

 Abingdon Press®



Fall & Winter

2018-2019 TRADE CATALOG

 UPPER
ROOM BOOKS®

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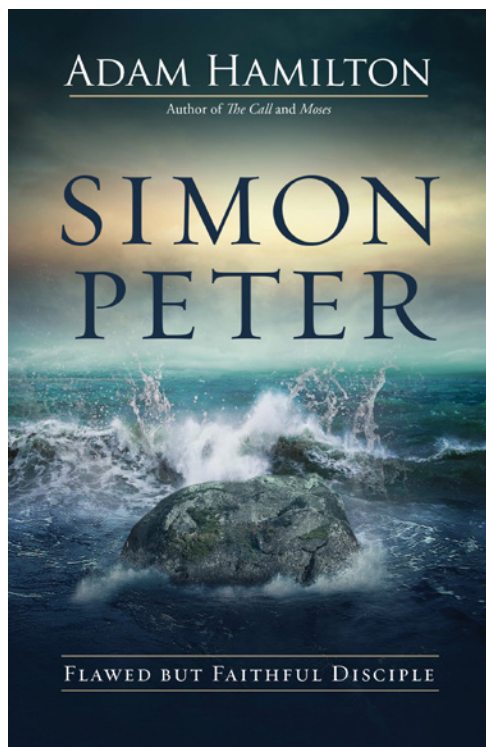
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CHRISTIAN LIVING
FALL & WINTER 2018-2019



Release: December 18, 2018 **Price:** \$19.99
 Hardback **ISBN:** 9781501845987
Size: 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 176
BISAC: RELIGION / HOLIDAYS / EASTER & LENT



KEY FEATURES

- Works beautifully as a stand-alone book, or can be combined with the DVD, Leader Guide, and youth and children's resources to create a churchwide study.
- Videos feature Adam Hamilton in 10-15 minute sessions teaching on site in Israel and Italy.
- Learn more about the life, faith, and character of Simon Peter.
- Discover how God can use your gifts, talents, and abilities just as Simon Peter did.

SIMON PETER

Flawed but Faithful Disciple

Adam Hamilton

Simon Peter—an ordinary fisherman who heard an extraordinary call.

He was not rich or educated, but was familiar with hard work. He was quick-tempered and impetuous, but possessed a passion that would change the world. He left everything to follow his teacher, yet struggled with doubt and fear.

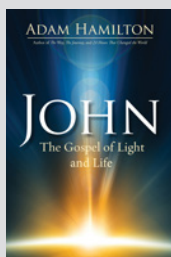
Join pastor and author Adam Hamilton in this six-week Lenten journey, and take an in-depth dive into the life, faith, and character of Simon Peter. Additional components for a six-week adult study include a comprehensive Leader Guide and a DVD featuring author and pastor Adam Hamilton teaching on site in Israel and Italy. Also available are resources for children and youth.

Chapters include:

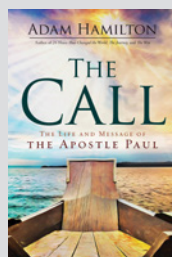
- The Call of Simon the Fisherman
- Walking with Jesus in the Storm
- Bedrock or Stumbling Block?
- "I Will Not Deny You"
- From Cowardice to Courage
- The Rest of the Story

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 this congregation the most influential mainline church in America, and he preached at the National Prayer Service as part of the presidential inauguration festivities in 2013 and was appointed to the President's Advisory Council on Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships. Hamilton is the best-selling and award-winning author of *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.

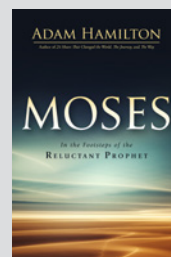
BY THE SAME AUTHOR



9781501805332
\$18.99



9781630882624
\$18.99



9781501807886
\$19.99

HIDDEN TREASURES

Finding Hope at the End of Life's Journey

Robin Bertram

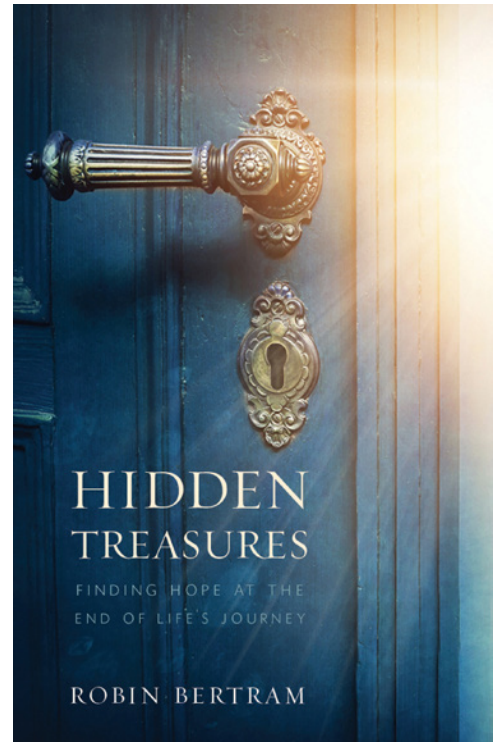
Embrace life's most difficult challenges.

Many people are facing life-threatening diseases, terminal illness, and the long-term care of elderly parents, but have few resources to rely on in these difficult times. They often keep their challenges private only to suffer in silence with no real support system. This book delivers practical solutions to the problems everyone must deal with when they are experiencing the degradation of the quality of their life or the potential loss of a loved one.

Based on experiences derived from 25 years of prayer ministry, Bertram's *Hidden Treasures* provides insight and guidance to equip patients, family members, and friends to walk through these challenging times with foresight, looking for and expecting to see God at work in many miraculous ways. It offers sound advice grounded in the truths found in Scripture and the wisdom revealed through real-life stories and case studies.

Hidden Treasures will inspire, motivate, and encourage loved ones to begin to walk the road to heaven without the fear and anxiety associated with death and dying. They'll discover that the Word of God has answers to the questions that seem to have no answer; and that comfort awaits as they begin to view their situation from a heavenly perspective. Ultimately, it reveals that hope is available, death with dignity is possible, and there are hidden treasures to embrace along the way.

Author, seasoned conference speaker, and former host of the nationally syndicated television program, *Freedom Today*, **Robin Bertram** brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to women's platforms across the country. She often appears as a keynote speaker at women's conferences, retreats, and media seminars, is founder of Robin Bertram Ministries, is Vice President for Christian Women in Media Association, and serves as CEO of Bertram & Ross Consulting. She lives in Bluffton, SC. Find her online at RobinBertram.TV.



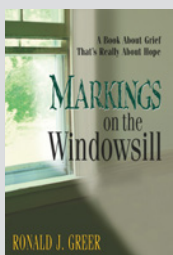
Release: August 7, 2018 **Price:** \$16.99
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501845468
Size: 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 240
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / DEATH, GRIEF, BEREAVEMENT



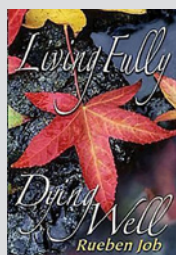
KEY FEATURES

- Nuggets of Wisdom scriptures that offer comfort and inspiration.
- Treasure Chest points for each chapter featuring seven key principles to help readers find light in the midst of their darkness.
- Shareworthy text boxes offer suggested quotes that expand on the book's ideas for sharing on social media.
- Love in Action help sheet offers sound advice to families faced with real life struggles.

COMPARABLE TITLES



9780687333639
\$10.99



9780687466405
\$10.99



Release: August 21, 2018 **Price:** \$16.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501869686

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

BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / SPIRITUAL GROWTH



KEY FEATURES

- Offers biblical insights about shame.
- Shares a real-life story coupled with practical helps in the battle against shame.
- Inspires changing your thinking about shame.
- Encourages claiming a shame-free life.

SHAME OFF YOU

From Hiding to Healing

Denise Pass

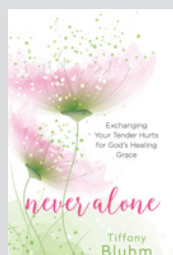
Learn to recognize and process feelings of shame in a biblical way to restore God-ordained self-worth and hope.

Shame is an assault on the core of who we are. It assassinates our character, minimizes our worth, and dashes our hope. Like Adam and Eve, we often hide shame, but hiding never heals it. Left unattended, shame can develop into a crippling reality that paralyzes us. Like an infectious disease, shame impacts everyone . . . but not all shame is bad. Shame can either be an oppressive and powerful tool of worldly condemnation or a source of conviction that God uses to bring his people back to himself. Having the discernment to know the difference and recognize shame in its many forms can change the course of one's life.

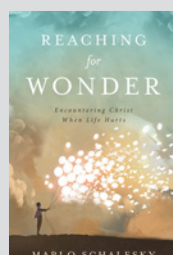
In a transparently honest style, Pass shares of her experience dealing with shame after learning that her former husband was a sexual offender. Having lived through the aftermath, she leads you into God's Word where you will see for yourself that God is bigger than your pain, shame, mistakes, and limitations. *Shame Off You* shares how freedom can be found in choosing to break the cycle of shame by learning from the past, developing healthy thinking patterns, silencing lies, and overcoming the traps of vanity and other people's opinions.

Denise Pass is an award-winning CCM recording artist and singer-songwriter, accomplished writer/blogger, speaker, and worship leader at women's conferences as well as a worship leader on staff at her home church. After a crushing discovery of her former husband's hidden life as a repetitive sex offender, and surviving a painful divorce, she now shares an inspirational message through her ministry, Seeing Deep Ministries, about seeing the deeper truth in God's word when life hurts. Denise also founded and directed a home educational co-op for 12 years and engaged in many educational pursuits, including forming and directing a classical children's choir. A graduate from the University of Maryland, Denise now resides in Virginia, with her "Kinsman Redeemer" husband and five children. Find her online at DenisePass.com.

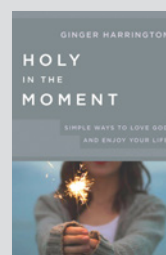
COMPARABLE TITLES



9781501848636
\$16.99



9781501857782
\$16.99



9781501857805
\$16.99



9781501848674
\$16.99

WE PRAY WITH HER

Encouragement for All Women Who Lead

Emily Peck-McClain, Danyelle Trexler, Jen Tyler,
Paige Boyer, and Shannon Sullivan

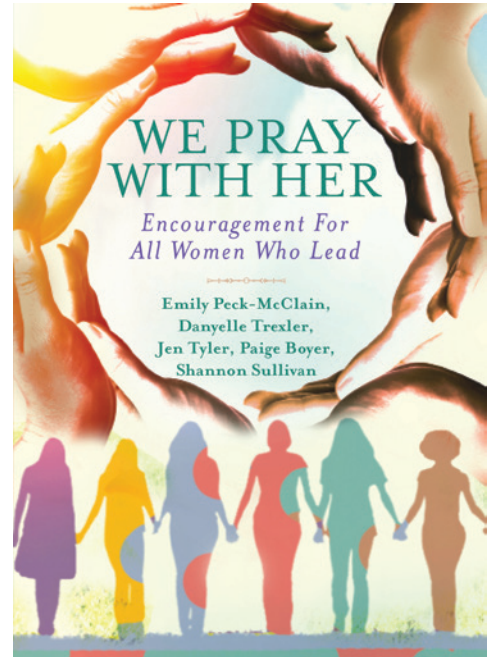
Women supporting other women through devotions and prayers.

Leading while female can be life-giving and spiritually fulfilling, yet lonely and difficult. In a world of glass ceilings, harassment, and “boy’s clubs,” women often encounter obstacles when they seek to forge ahead in their work to leave a positive mark through their labor, personal efforts, and causes. Women business leaders, political candidates, clergy, and trailblazers of all kinds need the support and encouragement of their fellow women. We are not intended to walk through life alone, and by raising each other up in prayer we will, in turn, be inspired in our own efforts, grow in our faith, be understanding of shortfalls, and celebrate successes along with our fellow women.

This inspiring devotional is a collection of 100 entries written by the women of We Pray With Her, a grassroots movement turned online collective of women faith leaders, that explores themes such as call, vocation, persistence, resistance, and struggle. Whether you’re a woman leader looking for personal inspiration, in a supportive role to a leader, an aspiring leader, or a woman who wants to support her sisters in Christ, you’ll find a home within these pages.

The Editorial Board of We Pray With Her

This group of 100 ordained clergywomen and deacons serve all over the country, from upstate New York to the West Coast to Atlanta to rural North Dakota. They lead in a variety of ministerial roles in the local church, chaplaincy, academia, and more. Formed in 2016 as a private Facebook group, they committed to pray for United Methodist presidential candidate Hillary Clinton, and they continue today to share prayers and devotions with each other in support of women in leadership. Through this work, they invite readers to join in supporting women who lead in all walks of life – with prayers, through mentoring, and through daily acts of solidarity with the women in their own lives. The editorial board includes Emily Peck-McClain, Danyelle Trexler, Jen Tyler, Paige Boyer, and Shannon Sullivan.



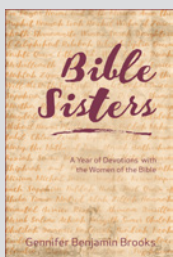
Release: September 4, 2018 **Price:** \$16.99
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501869709
Size: 5 x 7 **Pages:** 240
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / WOMEN'S ISSUES



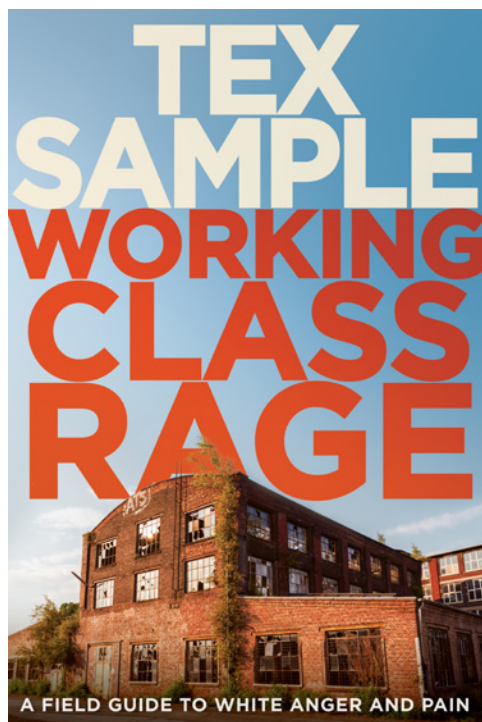
KEY FEATURES

- Provides inspirational writings by women for women.
- Features one hundred inspirational readings.
- Includes prayers for special challenges.
- Encourages women supporting and praying for other women.

COMPARABLE TITLE



9781501834318
\$16.99



Release: September 4, 2018 **Price:** \$17.99
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501868139
Size: 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 144
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / SOCIAL ISSUES



KEY FEATURES

- Describes in an accessible way the most compelling contemporary voices on what's happening in white (and black) working class America.
- Shows the important characteristics (including life-style data) of white working class Americans and the struggles that have made them a force (negative and positive) on the political and social climate of our country.
- Demonstrates (using stories and specific examples) some of the skills and competencies that must be cultivated for successful Christian partnerships that can reach these people with the truth and Good News of Jesus through the frames that register and resonate with their lives.
- Offers a way forward for partnerships that will enhance the lives of black and white folks in America.

WORKING CLASS RAGE

A Field Guide to White Anger and Pain

Tex Sample

Cooperation strong enough to resist white supremacy and value everybody demands a richer understanding of white working-class pain and anger.

White working-class people are the canary in the mine. Poorly understood and perceived as a threat to the common good – unintelligent, self-destructive, utterly incapable of leveraging their own privilege – white working-class people have recaptured the cultural and political imagination in the wake of the 2016 presidential election. Pundits, politicians, cultural commentators, party leaders and many others are scrambling to understand what makes this demographic tick with mixed results. Scape-goated for all things racist and identified as the voting block that gave the country its most divisive leader in a generation, they are not what they seem: so much more than common xenophobes and red-hat wearing nostalgics for a lost time of white supremacy, this group begs for a richer, more nuanced portrait if they are to be loved and impacted by Christian faith and the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Tex Sample, acclaimed author of *White Soul* and *Hard Living People & Mainstream Christians*, is a reliable and reader-friendly guide through the current literature with keen eye on the implications of understanding this group so pastors and leaders can better communicate the Good News of Jesus and work for a more just society that values black and white lives and creates the partnerships that lead to the good life for all.

This book also describes how our inability to sustain attention to the value of black lives is a traveling companion to our failure to understand or care about the pain and anger of working class whites.

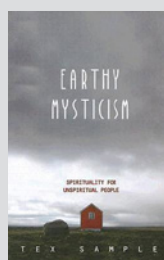
Calling Christians (individuals, as well as communities of faith) to a concrete version of social well-being befitting faithful life in Jesus and God's vision of justice for the world, Tex Sample drills deeper into the realities of a group of people whose suffering and anger is denied, ignored, or misunderstood.

Tex Sample is a specialist in church and society, a much sought-after lecturer, storyteller, workshop leader and consultant. He is also the Robert B. and Kathleen Rogers Professor Emeritus of Church and Society at The Saint Paul School of Theology. He lives in Kansas City, Missouri.

BY THE SAME AUTHOR



9781501814266
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9780687649891
\$17.99



9780687032938
\$19.99

BURIED DREAMS

From Devastating Loss to Unimaginable Hope

Lindsey R. Dennis

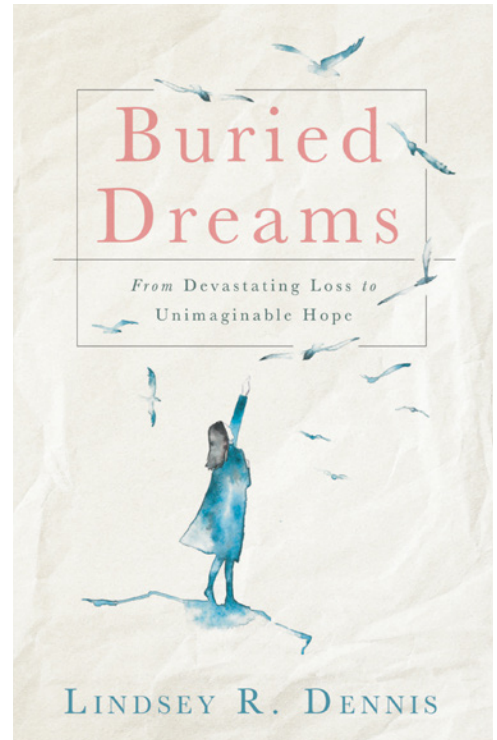
Finding hope when faced with the devastating loss of your most precious dreams.

At 20 weeks pregnant, Lindsey Dennis and her husband were told the child she was carrying would not live due to a fatal diagnosis. Later, in another stunning blow, they were told the same news with her second pregnancy. They chose to celebrate both lives alongside a community, both local and online, of hundreds of thousands as she carried each child to term only to bury them 14 months apart from each other.

Through the crushing of their hopes and dreams, they came to know the kind of resurrection hope that can rise from the grave. This experience of infant loss revealed to Dennis how sorrow and suffering are instruments in the hands of God to forge in us a greater joy and hope than one can ever know. This kind of joy can only be discovered when we walk through the deep pain of burying our most precious dreams.

Buried Dreams offers an uplifting perspective, sharing how devastating loss of personal dreams can give way to unimaginable hope and how death can give way to life. Framing her own story of staggering loss and soaring hope with biblical perspective, Dennis highlights that we can never plan for the unexpected turns of this life that sometimes lead to great personal suffering, but we can reach for the One who is there with us in the loss.

Lindsey R. Dennis has worked with Cru International for over 15 years. She has served in international locations, as well as universities in the States. Within a few weeks of learning the news of her first daughter's diagnosis, Dennis began to blog about her unfolding story of hope and loss. Within the first week she had thousands of views and within a couple of years, she has had 1.5 million page views and 400,000 unique visitors. She lives in Orlando, Florida, with her husband and son. You can read her blog at vaporandmist.com.



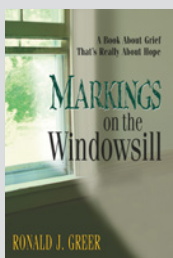
Release: September 18, 2018 **Price:** \$16.99
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501869112
Size: 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 240
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / WOMEN'S ISSUES



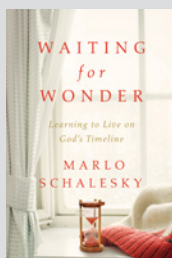
KEY FEATURES

- Shares how unrealized dreams can give way to unimaginable hope.
- Reveals how death can give way to life.
- Shows how sorrow and suffering are instruments in the hands of God.
- Rekindles hope for those who have experienced loss.

COMPARABLE TITLES



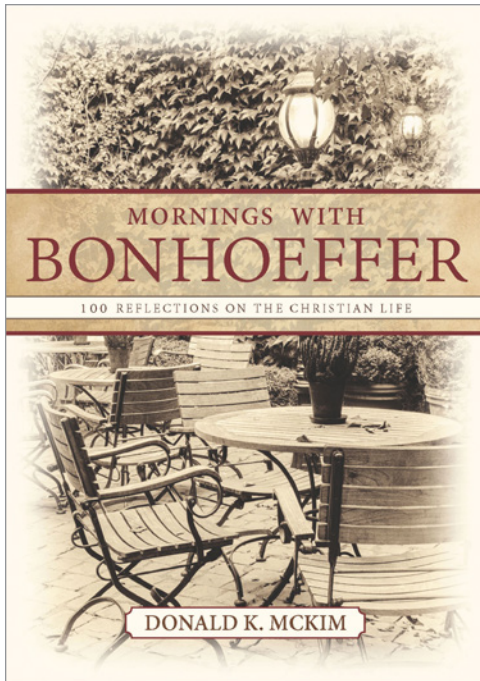
9780687333639
\$10.99



9781501820106
\$16.99



9781501857782
\$16.99



Release: October 2, 2018 **Price:** \$16.99
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501864810
Size: 5 x 7 **Pages:** 208
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE /
 DEVOTIONAL



KEY FEATURES

- Offers 100 devotional and educational insights.
- Shares a short Bonhoeffer quotation followed by a devotional reflection on the quote.
- Presents insightful reflections and information in a short, accessible format.

MORNINGS WITH BONHOEFFER

100 Reflections on the Christian Life

Donald K. McKim

A journey in faith with the words of Bonhoeffer.

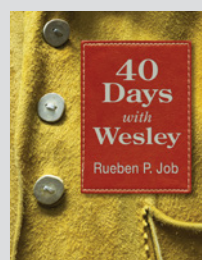
“No priest, no theologian stood at the cradle of Bethlehem. And yet, all Christian theology finds its beginnings in the miracle of miracles, that God became human.” These stirring words are just a sample of the wisdom found in this collection of 100 devotions that guide and inspire us. *Mornings with Bonhoeffer* provides an acute understanding of Dietrich Bonhoeffer’s theological perspectives, helping us to reflect on what his thoughts can mean for faith and the Christian experience. Short excerpts from Bonhoeffer’s letters and passages from his sermons, paired with the daily devotions, offer timeless and moving reminders of God’s love for humanity speaking to the “head” and “heart” of theological understanding and personal faith. Dr. Donald K. McKim brings Bonhoeffer to life in this beautiful devotional that provides understanding of often misunderstood, multifaceted writings as well as an inside look at the imperfect man behind the saintly image. The result is a heartrending portrait that provides Bonhoeffer’s true insights, as well as insight into the faith that sustained and redeemed him.

Donald K. McKim served as executive editor for Westminster John Knox Press, as academic dean and professor of theology at Memphis Theological Seminary, and as professor of theology at the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary. He is the author or editor of more than thirty books.

COMPARABLE TITLES



9781501816697
\$14.99



9781501836015
\$14.99

RESENTING GOD

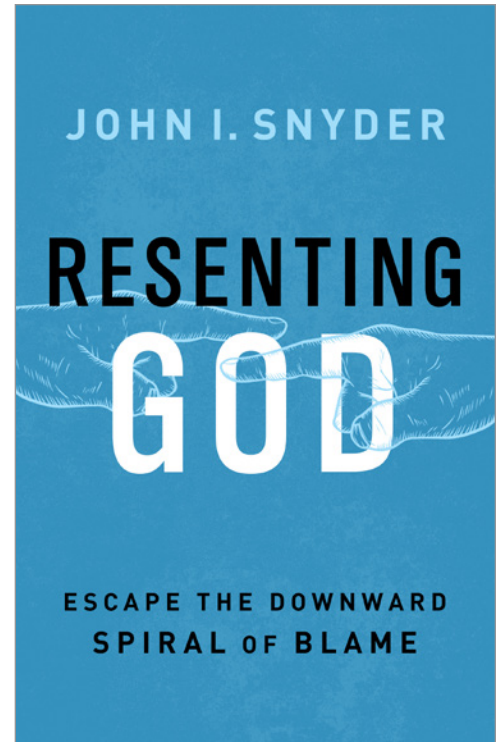
Escape the Downward Spiral of Blame

John I. Snyder

Find freedom from the bondage of hatred and resentment.

In our current social climate of growing distrust and escalation of hatred and personal losses, resentment and anger are on the rise. *Resenting God* offers the time-tested exit route from the lethal clutches of bitterness into a life of joyful faith and hope in a loving and gracious God. It exposes how resentment and disillusionment, leading inevitably to other destructive emotions, is a great deluder and is itself often based upon a great delusion—resentment against the Creator himself. We are blamers, and we blame God for life's most painful and depressing experiences. We've all been there or are there. It can strike any person, anytime, anywhere. If we let down our guard and begin to give in to it, we'll be pulled into a powerful downward spiral that we can't escape by our own strength. We find ourselves asking: How can I forgive when the pain is so great? Does forgiving mean I have to forget the past? What if I choose not to forgive? Snyder discusses the causes and consequences of resentment, and the cures for resentment against God. Ultimately, the way out comes in knowing who God is and realizing that far from abandoning us in our hard times, he is the one who rescues us.

John I. Snyder is author of *Your 100 Day Prayer*. As an ordained Presbyterian pastor, John has served congregations in the United States and planted churches in California and Switzerland. He is the advisor and lead author for theology and culture blog *Theology Mix* (www.theologymix.com), which hosts 80+ authors and podcasters and visitors from 175 countries. He received his Doctor of Theology degree magna cum laude in New Testament Studies from the University of Basel, Switzerland. He also has Master of Theology and Master of Divinity degrees from Princeton Theological Seminary in Princeton, New Jersey.



Release: October 16, 2018 **Price:** \$16.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501869662

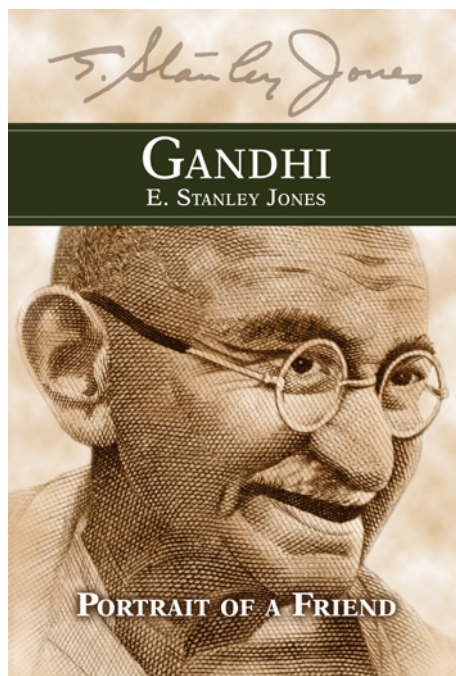
Size: 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 240

BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / SPIRITUAL GROWTH



KEY FEATURES

- Offers a way towards freedom from the bondage of hatred and resentment.
- Provides help in reaching out to people burdened by resentment and guilt.
- Works through personal anger towards God.
- Extends a starting place for finding help for those in a spiritually dark place.



Release: October 2, 2018 **Price:** \$16.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501871283

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

BISAC: BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY / RELIGIOUS



KEY FEATURES

- This edition with new material is being offered in 2018, a year marking two significant anniversaries:
 - 70 years from the date of Mahatma Gandhi's death.
 - 50 years from the date of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s death.
- Helps readers understand how basic principles, such as the strength of a nonviolent approach, can cross national and faith boundaries.
- Helps Western readers better understand the East.
- Helps Christians see the spirit of Christ in others.

GANDHI: PORTRAIT OF A FRIEND

E. Stanley Jones

A celebration of an unlikely friendship between a Christian missionary evangelist and a Hindu activist leader.

This edition includes new material from Anne Mathews-Younes, granddaughter of E. Stanley Jones, and Arun Gandhi, grandson of Mahatma Gandhi.

"On the day that Mahatma Gandhi was killed, I arrived in Delhi just an hour and a quarter before the tragedy ... the greatest tragedy since the Son of God died on the cross." So begins this compelling account of Gandhi by E. Stanley Jones, the world-renowned missionary evangelist to India during 40 seething years of struggle. Based on an intimate knowledge and understanding, Jones's revealing interpretation was written in gratitude to Gandhi, who, although they often disagreed, showed Jones "more of the spirit of Christ than perhaps any other . . . in East or West." —E. Stanley Jones

"Martin Luther King, Jr., told me he owed a debt to my father for his book on Mahatma Gandhi. He had read many books on Gandhi, read his writings, but it was that particular book of my father's that had triggered his decision to use the method of ... nonviolence in his civil rights movement for his people." —Eunice Jones Mathews

"Highly recommended." —*Library Journal*

"To understand the meaning of this great leader ... read this book of interpretation." —*Kirkus*

"Jones ... possesses a great gift of sympathetically interpreting the East to the West." —[London] *Times Literary Supplement*

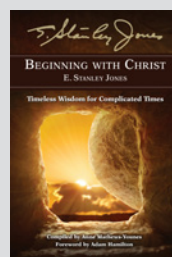
Called "the world's greatest missionary evangelist" by *Time* magazine in 1938, **E. Stanley Jones** (1884-1973) spent 70 years presenting Jesus Christ as the universal Son of Man without the trappings of Western culture. His message had a life-changing impact on the millions of people who heard him speak or read his books.

BY THE SAME AUTHOR



9781501849633

\$16.99



9781501858710

\$16.99

INTO THE DEEP

Diving into a Life of Courageous Faith

Lauren Gaskill

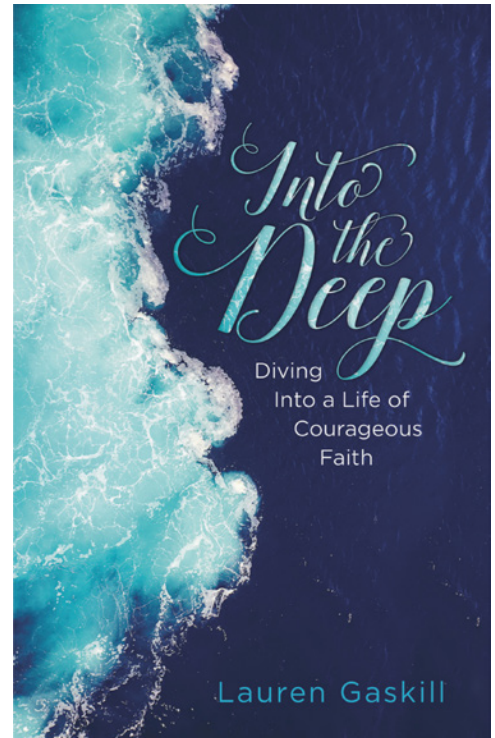
Develop enduring faith for the turbulent waters of life.

Following Jesus doesn't guarantee sunny skies and smooth sailing. In fact, the waters of life are often tumultuous, crashing over us. Sometimes we can feel that we're drowning in a sea of confusion, division, frustration, complacency, or disillusionment. We need more than a shallow faith to survive these deep waters.

Into the Deep is an invitation to dive headfirst into a life of courageous faith. With endearing warmth and authenticity, Lauren Gaskill shares how she and others have learned to swim with Jesus in the deep waters of life—facing challenges such as anxiety, depression, and chronic illness—only to discover a more authentic, enduring faith that cannot be shaken by circumstances. In addition to examining the character of God and the lives of women and men of the Bible who chose to dive deeper with God, she provides practical examples and tools that help us take our faith to the next level by learning to make decisions by faith alone, control our reactions to overwhelming situations, and live a life rooted in love.

Get ready to exchange fear and frustration for the boldness, courage, and holy confidence that lead to a life of deep faith and joy!

Lauren Gaskill is an author, speaker and host of the *Finding Joy* podcast and Finding Joy Ladies Night Out events. After being diagnosed with an incurable connective tissue disorder, Lauren made it her life mission to encourage others to fight for faith and find joy — no matter what life's circumstances might bring. Lauren lives in Raleigh, NC, with her husband and Cavalier King Charles Spaniel. Find her online at LaurenGaskillInspires.com.



Release: November 6, 2018 **Price:** \$16.99
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501869747
Size: 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 240
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / SPIRITUAL GROWTH



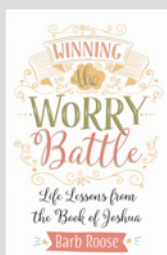
KEY FEATURES

- Offers practical help for putting faith-building principles into practice.
- Provides “Going Deeper” questions for personal reflection or group study.
- Be encouraged to trust God more by learning about his faithful character.
- Learn how to dive deeper in faith and build endurance to survive the deep waters of life.
- Develop how to make decisions by faith that are rooted in love.
- Be inspired by brave stories of faith to find joy in the midst of difficult circumstances.

COMPARABLE TITLES



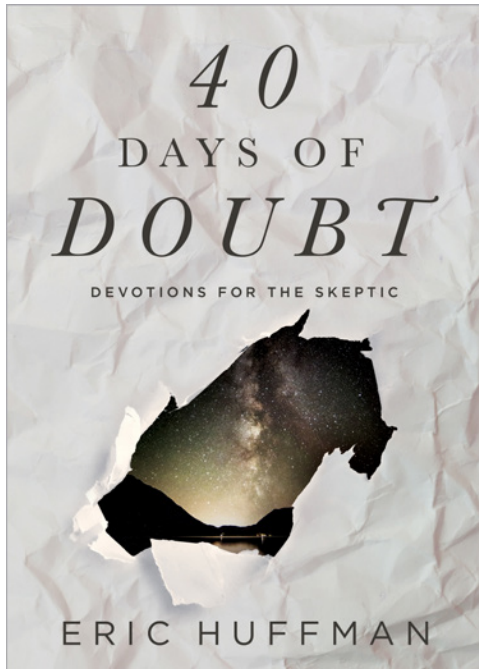
9781501848674
\$16.99



9781501857843
\$16.99



9781501848636
\$16.99



Release: December 4, 2018 **Price:** \$14.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501869136

Size: 5 x 7 **Pages:** 128

BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / DEVOTIONAL



KEY FEATURES

- Shares 40 devotionals on life and faith.
- Explores questions readers may be asking about their faith.
- Offers guidance for those wanting candid insight about Christianity.

40 DAYS OF DOUBT

Devotions for the Skeptic

Eric Huffman

A devotional for those who struggle with normal Christianity.

“Faith is permitting ourselves to be seized by the things we do not see.”
—Martin Luther

Do you ever wonder whether you’re really a Christian and cling to what’s left of your faith when you feel like an outsider — even among other believers? Have you ever doubted your faith? Have you ever, deep down in your heart, doubted that God was really present in your life? Or wondered whether everything you believed in as a Christian was false? Call it existential doubt. Call it “the dark night of the soul,” as one Christian saint famously did. Whatever you call it, it’s real. It is personal, it is painful, it is distressing, and it can last for years - maybe even a lifetime. But you are not alone.

40 Days of Doubt: Devotions for the Skeptic is for all those sports-talk listening, eye-rolling, *Game-of-Thrones*-loving, abnormal believers out there. If you’ve ever felt that your mind and soul were fighting, you’ll find solace in these awe- and wonder-filled reflections by pastor and author Eric Huffman. This devotional helps us understand how we can cope with our questions, and provides insightful answers during our times of doubt.

Eric Huffman is the founder and lead pastor of The Story Houston and host of the *Maybe God with Eric Huffman* podcast. He graduated from Centenary College in 2001, received his M.Div. from Saint Paul School of Theology in 2006, and was ordained as an elder by the Missouri Conference in 2011. Eric is passionate about leading new generations to know God’s transforming love through Jesus Christ. He lives in Houston, Texas. Find him online at EricHuffman.org.

COMPARABLE TITLES



9781426794131

\$16.99



9781501831034

\$16.99

A RESURRECTION SHAPED LIFE

Dying and Rising on Planet Earth

Jake Owensby

Experience life with new eyes.

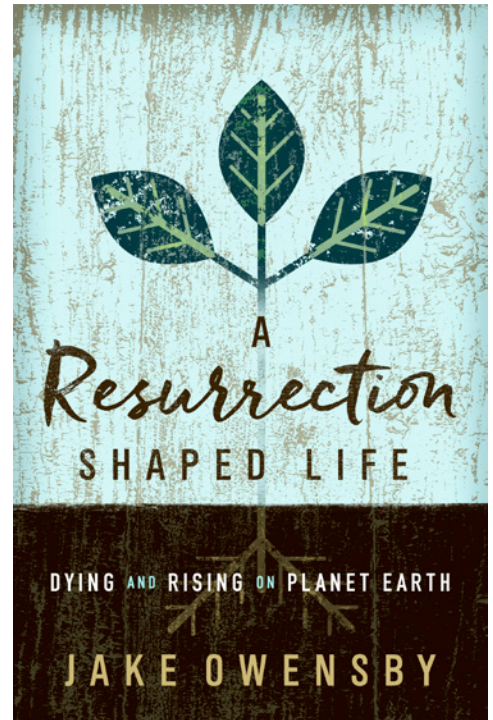
Can we begin to experience the resurrection in our ordinary life on earth? Bishop Jake Owensby says yes as he re-examines the biblical concept of resurrection and how Jesus' resurrection influences his followers every day.

A resurrection-shaped life:

- Finds hope through honest reflection on the past.
- Discovers meaning in suffering.
- Moves beyond shame and blame toward self-acceptance and compassion.
- Emerges from loss and regret to find contentment and joy.
- Develops forgiveness as a habitual way of life.
- Transcends "us-them" divisions to form inclusive community.
- Draws strength from the hope of life after life.

A Resurrection Shaped Life explains how we begin to experience resurrection in Christian practices such as repentance and forgiveness and discusses how new life emerges from our small deaths: suffering, shame, regret, and loss.

Jake Owensby, (Ph.D., D.D.), is the author of four books. He is the fourth Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Western Louisiana. Before his election as Bishop in 2012, he served as Dean of St. Mark's Cathedral in Shreveport. Prior to that, he was rector of Emmanuel Episcopal Church in metropolitan St. Louis, Missouri and St. Stephen's in Huntsville, Alabama, and assistant rector for Christian Formation at St. Mark's in Jacksonville, Florida. Owensby is a graduate of the School of Theology at Sewanee, and was ordained to the diaconate and the priesthood in the Diocese of Florida. He has three adult children and lives in Alexandria, Louisiana with his wife, Joy, and rescue pup, Gracie. He blogs about looking for God in messy places at JakeOwensby.com.



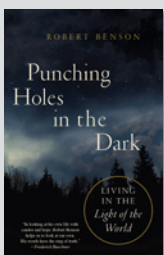
Release: December 18, 2018 **Price:** \$16.99
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501870811
Size: 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 128
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / SPIRITUAL GROWTH



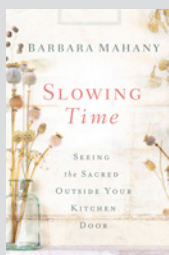
KEY FEATURES

- Helps readers reflect on their past in a way that encourages moving forward in life.
- Provides readings for the Lenten season that are also appropriate for throughout the year.
- Tackles issues such as suffering, shame, regret, and loss.

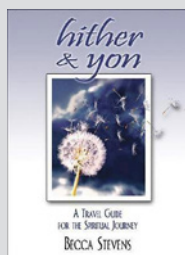
COMPARABLE TITLES



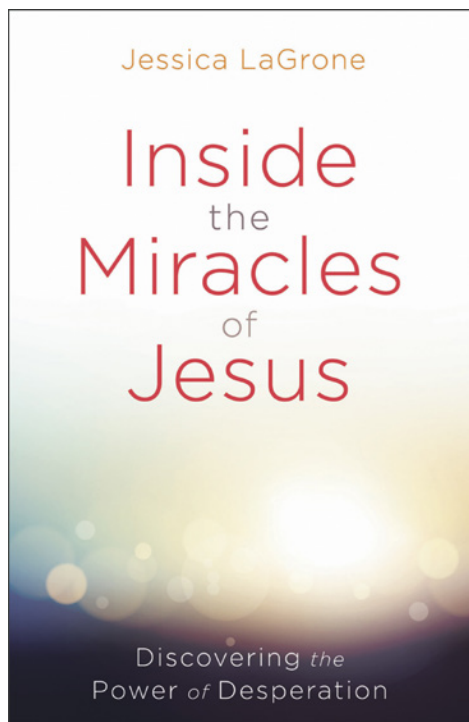
9781426749582
\$16.99



9781426776427
\$15.99



9780687490769
\$12.99



Release: January 15, 2019 **Price:** \$16.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501870781

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

BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / SPIRITUAL GROWTH



KEY FEATURES

- Discover how the supernatural acts of Jesus help us understand the presence and power of God.
- Learn that God not only intervened in biblical times but is at work in our lives today.
- Grow in faith as you dig into the stories of miracles performed by Jesus and the desperate lives he touches.

INSIDE THE MIRACLES OF JESUS

Discovering the Power of Desperation

Jessica LaGrone

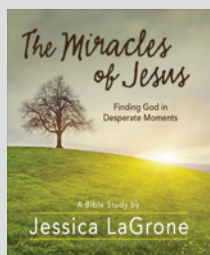
Experiencing God's power in our desperate moments.

Jesus demonstrated the presence and power of God by performing miracles. He turned water into wine, healed the sick, calmed the storm, opened blind eyes, and raised the dead. While these beloved stories draw our attention to divine power, Christ's miracles signify something deeper—they're windows into God's grand story of human desperation and redemption. Every time we see Jesus performing a miracle, we also get a glimpse into the gift of desperation, a gift that opens us to the dramatic power of God through our desperate need for him.

By explaining the meaning and significance of these miracles, Jessica LaGrone shows us their relevance for our lives today. She unpacks how understanding the meaning of Christ's miracles will help us better grasp the salvation God has brought into the world, see that our weakness is an invitation for God to work powerfully in our lives, and remind us that we need God on our best days just as much as we do on our worst.

Jessica LaGrone is Dean of the Chapel at Asbury Theological Seminary and an acclaimed pastor, teacher, and speaker who enjoys leading retreats and events throughout the United States. She previously served as Pastor of Creative Ministries at The Woodlands United Methodist Church in Houston, Texas. She is the author of *The Miracles of Jesus: Finding God in Desperate Moments*, *Set Apart: Holy Habits of Prophets and Kings*, *Broken and Blessed: How God Changed the World Through One Imperfect Family*, and *Namesake: When God Rewrites Your Story* Bible studies and *Broken & Blessed* book. She and her husband, Jim, have two young children and live in Wilmore, Kentucky.

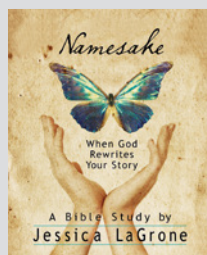
BY THE SAME AUTHOR



9781501835452
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\$15.99



9781426774911
\$14.99

FIRST THE JEWS

Combatting the World's Longest-Running
Hate Campaign

Rabbi Evan Moffic

Are we in danger of experiencing another Holocaust?

News reports of and statistics about defaced synagogues and death threats against community centers are on the rise around the world. A rise in anti-Semitism from the right side of the political spectrum has been accompanied by a different kind of anti-Semitism from parts of the left revolving around the state of Israel.

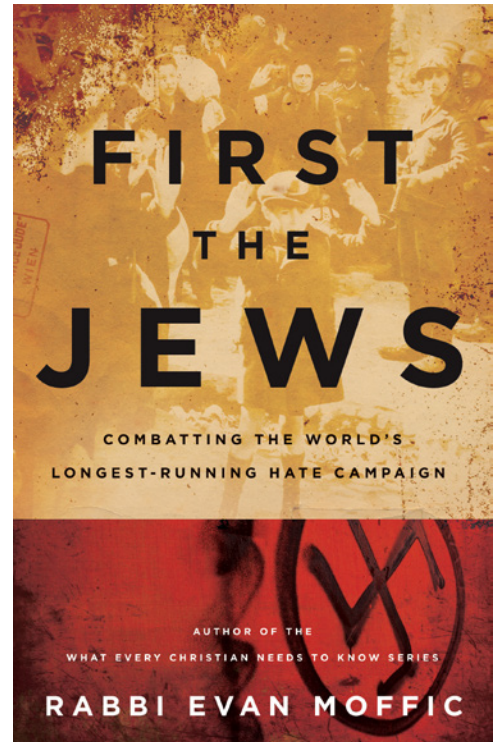
Rabbi Evan Moffic provides a compelling discussion to help Christians understand this dangerous rise by working to address tough questions including:

- Why have Jews been the object of the most enduring and universal hatred in history?
- What is different between anti-Semitism in the past versus today's culture?
- How, and in what forms, may it be carried out in the future?

Focusing on the events since September 11, 2001, Rabbi Evan Moffic considers the twenty-first century anti-Semitism and the historical pattern of discrimination to other groups that often follows new waves of discrimination against Jewish communities. With a hopeful and collaborative tone, he suggests actions for all people of faith to combat words and actions of hate while lifting up practical ways Christians and Jews can work together.

First the Jews offers new insights and unparalleled perspectives on some of the most recent, pressing developments in the contemporary world.

Rabbi Evan Moffic is a guide to Jewish wisdom for people of all faiths. He is the spiritual leader of Congregation Solei in Chicago and a Stanford University graduate. He has been featured in *The Washington Post*, *Chicago Tribune*, *The Forward*, and *Christianity Today*, and is a religious commentator on Fox News and CNN. Moffic is an active blogger/vlogger who has contributed to Beliefnet.com, Huffingtonpost.com, and MichaelHyatt.com. His speaking events bring new understanding of the Jewish heritage to churches of varied denominations and beliefs. Find him online at www.rabbi.me.



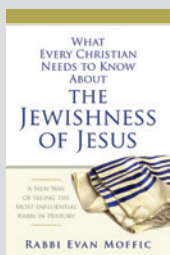
Release: January 15, 2019 **Price:** \$18.99
Paperback ISBN: 9781501870835
Size: 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 220
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / SOCIAL ISSUES



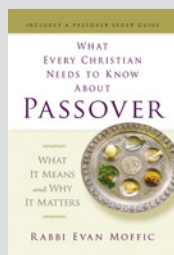
KEY FEATURES

- Encouragement and calls to action from leading Christian voices close out each chapter.
- Helps Christians to recognize and react to anti-Semitism.
- Offers a look back at the recent surge of anti-Semitic incidents.
- Outlines the role Christians can play in encouraging positive change in interfaith relations.
- Provides examples of positive change to encourage future efforts.
- Shares insights from a Jewish perspective written for Christians.

BY THE SAME AUTHOR



9781426791581
\$16.99



9781426791567
\$16.99



9781501827372
\$9.99

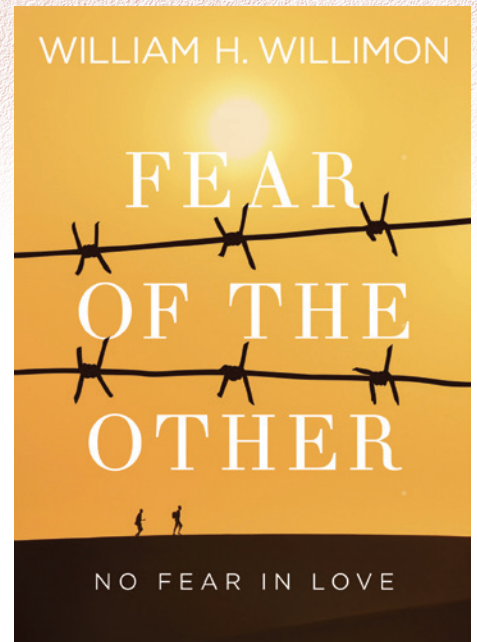
RESOURCING THE CONVERSATION



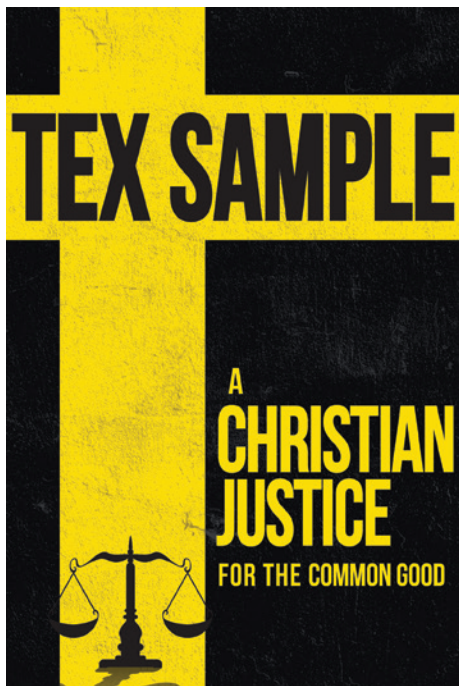
9781501856426 | \$22.99



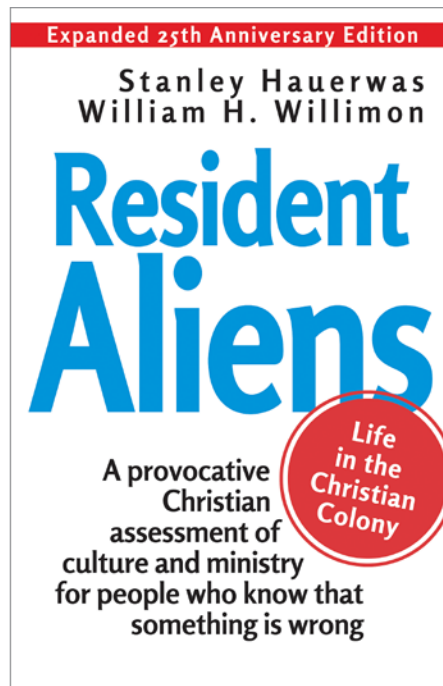
9781501856853 | \$14.99



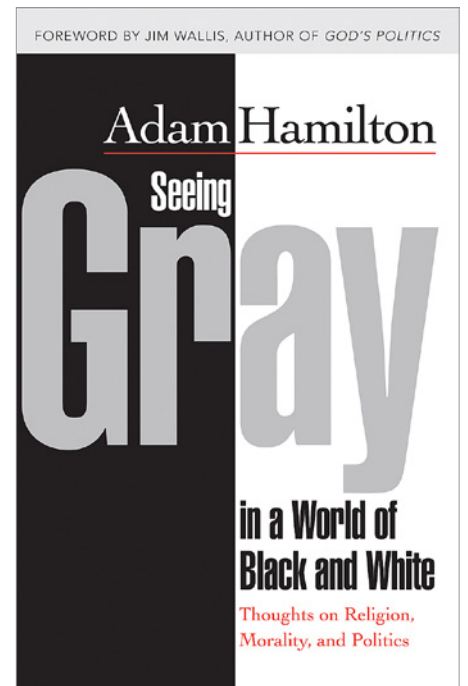
9781501824753 | \$14.99



9781501814266 | \$17.99



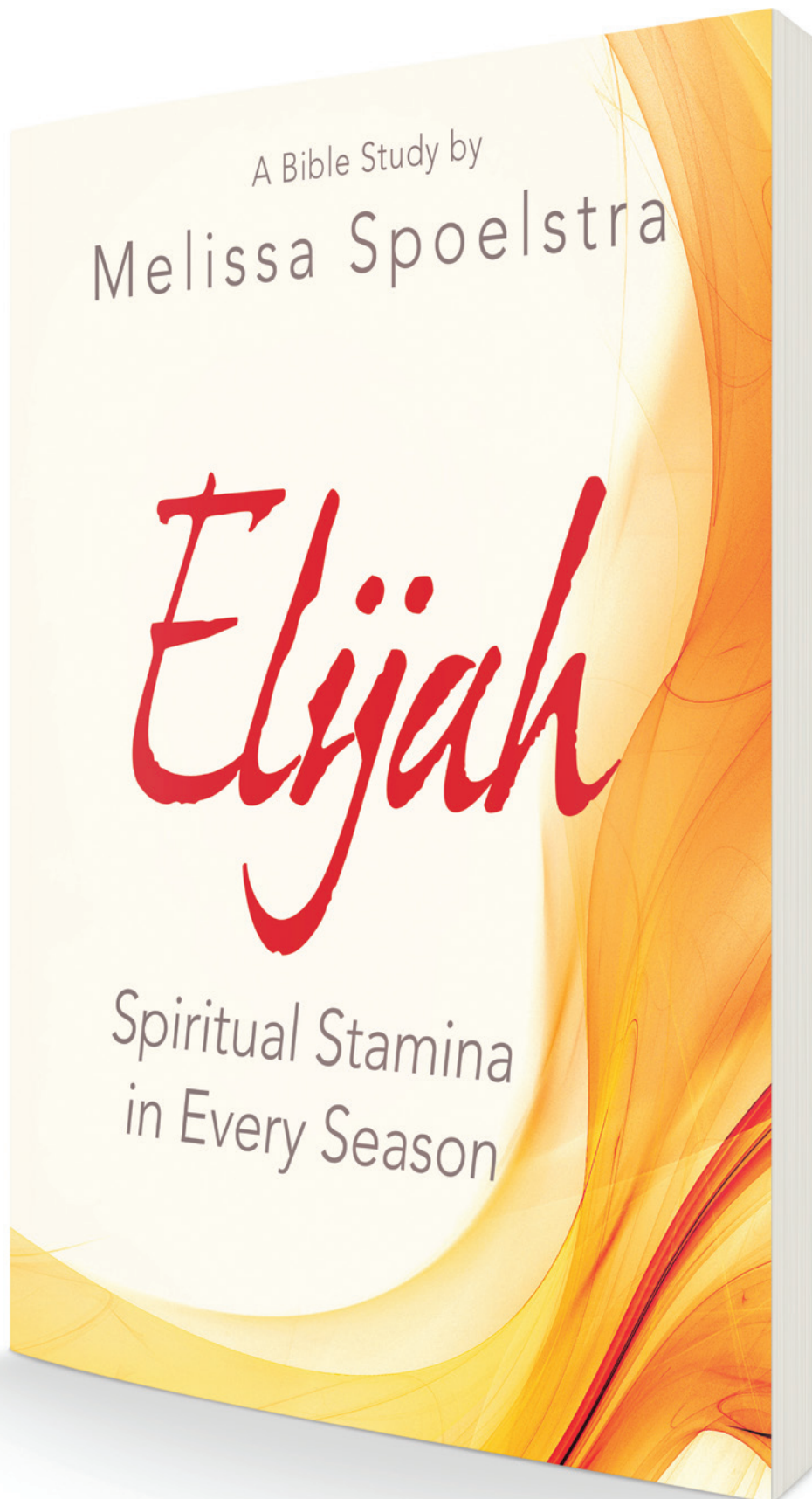
9781426781902 | \$19.99



9781426766626 | \$18.99

BIBLE STUDIES

FALL & WINTER 2018-2019



ELIJAH - WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Spiritual Stamina in Every Season

Melissa Spoelstra

Go the distance in the life of faith.

Life is like a rollercoaster. One day everything seems good, and the next day everything is falling apart. We need spiritual stamina in order to keep on going through all the ups and downs. Elijah did too. In this six-week study grounded in 1 and 2 Kings, we will examine the life of the prophet Elijah, an ordinary man who did extraordinary things for God in the midst of the highs and lows of life. We'll learn some of the spiritual stamina secrets that helped him to hold on and persevere in faith, including practical habits related to making decisions, caring for the soul, accepting his circumstances, mentoring, and finishing well—which was his ultimate legacy. Whether we're currently in a mountaintop season where we're experiencing God's power and blessing, a valley season where we feel like running away, or somewhere in between, Elijah's life will inspire us to go the distance in the life of faith. Best of all, his story will challenge us but not shame us, because we'll discover that Elijah was just as human as we are. He doubted and struggled just as we do, but ultimately, he chose to believe God. As we study his life, we will grow in faith and develop spiritual stamina that will help us not only to survive but actually thrive in every season.

Available components for the six-week Bible study, each available separately, include a Participant Workbook with five days of lessons per week, Leader Guide, DVD with six sessions of about 25 minutes each (with closed captioning), and boxed Leader Kit containing one of each component. A companion devotional prayer guide is also available.

KEY FEATURES

- Examine the life of the prophet Elijah.
- Learn practical disciplines that give us spiritual stamina for every season in life.
- Grow in faith and be inspired by an ordinary man who did extraordinary things for God.
- Be enabled to not just survive but thrive in the midst of the ups and downs of life.
- Engage with extra insights and an optional reading plan and thirty-day prayer challenge.

Melissa Spoelstra is a popular women's conference speaker, Bible teacher, and writer who is madly in love with Jesus and passionate about helping women of all ages to seek Christ and know Him more intimately through serious Bible study. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Bible Theology and enjoys teaching God's Word to diverse groups and churches within the body of Christ. She is the author of the *Numbers: Learning Contentment in a Culture of More*, *First Corinthians: Living Love When We Disagree*, *Joseph: The Journey to Forgiveness*, and *Jeremiah: Daring to Hope in an Unstable World* Bible studies, and the *Total Christmas Makeover* and Mom's Choice Award-winning *Total Family Makeover* books. She lives in Dublin, Ohio, with her pastor husband and four kids. Find her online at MelissaSpoelstra.com.

Participant Workbook

Release: August 7, 2018 **Price:** \$16.99
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501838910
Size: 8 x 10 **Pages:** 208
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / WOMEN'S ISSUES



COMPANION PRODUCTS

Leader Guide		9781501838934	\$14.99
DVD		9781501838958	\$49.99
Leader Kit		9781501838965	\$79.99
30 Days of Prayer for Spiritual Stamina		9781501874352	\$9.99



Release: August 7, 2018 **Price:** \$14.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501843563

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

BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / SPIRITUAL GROWTH



KEY FEATURES

- Find out how you and your family fit into God's family and how you are part of God's plan for the world.
- Trace the ancestry of our faith family as found in the book of Genesis.
- 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.

GOD'S MESSY FAMILY

Finding Your Place When Life Isn't Perfect

Jacob Armstrong

A Study on the Book of Genesis.

Genealogy is widely considered to be one of the fastest growing hobbies in the U.S. We have become consumed with constructing our family tree in an attempt to trace our lineage. Fortunately, the Bible does an excellent job helping us trace the ancestry of our faith family. Pastor and author Jacob Armstrong takes an in-depth look at our faith lineage focusing specifically on the messy family dynamics found in the book of Genesis. As we begin to understand the life stories of Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, Rebekah, Jacob and Esau, we find that their pattern looks like a lot like ours—we are called, we mess up, and God continues to redeem us.

Find out how your “messy family” fits into God's family and how you are a part of God's plan for the world. Additional components for a six-week study include a DVD featuring pastor and author Jacob Armstrong and a comprehensive Leader Guide.

Chapters include:

- The Myth of the Perfect Family
- Forever Young
- Pleading for Our Family
- Great Loss in the Family
- The Center for Modern Family Dynamics
- The Beauty of Imperfection

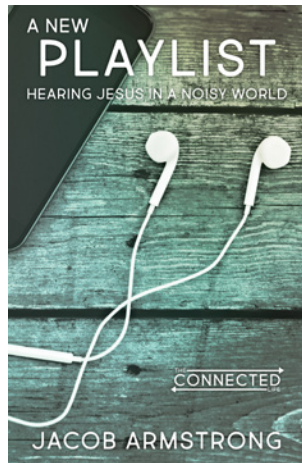
Jacob Armstrong is the founding pastor of Providence Church in Mt. Juliet, Tennessee. Providence's vision is to see those who are disconnected from God and the church to find hope, healing, and wholeness in Jesus Christ. Jacob is the author of *Renovate*, *A New Playlist*, *Treasure*, *The God Story*,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

COMPANION PRODUCTS

Leader Guide		9781501843587	\$12.99
DVD		9781501843600	\$34.99

THE CONNECTED LIFE SERIES

The *Connected Life* Bible study series by Jacob Armstrong includes three six-week studies designed to help churches build and sustain community. Each study includes a book, Leader Guide, and DVD with videos featuring Jacob guiding groups through each study.



A NEW PLAYLIST

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

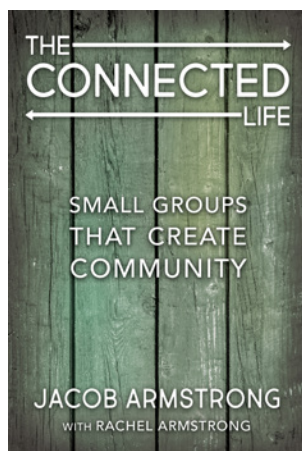
Participant Book		978150184347	\$14.99
Leader Guide		9781501843495	\$12.99
DVD		9781501843518	\$34.99



RENOVATE

God wants to begin—and then continue—a work of renovation in you. Using the Book of Nehemiah, popular author and pastor Jacob Armstrong explore the physical and spiritual renovation experienced by the nation of Judah.

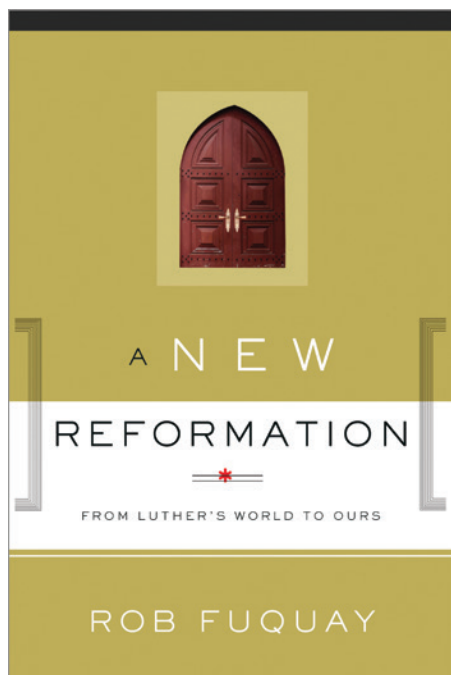
Participant Book		9781501843365	\$14.99
Leader Guide		9781501843389	\$12.99
DVD		9781501843402	\$34.99



THE CONNECTED LIFE

This handy and helpful guide describes how churches can set up, maintain, and nurture small groups to create a congregation that is welcoming and outward-looking.

Participant Book		9781501843457	\$16.99
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Release: August 21, 2018 **Price:** \$14.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501864018

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

BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / SPIRITUAL GROWTH



KEY FEATURES

- Provides application to our modern world and ways reformation is needed in the church today as well as in our personal lives.
- Helps you understand the central ideas of the Protestant Reformation in light of 16th century Europe and the person of Martin Luther.
- Perfect for Christians at all stages of their spiritual journeys.
- Book can be a stand-alone resource or combined with the DVD and Leader Guide for a six-week study.

A NEW REFORMATION

From Luther's World to Ours

Rob Fuquay

Discover what makes Martin Luther's message revolutionary today!

Justified by faith. This battle cry of the Protestant Reformation is just as relevant and true for Christians today as it was in Martin Luther's time. In *A New Reformation*, author Rob Fuquay introduces you to the life of Martin Luther and two important themes of the Reformation he sparked: the centrality of Scripture and the power of God's grace. Through a close look into the life of Martin Luther and the world of sixteenth-century Europe, you will discover what makes Luther's message revolutionary today—and how we can embrace reformation in the church and in our personal lives.

Additional components for a six-week study include a DVD featuring author and pastor Rob Fuquay filmed on location in Prague, Dresden, Leipzig, Wittenberg, Erfut, Eiselben, Worms, and Mainz and a comprehensive Leader Guide.

Rob Fuquay is the senior pastor of St. Luke's United Methodist Church in Indianapolis, Indiana. He has served various congregations with his gifts of strong preaching, leadership development, and visioning. Rob is the author of *The God We Can Know*, a 7-week study designed for the entire congregation to explore the "I Am" sayings of Jesus found in the Gospel of John. He is also the author of *Which Way, Lord: Exploring Your Life's Purpose in the Journeys of Paul* on how to discern and follow God's leading.

COMPANION PRODUCTS

Leader Guide		9781501864100	\$12.99
DVD		9781501864032	\$39.99

SCRIPTURE AND THE WESLEYAN WAY

A Bible Study on Real Christianity

Scott J. Jones and Arthur D. Jones

A Bible study with John Wesley.

The Bible was central to John Wesley’s faith and the Christian movement he founded. In *Scripture and the Wesleyan Way*, you will discover a Wesleyan approach to the Bible and the Christian life through a Bible study using Wesley’s own words.

In this study, authors Scott and Arthur Jones use John Wesley’s sermons to illuminate the Bible passages at the heart of Wesley’s understanding of what it means to be a real Christian. Each chapter explores a key Scripture text and one of Wesley’s sermons on it. Through their insightful and engaging study, Bishop Jones and his son Arthur show how the teachings of Wesley address questions that many of us in the twenty-first century still struggle with today.

Chapters include:

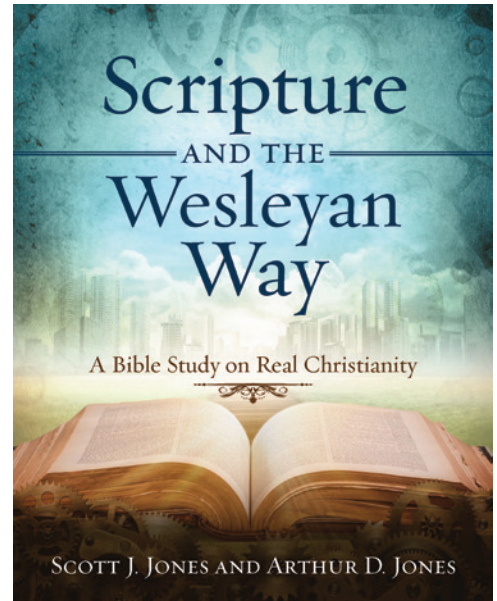
1. What Is the Bible’s Message?
2. How Can I Be Saved?
3. Am I a Real Christian?
4. Do I Have to Obey the Law?
5. Am I a Sinner?
6. How Can I Connect with God?
7. Why Is the Christian Life Not Easier?
8. What About My Money?

Additional components for an eight-week study include a DVD featuring Scott and Arthur Jones and a comprehensive Leader Guide.

John Wesley discovered a challenging yet hopeful message in the Bible, which profoundly shaped his personal life and the Methodist movement he founded. As you study the Bible with John Wesley, you will hear his call to live a real Christian life and be inspired to respond to this call with faith and boldness.

Scott J. Jones is the Resident Bishop of the Texas Conference of The United Methodist Church. Previous books include *The Wesleyan Way*, *The Evangelistic Love of God & Neighbor*, *Staying at the Table*, and *Wesley and the Quadrilateral*, all published by Abingdon Press.

Arthur D. Jones is associate pastor of St. Andrew UMC in Plano, Texas. A graduate of Duke Divinity School. Arthur is Scott’s son and the co-author of *Ask: Faith Questions in a Skeptical Age*.



Release: August 21, 2018 **Price:** \$16.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501867934

Size: 8 x 10 **Pages:** 128

BISAC: RELIGION / BIBLICAL STUDIES / GENERAL

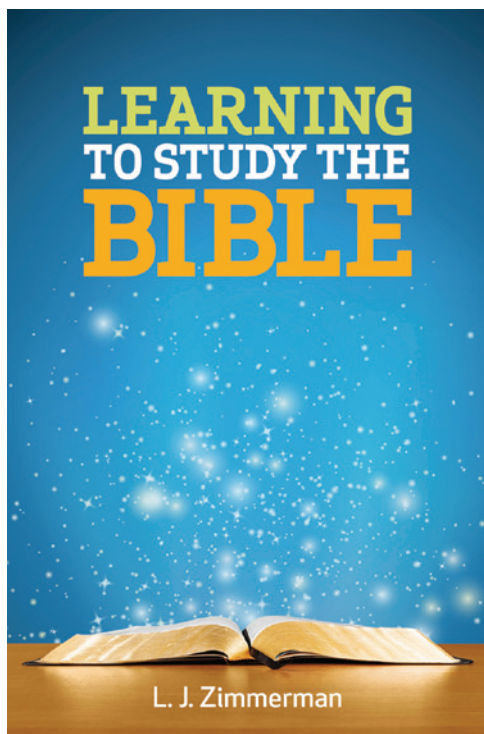


KEY FEATURES

- Leads readers through a Bible study with John Wesley, showing how Wesley’s insights into the Scriptures still ring true today.
- Each chapter focuses closely on a key Scripture passage.
- Introduces readers to several of John Wesley’s sermons to show how Wesley approached the Bible.
- Book can be a stand-alone resource or combined with the DVD and Leader Guide for a eight-week study.
- Addresses questions of faith that many of us in the twenty-first century still wrestle with.

COMPANION PRODUCTS

Leader Guide		9781501867958	\$14.99
DVD		9781501867972	\$39.99



L. J. Zimmerman

Participant Book

Release: August 21, 2018 **Price:** \$8.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501871061

Size: 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 64

BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN EDUCATION / ADULT



KEY FEATURES

- Gain a better understanding of the Bible by allowing the study to guide you through the Bible.
- Becoming more comfortable with discussing the Bible.
- Helps participants connect Scripture to their daily lives.
- In-depth study of the Bible strengthens individual's relationship with God.
- Leader Guide provides the tools to facilitate sessions, which helps leaders confidently lead discussions and discuss the Bible.

LEARNING TO STUDY THE BIBLE

L. J. Zimmerman

Anyone can understand the Bible with the right tools.

The eight-session study helps you deepen your understanding of how to use and navigate the Bible. You will learn about biblical genres and historical contexts, formation of the canon, about the Revised Common Lectionary and its purpose, and how to use resources such as study Bibles, commentaries, and maps for Bible study. Each session invites exploration, application, practice, and provides reflection questions and space to journal.

A leader guide is also available.

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 *Submerge* and editor of *Deep Blue Rotation Stations*. L.J. enjoys connecting with the children and youth in her local Quaker meeting. She also loves biking around Nashville, knitting sweaters, and hiking with her dog Luna.

COMPANION PRODUCT

Leader Guide		9781501871078	\$14.99
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MESSY PEOPLE - WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Life Lessons from Imperfect Biblical Heroes

Jennifer Cowart

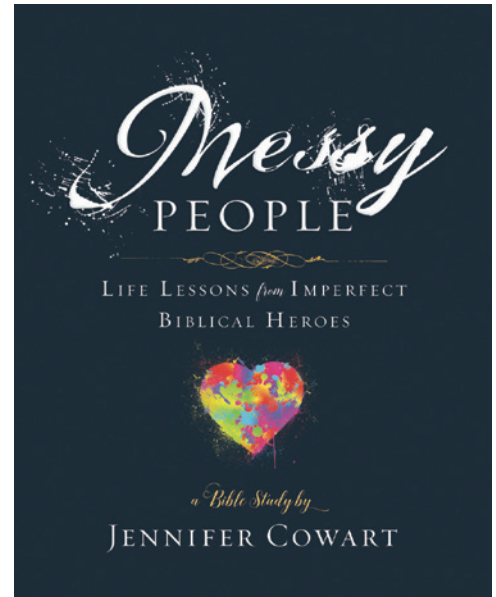
God can turn your messy life into a masterpiece.

Every life gets messy at times. Sometimes these messes are literal, like a house that would be easier to condemn than to clean. But sometimes they are intangible messes such as illness, conflict, depression, abuse, bankruptcy, divorce, and job loss. And these messes can be painful, hurting our hearts and our homes. But as we see in the Bible, God loves to use messy people!

In this six-week study, we will dig into the lives of biblical heroes who were messy people just like us but who were used by God in powerful ways. Together we will examine the stories of five wonderful but messy people and one messy parable character: Rahab, the Prodigal Son, Josiah, Mary, David, and Daniel. From their stories, we will learn how God can use broken people, restore damaged hearts and relationships, give us power to handle our critics, and help us deal with the hard moments of life. Along the way we'll discover that we don't have to just endure messy lives but can actually learn to thrive with God's guidance and help. In the hands of God, our messes can become his masterpieces!

Components for the six-week Bible study, each available separately, include a Participant Workbook with five days of lessons per week, Leader Guide, and DVD with six 10-15 minute sessions (with closed captioning).

Jennifer Cowart is the executive pastor at Harvest Church, a United Methodist congregation in Warner Robins, Georgia, that she and her husband, Jim, began in 2001. Today Harvest serves 3,000 people in seven worship services. With degrees in Christian education, counseling, and business, she directs the Emerging and Discipleship Ministries at Harvest, including more than 350 small groups that meet in homes and workplaces. As a gifted Bible teacher and speaker, Jen brings biblical truth to life through humor, authenticity, and everyday application. She and Jim have co-written several small group studies together, including *Hand Me Downs* and *Living the Five*. They are the proud parents of two children.



Participant Workbook

Release: September 4, 2018 **Price:** \$16.99
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501863127
Size: 8 x 10 **Pages:** 208
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / WOMEN'S ISSUES

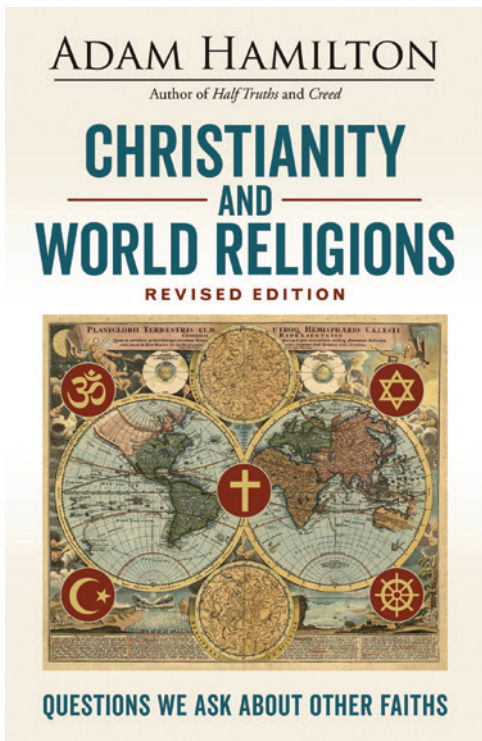


KEY FEATURES

- Dig into the lives of six biblical characters with messy lives.
- Be encouraged that God can use messy, imperfect people.
- Glean practical life lessons from the stories of biblical heroes related to relationships, change, family dynamics and cycles, difficult circumstances, and more.
- Cultivate or enrich a daily quiet time with God.

COMPANION PRODUCTS

Leader Guide		9781501863141	\$14.99
DVD		9781501863165	\$49.99



CHRISTIANITY AND WORLD RELIGIONS REVISED EDITION

Questions We Ask About Other Faiths

Adam Hamilton

Explore major world religions with Adam Hamilton!

Pastor and best-selling author Adam Hamilton returns to one of his most popular topics, Christianity and World Religions. This new, fully updated book and bible study explores four major world religions—Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, and Judaism—and compares the beliefs of each with those of Christianity. He deals openly and honestly with questions people ask about other religions, such as:

- Why are there so many different religions?
- How should Christians view other religions?
- How is God at work in other religions?
- What is the fate of those who earnestly pursue God through other religions?

In examining these major world religions and the beliefs of their followers, Hamilton urges us as Christians to build bridges with others so that we might grow in our faith, seek peace in our world, love our neighbor, and find positive ways to share the gospel.

Additional components for a six-week study include a new Leader Guide to help facilitate each weekly session and a DVD featuring Hamilton in new 10-15 minute segments, each including an interview with followers from that tradition.

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, and he preached at the National Prayer Service as part of the presidential inauguration festivities in 2013 and was appointed to the President's Advisory Council on Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships. Hamilton is the best-selling and award-winning author of *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: September 18, 2018 **Price:** \$16.99
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501873331
Size: 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 144
BISAC: RELIGION / COMPARATIVE RELIGION



KEY FEATURES

- Learn the differences and similarities between the Christian faith and the religions of others.
- Learn how to build bridges with others in order to grow in our faith, seek peace with others in our world, and love our neighbors .
- Find positive ways to share the gospel with those of other faiths.
- 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.
- New book, videos, and leader guide update this popular topic.

COMPANION PRODUCTS

Leader Guide		9781501873355	\$14.99
DVD		9781501873379	\$39.99

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS ABOUT THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH REVISED

Thomas S. McAnally

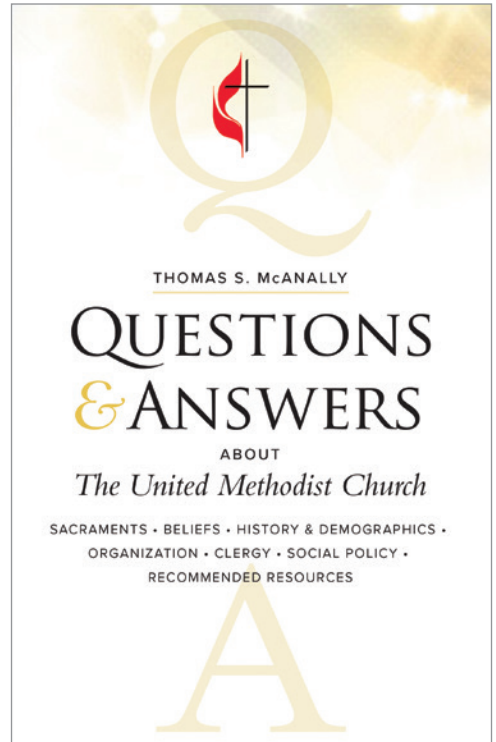
Most frequently asked questions about The United Methodist Church.

McAnally has revised *Questions & Answers About The United Methodist Church* to update statistics and information throughout the book, along with new frequently asked questions not in the current edition.

This book is a useful guide that answers the most frequently asked questions about the beliefs, practices, and history of The United Methodist Church. The information is brief, and is presented in an easy question-and-answer format. It is great for those new to The United Methodist Church or those who want to know more.

"I've used Questions and Answers in a variety of settings and have found it to be a wonderfully succinct, useful resource. Here are the questions that those becoming United Methodist usually ask making it a great aid in evangelism and mission. Those who are continuing to grow in their faith and understanding (all the rest of us UMC's) will find helpful this lively presentation of the joy of being United Methodist." --Will Willimon, Professor of the Practice of Christian Ministry, Duke Divinity School, and United Methodist Bishop, retired. Author of *This We Believe: The Core of Wesleyan Faith and Practice*.

Thomas S. McAnally retired from the staff of United Methodist Communications in 2001, where he had served as director of the United Methodist News Service. Previously he served in the Nebraska Conference of the United Methodist Church as Director of Communications. McAnally earned his undergraduate degree in journalism from Oklahoma City University and his master's degree in mass communications from Syracuse University. Representing the United Methodist News Service, he reported on United Methodist and ecumenical events throughout the United States and in Africa, Asia, Europe, and South and Central America. Tom and his wife Charlotte, a retired educator in the Metropolitan Nashville Public School System, live in Nashville, Tennessee and have a son and daughter and three grandchildren.



Release: April 17, 2018 **Price:** \$4.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501871139

Size: 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 32

BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIANITY / METHODIST



KEY FEATURES

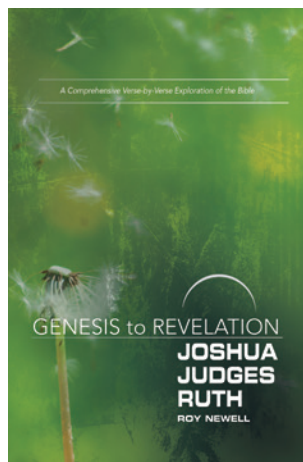
- Update of a classic that has sold nearly 200,000 units.
- Great give-away to new members or those interested in joining.
- Gain a better understanding of The United Methodist Church.
- Q&A format creates an easy reference for information and statistics about The United Methodist Church.

GENESIS TO REVELATION

A Comprehensive Verse-by-Verse Exploration of the Bible

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

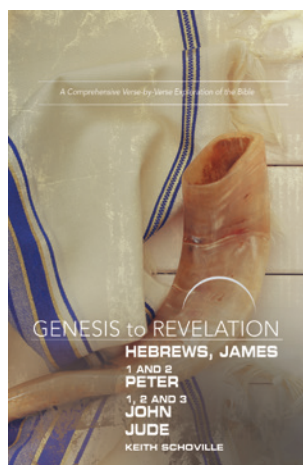
This revision of the Abingdon classic Genesis to Revelation Series is a comprehensive, verse-by-verse, book-by-book study of the Bible based on the NIV. These studies help readers strengthen their understanding and appreciation of the Bible by enabling them to engage the Scripture. The simple format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



JOSHUA, JUDGES, RUTH

Study the books of Joshua, Judges, and Ruth, beginning with Joshua’s story, then moving through Judges, and ending with the story of Ruth. Some of the major ideas explored are: sanctity and wonders, mercy in the face of judgment, judging the motive rather than the act, rest as an active state, God’s positive and negative promises, putting our deeds in perspective, vengeance destroys the avenger, the visitor in our midst, and God’s providence.

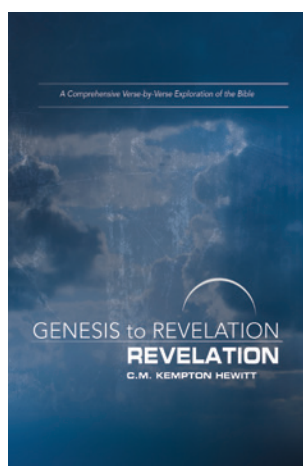
Participant Book		9781501855313	\$12.99	September 18, 2018
Leader Guide		9781501855344	\$13.99	September 18, 2018
Large Print Participant Book		9781501855320	\$13.99	September 18, 2018



HEBREWS, JAMES, 1-2 PETER, 1-3 JOHN, JUDE

Study the entire books of Hebrews; James; First and Second Peter; First, Second, and Third John; and Jude, including the uniqueness of God’s final revelation for the salvation of the people, essential instruction in the faith, strengthening faith in the midst of the difficulties of life, faith and works, fellowship with God and with other believers, encouragement to be ruled by love, and the spiritual health of the church.

Participant Book		9781501855368	\$12.99	September 18, 2018
Leader Guide		9781501855399	\$13.99	September 18, 2018
Large Print Participant Book		9781501855375	\$13.99	September 18, 2018



REVELATION

Study the entire Book of Revelation starting with John’s theology that teaches that Jesus, the exalted Christ, is the center of faith. Some of the major ideas explored are: personal religious experience; the living voice of God in the church today; advocating for what is right; distinguishing between good and evil; God’s grace seeks to redeem; and covenant with God.

Participant Book		9781501855412	\$12.99	September 18, 2018
Leader Guide		9781501855443	\$13.99	September 18, 2018
Large Print Participant Book		9781501855429	\$13.99	September 18, 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 / CHRISTIAN EDUCATION / ADULT

Participant Books

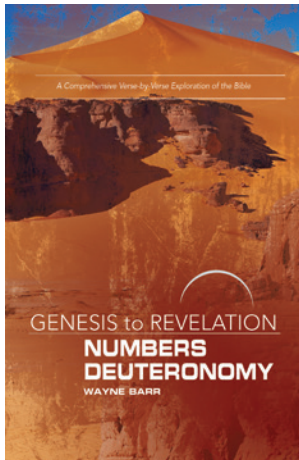
Paperback | 5.5 x 8.5 | 120 Pages

Leader Guides

Paperback | 8.5 x 11 | 120 Pages

Large Print Participant Books

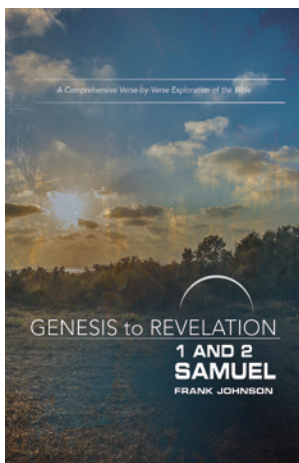
Paperback | 8.5 x 11 | 120 Pages



NUMBERS, DEUTERONOMY

Study the books of Numbers and Deuteronomy, beginning with Moses and Adam numbering the people and ending with Moses' death and the Israelites continuing on. Some of the major ideas explored are: identity; the blessing of God; the problems of freedom; realism, faith, and the future; following through; living with consequences; misusing the name of the Lord; observing the Sabbath; love and law; the seriousness of disloyalty; hiding from need; and advancing toward justice.

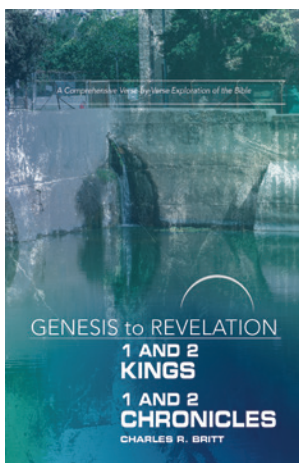
Participant Book		9781501855467	\$12.99	January 15, 2019
Leader Guide		9781501855498	\$13.99	January 15, 2019
Large Print Participant Book		9781501855474	\$13.99	January 15, 2019



1 AND 2 SAMUEL

Study the books of First and Second Samuel, beginning with Samuel and ending with David's death. Some of the major ideas explored are: God's holy purpose, the nature of sin, God's awesome power, the gift of God's Spirit, obedience to God, the nature of revelation, confidence in God, and politics and faith.

Participant Book		9781501855511	\$12.99	January 15, 2019
Leader Guide		9781501855542	\$13.99	January 15, 2019
Large Print Participant Book		9781501855528	\$13.99	January 15, 2019



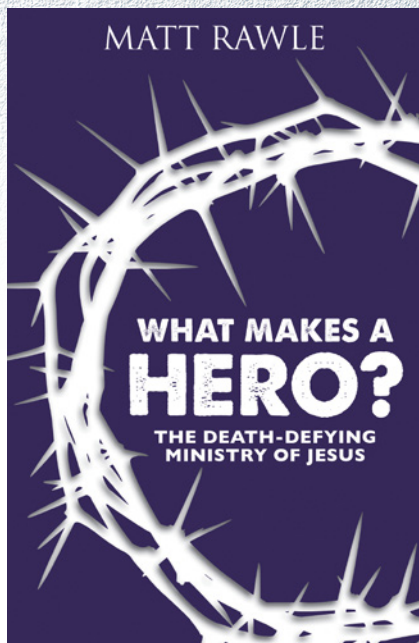
1 AND 2 KINGS, 1 AND 2 CHRONICLES

Study the books of First and Second Kings and First and Second Chronicles, beginning with Solomon and ending with Hezekiah and Josiah. Some of the major ideas explored are: the value of labor, the price of wealth, understanding God's purposes, atonement comes from God, the scope of prayer, God's covenant, religious reform, and love or justice.

Participant Book		9781501855566	\$12.99	January 15, 2019
Leader Guide		9781501855597	\$13.99	January 15, 2019
Large Print Participant Book		9781501855573	\$13.99	January 15, 2019

BEST SELLERS

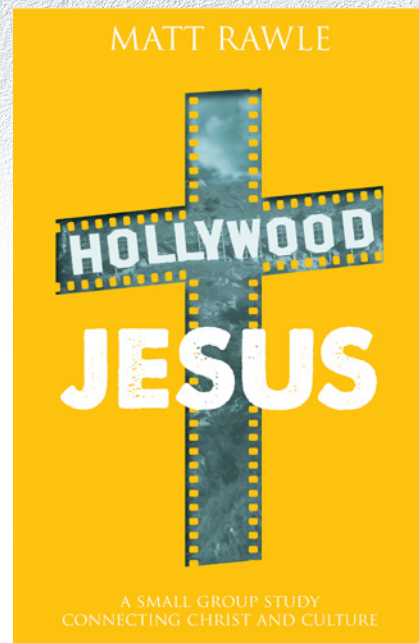
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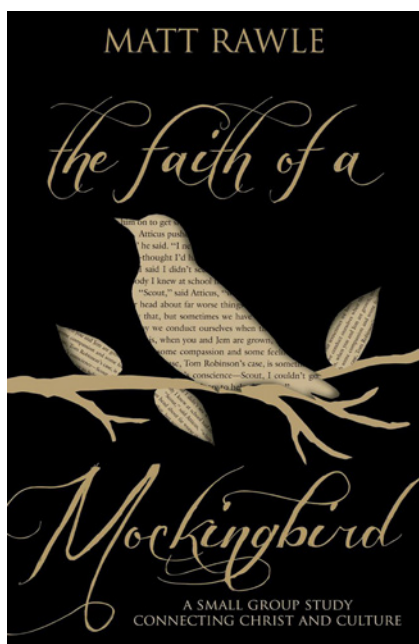
9781501847929 | \$16.99
How does Jesus redefine what it means to be a hero?



9781501823077 | \$14.99
Go from "Bah, Humbug!" to a Blessed Advent and Merry Christmas.



9781501803918 | \$14.99
Explore what happens when pop culture encounters the King of kings.



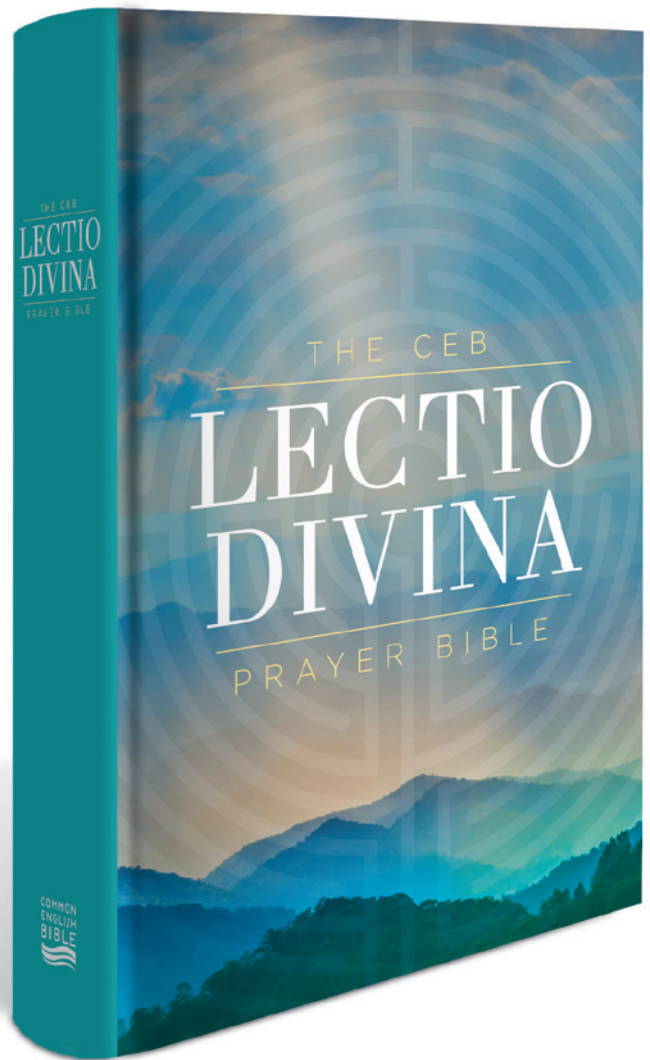
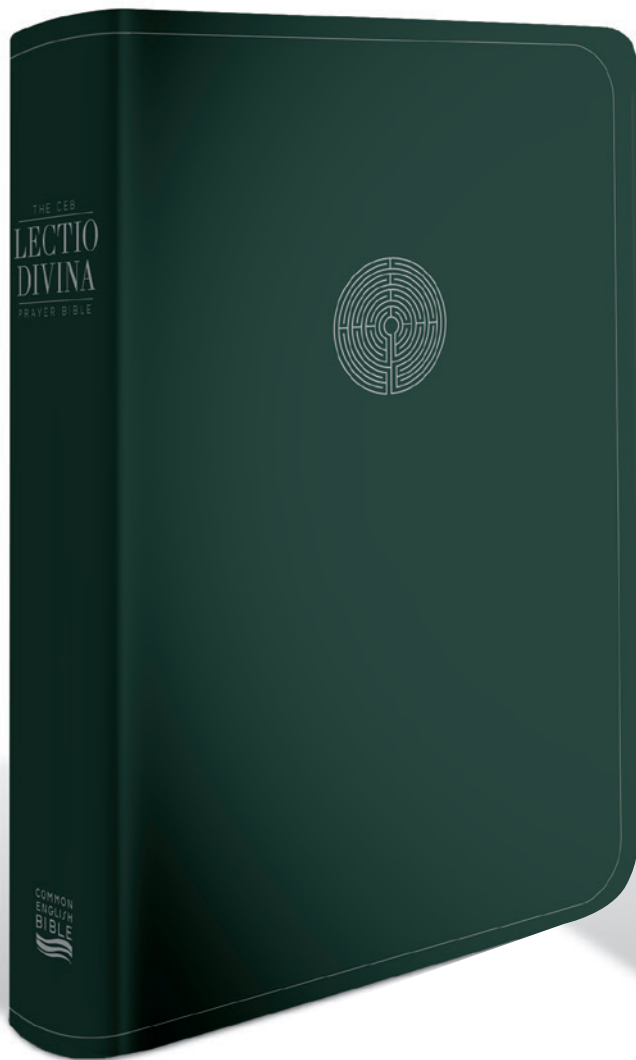
9781501803697 | \$14.99
Discover your world, God's world, and the world of Atticus Finch.



9781501803802 | \$14.99
Chart the intersection of faith and science through cult favorite Doctor Who.

BIBLES

FALL & WINTER 2018-2019



BONDED LEATHER

Release: October 16, 2018 **Price:** \$49.99
Leather **ISBN:** 9781609262181
Size: 6.1875 x 9.1875 **Pages:** 1600
BISAC: BIBLES / COMMON ENGLISH BIBLE /
DEVOTIONAL



HARDBACK

Release: October 16, 2018 **Price:** \$31.99
Hardback **ISBN:** 9781609262174
Size: 6.1875 x 9.1875 **Pages:** 1600
BISAC: BIBLES / COMMON ENGLISH BIBLE /
DEVOTIONAL



THE CEB LECTIO DIVINA PRAYER BIBLE

Be guided through a lifelong practice of fulfilling prayer with The CEB Lectio Divina Bible.

Reflective reading of the Scriptures to lead us into prayer has been a practice in the church since the earliest centuries. The method of *Lectio Divina*, or “Divine Reading,” is a systematic reading of each section of a book with pauses for reflection and prayer.

The CEB Lectio Divina Prayer Bible makes it simple to do. For every chapter of the Bible there is:

- A recommended passage for slow and thoughtful reading,
- Questions for guiding a time of reflection and meaning of the text,
- A prayer,
- Suggestions for putting your new insights into action.

This Bible also includes an introduction to praying the Scriptures and a selection of classic Christian prayers.

Perfect for personal devotion and reflection and for leading small groups, The CEB Lectio Divina Bible will guide you to a lifelong source of fulfilling prayer, a conversation with God.

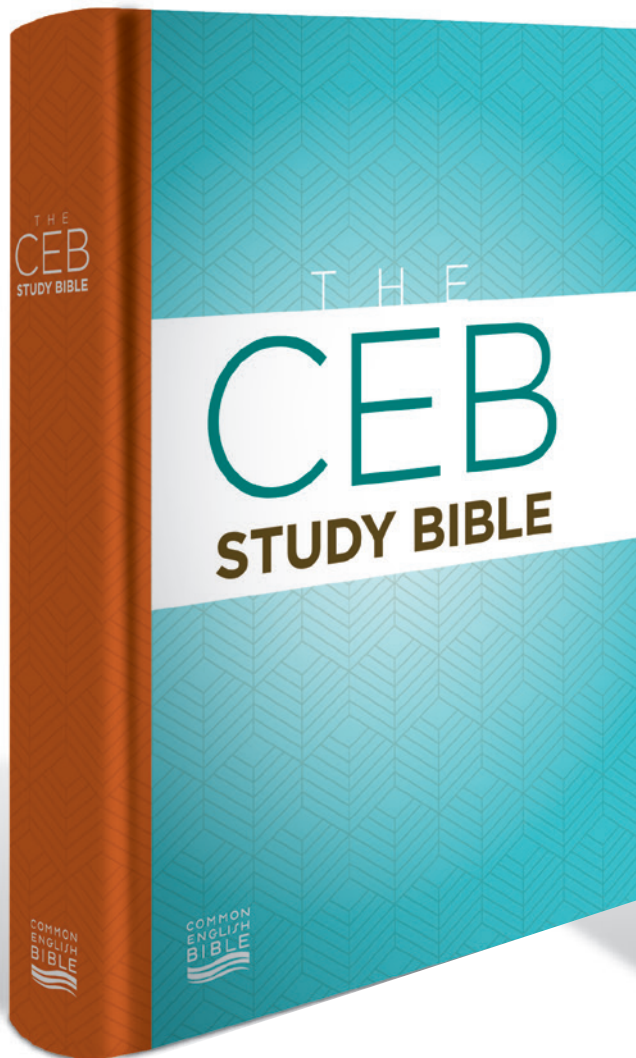
Market Reach



PRAYER IN PRACTICE

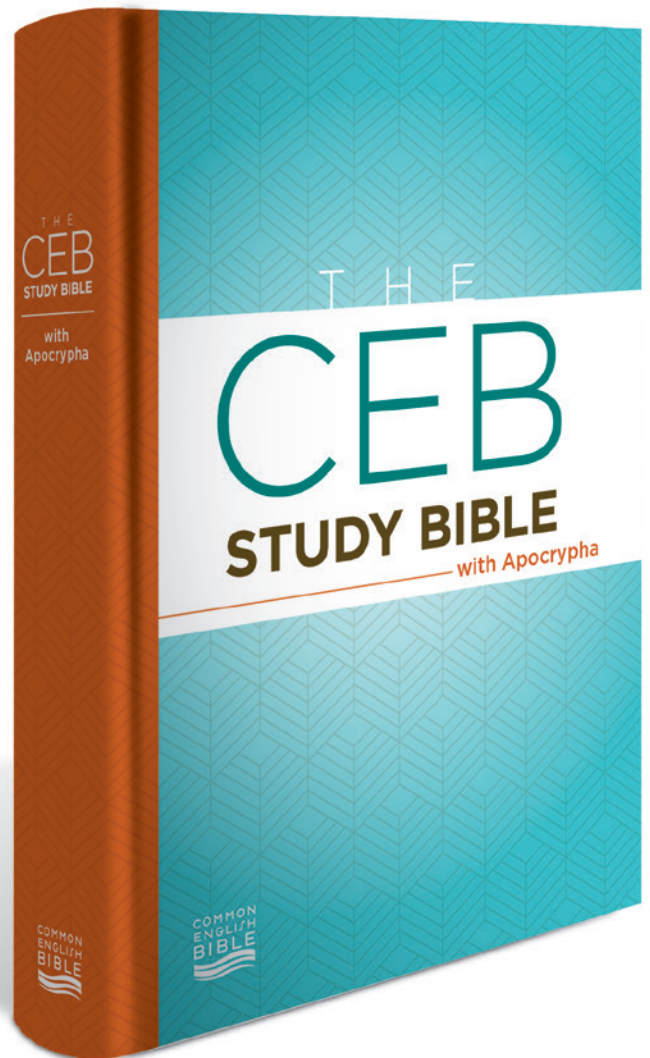
Prayer is an important part of many people’s daily lives. Help your customers learn more about praying the Scriptures while strengthening their prayer life through The CEB Lectio Divina Bible.

- A Pew Research Center survey conducted in 2014 found that 45% of Americans – and a majority of Christians (55%) – say they rely a lot on prayer when making major life decisions. The same survey found that 63% of Christians in the U.S. say praying regularly is an essential part of their Christian identity.
- More than half (55%) of Americans say they pray every day, according to that same survey. Even among those who are religiously unaffiliated, 20% say they pray daily. Women (64%) are more likely than men (46%) to pray every day.



STUDY BIBLE

Release: August 7, 2018 **Price:** \$49.99
Hardback **ISBN:** 9781609262167
Size: 6.1875 x 9.1875 **Pages:** 2240
BISAC: BIBLES / COMMON ENGLISH BIBLE / STUDY



STUDY BIBLE WITH APOCRYPHA

Release: August 7, 2018 **Price:** \$59.99
Hardback **ISBN:** 9781609262150
Size: 6.1875 x 9.1875 **Pages:** 2688
BISAC: BIBLES / COMMON ENGLISH BIBLE / STUDY





HOLY
BIBLE

NRSV LARGE PRINT BIBLE DECOTONE

A new NRSV printing that's perfect for personal use and small-group study.

The New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) is widely acclaimed by scholars and church leaders throughout the Christian faith. This translation has received broad ecumenical endorsement across Protestant, Catholic, and Orthodox church traditions and is a reliable choice for both devotional and academic study.

FEATURES:

- The NRSV text in readable 11-point type
- 8 Bible maps by National Geographic
- Sturdy and fashionable cover
- Sewn binding for durability

Release: May 1, 2018 Price: \$37.99

DecoTone ISBN: 9781501869792

Size: 5.75 x 8.9375 Pages: 1440

BISAC: BIBLES / NEW REVISED STANDARD
VERSION / TEXT



Actual Type Size

16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life."

JOHN 2.24

the signs that he was doing. ²⁴But Jesus on his part would not entrust himself to them, because he knew all people ²⁵and needed no one to testify about anyone; for he himself knew what was in everyone.

Nicodemus Visits Jesus

3 Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ²He came to Jesus^m by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." ³Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above."ⁿ Nicodemus said to him, "How can one be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" ⁵Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit.^o ⁷Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You^p must be born from above.'^q ⁸The wind^r blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."⁹ Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" ¹⁰Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?"

¹¹ "Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you^r do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man.^s ¹⁴And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the

114

wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.^t

¹⁶ "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life."

¹⁷ "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. ²¹But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."^t

Jesus and John the Baptist

²² After this Jesus and his disciples went into the Judean countryside, and he spent some time there with them and baptized. ²³John also was baptizing at Aenon near Salim because water was abundant there; and people kept coming and were being baptized ²⁴—John, of course, had not yet been thrown into prison.

²⁵ Now a discussion about purification arose between John's disciples and a Jew.^u ²⁶They came to John and said to him, "Rabbi, the one

^m Gk him ⁿ Or born anew ^o The same Greek word means both *wind* and *spirit*

^p The Greek word for *you* here is plural

^q Or *anew* ^r The Greek word for *you* here and in verse 12 is plural

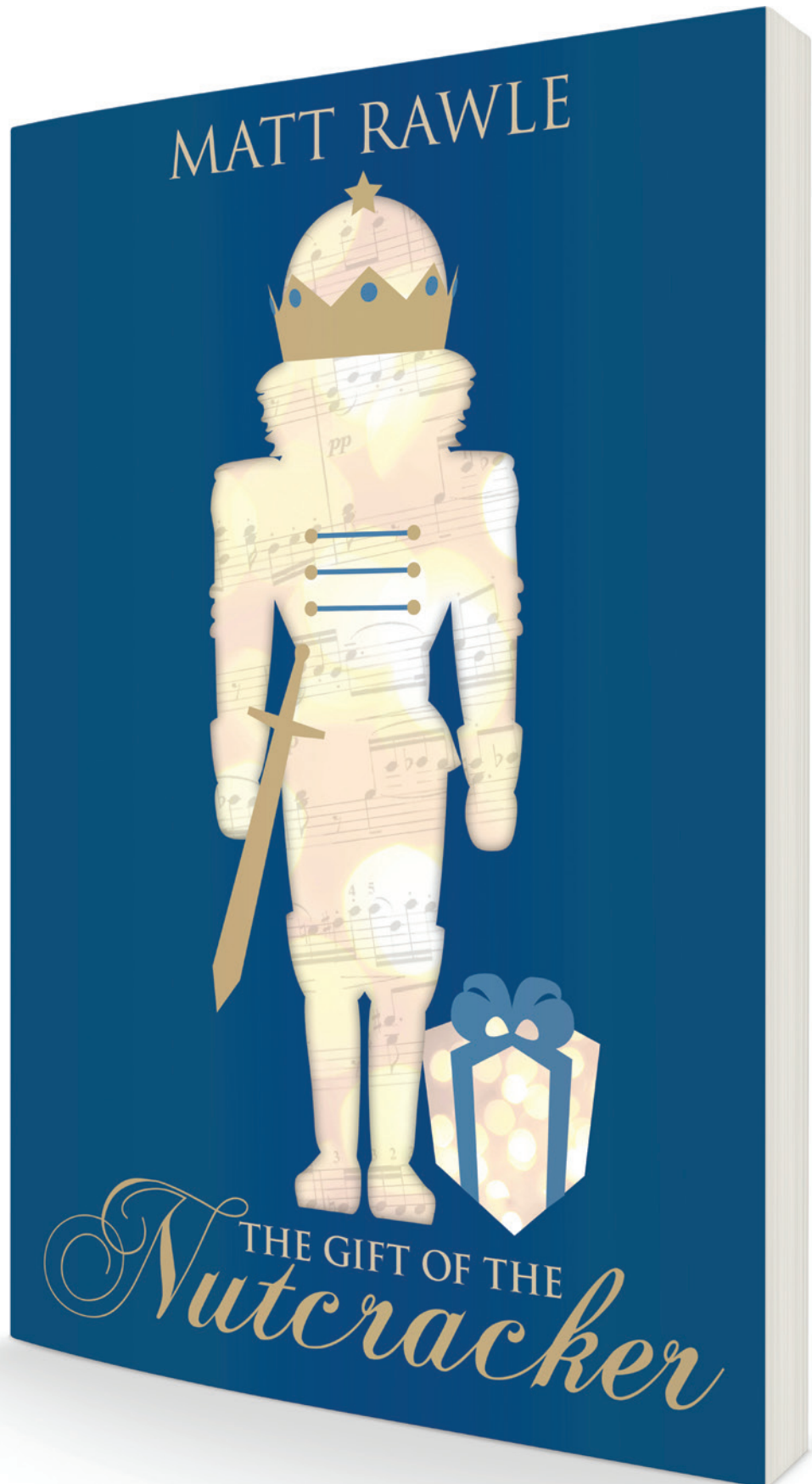
^s Other ancient authorities add *who is in heaven*

^t Some interpreters hold that the quotation concludes with verse 15

^u Other ancient authorities read *the Jews*

INSPIRATIONAL & SEASONAL

FALL & WINTER 2018-2019



THE GIFT OF THE NUTCRACKER

Matt Rawle

Draw closer to Christ this Christmas by exploring this holiday classic.

The Nutcracker is a delightful and whimsical Christmas classic that children and adults look forward to every year. First performed in 1892, the music, dance, and story of this classic hold a special place in our cultural Christmas celebrations.

In *The Gift of the Nutcracker*, Matt Rawle, author of *The Redemption of Scrooge*, explores the story to help us understand God's greatest gift of the Christ child, and the kingdom Christ came to establish.

Additional components for a four-week study include a comprehensive Leader Guide, a DVD featuring Matt Rawle, a Worship Resources Flash Drive, and youth and children's resources.

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 *The Faith of a Mockingbird*, *Hollywood Jesus*, *The Salvation of Doctor Who* and *The Redemption of Scrooge*.

KEY FEATURES

- Readers will look at this classic through the lens of faith.
- Readers will explore this iconic story to help us understand God's greatest gift of the Christ child, and the kingdom Christ came to establish.
- A four-week study perfect for Advent and Christmas.
- DVD features the teaching of Matt Rawle in 10-12 minute sessions.
- Leader Guide includes complete session plans for facilitating the study.
- This study can become a churchwide program through use of youth and children's studies and Worship Resources Flash Drive.

Release: September 4, 2018 **Price:** \$14.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501869426

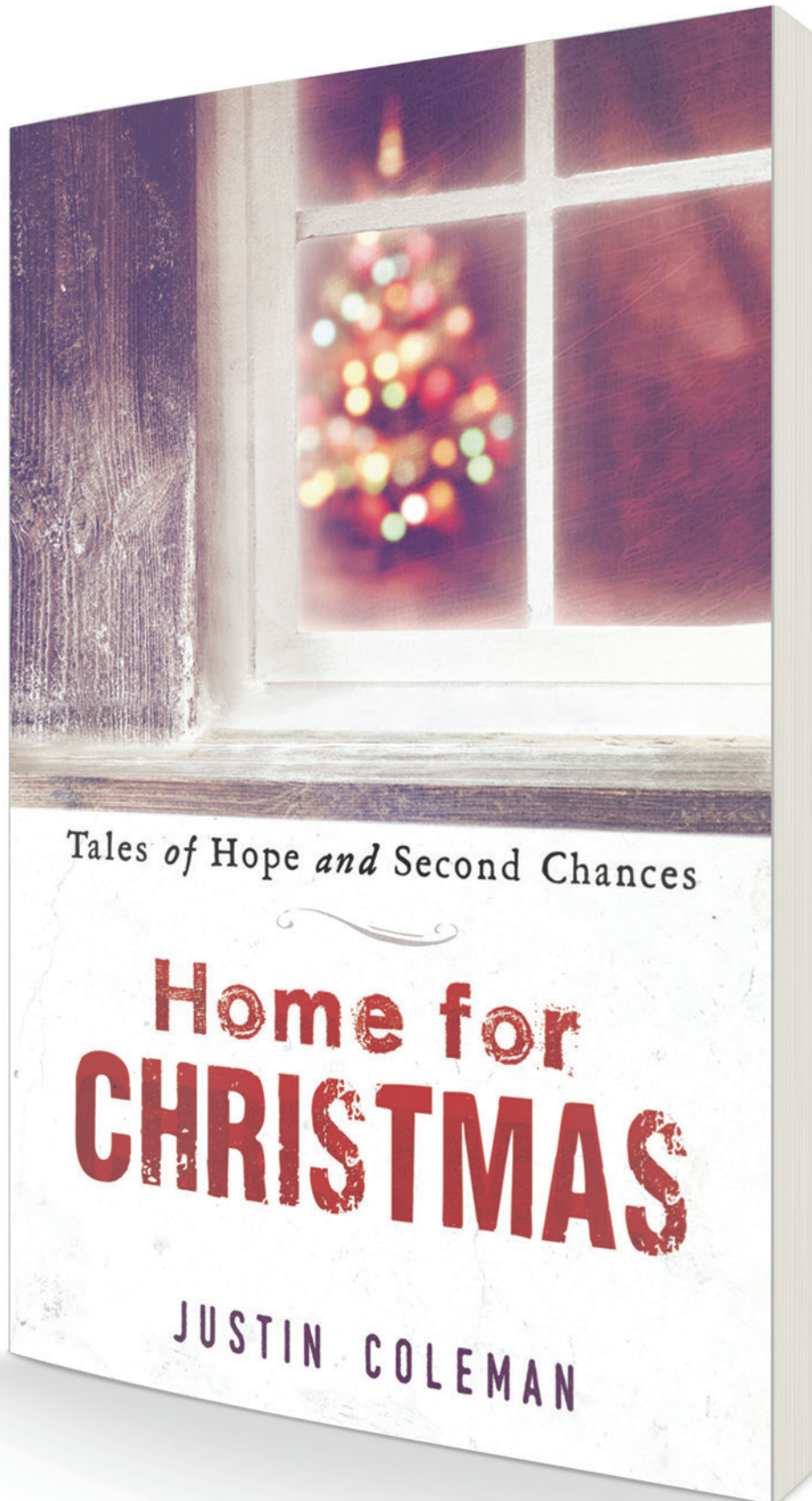
Size: 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 144

BISAC: RELIGION / HOLIDAYS / CHRISTMAS & ADVENT



COMPANION PRODUCTS

Large Print		9781501876141	\$15.99
Leader Guide		9781501869440	\$12.99
DVD		9781501869464	\$39.99
Youth Study Book		9781501869518	\$9.99
Children's Leader Guide		9781501871511	\$18.99
Worship Resources Flash Drive		9781501869532	\$34.99



Cover Not Final

HOME FOR CHRISTMAS

Tales of Hope and Second Chances

Justin Coleman

Discover the light of Christmas in a world of hardship and hope.

Home for Christmas brings inspiring stories of hope and second chances into the Advent season. Author and pastor Justin Coleman matches real life stories of struggle and triumph to the Advent themes of hope, love, joy, and peace to show how the light of Christmas shines brightly even in hard times. Each chapter lifts up a scripture reflection alongside tales of men and women who embody the Advent themes and reflect on the Christmas season with love and longing.

Throughout each of the four chapters and the accompanying DVD for a small-group experience, Coleman captures the stories of formerly incarcerated men and women as they find work and opportunity through Homeboy Industries in Los Angeles, California. These men and women share their holiday memories and experiences in light of the hope and new life they've experienced at Homeboy.

Additional components for this four-week study include a comprehensive Leader Guide and a DVD featuring author and pastor Justin Coleman.

KEY FEATURES

- Book can be a stand-alone resource or combined with the DVD and Leader Guide to create a four-week study.
- Ideal for Sunday School, small groups, home groups, and individual study.
- The four-session DVD features author and pastor Justin Coleman and interviews with Homeboy participants and founder Gregory Boyle about their memories of and reflections on the Christmas season.
- 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.

Justin Colman is Lead Pastor at University United Methodist Church in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. Coleman also served at St. Luke's United Methodist Church in Houston, Texas and as the Chief Ministry Officer of the United Methodist Publishing House in Nashville, Tennessee. Justin and his wife Chaka live in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, with their three sons, Zan, Max, and Lawson.

Release: September 18, 2018 **Price:** \$16.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501870446

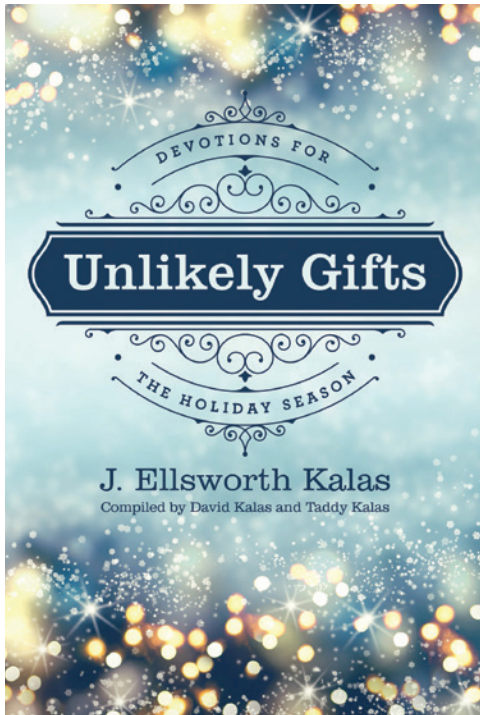
Size: 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 128

BISAC: RELIGION / HOLIDAYS / CHRISTMAS & ADVENT



COMPANION PRODUCTS

Leader Guide		9781501870460	\$12.99
DVD		9781501870484	\$39.99
Youth Study Book		9781501870422	\$11.99



Release: September 4, 2018 **Price:** \$12.99
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501869723
Size: 5 x 7 **Pages:** 128
BISAC: RELIGION / HOLIDAYS / CHRISTMAS & ADVENT



KEY FEATURES

- Celebrate Christ on a daily basis through readings.
- Find inspiration for thirty-one days of the Christmas season.
- Enjoy newly discovered Christmas reflections from the late best-selling author.
- Hear touching personal stories of a family of faith.

UNLIKELY GIFTS

Devotions for the Holiday Season

J. Ellsworth Kalas

Compiled by David Kalas and Taddy Kalas

Rejoice at the meaning and miracle of Christmas!

The Christmas season is one of the busiest times of the year. But it is also a season of reflection and preparation for that special day when we remember the arrival of our eternal God in our own frail humanity. Let the Christ of Christmas prepare your heart for the celebration of his birth through a devotional journey reflecting on Advent and Christmas. Enjoy thirty-one thoughtful, and never-before-published Christmas devotionals from the late, beloved, best-selling author, J. Ellsworth Kalas. The inspirational selections were lovingly compiled by Dr. Kalas' son, David, and daughter, Taddy, and include additional notes and memories of their father and the holiday season. *Unlikely Gifts* celebrates the Savior's birth as we explore the blessings of hope, joy, love, and peace that believers can experience as they keep their eyes on Jesus.

J. Ellsworth Kalas (1923–2015) was the author of over 35 books, including the popular *Back Side* series, *A Faith of Her Own: Women of the Old Testament*, *Strong Was Her Faith: Women of the New Testament*, *I Bought a House on Gratitude Street*, and the *Christian Believer* study, and was a presenter on *DISCIPLE* videos. He was part of the faculty of Asbury Theological Seminary since 1993, formerly serving as president and then as senior professor of homiletics. He was a United Methodist pastor for 38 years and also served five years in evangelism with the World Methodist Council.

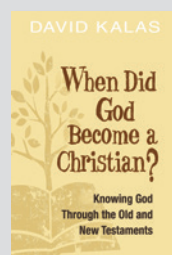
David Kalas is pastor of First United Methodist Church in Green Bay, Wisconsin. He is the author of *When Did God Become a Christian?*, *Savior on a Cross*, and has also contributed to several collections of sermons and preaching resources. Kalas is a graduate of the University of Virginia and Union Theological Seminary of Virginia.

Taddy Kalas is a professor of French at Augustana College in Rock Island, Illinois. She earned her B.A., M.A., and PhD from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

BY THE SAME AUTHORS



9780687027064
\$10.99



9781501830969
\$16.99

THE GIFT OF NEW HOPE

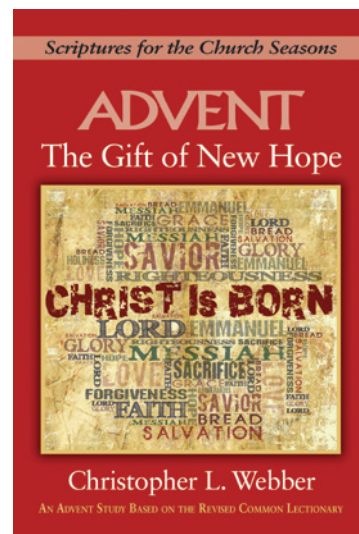
Scriptures for the Church Seasons

Christopher L. Webber

Connecting the light of the manger with the hope of the returning Christ.

The Gift of New Hope, originally published in 2015, invites readers to explore their yearning for God's presence through a study of the lectionary Bible readings for Advent and Christmas. Each week's Scriptures call us to praise God as we actively await the coming of Christ and prepare our hearts and lives for his arrival. Through the readings, we hear the invitation to claim and celebrate the new hope we have in Jesus Christ.

Christopher L. Webber, a graduate of Princeton University and the General Theological Seminary in New York, is the author of a number of books ranging from *Dear Friends: Letters of St. Paul to Christians in America* to *The Beowulf Trilogy* and *American to the Backbone*, the biography of fugitive slave and abolitionist, James W.C. Pennington. He has served congregations in New York, Connecticut, and Tokyo, Japan, but recently moved to San Francisco where he is learning about city life after spending 20 years in rural Connecticut.



Release: September 18, 2018 **Price:** \$9.99
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501870859
Size: 6 x 9 **Pages:** 96
BISAC: RELIGION / HOLIDAYS / CHRISTMAS & ADVENT



ALSO AVAILABLE

Large Print		9781501870873	\$10.99
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ADVENT A CALENDAR OF DEVOTIONS 2018

(Pkg of 10)

Sue Mink

Devotions for each day of Advent.

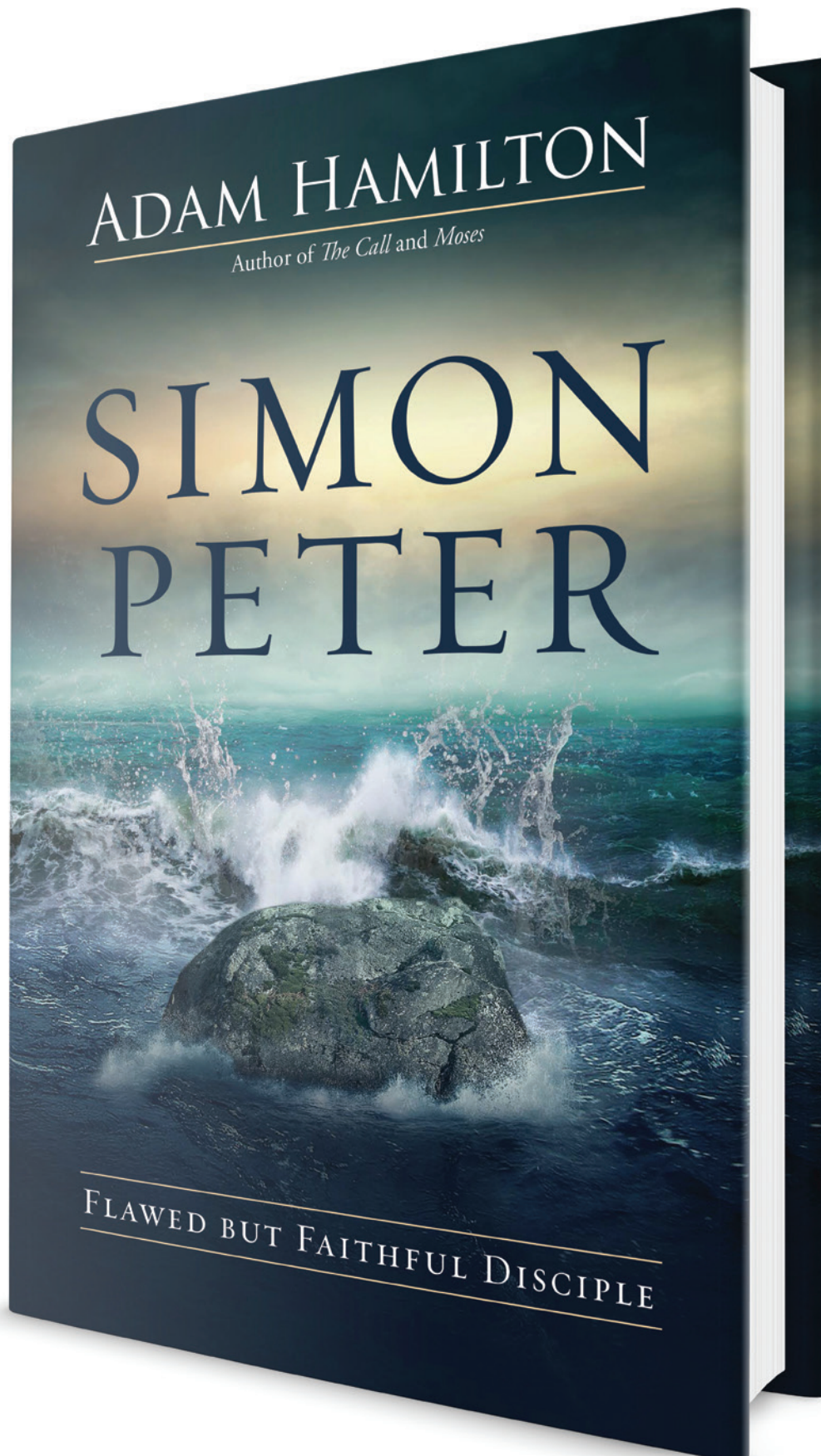
The season of Advent provides an opportunity for spiritual renewal for followers of Christ. But often what happens is that we get so caught up in the hurry and rush, the hustle and bustle, the frantic pace of the season that we emerge more spiritually exhausted than refreshed and more disillusioned than inspired to face the coming of a new year. We may have tried so hard to enjoy the holiday season and to recapture a sense of wonder and mystery, only to end up asking, "Is that all there is?" The purpose of *Advent A Calendar of Devotions 2018* is to help you focus on the things that truly matter during this busy season, so that you can experience spiritual renewal. The booklets are designed to fit in a #10 envelope, enabling churches to include them in Advent mailings.

Sue Mink creates artwork that explores the intersection between art and theology. She is a graduate of Wesley Theological Seminary and Carnegie-Mellon University, where she earned her design degree. She is the author of *Preparing the Way: An Advent Study Based on the Revised Common Lectionary* and *The Sanctuary for Lent 2014*. She lives in Leesburg, Virginia.



Release: August 7, 2018 **Price:** \$10.99 (Pkg of 10)
 Brochure **ISBN:** 9781501871245
Size: 3.75 x 9 **Pages:** 48
BISAC: RELIGION / HOLIDAYS / CHRISTMAS & ADVENT





SIMON PETER

Flawed but Faithful Disciple

Adam Hamilton

Simon Peter—an ordinary fisherman who heard an extraordinary call.

He was not rich or educated, but was familiar with hard work. He was quick-tempered and impetuous, but possessed a passion that would change the world. He left everything to follow his teacher, yet struggled with doubt and fear.

Join pastor and author Adam Hamilton in this six-week Lenten journey, and take an in-depth dive into the life, faith, and character of Simon Peter.

Additional components for a six-week adult study include a comprehensive Leader Guide and a DVD featuring author and pastor Adam Hamilton teaching on site in Israel and Italy. Also available are resources for children and youth.

Chapters include:

- The Call of Simon the Fisherman
- Walking with Jesus in the Storm
- Bedrock or Stumbling Block?
- “I Will Not Deny You”
- From Cowardice to Courage
- The Rest of the Story

KEY FEATURES

- Works beautifully as a stand-alone book, or can be combined with the DVD, Leader Guide, and youth and children’s resources to create a churchwide study.
- Videos feature Adam Hamilton in 10-12 minute sessions teaching on site in Israel and Italy.
- Learn more about the life, faith, and character of Simon Peter.
- Discover how God can use your gifts, talents, and abilities just as Simon Peter did.

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 the congregation the most influential mainline church in America. Hamilton preached at the National Prayer Service as part of the presidential inauguration festivities in 2013 and was appointed to the President’s Advisory Council on Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships. Hamilton is the best-selling and award-winning author of *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: December 18, 2018 **Price:** \$19.99

Hardback **ISBN:** 9781501845987

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

BISAC: RELIGION / HOLIDAYS / EASTER & LENT



COMPANION PRODUCTS

Large Print		9781501846007	\$20.99
Leader Guide		9781501846014	\$12.99
DVD		9781501846038	\$39.99
Youth Edition		9781501846106	\$11.99
Children’s Leader Guide		9781501846120	\$18.99

AMY-JILL
LEVINE

ENTERING THE PASSION of JESUS

A BEGINNER'S GUIDE to HOLY WEEK

**Release:** December 18, 2018 **Price:** \$16.99Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501869556**Size:** 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 144**BISAC:** RELIGION / HOLIDAYS / EASTER & LENT

KEY FEATURES

- Amy-Jill Levine takes readers on an exploration of the biblical texts surrounding the Passion story to make them lively and relevant.
- Levine looks into characters such as Judas, Pilate, Caiaphas, the disciples, and the women around Jesus to understand their relationships and roles in the Passion story.
- Includes Participant Guide, Leader Guide, and DVD featuring renowned biblical scholar, Amy-Jill Levine.
- The study highlights the main points of the Passion story and makes it more accessible to readers.
- The study brings Levine's text into sharp focus and provides readers with all the elements for a lively group experience.

ENTERING THE PASSION OF JESUS

A Beginner's Guide to Holy Week

Amy-Jill Levine

Dive deep into the history of the last days before the crucifixion.

Author, professor, and scholar, Amy-Jill Levine dives deep into the biblical texts surrounding the Passion story in *Entering the Passion of Jesus*. Levine looks into characters such as Judas, Pilate, Caiaphas, the disciples, and the women around Jesus to understand their relationships and roles in the Passion story.

The book's six chapters include:

- Jesus' Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem
- The Temple Incident
- The Anointing of Jesus and the Role of Women
- Jesus' Teachings in the Temple
- The Last Supper Traditions
- Gethsemane

Additional components for a six-week study include a DVD featuring the engaging teaching style of Dr. Levine building on the topics and themes found in the book and a comprehensive Leader Guide.

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

Large Print		9781501876158	\$17.99
Leader Guide		9781501869570	\$12.99
DVD		9781501869594	\$39.99



*Christmas
Best Sellers*

Total Christmas Makeover
9781501848704 | \$16.99

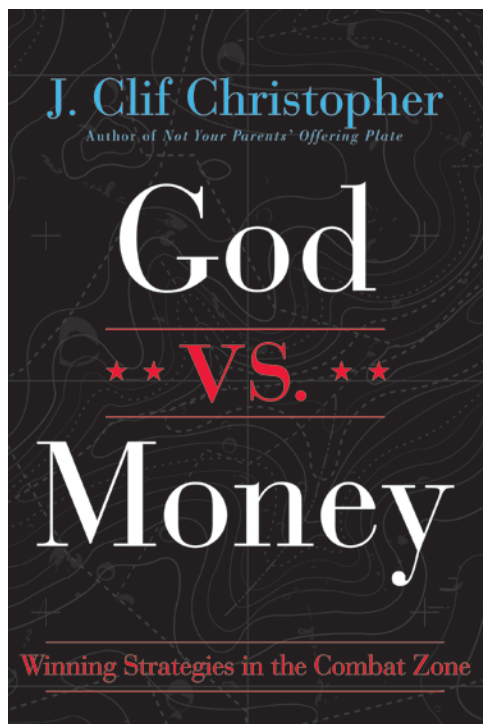
The Most Wonderful Time of the Year
9781501822605 | \$16.99

All I Really Want
9781426790171 | \$15.99



**LEADERSHIP, THEOLOGY,
& BIBLICAL STUDIES**

FALL & WINTER 2018-2019



Release: November 20, 2018 **Price:** \$16.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501868115

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

BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN CHURCH / LEADERSHIP



KEY FEATURES

- Succinct, reliable, honest, up-to-date advice on one of the most important topics for leaders of any church or faith-based organization.
- This book functions as a primer, covering all the key topics related to church or non-profit finance and fundraising.
- Practical, accessible and easy to read.
- Designed for long-time leaders and those who are new to leadership roles in churches or other faith-based nonprofit organizations.
- Christopher answers the question 'why' throughout, helping readers to understand the Christ-serving purpose behind the practices, strategies and tactics.

GOD VS. MONEY

Winning Strategies in the Combat Zone

J. Clif Christopher

Stop falling for Money's false promises, and trust in God's promises. Help those you lead do the same.

God and Money both make a lot of promises. God keeps all of God's promises, while Money keeps none. However, Money has better advertising, and we keep falling for it. Here's how to turn that trend around in your life and in the lives of those you lead. Get practical, up-to-date, expert advice on fundraising—one of the biggest challenges facing church and not-for-profit leaders.

Chapters include:

1. The Realities of the Situation
2. The Preacher Must Be the Leader
3. A Theology of Giving – Why We Do It
4. Preach It
5. Competing Is Not a Dirty Word
6. Start Now and Don't Quit
7. You Have to Have a Budget
8. Basic Fundraising Principles
9. Making the Ask
10. Big Money - Capital Campaigns
11. Succeeding in a Capital Campaign
12. Easy Money – Planned Giving
13. Building, Banking and Bonds

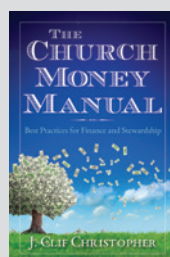
J. Clif Christopher is the CEO of the Horizons Stewardship Company. He is a certified church growth consultant and has earned the coveted title CFRE (Certified Fund Raising Executive). Christopher founded the Horizons Stewardship Company in 1992 following a challenging and rewarding career in pastoral ministry. Since founding Horizons, he has led consultations in more than 400 churches, conferences, synods, and dioceses in all phases of building, finance, and church growth. For the last 10 years, Christopher has secured more than \$500 million for his clients. He has worked in more than 32 states and is a frequent speaker at stewardship seminars around the country. He is the author of several books including *Not Your Parents' Offering Plate*, which was published by Abingdon Press. Christopher has been an ordained minister of The United Methodist Church since 1975. He is a graduate of Hendrix College and Emory University. Christopher and his wife have four children. He lives in Cabot, Arkansas.

BY THE SAME AUTHOR



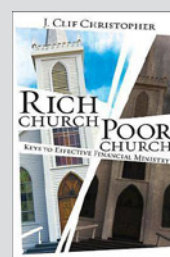
9781501804922

\$15.99



9781426796579

\$16.99



9781426743368

\$14.99

LEADING FROM HORSEBACK

Lost Lessons Every Church Leader Needs

Jim Cowart

The world of horsemanship has much to teach us about ministry leadership.

Horses are accustomed to leaders. They want a leader. They expect a leader. A person becomes a leader of horses by making the horse move his or her feet—like the dominant mare in the pasture. She asserts and establishes her position by making the other horses move. She applies subtle pressure, such as pinning her ears. If that doesn't work, she increases the pressure with a nip or a kick until she gets the other horse to move away from her. Lead horses in wild herds discipline young horses who are being unruly, by using the horse equivalent of a "time out." They drive the troublemaker out of the herd until the rebel is contrite and changes behavior. When he or she starts acting like a respectable citizen again, the horse is allowed back in.

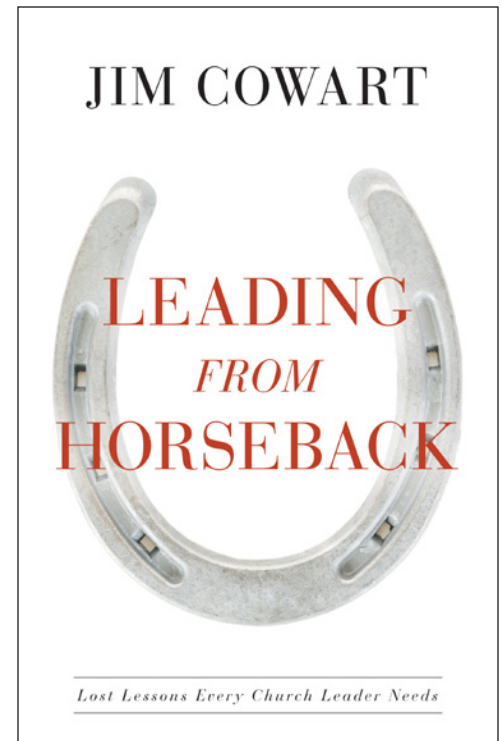
The world of horsemanship has much to teach us about ministry leadership. From the first bridle to horse's last day in the barn, horse-lovers know that life with a horse is a complicated, challenging, beautiful, and sometimes bewildering experience. It takes Patience, Partnership, Communication, Trust, and Preparation—among other qualities—to train and enjoy life with a horse. Those same qualities are essential in good leaders.

Jim Cowart, a pastor and horseman, shares leadership lessons he's learned in the stables of Georgia, working with horses and professional trainers. Cowart also shares distinct insights from Australia's legendary horseman Clinton Anderson.

Written in Cowart's easygoing style, and full of humor, this book brings a light and engaging touch to a serious subject, and is packed with practical advice and instruction.

Jim Cowart is the founding pastor of Harvest Church, a United Methodist congregation in Warner Robins, GA, near Macon. Harvest launched in 2001, and has an average attendance of 3,000 each weekend. The church grows primarily through professions of faith from new Christians. The innovative "community group" strategy is producing more than 350 small groups meeting in homes and workplaces. Jim serves as a trainer and coach, helping pastors launch and maintain healthy church environments. For more information go to harvestchurch4u.org.

Serenity Al Jannat, who answers to the name, Seri, is a Straight Egyptian Arabian mare from the Dahmah Shahwan Strain. She can trace her lineage back to King Solomon's stables in Israel, but now lives in Middle Georgia with her best buddy Jim Cowart.



Release: September 18, 2018 **Price:** \$15.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501803383

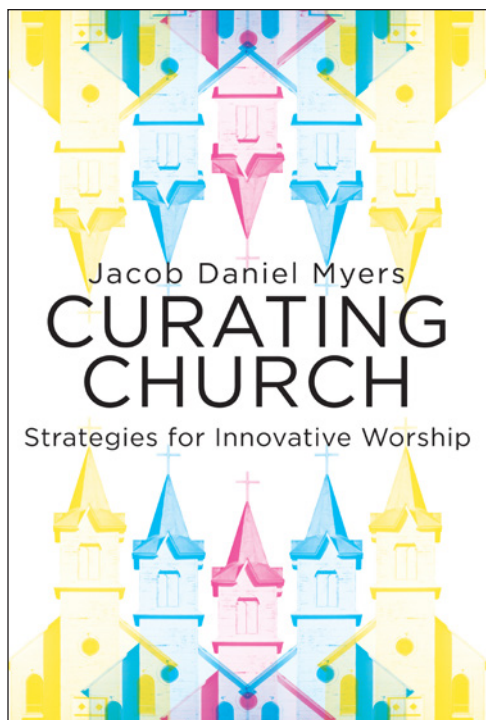
Size: 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 144

BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN CHURCH / LEADERSHIP



KEY FEATURES

- Fun, engaging material, tackles a serious topic with a lighthearted touch.
- Practical guidance and instruction for the leader; the leader can read and act on this material immediately.
- This book makes great fodder for a leadership retreat, making it doubly valuable for the senior leader.



Release: October 2, 2018 **Price:** \$29.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501832482

Size: 6 x 9 **Pages:** 176

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



KEY FEATURES

- Gives a new language and new way of thinking about the role of the church and church leaders: the language and concept of curation will be a helpful revelation for many readers.
- Addresses the whole church—the major ministry functions in every church.
- Equips students and pastors/leaders with both understanding and methods to do ministry now.
- Provides a unique and compelling—and critically important—foundation for understanding the church in the context of the culture in the US today.

CURATING CHURCH

Strategies for Innovative Worship

Jacob Daniel Myers

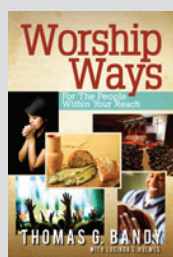
Learn to be curators of the culture for your community.

If we are willing to shift our approach to church, we will better connect with increasingly heterogeneous cultures. This shifting requires curation. Church leaders must learn to be curators! Churches in modernity were set up to facilitate a particular kind of experience with God. Church was its own, protected culture. In the wake of postmodernity, facilitated by new forms of communication (e.g., digital), we are entering a new epoch in the history of the church. Curators manage the tasks of connection, preservation, and transformation, in their care for cultural artifacts and communities.

When someone serves as a curator, they make connections between different elements in the culture, preserving the best of cultural traditions, and promoting fresh ways of thinking and being in the world. What might this work of curation mean for us? In *Curating Church*, readers learn how curation can reorient and sharpen the ways and work of the church. Curation can inform how we connect with cultures beyond the church, preserve what is best in the rich history of Christian thought and expression, and nurture spaces where contemporary persons may be transformed by the gospel. This book helps readers to understand with new richness the church and the world, and it equips them to become active in making those connections—as curators—with and for others.

Jacob Daniel Myers is Assistant Professor of Homiletics, Columbia Theological Seminary, Decatur, GA. He is interested in homiletical theories and theologies, continental philosophies (especially poststructuralism, existentialism, and phenomenology), and emerging expressions of faith and practice in postmodern, post-Christian contexts. He holds the M.Div. degree from Princeton Theological Seminary and earned his Ph.D. at Emory University.

COMPARABLE TITLE



9781426788079

\$22.99

EIGHT VIRTUES OF RAPIDLY GROWING CHURCHES

Matt Miofsky & Jason Byassee

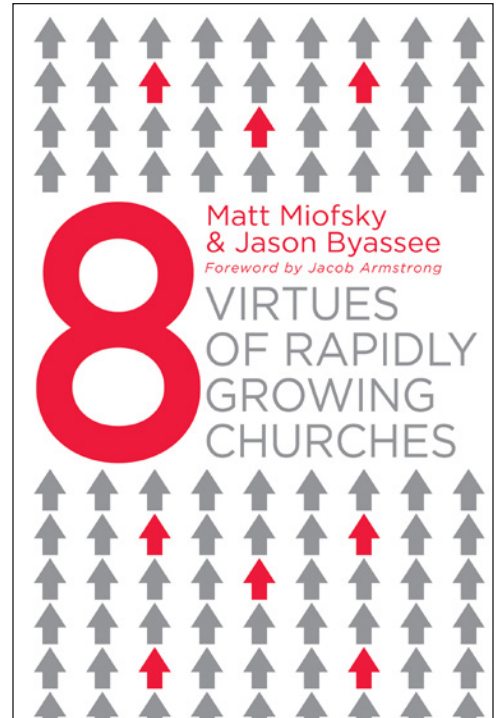
Learn the practices and develop the characteristics that will lead to successful churches.

Leaders who are interested in planting or revitalizing congregations often feel discouraged and defeated after leadership conferences, or after reading about the 'heroes' of church planting and church growth. "They are amazing," they say. "I can't be that amazing." But Jesus' load is easy and his burden is light. When we examine the practices and characteristics of those 'heroes', we see striking trends and commonalities. Aspiring church leaders can learn the practices and develop the characteristics that will lead to successful churches. Instead of feeling defeated, new leaders should have a hope-filled sense of what new thing they can do.

Authors Matt Miofsky and Jason Byassee carefully researched, interviewed, and profiled successful church-growers across the U.S. and identified 8 characteristics these leaders and their congregations have in common. These pastors are still learning, still figuring out how to do this work, and how to faithfully live into God's call. But for now, how are they doing what they do? What mistakes have they made and learned from? Where have they paid the tax that others should avoid? Each of these 'heroes' is painfully ordinary and up front about their flaws. And each can see slightly farther than the rest of us. What do they see that we can learn from? Discover the 8 virtues, and learn how to adapt them for your own congregation and calling.

Matt Miofsky is Lead Pastor of The Gathering United Methodist Church, St. Louis, Missouri, a church begun in 2006 that now has over 1,000 people worshipping each week across four sites and 8+ services. The Gathering was founded with a vision of creating a Christian community that is compelling for new generations in St. Louis. Matt gained a degree in Advanced Math and played football at Washington University and then attended Candler School of Theology. Matt lives with his family in St. Louis, Missouri.

Jason Byassee is the Butler Chair in Homiletics and Biblical Interpretation at Vancouver School of Theology. He previously served as senior pastor of Boone United Methodist Church, a 1500-member congregation in Boone, NC. He is trained in systematic theology with a PhD from Duke, and he worked as a journalist at faithandleadership.com and at *The Christian Century* magazine. He authored six books, including *The Gifts of the Small Church* and *Trinity: The God We Don't Know* with Abingdon Press.



Release: October 16, 2018 **Price:** \$16.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501852732

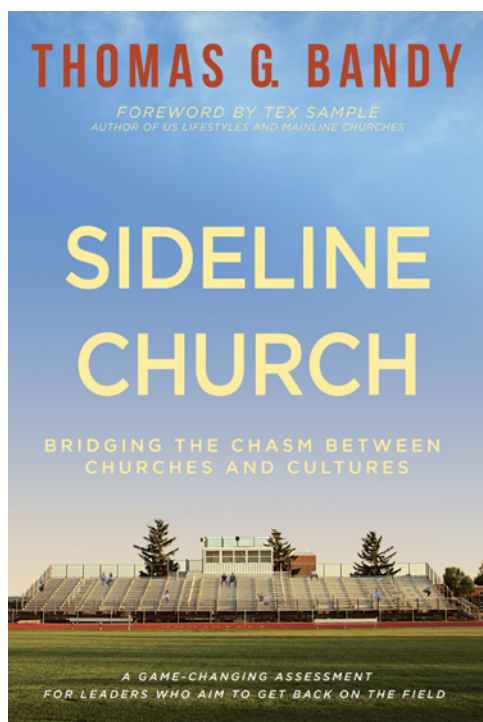
Size: 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 144

BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN CHURCH / LEADERSHIP



KEY FEATURES

- Profiles several highly successful church plants, from different geographic regions, different social settings, and different types (and genders) of leaders.
- Offers clear principles for the leader to follow.
- Reveals the hopeful stories of creative new leaders in the Methodist church and other mainline churches.
- Miofsky knows firsthand the key challenges of church planting.
- Byassee brings journalistic expertise along with pastoral experience.
- The principles revealed are useful for church planters and for established churches who are seeking revitalization.
- Helps leaders at all levels of the church envision how to do things differently.



Release: August 21, 2018 **Price:** \$19.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501871474

Size: 6 x 9 **Pages:** 200

BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN MINISTRY / GENERAL



KEY FEATURES

- Data and a new typology to help leaders navigate massive cultural disruptions.
- Demonstrates the chasm between churches and culture.
- Provides guidance for churches to get off the “sidelines” and into the “game.”
- Church leaders are often obsessed with relevance and irrelevance. This book brings data and a new typology to help leaders navigate massive cultural disruptions.

SIDELINE CHURCH

Bridging the Chasm between Churches and Cultures

Thomas G. Bandy

Churches have become mere “spectators” stuck on the sidelines. How do they get into the game?

In 1990 Tex Sample wrote a book entitled *US Lifestyles and the Mainline Church* intended to help Protestant churches become more relevant to cultural diversity, but it did much more than that. It revealed the growing crack between established churches of all kinds and the changing, fracturing, multiplying societies around them. *Sideline Church* is a second installment, so to speak, almost thirty years later. The crack revealed in 1990 has now widened into a chasm. Most churches, regardless of their tradition, are now on the sidelines. They observe cultural change, but don't care to participate in it.

Like spectators at a ball game, these churches watch. They may sing songs or shout encouragement, or they may shout criticisms and lament mistakes. Occasionally churches will leave their seats to get a hot dog with their friends or quarrel with their enemies. Occasionally there is a “wave” as sections of the Christendom stadium rise to their feet to celebrate their particular denomination or tradition. Often today there are angry confrontations as liberals and conservatives shout insults at one another across the stadium. Churches become so preoccupied with what is going on in the stands that they pay less and less attention to the game. They cheer and boo as some churches leave their seats and change sides. They project their own hopes and fears on individual players who become proxy representatives for a particular cause or policy.

If we were to reverse the metaphor and pretend that the spectators were actually players, we might see the game descend into chaos and become a brawl. Even more obvious, however, would be the empty stands. Fewer and fewer people are watching. The very spectacle of Christians brawling with each other has lost appeal. Nobody will buy tickets. The media won't bother to cover the game.

Many churches will never be able to cross that chasm between churches and culture. When it comes to change, they will always worry more about members they might lose than strangers they might bless. However, some churches can and will cross that chasm. Those that do will discover that the key is empathy. It is empathy of the most intimate and profound kind. It is a true “heart burst” for someone other than yourself.

Thomas G. Bandy is an internationally-recognized church consultant and leadership coach. He works across the spectrum of church traditions, denominations, congregations, contexts, and cultures. Tom coaches transforming and transitioning congregations, church plants, multi-site and cross-cultural churches, and faith-based nonprofits. He is the president of Thriving Church Consulting LLC and can be found in his virtual office at ThrivingChurch.com. He is the author of several books on congregational leadership.

PREACHING WITH EMPATHY

Crafting Sermons in a Callous Culture

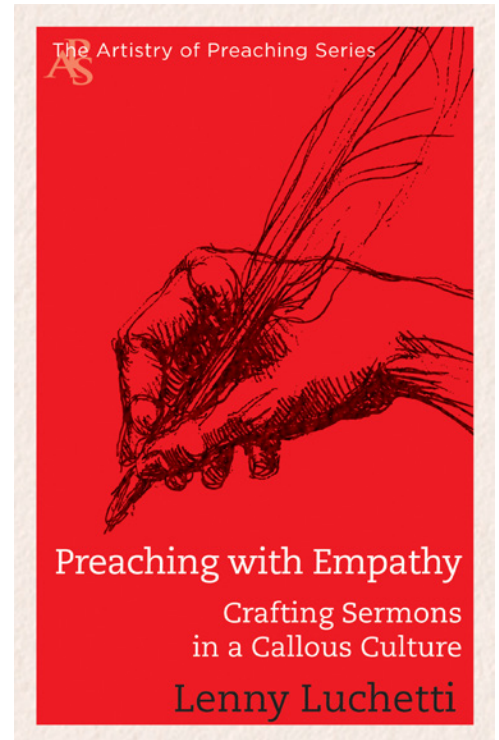
Lenny Luchetti

Understand and love your listeners to get preaching right.

Preachers can find help from many resources to get the text right, the structure right, and the delivery right. *Preaching with Empathy* aims to help preachers and homiletics students learn to deeply understand and love their listeners, in order to get preaching right. Preachers who profess a love for God, scripture, and preaching, but who lack loving empathy for the listener, betray their three professed loves and limit their fruitfulness in ministry. This book teaches how to practice preaching in new ways, incorporating a heightened awareness and empathy for the people in the preacher's community. Author Lenny Luchetti provides immediately useful tools, all based on the foundations of scripture, theology, history, and social awareness. Readers will learn to embody Christ for their congregations, as they empathically love God and humanity.

This book is part of the successful Artistry in Preaching series, edited by Paul Scott Wilson. Other books in the series include *Preaching as Poetry: Beauty, Goodness and Truth in Every Sermon*, by Paul Scott Wilson; *Actuality: Real Life Stories for Sermons that Matter*, by Scott Hoezee; and *Preaching in Pictures: Using Images for Sermons that Connect*, by Peter Jonker.

Lenny Luchetti is Professor of Proclamation and Christian Ministry at Wesley Seminary of Indiana Wesleyan University. He is responsible primarily for the development and teaching of the preaching courses the seminary offers. He is the author of several books, and is ordained in The Wesleyan Church with degrees from Houghton College and Asbury Theological Seminary.



Release: August 21, 2018 **Price:** \$19.99
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501841729
Size: 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 112
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN MINISTRY / PREACHING



KEY FEATURES

- A unique approach to the homiletic challenge.
- Accessible for a variety of readers.
- Practical and applicable in local church ministry.
- Provides preachers a new way to approach their sermon-writing task.
- Enables preachers to connect more authentically with their hearers.

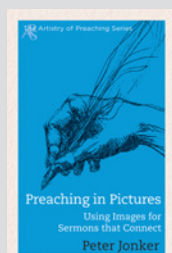
IN THE SAME SERIES



9781426764042
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\$18.99



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Release: August 21, 2018 **Price:** \$17.99
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501870248
Size: 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 128
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN MINISTRY /
 PREACHING



KEY FEATURES

- Addresses a long-time need for preachers in every age, but one which is acutely felt in the years following the 2016 presidential election.
- Includes segments from sermons by a variety of preachers, to illustrate the main point of each chapter.
- Instructive and insightful, offers practical help that will guide preachers through inevitable times of disorientation.

PREACHING TRUTH IN THE AGE OF ALTERNATIVE FACTS

William F. Brosend II

How to successfully walk the tightrope of preaching when there are few agreed upon “facts.”

While comedian Stephen Colbert was remarkably prescient some years ago when he introduced the word “truthiness” to our vocabulary, it was presidential advisor Kellyanne Conway who told us that there are “alternative facts” abroad in the land. Rarely has such an offhand comment so captured the imagination while also aptly summarizing the spirit of the age. The late Daniel Patrick Moynihan famously said that while everyone is entitled to his (or her) opinion they are not entitled to their own facts. Until now.

Good preaching has always been a challenge, a combination of exegesis, insight and craft in witness to the Gospel and in service of the Church. Cultural forces, in particular the proliferation of media outlets and the explosion of available entertainment sources, have only made the challenge greater. And that was when most agreed on a common set of facts. Those days are now past and gone, and preachers may be forgiven if at times it feels as if the task is impossible:

- The pulpit is like a tightrope, stretched between red and blue, Republicans and Democrats, conservatives and liberals. And there is no net.
- I read the Beatitudes last Sunday and the tension in the church was palpable. Who knew “Blessed are the peacemakers” were fighting words?
- Everything I say is being interpreted and analyzed for things I never even thought about. Joshua and the Battle of Jericho has become a commentary on whether or not we should build a wall on the border.
- I cannot believe how angry people are.
- I’m old enough to remember when the big difference was whether you got your news from Walter Cronkite on CBS or Huntley/Brinkley on NBC. Now no one agrees on what constitutes news. Or facts.

Preaching Truth in the Age of Alternative Facts offers a way forward. This is a book for preachers, teachers, and other leaders, along with students of preaching. It demonstrates how to proclaim honest, faithful, candid sermons, in spite of social and political disagreements. It teaches how to preach in a way that allows the Church to be its best self—a place of commitment, engagement, acceptance and compassion for all God’s children.

William F. Brosend II is Associate Professor of Homiletics, School of Theology, The University of the South, Seawee, TN. A priest of the Diocese of Kentucky, he came to The Episcopal Church after more than 20 years of parish ministry and seminary teaching in the American Baptist Churches, U.S.A. Prior to his appointment at the The University of the South, he served as associate director of the Louisville Institute, a program of the Religion Division of the Lilly Endowment, Inc.

THE END OF PREACHING

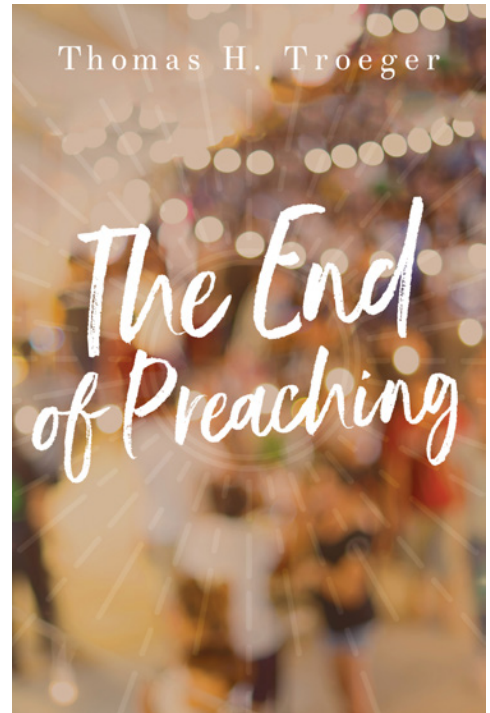
Thomas H. Troeger

An extraordinary book on preaching from one of America's most revered and beloved homileticsians.

The End of Preaching is equal parts instruction and inspiration, offering practical help for every preacher and seminarian, and providing a new way of thinking about the purpose and craft of preaching. Tom Troeger explores the end--or purpose--of preaching as prayer. He gently reveals layer after layer of meaning for the preacher and the practice of preaching, giving deep insight into the preacher's approach, the task of preaching itself, and the impact of preaching on the hearers. This is a book to be studied and savored, a wonderful gift for one's self or any preacher friend.

Thomas Troeger delivered the 2016 Beecher Lectures, the nation's most prestigious and influential series of lectures on the topic of preaching. The series was established at Yale University in 1871.

Thomas H. Troeger, Lantz Professor emeritus Yale Divinity School and Institute of Sacred Music, has written 24 books in the fields of preaching, poetry, hymnody and worship. His most recent books include: *Song that Blesses Earth: Hymn texts, carols, and poems*; *A Sermon Workbook: Exercises in the Art and Craft of Preaching* (with Nora Tubbs Tisdale); *Music as Prayer: The Theology and Practice of Church Music*. He is also a flutist and a poet whose work appears in the hymnals of most denominations and is frequently set as choral anthems. Professor Troeger has a B.A. Yale University; B.D. Colgate Rochester Divinity School. In 2014 the University of Basel, Switzerland, awarded him an honorary doctorate in theology for his international work in homiletics and his development of "a contemporary religious language which does justice to both aesthetic and theological demands." In 2016 he gave the Beecher Lectures at Yale on which his latest book, *The End of Preaching*, is based. Ordained as a priest in the Episcopal Church and as a minister in the Presbyterian Church, he is now retired and living in Falmouth, Maine.



Release: September 18, 2018 **Price:** \$15.99
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501868092
Size: 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 96
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN MINISTRY / PREACHING



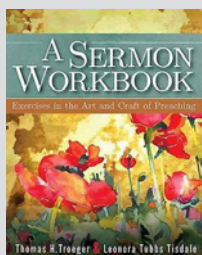
KEY FEATURES

- The esteemed Beecher Lectures from a revered preacher and teacher.
- New frames for understanding the purpose of preaching.
- New, practical approaches to the task of preparing a sermon.
- New ways of understanding the effect of preaching upon people and the world.
- Inspiration for the preacher or preaching student; the book could even be used as a preacher's personal devotion.
- Practical ways of approaching the task of preaching, which will unlock new creativity.
- Guidance in understanding preaching in a more open, beauty-filled way, so that the preacher is able to speak God's truth into new people.

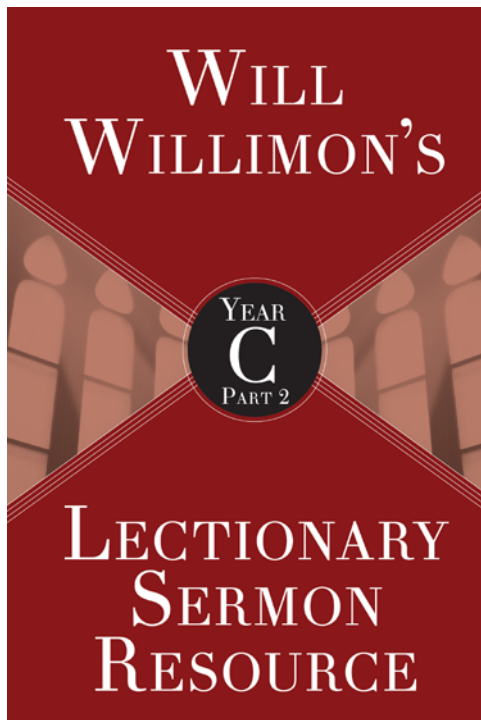
BY THE SAME AUTHOR



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9781426757785
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Release: October 16, 2018 **Price:** \$24.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501847318

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 second half 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.
- Shorten the time from reading the Bible to creating a sermon.
- Preach better sermons.

WILL WILLIMON'S LECTIONARY SERMON RESOURCE, YEAR C PART 2

William H. Willimon

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

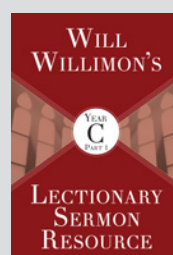
Will Willimon is widely acclaimed as one of the top ten preachers in the world. For each Sunday of the Christian year, Will provides just what you need to begin the journey toward a sermon. This guide will stoke, fund, and fuel your imagination while leaving plenty of room to insert your own illustrations, 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 2 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

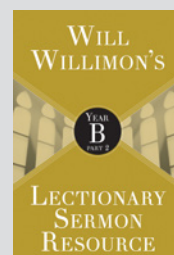
Feeling most at home behind a pulpit, **Will Willimon's** deepest calling is to be a preacher and truth-teller of Jesus Christ. He is Professor of the Practice of Christian Ministry at Duke University Divinity School and retired Bishop of the North Alabama Conference of The United Methodist Church, after 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.

BY THE SAME AUTHOR



9781501847271

\$24.99



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INGENUITY

Preaching as an Outsider

Lisa L. Thompson

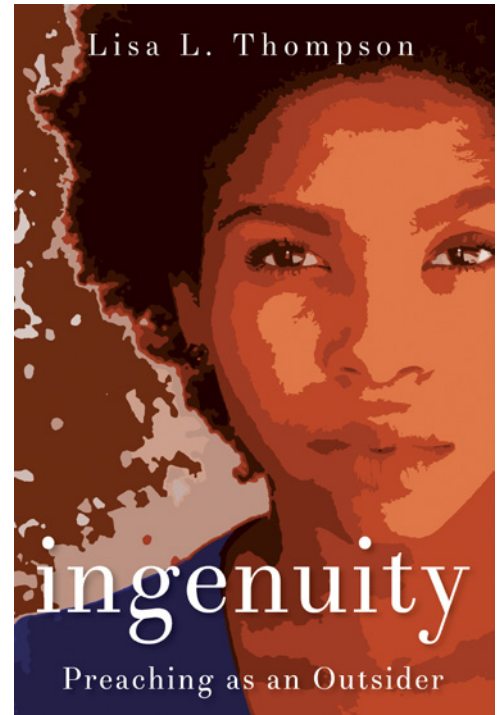
Every preacher is, at some point or in some place, an outsider — or feels like one.

Ingenuity introduces a theology and practice of preaching within the simultaneous existence of being Black and woman. This approach opens up new avenues to understand sermon development and design for every student and practitioner of the proclaimed word. Preaching is a creative expression forged at the intersections of tradition, life experience, and theological conviction. Every preacher negotiates these converging entities in an attempt to make way for sacred speech. Likewise, every pursuit of this process is textured by the particulars of culture and personhood. *Ingenuity* equips readers to navigate this complex task.

This approach is helpful for black women who are learning to preach or are serving as preachers, because there is a vast gap in the literature available for them. Preaching is resourced and taught from a primarily white/male perspective. Black women are left to pioneer their own way, to 'figure it out' with very little help from the established academic sources. This book — finally — fills that gap.

Ingenuity is also helpful for students and preachers who are not black women, because it enlarges their understanding, their language, their sense of shared experience. The best preachers are not just good at mimicking their (predominately white/male) teachers; they understand their own voices, and the voices of others. They stretch and grow, and this enables them to preach more effectively.

Lisa L. Thompson, a native of Cedar Grove, NC, is an ordained Baptist minister and has served in university and parish ministry settings. She majored in both psychology and communication studies at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte and worked in case management before pursuing the study of theology and religion full-time. Dr. Thompson holds a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) and a Master of Arts (MA) in Religion from Vanderbilt University and a Master of Divinity (MDiv) from Fuller Theological Seminary. She is the Assistant Professor of Homiletics at Union Theological Seminary in the City of New York. She previously held posts as the Assistant Professor of Homiletics at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and as a Lilly Faculty Fellow at McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago, Illinois. Thompson's publications include "Disruptive and Generative Preaching Practices" in *Practical Matters Journal*, and "In Search of our Mothers' Healings: Holistic Wellbeing, Black Women, and Preaching" in *Homiletic, The Journal for the Academy of Homiletics*.



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

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501832598

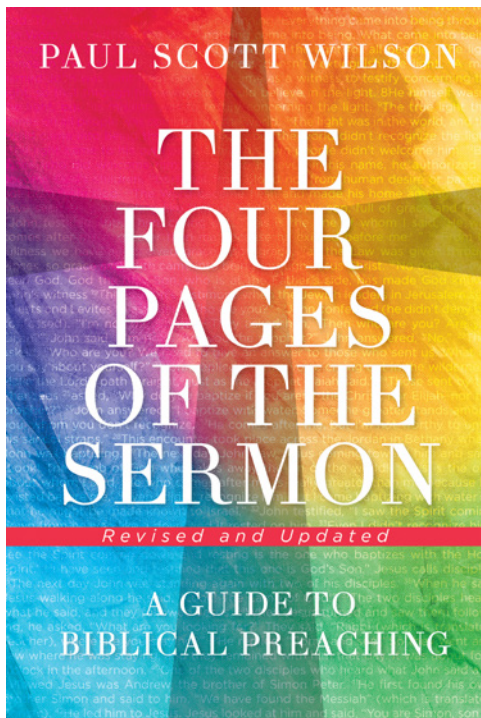
Size: 6 x 9 **Pages:** 176

BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN MINISTRY / PREACHING



KEY FEATURES

- The book operates from an 'on the ground' point of view - it starts with the assumption that the reader will actually be preaching. It is practical, useful, and helpful.
- The book intersects the practical with the theoretical and methodological, providing not just practical help but foundational understanding.
- The book uses examples from 'real' sermons as illustrations throughout, so the reader can witness the main arguments of the book at work.



Release: September 18, 2018 **Price:** \$34.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501842399

Size: 6 x 9 **Pages:** 288

BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN MINISTRY /
PREACHING



KEY FEATURES

- This completely revised edition guides readers through the sermon process step by step.
- How to create sermons that challenge and provide hope.
- It has been largely rewritten to include an assessment of where preaching is today in light of propositional preaching, the New Homiletic, African American preaching, the effect of the internet, and use of technology.
- A chapter on exegesis has been added.
- There is new focus on the importance of preaching to a felt need.
- New sermon examples have been added.
- A new section that responds to critics and looks to the future.

THE FOUR PAGES OF THE SERMON, REVISED AND UPDATED

A Guide to Biblical Preaching

Paul Scott Wilson

A preacher's classic methodological guide, updated with significant new material.

Doing justice to the complexity of the preaching task and the questions that underlie it, author Paul Scott Wilson organizes both the preparation and the content of the sermon around its “four pages.” Each “page” addresses a different theological and creative component of what happens in any sermon. Page One presents the trouble or conflict that takes place in or that underscores the biblical text itself. Page Two looks at similar conflict--in our own time. Page Three returns to the Bible to identify where God is at work in or behind the text--in other words, to discover the good news. Page Four points to God at work in our world, particularly in relation to the situations described in Page Two. This approach is about preaching the gospel in nearly any sermonic form. Wilson teaches the ‘what’, ‘why’, and ‘how’ of sermon construction, all rooted in a theology of the Word.

This completely revised edition guides readers through the sermon process step by step, with the aim of composing sermons that challenge and provide hope, by focusing on God more closely than on humans. It has been largely rewritten to include an assessment of where preaching is today in light of propositional preaching, the New Homiletic, African American preaching, the effect of the internet, and use of technology. A chapter on exegesis has been added, plus new focus on the importance of preaching to a felt need, the need for proclamation in addition to teaching, and developing tools to ensure sermon excellence. New sermon examples have been added along with a section that responds to critics and looks to the future.

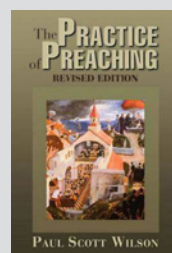
Paul Scott Wilson is Professor of Homiletics at Emmanuel College of the University of Toronto. He is one of the most respected and recognized teachers of homiletics in North America. He is the author of a number of books, including *The Practice of Preaching*, *Imagination of the Heart*, *God Sense: Reading the Bible for Preaching*, and *The Four Pages of the Sermon*, all published by Abingdon Press. He is the General Editor of *The New Interpreter's Handbook of Preaching*.

BY THE SAME AUTHOR



9781426764042

\$18.99



9780687645275

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OUT OF THE DEPTHS SERIES

The *Out of the Depths* series addresses common pastoral crises in a faithful, encouraging, and factual manner that provides support to parishioners in crisis beyond the initial pastoral conversation. These inexpensive 64-page booklets can be given to parishioners when they bring their recent diagnosis, crisis, or trauma to the pastor as a way to continue to provide care throughout the difficult season. Each booklet begins with a thoughtful consideration of the topic at hand, which is followed up by 30 brief devotions. These devotions are designed to be manageable in an overwhelming time, encouraging, and honest. *Out of the Depths* booklets are essential care resources to be distributed by pastors, Stephen Ministers, and congregational care teams as critical needs arise.

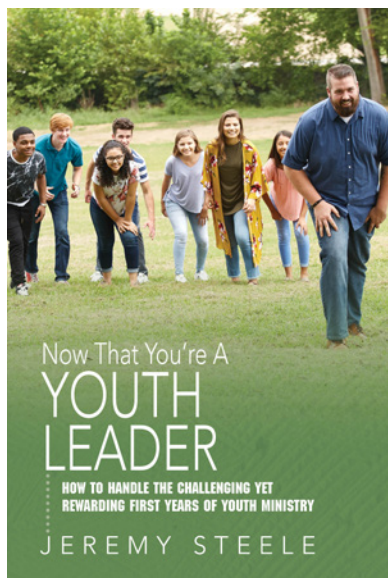
KEY FEATURES

- Accessible material describing the dynamics of the crisis situation and typical reactions to it written by mental health professionals.
- Thirty short devotions written by pastors with personal experience with the topic.
- Inexpensive, easy for pastors/churches to keep in stock to distribute as needed.
- Helps the reader process their trauma both psychologically and theologically.
- Provides the reader with a sense of grounding and direction through increased knowledge of the issue at hand.
- Creates a sense of companionship and hope in a difficult and lonely time.
- Provides pastors a trustworthy source of information beyond their scope of expertise.
- Serves as a tangible reminder of the faith community's care.



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BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN MINISTRY / PASTORAL RESOURCES
 September 18, 2018 | Paperback | 5 x 7 | 64 Pages



Release: August 21, 2018 **Price:** \$17.99
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501856662
Size: 6 x 9 **Pages:** 180
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN MINISTRY / YOUTH



NOW THAT YOU'RE A YOUTH LEADER

Thriving in the Early Years of Youth Ministry

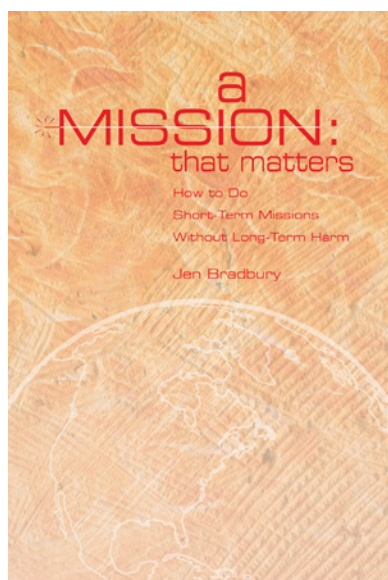
Jeremy Steele

Now That You're a Youth Leader will give you all the basics you need to know to be successful in youth ministry. You'll find practical answers to questions like how do I lead a small group? How do I plan a retreat? What are the common big mistakes I need to be careful to avoid? And how do I do all this without burning out?

Author Jeremy Steele remembers exactly what it feels like being new to youth ministry. In this book he answers real questions posed by beginning youth ministers and addresses all the nuts-and-bolts of everything from counseling a teen to preparing a budget.

You can feel confident that you, the volunteers, and the staff who read this book will have most of the answers to the common beginner questions in youth ministry.

Jeremy Steele is an ordained Elder in The United Methodist Church and a UMC leader in the youth ministry space. He has had hundreds of articles published through various outlets some of which include myCOM, Group magazine, and others. Jeremy has written curriculum for four general church agencies including the official sexuality resource for youth.



Release: August 21, 2018 **Price:** \$17.99
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501856686
Size: 6 x 9 **Pages:** 180
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN MINISTRY / YOUTH



A MISSION THAT MATTERS

How to Do Short-Term Missions Without Long-Term Harm

Jen Bradbury

Mission trips have become a staple in youth ministries across the United States. The problem is many mission trips remain disconnected from the rest of a congregation's ministry. As a result, it's often difficult to integrate students' experiences on the field with their lives back home.

In this book, veteran youth worker and author, Jen Bradbury, will lay out a philosophy for mission trips that does just that: connects what happens on the field with students' lives at home. To do so, she'll draw upon Scripture as well as stories from the 15 years she's spent leading mission trips herself, both domestically and internationally.

Regardless of how few or how many mission trips a youth worker has led, Jen's words will leave them feeling inspired and equipped to create a comprehensive missions strategy that has the chance to leave a lasting impact on teens, congregations, and the world.

Jen Bradbury serves as the director of youth ministry at Faith Lutheran Church in Glen Ellyn, Illinois. A veteran youth worker, Jen holds an MA in Youth Ministry Leadership from Huntington University. She's the author of *Unleashing the Hidden Potential of Your Student Leaders*. Her writing has also appeared in *YouthWorker Journal* and *The Christian Century*.

UNLEASH

Empowering the Next Generation of Leaders

Marv Nelson

This book helps those who desire to understand and equip Millennials and Gen Z leaders. Through thought-provoking ideas, and practical and real-time examples, *Unleash* seeks to help mature mentors know, equip, and release next generation leaders in a relational, experiential, intelligent and sustainable way. This book will help you find solutions to common problems and answers to everyday questions in order to confidently and expectantly understand, trust, prepare and unleash the younger leaders among you.

In the church today, especially the western church, there is a significant problem amidst older leaders mentoring and then empowering the generations under them. Millennials are leaving the church and jaded young leaders are not being properly released and empowered. Young leaders do not feel known, supported, trusted or released to be the leaders they know they can be. *Unleash* is transformative in its approach as well as its implementation of empowering younger leaders. Leaders will learn how to know, equip and release their younger leaders to be the leaders the future needs them to be.

Marv Nelson is the College and Campus Plant Pastor at Allegheny Center Alliance Church, a multi-ethnic, inner-city church in Pittsburgh. He is the author of *What Good Is Jesus?* and trains numerous emerging leaders and those who interact with them each year. Nelson also unleashes emerging leaders as an adjunct professor at Toccoa Falls College and Crown College.



Release: September 18, 2018 **Price:** \$15.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501844577

Size: 6 x 9 **Pages:** 128

BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN MINISTRY / GENERAL



KEY FEATURES

- Accessible material that is both practical and easy to implement.
- Highlights key areas where emerging leaders need to grow.
- Gives important advice on how to know young, emerging leaders.
- Provides tools on how to better connect to younger leaders.
- Offers practical advice on how to systematically cultivate and then send out younger leaders.
- Challenges older leaders to adjust, not only their approach to, but also their thinking of younger leaders.



Release: September 4, 2018 **Price:** \$17.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501871566

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

BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN MINISTRY /
METHODIST



KEY FEATURES

- Scriptural support exists for both confessing and reconciling movements to coexist within the church.
- Rediscovering a generous orthodoxy, present in United Methodist traditions, might save the church from harmful conflict and heal divisions.
- How do we discern the Spirit amidst substantial cultural change?

EMBRACING THE WIDENESS

The Shared Convictions of The United Methodist Church

Kenneth H. Carter Jr.

Heal the church by rediscovering a generous orthodoxy.

Embracing the Wideness describes the shared space where Bishop Carter contrasts a generous orthodoxy with the culture wars that seek to drive a wedge between Christians with deep faith convictions. A generous orthodoxy is possible for The United Methodist Church because scripture supports both a confessing movement and a reconciling movement.

In addition to the divergent understandings of holiness in The United Methodist Church, we apparently have two distinct conceptions of church, present in American Methodism for at least 200 years.

1. A separatist church, which views holiness as a calling that separates Christians from the world.
2. An activist church, which understands holiness as a movement for change in an unjust world. The boundaries between church and society are blurred until God's final judgment.

At times, a denomination is able to hold these two conceptions of church in tension. And at times, there is fragmentation and division. The division may finally be the result of clearly articulated values that are not compatible. And the division may also be the result of how leaders of the two conceptions of church do harm to each other.

What great things could be accomplished if we rediscovered an orthodoxy in service of healing, instead of dividing! Such a generous orthodoxy would help us from becoming immersed in the emotional processes that pit people against each other, keep us from becoming stuck in cycles of harmful collusion and escalating conflict, and we would know that the source of our capacity to be healed of our schisms is a miracle.

Kenneth H. Carter Jr. is Resident Bishop of the Florida Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church. He is a moderator of the Commission on a Way Forward and in 2018–2020 will serve as president of the Council of Bishops. Bishop Carter is the author of ten books, including *Pray for Me*, *A Way of Life in the World*, *The Gifted Pastor*, and *Near the Cross*. He is a contributor to *Feasting on the Word* and *The Wesley Study Bible*.

BY THE SAME AUTHOR



9781501849206

\$14.99



9781501805899

\$9.99



9781630881696

\$15.99

STRIDE PARTICIPANT BOOK

Creating a Discipleship Pathway for Your Church

Mike Schreiner and Ken Willard

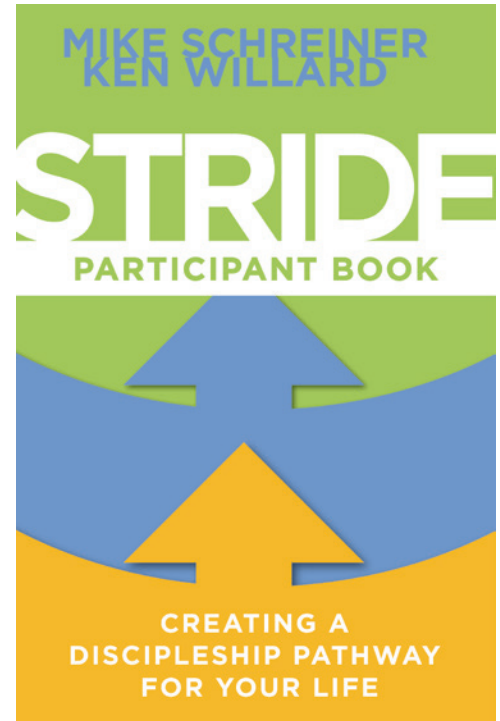
This workbook is intended for small group study participants working through *Stride: Creating a Discipleship Pathway for Your Church*, which shows church leaders how to create a discipleship pathway for their own congregation. The process leads to a church full of deeply committed Christians.

Christians are called to be disciples. While some definitions of the word disciple mean learner or student, as followers of Christ, we are called to do more than just learn. We are called to put our learning into action. This small group study focuses on tangible ways each of us, no matter where we find ourselves currently on our Spiritual journey, can intentionally take steps and strides closer to Jesus.

The authors developed and launched a highly successful pathway to discipleship in their church (Morning Star United Methodist Church, St. Louis, Missouri). This workbook guides others through the process of creating a successful discipleship pathway for their own particular contexts, based on principles developed at Morning Star.

Mike Schreiner is the Lead Pastor of Morning Star Church, the largest United Methodist Church in the Missouri Annual Conference. With the help of a core group, Schreiner launched Morning Star Church in 1999. Under his leadership, it has been the fastest-growing new United Methodist Church start in the state of Missouri, and now serves as a model for other new church starts.

Ken Willard is a Christian leadership coach, certified church consultant, author, speaker and developer of curriculum used by pastors and laity leaders. He is an Associate Certified Coach with the International Coach Federation and a member of the faculty with Coaching4Clergy. As owner of Leadership4Transformation, Ken's mission is to help equip God's people to expand God's Kingdom.



Release: September 9, 2018 **Price:** \$12.99
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501876257
Size: 6 x 9 **Pages:** 96
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN CHURCH / LEADERSHIP

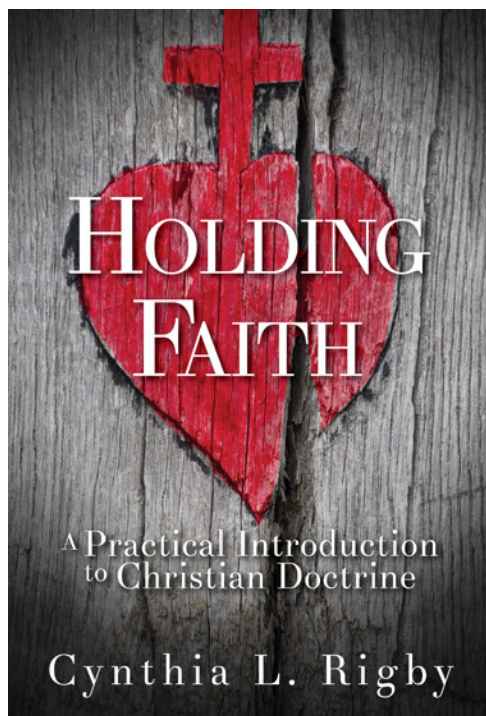


KEY FEATURES

- Provides a method for applying the learnings from *Stride: Creating a Discipleship Pathway for Your Church*.
- Each study participant creates a personal discipleship pathway as while learning 8 key Spiritual disciplines.
- Each chapter makes a strong connection between scripture and ways for applying Biblical teachings along the discipleship journey.

COMPANION PRODUCT

STRIDE		9781501849220	\$13.99
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Release: April 17, 2018 **Price:** \$39.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781426758140

Size: 6 x 9 **Pages:** 304

BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN THEOLOGY / GENERAL



KEY FEATURES

- Readers will be able to integrate head, heart and action.
- Readers will see how thinking about the tenets of the Christian faith can impact daily living.
- Readers will understand the basics of Christian faith and have ways to talk about their beliefs.

HOLDING FAITH

A Practical Introduction to Christian Doctrine

Cynthia L. Rigby

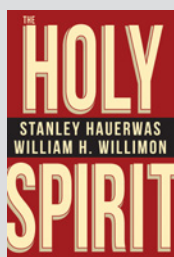
Theology matters - to our lives, and to the life of the world.

Luther once wrote: “Faith takes hold of Christ and has Him present, enclosing Him as the ring encloses the gem.” The idea that we hold faith because faith holds us, and that faith holds us because faith holds Christ, is vital. We hold faith as we seek to know Christ better, exploring Christian doctrines and deepening our understanding of the impact and relevance to our day-to-day lives. Faith holds us as we respond to Christ’s calling, negotiate life’s challenges, and join in the work of bringing in God’s kingdom.

The book conveys the content of core Christian doctrines and then addresses the “so what?” of each, its take away, how it matters to our everyday living, and how it shapes our spiritual and ethical practices. Using theological literature and Scripture but also current events, sociology, fiction, and movies, the author shows that theology matters. It matters to our lives and it matters to the life of the world. How we understand theology and its core beliefs has an impact on who we know ourselves to be and how we relate to God and to one another. Holding Faith concretely shows how various and diverse understandings of particular doctrines play out in relation to the way lives are lived and ethical systems put forward. It holds that some approaches to Christian doctrine are preferable to others, making persuasive arguments for better approaches. Scripture is consistently used and sourced throughout the book as arguments are developed.

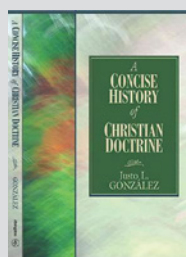
Cynthia L. Rigby is The W.C. Brown Professor of Theology at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary in Austin, Texas. Rigby’s special area of interest is setting Reformed theologies in conversation with theologies of liberation, particularly feminist theologies. She is the co-chair of the Christian Systematic Theology Section of the American Academy of Religion.

COMPARABLE TITLES



9781426778636

\$13.99



9780687344147

\$27.99

70 HEBREW WORDS EVERY CHRISTIAN SHOULD KNOW

Matthew Richard Schlimm

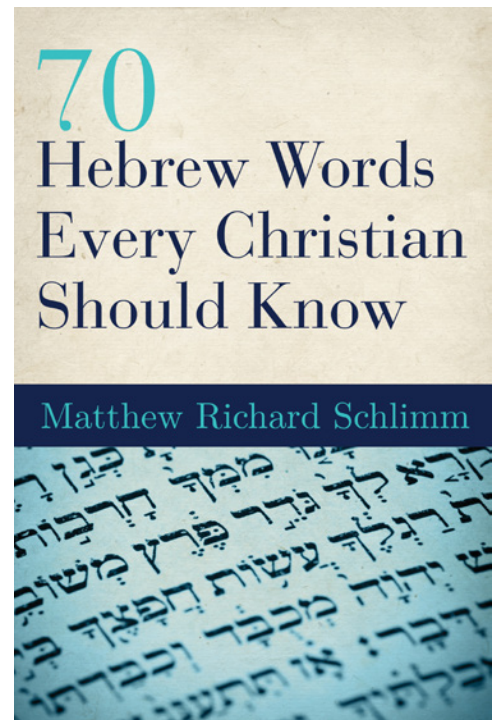
How basic Hebrew can save Christianity from becoming a boring and meaningless religion.

The basic message of the Bible can be understood in any language. At the same time, many biblical texts are hard to understand because they don't quite make sense when translated into English. Something is missing. Quite frequently, what readers miss has been lost in translation. Maybe there is a pun or wordplay in the original. Sometimes names like Adam, Eve, Cain, Abel, and Eden just seem like names to us but have meanings that are essential to the story. Many Hebrew words have multiple meanings, but the English translators have to just pick one (for example, the same Hebrew word can mean both hear and obey). Even more common are Hebrew words that have much wider meanings than their English translations. A few examples are the Hebrew words rendered as remember, covenant, walk, gates, love, cleanliness, holiness, glory, wisdom, and fear. The original language allows various parts to click together like well-constructed puzzle pieces. With Hebrew in mind, interpreters see new details they didn't realize were missing before. They make new connections. They immerse themselves in scripture more fully.

That's where this book comes in. Learning a language is like learning a worldview. Those who learn Biblical Hebrew can better understand not only what biblical authors wrote, but also how they thought. Unfortunately, those insights come only after years of study. This book is about getting right to the important, exciting insights. It's an opportunity to be transformed by the renewing of our minds as we better understand how biblical authors used their language to express their experience of God and the world.

If you are just beginning to study Hebrew and want the insights and motivation to continue or if you have no intention of learning biblical Hebrew but want to better understand the Bible, this book is for you!

Born in Madison, Wisconsin, **Matthew Richard Schlimm** is an ordained elder in The United Methodist Church. He has served churches in Michigan, Minnesota, and North Carolina. He completed his PhD in Hebrew Bible/Old Testament at Duke University. His research interests focus on biblical theology and biblical ethics. Schlimm has also served as one of the editors for the CEB Study Bible.



Release: August 21, 2018 **Price:** \$19.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781426799969

Size: 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 196

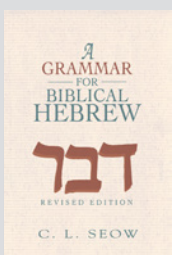
BISAC: RELIGION / BIBLICAL STUDIES / OLD TESTAMENT



KEY FEATURES

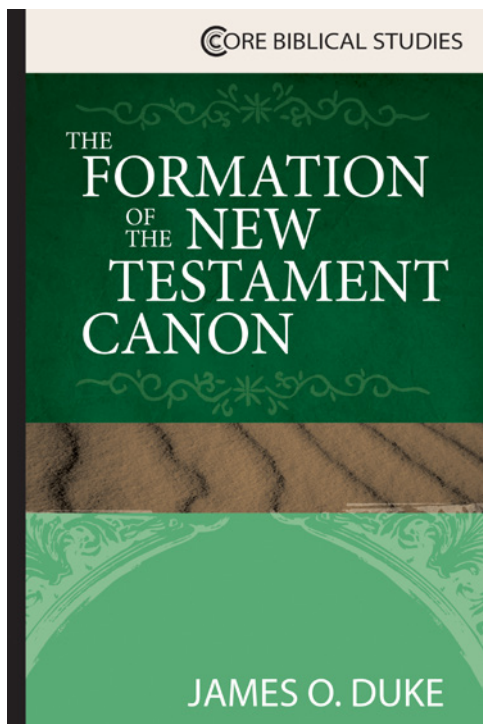
- The Bible becomes richer and deeper as meanings of important Hebrew words are understood.
- Readers gain an insight into the world of the Old Testament.
- The meaning of Hebrew words informs our understanding of the New Testament also.

RELATED INTEREST



9781426789076

\$39.99



Release: November 6, 2018 **Price:** \$29.99
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781426765018
Size: 6 x 9 **Pages:** 192
BISAC: RELIGION / BIBLICAL STUDIES / NEW TESTAMENT



KEY FEATURES

- Introduces basic biblical texts.
- Gives chronology of canon formation, highlighting critical moments to authoritative teaching by various Christian communities and their leaders.
- Uses the Common English Bible as an authoritative source.

THE FORMATION OF THE NEW TESTAMENT CANON

James O. Duke

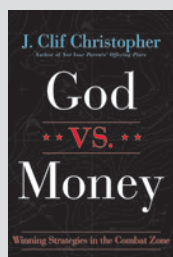
Canon formation is an on-going task of the Church.

The book gives an historical-theological overview of the formation of the New Testament canon, a development extending from the 1st to the 4th centuries C.E. The goal is to prompt readers to reflect on the terms “canon” and “canonicity” as valued and valuable elements of the Christian heritage and as still in some ways very open-ended categories. Duke’s approach is chronological, highlighting critical moments and decisions relating to “authoritative teachings” by various Christian communities and their leading representatives. Focus falls on the diversity of early Christianity communities and their traditions/literature and with the importance of issues of “Christian identity” in the selection and exclusion of texts as canon.

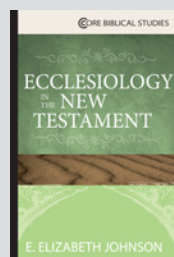
This book is part of the Core Biblical Studies series, designed as a starting point for New Testament study. The volumes that constitute this series function as gateways. They provide entry points into the topics, methods, and contexts that are central to New Testament studies. They open up these areas for inquiry and understanding. In addition they are guidebooks for the resulting journey. Find all current books in the Core Biblical Studies series at AbingdonAcademic.com/Core.

James O. Duke, Professor of the History of Christianity and the History of Christian Thought at Brite Divinity School, received his B.A. from the University of Maryland and his M.Div. and Ph.D. from Vanderbilt University. He has taught at the University of Montana and Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, California, where he was a member of the Doctoral Faculty in Historical Studies at the Graduate Theological Union. He is recipient of the TCU Deans’ Award for Distinguished Teaching and the Catherine Saylor Hill Award for Faculty Excellence. His publications include translations of German theologian Friedrich Schleiermacher as well as studies in the history of theology in North America, history and doctrine of the Stone-Campbell movement, and theological methodology. He has served as editor of American Academy of Religion publications and at present is on the editorial team preparing The New Westminster Dictionary of Church History. He is an ordained minister of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

IN THE SAME SERIES



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\$29.99



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PROTESTANT WORSHIP

A Multisensory Introduction for Students and Practitioners

O. Wesley Allen Jr.

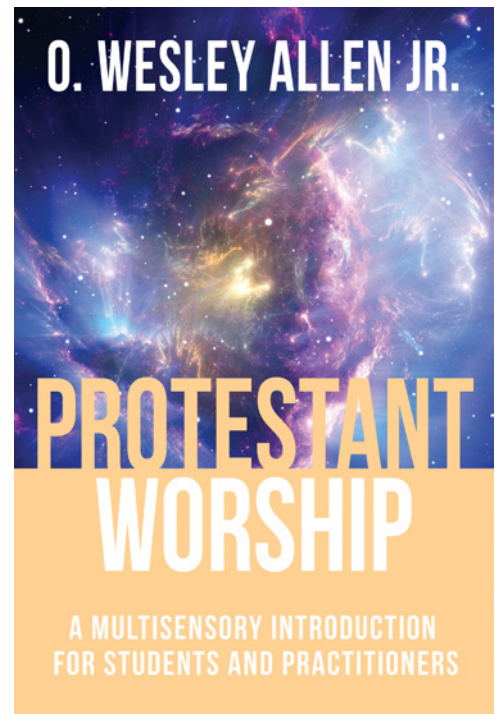
In worship, as in physics, actions and responses are interconnected, and immensely powerful!

Students and leaders of worship strive to plan and lead worship well, in all sorts of circumstances. They and their fellow worshippers seek to experience a deep connection with God and with each other. In some ways, worship is about just that: connection. *Protestant Worship: A Multisensory Introduction for Students and Practitioners* teaches and actually demonstrates how the actions, reactions, outpourings and responses of a worship service are all part of a powerfully interwoven and ever-evolving whole.

Author Wes Allen uses the analogy of physics--with its concepts of the big bang, time, space, matter, energy and chaos--to teach beginning and practicing worship leaders the fundamentals of Protestant worship. Readers can immediately see examples of infant baptism in a contemporary service, for instance. Readers will gain understanding and build skill, to lead worship well.

Many worship textbooks are written from a high liturgical perspective, weighted toward historical tradition; this approach often seems irrelevant for students and worship designers who will be planning and leading worship in the evolving twenty-first century church. Other books lean toward the most basic "how-to", emphasizing contemporary and practical aspects of worship leadership, but offering little historical or theological foundation beyond scripture. *Protestant Worship* provides a rich and deep foundation, and practical and immediately useful instruction.

O. Wesley Allen, Jr., is Lois Craddock Perkins Professor of Preaching at Perkins School of Theology, Dallas, Texas. He is the author of *A Homiletic of All Believers*, *Preaching and Reading the Lectionary*, *Matthew: Fortress Biblical Preaching Commentaries* and several other books. For many years he was Professor of Preaching at Lexington Theological Seminary, Lexington, Kentucky.



Release: December 4, 2018 **Price:** \$29.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501842658

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

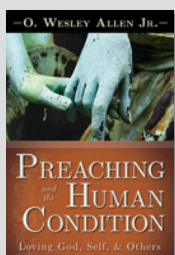
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN RITUALS & PRACTICE / WORSHIP & LITURGY



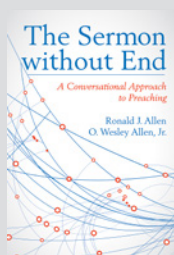
KEY FEATURES

- The science-based metaphor is engaging and helpful.
- Readers will not only understand worship more fully, they will be equipped to plan and lead it.
- Video clips and other media provide illustrations for the reader that are instructive and highly useful (found on the enhanced e-Book version).

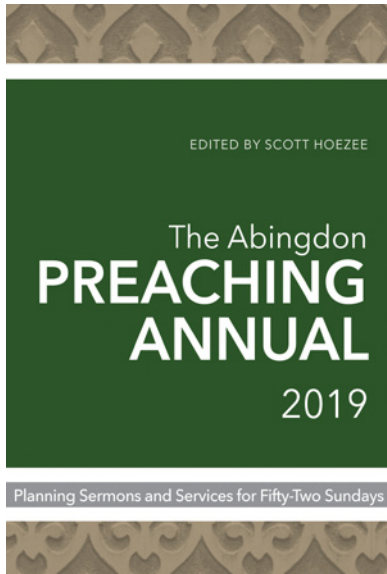
BY THE SAME AUTHOR



9781501818905
\$24.99



9781630883218
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THE ABINGDON PREACHING ANNUAL 2019

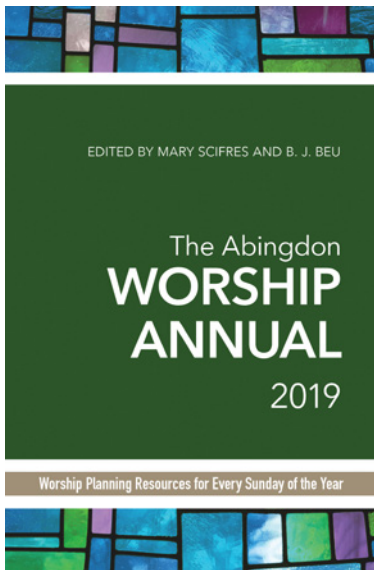
Scott Hoezee

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 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 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*.

Release: May 1, 2018 **Price:** \$26.99
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501857768
Size: 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 352
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN RITUALS & PRACTICE / WORSHIP & LITURGY



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.

PREPARE! 2018-2019

An Ecumenical Music & Worship Planner

David L. Bone and Mary 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 of *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).
- Suggestions for prayers, solos, anthems, visuals, and much more.



Release: May 1, 2018 **Price:** \$25.99
 Spiral bound **ISBN:** 9781501856518
Size: 8.5 x 11 **Pages:** 144
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN RITUALS & PRACTICE / WORSHIP & LITURGY



ALSO AVAILABLE			
NRSV Edition		9781501856532	\$25.99

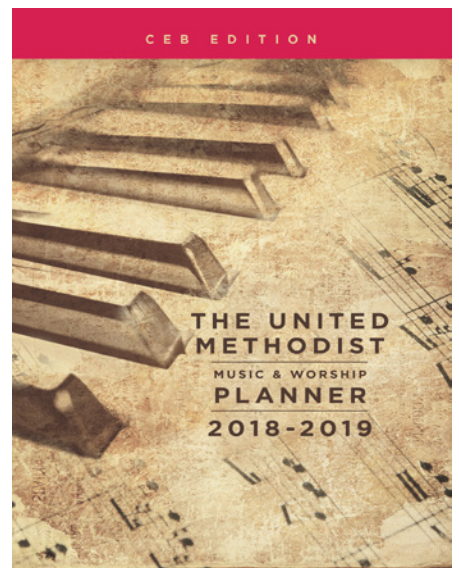
THE UNITED METHODIST MUSIC & WORSHIP PLANNER 2018-2019

David L. Bone and Mary 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*.
- Suggestions for prayers, solos, anthems, visuals, and much more.



Release: May 1, 2018 **Price:** \$25.99
 Spiral bound **ISBN:** 9781501856471
Size: 8.5 x 11 **Pages:** 144
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN RITUALS & PRACTICE / WORSHIP & LITURGY



ALSO AVAILABLE			
NRSV Edition		9781501856495	\$25.99



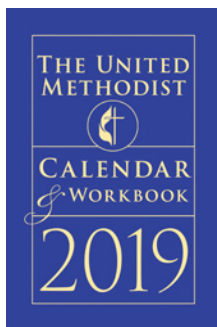
Release: May 1, 2018 **Price:** \$9.99
 Calendar **ISBN:** 9781501858697
Size: 8.5 x 11 **Pages:** 32
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN RITUALS & PRACTICE / WORSHIP & LITURGY



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 date, 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



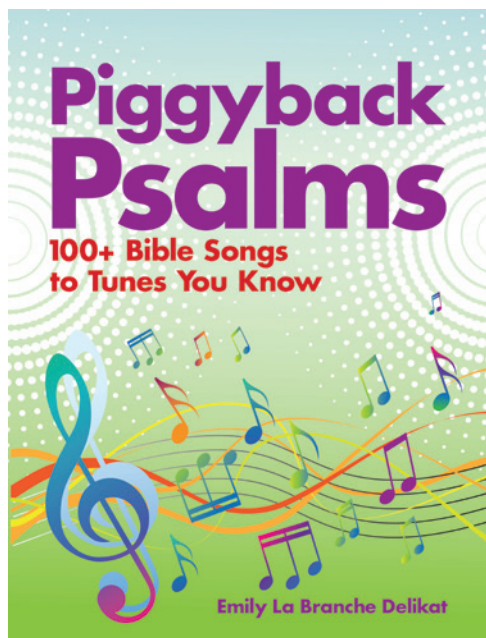
CALENDAR & WORKBOOK FOR CHURCH LEADERS 2019

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

FALL & WINTER 2018-2019



Release: June 19, 2018 **Price:** \$9.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501871092

Size: 8.25 x 10.875 **Pages:** 64

BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN MINISTRY / CHILDREN



KEY FEATURES

- Great for intergenerational worship.
- Children learn the Bible in a fun easy way.
- Recognizable tunes that everyone will enjoy.

PIGGYBACK PSALMS

100+ Bible Songs to Tunes You Know

Emily La Branche Delikat

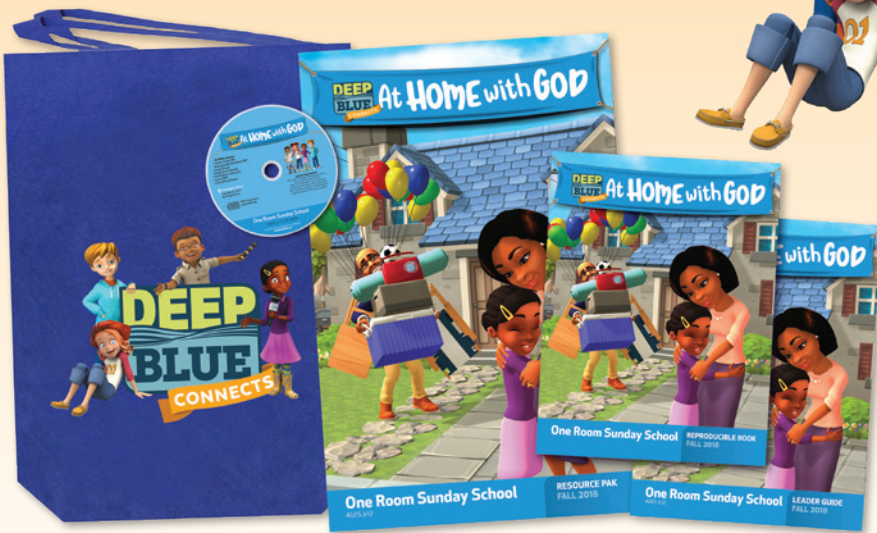
A resource containing over 100 singable Psalms written in child-friendly language and set to familiar tunes.

Piggyback Psalms is great for use in intergenerational worship, children's worship, Sunday school, children's choirs, and at home. Each Psalm in the Revised Common Lectionary is included, which makes this an excellent resource for churches who follow the lectionary scriptures in worship. Melody and chord symbols are included with each Psalm.

Why sing the Psalms? When we sing psalms together intergenerationally, we

- join in the tradition of our Jewish and Christian ancestors who have sung these songs for thousands of years.
- teach our children that all emotions are important and healthy.
- open up the opportunity to discuss both positive and negative expressions of our emotions.
- create a bond across generations.
- invite children into the Bible and into liturgy in a way that is fun and interactive.
- invite adults into the spiritual practice of singing psalms in a way that is fun, interactive, and nonthreatening.

Emily Delikat holds a M.A. in Christian Ministries with an emphasis in Christian Education from Asbury Theological Seminary, Wilmore, Kentucky, and a B. A. in Music from Birmingham-Southern College, Birmingham, Alabama. Emily has more than 10 years of experience in early childhood classrooms, and has worked as Director of Music, Director of Children's Ministry, and Director of Spiritual Formation in United Methodist churches before joining The United Methodist Publishing House as a Development Editor. Emily is the editor and writer of *Deep Blue Early Elementary* and *Deep Blue Kids Church*. She is passionate about helping children and families fully participate in the life of the church through worship, education and service. She lives in Franklin, TN, with her family and attends Blakemore United Methodist Church. Emily loves to spend time with her husband, Andy, and her daughter, Maggie, and their guinea pig, Bucket. She enjoys reading, taking walks with her family, and watching way too much television.



Kit Contains:
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 RESOURCE PAK
 LEADER GUIDE
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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 | \$79.99
 Fall 2018 | 9781501859120 | Available July 17, 2018
 Winter 2018-19 | 9781501862687 | Available October 16, 2018

One Room Sunday School Extra Leader Guide | \$17.99
 Fall 2018 | 9781501861222 | Available July 17, 2018
 Winter 2018-19 | 9781501862700 | Available October 16, 2018

LARGE GROUP/ SMALL GROUP

Kit Contains:
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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 | \$114.99
 Fall 2018 | 9781501859144 | Available July 17, 2018
 Winter 2018-19 | 9781501862779 | Available October 16, 2018





ADVENTURE DVD

Today's media-savvy kids will be hooked by these engaging, animated videos! Meet the families of each Deep Blue Kid as they learn what being a family of faith really means. 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.

Engaging, animated videos will reel in children!

DVD features:

- Thirteen 3-minute animated videos that tell the Bible story.
- Monthly Bible verse videos that help children learn key Bible verses.
- A Bible quiz to review each quarter's Bible stories with the children.
- Four music videos with all-new music.

Learn & Serve Adventure DVD | \$44.99

Fall 2018 | 9781501854170 | Available July 17, 2018

Winter 2018-19 | 9781501861406 | Available October 16, 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 Adventure DVD*.

Kids Church | \$14.99

Fall 2018 | 9781501866548 | Available July 17, 2018

Winter 2018-19 | 9781501866562 | Available October 16, 2018

DEEP BLUE NURSERY

CLASS KIT

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.

Nursery Class Kit | \$24.99

Fall 2018 | 9781501861321 | Available July 17, 2018

Winter 2018-19 | 9781501862205 | Available October 16, 2018

Nursery Leader Guide | \$11.99

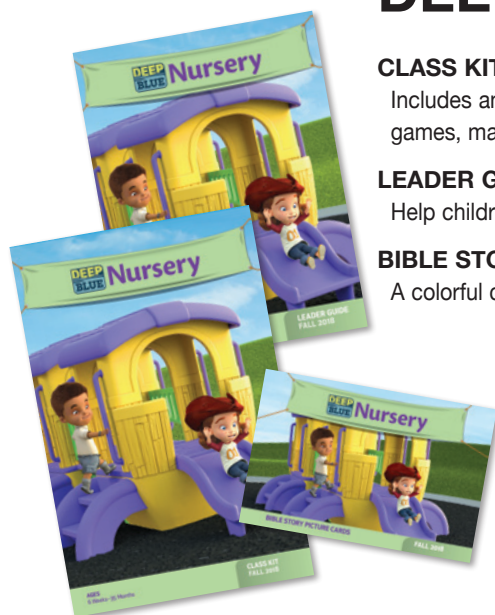
Fall 2018 | 9781501861291 | Available July 17, 2018

Winter 2018-19 | 9781501861703 | Available October 16, 2018

Nursery Bible Story Picture Cards | \$6.99

Fall 2018 | 9781501861314 | Available July 17, 2018

Winter 2018-19 | 9781501862199 | Available October 16, 2018



FATHOM BIBLE STUDIES

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

The final 3 of the Fathom series!

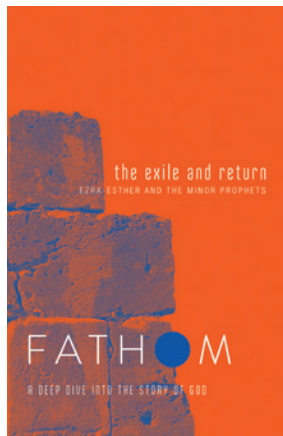
Fathom is a Bible study for teens that covers the Old and New Testaments in 18 4-session studies. The lessons are a blend of narrative and traditional theological approaches to understanding the Bible story. Each lesson focuses on one passage, launching into the larger context of God’s story being studied,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

Check out all 18 studies at YouthMinistryPartners.com/Fathom

KEY FEATURES

- A versatile study perfect for both Sunday school and small groups!
- A walk through the Bible that’s great for Junior High and High School students!
- 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.

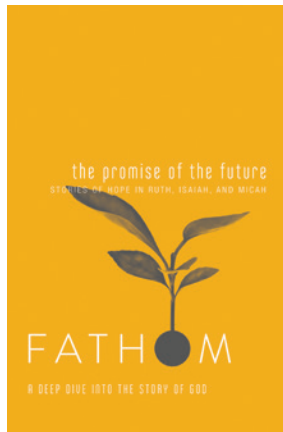
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN EDUCATION / CHILDREN & YOUTH



THE EXILE AND RETURN

This study turns its focus to the prophetic proclamations offered to the people of Israel while they were in exile in foreign lands. These four lessons based on passages found in Hosea, Esther, Ezra and more will explore what it means to be in exile, and how our lives are changed when we follow a God that reminds us that we are not alone and not forgotten and who promises to restore us.

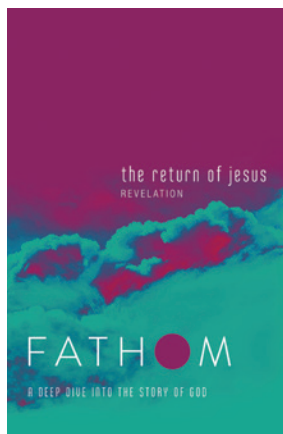
Student Journal		9781501842139	\$8.99	September 18, 2018
Leader Guide		9781501842146	\$12.99	September 18, 2018



THE PROMISE OF THE FUTURE

The story of Jesus doesn’t begin in a manger in Bethlehem. Instead, it first begins hundreds of years before, when God’s prophets begin to preach about the coming of the Messiah who would redeem all of humanity. In this study, we will unpack that message of hope and anticipation as it’s found in the prophets of Isaiah and Micah and the redeeming story of Ruth.

Student Journal		9781501842177	\$8.99	September 18, 2018
Leader Guide		9781501842184	\$12.99	September 18, 2018



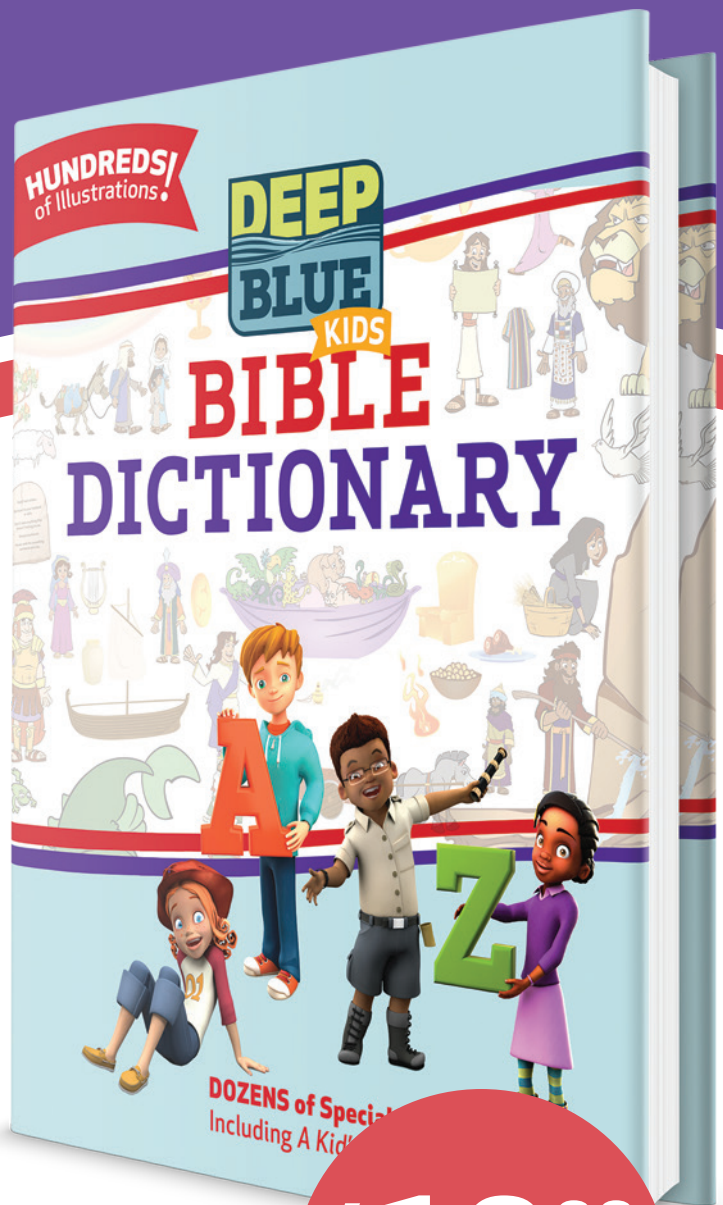
THE RETURN OF JESUS

The second coming of Jesus has been a topic of fascination for both scholars and lay people for centuries. The accounts of Jesus’ return found throughout the Bible, especially in Revelation, are put forth with a cinematic quality that is both enrapturing and unnerving. In this study, we’ll explore apocalyptic literature throughout the Bible along with what it does and doesn’t tell us about Jesus’ return, and the key takeaways that these scriptures have for our faith.

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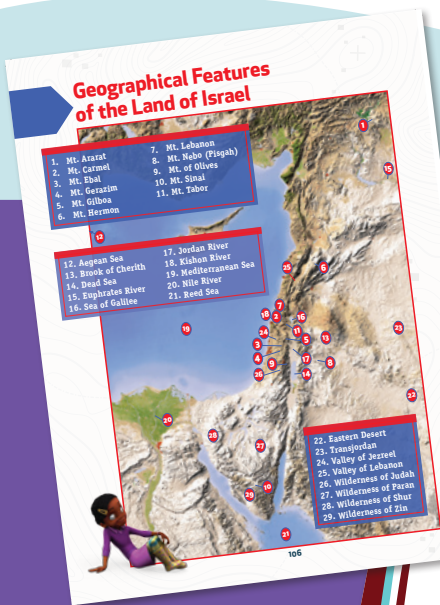
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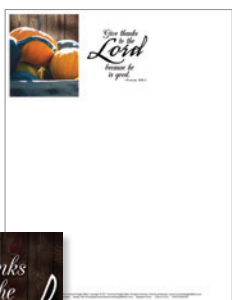


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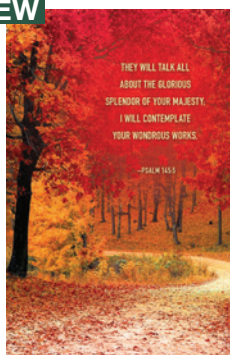
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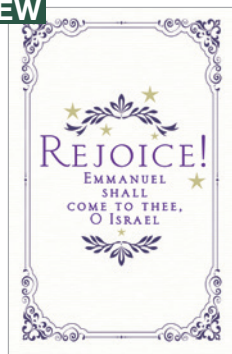
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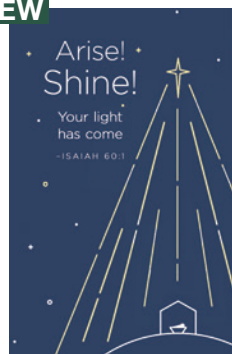
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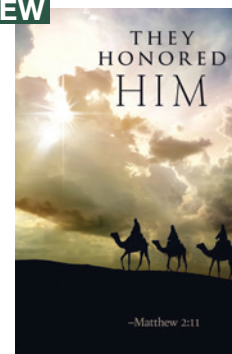
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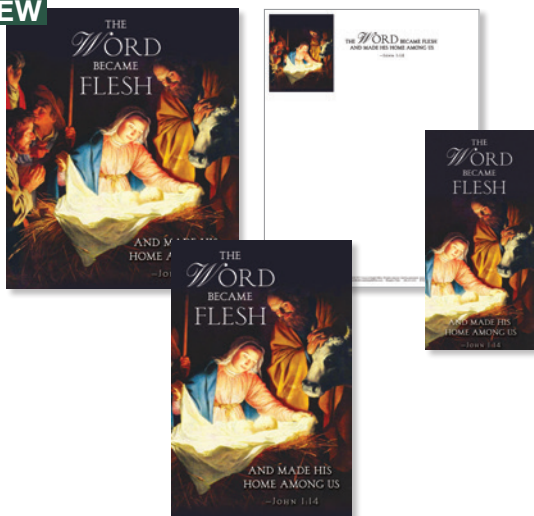
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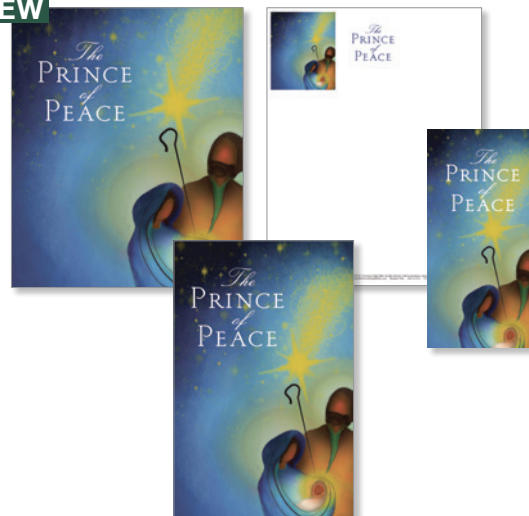


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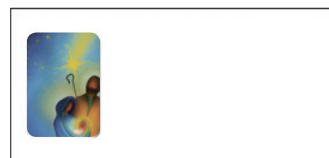
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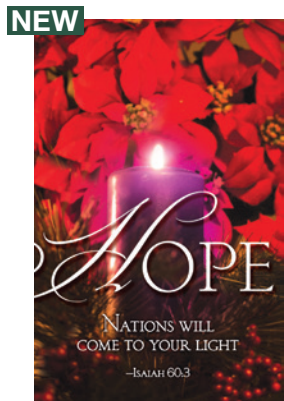
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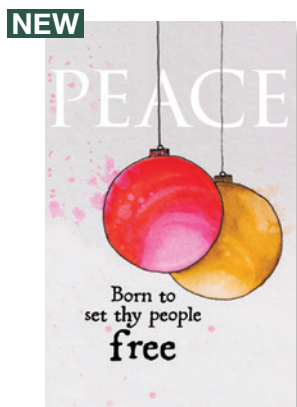
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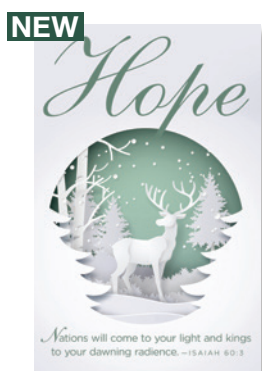
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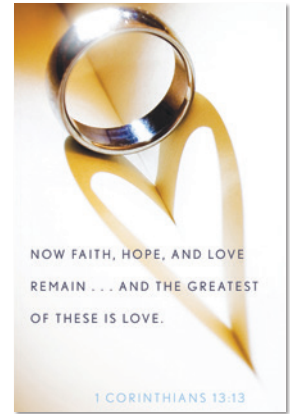
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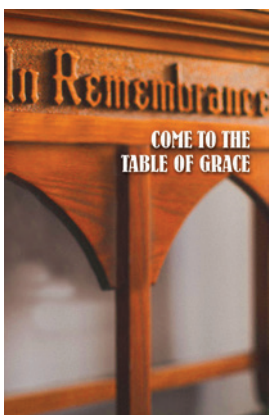
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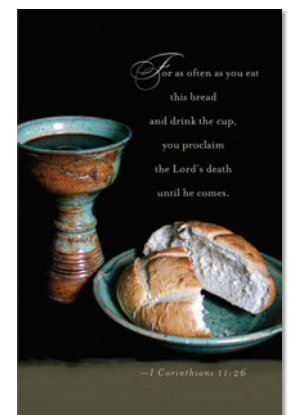
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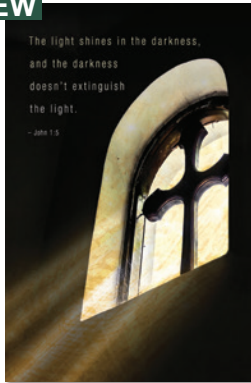


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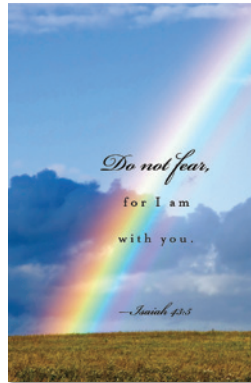


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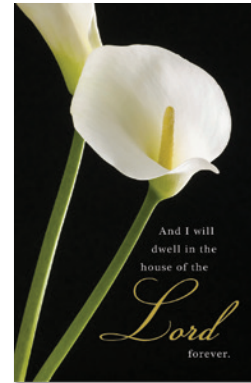
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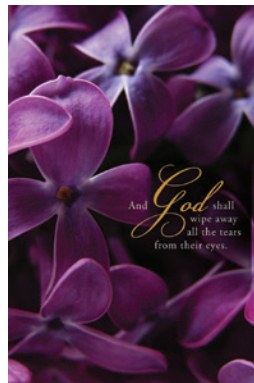
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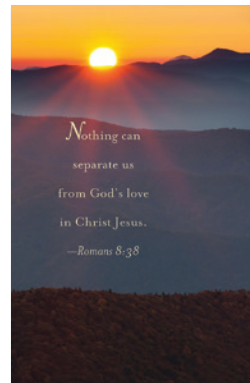
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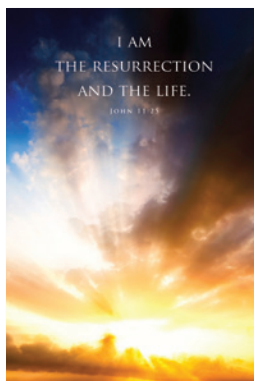
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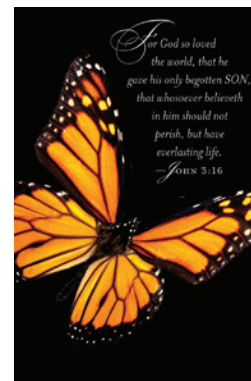
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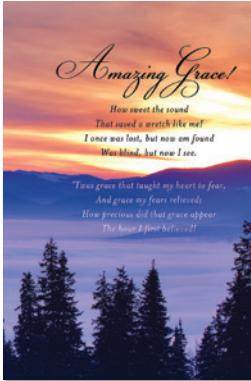


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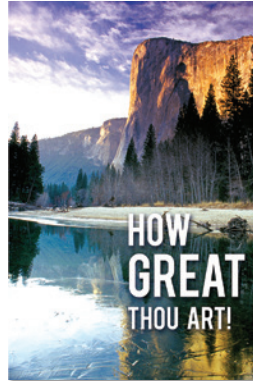


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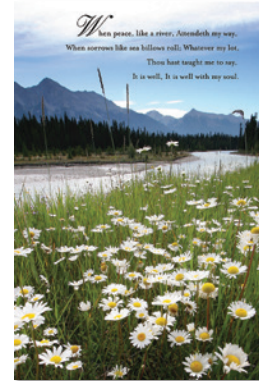
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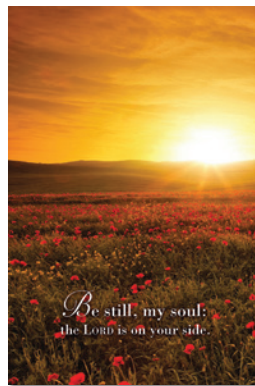
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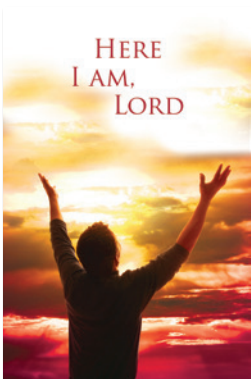
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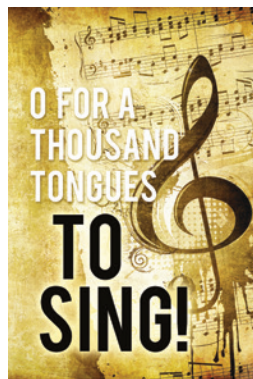
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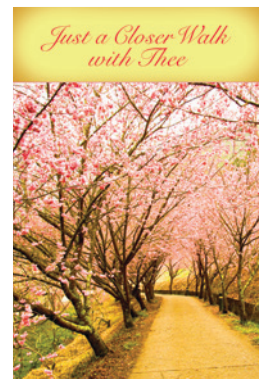
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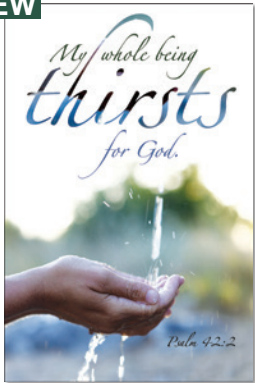
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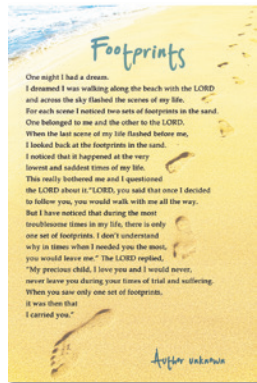
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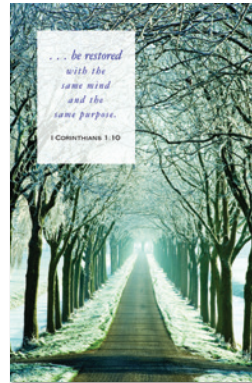
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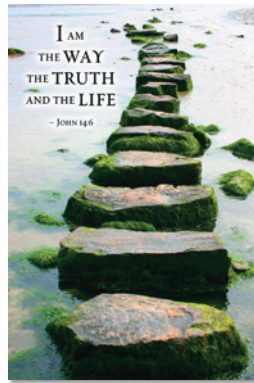
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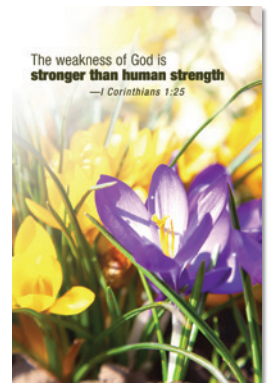
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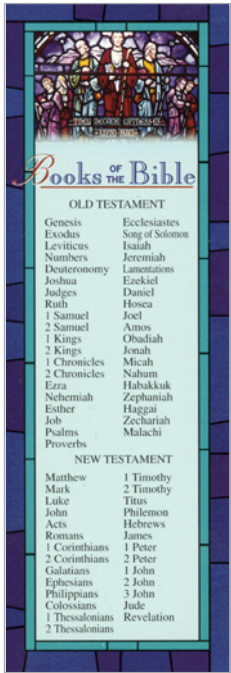
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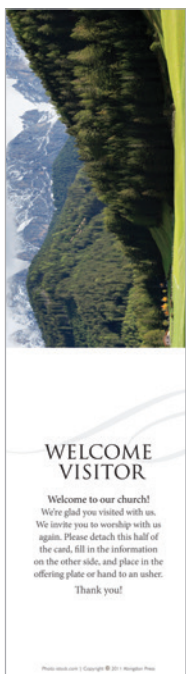
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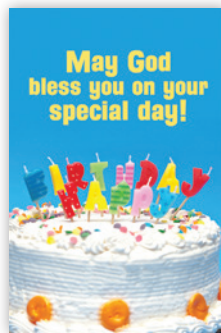
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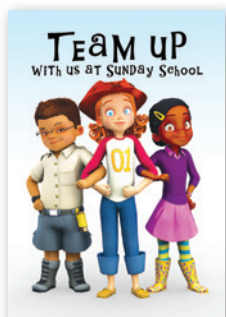
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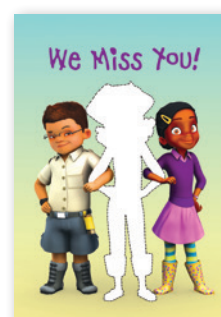
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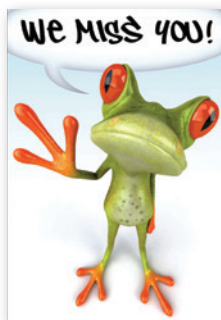
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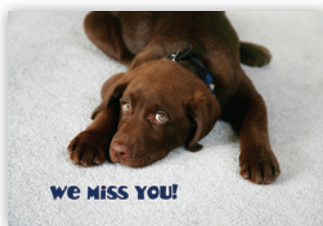
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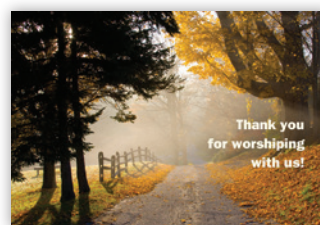
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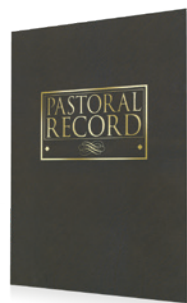


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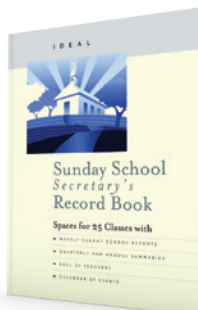
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NEW RELEASES

A guide to dialogue with the living God

LET ME ASK YOU A QUESTION

Conversations with Jesus

Matthew Croasmun

We often think of Jesus as someone with all the answers. But over and over in scripture, he asks questions, seeking to engage with people and being genuinely interested in their responses.

Matthew Croasmun challenges readers to consider this book as an experiment—an opportunity to see whether God is real. He invites us to enter into conversation with Jesus by answering the questions Jesus asks in scripture. The goal is not to come up with what we think are the right answers but to respond honestly to Jesus' questions.

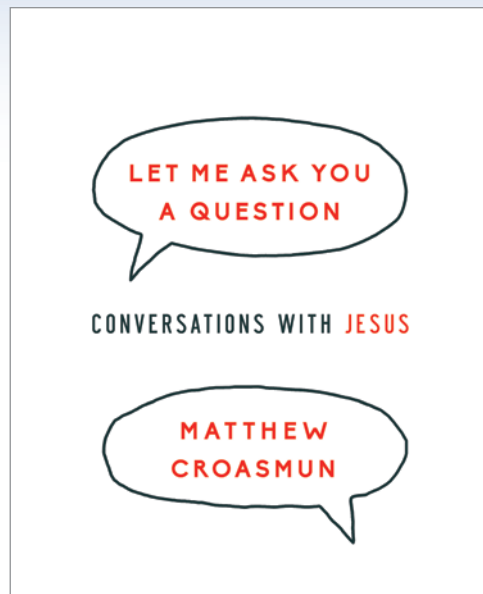
Each chapter of this 6-week study contains 5 readings. Each reading follows this format:

- A Bible passage with a question Jesus asks in bold type
- A short reflection designed to help you engage with Jesus' question as he asked it in the Gospels and as he asks it of you now
- Space for you to continue the conversation with Jesus.

Written in a warm, encouraging style, this thought-provoking and imaginative book will certainly give readers entry points into conversation with God, and they may find themselves experiencing a deeper relationship with the divine than they ever thought possible.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Matthew Croasmun is associate research scholar and director of research and publication at the Yale Center for Faith and Culture at Yale Divinity School. Teaching is his calling—in the church and in the university setting. He also serves as staff pastor of Elm City Vineyard Church, a dynamic, diverse, urban church in New Haven, Connecticut.



PUB DATE: JULY 2018

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RELIGION / BIBLICAL STUDIES / GENERAL

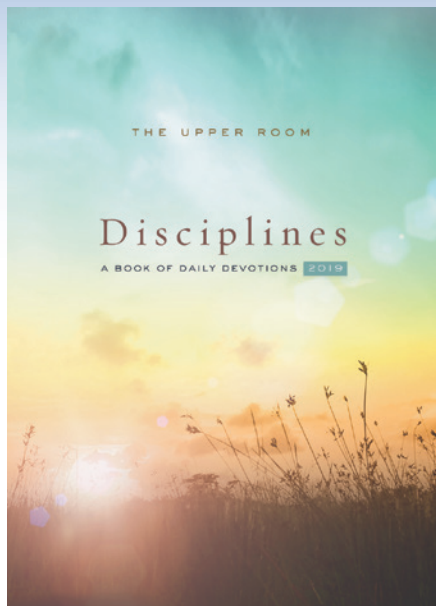


TARGET AUDIENCE

- People who are curious about Jesus but may not be believers
- Christians who desire a closer relationship with God
- Those seeking to pray in new ways

KEY FEATURES

- Deep theological insights conveyed in nonacademic, conversational writing style
- 6-week study
- Reflection questions and space to answer and journal

**REGULAR EDITION**

PUB DATE: SEPTEMBER 2018

PAPERBACK \$14.99

978-0-8358-1742-4

PAGES: 448 TRIM SIZE: 5 X 7

RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / DEVOTIONAL

**ENLARGED-PRINT EDITION**

\$17.99 | 978-0-8358-1743-1

PAGES: 448 TRIM SIZE: 7.5 X 9.25



Deepen your relationship with God by creating a prayerful rhythm of life through daily devotions.

THE UPPER ROOM DISCIPLINES 2019

A Book of Daily Devotions

Reading and reflecting on scripture is a spiritual practice that provides daily inspiration and spiritual nourishment for those who seek God. In this best-selling devotional guide, readers encounter a diverse community of thoughtful Christian writers and theologians who guide them toward a deeper relationship with God.

Each reading in *The Upper Room Disciplines* includes a selected scripture passage, a meditation on the scripture, and a prayer or suggestion for reflection. *Disciplines* offers 7 days of engagement with the upcoming Sunday's lectionary texts. Each week of devotions is written by one author and focuses on one theme to provide extended depth into how the ancient stories of the Bible apply to our lives today.

Writers for 2019 include Tony Campolo, Daniel Benedict, Valerie Isenhower, James Harnish, Michael Williams, Sharon Seyfarth Garner, Todd Outcalt, James Howell, Melissa Tidwell, Larry Peacock, and Steve Harper.

TARGET AUDIENCE

- Buyers of daily devotions
- Clergy and laypersons who use the lectionary
- Small groups interested in finding scriptural insights for their daily lives and supporting others in the discipline of daily Bible reading and reflection

KEY FEATURES

- Simple but thoughtful daily readings
- Each devotion is one page
- Contains an overview of scriptures for each week
- Includes questions/suggestions for reflection
- Available in multiple formats: regular, enlarged print, and digital

Prepare your heart for Christmas through nativity scenes and Advent traditions.

THE LIVING NATIVITY

Preparing for Christmas with Saint Francis

Larry J. Peacock

Who came up with the idea of using nativity scenes to celebrate Christmas? Many might be surprised to learn that Francis of Assisi, the well-known 13th-century saint, is credited with creating the first nativity scene.

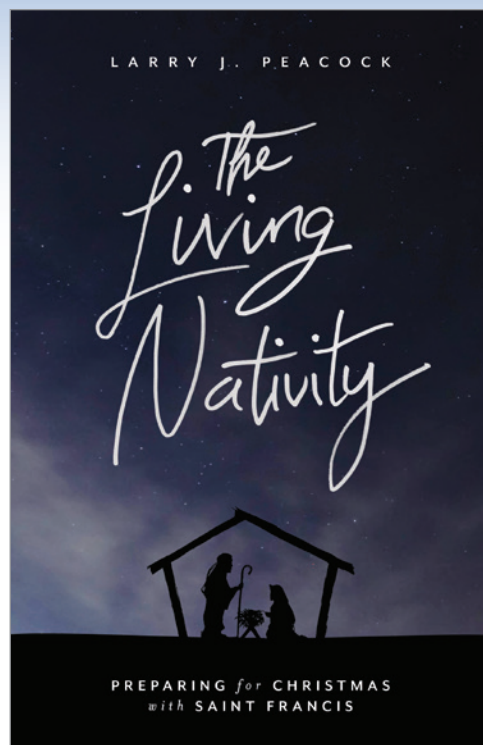
The Living Nativity introduces readers to Saint Francis and his joyous reenactment of the birth of Jesus, complete with a manger and animals.

The Living Nativity explores how nativity sets, Advent wreaths, candles, carols, Christmas cards, and other traditions help prepare our hearts for the God “who bends low to enter our world and our lives.” Prayer poems for each day of the season lead readers to deepen their spiritual journey, and the book provides a guided pattern for individuals and small groups to share reflections and experience activities that open their hearts to the Christ child.

The Living Nativity provides a prayer, a meditation, and reflection questions for each day of Advent. The Leader’s Guide includes suggestions for worship, discussion questions focused on the readings, and guidance for a mini-retreat on a theme of the week.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Larry J. Peacock is director of the Franciscan Spiritual Center in Milwaukie, Oregon. He served as executive director of Rolling Ridge Retreat and Conference Center in North Andover, Massachusetts, for 11 years. A retired United Methodist pastor, Peacock is a trained spiritual director, an author, and a retreat leader.



PUB DATE: SEPTEMBER 2018

PAPERBACK \$12.99

978-0-8358-1790-5

PAGES: 112 TRIM SIZE: 5.5 X 8.5

RELIGION / HOLIDAYS / CHRISTMAS & ADVENT

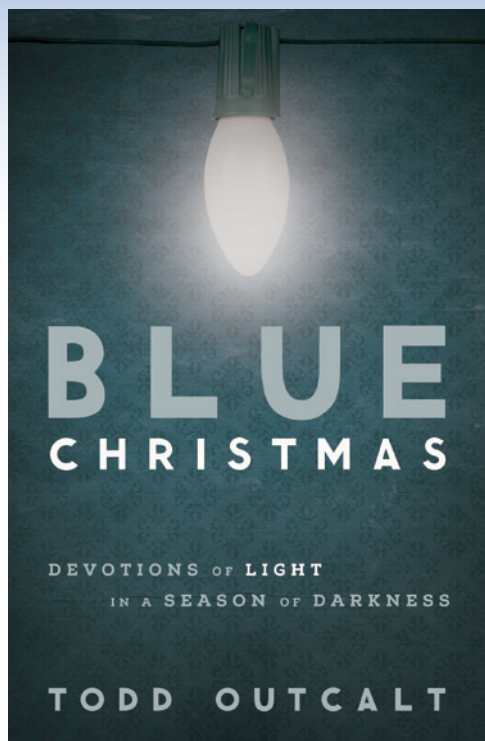


TARGET AUDIENCE

- People looking for an affirmation of God’s love rather than a focus on sin and redemption
- People who want to understand more about Advent and Christmas traditions and be encouraged to explore spiritual practices
- People who want fresh, inclusive language in prayers
- Groups looking for a guide to deepen their Advent journey and share prayer practices together

KEY FEATURES

- Four weeks of 5 daily readings
- An optional additional week of readings after Christmas
- A suggested activity for each weekend to reinforce the weekly theme
- Sundays contain suggestions for families or small groups



PUB DATE: SEPTEMBER 2018

PAPERBACK \$9.99

978-0-8358-1787-5

PAGES: 112 TRIM SIZE: 5.5 X 8.5

RELIGION / HOLIDAYS / CHRISTMAS & ADVENT



TARGET AUDIENCE

- Individuals and small groups seeking inspiration and guidance to get through the blue days of Advent and Christmas
- People suffering from depression
- Older adults who experience grief and loneliness during the holidays
- Prayer groups, spiritual growth groups, adult formation classes

KEY FEATURES

- A Blue Christmas/Longest Night worship service that addresses the pain many feel at Christmastime
- Additional prayers to the ones offered in the daily readings
- Questions for individual reflection or small-group discussion

A healing Advent devotional

BLUE CHRISTMAS

Devotions of Light in a Season of Darkness

Todd Outcalt

The Advent and Christmas season is often associated with joy, love, generosity, and unity. But for many people, this time of year magnifies loneliness, anxiety, grief, and despair. While others are enjoying celebrations with their friends and families, those who are hurting often feel even more lost, abandoned, and alone than ever.

“Not all Christmases are white; some are blue,” Todd Outcalt writes. *Blue Christmas* is a devotional book for the 28 days of Advent and Christmas Day. Each devotion includes a scripture selection, meditation, prayer, and suggested Advent action. The book also features additional prayers, a “Blue Christmas” worship service, and reflection questions.

In these honest devotions, readers will find their fears and realities named and brought into the light of God’s love. They will be led to sit with their experiences, acknowledge their losses, and remember Jesus’ promise: “Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.”

Blue Christmas reminds us that all of our Christmases, even the darkest ones, can be filled with honesty and hope if we are first willing to sit in silence and bring our deepest fears to God.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Todd Outcalt is lead pastor of Calvary United Methodist Church, Brownsburg, Indiana. He is the author of more than 35 books, including *Praying Through Cancer* (Upper Room Books, 2016), *Common Ground*, *The Other Jesus*, *The Healing Touch*, and 8 youth ministry titles published by Abingdon Press. Outcalt lives in Brownsburg, Indiana and enjoys traveling, hiking, and painting.

Discovering the joy of Lent

BECAUSE OF THIS I REJOICE

Reading Philippians During Lent

Max O. Vincent

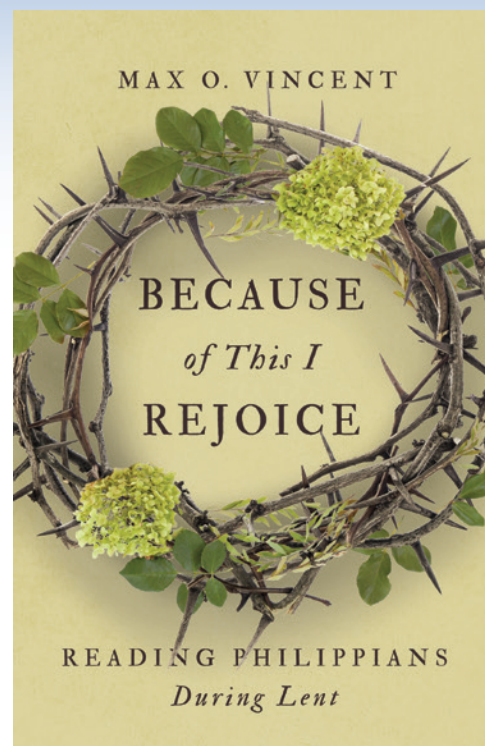
For too long Lent has been thought of as a season of self-sacrifice and discipline that sounds to many Christians like a list of spiritual chores. Lenten disciplines become the spiritual equivalent of New Year's resolutions to lose weight, be healthier, or practice better money management. These promises are easily made and often quickly broken, leaving us feeling like we do not measure up to what we should be.

In his letter to the Philippians, the apostle Paul joyfully turns to spiritual practices that draw him closer to God amid persecution and imprisonment. These practices keep Paul connected to a sense of God's power and presence. Joy flows from Paul and becomes a vital part of his relationship with the Philippians.

Because of This I Rejoice is a 6-week study of Philippians that explores what Paul teaches about joyfully practicing spiritual disciplines. The intent of these disciplines is to help us focus less on ourselves and more on God. This Lenten study invites us to engage in the same spiritual practices as a way to grow closer to God and allow joy to flow through our lives.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Max Vincent is a pastor in the North Georgia Conference of the United Methodist Church. He currently serves as pastor of Inman United Methodist Church in Atlanta. He is the coauthor of *Another Bead, Another Prayer*.



PUB DATE: OCTOBER 2018

PAPERBACK \$13.99

978-0-8358-1793-6

PAGES: 128 TRIM SIZE: 5.5 X 8.5

RELIGION / HOLIDAYS / EASTER & LENT

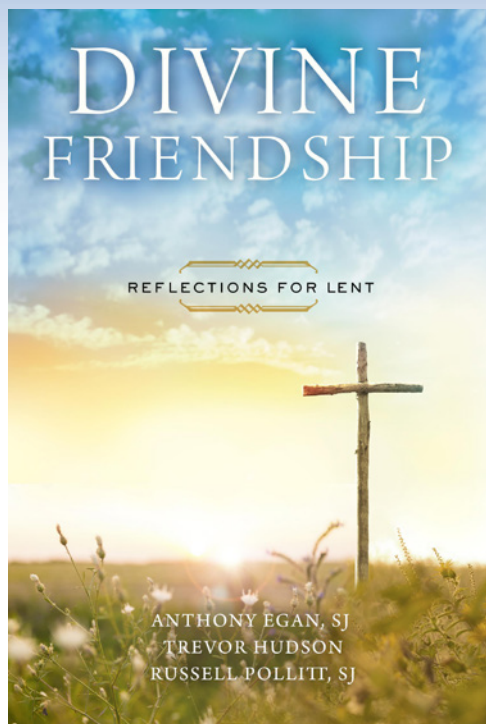


TARGET AUDIENCE

- Individuals and small groups who want a focused study for the season of Lent

KEY FEATURES

- A reading for Ash Wednesday, one chapter for each week of Lent, and a reading for Good Friday
- Daily scripture readings
- Reflection questions
- Leader's Guide contains a suggested format for small groups



Finding true satisfaction in friendship with God

DIVINE FRIENDSHIP

Reflections for Lent

Anthony Egan, SJ; Trevor Hudson; & Russell Pollitt, SJ

Many of us spend our lives searching for something to satisfy our deepest longings. Yet we will never find complete satisfaction in human relationships, possessions, or personal power. As Saint Augustine wrote, “Our hearts are restless until they find their rest in you [God].”

Lent offers us the opportunity to deepen our friendship with God. The idea of being friends with God may intimidate some, but the authors of this book provide practical tips for developing a closer relationship with God. The introduction suggests readers set aside at least 15 to 20 minutes each day to spend with God. Read the scripture texts and reflections, and pay attention to what they evoke in you. Then talk to God about your thoughts and feelings just as you would to your best friend.

During Lent Jesus invites us to spend time with him and to renew our friendship with him. This encouraging book reminds us that we are beloved children of a God who deeply desires friendship with us. The meditations help us realize that through friendship with God, we will satisfy our hearts’ yearnings.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Anthony Egan is a Jesuit priest on the staff of the Jesuit Institute South Africa, located in Johannesburg. Trevor Hudson is a Methodist minister who lives in Benoni, South Africa. The author of 17 books, Hudson travels widely, teaching and lecturing in the areas of spiritual formation, spiritual direction, and pastoral therapy. Russell Pollitt is a Jesuit priest and director of the Jesuit Institute South Africa.

PUB DATE: OCTOBER 2018

PAPERBACK \$13.99

978-0-8358-1796-7

PAGES: 128 TRIM SIZE: 6 X 9

RELIGION / HOLIDAYS / EASTER & LENT



TARGET AUDIENCE

- Christians who want a closer relationship with God
- Spiritual seekers

KEY FEATURES

- Readings for each day from Ash Wednesday through the Sunday after Easter
- Each reading contains suggested Bible passages, a meditation, and reflection questions that help readers apply the scripture to their lives
- Three authors offer diversity in writing style

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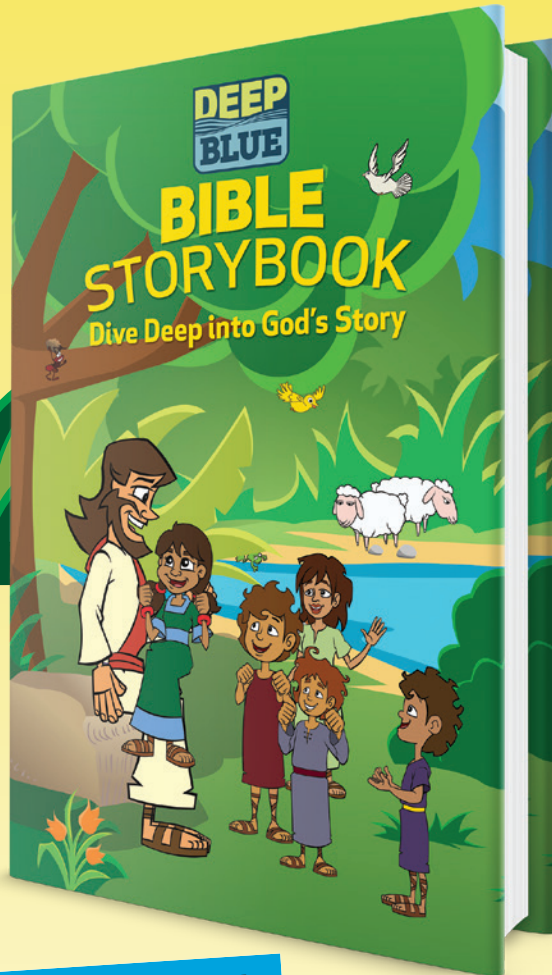
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Young Children Can Dive Deep into God's Story!



The **Deep Blue Bible Storybook** includes 146 Bible stories, prayers, and fun songs set to familiar tunes to help teach Bible skills and knowledge to children ages 3-6. Developed with this age group in mind, the *Deep Blue Bible Storybook* helps children learn the books of the Bible and practice beginning Bible skills.



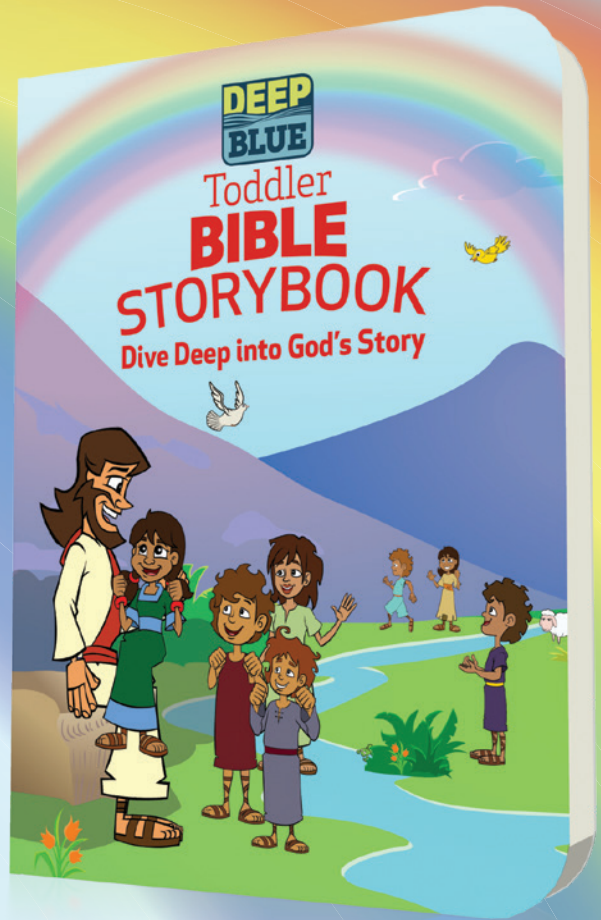
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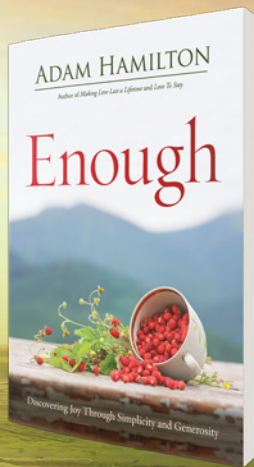
The *Deep Blue Toddler Bible Storybook* contains nineteen beloved stories from the Old and New Testament retold for toddlers. Each story invites the reader and the listener into the experience happening on the pages, and creates space for children to wonder about the people and events that have shaped so many.



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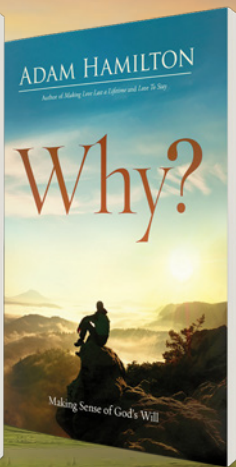
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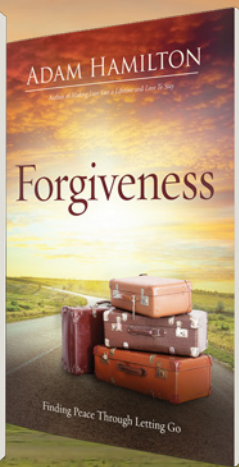
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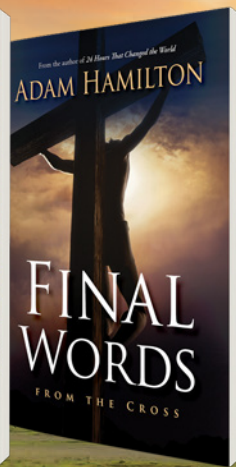
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The words He saved for last.



Adam Hamilton is the senior pastor of The United Methodist Church of the Resurrection in Leawood, Kansas and the author of *Creed*, *Half Truths*, *Moses*, *The Journey*, *The Way*, *24 Hours that Changed the World*, *Revival*, and *Not a Silent Night*.

