

FALL & WINTER

2019-2020 TRADE CATALOG





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CHRISTIAN LIVING FALL & WINTER 2019-2020



Cover Not Final

7 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

Jen Hatmaker

What is the payoff from living a deeply reduced life at Christmas? It's the discovery of a greatly increased God, a call toward Christ-like generosity.

Inspired by and adapted from her breakout book 7: An *Experimental Mutiny Against Excess, 7 Days of Christmas* takes Hatmaker's social experiments in seven key areas—food, clothes, spending, media, possessions, waste, and stress—and turns them into thoughtful and practical generosity that captures the true spirit of Christmas.

7 *Days of Christmas* covers seven days during the Christmas season to practice both generosity and restraint in the areas related to the book. It will contain snippets of Jen's journey throughout to offer insight, humor, ideas, facts, and encouragement for the reader to consider while embracing this change, if only for 24 hours.

We'll see the reasons why each area is important to Jen and also applicable to most American families. We'll also see how that particular area of excess impacts the family unit, the community, and the world at large—complete with ideas on how to reduce thoughtless consumption and consider other practices that lead to less stuff but more joy.

MARKETING PLAN

National in scope, the marketing of 7 *Days of Christmas* includes targeted and digital advertising, content marketing, publicity, social media, and other opportunistic campaigns.

Additional key components for this campaign include:

- Content marketing and social campaign around generosity and simplicity practices.
- Targeted digital advertising to Jen's fans and similar readers.
- "Best of" gift publicity to national media already engaged with Jen as a thought leader.
- Merchandising and cataloging opportunities with trade and gift retailers.

Release: October 1, 2019 Price: \$21.99 Jacketed Hardback with Ribbon ISBN: 9781501888274 Size: 5.5 x 7 Pages: 192 BISAC: RELIGION / HOLIDAYS / CHRISTMAS & ADVENT



Jen Hatmaker, sought-after speaker, Big Sister Emeritus, and Chief BFF, is the beloved author of eleven Bible studies and books, including *New York Times* bestsellers *For the Love* and *Of Mess and Moxie*. Jen hosts the award-winning *For The Love Podcast* and leads a tightly knit online community where she reaches millions of people each week

in addition to speaking at events all around the country. Jen and her hubby, Brandon, are founders of Legacy Collective, a giving community that grants millions of dollars around the world. The couple lives on the outskirts of Austin with their 5 kids: Gavin, Sydney, Caleb, Ben, and Remy, in a 1910-era farmhouse that they overhauled as stars of the HGTV series *My Big Family Renovation*.

To learn more about Jen, check out her schedule and podcast at **JenHatmaker.com**.



THE WALK

Five Essential Practices of the Christian Life

Adam Hamilton

Join Adam Hamilton this Lent and Easter

How do we walk with Christ-daily follow him, grow in him, and faithfully serve him?

In the Gospels, Jesus modeled for us the Christian spiritual life. The apostles taught it in their writings. And the Church has, through the last 2,000 years, sought to pursue this Christian spiritual life. In The Walk, Adam Hamilton focuses on five essential spiritual practices that are rooted in Jesus' own walk with God and taught throughout the New Testament. Each of these practices is intended as part of our daily walk with Christ while also being an essential part of growing together in the church.

In each chapter, Hamilton explores one of these practices, its New Testament foundation, and what it looks like to pursue this practice daily in our personal life and together in the life of the church. Deepen your walk with Christ as we explore the five essential practices of worship, study, serving, giving, and bearing witness to our faith.

Additional components for a six-week adult study include a comprehensive Leader Guide and a DVD featuring the engaging teachings of author and pastor Adam Hamilton. Also available are resources for children and youth.

Release: December 17, 2019 Price: \$19.99 Hardback ISBN: 9781501891182 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 vouth and children's resources to create a churchwide study.
- · By examining the life and teachings of Jesus, we discover clear, concrete ways to follow him daily in our personal lives and together with others in the church.
- Hear from the author, Adam Hamilton, in short teaching videos each week.
- · Perfect for Lent and Easter.

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. 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.com.

BY THE SAME AUTHOR



9781501813719 \$19.99



9781501813870 \$19.99



\$14.99

9781426775239



HEART & HOME FOR CHRISTMAS

Celebrating Joy in Your Living Space

Victoria Duerstock

Find hope and spiritual growth at Christmastime with design inspiration and devotions.

As a writer, teacher, and speaker with a busy work and family life, Victoria Duerstock understands that all the tasks of the holiday season can make it easy to forget the true joy that Christmas can bring. In *Heart & Home for Christmas*, Duerstock brings her mission to inspire hope for God's purpose, and her 20 years of experience in the furniture and design industry together, connecting Scripture with design elements and easy decorating tips in a way that reflects the true spirit of Christmas. The devotions and holiday decorating tips will encourage spiritual growth and inspiration to have both a captivating heart and home at Christmas.

KEY FEATURES

- Features 100 inspirational devotions with scripture reading.
- Includes charming four color Christmas photographs of home interiors throughout the book.
- Contains clear examples and actionable decorating tips that will provide the reader practical assistance in decorating their home for the holiday season.

Victoria Duerstock is a writer, blogger, teacher, and speaker. Her mission is to intentionally seek to inspire hope and ignite bigger dreams for God's purpose in each of our stories. She also enjoys speaking at writer's conferences and boot camps about platform building and life lessons for writers. Duerstock has a master's degree in music, but ended up working in the furniture industry for over twenty years. She maintains the blogs Encouraging Women Today, Everything's Gravy, and Creative Corner. She manages content for Serious Writer Academy and also has contributed to devotionals for Worthy. She lives in Nesbit, Mississippi.

Praise for Heart & Home: Design Basics for Your Soul and Living Space

Seldom do I discover a book which ministers to mind, body and soul, but Victoria Duerstock's Heart & Home is just such a jewel! I was immediately drawn to the unique design elements through color photographs, and especially the carefully selected accompanying Scripture, meditation and prayer. All of these work together to address one small element of life on which I can meditate all day long (and even bring into my own home through her practical suggestions.) While I am neither an interior designer nor DIY crafter, I am someone who embraced "hygge" long before I knew what the word meant–a beauty through coziness and care. You too? Good. My gift list for this special volume is already quite lengthy...

- Lucinda Secrest McDowell, author *Dwelling Places* and *Ordinary Graces*

Heart & Home is layered with poignant, straight-to-theheart messages and lovely artistic home décor tips and fun facts. With each page, Victoria Duerstock encourages us to nurture our relationship with God and inspires us to weave that beauty into our décor and style. Let Heart & Home be the next beautiful addition to your design and devotional collections.

- Bethany Jett, award-winning author of The Cinderella Rule

BY THE SAME AUTHOR



9781501881039 \$19.99
 Belease:
 September
 17, 2019
 Price:
 \$19.99

 Hardback
 ISBN:
 9781501885433
 \$

 Size:
 6.75 x 6.75
 Pages:
 208

 BISAC:
 RELIGION / HOLIDAYS / CHRISTMAS & ADVENT
 \$





GIRL BE BRAVE

100 Days to Chart Your Course

Cheryl Hale

You were always meant to be brave.

When Cheryl Hale discovered a note from her grandmother, written to her mother in a family Bible, ending with the phrase "girl be brave," she found the inspiration she needed to push through her fear and chart a course for her life.

In *Girl Be Brave: 100 Days to Chart Your Course,* the 100 reflections inspired by Cheryl's grandmother's note encourage readers to embrace the plan God has for them, face their fears, and discover that they are braver than they ever thought possible.

KEY FEATURES

- · Features one hundred inspirational reflections.
- Reflections give readers the courage and confidence to move forward.
- Gift book ties in with existing Girl Be Brave gift product line.
- · Casebound hardcover with a ribbon.

Cheryl Hale is a writer, blogger, and business owner who founded the Girl Be Brave online community, website GirlBeBrave.com, and product line in 2016. She started Girl Be Brave after reading a note that her grandmother, Frances, left her mother in her Bible, which ended with "girl be brave." Cheryl's hope is that Frances' words reach every girl and woman who needs a reminder of her own bravery. Hale lives in Mobile, AL.

Release: September 17, 2019 Price: \$18.99 Hardback ISBN: 9781501885402 Size: 5.5 x 7 Pages: 224 BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / INSPIRATIONAL

COMPARABLE TITLES



9781501881060 \$19.99



9781501881091 \$14.99



I can't tell my story without telling the story of my grandmother Frances. Raised during the Great Depression by her grandmother, Frances's life was not one of fairytales. She married the love of her life, and brought five children into this world. She was faithful.

In the 1950s, through no fault of her own, Frances would end up a single mother. She took on the task of providing for her family as best she could. Frances carried a burden, but her faith would see her through.

Years after her death, I was reading a letter she had written in the back of her Bible. The last line was a special note to my mother, the youngest child and only girl.

"girl be brave"

These words I carry with me and I hope you will too.

My hope for Girl Be Brave is that Frances's words reach every girl and woman who needs a reminder of her own bravery. You are made of strong stuff. We all are. Girl Be Brave understands that life can be a struggle. We also know that the struggle is how we got here.

-Cheryl



 Belease:
 September 3, 2019
 Price: \$14.99

 Hardback
 ISBN: 9781501881121

 Size:
 5 x 7
 Pages: 208

 BISAC:
 RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE /

 DEVOTIONAL

KEY FEATURES

- Features one hundred inspirational devotionals.
- Encourages women to grow in spiritual maturity and nourish others.
- · Makes a great women's gift.
- Padded hardcover with a ribbon.

IN THE LIGHT OF THE NEW DAY

Daily Reflections on Finding Your Purpose

Live out God's purpose and bring good to the world daily

As mothers, daughters, spouses, friends, or co-workers, and daughters of a loving God, women are influencers and role models to the people they interact with every day. But what can women do on a daily basis to show God's grace and love to others?

The 100 devotionals in *In the Light of the New Day: Daily Reflections on Finding Your Purpose* affirms the reader's worth and the love God has for them, strengthening them to live their faith in a way that attracts others to the light of the Gospel and the love of God through simple acts of kindness, an encouraging word, or an act of hospitality.

Through Scripture, prayer, and thoughtful exploration, this book will strengthen and renew readers so they may live out God's purpose in their lives.

Interior Samples



ALSO AVAILABLE



9781501881091 \$14.99

THE BATHSHEBA BATTLE

Finding Hope When Life Takes an Unexpected Turn

Natalie Chambers Snapp

Find healing and hope when things haven't gone as planned.

Has your life ever taken an unexpected turn, leaving you feeling hurt and stuck?

In *The Bathsheba Battle*, Natalie Chambers Snapp helps women find healing and hope when things haven't gone as they had planned. Bathsheba, typically misrepresented as an adulteress, is one of the most misunderstood women in the Bible. Despite an unexpected turn in her life, which resulted in tragic circumstances beyond her control, there are glimmers of hope in her story. By studying her life, readers will find healing from their own painful pasts and hope for living the free and full lives God intends.

NATALIE CHAMBERS SNAPP is an author, blogger, and speaker known for her refreshing authenticity and practical approach to life and God's Word. Not choosing to follow Jesus until the age of twenty-seven, she is passionate about sharing the grace, mercy, and truth of God's love with others "regardless of your track record." Her transparency and humor endear her to women of all ages. Natalie is the author of the book *Heart Sisters: Be the Friend You Want to Have,* and *Becoming Heart Sisters: A Bible Study on Authentic Friendships.* She has written for various blogs and online devotionals, including Proverbs 31. Natalie lives in the Midwest with her husband and their three children.



 Belease:
 September
 17, 2019
 Price:
 \$16.99

 Paperback
 ISBN:
 9781501890802
 Size:
 5.5 x 8.5
 Pages:
 160

 BISAC:
 RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / WOMEN'S
 ISSUES
 ISSUES
 ISSUES

KEY FEATURES

- Addresses the number one topic Natalie observes women discussing and seeking help for: healing from the past—especially when things didn't go as planned.
- Offers powerful encouragement and practical help for the unexpected disappointments of life.
- Speaks to the undeserved shaming that often occurs when women struggle and need help.
- Helps women move beyond the pain of the past and find freedom and healing.

BY THE SAME AUTHOR



9781426769054 \$16.99



9781501821202 \$15.99



Release: October 1, 2019 Price: \$18.99 Paperback ISBN: 9781501890727 Size: 5.5 x 8.5 Pages: 256 BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / INSPIRATIONAL

KEY FEATURES

- Each chapter focuses on one platinum property and how it relates to a woman's faith walk.
- Readers learn to understand their worth, believe in God's plan for them, and believe only in the life-giving Word of God.
- · Book includes leader helps for group study.

PLATINUM FAITH

Live Brilliant, Be Resilient & Know Your Worth Michelle Medlock Adams and Bethany Jett

Platinum - A gorgeous metal with amazing qualities inspires faith

Platinum, known as a "magic metal" is valuable, rare, unreactive, and highly useful in many ways. In *Platinum Faith: Live Brilliant, Be Resilient, and Know Your Worth,* Michelle Medlock Adams and Bethany Jett, best-selling authors and inspirational speakers, examine the unique properties of Platinum and how readers can be inspired by those properties to deepen their walk of faith.

Properties explored include:

Valuable: Realize our importance to the Father and His Kingdom in order to accomplish all that God has called us to do.

Rare: It is difficult and therefore rare to live our lives believing God, trusting His plan, and walking in faith every day.

Unreactive: Choose not to react to the negativity in life but only to the life-giving Word of God.

Useful: Each of us in the Body of Christ has different purposes and strengths—all of us are important and useful to the Kingdom.

That is Platinum Faith.

Michelle Medlock Adams is an award-winning journalist and best-selling author of more than 80 books (with close to four million in sales). Her prolific writing includes devotionals, children's books, and spiritual/motivational books for the Christ-centered woman. When not working on her own assignments, Michelle ghostwrites articles, blog posts, and books for celebrities, politicians, and some of today's most popular ministers. Michelle is also a much sought-after teacher and inspirational speaker.

Bethany Jett attended her first writer's conference with a proposal and a prayer and left with the Writer of the Year award, an agency contract, and interest from multiple publishers for her debut book *The Cinderella Rule*, which became a Selah Awards finalist. Bethany co-owns Serious Writer, Inc., and is the Vice President of Platinum Literary Services where she specializes in marketing, nonfiction proposal creation, ghostwriting, and developmental editing. She is also an Assistant Acquisitions Editor for Little Lamb Books, LLC, a faith-based children's publishing house.

Together, this dynamic duo's passion for helping women and encouraging everyone they encounter have led them to collaborate on many projects, including their first book together, *They Call Me Mom*. They are business partners and owners of Platinum Literary Services and are popular teachers and speakers. To learn more visit their websites at www. michellemedlockadams.com and www.bethanyjett.com, as well as PlatLit.com.

BIBLE STUDIES

FALL & WINTER 2019-2020



Abingdon Press

ROMANS - WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Good News That Changes Everything

Melissa Spoelstra

Find the good news that brings hope and spiritual renewal.

We live in a world full of bad news. The media recounts stories of natural disasters, violence, and conflict. In the midst of all this heartbreak, we can't lose sight of the fact that God has given us good news. We call it the gospel. It reminds us that God loves us and longs to redeem our suffering. He stepped out of eternity and into time to send us His one and only Son. The gospel truths shared with the early church at Rome echo into our day, reminding us that we still have good news to embrace personally and to share with others. In this six-week study of the Book of Romans, we will be highlighting significant concepts regarding the good news about faith, grace, daily life, God's plan, relationships, and eternity. Whatever bad news we may receive, in *Romans* we will find good news to encourage and transform us.

Join Melissa in taking a posture of listening and learning as we approach this powerful book packed with good news. Let's ask God to do a mighty work in and through us as we study so that we might be inspired with a spiritual renewal that spreads to those around us!

KEY FEATURES

- · A six-week study of the Book of Romans.
- Encourages women with the good news of the gospel, regardless of what bad news they are facing.
- Women will be inspired with a spiritual renewal that spreads to those around them.
- Study offers different levels of commitment for women in every season of life.
- Strong, solid Scripture study from popular Bible teacher Melissa Spoelstra.

Melissa Spoelstra is a popular women's conference speaker (including the Aspire Women's Events), Bible teacher, and author who is madly in love with Jesus and passionate about helping others to seek Christ and know Him more intimately. 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 five Bible studies (*Elijah, Numbers, First Corinthians, Joseph, and Jeremiah*) and three books (*Total Family Makeover, Total Christmas Makeover,* and *Dare to Hope*). Melissa lives in Ohio with her pastor husband and four kids.

Participant Workbook

Release: August 6, 2019 Price: \$16.99 Paperback ISBN: 9781501838972 Size: 7 x 9.25 Pages: 208 BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / WOMEN'S ISSUES

COMPANION PRODUCTS			
Leader Guide			
DVD		9781501839016	\$49.99
Leader Kit		9781501839023	\$79.99





Participant Workbook with Leader Helps

 Belease: August 20, 2019
 Price: \$14.99

 Paperback
 ISBN: 9781501888540

 Size: 7 x 9.25
 Pages: 144

 BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / WOMEN'S
 ISSUES

KEY FEATURES

- Women will learn surprising lessons from lesser known characters in the Bible.
- A shorter four-week study is ideal for inbetween or busy times.
- · Accessible and friendly format.
- DVD features dynamic, engaging teaching in four 20-minute segments.
- Participant Workbook includes group session guides, discussion questions, prayers, video viewer guides, and leader helps.

FOOTNOTES - WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Major Lessons from Minor Bible Characters

Julie Lyles Carr

Be inspired by the stories of minor biblical characters and the major lessons they teach us.

We hear a lot about some of the "big" names in the Bible. Moses. Mary. Paul. But what about those who have a small mention, or whose names aren't even known? What might they have to teach us about the faith journey? *Footnotes* is a unique four-week study that introduces us to some people who are just a brief blip on the screen of the Bible timeline, just a footnote in biblical story—people it would be easy to overlook but we shouldn't underestimate. As you journey through this four-week study, you will be inspired by the backstories of these people of faith who show us that even minor players can teach major lessons.

Julie Lyles Carr is an author, speaker, broadcaster, and blogger who serves as the Pastor of LifeWomen Women's Ministry at her home church of LifeAustin in Austin, Texas. With degrees in psychology and English literature, she began her career in radio and television and also has been an audiobook narrator. She founded the non-profit Legacy of Hope, which today, through its 2dance2dream program, is dedicated to serving families with children with special needs. She is the author of *Raising an Original* and speaks regularly in both church and business settings, and her popular podcast, The Modern Motherhood Podcast, has welcomed guests such as Beth Moore, Priscilla Shirer, Bob Goff, and Max Lucado. Julie and her husband, Michael, are the parents of eight children, ranging in age from eleven to twenty-eight. You can read about their family adventures at julielylescarr.com.

COMPANION PRODUCTS			
DVD		9781501888564	\$44.99

FIERCE - WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Women of the Bible Who Changed the World

Jennifer Cowart

Discover the fierce women that changed the world through God's calling.

The word fierce is trendy. It is used to describe women who are extreme athletes, high-level executives, or supermodels. Women at the top of their game. But what about the rest of us? Can we be fierce? Absolutely! In fact, women like us have been changing the world for thousands of years—many who received little fanfare yet lived fiercely anyway. In this six-week study we will look at lesser-known female characters in the Bible and the ways they changed the world by living into God's calling, including:

- The midwives of Egypt (Shiphrah and Puah), who made hard decisions in the face of evil
- · Deborah, who was an unlikely and powerful leader
- Naaman's slave girl, who offered hope and pointed to the power of her God
- · The woman at the well, who boldly repented and shared her faith
- · Dorcas, who used a simple skill to bless many around her
- Lois and Eunice, who parented with intentionality and effectiveness

As we explore their lives, we will discover how we too can live into our callings, honor the Lord, and even change the world through our courage, faithfulness, and obedience.

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 about 2,500 people in seven worship services weekly. With degrees in Christian education, counseling, and business, she oversees a wide variety of ministries and enjoys doing life and ministry with others. As a gifted Bible teacher and speaker, Jen brings biblical truth to life through humor, authenticity, and everyday application. She is the author of the Bible study *Messy People: Life Lessons from Imperfect Biblical Heroes*. In addition, she and her husband, Jim, have co-written several small group studies including *Hand Me Downs* and *Living the Five*. They are the proud parents of two children.

COMPANION PRODUCTS				
Leader Guide III IIII IIII IIII IIII IIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIII				
DVD		9781501882944	\$49.99	



Participant Workbook

Release: September 3, 2019 Price: \$16.99 Paperback ISBN: 9781501882906 Size: 7 x 9.25 Pages: 208 BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / WOMEN'S ISSUES

KEY FEATURES

- A six-week study of lesser-known female characters in the Bible.
- Helps women consider how they can be fierce women of God.
- Workbook includes five devotional lessons for every week of study.
- Each DVD segment features an opening "fierce" vignette followed by engaging Bible teaching with practical life application.





I'M WAITING, GOD - WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Finding Blessing in God's Delays

Barb Roose

Find help and hope for times when it's hard to wait on God.

Do you ever feel like God is taking too long to answer your prayers? Have you ever taken matters into your own hands, only to discover that you've made the situation worse? Waiting on God challenges our faith when the bills are stacking up, our families are falling apart, or our dreams feel like they won't come true. We know that God hears our prayers, but it's hard when the clock is ticking yet He hasn't shown us the answer.

In this four-week Bible study, Barb Roose invites us to explore the stories of women in the Bible who had to wait on God — women such as Hannah, Ruth, Tamar, and the unnamed woman who suffered for over a decade with a painful medical condition. If you've felt anxious, angry, discouraged or depressed because God isn't giving you what you want, their stories will breathe fresh hope and practical next steps in your life. As a reforming control lover, Barb mixes in her personal stories of learning how to wait for God during long seasons of unanswered prayers, family difficulties, and challenging times in ministry. Together we will discover that there is goodness and blessing to be found in times of waiting, including a closer relationship with God than we've ever dared to dream.

KEY FEATURES

- A shorter four-week study is ideal for in-between or busy times.
- · Accessible and friendly format.
- Each week concludes with a devotional lesson featuring prayer journaling, helping women create "memorial stones" during a waiting season.
- DVD features dynamic, engaging teaching in four 20-minute segments.
- Participant Workbook includes group session guides, discussion questions, prayers, video viewer guides, and leader helps.

Barb Roose is a popular speaker and author who is passionate about connecting women to one another and to God, helping them apply the truths of God's Word to the practical realities and challenges they face. Barb enjoys teaching and encouraging women at conferences and events across the country, as well as speaking internationally. She is the author of *Joshua: Winning the Worry Battle* and *Beautiful Already: Reclaiming God's Perspective on Beauty* Bible studies, and the books *Winning the Worry Battle: Life Lessons from the Book of Joshua* and *Enough Already: Winning Your Ugly Struggle with Beauty*. She also blogs regularly at BarbRoose.com, hosts the "Better Together" podcast, and is a speaker for Compassion International. Barb lives in Toledo, Ohio with her family.

Participant Workbook

Release: September 17, 2019 Price: \$14.99 Paperback ISBN: 9781501888625 Size: 7 x 9.125 Pages: 160 BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / WOMEN'S ISSUES

COMPANION PRODUCT				
	DVD		9781501888649	\$44.99





Release: August 6, 2019 Price: \$16.99 Paperback ISBN: 9781501884153 Size: 5.5 x 8.5 Pages: 128 BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / SPIRITUAL GROWTH

KEY FEATURES

- Makes the teaching parables of Jesus lively and relevant for modern readers.
- Includes Participant Guide, Leader Guide, and DVD featuring Greg Carey.
- The study brings the parables into a format suited for group study and discussion and provides readers with all the elements for a lively group experience.
- 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.

STORIES JESUS TOLD

How to Read a Parable

Greg Carey

Learn how to read, interpret, and understand the parables of Jesus.

The parables of Jesus —like the Good Samaritan, the Prodigal Son, and the Laborers in the Vineyard —make up the most distinctive element of his teaching and are essential to our common memory of Jesus. However, almost all of them open themselves to multiple interpretations, leaving interpreters to scratch their heads and argue with one another for centuries.

In this book, Greg Carey explores six of Jesus' stories to understand how to read them, interpret them, and understand what they mean for our own lives today.

Additional components for a six-week study include a DVD featuring Greg Carey and a comprehensive Leader Guide.

Greg Carey has taught at Lancaster Seminary since 1999, having previously taught at Rhodes College and Winthrop University. His publications include numerous studies on the Book of Revelation and ancient apocalyptic literature, rhetorical analysis of the New Testament, and investigations of early Christian self-definition. He is the author of five books, including *The Gospel According to Luke: All Flesh Shall See God's Salvation* and *Sinners: Jesus and His Earliest Followers*.

COMPANION PRO	DUCTS		
Leader Guide		9781501884245	\$14.99
DVD		9781501884177	\$39.99

MOUNTAINTOP MOMENTS

Meeting God in the High Places

Ed Robb

God is inviting you to a mountaintop moment

Mountaintop moments —those moments when we experience the power, love, and grace of God in a way difficult to capture with words. They give us a sense of God's presence in our lives and often changes our perspective of who God is and who we are.

In this book, Dr. Ed Robb connects personal mountaintop experiences in our spiritual life with the mountains in the Old and New Testament and the events related to this sacred places.

Additional components for a six-week study include a DVD featuring Dr. Ed Robb and special guests, as well as a comprehensive Leader Guide.

Ed Robb is Senior Pastor at The Woodlands UMC in Houston, Texas. Serving the church for more than thirty years, his vision and leadership have led the church to become one of the fastest growing churches in Methodism, with over 10,000 members and is the author of *The Wonder of Christmas*. He and his wife, Beverly, have three adult children.

MOUNTAINTOP MOMENTS

MEETING GOD IN THE HIGH PLACES



Release: August 6, 2019 Price: \$17.99 Paperback ISBN: 9781501884016 Size: 5.5 x 8.5 Pages: 144 BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / SPIRITUAL GROWTH

KEY FEATURES

- The video features Dr. Robb with other prominent personalities telling their own mountaintop life experiences (a different person for each week).
- 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.
- Weaving of Biblical "mountaintop moments" into lessons for everyday modern life.

COMPANION PRODUCTS			
Leader Guide			
DVD		9781501884054	\$39.99



REVOLUTIONARY KINGDOM

Following the Rebel Jesus

Mike Slaughter with Karen Perry Smith

The good news of the Kingdom of God is here and now.

What exactly is a disciple, and how will we know if we have made one? There are three core values that a disciple embodies: undiluted devotion to the Lordship of Jesus Christ, a Kingdom of God worldview, and a missional lifestyle.

In *Revolutionary Kingdom: Following the Rebel Jesus*, author and Pastor Mike Slaughter explores why we must exchange comfortable cultural worldviews and values for the radical requirements of living out the Kingdom of God on Planet Earth. When God's people get serious about this call, it's revolutionary. Jesus himself was the most radical revolutionary who ever lived and provided us a vision of a kingdom worth dying for.

Welcome to the revolution!

Additional components for a six-week study include a DVD featuring Mike Slaughter and a comprehensive Leader Guide.

KEY FEATURES

- DVD has six video presentations of 8-10 minutes each, featuring Mike Slaughter.
- The adult Leader Guide includes flexible format options for use with any size group.
- Participants will learn that Jesus' message was revolutionary, world-changing, and life-changing.
- Individuals will set aside preconceived notions and meet the real Jesus.

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

Karen Perry Smith is the Director of Communications & Global Initiatives at Ginghamsburg Church, a United Methodist congregation in Tipp City, Ohio.

Release: August 20, 2019 Price: \$16.99 Paperback ISBN: 9781501887260 Size: 5.5 x 8.5 Pages: 128 BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / SPIRITUAL GROWTH

COMPANION PRODUCTS

Leader Guide	9781501887284	\$14.99
DVD	9781501887444	\$39.99



TITLES IN THE HOLY LIVING SERIES					
DISCERNMENT 9781501877629					
NEIGHBORING		9781501877605	\$14.99		
PRAYER		9781501877568	\$14.99		
WORSHIP		9781501877582	\$14.99		

BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN EDUCATION / ADULT AUGUST 20, 2019 | Paperback | 5.5 X 8.5 | 112 Pages

HOLY LIVING SERIES

Spiritual Practices for Building a Life of Faith

Your daily walk with Christ starts here.

"While physical training has some value, training in holy living is useful for everything. It has promise for this life now and the life to come." (1 Timothy 4:8 CEB) Christians crave a deeper, more intimate relationship with God. The spiritual disciplines are historical practices that can guide us in our daily walk, bringing us closer to Christ. The Holy Living series brings a fresh perspective on the spiritual disciplines, enabling us to apply their practices to our current lives. Practicing these spiritual disciplines opens us to God's transforming love.

DISCERNMENT

Many believers are familiar with the fruits of the Spirit Paul wrote about in his letter to the Galatians: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Discernment is a contemplative practice that opens us to these gifts. It offers us the capacity to see more clearly and touch the depth of our holy existence here on earth. This book introduces us to this ancient practice and helps us discover how practicing it can lead us to moments in which we sense meaning and purpose in our lives by desiring what God desires and embodying the love that is God.

PRAYER

Prayer has always been a central component in the life of a Christian. For many people, prayer is as natural as breathing; for others, it's a challenging task. No matter your comfort level or experience with prayer, this book will help you explore the purpose of prayer, the nature of prayer, and the results of a life of prayer. It leads you to be open to the transformation prayer can bring to your life and helps you better engage in prayer both individually and with others.

KEY FEATURES

- Four-week study length meets the needs of those searching for short-term study options for their small groups.
- Each study focuses on one spiritual discipline and provides practical ways to incorporate that discipline into daily living.
- Situates the spiritual practices as means to an end—a transforming relationship with God made possible through the practice of the spiritual disciplines.

NEIGHBORING

Both the Old and New Testaments call the people of God to love God completely as well as to love our neighbors as we love ourselves. Jesus told his followers these were the greatest commandments. What if by "neighbor," Jesus literally meant the precious people who live in your neighborhoods? What if by "neighbor," Jesus meant all of your neighbors, regardless of age, socioeconomic status, or any other potentially divisive designation? This book first defines what is meant by the spiritual practice of "neighboring" and then looks at ways we can live into neighboring as a spiritual practice in our own lives and in the lives of our churches and communities.

WORSHIP

So often we equate the spiritual practice of worship with the hour-long worship service we attend each week (or each month). But what happens when we no longer consider worship something we do, but a way we live? When we break the concept of worship outside the walls of a sanctuary, we find new energy for living a "Godward" life, a life of turning toward God for guidance moment by moment, day by day. Such a life is fuel for genuine worship. Living a Godward life opens us up to God's transforming love and enables us to engage in practices of worship in locations and situations we never dreamed of before.

COMPARABLE TITLES



9781426778254 \$10.99



9781426795527 \$10.99

9781501835643 \$9.99



9781501832819 \$14.99



KRISTINE MILLER and SCOTT MCKENZIE

Release: August 6, 2019 Price: \$14.99 Paperback ISBN: 9781501882753 Size: 7 x 5 Pages: 112 BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / STEWARDSHIP & GIVING

KEY FEATURES

- Workbook with prompts to write and journal.
- Accompanying DVD to spark discussion.
- Leader helps in the back so anyone can lead.

THE GENEROSITY CHALLENGE

28 Days of Gratitude, Prayer, and Faith Kristine Miller & Scott McKenzie

Discover how to live a more generous life

We are born in the image of a loving and generous God; we are born to be generous. In this four-week group study, those seeking to live a more generous life will be exposed to and inspired by cultural, generational, and family attitudes towards generosity. Aimed at those who are regularly in the pews, but who have not yet committed to financial giving, the study offers a weekly reading accompanied by seven days of challenges in the forms of self-assessment, journaling, and prayer, as well as leader helps to facilitate the group experience. After 28 days, readers will be encouraged to embrace the life-giving journey toward generosity and provided a road map on how to get there.

The accompanying four-session DVD will include content is intended to supplement and complement the book, as well as spark discussion within the small group.

Partner and Senior Vice President with Horizons Stewardship, **Kristine Miller** has assisted churches and nonprofits in fulfilling their visions for ministry for more than fifteen years. She was the Director of Stewardship and Planned Giving for the Episcopal Diocese of Michigan and a Senior Vice President with a national stewardship consulting firm. Having worked with hundreds of clients across the country, Ms. Miller has become a nationally-recognized expert in the field of nonprofit organizational leadership and development. Ms. Miller is a prolific writer and has frequently been recognized as a top-rated speaker at conferences and other events.

Partner and Senior Vice President with Horizons Stewardship, **Scott McKenzie** has more than 20 years of experience in development, capital campaigns, vision discernment and conflict management. Prior to his time in consulting, he was a local church pastor and the Director of Stewardship for the Western Pennsylvania Conference United Methodist Church. As a national stewardship consultant, he has worked with a wide variety of denominations including United Methodist, Presbyterian, Lutheran, Episcopal, and Roman Catholic.

COMPANION PRODUCTS				
DVD	DVD			
A Generous Life: 28 Days of Devotion		9781501882739	\$9.99	

BIBLES FALL & WINTER 2019-2020

WHICH CEB IS RIGHT FOR YOUR CUSTOMERS?

The Common English Bible translation is a readable, reliable, and relevant invitation to Scripture.

What do your customers say when they're looking for a Bible?

I want a deeper prayer life and richer connection to scripture.

Be guided through a lifelong practice of fulfilling prayer with **The CEB Lectio Divina Prayer Bible.** This method of "Divine Reading" is a systematic

reading of each section of a book with pauses for reflection and prayer. For every chapter of the Bible there is a recommended passage for slow and thoughtful reading, questions for reflection, a prayer, and suggestions for putting your insights into action.

> Hardback 9781609262174 **\$31.99**

> Bonded Leather 9781609262181 \$49.99

I want to better understand the history and context of the Bible.

Written by leading scholars, **The CEB Study Bible**

helps readers understand the biblical texts within the larger historical and literary framework of the Bible

through book introductions, thousands of notes, more than 300 articles, and full-color images throughout, revealing cultural contexts and exploring relevant background information.

STUDY BIBLE

Hardback 9781609262167 **\$49.99**

Hardback with Apocrypha 9781609262150 **\$59.99**

Bonded Leather 9781609260279 **\$74.99** I want to read the Bible from the perspective of marginalized people, especially women.

The CEB Women's Bible celebrates that people engage scripture from their own perspective. With contributions exclusively by women—including biblical

scholars, feminist theologians, clergywomen, and other writers—the reflections and articles that accompany the sacred text help you understand the women in scripture who had until now been invisible, which in turn trains our hearts to notice all of God's people today.

> Hardback 9781609261887 **\$49.99**

> **DecoTone** 9781609261894 **\$74.99**





LECTIO

I want to know more about the Bible, but I don't know where to start.

The CEB Navigation

Bible offers the perfect guide for new readers and anyone reading the Bible for inspiration or guidance. It includes a variety of in-text

tools and resources such as short introductions to each book of the Bible, notes on important characters and events, and devotions.

CEB NAVIGATION BI

Hardback 9781609262143 **\$26.99**

DecoTone 9781609262136 **\$34.99** *l want to understand and tell the stories from the Bible.*

Stories convey truths through plot, character, and point of view. Nowhere is that more true than in the Bible. Jesus and the prophets taught through story, and **The CEB Storytellers**

Bible helps readers see the big

themes and important truths of the Bible while also guiding them in how to tell these stories in contemporary language.

> Hardback 9781609262082 **\$39.99**

l want a trustworthy and creative Bible for my kids.

The interactive **Deep Blue Kids Bible** offers fourcolor icons and illustrations throughout with a wealth of notes, historical facts, book introductions, devotionals,

and other interactive elements to capture inquisitive young minds. Young readers join three life-like characters in discovering the Bible and what it means to their lives. For children 7 to 12.

> Wilderness Trail Paperback 9781609262198 \$22.99

Wilderness Trail Hardback 9781609262204 **\$29.99**

Ocean Sail DecoTone 9781609262044 \$36.99



Written for and by young people, **The CEB Student Bible** encourages teenagers to make connections between the world of the Bible and their own world, offering resources



such as an introduction to each book by a leading biblical scholar with youth ministry experience, more than 350 articles by scholars and pastors, discussion questions and group activities, and prayers and reflections written by young people themselves.

> Paperback 9781609261795 **\$29.99**

> DecoTone 9781609262020 \$39.99



 Belease: October 15, 2019
 Price: \$29.99

 Bonded Leather
 ISBN: 9781609262235

 Size: 5.375 x 8.375
 Pages: 1216

 BISAC: BIBLES / COMMON ENGLISH BIBLE / TEXT

KEY FEATURES

- Readable translation by a crossdenominational group of today's leading biblical scholars.
- Type size is 9-point.
- Beautiful package and classic cover makes this a timeless Bible for your personal reading or to give as a gift.

COMMON ENGLISH BIBLE THINLINE, BONDED LEATHER BURGUNDY

Be inspired by scripture with the readable and reliable Common English Bible translation.

The Common English Bible is a readable, reliable, and relevant invitation to Scripture.

Readable: It means more than reading phrases on a page. It means truly comprehending the words, the sentences, the ideas, and their meaning. With its approachable language, the CEB sets the reader on a path to new understanding.

Reliable: The CEB was built on the assembled knowledge of a diverse, cross-denominational group of men and women, translating directly from the original ancient texts—not revising tradition or inserting church doctrine. Exhaustive attention has been paid to ensure the work is impeccably balanced and rich in context.

Relevant: The times change, but the Bible meets you where you are, providing guidance for every situation you face and every season of life.

This new thinline edition of the Common English Bible translation is packaged in a rich burgundy bonded leather, with the words Holy Bible stamped in silver, making it a timeless Bible for yourself or to give as a gift.

INSPIRATIONAL & SEASONAL FALL & WINTER 2019-2020





LIGHT OF THE WORLD

A Beginner's Guide to Advent

Amy-Jill Levine

Dive deep into the history of the birth of Christ.

In *Light of the World: A Beginner's Guide to Advent*, author, professor, and biblical scholar Amy-Jill Levine explores the biblical texts surrounding the story of the birth of Jesus. Join her as she traces the Christmas narrative through the stories of Zechariah and Elizabeth, Mary, the journey to Bethlehem, and the visit from the Magi. These stories open conversations around connections of the Gospel stories to the Old Testament, the role of women in first-century Jewish culture, the importance of Mary's visitation and the revolutionary implications of Mary's Magnificat, the census and the stable, and the star of Bethlehem and the flight to Egypt.

The book provides a rich and challenging learning experience for small groups and individual readers alike. As part of a larger four-week study that is perfect for Advent, it includes a DVD and a comprehensive leader guide.

KEY FEATURES

- Amy-Jill Levine takes readers on an exploration of the biblical texts surrounding the story of the birth of Jesus.
- Levine uncovers the depth of meaning of the characters, places, and events depicted by Matthew and Luke's Nativity Stories.
- Includes Book, Leader Guide, and DVD featuring renowned biblical scholar, Amy-Jill Levine.
- The study highlights the main points of the Advent story and makes it more accessible to readers.

Amy-Jill Levine is University Professor of New Testament and Jewish Studies and Mary Jane Werthan Professor of Jewish Studies at Vanderbilt Divinity School and College of Arts and Sciences. An internationally renowned scholar and teacher, she is the author of numerous books including The Misunderstood Jew: The Church and the Scandal of the Jewish Jesus and Short Stories by Jesus: The Enigmatic Parables of a Controversial Rabbi. Her most recent publication is The Gospel of Luke, co-authored with Ben Witherington III. She is also the co-editor of the Jewish Annotated New Testament. Professor Levine, who has done over 500 programs for churches, clergy groups, and seminaries, has been awarded grants from the Mellon Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities. and the American Council of Learned Societies. Institutions granting her honorary degrees include Christian Theological Seminary and the Episcopal Seminary of the Southwest.

Release: September 3, 2019 Price: \$16.99 Paperback ISBN: 9781501884351 Size: 5.5 x 8.5 Pages: 144 BISAC: RELIGION / HOLIDAYS / CHRISTMAS & ADVENT

COMPANION PRODUCTS

COMPANION PRO	50013		
Large Print		9781501884375	\$17.99
Leader Guide	er Guide		\$14.99
DVD		9781501884306	\$39.99


ALMOST CHRISTMAS

A Wesleyan Advent Experience

Magrey R. deVega, Ingrid McIntyre, April Casperson, Matt Rawle

Make your Wesleyan heritage a part of your Christmas.

In 1741, John Wesley preached his famous sermon titled "The Almost Christian" in which he encouraged people to follow Christ wholeheartedly. We should not be satisfied with being almost Christian but rather strive towards being altogether a Christian.

In *Almost Christmas: A Wesleyan Advent Experience*, author and pastor Magrey deVega leads a group of authors to explore how we can make the same commitment to Christ during Advent, connecting our Wesleyan heritage with the traditional Advent themes of Love, Hope, Joy, and Peace.

In this book, ideal for Advent, deVega and a host of authors break down the barriers that prevent us from experiencing an "altogether" love, hope, joy, and peace in Christ in our lives and in the world around us. They demonstrate the promises God offers to us that makes those longings a reality, inviting us to claim those promises for ourselves this Advent and celebrate an altogether Christmas.

Additional components for a four-week study include a DVD featuring Magrey deVega and the other writers and a comprehensive Leader Guide, as well as nativity hymns by Charles Wesley, litanies for lighting the Advent wreath, and prayers that can be incorporated into both worship and small group settings. A daily devotional and a youth study book are also available.

KEY FEATURES

- Draws on the writings of John Wesley and Wesleyan tradition.
- Uses familiar Advent themes of love, hope, joy, and peace.
- A four-week study perfect for Advent and Christmas.
- DVD features Magrey deVega and companion authors in 10-12 minute sessions.
- Leader Guide includes complete session plans for facilitating the study.
- Hymn suggestions and other worship resources available.

Magrey R. deVega is the Senior Pastor at Hyde Park United Methodist Church in Tampa, Florida. He is the author of several books, including *Embracing the Uncertain: A Lenten Study for Unsteady Times, One Faithful Promise: The Wesleyan Covenant for Renewal*, and *Songs for the Waiting*.

Ingrid McIntyre is the co-founder and Executive Director of Open Table Nashville, a ministry with those experiencing homelessness that focuses on disrupting cycles of poverty in the Nashville area.

April Casperson is an ordained deacon in The United Methodist Church and serves as the Director of Diversity and Inclusion for the West Ohio annual conference.

Matt Rawle is the lead pastor at Asbury United Methodist Church in Bossier City, Louisiana. He is the author of *What Makes a Hero?*, *The Redemption of Scrooge*, and *The Gift of the Nutcracker*.

Release: September 17, 2019Price: \$16.99PaperbackISBN: 9781501890574Size: 5 x 7Pages: 128BISAC: RELIGION / HOLIDAYS / CHRISTMAS &ADVENT

COMPANION PRODUCTS

COMPANION PRODUCTS					
Large Print	*************************************				
Leader Guide		9781501890604	\$14.99		
DVD		9781501890628	\$39.99		
Devotions		9781501890697	\$11.99		
Youth Study Book		9781501890673	\$11.99		

From the author of The Journey and The Way ADAM HAMILTO

NOT A SILENT NIGHT MARY LOOKS BACK TO BETHLEHEM

Release: September 17, 2019 Price: \$14.99 Paperback ISBN: 9781501879579 Size: 5 x 7 Pages: 144 **BISAC:** RELIGION / HOLIDAYS / CHRISTMAS & ADVENT

KEY FEATURES

- · Paperback book now available.
- DVD and Leader Guide available for small group study.
- · Youth study available.
- · Perfect for Advent.

NOT A SILENT NIGHT

Mary Looks Back to Bethlehem

Adam Hamilton

Witness the life and ministry of Jesus Christ through the eves of Mary.

Imagine Jesus from Mary's point-of-view -proud of her son, in awe of his gifts and mission, guided by love for him as a person and so much more. In this book, Adam Hamilton begins at the end, with Mary at the crucifixion and resurrection; travels back in time as she witnesses his life and ministry; and ends at the beginning, with the Christ child born in a stable, Mary's beautiful baby. This year, experience Advent and Christmas with Mary.

The five sessions are:

- 1. Beginning with the End
- 2. The Piercing of Mary's Soul
- 3. Amazed, Astounded, and Astonished
- 4. Mary, Full of Grace
- 5. It Was Not a Silent Night

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. Hamilton is the best-selling and awardwinning author of Simon Peter, 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.com.

BY THE SAME AUTHOR





9781501828799 \$14.99



36 | AbingdonPress.com

9781501814082 \$19.99

9781501828775 \$14.99

KEEP WATCH WITH ME

An Advent Reader for Peacemakers

Claire Brown & Michael T. McRay

Become a peacemaker this Advent and experience the hope of new life!

Keep Watch With Me: An Advent Reader for Peacemakers is a collaborative daily devotional featuring diverse contributors: black, white, LGBTQ, Latinx, Palestinian, incarcerated, Native American, Australian, American, Irish, South African, clergy, laity, activists, authors, organizers, and more. The season of Advent, as the church prepares for the birth of Christ, is a penitential season of reckoning with our need and the needs of the world. *Keep Watch With Me* offers stories, reflections, prayers, and spiritual practices to sustain and challenge the faith of those who work for justice and peace, and long for the coming of God with us.

Michael McRay works and writes in Nashville, TN. He's the author *Where the River Bends: Considering Forgiveness in the Lives of Prisoners, Letters from "Apartheid Street": A Christian Peacemaker in Occupied Palestine,* and the co-author with Tony Vick of Secrets from a *Prison Cell.* He founded and curates Tenx9 Nashville Storytelling, facilitates story-exchanges as a Master Practitioner with Narrative 4, and lectures on international conflict, reconciliation, and forgiveness at Lipscomb University. Michael did graduate school in Belfast where he studied conflict resolution and reconciliation.

Claire Brown is an Episcopal priest, writer, theologian, partner, and mama living in Chattanooga, Tennessee. Her work focuses on the connections between the Eucharist, transformative spiritual practice, and community ethics. Claire is a graduate of Vanderbilt Divinity School and the Shalem Institute for Spiritual Formation, and has studied at Hartford Seminary, and the School of Theology at Sewanee. She blogs at revclairebrown.com about parenthood, embodiment, theology, and the church.



Release: October 1, 2019 Price: \$16.99 Paperback ISBN: 9781501876332 Size: 5 x 7 Pages: 176 BISAC: RELIGION / HOLIDAYS / CHRISTMAS & ADVENT

KEY FEATURES

- Features a collection of writings by Shane Claiborne, Brian McLaren, Becca Stevens, Paidrag O'Tuama, and many others.
- *Keep Watch With Me* offers stories, reflections, prayers, and spiritual practices to sustain and challenge the faith of those who work for justice and peace, and long for the coming of God with us.
- Advent devotional with inspiring words for those working for social justice in all walks of life.



Release: September 3, 2019 Price: \$9.99 Paperback ISBN: 9781501887307 Size: 6 x 9 Pages: 96 BISAC: RELIGION / HOLIDAYS / CHRISTMAS & ADVENT

GOD IS WITH US

Scriptures for the Church Seasons

Robin Wilson

Explore your longing for God's presence this Advent Season.

God Is With Us, originally published in 2016, invites you to explore your longing for God's presence through a study of the lectionary Bible readings for Advent and Christmas. The hope of Advent is the fulfillment of that longing; we await the coming of Jesus as Immanuel, God With Us. 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.

Robin Wilson is the Senior Pastor of First UMC in Opelika, Alabama, and has a passion for helping all people discover and respond to God's call upon their lives. Having served on the Board of Directors of Discipleship Ministries and the Upper Room Ministries, Inc., Robin currently serves on the Board of the Stegall Seminary Scholarship Foundation. Robin is a graduate of Vanderbilt University and Duke Divinity School.

ALSO AVAILABLE

Large Print

\$10.99

9781501887321

Harvent A Calendar of Devotions 2019 Teer Hardy

 Release: August 6, 2019
 Price: \$11.99

 Brochure
 ISBN: 9781501888373

 Size: 3.75 x 9
 Pages: 48

 BISAC: RELIGION / HOLIDAYS / CHRISTMAS & ADVENT

ADVENT A CALENDAR OF DEVOTIONS 2019

(Pkg of 10)

Teer Hardy

Advent devotions from Teer Hardy.

Providing daily devotions for Christians preparing to celebrate Christ's birth, this annual favorite is a great resource for you and other members of the congregation. Beginning on the first Sunday of Advent and ending on Christmas Day, each day's devotional includes a suggested Scripture, a short devotion, and a closing prayer. The 3 3/4" x 9" trim allows for a large print type. Sold in packages of 10, the booklets are designed to fit in a #10 envelope. This enables you and your church to include them in your Advent mailing, especially to parishioners unable to attend service and making it easy to mail to visitors or share as a part of home-bound or prison ministry.

Teer Hardy has a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice from West Virginia Wesleyan College and Masters of Theology from Wesley Theological Seminary, where he is currently also finishing his Masters of Divinity. Teer also is the co-founder and host of the Crackers & Grape Juice podcast. He also maintains a blog where he engages theological concepts with the practicality of everyday living. You can read it at www.teerhardy.com. He lives in Arlington, Virginia.

CHRIST IS FOR US

Scriptures for the Church Seasons

April Yamasaki

Explore God's saving and redeeming love through a seven-week Lenten study.

Christ Is for Us, originally released in 2016, invites readers to explore God's saving and redeeming love through a seven-week study of the Scripture readings for Lent and Easter. Key Bible passages call us to embrace God's salvation and the new life offered to us through Christ.

April Yamasaki is a pastor and author of books on spiritual growth and Christian living. She has served as the pastor of Emmanuel Mennonite Church in Abbotsford, British Columbia. She has written several books, including *Spark: Igniting Your God-Given Creativity, Sacred Pauses: Spiritual Practices for Personal Renewal,* and *Four Gifts: Seeking Self-Care for Heart, Soul, Mind, and Strength.* Her writing may be found online at www.aprilyamasaki.com.



Release: December 17, 2019Price: \$9.99PaperbackISBN: 9781501887376Size: 6 x 9Pages: 112BISAC: RELIGION / HOLIDAYS / EASTER & LENT

ALSO AVAILABLE		
Large Print	9781501887390	\$10.99

THE SANCTUARY FOR LENT 2020

(Pkg of 10)

Sam McGlothlin

Lenten devotions by Sam McGlothlin

The Sanctuary for Lent 2020 contains brief readings for each day in Lent, from Ash Wednesday through Easter Day, including a suggested Scripture, a short devotion, and a closing prayer. The annual favorite helps readers faithfully journey Lent as they prepare to experience the joy of the Resurrection and is a wonderful congregational resource. The 3 3/4" x 9" trim allows for a large print type. Sold in packages of 10, the booklets are designed to fit in a #10 envelope. This enables you and your church to include them in your Advent mailing, especially to parishioners unable to attend service and making it easy to mail to visitors or share as a part of home-bound or prison ministry.

Sam McGlothlin is Associate Pastor at Belle Meade UMC in Nashville, Tennessee. Sam worked for Mountain T.O.P., a non-profit dedicated to rural life ministry in the Cumberland Mountains of Tennessee.



 Release:
 December 17, 2019
 Price: \$11.99

 Brochure
 ISBN: 9781501888403
 Size: 3.75 x 9
 Pages: 48

 BISAC:
 RELIGION / HOLIDAYS / EASTER & LENT



THE WALK

Five Essential Practices of the Christian Life

Adam Hamilton

Join Adam Hamilton this Lent and Easter.

How do we walk with Christ-daily follow him, grow in him, and faithfully serve him?

In the Gospels, Jesus modeled for us the Christian spiritual life. The apostles taught it in their writings. And the Church has, through the last 2,000 years, sought to pursue this Christian spiritual life. In *The Walk*, Adam Hamilton focuses on five essential spiritual practices that are rooted in Jesus' own walk with God and taught throughout the New Testament. Each of these practices is intended as part of our daily walk with Christ while also being an essential part of growing together in the church.

In each chapter, Hamilton explores one of these practices, its New Testament foundation, and what it looks like to pursue this practice daily in our personal life and together in the life of the church. Deepen your walk with Christ as we explore the five essential practices of worship, study, serving, giving, and bearing witness to our faith.

Additional components for a six-week adult study include a comprehensive Leader Guide and a DVD featuring the engaging teachings of author and pastor Adam Hamilton. Also available are resources for children and youth

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.
- By examining the life and teachings of Jesus, we discover clear, concrete ways to follow him daily in our personal lives and together with others in the church.
- Hear from the author, Adam Hamilton, in short teaching videos each week.
- Perfect for Lent and Easter.

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. Hamilton is the best-selling and award-winning author of *Simon Peter, 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.com.

 Release: December 17, 2019
 Price: \$19.99

 Hardback
 ISBN: 9781501891182

 Size: 5.5 x 8.5
 Pages: 176

 BISAC: RELIGION / HOLIDAYS / EASTER & LENT

COMPANION PRODUCTS				
Large Print	9781501891205 \$20.99			
Leader Guide		9781501891212	\$14.99	
DVD		9781501891236	\$39.99	
Youth Study Book		9781501891304	\$11.99	
Children's Leader Guide		9781501891328	\$18.99	



THE GRACE OF LES MISÉRABLES

Matt Rawle

This Lent ponder the themes of justice, poverty, freedom, and love.

The hit Broadway Musical, *Les Misérables*, based on Victor Hugo's 1862 novel, is one of the longest running musicals in the world. This profound story of Jean Valjean's quest for redemption and a changed life has inspired audiences to ponder themes of justice, poverty, freedom, and love.

In keeping with his previous works, Matt Rawle brings us to the intersection of Church and Pop Culture by drawing parallels between the popular story and the life of Jesus, another revolutionary who shared a Gospel of justice for those on the margins of life, and in turn, a sacrificial life with the least of us all.

Sessions include:

- Grace Jean Valjean
- Poverty Fantine
- Revolution Les Amis (The Friends)
- Sacrifice Eponine
- Justice Javert
- Hope Conclusion

Additional components for a six-week Lenten study include a DVD featuring Matt Rawle, a comprehensive leader guide, a youth resource, and Worship Resources Flash Drive.

KEY FEATURES

- Readers will look at the novel and hit Broadway Musical, *Les Misérables*, through the lens of faith alongside countercultural examples of justice, poverty, freedom, and love.
- Readers will learn to examine culture more closely in order to rediscover and reinvigorate their Christian faith.
- A six-week study perfect for Lent and beyond.
- DVD features the teaching of Matt Rawle in 8-10 minute sessions.
- Leader Guide includes complete session plans for facilitating the study

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

Release: December 17, 2019	Price: \$16.99
Paperback ISBN: 978150188	7109
Size: 5.5 x 8.5 Pages: 144	
BISAC: RELIGION / HOLIDAYS	6 / EASTER & LENT

COMPANION PRODUCTS

COMPANION PRODUCTS					
Leader Guide		9781501887123	\$14.99		
DVD		9781501887147	\$39.99		
Youth Study Book		9781501887215	\$11.99		
Worship Resources Flash Drive		9781501887239	\$34.99		





THE PASSION PLAY

Living the Story of Christ's Last Days

Rob Fuquay

Recognize your own place in the story of the Passion of Jesus.

With few exceptions, the Oberammergau Passion Play has been presented by the inhabitants of the village of Oberammergau, Bavaria, Germany every 10 years since 1634. The play is a staging of Jesus' Passion story, covering the final period of his life from his visit to Jerusalem to the journey to the cross.

In his new book and study, *The Passion Play: Living the Story of Christ's Last Days*, author and pastor Rob Fuquay follows the biblical story of the Passion and how it has been experienced through the centuries against the backdrop of this amazing play.

Perfect for Lent, this book and study takes you on a journey to the origins of the Passion Play and helps you understand how the play has been used both as a ritual of praise and later as a weapon through its anti-Semitic past. The book and study helps readers and small groups feel a sense of connection to the play while recognizing their own place in the story of Jesus.

Additional components for a six-week study include a DVD featuring Rob Fuquay filmed on location in Oberammergau, Germany and a comprehensive Leader Guide.

KEY FEATURES

- Partnership with Educational Opportunities to commemorate the event by promoting the book and study to several thousand travelers.
- DVD includes behind the scenes footage, onsite teaching with Rob Fuquay, and interviews with people whose lives have been changed by playing part in the production.
- Helps readers and small groups feel that sense of connection to the play and recognize their own place in the story of Jesus.
- · An ideal book and study for Lent.

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 *A New Reformation: From Luther's World to Ours* and *The God We Can Know*, a seven-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.

 Belease:
 December
 17, 2019
 Price:
 \$16.99

 Paperback
 ISBN:
 9781501884412

 Size:
 5.5 x 8.5
 Pages:
 128

 BISAC:
 RELIGION / HOLIDAYS / EASTER & LENT

COMPANION PRODUCTS				
Leader Guide Image: Window Windo				
DVD		9781501884436	\$39.99	

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MATT RAWLE





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9781501822605 | \$17.99



9781501828799 | \$18.99

9781501848704 | \$16.99

LEADERSHIP, THEOLOGY, & BIBLICAL STUDIES

FALL & WINTER 2019-2020



Release: September 17, 2019 Price: \$22.99 Paperback ISBN: 9781501880247 Size: 6 x 9 Pages: 160 BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN MINISTRY/ COUNSELING & RECOVERY

KEY FEATURES

- Appreciate that persons diagnosed with dementia maintain their identity and worth as beloved children of God, made in the divine image, an integral part of the community of faith.
- Be equipped to minister (and help others minister) with people affected by dementia, receiving their gifts and responding to their unique needs.
- Understand practical ways that the contributions of persons with dementia can be identified, nurtured, and incorporated into the church's life and ministry.

MINISTRY WITH THE FORGOTTEN

Dementia through a Spiritual Lens Kenneth L. Carder

Can persons who forget God, know God? Can one who forgets who Jesus is be a Christian disciple?

Dementia diseases represent a crisis of faith for many family members and congregations. Magnifying this crisis is the way people with dementia tend to be objectified by both medical and religious communities. They are recipients of treatment and projects for mission. Ministry is done to and for them rather than with them.

While acknowledging the devastation of dementia diseases, Ken Carder draws on his own experience as a caregiver, hospice chaplain, and pastoral practitioner to portray the gifts as well as the challenges accompanying dementia diseases. He confronts the deep personal and theological questions created by loving people with dementia diseases, demonstrating how living with dementia can be a means of growing in faith, wholeness, and ministry for the entire community of faith. He also reveals that authentic faith transcends intellectual beliefs, verbal affirmations, and prescribed practices. Carder asserts that the Judeo-Christian tradition offers a broader lens, defining personhood in relationship to God's story and humanity's participation in God's mighty acts of creation and new creation; thereby contributing to hope, community, and self-worth.

Pastors and congregations will be better equipped to minister with people affected by dementia, receiving their gifts and responding to their unique needs. They will learn how people with dementia contribute to the community and the church's life and mission, discovering practical ways those contributions can be identified, nurtured, and incorporated into the church's life and ministry.

Kenneth L. Carder is Ruth W. and A. Morris Williams, Jr. Professor Emeritus at Duke Divinity School and Senior Visiting Professor of Wesley Studies at Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary Columbia, SC. Carder is a retired Bishop in The United Methodist Church.

COMPARABLE TITLES





9781501871368 \$5.99



48 | AbingdonPress.com

9781426766473 \$36.99 9781426749575 \$15.99

CARING

Six Steps for Effective Pastoral Conversations

Denise Massey

Coach those in need to access their own spiritual and personal resources, invoking both God's help and their deep inner wisdom.

Caring: Six Steps for Effective Pastoral Conversations is designed to help ministers and pastoral care givers solve one of their most significant problems. They are called upon to "fix" all manner of human problems, and this expectation often leaves them feeling overwhelmed, highly stressed, or woefully unprepared. Help is available! Author Denise Massey will teach readers how to coach people to access their own spiritual and personal resources, invoking both God's help and the person's own deep inner wisdom.

The six steps of the *CARING* process can transform ministry conversations from floundering and uncertain to powerful and effective. These steps of facilitating powerful problem-solving conversation are ones that the minister and the person receiving care take together. The acronym CARING will help the minister remember both the steps and the ultimate purpose of the conversation. C: Connect to God, self, and others. A: Attend to the person's journey and assess the type of help that is needed. R: Reach agreement about the focus and goal for this conversation. I: Invite help from God, the person's higher self, and other people. N: Notice, release, and navigate around resistance or obstacles. G: Generate a loving, specific action plan to reach the goal.

Denise Massey is the Associate Professor of Pastoral Care and Counseling at McAfee School of Theology of Mercer University. She received an MDiv in Pastoral Care, a ThM in Pastoral Care and a PhD in Psychology of Religion and Pastoral Care from The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville Kentucky. Dr. Massey advises students who are interested in chaplaincy and pastoral counseling, in addition to teaching courses in Spiritual Care, Emotional Intelligence for Ministry & Leadership, Dreams as a Resource for Spiritual Care, Spiritual Care with Addicted Persons, Spiritual Care through Coaching, and Spiritual Formation. Massey is a Certified Supervisor with the Association of Clinical Pastoral Education. She is also a Life Coach, a member of the International Coaching Federation, and a member of the Society for Pastoral Theology and Spiritual Directors International.

COMPARABLE TITLES



9781426766473 \$36.99



9781630886905 \$21.99



Release: November 5, 2019 Price: \$18.99 Paperback ISBN: 9781501884580 Size: 5.5 x 8.5 Pages: 160 BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN MINISTRY / COUNSELING & RECOVERY

KEY FEATURES

- Practical guidance to effective pastoral conversations with steps that care-seeker and care-giver take together.
- CARING acronym makes it easy to remember the six transformative steps.
- Learning the six steps prevents the caregiver from floundering to focus the pastoral conversations where needed.



BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN CHURCH / LEADERSHIP

GOD VS. MONEY

Winning Strategies in the Combat Zone

J. Clif Christopher

Stop falling for Money's false promises. Trust in God's promises.

This God vs. Money Participant Guide together with the God vs. Money DVD provide a process for applying key principles from the main book, God vs. Money (ISBN 9781501868115), in the participants' own ministry context. This study is for leaders in churches and other ministry settings who have responsibility for capital campaigns, budgets, stewardship, planned giving, and other financial concerns. The typical study groups include finance committees, stewardship teams, foundation boards, and finance-related staff teams. The study is also recommended for continuing education of pastors and other church leaders.

A copy of the main book (*God vs. Money*) is required for each participant and a copy of the DVD is required for each group. Prior to each group session, participants should read a section of the book. Sessions start with a 7-10 minute video from the DVD featuring Clif Christopher. Using the Guide, participants complete a variety of activities focused on application of key points from the prescribed reading, including discussion questions, personal reflection, group problem-solving activities, and other actions.

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.
- Facilitates successful, collaborative work by stewardship or finance committees, capital campaign teams, foundation boards, etc.
- Christopher answers the question "Why?" throughout, helping readers to understand the Christ-serving purpose behind the practices, strategies and tactics.

J. Clif Christopher, an ordained United Methodist minister, is CEO and founder of Horizons Stewardship Company. He and Horizons' strategists have consulted with over 2,000 churches, conferences, synods, and diocese in all phases of building, finance, and church growth raising billions of dollars for ministry. Christopher is a certified church growth consultant and earned the coveted title CFRE (Certified Fund Raising Executive). Christopher, a Gulf War veteran, is the author of multiple books including *Not Your Parents' Offering Plate* and *The Church Money Manual*.

Book	9781501868115	\$16.99
Participant Guide	9781501891571	\$12.99
DVD	9781501891595	\$39.99

GROWING THROUGH DISASTER

Tools for Financial and Trauma Recovery in Your

Faith Community

Clayton L. Smith & Matt Schoenfeld

Helping the community recover from the trauma from a disaster, together.

Communities suffer from many types of traumas and disasters: hurricanes, floods, tornadoes, fires, earthquakes, and other natural or human-made disasters. *Growing Though Disaster* can assist in recovery from any of these disasters and the associated aftermath: business closings, loss of local industry, recession, high unemployment, etc.

After first-responders leave, *Growing Through Disaster* continues to assist faith communities and their leaders in the real recovery process. This resource is ultimately focused on helping the entire community gain/re-gain financial strength, which is achieved by individuals working together through this resource's content in small support groups. Leaders will gather people in their community to participate in the process authors Clayton Smith and Matt Schoenfeld provide, a process developed through their significant experience in assisting communities recover from disaster and trauma. The process leads to spiritually-rooted recovery for the people and their community.

Clayton Smith serves as the Executive Pastor of Stewardship and Generosity at Church of the Resurrection in Leawood, Kansas. He's been a Senior Pastor in the United Methodist Church for more than 25 years and an Ordained Elder for more than 40 years. He and his wife, Lori, have been married 28 years and live in Stilwell, Kansas.

Matt Shoenfeld has more than 30 years of ministry experience, and he has been teaching people biblical strategies for managing personal finances since 1995. Matt has helped more than 20,000 people across the United States and abroad grow in financial discipleship and generosity through powerful workshops and one-on-one financial coaching ministry. He served numerous churches as a consultant for capital stewardship campaigns, stewardship ministry, estate giving, and general management. Since 2015, Matt has served as an award-winning Financial Advisor with VALIC Financial Advisors based in Houston, Texas.

BY THE SAME AUTHOR



9781630883683 \$16.99



9781501810503 \$12.99



Tools for Financial and Trauma Recovery in Your Faith Community

Release: September 3, 2019 Price: \$17.99 Paperback ISBN: 9781501890918 Size: 5.5 x 8.5 Pages: 144 BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / STEWARDSHIP & GIVING

KEY FEATURES

- Access to the authors' vast experience in assisting faith communities recover from disasters.
- Gives focus and process in a time of trauma, combating feelings of helplessness and hopelessness.
- Practical guidance for collaborative work toward disaster recovery, no matter the type of disaster.



 Release: April 16, 2019
 Price: \$19.99

 Paperback
 ISBN: 9781501886300

 Size: 6 x 9
 Pages: 208

 BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIANITY / METHODIST

KEY FEATURES

- A collection of true stories as told by the women bishops who experienced them. Integrates the stories told by the women bishops with the printed materials, such as *The Daily Christian Advocate*, to get a full view of the enormity of these elections.
- A detailed analysis of what these true stories teach us about where our church has been and where God is leading us through the inclusion of women in leadership roles.
- A chart in the appendix lists out every women bishop elected to the episcopacy including when and how long each served.
- A deeper understanding of the differences having women bishops have made.

WOMEN BISHOPS OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Abingdon Press

Extraordinary Gifts of the Spirit

Sharon Zimmerman Rader & Margaret Ann Crain

A collection of true stories about the first women in the church elected to the office of the episcopacy.

Bishop Sharon Zimmerman Rader and Dr. Margaret Ann Crain interviewed the women bishops of The United Methodist Church, the first denomination to elect women to the episcopacy. Through the stories they collected, they learned what enabled these women to persevere, claim authority, define leadership in their own ways, and rise to the episcopacy. Their stories reveal how these clergywomen changed the church, blazing leadership trails both before and after their elections.

This book shares inspirational stories and pivotal moments that illustrate how these women managed the complexities of family, faith, and authority. Through their histories, women bishops have made—and will continue to make—both realized and unrealized differences in The United Methodist Church.

Sharon Zimmerman Rader was ordained deacon in the Detroit Conference and elder in the Northern Illinois Conference. She transferred to the West Michigan Conference where she was a local church pastor, member of the Conference Staff, and District Superintendent. She was elected to the episcopacy by the North Central Jurisdiction in 1992 and assigned to the Wisconsin Area. She retired in 2004 and then served as the first executive for the Connectional Table, as Council of Bishops Ecumenical Officer, and as Bishop in Residence at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary. She lives in Evanston, Illinois.

Margaret Ann Crain was ordained in 1997 and is a deacon in full connection in the Northern Illinois Conference. She served churches in Missouri and North Georgia before joining the faculty of Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary where she taught Christian education and qualitative research. As Director of Deacon Studies, she created a program that supported, advocated for, and trained many deacons when the new order was created in 1996. Crain retired as Professor Emerita. Her most recent book is *The United Methodist Deacon: Ordained to Word, Service, Compassion, and Justice*. She lives in Nashville, Tennessee.

PREACHING TO TEACH

Inspire People to Think and Act

Richard Voelz

Be equipped to teach through your preaching.

Preaching to Teach merges the related functions of preaching and teaching, and equips the reader to accomplish both.

Preachers stand up to speak each week in challenging times to unsettled congregations. Each week seems to bring a new difficult subject: mass shootings and other forms of violence; hard conversations around race, ethnicity, and multi-religious contexts; immigration; poverty; climate change; foreign and domestic terrorism; and bickering about it all on social media. Preachers are hungry for ways to envision the work of preaching in these times, as well as for tools that will help them speak to difficult and contentious topics.

In a divided and weary world, preachers struggle with the choice of any number of "images" to describe their preaching identity. There is an ancient image of the preacher that may help: the preacher as teacher.

Rather than focusing on traditional concepts of teaching to determine the content, form, style, or delivery of sermons, the field of critical pedagogy offers a way of re-envisioning the preacher-as-teacher. Recasting the preacher-as-teacher through the lens of critical pedagogy grounds the image of teacher in an ethical framework, inviting preachers to redefine their public roles, stand in relationships of solidarity with communities of faith, break the silences of taboos, tackle tough issues, and re-imagine the world in the shape of the kingdom of God.

Richard W. Voelz is an Assistant Professor of Preaching and Worship at Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond, VA. He has over a decade of ministry experience in various contexts and continues to be a frequent preacher and speaker. A graduate of Vanderbilt University's Graduate Department of Religion with the PhD in Homiletics and Liturgics, Dr. Voelz brings expertise and scholarly interest in contemporary homiletic theory, preaching and youth, pastoral identity, and preaching in the Stone-Campbell Movement.



Release: August 6, 2019 Price: \$19.99 Paperback ISBN: 9781501868078 Size: 5.5 x 8.5 Pages: 160 BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN MINISTRY / PREACHING

KEY FEATURES

- Addresses the tension of how to approach contemporary issues that may be divisive in unsettled congregations.
- Suggests a way to think about preaching as teaching (an increasingly popular way to talk about preaching) that goes beyond traditional associations.
- Recasts a familiar image of the preacher in a fresh way, introducing a body of literature yet unexplored in preaching literature.

COMPARABLE TITLES



9781501849688 \$18.99



9781501841729 \$19.99



800.251.3320 | 53

9781426781926 \$19.99

James Henry Harris



Preaching in Front of the Bible to Create a New World

Release: October 15, 2019 Price: \$24.99 Paperback ISBN: 9781501889066 Size: 6 x 9 Pages: 160 BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN MINISTRY / PREACHING

KEY FEATURES

- Helps preachers overcome "interpretive oppression" through a new theory of scriptural interpretation.
- Presents a five-part method for preaching--stretching from preparation to proclamation.
- Demonstrates how interpretational creativity emerges from fidelity to the text--using exegesis of the Book of Jonah as an example.

BEYOND THE TYRANNY OF THE TEXT

Preaching in Front of the Bible to Create a New World James Henry Harris

A new, transformative approach to corrective, creative, and prophetic preaching.

Preachers and students of preaching need help communicating hope! They want their sermons to communicate the promises of scripture, so that people can envision a new world in which their lives will be transformed. Preachers want to experience a new sense of freedom in their preaching, and to extend liberation based on their reading and interpretation of the scripture.

James Henry Harris introduces interpretation theory and continental philosophy as a resource for preachers to resist and overcome interpretive oppression, and lays out a new theory of scriptural interpretation. He analyzes philosopher Paul Ricoeur's hermeneutics as a helpful guide for modern preachers, and incorporates in his analysis of the lived experience of the Black church. Harris highlights the preaching of several 19th and 20th century Black women, including Jarena Lee, Maria Stewart, and Mary Evans.

Beyond the Tyranny of the Text develops a five-part method for preaching that stretches from preparation to proclamation, and demonstrates how this method for interpretational creativity emerges from fidelity to the text. Harris demonstrates his method with sermonic exegesis of the Book of Jonah. With this new process of reading, rereading, un-reading, writing, and un-writing the text, the author offers wisdom and tools for reflection and illumination. At its core, *Beyond the Tyranny of the Text* challenges the field of homiletics and all preachers to un-write like Jesus Christ: to get in front of the text, to understand preparation and preaching as a creative and transformative enterprise.

James Henry Harris is the Distinguished Professor and Chair of Homiletics and Practical Theology and Research Scholar in Religion at the School of Theology, Virginia Union University and pastor of Second Baptist Church (West End) in Richmond, VA. He holds degrees from the University of Virginia, Virginia Commonwealth University, United Theological Seminary and Old Dominion University.

COMPARABLE TITLES







9781501842399 \$34.99

9781501856839 \$17.99

9781501832574 \$21.99

THE ABINGDON PREACHING ANNUAL 2020

Planning Sermons and Services for Fifty-Two Sundays

Tanya Linn Bennett

The Abingdon Preaching Annual 2020 is a source of inspiration and edification for pastors, who so rarely are on the receiving end of preaching.

Each week's entry includes 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 2020* is designed to stir the preacher's imagination; offer fresh, intriguing ideas; and point the preacher in a good direction. The Annual is based on the calendar year (January 2020 - December 2020).

Tanya Linn Bennett is a commissioned elder in the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference currently serving as assistant pastor for youth and worship at Chatham United Methodist Church and director of the chapel and special programs at Drew Theological School. She is a PhD candidate at Caspersen Graduate School of Drew University.



EDITED BY TANYA LINN BENNETT

The Abingdon PREACHING ANNUAL 2020

Planning Sermons and Services for Fifty-Two Sundays



Release: April 2, 2019 Price: \$26.99 Paperback ISBN: 9781501881244 Size: 6 x 9 Pages: 192 BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN MINISTRY / PREACHING

KEY FEATURES

- Designed to spur the preacher's imagination and sermon development process.
- Offers fresh, intriguing ideas.
- Gives the reader/preacher good direction; the reader takes it from there.
- Includes worship helps.





9781501858857 \$26.99



TITLES IN THE WILL WILLIMON'S LECTIONARY SERMON RESOURCE SERIES				
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YEAR A PART 2	December 3, 2019		9781501847523	\$24.99
YEAR B PART 1	Available Now		9781501847233	\$24.99
YEAR B PART 2	Available Now		9781501847257	\$24.99
YEAR C PART 1	Available Now		9781501847271	\$24.99
YEAR C PART 2	Available Now		9781501847318	\$24.99
PREACHING THE PSALMS	December 3, 2019		9781501890963	\$24.99

WILL WILLIMON'S LECTIONARY SERMON RESOURCE SERIES

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 preachers' imaginations while leaving plenty of room to insert their own illustrations, make connections within their congregational context, and speak the Word in their distinctive voice. Guidance from Will Willimon is like sitting down with a trusted clergy friend and asking, "What will you preach next Sunday?"

This series contains seven volumes: two from each Year of the Revised Common Lectionary and one focusing solely on the Psalms. All Sundays of the church year are addressed.

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

KEY FEATURES

- Selected readings, themes, and introductions to the lectionary passages for every Sunday of each year of the Revised Common Lectionary: A, B, and C.
- "Encountering the Text" and "Proclaiming the Text" reflections to help preachers move from Bible to sermon.
- "Relating the Text" observations for sermon series illustration or use in bulletins or on the church's website.

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



FEAR OF THE OTHER

9781501832512 \$17.99







Exclusion & Embrace

A Theological Exploration of Identity, Otherness, and Reconciliation

Release: August 20, 2019 Price: \$32.99 Paperback ISBN: 9781501861079 Size: 6 x 9 Pages: 336 BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN THEOLOGY / GENERAL

KEY FEATURES

- Readers will understand exclusion as sin and embrace as God's saving gesture in Christ with real world implications for healing communities, cultures, institutions, and societies.
- Readers will discover that embrace is rooted in God's self-giving love and forgiveness.
- Readers will see that reconciliation (full embrace) is only possible when the truth is told and justice done.
- Readers will recognize that Christian identity is a self-giving readjustment that creates space for others, prior to any judgments about them (other than affirming their humanity).

EXCLUSION & EMBRACE, REVISED AND UPDATED

A Theological Exploration of Identity, Otherness,

and Reconciliation

Miroslav Volf

Embrace: a theological response to the problem of exclusion.

Life in the twenty-first century presents a disturbing reality. Otherness, the simple fact of being different in some way, has come to be defined as in and of itself evil. Miroslav Volf contends that if the healing word of the gospel is to be heard today, Christian theology must find ways of speaking that address the hatred of the other. Is there any hope of embracing our enemies? Of opening the door to reconciliation? Reaching back to the New Testament metaphor of salvation as reconciliation, Volf proposes the idea of embrace as a theological response to the problem of exclusion.

Increasingly we see that exclusion has become the primary sin, skewing our perceptions of reality and causing us to react out of fear and anger to all those who are not within our (ever-narrowing) circle. In light of this, Christians must learn that salvation comes, not only as we are reconciled to God, and not only as we "learn to live with one another," but as we take the dangerous and costly step of opening ourselves to the other, of enfolding him or her in the same embrace with which we have been enfolded by God.

Volf won the 2002 Louisville Grawemeyer Award in Religion for the first edition of his book, *Exclusion & Embrace: A Theological Exploration of Identity, Otherness, and Reconciliation* (Abingdon, 1996). In that first edition, professor Volf, a Croatian by birth, analyzed the civil war and "ethnic cleansing" in the former Yugoslavia, and he readily found other examples of cultural, ethnic, and racial conflict to illustrate his points. Since September 11, 2001, and the subsequent epidemic of terror and massive refugee suffering throughout the world, Volf revised *Exclusion & Embrace* to account for the evolving dynamics of inter-ethnic and international strife.

Miroslav Volf, is Henry B. Wright Professor of Systematic Theology at Yale University Divinity School, New Haven, Connecticut. A native Croatian, he writes out of his own firsthand experience of teaching in Croatia during the war in former Yugoslavia.

COMPARABLE TITLE



9781501824753 \$14.99

NEW TESTAMENT CONVERSATIONS

A Literary, Historical, and Pluralistic Introduction

Suzanne Watts Henderson

Ancient Christian traditions framed in conversation with their original settings and with a range of religious voices across time and place.

Historical introductions to the New Testament typically devote careful attention to its ancient context, exploring these texts against the backdrop of Jewish and Hellenistic thought. But biblical scholars have been slower to appreciate the pluralistic setting in which students of all ages read the New Testament today.

Students today bring to the study of the New Testament an increasing sense that its message, while dominant in the Western world for millennia, is now just one voice among many religious (and philosophical) options. In this book, students encounter the New Testament in relation to the wider landscape of sacred traditions—both ancient and contemporary. What is more, they will reflect on the ways in which both writers and interpreters adopt, adapt, and elaborate on common views and practices in their own cultural settings. Rather than a repository of doctrinal beliefs, the New Testament emerges as a lively conversation partner in the human quest for meaning and purpose.

New Testament Conversations describes the New Testament's contents as inherently religious responses to the realities of the Roman world — both in occupied Palestine and beyond. Jesus appears in these texts as a savior who is apocalyptic prophet, messianic figure, and community organizer. As a divinely-sanctioned agent of God's coming reign, Jesus elicits allegiance to a divine, rather than human, ruler in ways that carry both religious and socio-political implications. Thus, more than other books, this textbook highlights the communal context and implications of each writing.

Suzanne Watts Henderson is Associate Professor of Religion and Director, Center for Ethics and Religion in the College of Arts and Sciences at Queens University of Charlotte in Charlotte, North Carolina. She is an ordained minister in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Henderson has published widely in the field of New Testament studies and is a frequent presenter both in academic settings and in the wider community.

BY THE SAME AUTHOR



9781426793080 \$39.99 Suzanne Watts Henderson Foreword by Eboo Patel

TESTAMENT CONVERSATIONS

NEW

A Literary, Historical, and Pluralistic Introduction

Release: August 6, 2019 Price: \$49.99 Paperback ISBN: 9781501854927 Size: 6 x 9 Pages: 384 BISAC: RELIGION / BIBLICAL STUDIES / NEW TESTAMENT

KEY FEATURES

- Combines standard historical and literary scholarship on New Testament writings with selected excerpts from non-Christian traditions.
- Students will encounter diverse interpretations of selected New Testament passages across time and place.
- Presents historical, literary, and theological questions as mutually illuminating, rather than oppositional.

Theodore Hiebert



Discovering Identity in God's Diverse World

Release: October 1, 2019 Price: \$17.99 Paperback ISBN: 9781501871023 Size: 5.5 x 8.5 Pages: 144 BISAC: RELIGION / BIBLICAL STUDIES / HISTORY & CULTURE

KEY FEATURES

- Offers a highly accessible overview of what the Bible teaches about religious identity in God's diverse world.
- Challenges any inclination to interpret biblical stories (e.g., Tower of Babel, Day of Pentecost) as a negative view of difference among people.
- Presents difference as God's intention for the world, providing constructive resources for living in today's world.
- Suitable as a textbook for religion classes in multiculturalism, post-colonial interpretation, and global Christianity and for adult small group study of current "crises" due to racism, xenophobia, and economic struggles.

THE BEGINNING OF DIFFERENCE

Discovering Identity in God's Diverse World

Theodore Hiebert

How we engage difference matters to our well-being and survival.

Difference can enrich us or tear us apart. Difference can make our lives stronger, fuller, and richer or it can destroy them. Therefore, how we engage difference matters. Conflicts between different peoples around the world, the movement of refugees from nation to nation, tensions over immigration, and growing diversity within our society bring difference to our doorstep daily. We can engage people who are different constructively and compassionately, or we can allow the fear of difference to distance us from others and to demonize them. At a time when racial, ethnic, cultural, and religious differences have created heightened tensions, we need more than ever to find our bearings. We need to re-examine what we think about difference.

Author Theodore "Ted" Hiebert re-examines the Bible's stories explaining difference and its beginnings in the book of Genesis, exposing the inclination to interpret these stories as a negative view of difference. These stories recognize difference as God's intention for the world, providing us with constructive resources of living with difference today. Hiebert starts with the story of "The Tower of Babel" and moves beyond it to examine how Genesis's writers saw their unique identity and role in the world not as separate from all others but as members of the human family of which they were a part. He presents how Biblical characters lived with difference and how the first Christians embraced difference. Finally, he invites the reader into new conversations about our biblical traditions that reveal a respect for difference, a generosity toward others, a desire to include rather than exclude, and a continuing interest in negotiating difference in ways that build relationships rather than destroy them.

Theodore Hiebert is Francis A. McGaw Professor of Old Testament, McCormick Theological Seminary, Chicago, IL. He was an editor and translator of the Common English Bible. A leading scholar among theological educators, he has done groundbreaking work in the study of Genesis.

COMPARABLE TITLES





9781501824753 \$14.99 9781501837593 \$15.99

HOLY IMAGINATION

A Literary and Theological Introduction to the Whole Bible

Judy Fentress-Williams

Study the whole Bible through both literary and theological lenses.

Most literary works have one primary voice, a discourse that expresses an author's dominant culture and ideology. The whole Bible, however, should be read by allowing numerous voices or discourses during a thousand years of literary imagination to emerge and interact. This dialogic reading process introduces theological insights that are larger than the individual parts of the Bible.

Many books about the Bible introduce students to this sacred literature through a critical tour of the historical events and cultures that were present when the authors were at work. *Holy Imagination*, however, groups sections of the Bible by genre, to include the whole canon.

This "reader's introduction" is informed by literary theory and theological synthesis. For example, the first section will describe the primordial history in Genesis 1-11 as literary myth. How do we use the term myth when it is applied to the beginning of Genesis? The next section, the ancestral narratives in Genesis 12–50 is described as "formational narratives of identity." How do the stories use sibling rivalry to shape national identity then and now?

Holy Imagination can serve as the primary text for an introductory course on the whole Bible. For instructors who prefer an historical-critical structure, this book could be an appreciated supplementary text that gives new Bible readers the larger picture of the wider biblical literature.

Judy Fentress-Williams is a professor of Old Testament at Virginia Theological Seminary in Alexandria, Virginia. She received her MDiv and her PhD in Hebrew Bible from Yale University. She served as Old Testament Editor for the *CEB Women's Bible*. Judy serves as minister at Alfred Street Baptist Church in Alexandria, VA.



A Literary and Theological Introduction to the Whole Bible

Release: November 19, 2019 Price: \$29.99 Paperback ISBN: 9781426775314 Size: 6 x 9 Pages: 184 BISAC: RELIGION / BIBLICAL STUDIES / GENERAL

KEY FEATURES

- Readers will see the Bible more as a library than as a single book.
- Readers will understand how different literary genres can convey different theological perspectives.
- Readers will be able to enter into the world of the text and enjoy finding dimensions to their faith in God.
- Readers will understand how the Bible can be interpreted in a variety of ways.

BY THE SAME AUTHOR



9781426746253 \$24.49

Wesley Bros Comics



The Illustrated Adventures of John & charles wesley



 Release: October 15, 2019
 Price: \$19.99

 Paperback
 ISBN: 9781501889479

 Size: 7 x 10
 Pages: 192

 BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIANITY / METHODIST

KEY FEATURES

- Easily accessible introduction to Wesleyan theology, history, and practice, introducing humor into learning.
- Prefect for a broad audience: youth groups, adults, and college/seminary students.
- Discussion questions included.

SUBMITTING TO BE MORE VILE

The Illustrated Adventures of John & Charles Wesley

Charlie Baber

Proclaiming the glad tidings of salvation—and the other things that come with church—with comics.

On April 2, 1739, John Wesley realized that the pulpits and sanctuaries were closed to him. If he wanted to follow God's call, he had to give up the stuffy trappings of a Church of England priest and an Oxford don and go to the people. He famously wrote, "At four in the afternoon, I submitted to be more vile and proclaimed in the highways the glad tidings of salvation." Today we are proclaiming the glad tidings of salvation —and the other things that come with church —with comics.

Wesley Bros Comics is an online world where historical church figures all exist at the same time, in today's world, not unlike the communion of saints where past, present, and future collapse into a moment. For the first time ever, these "webcomics" are collected in printed form with new group-discussion guides to help lovers of John and Charles Wesley find a little humor in the present state of the church, and learn a lot about church history, theology, and Methodist identity.

Perfect for youth groups, small groups, and even college and seminary classes, *Submitting to Be More Vile* uses the comic book format to communicate Wesleyan/Methodist theology, history, and practice.

Charlie Baber is a deacon in The United Methodist Church, and serves as a minister to youth and families. He loves leading worship. Baber studied religion and art at Gardner-Webb University, and received the Master of Divinity at Duke University. Additional information can be found at www.wesleybros.com.

BY THE SAME AUTHOR



9781501837692

\$12.99



9781501838842 \$12.99



9781501842221 \$12.99

WESLEY ONE VOLUME COMMENTARY

Kenneth J. Collins & Robert W. Wall

Fully explore scholarly, Wesleyan interpretation of scripture.

This one volume commentary on the entire Bible was written by more than 40 scholars from the broad range of Wesleyan denominations, including The United Methodist Church, The Church of the Nazarene, The Church of God (Anderson), The Church of God (Cleveland), The Wesleyan Church, The Free Methodist Church, and The Salvation Army. It is the only specifically Wesleyan Bible commentary available and assists pastors in sermon preparation, small group leaders in lesson preparation, and laypeople in Bible study. Joel B. Green, Professor of New Testament Interpretation at Fuller Seminary, called this commentary, "The Wesley Study Bible +++." The commentary form will allow for a much greater exploration of Wesleyan themes and theology than a Study Bible ever could.

Kenneth J. Collins is Professor of Historical Theology and Wesley Studies at Asbury Theological Seminary in Wilmore Kentucky, and an elder in the Kentucky Conference of The United Methodist Church. He also teaches at the Baltic Methodist Theological Seminary in Estonia, and is a member of the Wesleyan Theological Society, Wesley Historical Society, and Society for the Study of Christian Spirituality. He is the author of *A Real Christian: The Life of John Wesley, The Scripture Way of Salvation: The Heart of John Wesley's Theology*, co-editor of *Conversion in the Wesleyan Tradition*, and *John Wesley: A Theological Journey*.

Robert W. Wall is the Paul T. Walls Professor of Scripture and Wesleyan Studies at Seattle Pacific University in Seattle, Washington. He is an elder of the Free Methodist Church who enjoys an active ecumenical ministry of preaching and teaching adult Bible studies in congregations of various faith traditions.



EDITED BY KENNETH J. COLLINS & ROBERT W. WALL

Release: November 19, 2019 Price: \$89.99 Hardback ISBN: 9781501823916 Size: 7 x 10 Pages: 1200 BISAC: RELIGION / BIBLICAL COMMENTARY / GENERAL

KEY FEATURES

- Fully explore the Wesleyan interpretation of Scripture in ways only hinted at in the *Wesley Study Bible*.
- Prepare better sermons and Bible studies.
- This is scholarship in the service of the churches of the people called Methodist.

COMPARABLE TITLES



9781609262105 \$59.99



9781501881237 \$49.99



9780687334117 \$76.99



VOLUME 17 OXFORD DIARIES

EDITED BY RICHARD P. HEITZENRATER

 Release:
 November 19, 2019
 Price: \$74.99

 Hardback
 ISBN: 9781501890932

 Size:
 5.5 x 8.5
 Pages: 512

 BISAC:
 RELIGION / CHRISTIANITY / METHODIST

KEY FEATURES

- The text is faithful to John Wesley's Oxford Diaries, unaltered and fully transcribed. All shorthand passages have been deciphered and made accessible.
- Wherever possible, quotations and the prose and poetical references have been identified and noted in the footnotes.
 Scriptural passages have been identified by biblical book, chapter, and verse.
- Includes indexes of biblical passages, personal names, and place names.
- Readers will gain a picture of Wesley during the decade of 1725-35 that is very clearly a crucial period in his life-long quest for intellectual growth, spiritual practices, assurance of salvation, and organizational relevance.
- Readers will learn about John Wesley's life and thought in the years before those covered in his published journals.

THE WORKS OF JOHN WESLEY, VOLUME 17

Oxford Diaries

Richard P. Heitzenrater

Insight into John Wesley's intellectual growth, spiritual practices, and understanding of salvation during his time at Oxford University: 1725-1735.

This critical edition of John Wesley's diaries from his time at Oxford University annotates the names, places, events, travels, finances, readings, sermons, correspondence, music, spiritual growth, and academic activities of Wesley during this ten-year period before his published journal came out. Most entries are expanded from their cryptic original format, but a few of them remain hidden behind initials of people, a few indecipherable symbols, and three major gaps in the diaries themselves, which bring to bear the financial accounts, letters, and whatever other sources can be used. This material is very detailed and provides a reconstructed picture of Wesley during the decade of 1725-35, clearly a crucial period in his life-long quest for intellectual growth, spiritual practices, assurance of salvation, and organizational relevance.

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

COMPARABLE TITLES



9781501859014

\$59.99

THE WORKS OF John Wesley Letters III 1750–1765

9781501806223 \$59.99



9781426742248

\$39.99

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 skills 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.



O. WESLEY ALLEN JR.

A MULTISENSORY INTRODUCTION For students and practitioners

Release: September 3, 2019Price: \$29.99PaperbackISBN: 9781501842658Size: 6 x 9Pages: 192BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN RITUALS &PRACTICE / WORSHIP & LITURGY

KEY FEATURES

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

BY THE SAME AUTHOR





9781501818905 \$24.99 9781630883218 \$29.99

CONSTANCE M. CHERRY





Release: October 15, 2019Price: \$17.99PaperbackISBN: 9781501881473Size: 5.5 x 8.5Pages: 128BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN RITUALS &PRACTICE / WORSHIP & LITURGY

KEY FEATURES

- Helps congregants understand the basic meaning and purpose of worship, and moves them from spectators to active participants in worship.
- Well-organized, making it easy for pastors and other leaders to use for preaching and teaching. Easy for adult readers at all levels to grasp and understand.
- Includes an easy to use, straightforward study guide.

WORSHIP LIKE JESUS

A Guide for Every Follower

Constance M. Cherry

Move your congregation from spectators to active participants in worship.

Worship Like Jesus meets a key need for most pastors and church leaders: How to help congregants—many of whom are new to religious faith understand the basic meaning and purpose of worship, and how to move them from spectators to active participants in worship.

Worship in local churches has changed dramatically over the past fifty years, not only in North America but in many places on every continent. Is it possible that these widespread and varying shifts in perspectives have left us with vague or even false impressions of what the weekly worship event is all about? Do followers of Jesus Christ grasp how important their role in worship is? Do they know how to become fully engaged participants? This book places worship squarely in the venue of Christian discipleship. By presenting the most essential features of Christian worship for all Christ-followers, believers will be able to enter into worship in exciting and profound ways as never before. As a result, well discipled worshipers could even change the culture of their whole church in ways they could never have imagined.

Pastors, worship music directors, and other leaders will introduce the book to readers, through sermons, team studies, and small group experiences.

Constance Cherry is Professor of Worship and Pastoral Ministry at Indiana Wesleyan University, Marion, Indiana, where she directs three distinct programs in Christian worship. She is also a founding faculty member of The Robert E. Webber Institute for Worship Studies. Constance is a highly experienced worship leader, musician, and pastor, having served in local church ministry for more than three decades. Her first book, *The Worship Architect: A Blueprint for Designing Culturally Relevant and Biblically Faithful Services*, is used as a required text at more than 150 institutions of higher education worldwide and is available in four languages. She is also a published composer and hymn author, with hymn texts in many major hymnals. Constance maintains an extensive schedule of speaking and teaching internationally. She is an elder in the West Ohio Conference of The United Methodist Church.

COMPARABLE TITLES



9781426788062

\$22.99

9781501832482 \$29.99

THE ABINGDON WORSHIP ANNUAL 2020

Worship Planning Resources for Every

Sunday of the Year

Mary Scifres and B.J. Beu

The Abingdon Worship Annual 2020 offers fresh worship planning resources for all who plan and implement weekly worship. Worship leaders "need to offer prayers, prepare an order of worship, select music, and even prepare a sermon. Into that weekly task, we offer this resource to strengthen your ability to lead creatively and prepare consistently." The Annual is based on the calendar year (January 2020 - December 2020). Liturgies and prayers are also included for New Year's Day, Ascension Day, All Saints Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Eve.

Using a theme based on the lectionary readings from the Common English Bible, each week's offering of prayers and litanies follows a basic pattern of Christian worship:

- · Invitation and Gathering
- Proclamation and Response
- Thanksgiving and Communion
- Sending Forth

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*. A graduate of Boston University, she holds both the Master of Divinity and Master of Sacred Music degrees. Mary lives in Laguna Beach, California.

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. A graduate of Boston University and Pacific Lutheran University, he is passionate about creative worship, preaching, and advocating for peace and justice. B. J. lives in Laguna Beach, California.





The Abingdon WORSHIP ANNUAL 2020

Worship Planning Resources for Every Sunday of the Year



Release: May 7, 2019 Price: \$26.99 Paperback ISBN: 9781501881701 Size: 5.5 x 8.5 Pages: 352 BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN RITUALS & PRACTICE / WORSHIP & LITURGY

KEY FEATURES

- Complete resource to help pastors and others plan and execute meaningful worship.
- Having everything needed for planning worship helps planners with time management.
- A variety of worship themes, calls to worship, invocations, prayers, and benedictions brings people into a closer relationship with God through the worship service.





Release: March 19, 2019 Price: \$25.99 Spiral bound ISBN: 9781501881190 Size: 8.5 x 11 Pages: 144 BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN RITUALS & PRACTICE / WORSHIP & LITURGY

NRSV Edition 9781501881213 \$25.99

PREPARE! 2019-2020

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 2019-2020 edition of *Prepare!* is lectionary based and places everything at your fingertips:

- Calendar format that helps you plan the entire choir year, from September 2019 through August 2020.
- Eight or more suggested hymns for each service keyed to 16 hymnals from at least 7 different denominations, including: *The Africana Hymnal; The Baptist Hymnal, Chalice Hymnal (Disciples of Christ), The Faith We Sing, Glory to God: The Presbyterian Hymnal, The Hymnal 1982 (Episcopal), Hymns for the Family of God, Lutheran Book of Worship, The Presbyterian Hymnal, The New Century Hymnal (United Church of Christ), Renew! Songs & Hymns for Blended Worship, Songs for Praise and Worship Singalong Edition, The United Methodist Hymnal, Voices United, Worship & Song,* and *Worship III* (Roman Catholic).
- Complete lectionary text of the Old Testament, Psalm, Epistle, and Gospel readings, using the New Revised Standard Version or Common English Bible translation.
- Reproducible worship planning forms.
- · Resources for holidays and special days.
- Suggestions for prayers, solos, anthems, visuals, and much more.



Release: May 7, 2019 Price: \$18.99 Calendar ISBN: 9781501881633 Size: 6 x 9 Pages: 160 BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN CHURCH / ADMINISTRATION

CALENDAR & WORKBOOK FOR CHURCH LEADERS 2020

An enhanced appointment calendar for clergy, choir directors, church school workers, and all church staff.

View appointments for the entire week in one spread with extra space on Sunday. Helpful information includes: extra space on Sunday to record special details related to worship services, including attendance and offerings; a chart of the lectionary readings from the Revised Common Lectionary; liturgical days and colors; national days for the United States and Canada; dates for Orthodox Good Friday, Easter, and Pentecost; major Jewish feasts and festivals; beginning and ending dates for Daylight Saving Time; and all the information you expect to find in an outstanding desk calendar.

CURRICULUM FALL & WINTER 2019-2020

BIBLE STORY BASICS

With a focus on Bible stories and biblical literacy, *Bible Story Basics* helps kids realize that the Bible is more than a history book and that it's relevant to their lives today. Perfect for Sunday morning or midweek programs in any size church, each weekly lesson provides kids the basic tools for reading and learning the Bible.



A simple age-level structure makes *Bible Story Basics* straightforward and uncomplicated for leaders while providing age-appropriate lessons for kids. Curriculum is divided between two groups: Pre-Readers (ages 3-7) and Readers (ages 8-12).

Leader Guides

The *Bible Story Basics* Leader Guides feature thirteen lowprep and step-by-step session guides that offer creative ways for children to experience foundational Christian stories through a variety of learning styles.

Pre-Reader Leader Guide | \$14.99 Fall 2019 | 9781501882555 | Available July 16, 2019 Winter 2019-2020 | 9781501882579 | Available October 15, 2019

Reader Leader Guide | \$14.99 Fall 2019 | 9781501882562 | Available July 16, 2019 Winter 2019-2020 | 9781501882586 | Available October 15, 2019



Leaflets

The *Bible Story Basics* Leaflets are four-panel activity sheets featuring colorful and realistic art offering creative ways to involve children in the Bible story. Meant to be used in class and taken home, they facilitate a connection between church and home for each child with weekly questions and prayers to share as a family.

Pre-Reader Leaflets | \$8.99

Fall 2019 | 9781501882449 | Available July 16, 2019 Winter 2019-2020 | 9781501882494 | Available October 15, 2019

Reader Leaflets | \$8.99

Fall 2019 | 9781501882456 | Available July 16, 2019 Winter 2019-2020 | 9781501882500 | Available October 15, 2019
Take-Home CD | \$19.99

The CD contains seven songs, including classics of the faith and Scripture-based lyrics. Kids will love the revised version of the classic "The B-I-B-L-E," the theme song for this curriculum. (Pkg. of 5)

9781501888526 | Available July 16, 2019

Annual Class Pack | \$49.99

The Class Pack includes 12 beautiful pictures (8.5×11) for each unit's memory verse that enhances the Sunday school area with relevant artwork that supports the faith experience. The pack also includes an attendance chart and CD-ROM with extra content and the year's music.

9781501882630 | Available July 16, 2019

Class Pack Components







Find out more at BibleStoryBasics.com/retailers



Bible STORY Scope & Sequence Fall 2019-Summer 2020

Fall 2019

UNIT 1: Beginnings BV: Genesis 1:31

Creation Genesis 1:1-25 God's Image

Genesis 1:26-2:4a

Adam and Fve Genesis 2:4b-3:24

Noah Genesis 6:1-9:17

Tower of Babel Genesis 11:1-9

UNIT 2: Ancestors BV: Genesis 15:5

Abraham and Sarah Genesis 12:1-9; 15:1-6

Abraham and Lot Genesis 13:1-12

The Birth of Isaac Genesis 18:1-15; 21:1-7

Isaac and Rebekah Genesis 24:1-67

UNIT 3: Blessings BV: Genesis 28:14

Jacob and Esau Genesis 25:19-28

The Birthright Genesis 25:29-34

The Blessing Genesis 27:1-46

Jacob's Dream Genesis 28:10-22

Winter 2019-20

UNIT 1: Hope BV: Isaiah 2:5

Swords and Plows Isaiah 2:1-5

Mary's Story Luke 1:26-38, 46-47

Joseph's Story Matthew 1:18-24

Jesus' Story Luke 2:1-7

Shepherd's Story Luke 2:8-20

UNIT 2: Calling BV: Matthew 4:19

Follow the Star Matthew 2:1-12

Jesus Is Baptized Matthew 3:13-17

Jesus Calls the Fishermen Matthew 4:18-22

Beatitudes Matthew 5:1-12

UNIT 3: Wisdom BV: Matthew 7:24

The Lord's Prayer Matthew 6:5-15

The Bird in the Sky Matthew 6:25-34

The Golden Rule Matthew 7:12

The Two Houses Matthew 7:24-27

Spring 2020

UNIT 1: Journey **BV: Psalm 121:8**

Man in the Synagogue Matthew 12:9-14

Jesus and the Children Matthew 19:13-15

Last Supper Matthew 26:31-56

In the Garden Matthew 26:31-56

Peter Matthew 26:57-58, 69-75

UNIT 2: Alleluia BV: Matthew 28:7

Hosanna! Matthew 21:1-11; 27:32-66

Easter Matthew 28:1-10

Breakfast on the Beach John 21.1-19

The Great Commission Matthew 28:16-20

UNIT 3: Believers BV: Acts 2:4

Believers Share Acts 4:32-37

Choosing the Seven Acts 6:1-7

Philip and the Ethiopian Acts 8:26-40

First Called "Christians" Acts 11:19-30

Pentecost Acts 2:1-41

Summer 2020

UNIT 1: Paul **BV: Philippians 4:13**

Paul's Conversion Acts 9:1-20

Love in Action Romans 12:9-18

Paul Escapes Acts 9:20-25

Be Glad and Endure Phillipians 4:4-14

UNIT 2: Leaders BV: 2 Timothy 1:7

Be a Leader Acts 16:1-5; 1 Tim. 4:7b-16

Be Encouraged 2 Timothy 1:3-7

Lydia Acts 16:11-15

Paul and Silas Acts 16:16-40

UNIT 3: Prophets BV: 1 Kings 18:39

Elijah and the Ravens 1 Kings 16:29-30; 17:1-7

Elijah and the Prophets 1 Kings 18:20-39

Elijah and Elisha 1 Kings 19:1-21

Elisha and the Widow 2 Kings 4:1-7

Elisha and Naaman 2 Kings 5:1-19a

BIBLE BASICS STORYBOOK

BUILDING A FAITH FOUNDATION

The *Bible Basics Storybook* will help children build a faith foundation through the core Bible stories that have captivated and shaped so many children. With 149 Old and New Testament stories, children will be invited into the Word through beautiful illustrations appropriate for young children and prayers that connect to our faith.

KEY FEATURES

- · Prayers accompany every Bible story retelling.
- Information to help families create daily devotional time together.
- Prayers for mornings, meals, and bedtimes to create daily prayer practices for kids.
- Teaches young children the structure of the Bible.



Release: July 16, 2019 Price: \$19.99 Hardback ISBN: 9781501881497 Size: 7.1 x 8.2 Pages: 320 BISAC: JUVENILE NONFICTION / RELIGION / BIBLE STORIES / GENERAL

Interior Sample



Abingdon Press



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 | \$83.99

Fall 2019 | 9781501875908 | Available July 16, 2019 Winter 2019-20 | 9781501875922 | Available October 15, 2019

One Room Sunday School Extra Leader Guide | \$18.99

Fall 2019 | 9781501884931 | Available July 16, 2019 Winter 2019-20 | 9781501885778 | Available October 15, 2019

LARGE GROUP/ SMALL GROUP

Kit Contains: CD-ROM LEADER GUIDE DVD

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

Large Group/Small Group Kit | \$120.99

Fall 2019 | 9781501883309 | Available July 16, 2019 Winter 2019-20 | 9781501885846 | Available October 15, 2019

ADVENTURE DVD

Today's media-savvy kids will be hooked by these engaging, animated videos! Meet the people in the Deep Blue Shores community! 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.

Loving God, Loving Neighbor Adventure DVD | \$31.49

Fall 2019 | 9781501874970 | Available July 16, 2019 Winter 2019-20 | 9781501883323 | Available October 15, 2019



Kit Contains:

RESOURCE PAK

LEADER GUIDE REPRODUCIBLE BOOK

TOTE





CLASS KIT

Abingdon Press

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 | \$25.99

Fall 2019 | 9781501884719 | Available July 16, 2019 Winter 2019-20 | 9781501885518 | Available October 15, 2019

Nursery Leader Guide | \$12.49

Fall 2019 | 9781501884276 | Available July 16, 2019 Winter 2019-20 | 9781501885471 | Available October 15, 2019

Nursery Bible Story Picture Cards | \$7.49

Fall 2019 | 9781501884702 | Available July 16, 2019 Winter 2019-20 | 9781501885501 | Available October 15, 2019



NAVIGATE LEADER GUIDE

A Bible Study Companion for Adults Who Care For Children

This quarterly curriculum resource is for parents and other adults who minister to and with children. It follows the scope and sequence of *Deep Blue Connects: Loving God, Loving Neighbor* children's curriculum. Participants will study each Bible story and then explore questions and ideas that will equip them to have faith conversations with the children in their care.

Leader Guide | \$14.49

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BEACH CALLING

A Devotional Journal for the Middle Years and Beyond

Missy Buchanan

Spiritual lessons for the journey of aging from an inviting classroom—the beach

Aging doesn't take much effort—all you have to do is breathe. Aging faithfully is different. It requires intentional effort to stay focused on God as you make your way through a world of youth and change.

Many women dread aging and resist thinking about it. Yet God designed the human body to change over time, and growing older is part of God's plan. How we handle the changes that accompany aging reveals much about our spiritual maturity.

Beach Calling takes a fresh approach to aging. Missy Buchanan uses comforting imagery from the beach and ocean to engage readers in spiritual reflection. In this devotional journal for women, she guides readers to explore and embrace God's plan for growing older.

Each devotion focuses on a familiar aspect of beach life and offers a parallel lesson on aging. Each reading contains journaling prompts that invite readers to capture their thoughts in the journaling space provided. *Beach Calling* helps women accept and prepare for life transitions, including how to navigate the challenges of loss and decline. This inspiring resource encourages readers to discover the hope and joy that faithful aging can bring.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Missy Buchanan is the best-selling author of multiple resources for older adults, including *Living with Purpose in a Worn-Out Body* and the devotional calendar *Spirit Boosters for the Journey of Aging*. Buchanan travels frequently to speak about issues of aging to churches, conferences, and senior living communities.

beach calling

A Devotional Journal for the Middle years and Beyond missy buchanan

PUB DATE: JULY 2019 HARDCOVER WITH CONCEALED SPIRAL BINDING \$21.99 978-0-8358-1877-3 PAGES: 128 TRIM SIZE: 6 X 9 RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIVING / DEVOTIONAL JOURNAL

TARGET AUDIENCE

- Women age 45 and beyond
- Women who want to ponder what it means to age faithfully
- · Women who fear growing older
- Family members and friends who buy gifts for women age 45 and above

KEY FEATURES

- Hardcover with concealed spiral binding and lay-flat design
- · Inspiring and thoughtful meditations
- Reflection questions that encourage readers to think about their spiritual lives
- · Space in each devotion for journaling
- A hopeful yet realistic approach to the challenges of aging



A Spirituality of Fundraising

Workbook Edition

enri J. M. Nouwen with Nathan Ball



PUB DATE: JULY 2019 PAPERBACK \$14.99 978-0-8358-1880-3 PAGES: 112 TRIM SIZE: 7.5 X 9.25 RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIVING / STEWARDSHIP & GIVING

TARGET AUDIENCE

- Church leaders
- · Fundraisers for faith-based organizations
- · Nonprofit executives
- Volunteer groups

KEY FEATURES

- The complete text of *A Spirituality of Fundraising* by Henri J. M. Nouwen
- Reflection questions
- Discussion prompts for volunteer groups
- Action steps

A SPIRITUALITY OF FUNDRAISING WORKBOOK EDITION

Henri J. M. Nouwen with workbook by Nathan Ball

The why-and how-of faith-based fundraising

Henri J. M. Nouwen taught us why. Now, Nathan Ball helps us discover how.

For years, fundraisers for faith-based nonprofits have been inspired by Henri Nouwen's words: "Fundraising is, first and foremost, a ministry." In the brief but impactful sermon-turned-book *A Spirituality of Fundraising*, Nouwen asserts that fundraising is more than an effort to support a common goal; it involves the calling and prayer for a common mission.

While serving alongside the famous priest and author in a L'Arche community for disabled persons, Nathan Ball learned firsthand from Nouwen. In *A Spirituality of Fundraising Workbook Edition*, Ball provides a how-to guide to accompany Nouwen's teachings. This new release from Upper Room Books combines the work of Nouwen and Ball to provide inspiration as well as practical tools for fundraisers—both professional and volunteer—whose ministries rely on donations.

This workbook edition includes questions for reflection, discussion prompts for volunteer groups, suggestions for putting theory into practice, and the complete text of its best-selling predecessor, *A Spirituality of Fundraising*.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Nathan Ball met and shared community life with Henri Nouwen in Jean Vanier's L'Arche Daybreak community for over 10 years. Their friendship and Nouwen's spiritual vision had a life-changing impact on Nathan, who has had various leadership roles within the L'Arche movement. For the past 20 years, he has been heavily involved in various aspects of fundraising.

ALSO BY HENRI J. M. NOUWEN



WE ARE THE CHURCH ... LET'S ACT LIKE IT

A Study on the Book of Acts

Linda Tower Pevey

Becoming the world-changing church that Jesus intended

Many people think the church has become a social club with little impact on the world, but that is not God's plan for the church. *We Are the Church . . . Let's Act Like It* takes readers through the book of Acts, looking at what it means to be the church of Jesus Christ, the world-changing church that Jesus intended.

Problems in the church are nothing new. The book of Acts is full of them. In *We Are the Church* . . . Linda Tower Pevey offers the church practical and biblical ways to live out its mandate to be a church that positively impacts its community and the world.

We Are the Church . . . Let's Act Like It is a 7-week study that helps readers see the biblical vision for the church and a vision for what the church can be today. In it, Pevey offers encouragement that the church can truly be a transformative presence in the world, just as the early church was in the book of Acts.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Linda Tower Pevey is lead pastor of Bethesda United Methodist Church, Preston, Maryland. Prior to her appointment at Bethesda UMC, she served as associate pastor at Christ UMC, Salisbury, Maryland, where she developed and led a thriving churchwide small-group ministry. Linda holds a Master of Divinity from United Theological Seminary, Dayton, Ohio.



NEW RELEASES

PUB DATE: JULY 2019 PAPERBACK \$11.99 978-0-8358-1883-4 PAGES: 96 TRIM SIZE: 7.5 X 9.25 RELIGION / BIBLICAL STUDIES / NEW TESTAMENT / JESUS, THE GOSPELS & ACTS



TARGET AUDIENCE

- Church leaders
- Small-group leaders
- · People interested in the book of Acts

KEY FEATURES

- An easy-to-use Leader's Guide
- Weekly interactive group activities and discussion questions
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STILL PRAYING AFTER ALL THESE YEARS



PUB DATE: AUGUST 2019 PAPERBACK \$9.99 978-0-8358-1886-5 PAGES: 128 TRIM SIZE: 6 X 9 RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIVING / DEVOTIONAL

TARGET AUDIENCE

- Older people who have experienced loss of function that limits their mobility and ability to care for themselves
- Family members who provide care and support to aging loved ones
- Chaplains, clergy, and laypersons who minister with the frail elderly

KEY FEATURES

- Statements and questions voiced by persons in late life
- Enlarged print
- Short, accessible, and inspirational reflections and prayers
- Suggested practices that invite readers to reflect on God's activity in their lives and/or to live their faith in a practical way

STILL PRAYING AFTER ALL THESE YEARS

Meditations for Later Life

Susan Carol Scott

Reassurance of God's presence in the later years

People in the later years of life face many changes, many that are not of their own choosing. *Still Praying After All These Years* offers 52 reassuring meditations that encourage readers to realize that their lives still have meaning and that aging holds opportunities for spiritual growth.

Each meditation begins with a concern, question, or insight expressed in the author's conversations with people ages 75–100. In the Perspectives section, the author provides psychological and theological insights, welcoming doubt, mystery, and the many emotions that accompany aging. Next, she invites readers to practice their faith by reflecting on some aspect of their life or undertaking an action. A brief prayer ends each meditation, opening readers to a deeper relationship with God.

This book will help older readers feel heartened and less alone as they hear about others who have walked a similar path. Readers who are caregivers will be moved to empathize with the spiritual, emotional, and other challenges their loved one faces. For readers who minister with the elderly, this resource will increase their capacity to extend empathy and compassion to individuals and groups of frail elderly people.

As they ponder these meditations, readers of any age will be encouraged to savor the life God has given them in a fresh, new way.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Susan Carol Scott is self-employed in private practice as a spiritual director, retreat leader, and supply preacher. She holds a Master of Divinity from Princeton Theological Seminary. An ordained clergyperson in the United Church of Christ, Scott is authorized by her judicatory for specialized ministry as a healthcare chaplain and spiritual director.

THE UPPER ROOM DISCIPLINES 2020 A Book of Daily Devotions

A special edition featuring writers from the beloved journal *Weavings*

Faithful readers of *The Upper Room Disciplines* know that the practice of reading and reflecting on scripture nourishes and transforms the spirit. This best-selling devotional guide offers daily, lectionary-based scripture readings and reflections. Each week of devotions focuses on a particular theme and engages readers with the lectionary texts for the upcoming Sunday.

The 2020 edition of *Disciplines* features 53 writers who contributed to *Weavings* journal, a beloved publication of The Upper Room that was taken out of print in 2017. *Disciplines 2020* contains all-new material from these writers.

Writers for 2020 include Kathleen Flood, Luther Smith, J. Barrie Shepherd, Wendy Wright, Jonathan Wilson-Hartgrove, Roberta Bondi, Michael Downey, Rachel Hackenberg, Don Saliers, Jan Johnson, Kristen Vincent, Gerrit Dawson, Marilyn McEntyre, Mark Burrows, Deborah Smith Douglas, and others.



REGULAR EDITION

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TARGET AUDIENCE

- Those seeking a lectionary-based Bible study and devotional guide
- People desiring devotions with depth and life application
- Pastors, seminary students, and contemplatives

KEY FEATURES

- · Brief but thoughtful daily readings
- Each devotion is one page
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- Each week includes questions and suggestions for reflection
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AN UPPER ROOM ADVENT READER

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ENLARGED-PRINT EDITION

PAPERBACK \$9.99

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PAGES: 72 TRIM SIZE: 7.5 X 9.25

TARGET AUDIENCE

- · Readers of Weavings journal
- · Buyers of Advent devotionals
- · Church leaders and Christian educators

KEY FEATURES

- Meditations from Weavings journal
- Daily reflection questions that can be used individually or with small groups
- · Also available in Enlarged Print

THE WONDROUS MYSTERY An Upper Room Advent Reader

Compiled by Benjamin Howard

Daily Advent readings from Weavings journal

During Advent we think about a wondrous mystery: that God chose to become human and lived among us. The Savior of the world was born a vulnerable child. The king who will rule all of creation lies in a humble manger. *The Wondrous Mystery* invites readers to reflect on several paradoxes that make up the Advent season: light and darkness, peace and strife, solitude and community, simplicity and complexity.

This daily Advent reader incorporates meditations from *Weavings: A Journal of the Christian Spiritual Life*. Writers include Barbara Brown Taylor, Henri J. M. Nouwen, Esther de Waal, Walter Wink, Sue Monk Kidd, Wendy M. Wright, and other voices from *Weavings*, which wove together the teachings and perspectives of some of the finest theologians and teachers of Christian spiritual formation.

Compiler Ben Howard writes, "The glory of the Advent season is that it is irrational. It shows us a glimpse of the way that God turns the world and our expectations upside down. . . . In a season filled with the longest, darkest nights, we are told to wait for the coming of the most beautiful light."

ABOUT THE COMPILER

Benjamin Howard is a writer and editor in Nashville, Tennessee. He holds a Master of Theological Studies from Lipscomb University.



SOUL RESET

Breakdown, Breakthrough, and the Journey to Wholeness

Junius B. Dotson

A call for all disciples of Jesus to reset and reorder their lives around spiritual practices

Everything was going fine . . . until it wasn't. For Reverend Junius B. Dotson it took an actual breakdown during a funeral for him to realize he needed a reset. As he recalls his own journey through grief, depression, burnout, and emotional breakdown, Dotson is passionate about calling for a *Soul Reset* for pastors, church leaders, and all disciples of Jesus Christ.

This is a 7-week churchwide study for everyone who moves at breakneck speed through their daily lives, often relying only on their own strength to bring God's kingdom on earth. Jesus shows us a different way, an easier, unforced rhythm of what kingdom work looks like. It's a balance of work, rest, play, worship, exercise, and eating well—spiritual practices that keep our souls hydrated and healthy as we do the work of the church in the world. Companion products for this book (available separately for purchase) include a DVD; downloadable video segments; PDFs of age-level discussion guides for children, youth, and adults; and sermon starters.

Soul Reset is a call for the church and all of Jesus' disciples to reset and reorder their lives around spiritual practices, to learn to walk through our difficult seasons with our souls connected to the source of Living Water so that we don't burn out or break down. And if we do burn out or break down, we learn to lift one another up and point one another back to Jesus.

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Chapter 1: Watch How I Do It – Jesus Chapter 2: Knocking on God's Door – David Chapter 3: It's Not All on Me – Mary and Martha Chapter 4: Eat Something – Elijah Chapter 5: Life in Crisis – Job Chapter 6: Living in the Light – Judas and Peter

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

A recognized visionary leader in church revitalization, the **Rev. Junius B. Dotson** is the General Secretary (chief executive officer) of Discipleship Ministries, an international agency of The United Methodist Church. Prior to his present position, Rev. Dotson was pastor of Saint Mark United Methodist Church in Wichita, Kansas, where he was instrumental in transforming the church into a 3,500-member multicampus congregation.

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JUNIUS B. DOTSON

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- Spiritual directors

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Kristen E. Vincent

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Kristen Vincent is the owner and principal artisan of Prayerworks Studio, where she creates handcrafted prayer tools. She travels extensively to speak and lead retreats on prayer, healing from trauma, and prayer beads. Kristen has a Master of Theological Studies from Duke Divinity School.

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– George Macdonald s I write this, Father's Day is just around the corner. I look forward to celebrating my 85-year-old father. He is a good man. And he loves me. I know this because he tells me he loves me, and he tells me he's proud of me and my family every chance he gets.

He is a spiritual man. Loves God ind shares his faith with anyo who will listen. He is a provider and protector. Extremely demonstrative in his faith and love of family. I feel very fortunate to have him in my life. Humbled, really, that this is how things worked out for me. I have come to realize, sadly, that my situation is rare. Every day I meet women who



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I raise my eyes toward the mountains. Where will my help come from? My help comes from the LORD, the maker of heaven and earth. God won't let your foot slip. Your protector won't fall asleep on the job. No! Israel's protector never sleeps or rests! The LORD is your protector; the LORD is your shade right beside you. The sun won't strike you during the day; neither will the moon at night. The LORD will protect you from all evil; God will protect your very life. The LORD will protect you on your journeys-whether going or comingfrom now until forever from now. -Psalm 121

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We often struggle with the belief that God is with us, watching over us and comforting us in our sorrows. It is good to remind ourselves that he is indeed with us. What evil will the Lord protect you from? Perhaps he'll safeguard your thoughts so you won't wander too far

IN THE QUIET OF THE DAY

away from him. Perhaps he'll send angels to guide you so that you will walk on solid ground.

conversation as you would a close friend. Bring him into your heart

so nothing can come between you. When you do, you'll feel his presence in everything. You'll be



aware of his helping hand and loving embrace. Give him thanks and praise.

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