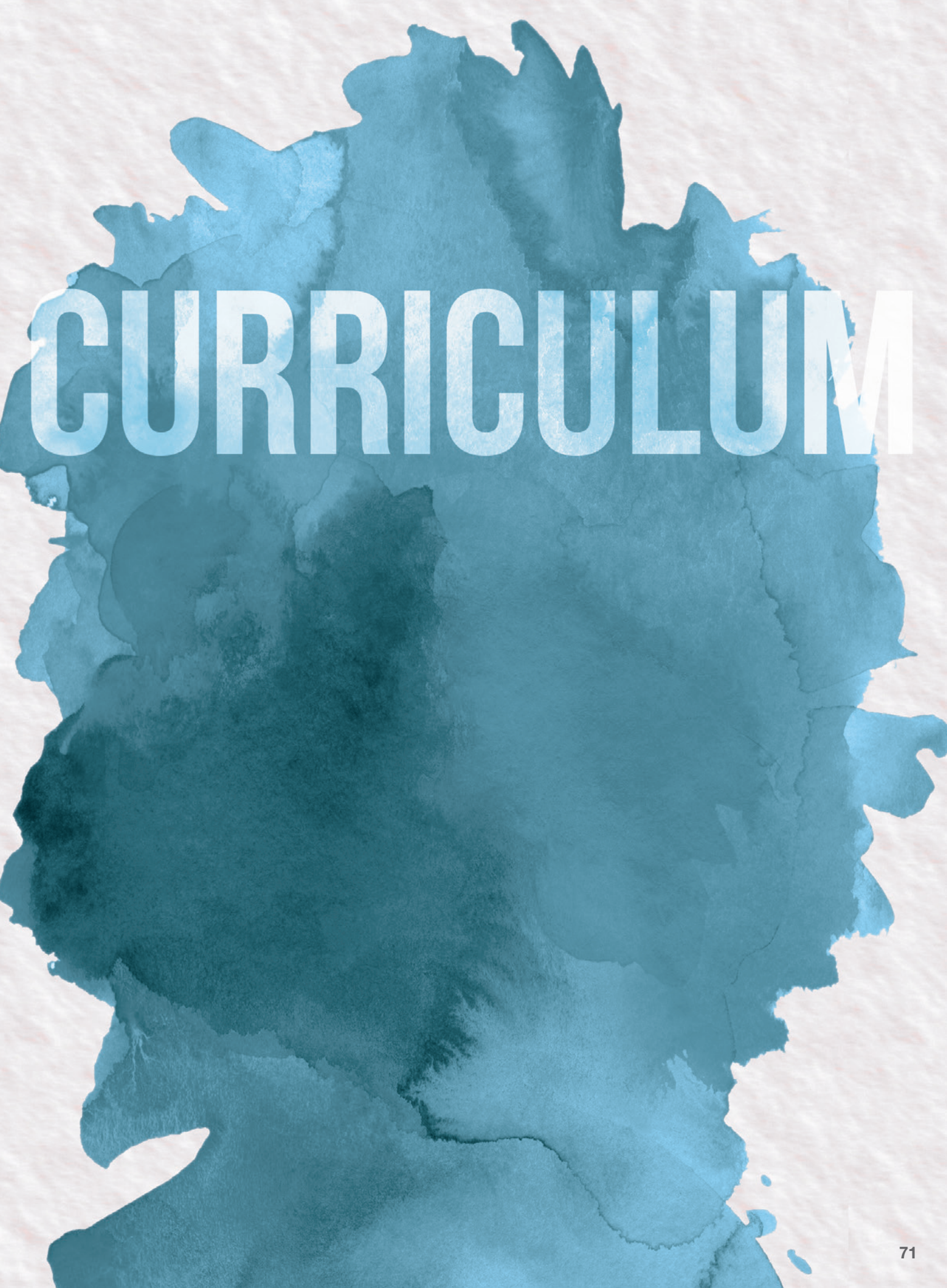
Release: May 1, 2018 **Price:** \$16.99
 Spiral bound **ISBN:** 9781501858680
Size: 6 x 9 **Pages:** 160
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN CHURCH / ADMINISTRATION



CALENDAR & WORKBOOK FOR CHURCH LEADERS 2019

Keep track of appointments and worship plans.

An enhanced appointment calendar for all church leaders. View appointments for the entire week in one spread. Convenient, stay-flat, spiral binding. Includes all the information one expects to find in an outstanding desk calendar: a month-at-a-glance section, pages for recording contact information for the current worship team, leaders, and other groups, national days for the United States and Canada, and beginning and ending dates for Daylight Saving Time, which helps keep the rest of the user's life organized.



CURRICULUM



ROLLING RIVER RAMPAGE SUPER STARTER KIT

Experience the Ride of a Lifetime with God!

Everything you need to jump-start your VBS!

Lead kids on an action-packed VBS adventure! Cokesbury's Rolling River Rampage invites children on a white-water rafting adventure to experience the ride of a lifetime with God! Along the river, children discover that life with God is an adventure full of wonder and surprise, and that they can trust God to be with them through anything.

The *Rolling River Rampage* Super Starter Kit has everything you need to help your kids experience the ride of a lifetime with God! The theme Bible verse is, "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you."—Isaiah 43:2, CEB

The Super Starter Kit includes:

- Director Guide
- Leader Guides for Bible Storyteller, Preschool/Kindergarten, Craft, Music, Science, Assembly, Recreation, Decorating, and Reflection Time
- Sample copy of age-level student books for Preschool/Kindergarten, Younger Elementary, and Older Elementary
- Complete Music CD
- Samples of publicity and craft materials
- Mega Media Pak

Release: January 2, 2018 **Price:** \$169.99

Starter Kit **ISBN:** 9781501840760

BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN EDUCATION / CHILDREN & YOUTH





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The *24/7: Jesus Makes a Way Every Day* Starter Kit has everything needed to get your VBS started! The lessons are based on stories Jesus told of how God provides every hour of every day so that we might have life and live it to the fullest! Children, youth, and adults will have fun discovering that abundant life is based on a strong faith foundation, sharing in community, seeking justice, persistent prayer, and the forgiveness and love of Jesus Christ.

With 24/7 participants will:

- Hear that God's Word provides a firm foundation for everyday life!
- Experience God's abundant life through community sharing and fun!
- Be introduced to people who inspire abundant living!
- Come to believe that God's forgiveness is just what they need!

Students will understand the overall Scripture, "I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly." — John 10:10, NRSV

The 24/7! Starter Kit contains:

- Worship DVD, including an introduction video, music videos, and movement instructionals and demonstrations
- Leader Books: Director's Manual; Preschool/Kindergarten, Younger & Older Elementary Bible Story; Arts & Crafts, Music & Movement, Heritage/Drama, Recipe Guide, and Outreach/Follow-up
- Student Book Samples: Preschool/Kindergarten (ages 3-5), Younger Elementary (Grades 1-3), Older Elementary (Grades 4-6), and Teen
- Reproducible Parent Empowerment Pages
- Music CD
- Sunday School Guide

You will also find a sample of each of the exciting publicity materials:

- Activity Sticker Sheet
- Promo Poster
- Invitation Postcard
- Leader Certificate
- Student Certificate
- Iron-On Transfer
- Nametag
- Nametag Holder



Release: January 16, 2018 **Price:** \$84.99
Starter Kit ISBN: 9781501850622
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN EDUCATION / CHILDREN & YOUTH



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Recognition & Outreach

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*These items are included in the Super Starter Kit



Kit Contains:
 CD-ROM
 RESOURCE PAK
 LEADER GUIDE
 REPRODUCIBLE KIDS' BOOK
 TOTE

ONE ROOM SUNDAY SCHOOL

An all-in-one resource for children ages 3–12. Works perfectly as a small-group Sunday school option for varying ages or as a midweek program.

One Room Sunday School Kit | \$76.99

Spring 2018 | 9781501835278 | Available December 19, 2017
 Summer 2018 | 9781501835919 | Available March 20, 2018

One Room Sunday School Extra Leader Guide | \$16.99

Spring 2018 | 9781501835292 | Available December 19, 2017
 Summer 2018 | 9781501835933 | Available March 20, 2018

LARGE GROUP/ SMALL GROUP

Kit Contains:
 CD-ROM
 LEADER GUIDE
 DVD

Children gather in large groups for the Bible story, music, and movement, then break into age-level small groups to dig deeper and apply the story to their daily lives. Perfect for Sunday school, children's church, and midweek sessions.

Large Group/Small Group Kit | \$99.99

Spring 2018 | 9781501835315 | Available December 19, 2017
 Summer 2018 | 9781501835957 | Available March 20, 2018



ADVENTURE DVD

Today's media-savvy kids will be hooked by these engaging, animated videos! Travel with the Deep Blue Crew and meet kids around the world. Each video segment tells a Bible story through the kids' point of view. There are also music videos and Bible story quizzes for even more fun! For ages 3-10.

Learn & Serve Adventure DVD | \$44.99

Spring 2018 | 9781501835339 | Available December 19, 2017
 Summer 2018 | 9781501835971 | Available March 20, 2018





KIDS CHURCH

Deep Blue Kids Church is an all-inclusive leader guide helping you host your own weekly kids' church. Each of the thirteen lessons is divided into four sections designed to last up to 15 minutes, and can be customized to fit your needs. The four sections are: Invite Them In, Into the Bible, Into Worship, and Extended Time. Each month, the lessons focus on a new character trait such as wisdom and loving kindness. Every lesson includes a worship practice component, a reproducible, and a Bible story corresponding to a session on the optional *Deep Blue Kids Learn & Serve Adventure DVD*.

Kids Church | \$14.99

Spring 2018 | 9781501837852 | Available December 19, 2017

Summer 2018 | 9781501837876 | Available March 20, 2018

TODDLERS & TWOS

CLASS STUFF

- Includes an interactive poster, Bible storytelling figures, Bible verse posters, Bible songs, puzzles, games, matching cards, a quarterly attendance chart, and other visual and kinesthetic activities.

LEADER GUIDE

- Help children learn the Bible through movement, songs, art activities, and more!

BIBLE STORY PICTURE CARDS

- A colorful card for children to take home each week.

Toddlers & Twos Class Stuff | \$23.99

Spring 2018 | 9781630887025 | Available December 19, 2017

Summer 2018 | 9781630887148 | Available March 20, 2018



Toddlers & Twos Leader Guide | \$9.59

Spring 2018 | 9781630887001 | Available December 19, 2017

Summer 2018 | 9781630887124 | Available March 20, 2018

Toddlers & Twos Bible Story Picture Cards | \$6.49

Spring 2018 | 9781630887018 | Available December 19, 2017

Summer 2018 | 9781630887131 | Available March 20, 2018



LEARNING TO STUDY THE BIBLE

Learning to Study the Bible is an eight-week curriculum for tweens to learn the basics of biblical interpretation.

The Leader Guide includes easy-to-use instructions to guide students as they explore topics like genre, historical context, biblical geography, and more.

The Student Journal gives tweens an opportunity to apply the tools of biblical interpretation to "texts" from pop culture, the Bible, and everyday life.

Leader Guide | \$14.99

9781501856280 | Available January 16, 2018

Student Journal | \$6.99

9781501856273 | Available January 16, 2018

FATHOM BIBLE STUDIES

A deeper dive into understanding the key themes and storylines of the Bible.

Fathom is a Bible study for teens that covers the Old and New Testaments in 18 4-session studies. The lessons are a blend of narrative and traditional theological approaches to understanding the Bible story. Each lesson focuses on one passage, launching into the larger context of God’s story being studied, and how that story is meant to be theirs.

KEY FEATURES

- An exploration of the history of the Bible.
- A broad bible survey with deep dives into key anchor points for their faith commitments.
- Activities that promote discussion and reflection after each class time ends.
- A student journal that creates space and tension for teens to wrestle with how to interpret the Bible.

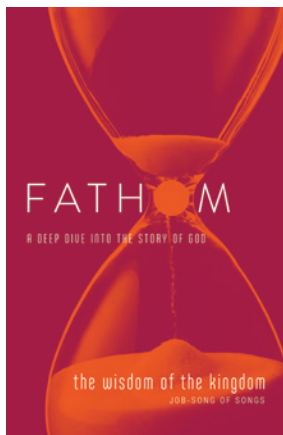
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN EDUCATION / CHILDREN & YOUTH



THE BIRTH OF THE KINGDOM

In *The Birth of the Kingdom*, students will explore the history of God’s people as they begin to settle in the land God promised them. Through these four lessons, teens will learn about the power of God in the lives of all people from young children to newly-crowned kings. This study will cover the books of 1 & 2 Samuel and 1 Chronicles.

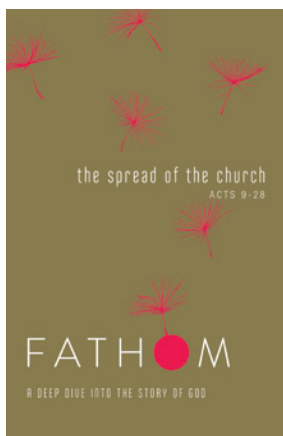
Student Journal		9781501841583	\$8.99	March 20, 2018
Leader Guide		9781501841569	\$12.99	March 20, 2018



THE WISDOM OF THE KINGDOM

Through the four lessons in this study, students will gain an appreciation for the Bible’s wisdom literature and the situations that give it context. *The Wisdom of the Kingdom* will introduce students to the art and insight of the people of Israel and explore what it means to be wise in the eyes of God. This study will cover the books of Job through Song of Songs.

Student Journal		9781501841934	\$8.99	March 20, 2018
Leader Guide		9781501841941	\$12.99	March 20, 2018



THE SPREAD OF THE CHURCH

The Spread of the Church investigates the missionary activity of the early church and Paul in particular as recorded in Acts 9-28. Leaders and students, will dive into the story of Paul’s missionary journeys while learning about the importance of evangelism, leadership, and what it means to live out the Gospel.

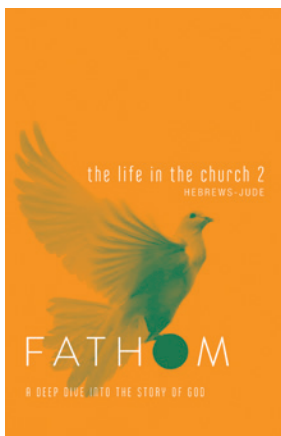
Student Journal		9781501841972	\$8.99	March 20, 2018
Leader Guide		9781501841989	\$12.99	March 20, 2018



THE BROKEN KINGDOM

In *The Broken Kingdom*, leaders and teens will experience the story of Israel's fall and eventual exile. Throughout these four lessons, students will learn about the consequences of failing to trust in God as well as the redemption offered by God in even the worst of circumstances. This study covers the history of Israel and Judah in 1 & 2 Kings and the prophets.

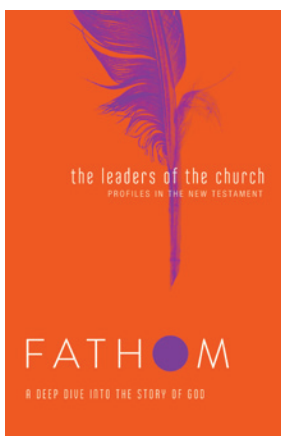
Student Journal		9781501842016	\$8.99	June 19, 2018
Leader Guide		9781501842023	\$12.99	June 19, 2018



THE LIFE IN THE CHURCH 2

In this study, students will learn about what it was like to be a part of the early church in the first century. In addition to unpacking selected teachings in Hebrews; James; 1 & 2 Peter; 1, 2 & 3 John; and Jude, teens will also gain an understanding of the historical context and local church situations that led to the writing of these letters.

Student Journal		9781501842054	\$8.99	June 19, 2018
Leader Guide		9781501842061	\$12.99	June 19, 2018



THE LEADERS OF THE CHURCH

In *The Leaders of the Church*, students will be introduced to some of the lesser-known, but still vitally important, leaders of the early church. These four lessons will profile four leaders and help students understand what it means to be a leader while following God and working towards the kingdom of Heaven. These studies will come from the Gospels, Acts, and the New Testament Letters.

Student Journal		9781501842092	\$8.99	June 19, 2018
Leader Guide		9781501842108	\$12.99	June 19, 2018



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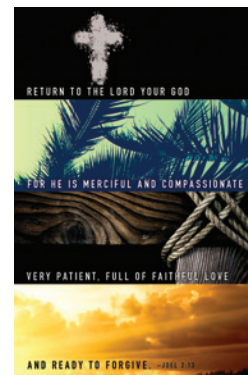
ASH WEDNESDAY
PSALM 51:12
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ASH WEDNESDAY
JOEL 2:11B-17A
9781501845710 | REGULAR
9781501845727 | LARGE



LENTEN
JOEL 2:13
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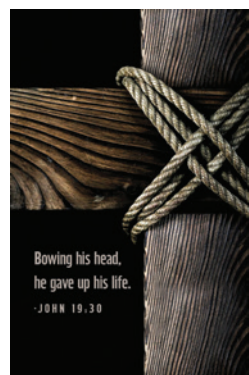
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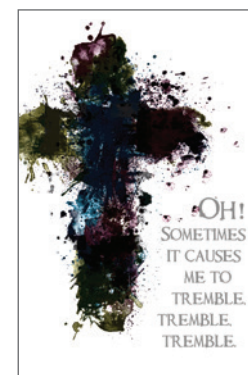
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MARK 11:9
9781501845307 | REGULAR
9781501845314 | LARGE



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MARK 11:9
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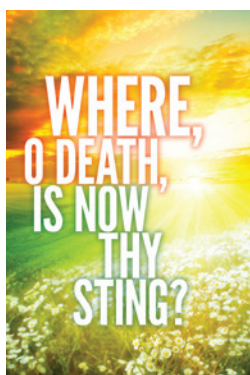
GOOD FRIDAY
JOHN 19:30
9781501845321



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9781501845765 | LARGE



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JOHN 3:19
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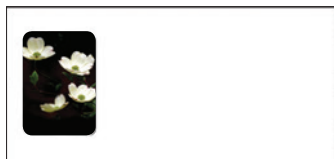
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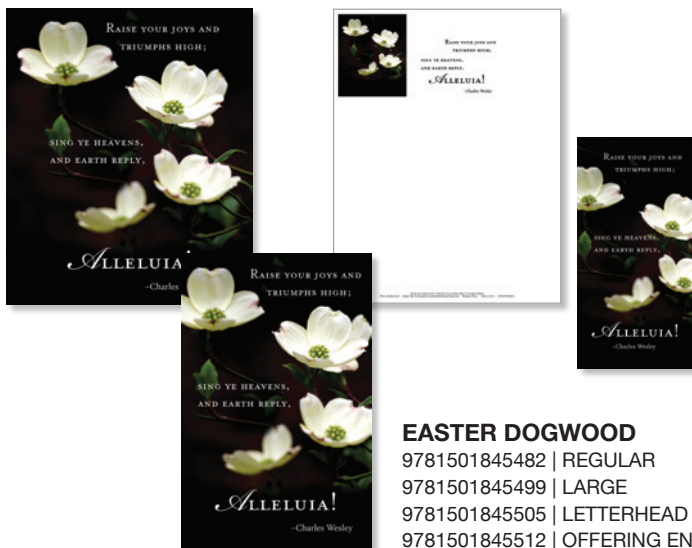
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ISAIAH 66:13
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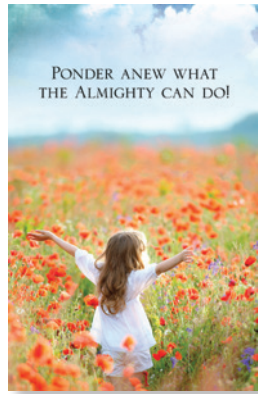
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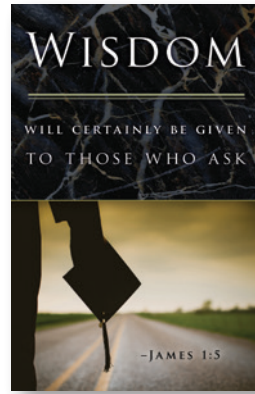
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LUKE 12:27
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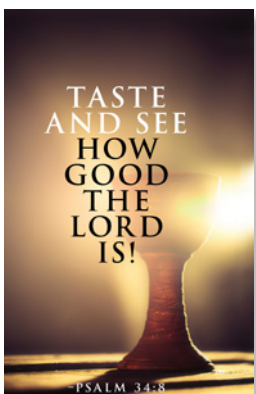
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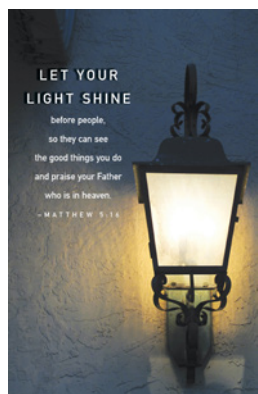
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JAMES 1:5
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PSALM 33:22
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PSALM 34:8
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MATTHEW 5:16
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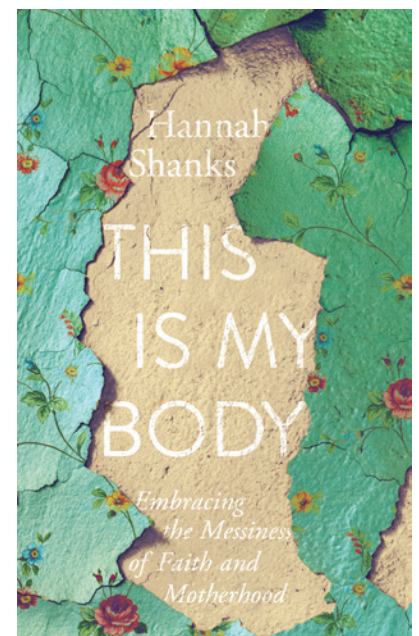
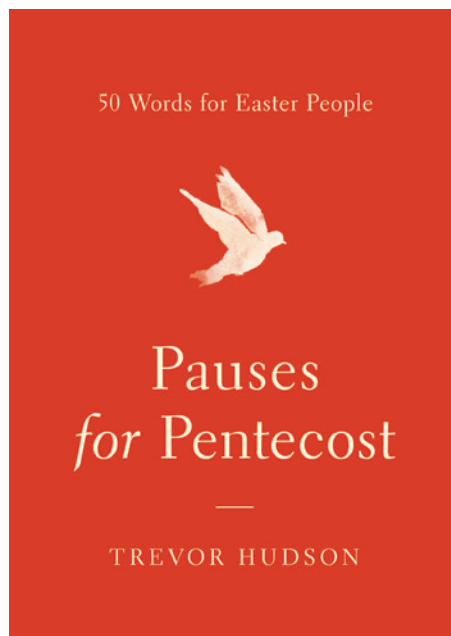
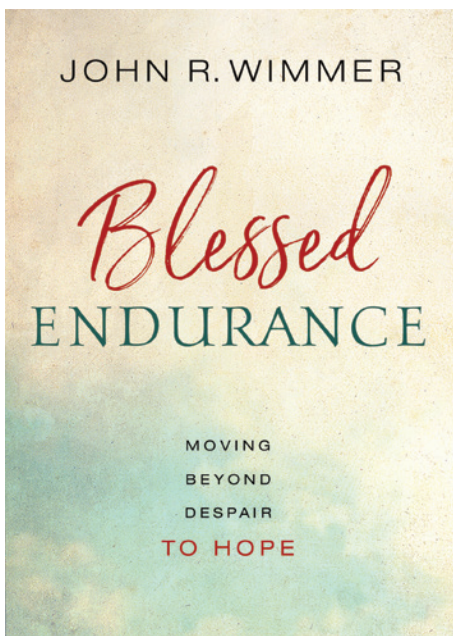
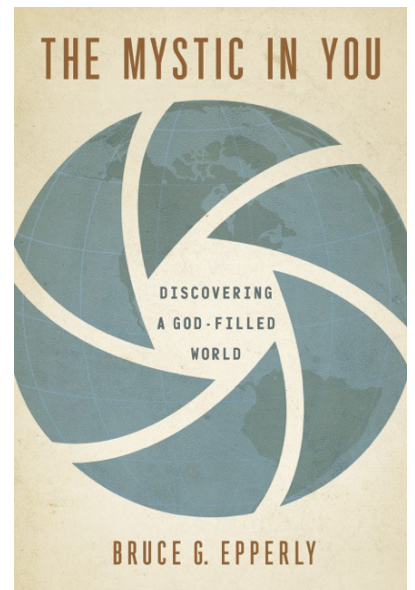
MICAH 6:8
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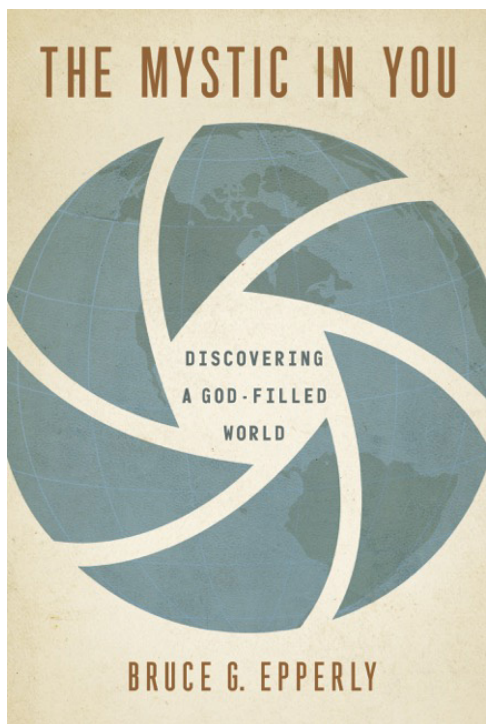


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NEW RELEASES





PUB DATE: JANUARY 2018

PAPERBACK \$13.99

978-0-8358-1760-8

PAGES: 144 TRIM SIZE: 6 X 9

RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / SPIRITUAL GROWTH



TARGET AUDIENCE

- People affiliated with churches who are interested in spiritual growth
- Those who consider themselves spiritual but not religious
- People interested in mysticism
- Prayer groups, spiritual growth groups, adult formation classes

KEY FEATURES

- Explores mystics from a variety of Christian traditions
- Includes Jewish and Muslim mystics
- Offers spiritual exercises

Explore your spiritual life to encounter the mystic in you.

THE MYSTIC IN YOU

Discovering a God-Filled World

Bruce G. Epperly

What is a mystic? Bruce Epperly defines mystics as people who see holiness in everyday life. God comes to us in the moment-by-moment adventures of daily living, he says.

We can be mystics without leaving our families, disengaging from daily responsibilities, becoming a priest, or joining a monastic order. Epperly shows how we can experience the living God in the midst of daily life and never again take everyday events for granted.

Bruce Epperly introduces readers to 12 individuals or groups of mystics through the ages:

- St. Francis of Assisi
- The desert mothers and fathers
- Benedict of Nursia
- The Celtic mystics
- Hildegard of Bingen
- Mechtild of Magdeburg
- Brother Lawrence
- The Baal Shem Tov
- Howard Thurman
- Ety Hillesum
- Rumi
- Julian of Norwich

Each chapter describes each mystic's life, spiritual experiences, and worldview, and provides spiritual exercises to help us experience the mystic firsthand. Through his conversational, down-to-earth approach, Epperly inspires us to realize that we can encounter God wherever we are, whatever we are doing.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Bruce G. Epperly is a theologian, pastor, spiritual guide, author, and recognized leader in lay and pastoral faith formation. He serves as pastor at South Congregational Church, Centerville, Massachusetts. An ordained minister in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and United Church of Christ, Dr. Epperly has authored or coauthored more than 30 books on theology, spirituality, ministerial excellence and spiritual formation, scripture, and healing and wholeness.

How do you respond to pain and despair and still recognize God's presence in these struggles?

BLESSED ENDURANCE

Moving Beyond Despair to Hope

John R. Wimmer

Where is God when we are hurting or in despair? How can we respond faithfully to situations that cause us pain? Where can we find hope even when we feel hopeless?

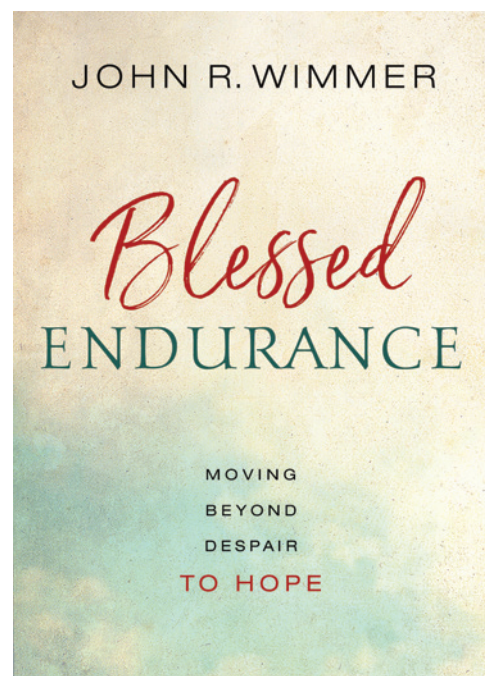
Pain, despair, and struggle are part of life, and they test our character as God's people. John Wimmer approaches these challenges to our faith realistically and thoughtfully. Those looking for an easy answer to why despair, pain, and suffering exist will not find it in this book. Wimmer does not dispense platitudes like "Everything happens for a reason."

Although we can't always understand or control many things that happen to us, we can choose how we will respond to them. Wimmer encourages us to choose to regard times of difficulty as opportunities for spiritual and personal growth. We are not alone in our suffering, he reminds us—the writers of Psalms and even Jesus felt abandoned by God at times. "God loves and respects us enough to allow us to doubt and question," Wimmer writes. So rather than diminishing faith, pain and despair can lead to greater trust in God. To endure through such times is a blessing.

This inspiring book offers practical help for moving from pain and despair to the blessing of hope. Wimmer reminds readers that with hope we also have faith—not the false belief that our lives will be pain-free but true faith that God will lead us through our struggles to more profound depths of spiritual growth and wisdom.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

John R. Wimmer is a United Methodist minister who served as a local church pastor for 18 years and founded the Center for Congregations, now a network with 5 regional offices in Indiana whose model of working with churches has been adopted by many organizations nationwide. Since 2002 he has been program director at Lilly Endowment, where he has sought to enhance pastoral leadership and congregational vitality through more than \$700 million in grants to denominations, seminaries, and a wide variety of other church agencies.



PUB DATE: JANUARY 2018

PAPERBACK \$9.99

978-0-8358-1777-6

PAGES: 112 TRIM SIZE: 5 X 7

RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / PERSONAL GROWTH

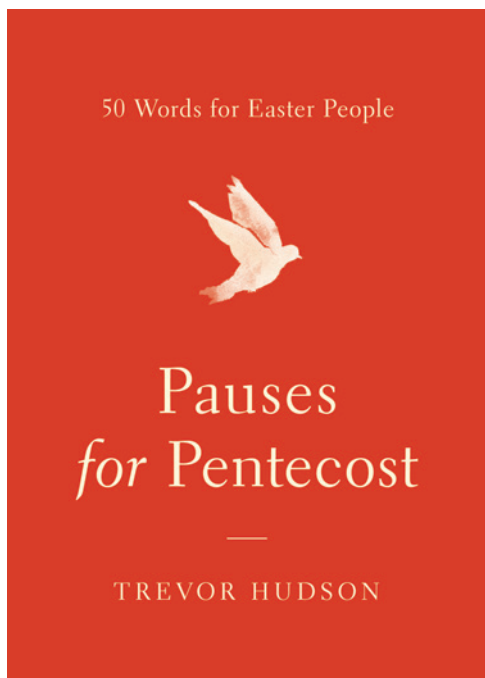


TARGET AUDIENCE

- People seeking hope and spiritual help while dealing with pain, grief, or despair
- Pastors, chaplains, and other ministers who seek a deeper understanding of these issues to provide meaningful pastoral care

KEY FEATURES

- Reflection questions after each chapter, useful for individuals or small-group study
- Accessible and relatable examples to help readers understand and cope with their struggles
- References illustrating how these principles permeate scripture



A simple daily practice to help you understand the meaning of Pentecost.

PAUSES FOR PENTECOST

50 Words for Easter People

Trevor Hudson

Pentecost is a holy day when Christians commemorate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the early followers of Jesus Christ. Originating from a Greek word meaning “50th day,” Pentecost occurred 50 days after Christ’s resurrection. Before the events of Pentecost, Jesus had followers, but there was no movement that could be called the church. Pentecost is considered the birthday of the church.

In *Pauses for Pentecost*, Trevor Hudson leads readers to focus on one word and scripture verse each day. He invites us to pause for a few minutes to read the brief daily reflection and do a simple practice. The beauty of this book is its simplicity, and the thoughtful meditations guide us to a deeper understanding of the meaning of Pentecost.

PUB DATE: JANUARY 2018

PAPERBACK \$9.99

978-0-8358-1763-9

PAGES: 112 TRIM SIZE: 5 X 7

RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / SPIRITUAL GROWTH



TARGET AUDIENCE

- Individuals interested in Pentecost
- Those who want a daily practice that helps them sustain the season of Easter and have a more meaningful celebration of Pentecost
- Buyers of Hudson’s *Pauses for Lent* and other books

KEY FEATURES

- Focuses on a word, a scripture verse, and action for each day
- Offers readers a simple daily practice to help them understand the meaning of Pentecost

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Trevor Hudson is a Methodist minister who has served in pastoral roles in southern Africa for more than 35 years. The author of multiple books, Hudson travels widely, teaching and lecturing in the areas of spiritual formation, spiritual direction, and pastoral therapy.

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QUESTIONS GOD ASKS US	978-0-8358-9990-1

Consider how women’s experiences and perspectives can lead to new ways of understanding scripture.

THIS IS MY BODY

Embracing the Messiness of Faith and Motherhood

Hannah Shanks

Kneeling at the communion rail, Hannah Shanks heard the familiar words “The body of Christ, broken for you” as she tore off a piece of bread and then “The blood of Christ, shed for you” as she dipped her bread into the cup. Just hours before, she had found out she was pregnant. Now she paid attention to the words “This is my body” as if hearing them for the first time.

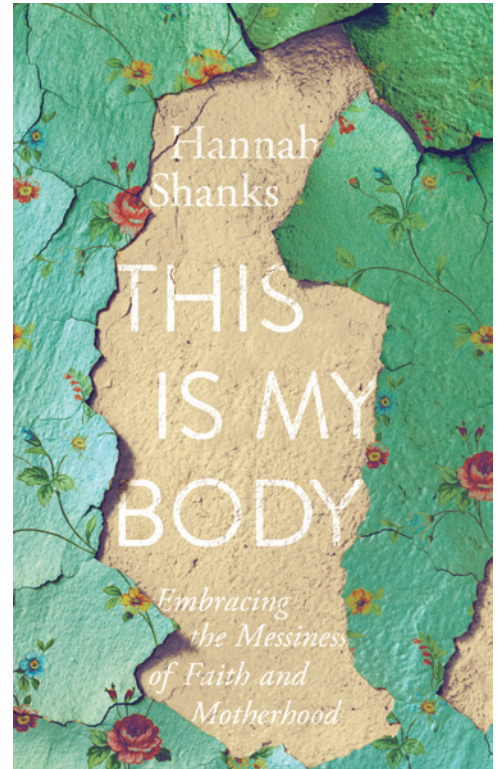
It occurred to her that the words Jesus spoke at the Last Supper—“This is my body, broken; This is my blood poured out”—were as fitting a description of birth as they are of death. Not only do the words describe Jesus’ death, but they also apply to every birth that has ever taken place. Making this connection shifted Shanks’s thinking about the familiar ritual of communion.

This Is My Body is a journey of discovery and reclamation, of finding familiar paths in unfamiliar territory and new facets to ancient rituals. Part personal narrative and part unearthing of scripture passages from a woman’s point of view, it draws women and men closer to the God we profess, a God who is in all things, a God who is present in all genders and beyond them. Readers discover that God can be seen through the eyes, bodies, and experiences of women just as God has long been viewed from a male perspective. Using the communion liturgy and elements of the common table (where all are welcome) as a framework, the book offers much material for reflection on this central act of Christianity.

This Is My Body is about getting surprised by positivity toward one’s body in a time of life when negativity is expected. It is about finding a new relationship to the acts of Christian community through the experiences of a woman’s body, including pregnancy and birth. The author approaches motherhood with one foot in the sacred and the other in the often-difficult space of the stereotypes the church attaches to mothering.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Hannah Shanks is assistant professor of social work and director of the social work program at Greenville University, Greenville, Illinois. A storyteller, she has participated in the St. Louis chapter of Listen to Your Mother, a live reading series and video sharing company. Hannah describes herself as an accidental clergy spouse. Hannah is a member of Anam Cara St. Louis.



FRESH AIR BOOKS

PUB DATE: MAY 2018

PAPERBACK \$13.99

978-1-935205-28-9

PAGES: 144 TRIM SIZE: 5 X 8

RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / SPIRITUAL GROWTH

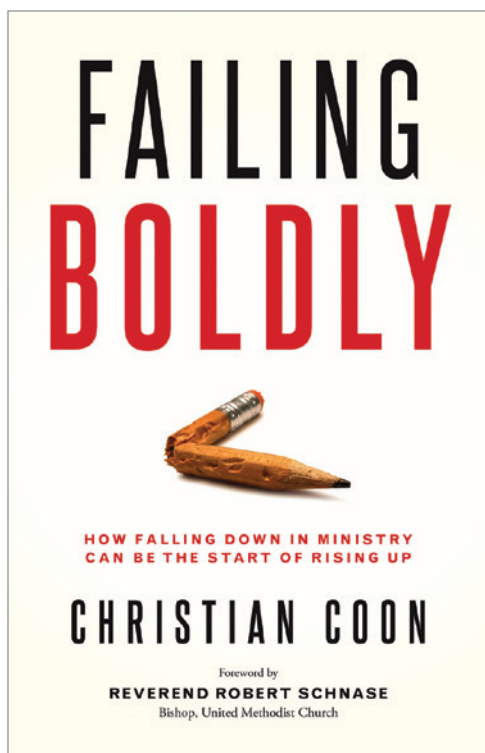


TARGET AUDIENCE

- Progressive Christian women and mothers
- Mainline Protestants
- Clergy and laypersons interested in exploring how women’s voices and stories can reveal new ways of understanding scripture
- People wanting to learn about Christian feminism

KEY FEATURES

- Personal stories
- Discussion questions
- Uses the liturgy of communion to relate to motherhood



PUB DATE: JUNE 2017

PAPERBACK \$17.00

978-0-8817-7878-6

PAGES: 202 TRIM SIZE: 5.5 X 8.5

RELIGION/ CHRISTIAN CHURCH/GROWTH



TARGET AUDIENCE

- Church planters
- Congregational development leaders

KEY FEATURES

- Relatable personal stories
- Easy to follow how-to steps

Don't let a little fear of failure stand in your way.

FAILING BOLDLY

How Falling Down in Ministry Can be the Start of Rising Up

Christian Coon

This book is a must-read for anyone who has ever tried to energize or grow a ministry. Christian Coon takes us through his own missteps and mistakes as the co-founder of the Urban Village Church--as well as those of others working to do the same--and shows how failure can serve as a springboard to new possibilities, and even a closer connection to God and what leadership means. Woven together with honesty, humility, and humor, we learn to look on failure as an actual gift that can be the gateway to a deeper journey.

"Failing Boldly describes what all of us in active ministry today experience in the constant trial and error process that is needed in order to be adaptive in our contexts. This book is helpful for all clergy and laity to recalibrate the soul, mind, and goals of ministry to stay true to the course through the discouragements that inevitably occur as we stumble and fail."

—Bishop Sally Dyck, Northern Illinois Conference,
The United Methodist Church

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Christian Coon is a co-founder and current lead pastor of Urban Village Church, a multisite United Methodist Church in Chicago. He and his wife, their two children, and their dog live in the South Loop neighborhood. You can read his blog and hear his podcasts at www.christiancoon.com.

FOREWORD BY

Reverend Robert Schnase is bishop of the Rio Texas Conference of The United Methodist Church. Schnase is the author of *Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations*, a best-selling book on congregational ministry that has ignited a common interest among churches and their leaders around its themes of radical hospitality, passionate worship, intentional faith development, risk-taking mission and service, and extravagant generosity.



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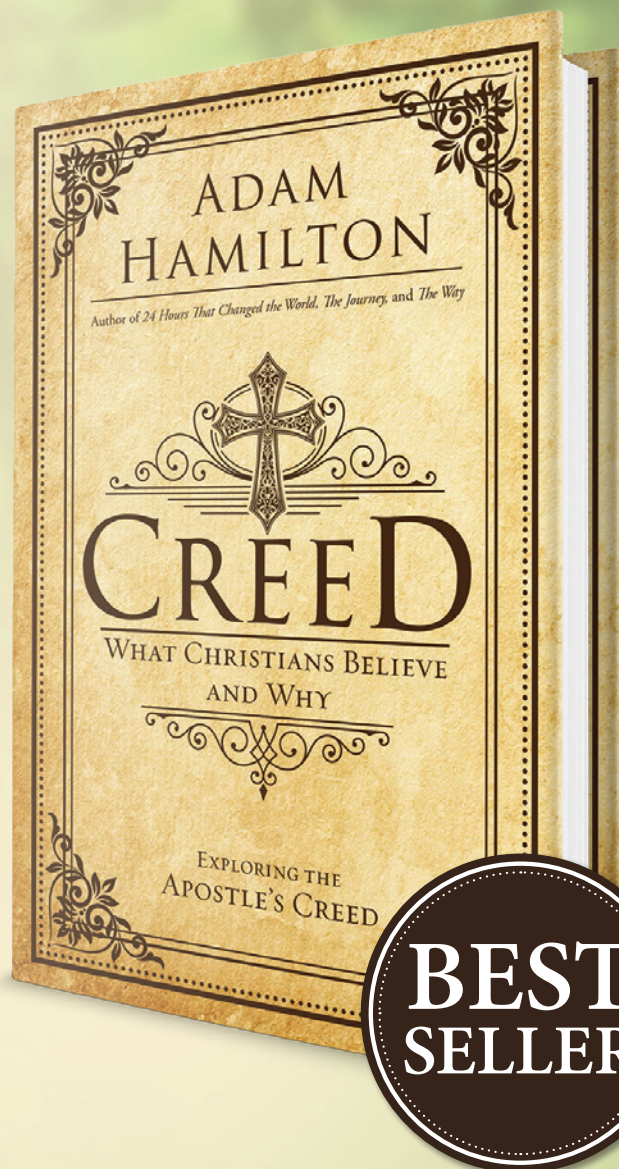
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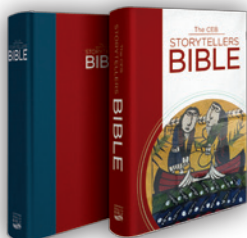
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