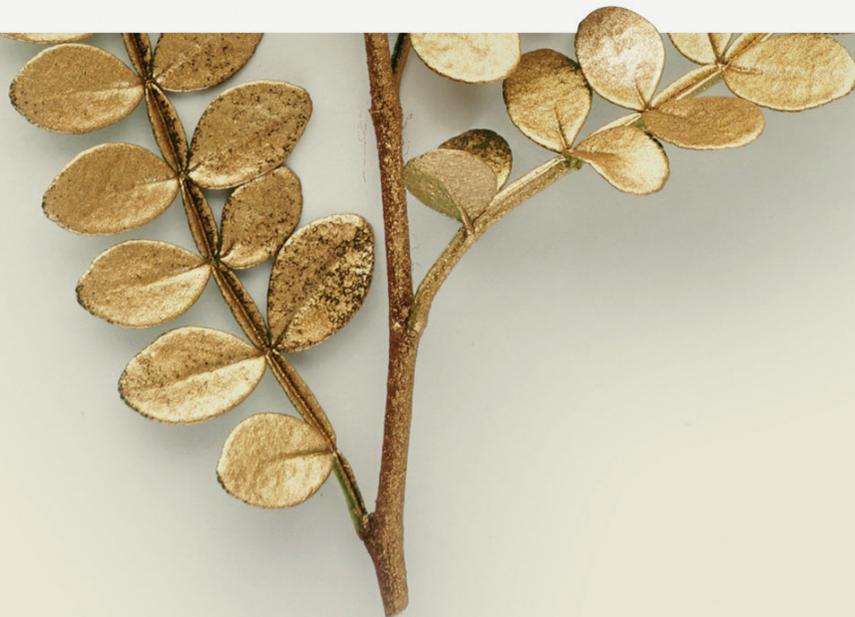




— 2020 - 2021 —  
**FALL & WINTER**  
*Trade Catalog*



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*Abingdon Press makes its best effort to verify pricing accuracy at the time of publication but reserves the right to correct/update pricing at its discretion due to market fluctuations impacting the cost of materials, printing, domestic or international sourcing and other aspects of the publishing process.*

## SOCIAL MEDIA & ONLINE RESOURCES

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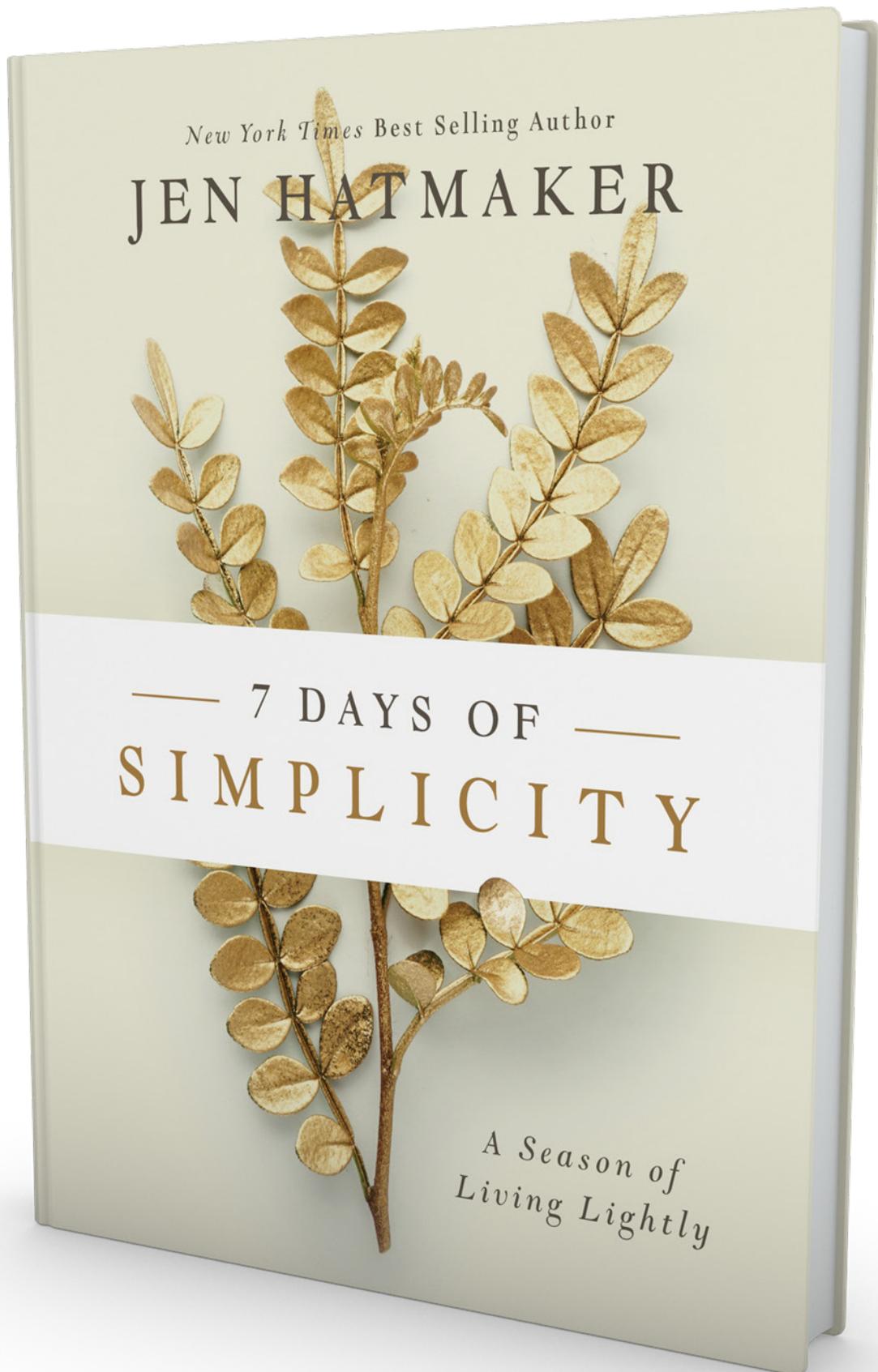
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**CHRISTIAN LIVING**  
FALL & WINTER 2020-2021



# 7 DAYS OF SIMPLICITY

A Season of Living Lightly

Jen Hatmaker

**Slow down and step away from culture's rampant consumerism with insight from *New York Times*-bestseller Jen Hatmaker.**

Inspired by her iconic *7: An Experimental Mutiny Against Excess*, *New York Times*-bestselling author Jen Hatmaker explores the spiritual side of a simpler life and the way our choices affect our spirit, our loved ones, our community, and the earth in her new gift book, *7 Days of Simplicity: A Season of Living Lightly*.

In *7 Days of Simplicity*, Hatmaker shares from her own experiences in living lightly, "finding deep delight in exactly what you have and where you are, never letting anyone shame you out of simplicity or contentment." Throughout the book are excerpts of Jen's own journey to offer hope, humor, facts, and encouragement for the reader with a fresh look at how our own daily choices affect the sustainability of our lives and God's earth.

The book confronts our desire to compete in the all-consuming consumer-goods game, calling the reader to slow down, catch a breath, live with intention, and live like today is all we have, because those small ripples eventually make big waves for everyone.

**Release:** September 15, 2020 **Price:** \$21.99

Hardback **ISBN:** 9781501888304

**Size:** 5.5 x 7 **Pages:** 224

**BISAC:** RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIVING / DEVOTIONAL



## KEY FEATURES

- Whether they know her through her top-10 podcast or her bestselling books, Jen Hatmaker has what few celebrities have achieved—popularity and relatability across a spectrum of different people, especially women.
- A simpler lifestyle has gone beyond a trend to something many Americans voluntarily seek. Jen's work provides tangible steps to building a more minimalistic approach to consumerism and answers a perennial felt-need for many people.
- Jacketed hardcover with ribbon.

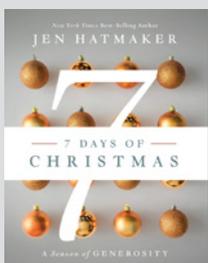


**Jen Hatmaker**, sought-after speaker, Big Sister Emeritus, and Chief BFF, is the beloved author of eleven Bible studies and books, including *New York Times* bestsellers *For the Love* and *Of Mess and Moxie*. Jen hosts the award-winning *For the Love Podcast* and leads a tightly knit online community 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 which they overhauled as stars of the HGTV series *My Big Family Renovation*.

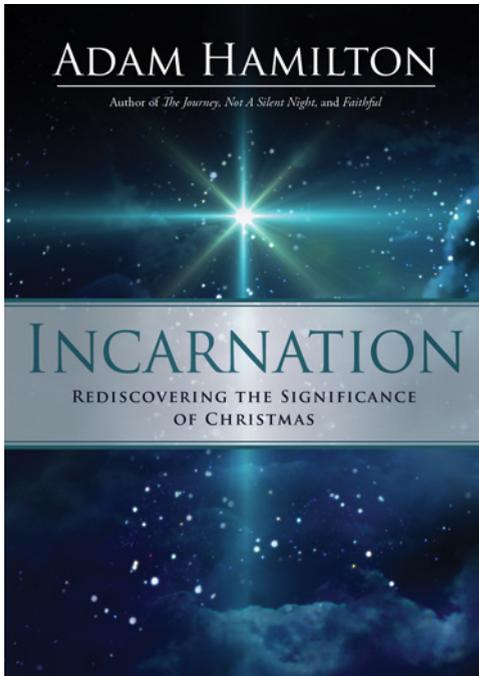
To learn more about Jen, check out her schedule and podcast at [JenHatmaker.com](http://JenHatmaker.com).

## BY THE SAME AUTHOR



9781501888274

\$21.99



**Release:** September 15, 2020 **Price:** \$19.99

Hardback **ISBN:** 9781791005542

**Size:** 5 x 7 **Pages:** 176

**BISAC:** RELIGION / HOLIDAYS / CHRISTMAS & ADVENT



## KEY FEATURES

- Exploring the names of Christ in depth is a great way to understand the historical and personal significance of his birth.
- Come to a deeper understanding of the mystery of the Incarnation, and what it means that God has come to be with us in the person of Jesus.
- 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.
- Hear from best-selling author Adam Hamilton in short teaching videos each week.
- Perfect study for all age groups for Advent and Christmas.

# INCARNATION

Rediscovering the Significance of Christmas

Adam Hamilton

**Learn the meaning behind the names of Christ and the difference he makes in our lives this Christmas.**

His parents gave him the name Jesus. But the prophets, the shepherds, the wise men, and the angels addressed him by other names. They called him Lord, Messiah, Savior, Emmanuel, Light of the World, and Word Made Flesh.

In *Incarnation*, best-selling author Adam Hamilton explores the meaning of these titles and what they tell us about the child whose birth we celebrate at Christmas. Join him and reflect upon the significance of the Christ-child for our lives and world today!

Chapter topics include:

- The Royal Titles: Lord and Messiah
- The Deliverer's Title: Savior
- The Incarnate Title: Emmanuel
- The Light of the World
- Epilogue: The Word Made Flesh

Additional components for a four-week adult study include a comprehensive Leader Guide and a DVD featuring author and pastor Adam Hamilton as well as resources for children and youth (see page 37 for more information).

**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](http://AdamHamilton.com).

# SERMON ON THE MOUNT

A Beginner's Guide to the Kingdom of Heaven

Amy-Jill Levine

**Explore the most popular sermon ever delivered!**

How is the follower of Jesus to understand the words of the Old Testament? How are those words relevant to the New Covenant he is establishing? What might the words of the Lord's Prayer have conveyed to his initial followers, and why is that historical information essential to the prayer two millennia later?

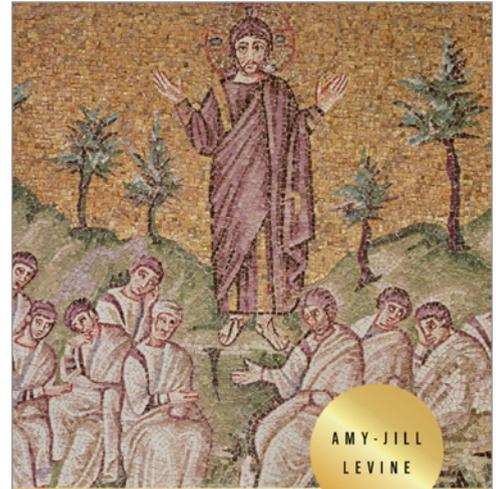
In *Sermon on the Mount*, Dr. Amy-Jill Levine takes a detailed and colorful overview of Matthew 5-7, collectively known as Jesus's Sermon on the Mount. Through Dr. Levine's engaging method of biblical interpretation, readers will come away with a solid understanding of the Sermon on the Mount in its historical and theological context.

Chapters include:

- The Beatitudes
- The Extensions
- Practicing Piety
- Our Father
- Finding Your Treasure
- Living into the Kingdom

Explore the major topics in the most popular sermon ever delivered and unpack how Jesus makes his points using a solid knowledge of Hebrew Scriptures and moral teachings. Additional components for a six-week study include a DVD featuring Dr. Levine, a comprehensive Leader Guide and a 40-day book of reflections (see page 15 for more information).

**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 *Short Stories by Jesus*, *Entering the Passion*, *Light of the World*, *The Misunderstood Jew* and *The Meaning of the Bible*. 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.



## SERMON *on* the MOUNT

A BEGINNER'S GUIDE to the KINGDOM of HEAVEN

**Release:** August 4, 2020 **Price:** \$16.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501899898

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

**BISAC:** RELIGION / CHRISTIAN EDUCATION / ADULT



### KEY FEATURES

- Dr. Amy-Jill Levine explores the biblical texts surrounding the Sermon on the Mount, making it more accessible to readers.
- Provides tools to help pastors, group leaders, and study groups encounter the teachings of Jesus through component guides and a six-session DVD.

*Miracles, Myths, and Doubts  
of Biblical Proportions*



# SCRIPTURE AND THE SKEPTIC

ERIC HUFFMAN

# SCRIPTURE AND THE SKEPTIC

Miracles, Myths, and Doubts of Biblical Proportions

Eric Huffman

**Understand the Bible by interpreting it through the lens of Jesus's life, death, and resurrection.**

The Bible is the best-selling, most widely read, and most quoted book in history. It is also misunderstood, misquoted, and fiercely debated. If, as Christians believe, the Bible is the Word of God, why is it so complex and difficult to interpret in parts, yet simple enough for even children to understand in others?

In *Scripture and the Skeptic*, Eric Huffman, author of *40 Days of Doubt*, helps readers understand and cope with confusion about the Bible and provides answers to questions by reframing it as a perfect and seamless story. Huffman illustrates how the Bible, even the parts some consider ungodly, presents the beautiful story that God intended to tell.

Through storytelling from his own experiences and his take on Bible stories, Huffman helps readers understand the Bible by interpreting the entire book through the lens of Jesus's life, death, and resurrection. He shows how every part of the Bible is either crying out for Jesus, witnessing his incarnation, or responding in the aftermath of his resurrection.

## KEY FEATURES

- Readers discover how to trust the Bible as God's beautiful and perfect salvation story.
- Includes questions with each chapter for personal reflection or group study.
- From the author of *40 Days of Doubt: Devotions for the Skeptic*.

**Eric Huffman** is the founder and lead pastor of The Story Houston and host of the "Maybe God with Eric Huffman" podcast. He graduated from Centenary College in 2001, received his M.Div. from Saint Paul School of Theology in 2006, and was ordained as an elder by the Missouri Conference in 2011. Eric is passionate about leading new generations to know God's transforming love through Jesus Christ. He is the author of *40 Days of Doubt: Devotions for the Skeptic* and lives in Houston, Texas. Find him online at [EricHuffman.org](http://EricHuffman.org).

**Release:** September 1, 2020 **Price:** \$16.99

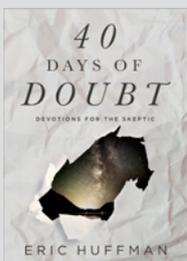
Paperback **ISBN:** 9781791004217

**Size:** 5 x 7 **Pages:** 224

**BISAC:** RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIFE / PERSONAL GROWTH

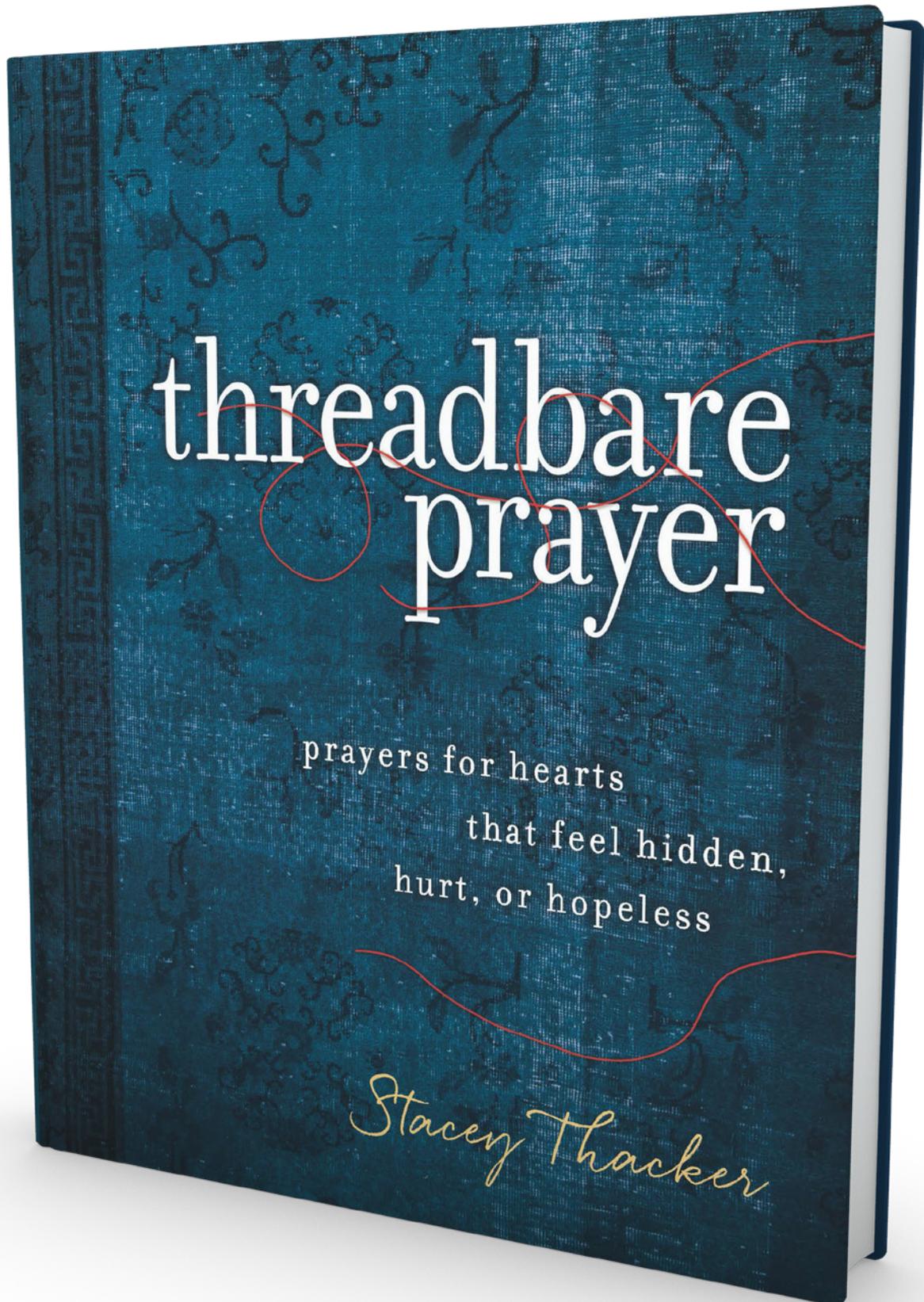


## BY THE SAME AUTHOR



9781501869136

\$14.99



# THREADBARE PRAYER

Prayers for Hearts that Feel Hidden, Hurt, or Hopeless

Stacey Thacker

## Prayers for days you don't have the words to pray.

Life sometimes brings difficult situations or circumstances that can leave us feeling run-down, drained, worn-out, and threadbare. These are the times we most desperately need prayer, but they can also be the times we simply don't have the words to form a prayer.

In *Threadbare Prayer*, Stacey Thacker presents 120 simple yet heartfelt devotions to guide readers on the days they don't know what to pray. Each entry in this attractive, gift-worthy devotional contains a Bible verse, a brief thought, and a simple, concise prayer to encourage the reader's heart.

### From the Introduction

Threadbare [thred-bair]  
adjective

1. having the nap worn off so as to lay bare the threads of the warp and woof, as a fabric, garment, etc.

I propped my feet on the ottoman and noticed my jeans had finally worn thin enough at the knee to be considered stylish.

*Threadbare they are.*

I picked the string still holding on for dear life and thought,  
How appropriate. I'm feeling every bit threadbare myself.

My nap has worn off.  
Worn to the naked thread.  
I'm hanging on for dear life.

## KEY FEATURES

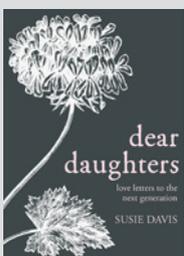
- Features 120 devotions including a Bible verse, a brief thought, and threadbare prayer.
- Helps guide readers on days they don't know what to pray.
- Makes a great women's gift.
- Attractive hardcover devotional book with 2-color interior.

**Stacey Thacker** is an author, blogger, speaker, and believer who loves God's Word and connecting with women. Her passion is to encourage women in their walks with God and equip them to study the Bible. She created the blog community Mothers of Daughters and now blogs on her site, StaceyThacker.com. She's the author of six books including *Hope for the Weary Mom: Let God Meet You in the Mess* and has written a series of Bible studies, *The Girlfriends' Guide to the Bible*. She worked with Campus Crusade for Christ for five years before becoming a full-time mom to four daughters.

**Release:** October 6, 2020 **Price:** \$19.99  
Hardback **ISBN:** 9781791008017  
**Size:** 5.625 x 7 **Pages:** 208  
**BISAC:** RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIVING /  
DEVOTIONAL



## COMPARABLE TITLES



9781501881060  
\$19.99



9781501881039  
\$19.99

# The Stillness of Winter

Sacred Blessings of the Season



BARBARA MAHANY

# THE STILLNESS OF WINTER

Sacred Blessings of the Season

Barbara Mahany

Explore the sacredness and blessings of the winter season.

Winter is the coldest time of the year. The days are shorter, and the nights are longer. Deciduous trees are bare of leaves, and some animals hibernate. Christmas is celebrated, one year comes to an end, and a new year begins.

In *The Stillness of Winter*, nationally known journalist and author Barbara Mahany unfurls, month by month, the winter season, exploring the natural world to find the holy within and the holy all around during this sacred season. Expanding on content from Barbara's book *Slowing Time*, this beautiful two-color gift book is part almanac, scrapbook, field notes, and recipe box, showing readers how to experience the winter world around them with joy and curiosity.

## KEY FEATURES

- A spiritual guide to the winter season.
- Features short entries for daily reading.
- Hardcover gift book with ribbon.

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

Release: October 6, 2020 Price: \$19.99

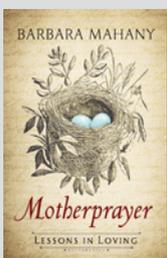
Hardback ISBN: 9781791007553

Size: 5.625 x 7 Pages: 224

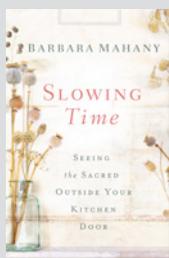
BISAC: RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIVING / DEVOTIONAL



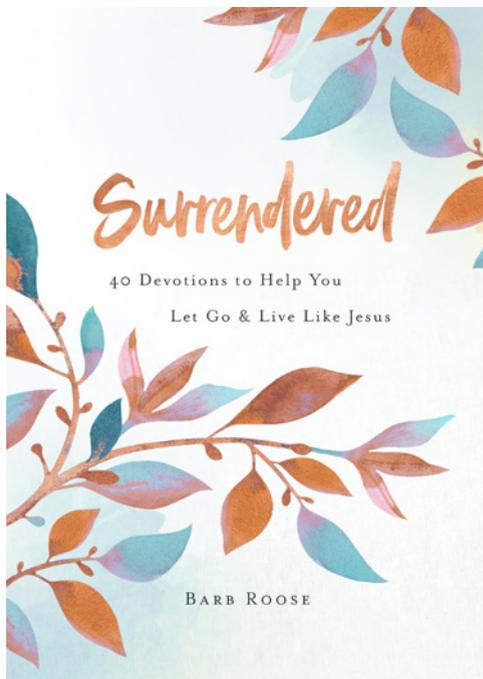
## BY THE SAME AUTHOR



9781501827273  
\$18.99



9781426776427  
\$16.99



**Release:** September 15, 2020 **Price:** \$14.99  
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781791007997  
**Size:** 5 x 7 **Pages:** 176  
**BISAC:** RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIVING /  
 DEVOTIONAL



### KEY FEATURES

- Features 40 devotions inspired by Jesus's 40 days in the wilderness.
- Devotions give readers inspiration to find peace in their own lives.
- Excellent stand-alone resource or companion to the *Surrendered: Letting Go and Living Like Jesus* Bible study.
- Includes Scripture, stories, letting go principles, application questions, and more.

# SURRENDERED

40 Devotions to Help You Let Go & Live Like Jesus

Barb Roose

**A devotional to help you learn how to surrender like Jesus.**

Are you tired of following your feelings or being disappointed by unchanging circumstances?

In this 40-day devotional journey, women will learn how to surrender like Jesus and experience God's power and peace in their lives as never before! Inspired by Jesus's forty days in the wilderness, the devotions are divided into four sections:

1. Letting Go of Circumstances
2. Letting Go of Others
3. Letting Go of Expectations
4. Living Like Jesus

Each devotion features a Scripture, a big idea, a biblical or personal story, a letting go principle, and personal reflection and application questions. Women can practice letting go as they draw closer to Jesus than ever before.

**Barb Roose** is a popular speaker and author who is passionate about helping women apply the truths of God's Word to the practical realities and challenges they face in today's culture, equipping them to win at life with strength and dignity. She enjoys teaching and encouraging women at conferences and retreats across the country, as well as internationally. Barb is the author of four Bible studies (*Surrendered; I'm Waiting, God; Joshua; Beautiful Already*) and two books (*Winning the Worry Battle* and *Enough Already*). She also writes a regular blog at BarbRoose.com and hosts the "Better Together" podcast. Previously, Barb was Executive Director of Ministry at CedarCreek Church in Perrysburg, Ohio. Barb lives with her family in Toledo, Ohio.

### BY THE SAME AUTHOR



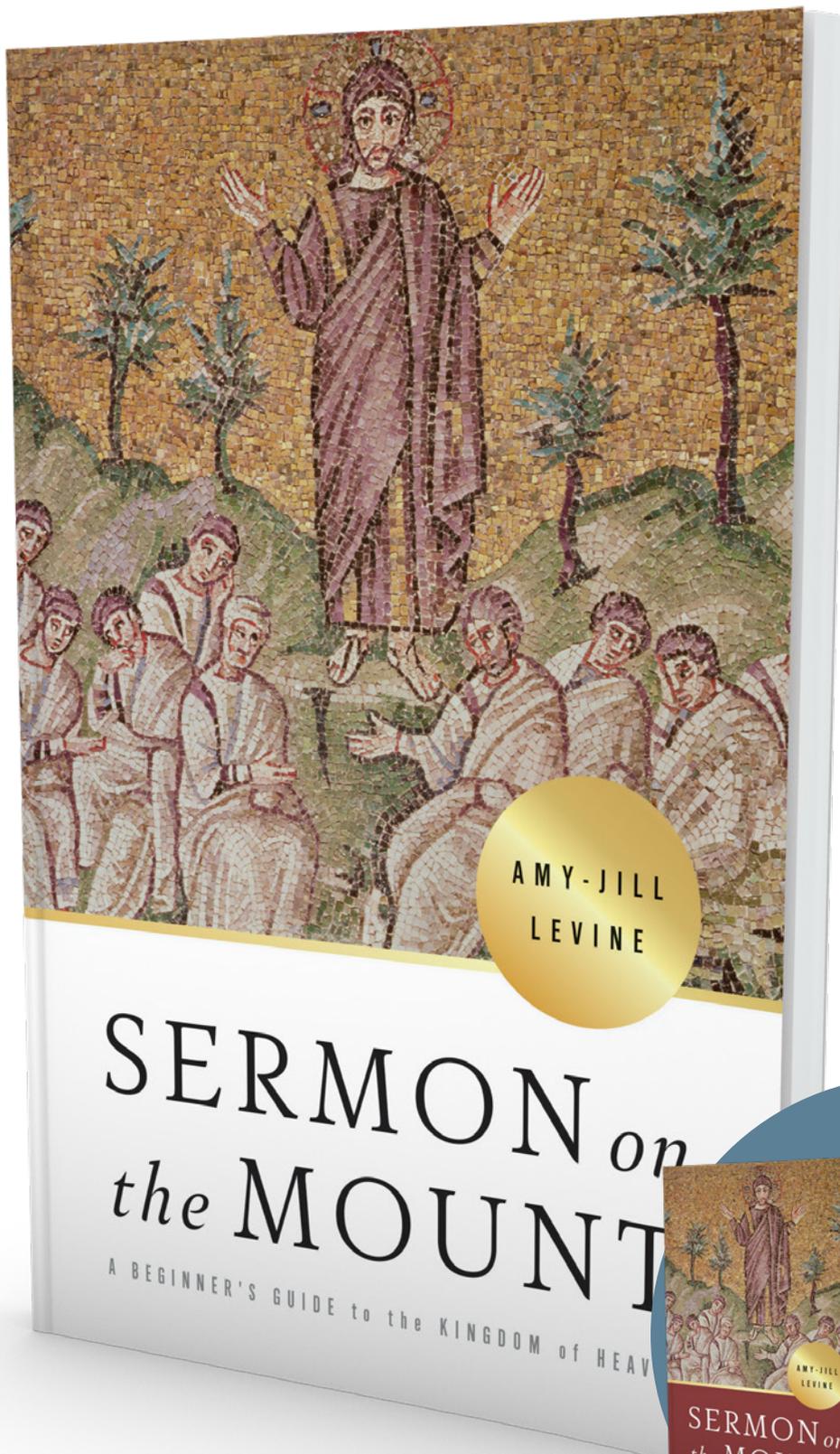
9781501896286  
\$16.99



9781501857843  
\$16.99

# **BIBLE STUDIES**

**FALL & WINTER 2020-2021**



# SERMON ON THE MOUNT

A Beginner's Guide to the Kingdom of Heaven

Amy-Jill Levine

## Explore the most popular sermon ever delivered!

How is the follower of Jesus to understand the words of the Old Testament? How are those words relevant to the New Covenant he is establishing? What might the words of the Lord's Prayer have conveyed to his initial followers, and why is that historical information essential to the prayer two millennia later?

In *Sermon on the Mount*, Dr. Amy-Jill Levine takes a detailed and colorful overview of Matthew 5-7, collectively known as Jesus's Sermon on the Mount. Through Dr. Levine's engaging method of biblical interpretation, readers will come away with a solid understanding of the Sermon on the Mount in its historical and theological context.

Chapters include:

- The Beatitudes
- The Extensions
- Practicing Piety
- Our Father
- Finding Your Treasure
- Living into the Kingdom

Explore the major topics in the most popular sermon ever delivered and unpack how Jesus makes his points using a solid knowledge of Hebrew Scriptures and moral teachings. Additional components for a six-week study include a DVD featuring Dr. Levine, a comprehensive Leader Guide, and a 40-day book of reflections.

## KEY FEATURES

- Dr. Amy-Jill Levine explores the biblical texts surrounding the Sermon on the Mount, making it more accessible to readers.
- High-quality DVD features six 10-minute teaching sessions with Dr. Levine building on the topics and themes discussed in the book.
- The small group Leader Guide contains a session outline for each group meeting with Scripture, prayer, opening activity, discussion questions, activity, and ending call to action.
- Provides tools to help pastors, group leaders, and study groups encounter the teachings of Jesus through component guides and a six-session DVD.
- *Toward the Kingdom of Heaven* devotional includes a collection of 40 daily readings drawn from Amy-Jill Levine's teachings on the Sermon on the Mount with additional stories, insights, and lessons from the author.

**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 *Short Stories by Jesus*, *Entering the Passion*, *Light of the World*, *The Misunderstood Jew* and *The Meaning of the Bible*. 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:** August 4, 2020 **Price:** \$16.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501899898

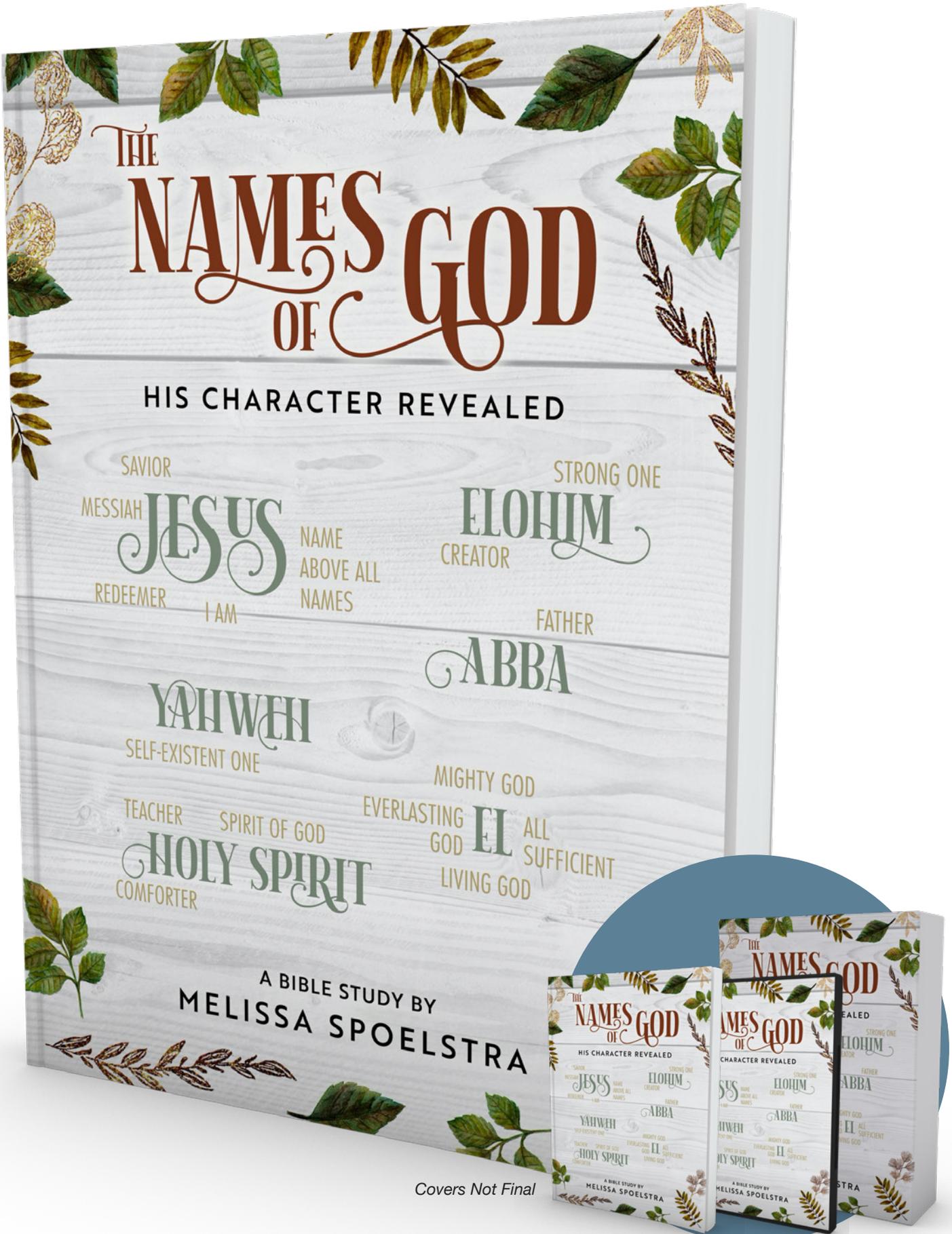
**Size:** 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 144

**BISAC:** RELIGION / CHRISTIAN EDUCATION / ADULT



## COMPANION PRODUCTS

<b>Leader Guide</b>		9781501899911	\$14.99
<b>DVD</b>		9781501899935	\$39.99
<b>Devotional</b>		9781791009151	\$14.99



Covers Not Final

# THE NAMES OF GOD

His Character Revealed

Melissa Spoelstra

## Know God better through a study of His names.

Today's culture and others' views, even those of other Christians, can present a distorted view of God. Some suggest God exudes qualities He does not possess, such as being unloving or apathetic toward His creation. In a world where we find people creating God in their own image, studying God's names can remind us that we are created in His. In fact, one of the best ways to know God's true character and grow closer to Him is to study His names.

In *The Names of God*, Melissa Spoelstra leads women on an exploration of the many names of our triune God—from El and Elohim to Yahweh and its many combinations to names such as Abba, Jesus, and Holy Spirit...and many others.

As women study the names of God, their ideas about God will become more grounded in what His names tell them, and thus more personal, allowing a greater trust in Him to share the details of their lives. Whether having walked with God for many years or just starting out in a relationship with Him, by the end of this study women will not only know more about God but will know Him better—because through the discovery of God's names, they will discover Him!

Components for this six-week Bible study, each available separately, include a Participant Workbook, a Leader Guide, DVD with six 25-minute segments (with closed captioning), and a boxed Leader Kit containing one of each component.

## KEY FEATURES

- A six-week study of the names of God.
- Inspires women to have a more personal and trusting relationship with God.
- DVD features dynamic, engaging teaching in six 25-minute segments.
- Strong, solid Bible study from popular Bible teacher and speaker 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 a contributor to *Girlfriends in God* online devotional as well as *Proverbs 31 ministries First Five* app. Melissa makes her home in Pickerington, Ohio, with her pastor husband and four kids.

Melissa Spoelstra is the author of six other women's Bible studies: *Romans: Good News that Changes Everything*, *Elijah: Spiritual Stamina in Every Season*, *Numbers: Learning Contentment in a Culture of More*, *First Corinthians: Living Love When We Disagree*, *Joseph: The Journey to Forgiveness*, and *Jeremiah: Daring to Hope in an Unstable World* and four books: *Total Family Makeover*, *Total Christmas Makeover*, *30 Days of Prayer for Spiritual Stamina*, and *Dare to Hope*.

### Participant Workbook

**Release:** August 4, 2020 **Price:** \$16.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501878084

**Size:** 7 x 9.25 **Pages:** 208

**BISAC:** RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIVING / WOMEN'S INTERESTS



### COMPANION PRODUCTS

<b>Leader Guide</b>		9781501878107	\$14.99
<b>DVD</b>		9781501878121	\$49.99
<b>Leader Kit</b>		9781501878190	\$79.99



A BIBLE STUDY OF 1 SAMUEL

# LOSE CONTROL

The Way to Find Your Soul

MARY SHANNON HOFFPAUIR

A BIBLE STUDY OF 1 SAMUEL

## LOSE CONTROL

The Way to Find Your Soul

LEADER GUIDE

MARY SHANNON HOFFPAUIR

A BIBLE STUDY OF 1 SAMUEL

## LOSE CONTROL

The Way to Find Your Soul

DVD

MARY SHANNON HOFFPAUIR

# LOSE CONTROL

The Way to Find Your Soul

Mary Shannon Hoffpauir

**Learn to live in total dependence on God through a study of 1 Samuel.**

Have you ever thought you had life under control—until you didn't? Perhaps thinking "God is in control" but living as if you are. It's like walking around with a hot cup of coffee, afraid that with one wrong move it will spill and be a burning hot mess. Then you realize what little control you have and how dependent on God you truly are.

In *Lose Control*, Mary Shannon Hoffpauir takes you on a six-week journey through the Book of 1 Samuel, which is an epic story about a fight for control. Despite God's warnings through the prophet Samuel, the nation of Israel was determined to take control by having their own king. As you dig into the saga of King Saul and David, who would become the next anointed king of Israel, you will discover that no plan or purpose of God can be thwarted by human beings. Even the worst of circumstances can be used by God to accomplish His purposes in your life.

In her no-nonsense, authentic teaching style that endears her to women of all ages, Mary Shannon encourages you to lose control so that you can find your soul through a trusting relationship with your faithful God.

Components for this six-week Bible study, each available separately, include a Participant Workbook, a Leader Guide, and a DVD with six 25-minute segments (with closed captioning).

## KEY FEATURES

- An in-depth six-week exploration of the entire Book of 1 Samuel.
- Study includes five days of homework for each week.
- Encourages women to exchange their desire for control for God's gift of faith.
- Helps women gain a deeper love and grace for others.
- DVD features dynamic, engaging teaching in six 25-minute segments.

**Mary Shannon Hoffpauir** is a powerful Bible teacher, author, and speaker whose great love for Jesus and for Scripture inspires her audiences to "get their face in the Book!" Her background is rich with a spiritual upbringing rooted solidly in the Bible. But as a self-professed recovering perfectionist, she was bound by performance-based theology much of her Christian life, believing God's affection and approval were contingent on measuring up. Most comfortable in a ball cap and ripped jeans, Mary Shannon is the mother of two adult children and a gifted storyteller with a sassy sense of humor and a fresh transparency about the messiness of life: a recipe providing her with fresh insight and ample illustrations that can make you laugh and cry as she brings the Bible to life for the ordinary person. She leads three large community women's Bible study groups in the Phoenix metropolitan area and teaches across the nation as a featured speaker with the *Aspire Women's Events*.

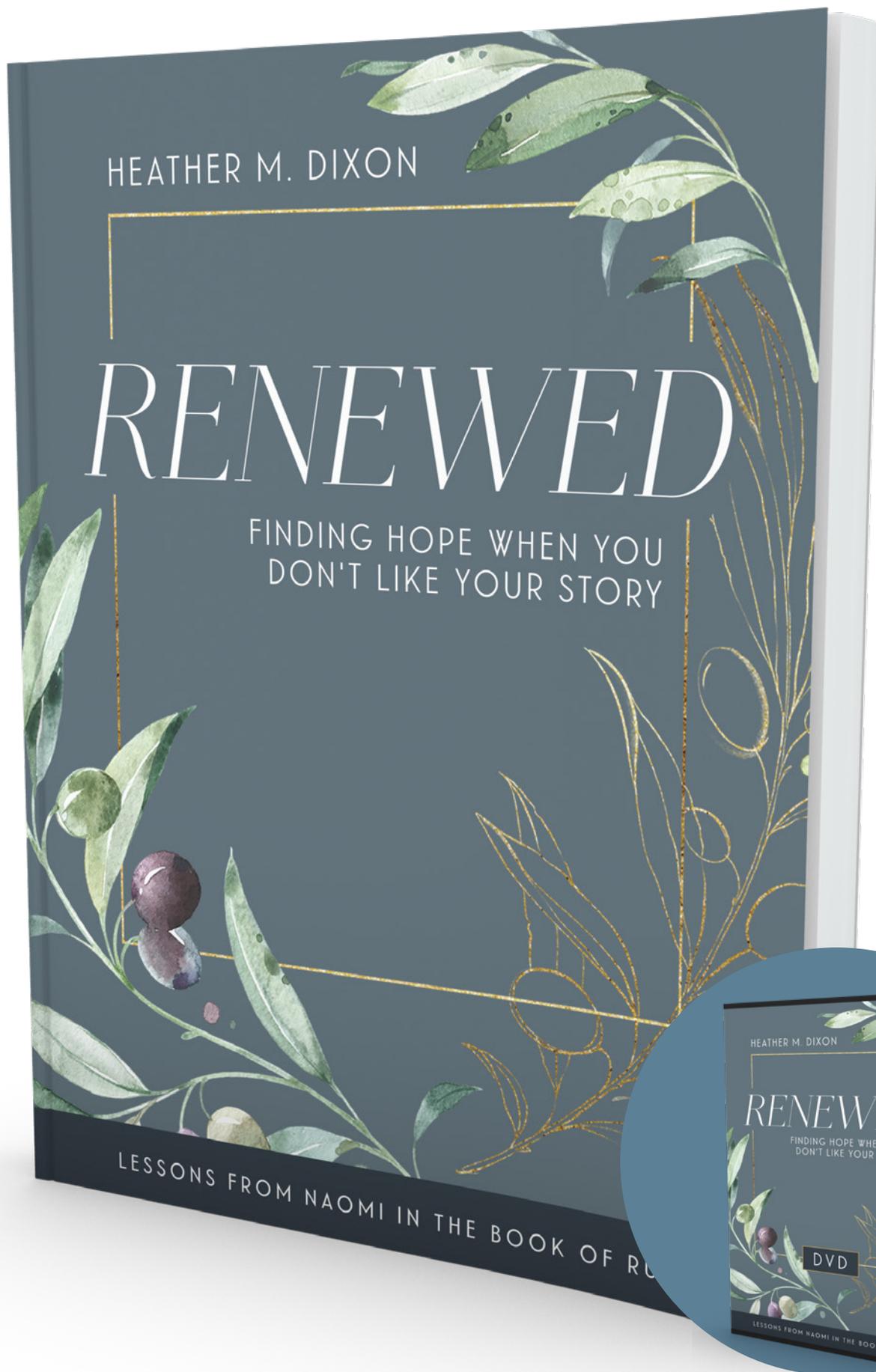
### Participant Workbook

**Release:** August 18, 2020 **Price:** \$16.99  
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781791004354  
**Size:** 7 x 9.25 **Pages:** 208  
**BISAC:** RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIVING /  
 WOMEN'S INTERESTS



### COMPANION PRODUCTS

<b>Leader Guide</b>		9781791004378	\$14.99
<b>DVD</b>		9781791004392	\$49.99



# RENEWED

Finding Hope When You Don't Like Your Story

Heather M. Dixon

## Lessons from Naomi in the Book of Ruth.

Few things make us feel as helpless as living with a story we don't like. Maybe one that involves the loss of a loved one, an unwanted transition, a difficult diagnosis, or a dream that fell through. At one time or another, we all deal with disappointments and feelings that life is unfair or that we are being punished.

In *Renewed*, a four-week study of the Book of Ruth, women glean wisdom from Naomi's perspective, a woman who lived a story she didn't choose or like. Forced to chart a new path as she mourned the loss of her husband and two sons, Naomi learned that the journey from bitterness to renewed hope and joy was rooted in God's promise of redemption.

With insight from her own journey of living with a story that is not easy, Heather teaches women to flourish, even as they live hard stories, through a willingness to trust that God can transform them and trade their heartache for hope. They will learn to rely on God's movement in the details of their story, even when it can't be seen, gain confidence to act in the part of their stories that they can change, and watch expectantly for God to redeem the parts they can't.

Components for this four-week Bible study, available separately, include a Participant Workbook with Leader Helps and a DVD with four 20 to 25-minute segments (with closed captioning).

## KEY FEATURES

- A four-week study of the Book of Ruth from Naomi's perspective.
- This shorter study is ideal for in-between or busy times.
- Helps women find the courage to live with a story they don't like and trust in God.
- Participant Workbook with Leader Helps includes group session guides, discussion questions, prayers, video viewer guides, and more.
- DVD with four 20 to 25-minute segments.

**Heather M. Dixon** is an author, speaker, and Bible teacher who understands living with a story that is not easy. Diagnosed with an incurable and terminal genetic disorder that she inherited from her mother, she is passionate about encouraging and equipping women to trust in God, face their greatest fears, and live with hope, especially amid difficult circumstances. When she is not blogging at [TheRescuedLetters.com](http://TheRescuedLetters.com) or speaking at women's conferences and events, Heather loves to make the most of everyday moments such as cooking for her husband and son, brainstorming all the possible ways to organize Legos and superheroes, checking out way too many library books, or unashamedly indulging in her love for all things Disney. She is a regular contributor to *Journey* magazine.

Heather M. Dixon is also the author of the women's Bible study *Determined: Living Like Jesus in Every Moment*.

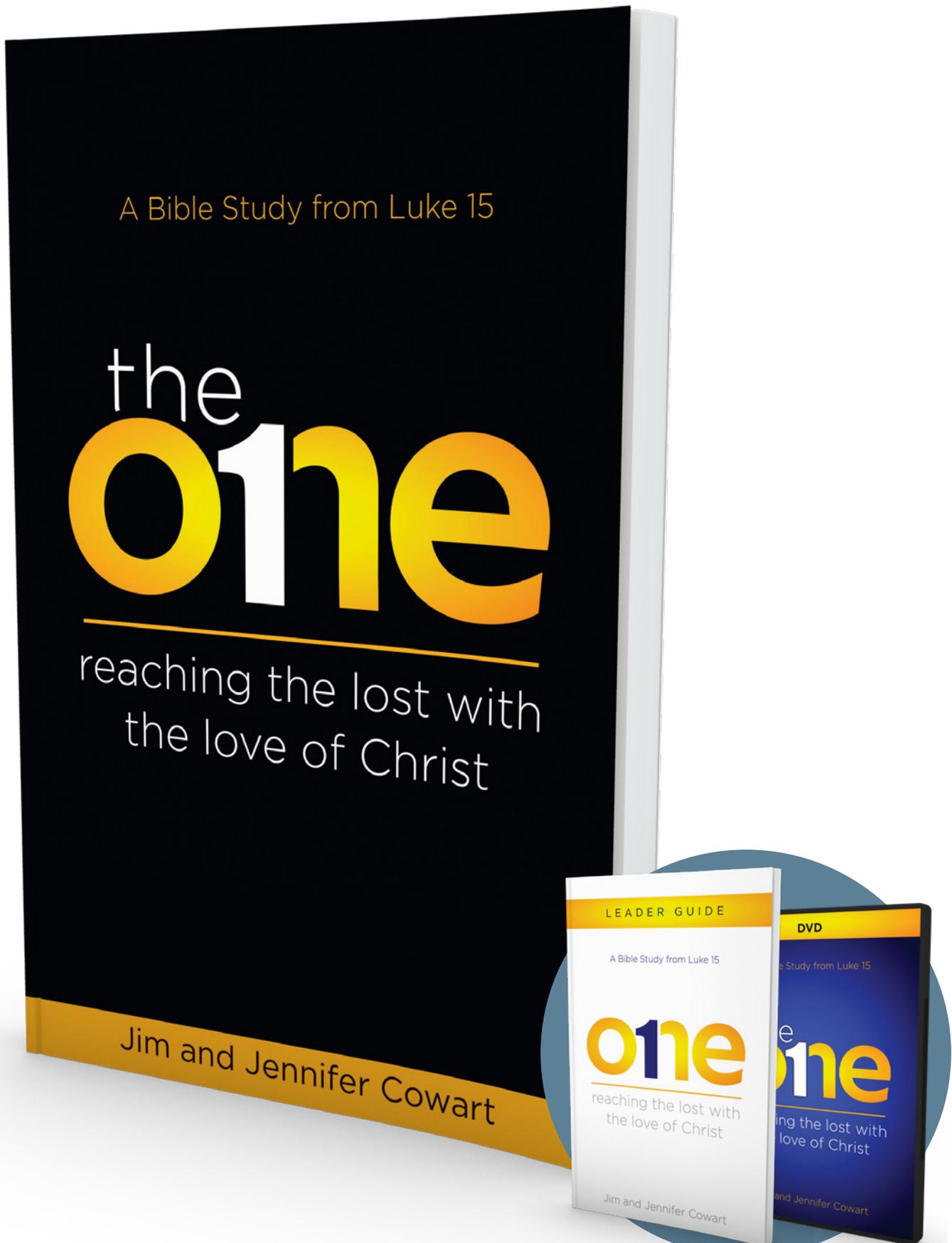
### Participant Workbook with Leader Helps

**Release:** September 1, 2020 **Price:** \$14.99  
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781791006174  
**Size:** 7 x 9.25 **Pages:** 128  
**BISAC:** RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIVING /  
 WOMEN'S INTERESTS



### COMPANION PRODUCT

DVD		9781791006198	\$44.99
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# THE ONE

Reaching the Lost with the Love of Christ

Jim Cowart & Jennifer Cowart

In *The One*, by pastors Jim and Jennifer Cowart, readers will learn to respond to God’s great love for us by reaching out to the ones in our lives who are lost, not literally but spiritually—those who have not yet discovered the rich love God has for them. God sent his Son to earth on a rescue mission, “to seek and to save the lost” (Luke 19:10)—or as the parables in Luke 15 show us, to save “the one.” And Jesus has entrusted us, his disciples, to carry on this mission until his return.

The book and the corresponding study explore Luke 15 where Jesus tells stories about rejoicing when lost things are found—specifically, a lost sheep, a lost coin, and a lost child. This passage teaches us that we’re dearly loved and sought after by God, and that we are called to join in Jesus’s mission to seek and to save “the one” with intentionality, perseverance, and joy.

Topics include:

- Who’s “the one”?
- The Sheep
- The Coin
- The Boys

Additional components for a four-week study include a DVD featuring Jim and Jennifer Cowart and a comprehensive Leader Guide.

## KEY FEATURES

- Readers will become passionate about sharing the love and message of Jesus to reach those who don’t know God.
- Includes the engaging teaching style of Jim and Jen Cowart, rich in storytelling and practical application.
- High-quality DVD with four 15-minute teaching sessions with Jim and Jen building on the topics and themes discussed in the corresponding main book chapters, plus two bonus segments for leaders.
- Small Group Leader Guide with a session outline for each group meeting with Scripture, prayer, opening activity, discussion questions, and ending call to action.
- A free digital download that includes instructions and leader videos for leading a church-wide implementation campaign is also available online.

**Jim Cowart** is the lead and founding pastor of Harvest Church in middle Georgia, a congregation that he and his wife, Jennifer, began in 2001 and that has twice been named among the nation’s fastest-growing congregations. Jim has authored and coauthored numerous books including *Leading from Horseback*, *Grab Gather Grow*, and *Start This, Stop That*. Whenever life allows, Jim escapes to enjoy the outdoors on horseback, hunting, and traveling with his family.

**Jennifer Cowart** is Executive and Teaching pastor of Harvest Church. With degrees in Christian education, counseling, and business, she has been integral to the development of the Emerging and Discipleship Ministries at Harvest, which include more than 300 small groups that meet in homes and workplaces. She is the author of two women’s Bible studies (*Fierce* and *Messy People*) and several small group studies co-authored with her husband, Jim, including *Grounded in Prayer* and *Living the Five*. Jen is an avid movie-goer and travel enthusiast. She and Jim love doing life with their kids, Aly, Josh, and Andrew.

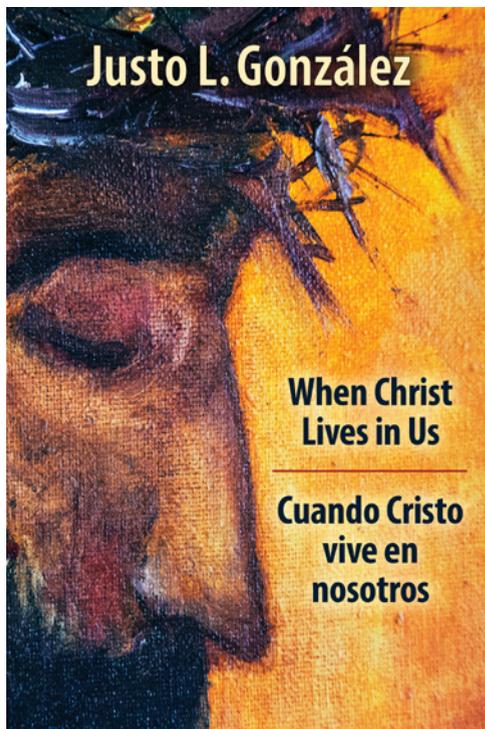
### Participant Book

**Release:** August 18, 2020 **Price:** \$14.99  
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781791000318  
**Size:** 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 96  
**BISAC:** RELIGION / BIBLICAL STUDIES / NEW TESTAMENT



### COMPANION PRODUCTS

<b>Leader Guide</b>		9781791000332	\$14.99
<b>DVD</b>		9781791000356	\$39.99



**Release:** July 21, 2020 **Price:** \$19.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501899744

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

**BISAC:** RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIVING / SPIRITUAL GROWTH



# WHEN CHRIST LIVES IN US, BILINGUAL EDITION

Quando Cristo vive en nosotros

Justo L. González

**A bilingual guide to walking with Jesus by a well-known expert in the field.**

This study by renowned author Justo L. González emphasizes Jesus's life and ministry. González explores how today's Christians may walk with Jesus in specific forms and acts of ministry. Written in both Spanish and English, this book contains eight sessions on the themes of: Calling, Praying, Feeding, Healing, Commissioning, Teaching, Witnessing, and Giving. The bilingual book is a combination student/leader book with discussion questions at the end of every session.

Este estudio del reconocido autor Justo L. González resalta la vida y el ministerio de Jesús. González explora cómo los cristianos de hoy pueden caminar con Jesús de forma concreta y con actos de ministerio definidos. Escrito en español e inglés, este libro contiene ocho sesiones sobre los siguientes temas: llamado, oración, alimentación, sanación, comisionamiento, enseñanza, testimonio y donación. Este libro bilingüe combina el libro del estudiante y del líder e incluye preguntas de discusión al final de cada sesión.

**Justo L. González** has taught at the Evangelical Seminary of Puerto Rico and Candler School of Theology, Emory University. He is the author of many books, including *Church History: An Essential Guide* and *To All Nations From All Nations*, both published by Abingdon Press.

## KEY FEATURES

- Written in both Spanish and English.
- Contains eight sessions.
- Questions at the end of every session for group discussion.
- Participants will gain insight on the acts of Jesus's ministry from a renowned author who is an expert in the field.
- Participants will gain better understanding of how today's Christians may walk with Jesus in specific forms and acts of ministry.

# NOT FORSAKEN

Growing Up Black, Male, and Christian in the Hood

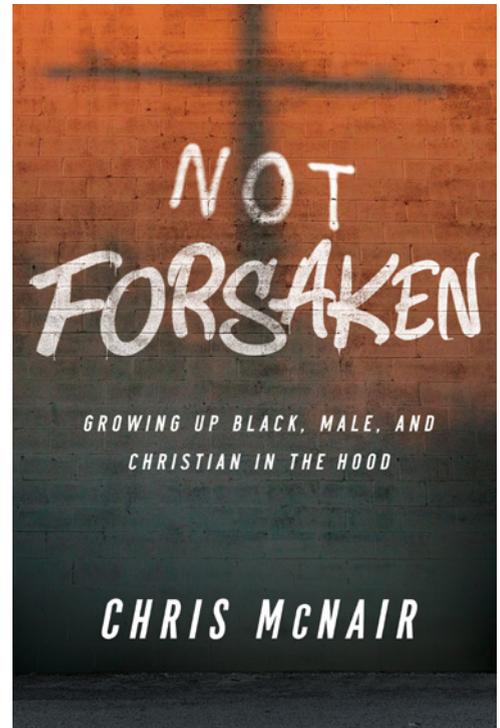
Chris McNair

**Learn how to engage with inner city African American young men for Christ.**

*Not Forsaken: Growing up Black, Male, and Christian in the Hood* encapsulates principles author Chris McNair gleaned from successfully working with at-risk African American boys in the inner city over thirty years of ministry. This book teaches how youth workers can address social, emotional, physical and spiritual issues facing young black men in the city. It is about building a relational ministry among black youth, centered on instilling a sense of identity in Christ, and provides a study curriculum to use with the young men themselves.

In addition to in-depth content from the Leader Guide, the study sessions contain everything needed to begin to equip leaders and guide a group through the study, including session plans, activities, and discussion questions.

**Chris McNair** is an ordained elder in the United Methodist Church, Minnesota Annual Conference. He graduated from McMurry College in Abilene, Texas, Asbury Seminary in Wilmore, Kentucky, and Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota. Some of Chris's early and formative ministry experiences took place at Sacramento Assembly, a Methodist camp in New Mexico. He has served in settings from youth homes to homeless shelters and in roles from itinerant evangelist to church pastor. He is uniquely gifted in his ability to mentor children and youth and to communicate the gospel to them.



**Leader Guide with Participant Helps**

**Release:** August 18, 2020 **Price:** \$19.99  
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781791000004  
**Size:** 6 x 9 **Pages:** 144  
**BISAC:** RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIVING / SOCIAL ISSUES

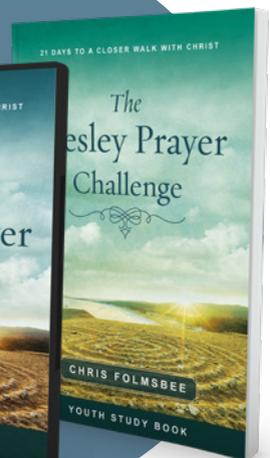
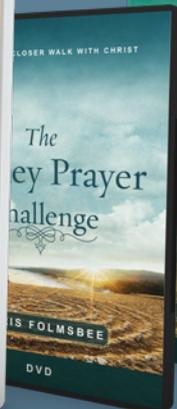
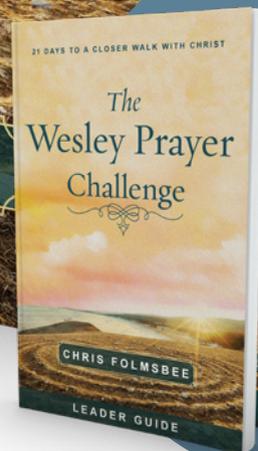
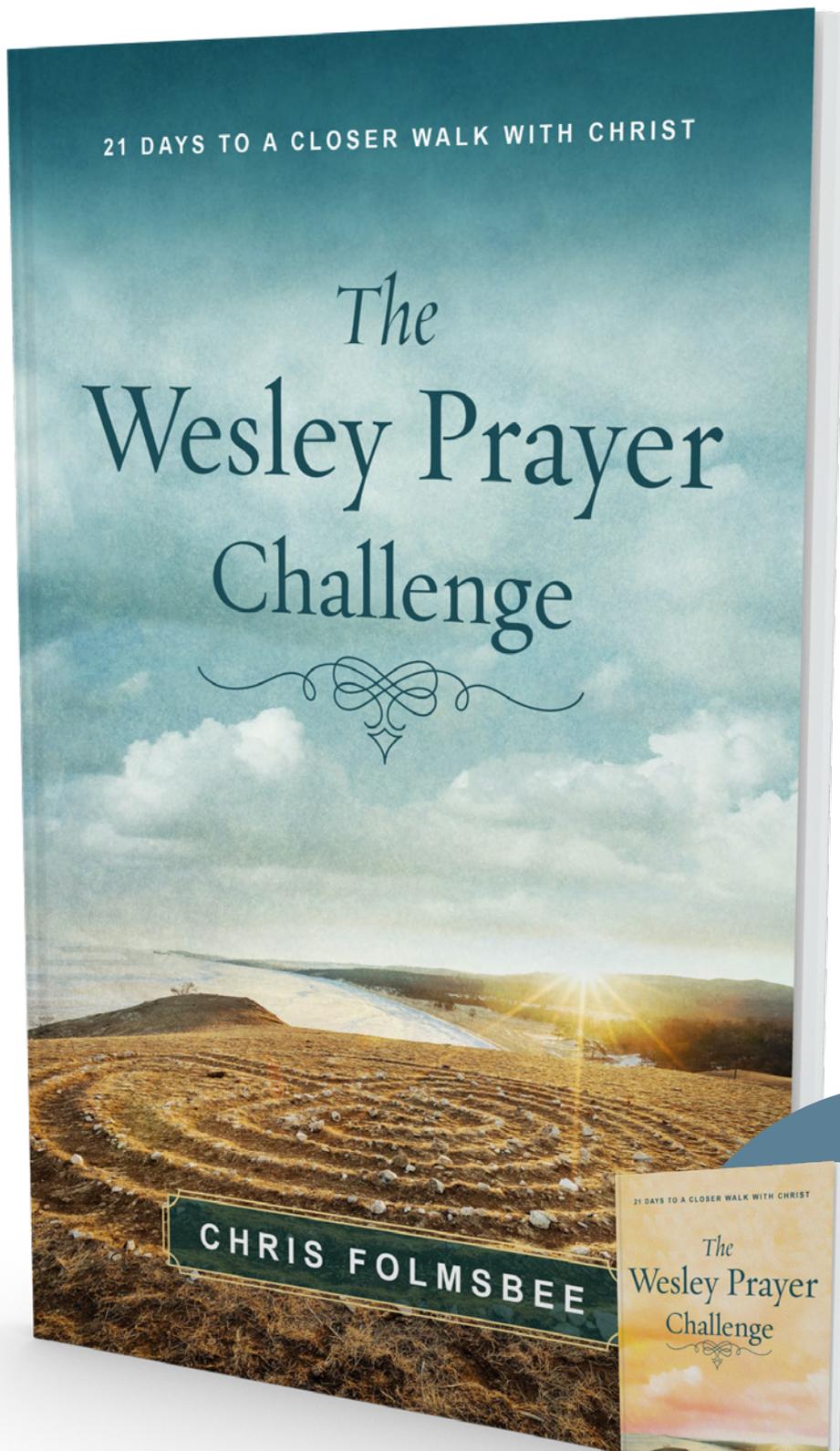


## KEY FEATURES

- Learn how to address social, emotional, physical and spiritual issues facing young black men in the city.
- The video features an introduction from Chris McNair as well as conversations with the young men in his ministry, and inspirational spoken word video for viewing with your own group.
- The comprehensive book for leaders includes insights for ministry leaders as well as seven Bible study sessions which, combined with the DVD, provide an interactive study curriculum to use with young black men.

### COMPANION PRODUCT

DVD		9781791000028	\$39.99
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# THE WESLEY PRAYER CHALLENGE

21 Days to a Closer Walk with Christ

Chris Folmsbee

**Renew your passion for prayer in just 21 days with the Wesley Prayer Challenge.**

*The Wesley Covenant Prayer* has been used in Methodist services around the world on the first Sunday of the year since John Wesley introduced it in 1755. Wesley expected that people would pray this prayer as a way of remembering, renewing, and surrendering themselves in complete trust to God. When we pray it, we are to remember what living like Jesus looks like and what loving God with all our heart, soul, and mind, and loving our neighbor as ourselves require of us.

In *The Wesley Prayer Challenge*, author Chris Folmsbee invites readers to consider words from the *Wesley Covenant Prayer* each day for three weeks while reflecting on their meaning in the context of the larger piece.

Each day's reading will include scripture, prayer, and a challenge for daily life.

Additional components for a three-week study include a comprehensive Leader Guide, a DVD featuring author Chris Folmsbee, and a Youth Study Guide.

## KEY FEATURES

- Participants consider words from the Wesley Covenant Prayer each day, reflecting on their meaning in the context of the larger piece.
- Program includes book, the DVD, Leader Guide, and Youth Study Book.
- DVD includes three session videos featuring Chris Folmsbee in 10-12 minute sessions.

**Chris Folmsbee** is the Senior Director of Discipleship Ministries at the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection in Leawood, KS. He is the author of numerous books on spiritual formation, practical theology and missional living. He is a sought-after speaker, and consults with dozens of churches around North America each year.

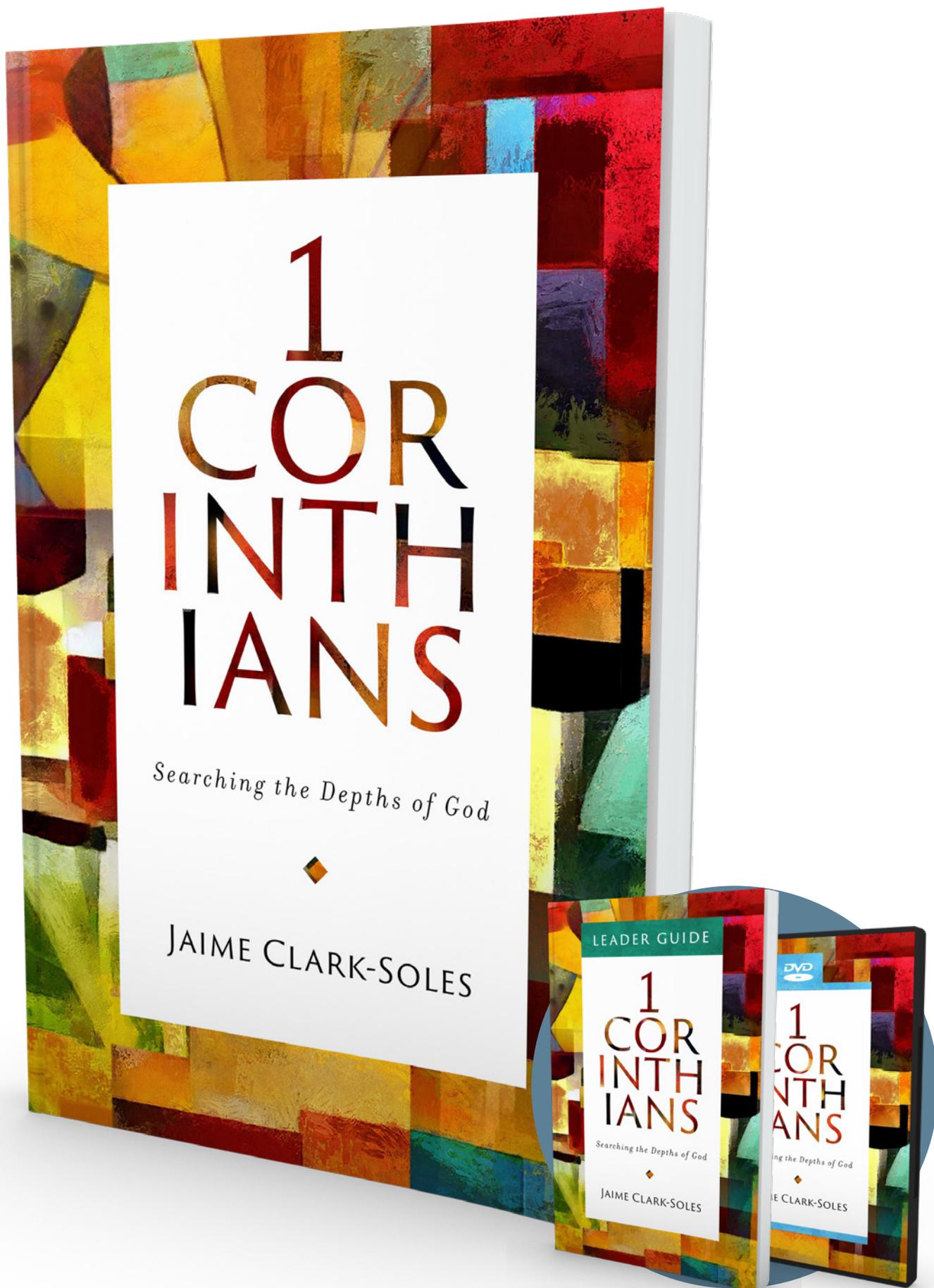
### Participant Book

**Release:** December 1, 2020 **Price:** \$16.99  
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781791007218  
**Size:** 6 x 9 **Pages:** 128  
**BISAC:** RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIVING / SPIRITUAL GROWTH



### COMPANION PRODUCTS

<b>Leader Guide</b>		9781791007232	\$14.99
<b>DVD</b>		9781791007256	\$29.99
<b>Youth Study Book</b>		9781791007294	\$11.99



# 1 CORINTHIANS

Searching the Depths of God

Jaime Clark-Soles

**Explore the breathtaking world of the first-century church.**

1 Corinthians is one of the most gripping books in the Bible. In this letter, Paul, the complicated, layered apostle, writes to the people trying a wild new social experiment known as a Christian community. Not unlike the church today, this community dealt with factions, sexual immorality, gender issues, money issues, theological questions, lawsuits, problems in worship, and problems in leadership.

In *1 Corinthians: Searching the Depths of God*, Jaime Clark-Soles explores these topics and the awe-inspiring, breathtaking world of the first-century church. Examining the teachings of Paul, she addresses church history, the logic of the cross, spiritual gifts, death, afterlife and the resurrection, human sexuality, and the joys and challenges of living in community. Participants will learn to look at 1 Corinthians from a variety of viewpoints and apply its lessons to their own faith.

Additional components for a six-week study include a DVD featuring Jaime Clark-Soles and a comprehensive Leader Guide.

## KEY FEATURES

- Participants gain insight from an academic scholar and minister on one of Paul's most important letters.
- Program includes book, DVD, and Leader Guide.
- DVD includes six session videos featuring Jaime Clark-Soles in 10-12 minute sessions.

**Jaime Clark-Soles** graduated from Yale University with an M.Div, summa cum laude, and a Ph.D, which prepared her to lead students through the topics of social history of the New Testament, death and afterlife in the New Testament, and the Gospel of John. Clark-Soles has written the forthcoming *Scripture Cannot Be Broken: The Social Function of the Use of Scripture in the Fourth Gospel*. She is the Professor of New Testament, Altshuler Distinguished Teaching Professor at Perkins School of Theology in Dallas, Texas.

### Participant Workbook

**Release:** January 19, 2021 **Price:** \$16.99  
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501891434  
**Size:** 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 144  
**BISAC:** RELIGION / BIBLICAL STUDIES / NEW TESTAMENT



### COMPANION PRODUCTS

<b>Leader Guide</b>		9781501891458	\$14.99
<b>DVD</b>		9781501891472	\$39.99



# SAVING GRACE

A Guide to Financial Well-Being

Wespath/Abingdon Press

**Learn to create a healthy relationship with your money and possessions.**

*Saving Grace: A Guide to Financial Well-Being* is a program to help people of faith create healthy relationships with money and possessions. Participants will move through six sessions covering such topics as saving, earning, giving, spending, and debt, along with helpful strategies for achieving a sustainable financial life. Adapted from the best-selling *Freed Up Financial Living* from the Good Sense Movement, this study is based on Wesleyan values and provides text and tools to help participants address life concerns and reach personal financial goals.

Additional components for a six-week study include a DVD containing six sessions for the participant study, a Clergy Workbook addressing financial issues unique to pastors, a Leader Guide containing session plans, outlines, discussion questions, and a 40-day devotional.

**Wespath Benefits and Investments** is a non-profit agency caring for those who serve The United Methodist Church around the globe. Wespath Benefits and Investments maintains the largest reporting faith-based pension fund in the world, which is among the top 100 pension funds in the United States. Wespath supervises and administers retirement plans, investment funds and health and welfare benefit plans for active and retired clergy and lay employees of the Church. They also provide trusted research and information about health trends that are applicable to all facets of clergy health concerns: physical, spiritual, emotional, social, and financial.

**Release:** November 3, 2020 **Price:** \$22.99  
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781791008222  
**Size:** 8 x 10 **Pages:** 160  
**BISAC:** RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIVING / PERSONAL GROWTH



## KEY FEATURES

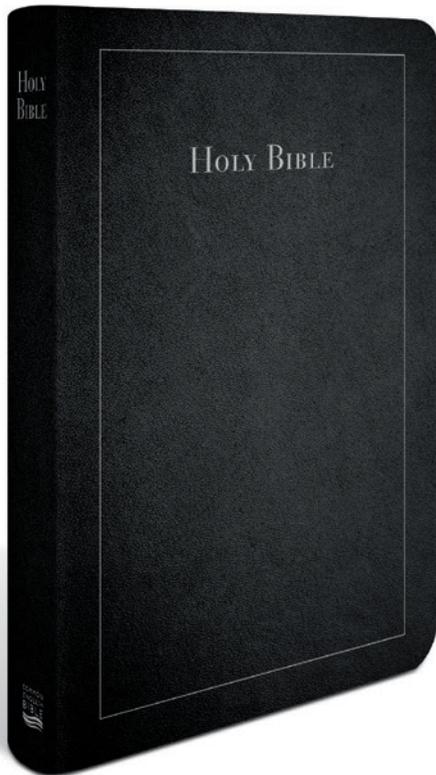
- Helps people of faith create healthy relationships with money and possessions.
- High-quality DVD with financial experts who lead viewers through practical helps and deeper understanding for a sustainable financial life.
- The Leader Guide contains session plans for each group meeting with discussion questions and outline.
- A Clergy Workbook is a special module addressing the financial issues unique to pastors.
- A 40-day devotional offers spiritual support for a new approach to financial health.

## COMPANION PRODUCTS

<b>Clergy Workbook</b>		9781791008376	\$18.99
<b>Leader Guide</b>		9781791008390	\$18.99
<b>Devotional</b>		9781791008413	\$14.99
<b>DVD</b>		9781791008246	\$39.99

**BIBLES**

FALL & WINTER 2020-2021



# CEB LARGE PRINT THINLINE BONDED LEATHER

**New large-edition with leather covers makes a perfect gift for the Common English Bible reader.**

This new thinline, large-print edition of the Common English Bible translation is packaged in a classic black bonded-leather cover, with the words Holy Bible stamped in silver, making it a timeless Bible for personal reading or to give as a gift.

**Readable:** It means more than reading phrases on a page. It means truly comprehending the words, the sentences, the ideas, and their meaning. Within its refreshingly 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, 120 biblical scholars 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 readers where they are, providing guidance for every situation and every season of life.

**Release:** September 15, 2020 **Price:** \$34.99  
Leather **ISBN:** 9781791008147  
**Size:** 6.1875 x 9.1875 **Pages:** 1216  
**BISAC:** BIBLES / COMMON ENGLISH BIBLE /  
TEXT



## KEY FEATURES

- Readable translation by a cross-denominational group of today's leading biblical scholars.
- Type size is 11-point.
- Beautiful leather cover makes this a timeless Bible for personal reading or to give as a gift.

### Actual Type Size

eternal life. <sup>16</sup>God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him won't perish but will have eternal life. <sup>17</sup>God didn't send his Son

1015

John 4:3

to enter the mother's womb for a second time and be born, isn't it?"

<sup>13</sup>Jesus answered, "I assure you, unless someone is born of water and the Spirit, it's not possible to enter God's kingdom. <sup>14</sup>Whatever is born of the flesh is flesh, and whatever is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>15</sup>Don't be surprised that I said to you, 'You must be born anew.' <sup>16</sup>God's Spirit blows wherever it wishes. You hear its sound, but you don't know where it comes from or where it is going. It's the same with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

<sup>17</sup>Nicodemus said, "How are these things possible?"

<sup>18</sup>Jesus answered, "You are a teacher of Israel and you don't know these things? <sup>19</sup>I assure you that we speak about what we know and testify about what we have seen, but you don't receive our testimony.

<sup>20</sup>If I have told you about earthly things and you don't believe, how will you believe if I tell you about heavenly things?

<sup>21</sup>No one has gone up to heaven except the one who came down from heaven, the Human One."

<sup>22</sup>Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so must the Human One be lifted up

so that everyone who believes in him will have eternal life. <sup>23</sup>God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him won't perish but will have eternal life. <sup>24</sup>God didn't send his Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

<sup>25</sup>Whoever believes in him isn't judged, whoever doesn't believe in him is already judged, because they don't believe in the name of God's only Son.

<sup>26</sup>This is the basis for judgment: The light came into the world, and people loved darkness more than the light, for their actions are evil. <sup>27</sup>All who do wicked things hate the light and don't come to the light for fear that their actions will be exposed to the light. <sup>28</sup>Whoever does the truth comes to the light so that it can be seen that their actions were done in God."

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<sup>47</sup>This is the basis for judgment: The light came into the world, and people loved darkness more than the light, for their actions are evil. <sup>48</sup>All who do wicked things hate the light and don't come to the light for fear that their actions will be exposed to the light. <sup>49</sup>Whoever does the truth comes to the light so that it can be seen that their actions were done in God."

<sup>50</sup>This is the basis for judgment: The light came into the world, and people loved darkness more than the light, for their actions are evil. <sup>51</sup>All who do wicked things hate the light and don't come to the light for fear that their actions will be exposed to the light. <sup>52</sup>Whoever does the truth comes to the light so that it can be seen that their actions were done in God."

*John's final witness*

<sup>1</sup>After this Jesus and his disciples went into Judea, where he spent some time with them and was baptizing. <sup>2</sup>John was baptizing at Aenon near Salem because there was a lot of water there, and people were coming to him and being baptized. <sup>3</sup>John hadn't yet been thrown into prison.)

<sup>4</sup>A debate started between John's disciples and a certain Jew about cleansing rituals. <sup>5</sup>They came to John and said, "Rabbi, look! The man who was with you across the Jordan, the one about whom you testified, is baptizing and everyone is flocking to him."

<sup>6</sup>John replied, "No one can receive anything unless it is given from heaven. <sup>7</sup>You yourselves can testify that I said that I'm not the Christ but that I'm the one sent before him. <sup>8</sup>The groom is the one who is getting married. The friend of the groom stands close by and, when he hears him, is overjoyed at the groom's voice. Therefore, my joy is now complete. <sup>9</sup>He must increase and I must decrease. <sup>10</sup>The one who comes from above is above all things. The one who is from the earth belongs to the earth and speaks as one from the earth. The one who comes from heaven is above all things. <sup>11</sup>He testifies to what he has seen and heard, but no one accepts his testimony. <sup>12</sup>Whoever accepts his testimony confirms that God is true. <sup>13</sup>The one whom God sent speaks God's words because God gives the Spirit generously. <sup>14</sup>The Father loves the Son and gives everything into his hands. <sup>15</sup>Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life. Whoever doesn't believe in the Son won't see life, but the angry judgment of God remains on them."

*Jesus leaves Judea*

<sup>1</sup>Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard that he was making more disciples and baptizing more than John (although Jesus' disciples were baptizing, not Jesus himself). <sup>2</sup>Therefore, he left Judea and went back to Galilee.

<sup>3</sup>Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard that he was making more disciples and baptizing more than John (although Jesus' disciples were baptizing, not Jesus himself). <sup>4</sup>Therefore, he left Judea and went back to Galilee.

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<sup>7</sup>Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard that he was making more disciples and baptizing more than John (although Jesus' disciples were baptizing, not Jesus himself). <sup>8</sup>Therefore, he left Judea and went back to Galilee.

<sup>9</sup>Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard that he was making more disciples and baptizing more than John (although Jesus' disciples were baptizing, not Jesus himself). <sup>10</sup>Therefore, he left Judea and went back to Galilee.

<sup>11</sup>Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard that he was making more disciples and baptizing more than John (although Jesus' disciples were baptizing, not Jesus himself). <sup>12</sup>Therefore, he left Judea and went back to Galilee.

<sup>13</sup>Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard that he was making more disciples and baptizing more than John (although Jesus' disciples were baptizing, not Jesus himself). <sup>14</sup>Therefore, he left Judea and went back to Galilee.

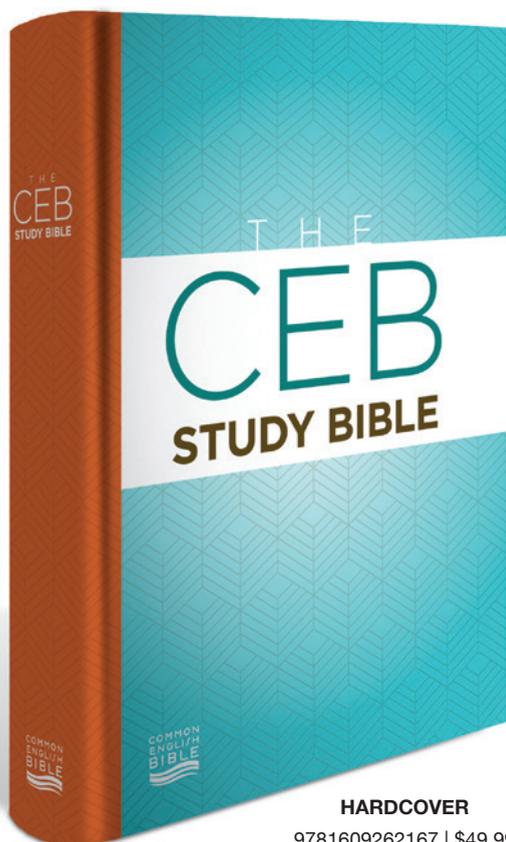
<sup>15</sup>Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard that he was making more disciples and baptizing more than John (although Jesus' disciples were baptizing, not Jesus himself). <sup>16</sup>Therefore, he left Judea and went back to Galilee.

<sup>17</sup>Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard that he was making more disciples and baptizing more than John (although Jesus' disciples were baptizing, not Jesus himself). <sup>18</sup>Therefore, he left Judea and went back to Galilee.

<sup>19</sup>Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard that he was making more disciples and baptizing more than John (although Jesus' disciples were baptizing, not Jesus himself). <sup>20</sup>Therefore, he left Judea and went back to Galilee.

<sup>21</sup>Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard that he was making more disciples and baptizing more than John (although Jesus' disciples were baptizing, not Jesus himself). <sup>22</sup>Therefore, he left Judea and went back to Galilee.

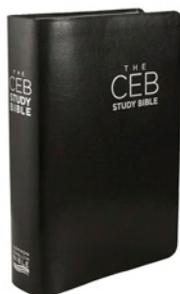
<sup>23</sup>Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard that he was making more disciples and baptizing more than John (although Jesus' disciples were baptizing, not Jesus himself). <sup>24</sup>Therefore, he left Judea and went back to Galilee.



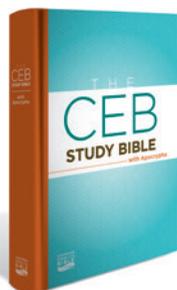
**HARDCOVER**  
9781609262167 | \$49.99

# THE CEB STUDY BIBLE

Written by leading scholars, the award-winning 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.



**BONDED LEATHER**  
9781609260279 | \$74.99



**HARDCOVER WITH APOCRYPHA**  
9781609262150 | \$59.99



**LEATHER CORDOVAN WITH APOCRYPHA**  
9781609261900 | \$89.99

**The CEB Study Bible is for encouragement and challenge, for guidance and reflection, for study and prayer:**

- The reliable, readable, and relevant Common English Bible translation in a single-column setting.
- Detailed book introductions, outlines, and notes from the finest biblical studies professors.
- Full-color throughout, including more than 200 illustrations, photographs, maps, and charts.
- Hundreds of thousands of cross references.
- More than 300 indexed sidebar and general articles.
- 21 full-color maps designed by National Geographic and fully indexed.

Several hundred leading biblical scholars were involved with the Common English Bible translation and as contributors to The CEB Study Bible. The Editorial Board includes **Joel B. Green** (*Fuller Theological Seminary*), **Seung Ai Yang** (*Chicago Theological Seminary*), **Mark J. Boda** (*McMaster Divinity College*), **Mignon R. Jacobs** (*Fuller Theological Seminary*), **Matthew R. Schlimm** (*University of Dubuque*), and **Marti J. Steussy** (*Christian Theological Seminary*).



**CELEBRATE WONDER  
HARDCOVER**

9781609262259 | \$29.99

## THE CEB DEEP BLUE KIDS BIBLE

The engaging and award-winning Deep Blue Kids Bible introduces children to three characters – Asia, Edgar, and Kat – who walk children through the Bible to discover what it means in their lives.

This interactive Bible includes four-color icons and illustrations throughout with a wealth of notes, historical facts, book introductions, devotionals, and other interactive elements to capture inquisitive young minds.

The new “Celebrate Wonder” edition of the Deep Blue Kids Bible includes an additional introduction that helps inspire wonder and curiosity in children to learn more about the Bible and helps parents and educators better read the Bible together with children. This edition can be a stand-alone Bible for any child, and it also complements the new Celebrate Wonder curriculum, available in Fall 2020.

- For children 7 to 12.
- 4-color throughout.
- Presentation page.
- In-text subject headings.
- Bible dictionary.
- Eight full-color maps exclusively from National Geographic.

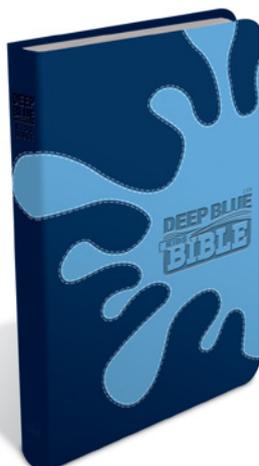


**WILDERNESS TRAIL  
HARDCOVER**

9781609262204 | \$29.99

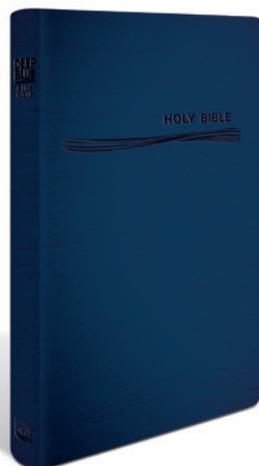
**PAPERBACK**

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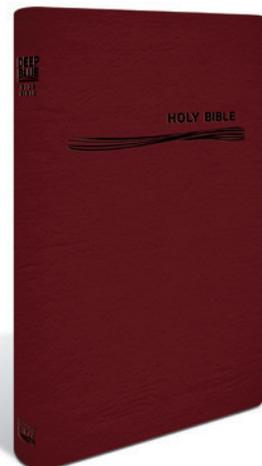
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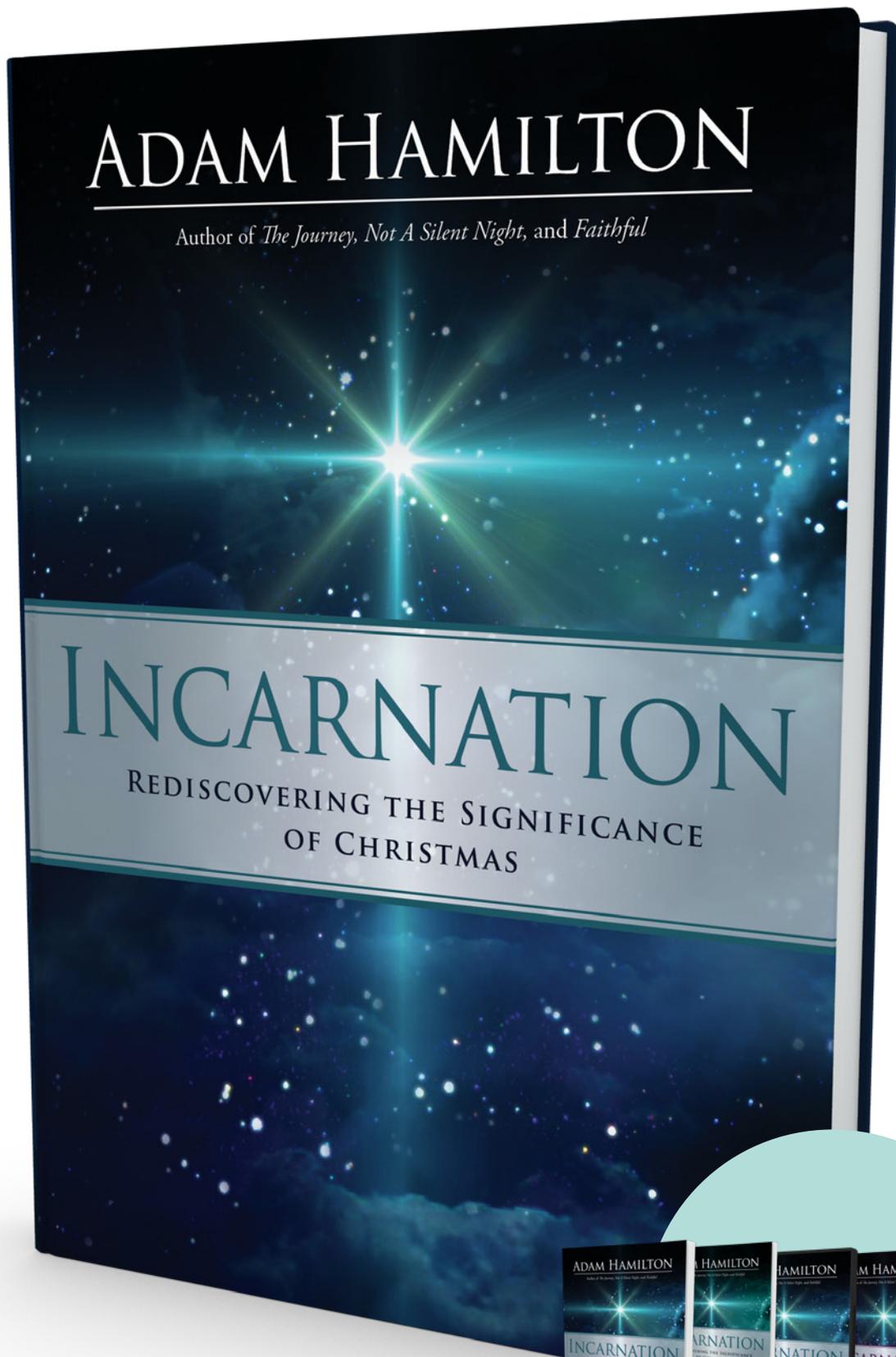


**CLASSIC BURGUNDY  
DECOTONE**

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# INSPIRATIONAL & SEASONAL

FALL & WINTER 2020-2021



# INCARNATION

Rediscovering the Significance of Christmas

Adam Hamilton

**Learn the meaning behind the names of Christ and the difference he makes in our lives this Christmas.**

His parents gave him the name Jesus. But the prophets, the shepherds, the wise men, and the angels addressed him by other names. They called him Lord, Messiah, Savior, Emmanuel, Light of the World, and Word Made Flesh.

In *Incarnation*, best-selling author Adam Hamilton explores the meaning of these titles and what they tell us about the child whose birth we celebrate at Christmas. Join him and reflect upon the significance of the Christ-child for our lives and world today!

Chapter topics include:

- The Royal Titles: Lord and Messiah
- The Deliverer’s Title: Savior
- The Incarnate Title: Emmanuel
- The Light of the World
- Epilogue: The Word Made Flesh

Additional components for a four-week adult study include a comprehensive Leader Guide and a DVD featuring author and pastor Adam Hamilton as well as resources for children and youth.

## KEY FEATURES

- Exploring the names of Christ in depth is a great way to understand the historical and personal significance of his birth.
- Come to a deeper understanding of the mystery of the Incarnation, and what it means that God has come to be with us in the person of Jesus.
- 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.
- Hear from best-selling author Adam Hamilton in short teaching videos each week.
- Perfect study for all age groups for Advent and Christmas.

**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](http://AdamHamilton.com).

**Release:** September 15, 2020 **Price:** \$19.99

Hardback **ISBN:** 9781791005542

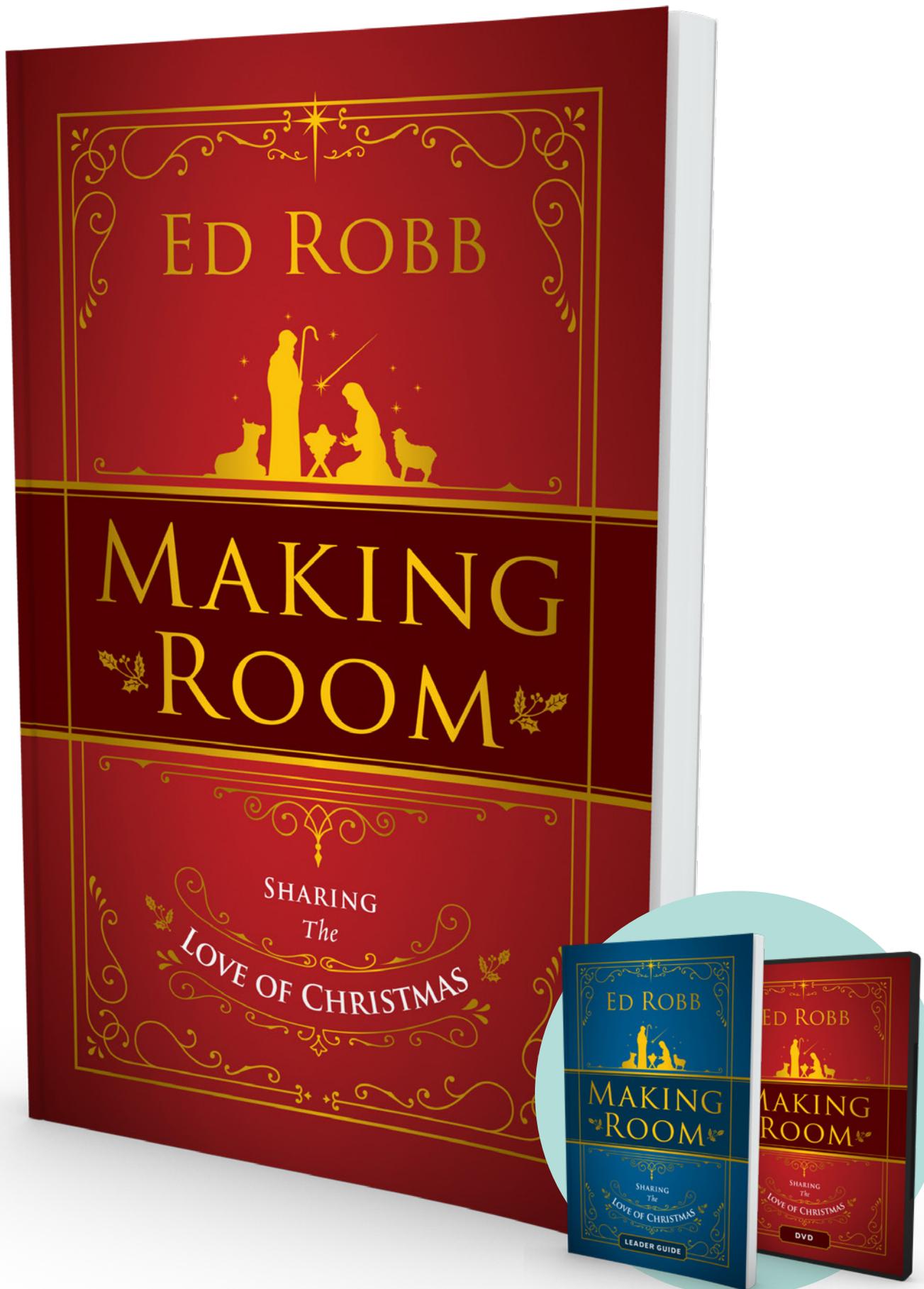
**Size:** 5 x 7 **Pages:** 176

**BISAC:** RELIGION / HOLIDAYS / CHRISTMAS & ADVENT



## COMPANION PRODUCTS

<b>Large Print</b>		9781791005566	\$20.99
<b>Leader Guide</b>		9781791005573	\$14.99
<b>DVD</b>		9781791005597	\$39.99
<b>Youth Study Book</b>		9781791005641	\$11.99
<b>Children’s Leader Guide</b>		9781791005535	\$18.99



# MAKING ROOM

Sharing the Love of Christmas

Ed Robb

**Learn how to make room in your heart for God and neighbor this Christmas.**

Often our Advent preparations have an inward focus as we prepare for the significance of God breaking into our world through the birth of the Christ child. But in a closer examination of the Advent story, we quickly learn that the focus of the coming of the newborn king is outward.

In this book and Advent study, Dr. Ed Robb explores the warmth of welcome at Christmas following interactions with Mary and Joseph, the shepherds, and the magi. Just as Jesus made room in God's kingdom for a host of people that society wanted to leave on the margins, beginning with the appearance of the shepherds, we too should be asking ourselves who we can make room for this Christmas. Perhaps it is to the people in your community, or the newly immigrated family in town that doesn't speak your language. Or maybe it's the next-door neighbor who just settled in from yet another corporate move? The story of Christ's birth encourages us to widen our borders and increase our sense of community—and make room for others.

Additional components for a four-week study include a DVD featuring Dr. Ed Robb and a comprehensive Leader Guide.

## KEY FEATURES

- Dr. Ed Robb explores the warmth of welcome at Christmas following interactions with the Holy Family, the shepherds, and the magi.
- A four-week study perfect for Advent and Christmas.
- Book can be a stand-alone resource or combined with the DVD and Leader Guide for a four-week study.
- DVD features author and pastor, Dr. Ed Robb, in 10-12 minute video sessions.
- Leader Guide includes complete session plans for facilitating the study.

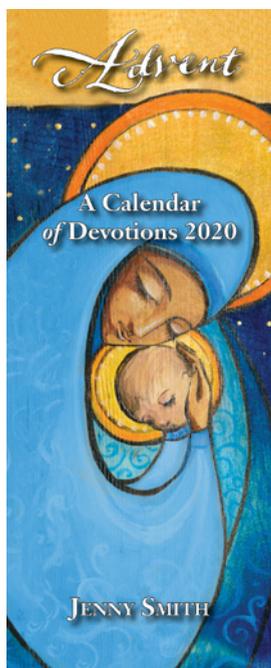
**Ed Robb** is Senior Pastor at The Woodlands UMC in Houston, Texas. Serving the church for more than forty years, his vision and leadership have led the church to become one of the fastest growing churches in Methodism, with over 14,000 members. He is the author of *The Wonder of Christmas*, *Under Wraps*, and *Mountaintop Moments*. He and his wife, Beverly, have three adult children.

**Release:** September 1, 2020 **Price:** \$16.99  
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781791006372  
**Size:** 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 112  
**BISAC:** RELIGION / HOLIDAYS / CHRISTMAS & ADVENT



## COMPANION PRODUCTS

<b>Leader Guide</b>		9781791006396	\$14.99
<b>DVD</b>		9781791006419	\$39.99



**Release:** August 4, 2020 **Price:** \$11.99  
 Brochure **ISBN:** 9781791001698  
**Size:** 3.75 x 9 **Pages:** 48  
**BISAC:** RELIGION / HOLIDAYS / CHRISTMAS & ADVENT



## KEY FEATURES

- 12-point type.
- Bible verses based on the Revised Common Lectionary.
- Daily Advent devotions.
- Recommended Scripture reading based on the Revised Common Lectionary.
- Uplifting prayer.
- Better understanding of the tradition and meaning of the Advent season.
- Draw closer to God's loving gift of Jesus Christ.
- Prepare your congregation's hearts and minds for the Advent season.

# ADVENT A CALENDAR OF DEVOTIONS 2020

(Pkg of 10)

Jenny Smith

## Seasonal devotions from Jenny Smith.

Providing daily devotions for Christians as they prepare to celebrate Christ's birth, this annual favorite is a wonderful resource for churches to give to each family to emphasize the importance of the Advent of our Lord. Each day's reading, from December 1 to Christmas Day, is based on the Revised Common Lectionary and includes the Scripture, a short devotion, and a brief prayer.

Printed with a larger font for ease of reading. Sold in packs of 10, booklets are designed to fit in a #10 envelope, enabling churches to include them in Advent mailings, and making it easy to share with visitors or others the church wishes to reach during the Advent season.

**Jenny Smith** is the Lead Pastor at Marysville United Methodist Church, just north of Seattle, Washington. Jenny is a graduate of Florida Southern College and United Theological Seminary. She's passionate about sustainable leadership, innovative ministry, and practical discipleship. Jenny and her husband, Aaron, are parents to Isabella and Wesley.

# THE SANCTUARY FOR LENT 2021

(Pkg of 10)

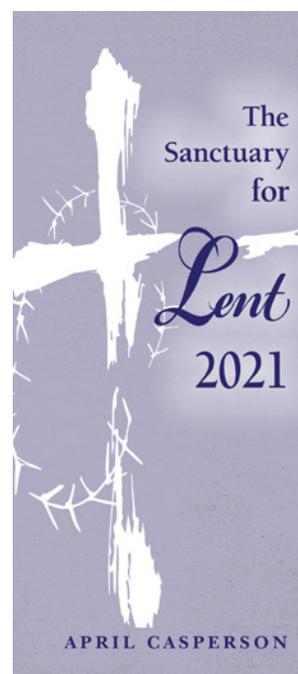
April Casperson

## Devotions by April Casperson for each day of Lent.

*The Sanctuary for Lent 2021* contains brief readings for each day in Lent, from Ash Wednesday through Easter Day, including a suggested Scripture, a short devotion and a short prayer - all based on the Revised Common Lectionary. This annual favorite helps readers faithfully journey through Lent as they prepare to experience the joy of the Resurrection. Along with being a great congregational resource, it is an excellent gift for family, friends, and those congregations connect with through outreach.

Larger font for ease of reading. Sold in packs of 10, booklets are designed to fit in a #10 envelope, enabling churches to include them in Lenten mailings and making it easy to share with visitors and others the church seeks to reach during Lent.

**April Casperson** is Director of Diversity and Inclusion for the West Ohio Conference of The United Methodist Church. She is an ordained deacon passionate about diversity and inclusion, vocational discernment, and the organizations and systems that recruit, educate, and equip leaders for thoughtful, intentional ministry. Rev. Casperson previously served as Vice President of Institutional Advancement at Methodist Theological School in Ohio. She enjoys science fiction literature, *Law & Order*, and good food with family and friends.

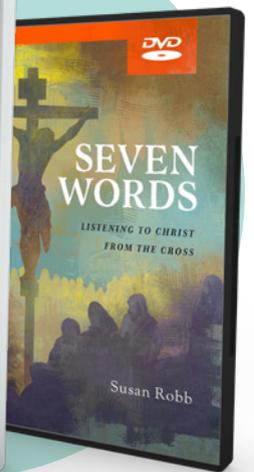
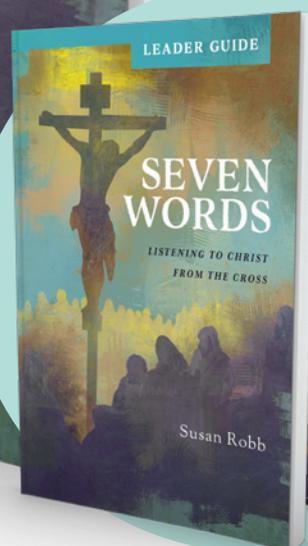
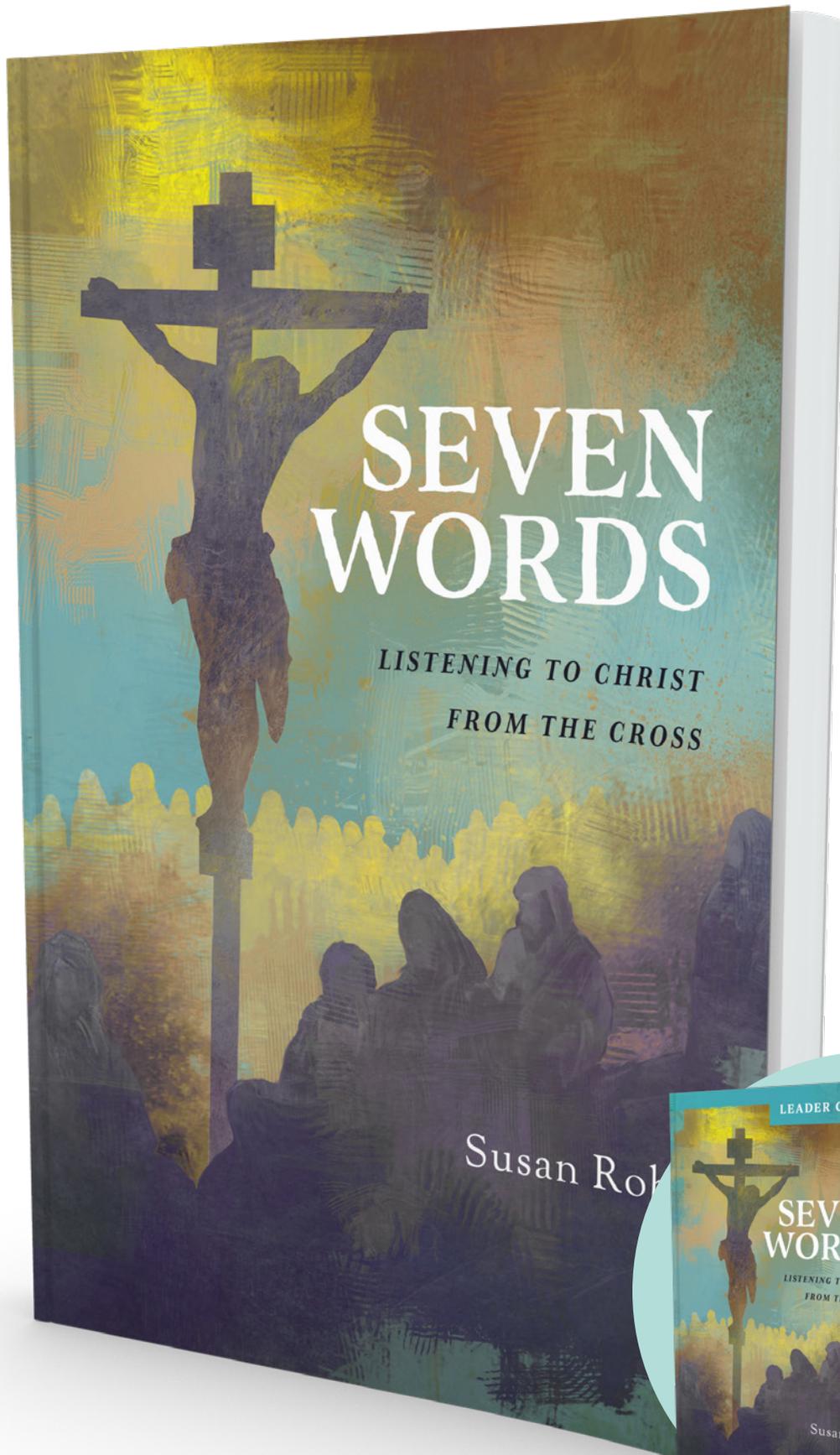


**Release:** December 15, 2020 **Price:** \$11.99  
 Brochure **ISBN:** 9781791001766  
**Size:** 3.75 x 9 **Pages:** 48  
**BISAC:** RELIGION / HOLIDAYS / EASTER & LENT



## KEY FEATURES

- 12-point type.
- Bible verse based on the Revised Common Lectionary.
- Daily Lent devotions.
- Recommended Scripture reading based on the Revised Common Lectionary.
- Uplifting prayer.
- Better understanding of the tradition and meaning of the season.
- Draw closer to God's loving gift of Jesus Christ.
- Help prepare your congregation's hearts and minds during the season of Lent.



COMPANION PRODUCTS

# SEVEN WORDS

Listening to Christ from the Cross

Susan Robb

**Examine the last seven words of Christ on the cross this Lent.**

While many of us naturally wish to avoid the reality of the cross, it's from the cross that Jesus speaks and shows his deepest love for us. It's from the cross that Jesus's full humanity draws us closest to him. It's from the cross, as Jesus breathes his last breath and speaks his last words, that his deep trust in the Father and his divine glory are revealed.

In *Seven Words*, Susan Robb looks at the seven last words of Christ on the cross through a lens that finds life and hope in his final sayings, while exploring each from a biblical and historical perspective. The book brings a hopeful and contemplative take on the cross during the weeks of Lent.

Chapters Include:

- Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.
- Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise.
- Woman, behold your son. Son, behold your mother.
- My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?
- I thirst.
- It is finished.
- Father, into thy hands I commit my spirit.

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

## KEY FEATURES

- Readers will gain a detailed and thoughtful examination of the seven last words of Christ on the cross.
- Six-week Lenten study with introduction that works through the text with attention to historical context, biblical context, theology, and personal stories.
- Explore Christ's last seven messages through a lens that offers life and hope to all who engage in this Lenten study.

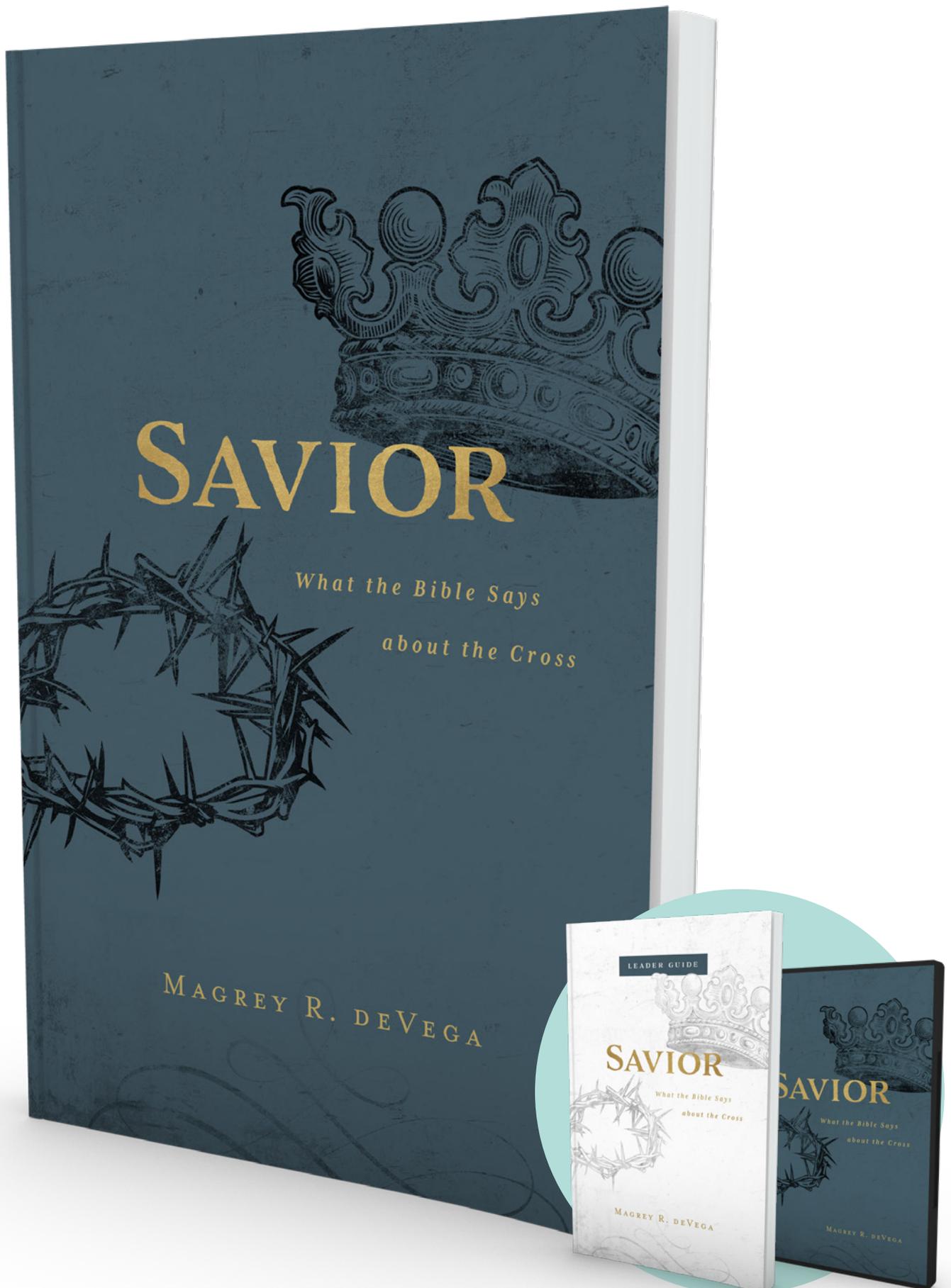
**Susan Robb** is the Senior Associate Minister at Highland Park United Methodist Church in Dallas, Texas, where she has been part of the church staff for 17 years. God's call to ministry led her to pursue a Master of Divinity degree at the Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University. She graduated Magna Cum Laude in 2006 with an award in Homiletics. Susan's area of expertise lies in writing and teaching Bible studies, and exploring the idea of listening to and responding to God's call. She is married to Ike, and they have two children, Caroline and James.

**Release:** December 15, 2020 **Price:** \$16.99  
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781791007812  
**Size:** 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 128  
**BISAC:** RELIGION / HOLIDAYS / EASTER & LENT



## COMPANION PRODUCTS

<b>Leader Guide</b>		9781791007836	\$14.99
<b>DVD</b>		9781791007850	\$39.99



# SAVIOR

What the Bible Says about the Cross

Magrey R. deVega

**Explore why Jesus died on the cross and how it brings us salvation.**

The cross is the central symbol of the Christian faith. But what exactly did Jesus do to save us from our sins? Why was the cross necessary, and what does it mean for us today?

In *Savior: What the Bible Says about the Cross*, Magrey deVega faithfully describes the need for reconciliation between humankind and a holy God through Jesus’s death on the cross. The Bible uses many images to understand the meaning of Jesus’s death and resurrection, and deVega guides us through these images to achieve a richer understanding of the Christian faith. By exploring the mystery of salvation through the cross, we can deepen our love for God and others and strengthen our commitment to follow Jesus.

Components for this six-session study include a book, Leader Guide, and a DVD with videos featuring deVega presenting each chapter’s main ideas and themes. The leader guide includes instructions for showing and discussing these videos as an option for the group leader.

## KEY FEATURES

- Readers will develop a fuller, richer, and deeper view of God’s love for them through studying Jesus’s death on the cross.
- Readers will learn several biblically-based ways of understanding Jesus’s death on the cross, going beyond the ideas they have typically encountered.
- High-quality DVD with six 10-minute teaching sessions with Magrey deVega building on the topics and themes discussed in the book.
- The small group Leader Guide contains session plans, leader helps, and discussion questions to organize a small group study.
- Provides tools to help pastors, group leaders, and study groups encounter the meaning of Jesus’s death and resurrection through component guides and a six-session DVD.

**Magrey R. deVega** is the Senior Pastor at Hyde Park United Methodist Church in Tampa, Florida. He is the author of several books, including *Almost Christmas*, *Embracing the Uncertain*, *One Faithful Promise*, and *Songs for the Waiting*. Magrey is also the Leadership Editor for the *Covenant Bible Study* by Abingdon Press, overseeing the weekly small group classroom experience. He is a graduate of United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio, and Eckerd College in St. Petersburg, Florida, and the father of two daughters, Grace and Madelyn.

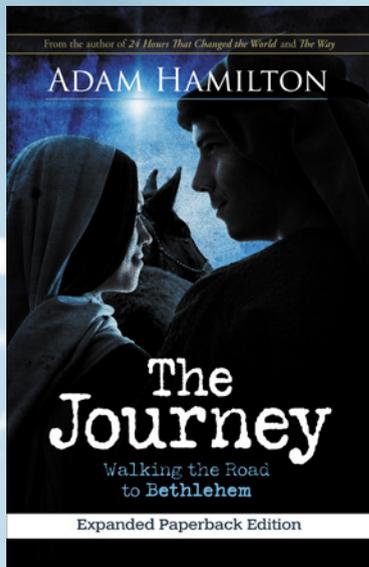
**Release:** December 15, 2020 **Price:** \$16.99  
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501880995  
**Size:** 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 144  
**BISAC:** RELIGION / HOLIDAYS / EASTER & LENT



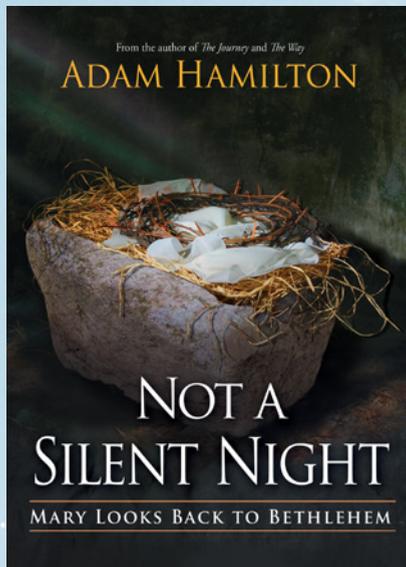
## COMPANION PRODUCTS

<b>Leader Guide</b>		9781501881015	\$14.99
<b>DVD</b>		9781791007928	\$39.99

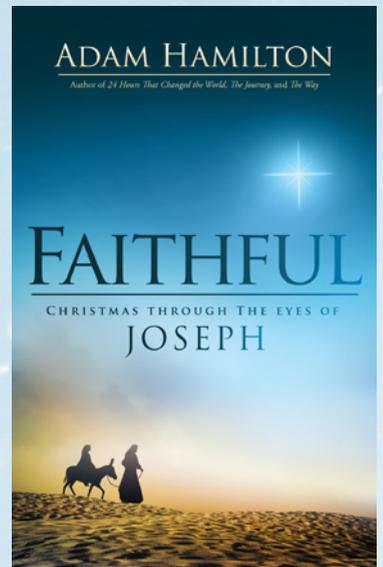
# Seasonal Bestsellers



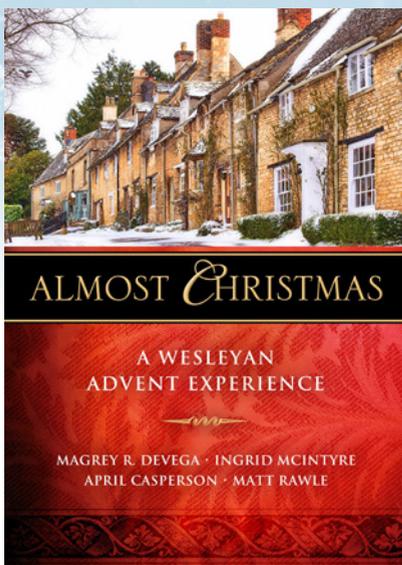
9781501828799 | \$14.99



9781501879579 | \$14.99



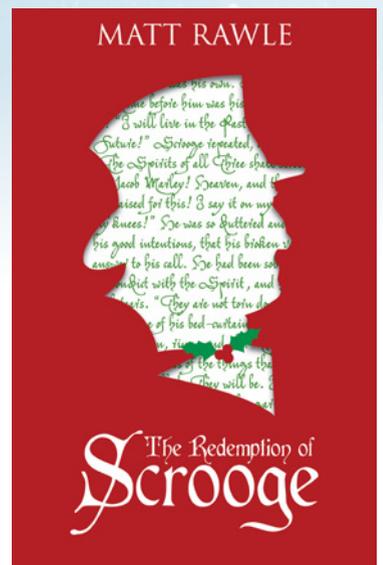
9781501814082 | \$19.99



9781501890574 | \$16.99



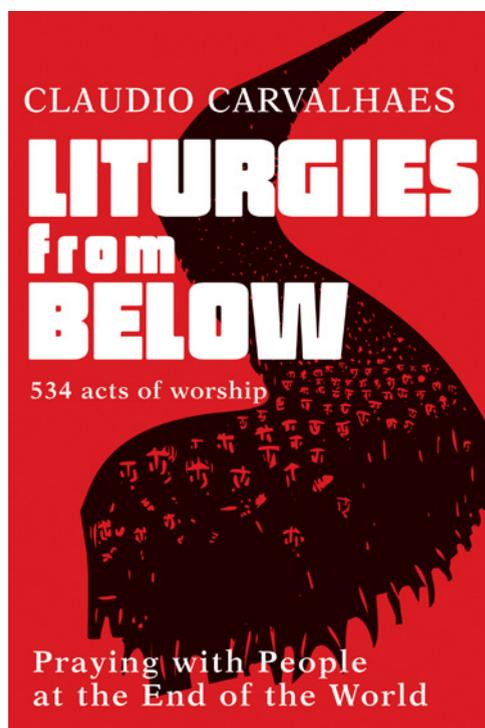
9781501869426 | \$14.99



9781501823077 | \$14.99

**LEADERSHIP, THEOLOGY,  
& BIBLICAL STUDIES**

FALL & WINTER 2020-2021



**Release:** August 4, 2020 **Price:** \$29.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781791007355

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

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



## KEY FEATURES

- Collection of international prayers and other liturgical resources.
- Shows the perspective of prayer from marginalized communities.
- Demonstrates hope and other responses to dire situations.

# LITURGIES FROM BELOW

Praying with People at the End of the World

Claudio Carvalhaes

**Learn a new vocabulary of faith from poor and abandoned places.**

This book offers a wealth of resources from forgotten places to help us create a new vocabulary for worship and prayer. It is a collection of prayers, songs, rituals, rites of healing, Eucharistic and baptismal prayers, meditations, and art from four continents: Asia-Pacific Islands, Africa, Americas, and Europe.

*Liturgies from Below* is the culmination of a project organized by the Council for World Mission (CWM) during 2018-2019. Approximately 100 people from four continents worked with CWM, collaborating to create indigenous prayers and liturgies expressing their own contexts, for sharing with their communities and the rest of the world. The project was called "Re-Imagining Worship as Acts of Defiance and Alternatives in the Context of Empire." The author and others lived in each of four communities, getting to know the people, and then facilitating the people's own creation of prayers and liturgies. The author, other scholars, pastors, artists, activists, and students all came from radically different ethnicities, races, sexualities, churches, and Christian theologies. The people in each location were poor, living in very challenging communities, in oppressive and seemingly hopeless situations. After some time, they wrote prayers and stories of their experience trying to live the Christian faith in utterly abandoned places. What we have here is an immensely rich and varied collection of liturgical sources from various communities dealing with issues of violence, immigration, drugs, land grabbing, war, misogyny, militarization, and climate change.

**Cláudio Carvalhaes**, theologian, liturgist, preacher and artist, a native Brazilian, is Associate Professor of Worship at Union Theological Seminary in New York City since 2007. He taught at McCormick Theological Seminary, Lutheran Theological Seminary in Philadelphia and Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary. A much sought after speaker, writer, performer, and consultant, Carvalhaes has published widely and has given academic presentations and delivered sermons at over 40 conferences and academic societies around the world. He published *Eucharist and Globalization: Redrawing the Borders of Eucharistic Hospitality* (Wipf & Stock, 2013), and the forthcoming *What Does Worship Have to do With it? Interpreting Life, Church and the World Liturgically* (Cascade Books, 2018). He is the editor of *Liturgy in Postcolonial Perspectives - Only One is Holy*, (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2015) and *Forms of Speech, Religion and Social Resistance, CrossCurrents, Vol. 66, No. 1* (Summer 2016). Carvalhaes is an ordained pastor within the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

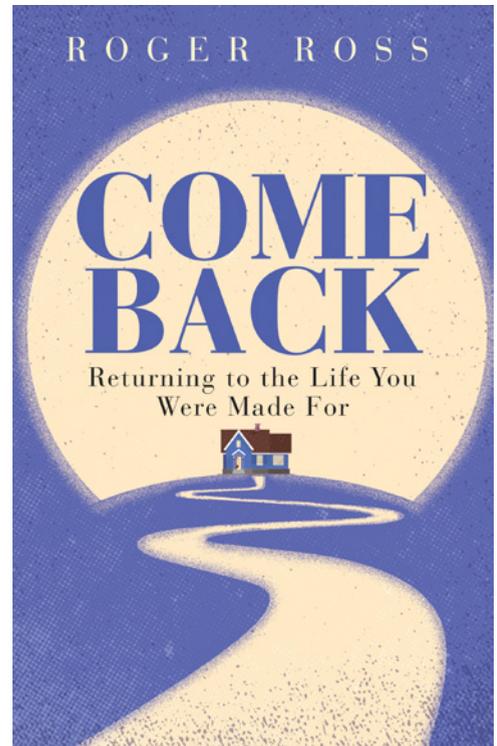
# COME BACK

Returning to the Life You Were Made For  
 Roger Ross

**Are you in need of transformation and renewal? It's not too late.**

Are there places in your life you need to come back from? Maybe it's around family brokenness or a friend's betrayal. It could be classmate drama or a family divorce. Perhaps money problems or health issues have caused a loss. Whatever the case, it feels like life has been against you. *Come Back: Returning to the Life You Were Made For* offers five elements that are crucial to renewal. Each element is paired with an ancient practice that has helped people for thousands of years in countless cultures navigate the tricky waters of transformation. These five practices are designed for everyday people. It's not too late and you're not too far gone. You were made for a turnaround. You don't need a spiritual pedigree to start the journey. Here's what you do need: A heart-felt desire to see your life change and an openness to the process. That's it. The rest will be revealed along the way.

**Roger Ross** serves as Director of Congregational Excellence in the Missouri Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. Previously, he served as a highly successful pastor of churches in Springfield, Illinois, where he led congregations to new life and growth.



**Release:** May 5, 2020 **Price:** 16.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781791008185

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

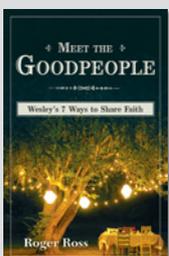
**BISAC:** RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIVING / SPIRITUAL GROWTH



## KEY FEATURES

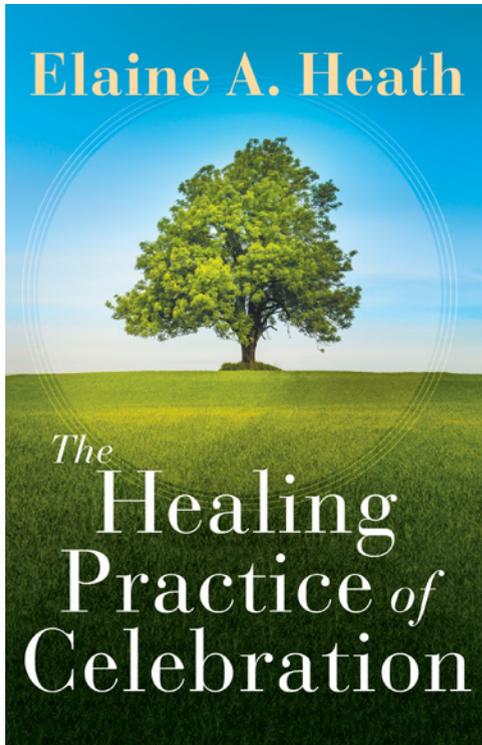
- Inspires readers to the change they need in life, even when it feels too late.
- Provides five practices to navigate transformation.
- Practical insights from a leading pastor in congregational growth.

## BY THE SAME AUTHOR



9781630885724

\$16.99



**Release:** August 4, 2020 **Price:** \$14.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781791007386

**Size:** 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 112

**BISAC:** RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIVING / SPIRITUAL GROWTH



### KEY FEATURES

- Spiritual disciplines open Christians up to God's transforming love.
- The act of celebration has ancient, biblical roots.
- Learn to celebrate all life's moments, even those that are painful.

# THE HEALING PRACTICE OF CELEBRATION

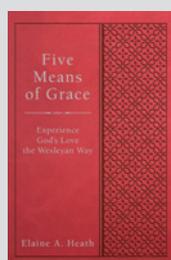
Elaine A. Heath

**The spiritual practice of celebration will draw you closer to God.**

Christians crave a deeper, more intimate relationship with God. Spiritual disciplines are activities and practices that guide you in your daily walk through life bringing you closer to Christ. They also help you to make a difference in our world. Practicing these spiritual disciplines opens you to God's transforming love and helps you experience Holy Living. The act of celebration has deep and ancient roots among God's people, who, throughout their history, have joyfully celebrated God's deliverance and faithfulness. In life's high and happy moments, celebration happens naturally. But what about when life's experiences are dull and flat, or worse, when they cause us to hit rock bottom? Does God expect us to celebrate then? God does, and we can. This book explores celebration not as an isolated event or an occasional occurrence but as a response to the reality that God is continually present, always faithful, and ever loving. Celebration as a spiritual practice involves a posture of living so well-anchored in the fuller story of God's involvement with people throughout history that anticipatory faith and hope, regardless of present circumstances, inform our thoughts, words, and actions. This book shows us how to embrace and live into this posture.

**Elaine A. Heath** is a theologian whose work is interdisciplinary, integrating pastoral, biblical, and spiritual theology in ways that bridge the gap between academy, church, and world. She specializes in community as a means of healing trauma, emergent forms of Christianity, and alternative forms of theological education for the church in rapidly changing contexts. Heath is the author of numerous books and articles and her vocational journey includes having served as Dean of the Divinity School at Duke University and the McCreless Professor of Evangelism at Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University. Heath is an ordained elder in the United Methodist Church and served in pastoral ministry prior to her academic ministry. She lives with her husband at Spring Forest, an intentional Christian Community and farm in rural North Carolina where she serves as Abbess.

### BY THE SAME AUTHOR



9781501835643

\$9.99

# LIFE IN CHRIST

The Core of Intentional Spirituality

Steve Harper

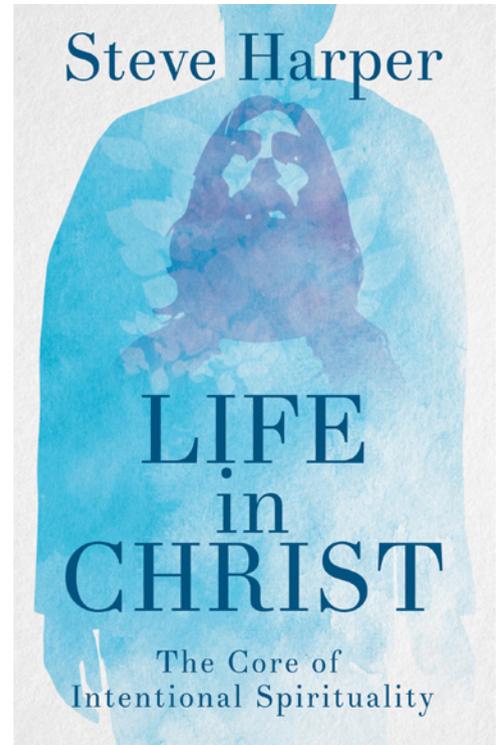
**Living in relationships with other people and with God gives us the life God intends for us and the life we long for.**

E. Stanley Jones observed that people “know everything about life except how to live it.” We humans have acquired immense knowledge and achieved great things. We are enlightened, Jones said, but not necessarily enlivened. Steve Harper has been mulling over this human situation for a few decades and offers his profoundly inspiring conclusions in *Life In Christ*.

Harper helps us recognize our tendency to search for life through rules and dogmas rather than in relationships with other people and with God. By living in relationship, we live, as enlivened Christians, the abundant life God intends for us and the life we long for. He encourages us to see the spiritual life as a movement, where we are always on the way, taking steps forward to continually align our lives with Christ. He shows us how Christ can be the goal and pattern for our lives, motivating us to live as God’s beloved and as instruments of God’s love.

Harper provides a wealth of helps, including a set of questions for reflecting on each chapter, a discussion guide for conversing about the book in a group, and extensive reading lists for further enrichment.

**Steve Harper** is a retired United Methodist Elder in the Florida Annual Conference, and a retired seminary professor who taught for 32 years in the disciplines of Spiritual Formation and Wesley Studies. He is the author of 22 books, the co-author of 19 others, numerous articles, and a frequent speaker in churches, conferences, and retreats. Harper’s ministries have included youth minister, evangelist, pastor, professor and seminary administrator. He and his wife Jeannie oversaw A Foundation for Theological Education, and they co-founded Shepherd’s Care, a ministry to ministers. Steve also served as Dean of the Chapel and Director of the Pathways Initiative at The Upper Room in Nashville. He lives in Winter Springs, Florida.



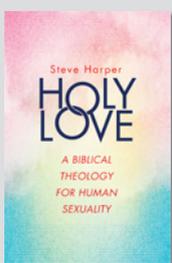
**Release:** August 18, 2020 **Price:** \$18.99  
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781791004705  
**Size:** 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 176  
**BISAC:** RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIVING / SPIRITUAL GROWTH



## KEY FEATURES

- Reflections and self-guided questions help readers improve relationships with others and God.
- Profound inspiration from a well-respected spiritual leader and teacher.
- Helps readers diminish the tendency to put dogma over relationships.

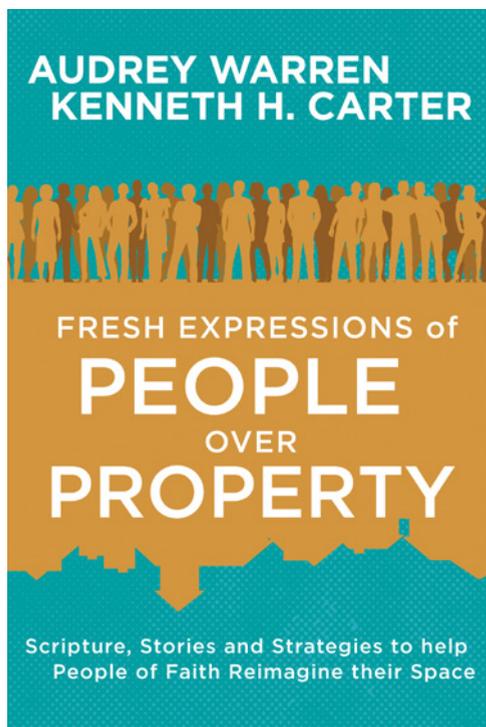
## BY THE SAME AUTHOR



9781501896088  
\$13.99



9781501800597  
\$9.99



**Release:** August 18, 2020 **Price:** \$15.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781791004750

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

**BISAC:** RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIVING / LEADERSHIP & MENTORING



## KEY FEATURES

- Practical strategies to help faith leaders re-imagine how their community spaces might be used.
- Reflections and stories about how God values people over property.
- Fresh Expressions offers a network of church leaders with these concerns.

# FRESH EXPRESSIONS OF PEOPLE OVER PROPERTY

Audrey Warren & Kenneth H. Carter

**What if our church properties didn't have to be a source of pain but purpose and profit?**

Our church buildings, synagogues, and other religious places - which once stood as beacons of hope and reverence for their community - have become a burden for the organizations who seek to keep them standing. In efforts to patch leaky roofs and paint over years of wear, leaders are putting more and more money each year into property instead of people. The practices we have fallen into to keep a building running are not only demoralizing to the pastoral profession and the mission of the church, but they also run the risk of violating property tax laws and incurring more debt. What if our properties didn't have to be a source of pain but purpose and profit? Can we as faith-based organizations begin to think collaboratively about how we might further our missions by creatively and intentionally rethinking how we utilize the space we inhabit? In this book the authors reflect on strategies, scriptures, and stories that help leaders faithfully reimagine their community spaces so that they reflect that God and God's people value people over property.

**Audrey B. Warren** is an ordained Elder in the Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church and currently serves as Senior Pastor at First United Methodist Church of Miami. Since 2013 Audrey has co-convoked the Fresh Expressions movement in the Florida Annual Conference. Audrey's greatest joy in ministry is teaching Yoga Chapel in Downtown Miami as well as visioning with her congregation new ways to be church in a growing and diverse city.

**Kenneth H. Carter** is president of the Council of Bishops of The United Methodist Church and serves the Florida Conference area. He is the author of ten other books, including *Pray for Me*, *A Way of Life in the World*, *The Gifted Pastor*, and *Near the Cross*.

## COMPARABLE TITLE



9781501849206

\$14.99

# CHURCH COMES HOME

Start a House Church Network Anywhere

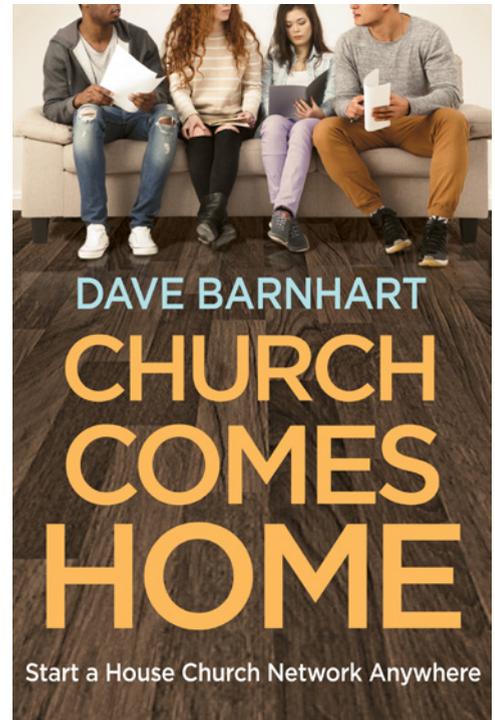
Dave Barnhart

**Provides a home-church alternative model for growth and discipleship for denominations and established churches to consider.**

People have lost faith in all collective institutions: government, corporations, the media, and the church. We are in the midst of a spiritual disaster, a flood of biblical proportions, and house churches provide lifeboats for people who are seeking a more authentic, life-giving form of Christian community.

Many people remember that the early church started in homes, but they don't understand that house churches are still a legitimate and viable model today. House churches can create the intimacy so many people are hungry for. They can nurture life-changing discipleship for individuals and create justice-centered communities. Networked house churches can become truly diverse, multi-ethnic communities that spread the Gospel by emphasizing practices over programs. These communities de-center the preacher, opting instead for grassroots organizing, but they are not leaderless — they are leader-full. This book provides an alternative model for denominations and established churches to consider. It will help pastors reconnect with the traditions of community organizing, itinerant preaching, and discipleship training that sparked Methodism and other church movements in the United States. *Church Comes Home* offers alternative ways to look at some of the problems facing our church and our culture.

**Dave Barnhart** grew up in Huntsville, Alabama, where he attended Holmes Street and Trinity United Methodist Churches. He and his wife, Angela, have a son named Leo. David went to college at Oglethorpe University, earned his M.Div. from Candler School of Theology, and finished his Ph.D. in Homiletics and Social Ethics at Vanderbilt University. He currently serves as associate pastor of Trinity United Methodist Church in Birmingham, Alabama, where he leads Contact, the contemporary worship service, and directs his church's mission and outreach programs.



**Release:** September 1, 2020 **Price:** \$18.99  
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781791007331  
**Size:** 6 x 9 **Pages:** 160  
**BISAC:** RELIGION / CHRISTIAN CHURCH / GROWTH



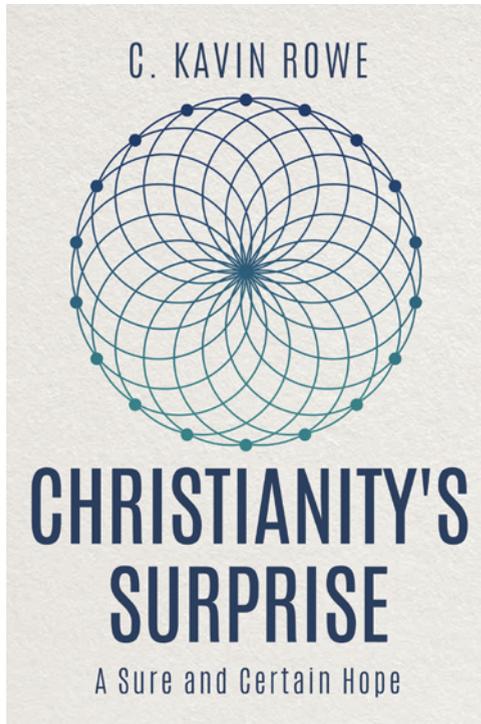
## KEY FEATURES

- Provides alternative models from exclusively Sunday morning worship for churches to consider.
- Helps pastors reconnect with their church and larger community.
- Looks at issues in our cultures and churches that lead to the need for alternative meeting spaces.

## COMPARABLE TITLE



9781501849206  
 \$14.99



**Release:** September 1, 2020 **Price:** \$19.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781791008208

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

**BISAC:** RELIGION / CHRISTIAN MINISTRY / MISSIONS



## KEY FEATURES

- Reflections on the fundamental beginnings of Christianity inspire surprise today.
- Helps overcome the cultural feeling that church is familiar, common, or expected.
- Relearning the lessons from the early church informs Christianity's witness today.

# CHRISTIANITY'S SURPRISE

A Sure and Certain Hope

C. Kavin Rowe

**Rediscovering the early church's surprise of Christianity will help modern Christians chart a course for their witness today.**

At its beginning Christianity was surprising, powerful, creative, world-shaking. Today in the West it is many times familiar, common, and expected, losing its power to surprise and transform. We have developed societal amnesia and ignorance of what Christianity originally was – and what it still can be. We need to recover the surprise of Christianity. We need to ask the same fundamental questions as the early Christians, which will help us rediscover the surprising power of Christianity in our midst. Focusing on the surprise of the gospel message takes us into the heart of what it is to understand Christianity at all, and thus what it is to remember and relearn the life-giving power and witness that went with being Christian at the beginning. This remembering and relearning can, in turn, surprise us all over again and chart a course for our witness today.

**C. Kavin Rowe** is Professor of New Testament at Duke University Divinity School. He is the author and co-editor of several books and has published multiple scholarly articles. He is on the editorial board of several international peer-review journals and has also frequently written articles for [faithandleadership.com](http://faithandleadership.com). Rowe has been a Fulbright Scholar, Regional Scholar for the Society of Biblical Literature, chair of the Society's Southeastern Region New Testament section, president of the Society's Southeastern Region, and was elected to the Studiorum Novi Testamenti Societas. He was awarded a Lilly Faculty Fellowship, a Christian Faith and Life Grant from the Louisville Institute, the John Templeton Prize for Theological Promise, the Paul J. Achtemeier Award, and a Distinguished Scholars grant from the McDonald Agape Foundation.

# BETTER SUNDAYS BEGIN ON MONDAY

52 Exercises for Evaluating Weekly Worship

David W. Manner

**Humble and collaborative evaluation of worship services leads to more inspiring worship.**

Reviewing game film is a discipline that sports teams often incorporate after each game. Teams watch game videos to identify mistakes, make adjustments, consider radical changes, and highlight successes. The goal of this analysis is to facilitate individual and team improvements that will positively affect subsequent games. The fundamental reason why a team needs adjustments is not always evident in the middle of the game. But evaluating important elements after a game gives coaches and players the opportunity to review individual plays and players in a more relaxed setting away from the time constraints and pressures of the game.

So why aren't pastors and worship teams incorporating similar evaluative practices? Implementing a collaborative process of analyzing worship services or planning for upcoming services requires a deep level of humility, trust, and shared accountability. It also requires selfless leaders who are willing to sacrifice their own ideas and interests for the greater worshiping good of the congregation. *Better Sundays Begin on Monday* offers foundational worship considerations to help leadership teams ask questions evaluatively rather than defensively. These weekly reflections encourage worship leaders and their teams to think beyond style to biblical and theological worship content.

**David W. Manner** serves as the Associate Executive Director for Kansas-Nebraska Convention of Southern Baptists with responsibilities in the areas of Worship, Leadership, and Administration. Before joining the convention staff in 2000, David served for twenty years in music/worship ministry with congregations in Kansas, Arkansas, Texas, and Oklahoma. He holds a Bachelor of Music degree from Oklahoma Baptist University; a Master of Church Music degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary; and a Doctor of Worship Studies from the Robert E. Webber Institute for Worship Studies.



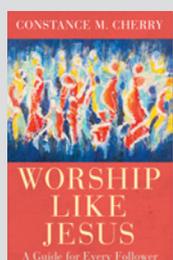
**Release:** September 15, 2020 **Price:** \$19.99  
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781791004736  
**Size:** 6 x 9 **Pages:** 160  
**BISAC:** RELIGION / CHRISTIAN RITUALS & PRACTICE / WORSHIP & LITURGY



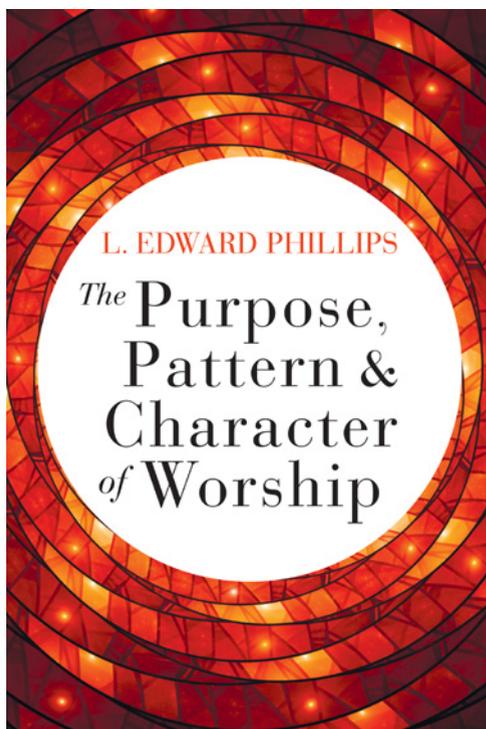
## KEY FEATURES

- Helps leadership teams effectively and objectively evaluate their worship services.
- Inspires leaders to sacrifice biased ideas for the greater worshiping good of the congregation.

## COMPARABLE TITLE



9781501881473  
 \$17.99



**Release:** October 6, 2020 **Price:** \$39.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781791004682

**Size:** 6 x 9 **Pages:** 272

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



## KEY FEATURES

- Teaches discrete characteristics of worship based on historical expressions of Christianity.
- Links these characteristics to modern expressions of worship.
- Helps church leaders define the best expression of worship for their communities.

# THE PURPOSE, PATTERN, AND CHARACTER OF WORSHIP

L. Edward Phillips

**By discovering and defining the characteristics of worship, you can lead more meaningful services.**

Within the broad range of Christianity we find diverse understandings of what makes for “good worship.” This book develops a typology of Christian worship to provide a method of assessing the decisions of congregations and leaders in forming and changing the orders of their worship.

Among contemporary western Protestants, we find at least six discrete characteristics of worship:

- the Revival,
- the Sunday School,
- the Aesthetic Revival,
- the Pentecostal/holiness movement,
- the Prayer Meeting,
- and the twentieth-century Catholic Liturgical Renewal.

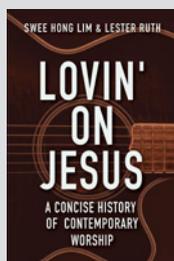
These patterns find contemporary expression as:

- Seeker Worship,
- Creative Worship,
- Traditional Worship,
- Praise Worship,
- House Church Worship,
- and Word and Table Worship.

Absent an overall authority for the structure of worship (such as the Episcopal Book of Common Prayer), many Protestant congregations have developed a “conflation of patterns,” which often creates incoherent worship. This book helps leaders define the purpose, character, and pattern of their community’s worship.

**L. Edward Phillips** is Associate Professor of Worship and Liturgical Theology at Candler School of Theology of Emory University. He is editor-in-chief of the journal *Liturgy*. From 2001-2004, he served as chair of the Holy Communion Study Committee for the General Conference of The United Methodist Church. In his role as chair, Phillips traveled extensively, meeting with Methodists throughout the United States, Europe, and Africa. Dr. Phillips is an ordained elder in the Memphis Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church.

## COMPARABLE TITLE



9781426795138

\$29.99

# A WORSHIP WORKBOOK

A Practical Guide for Extraordinary Liturgy

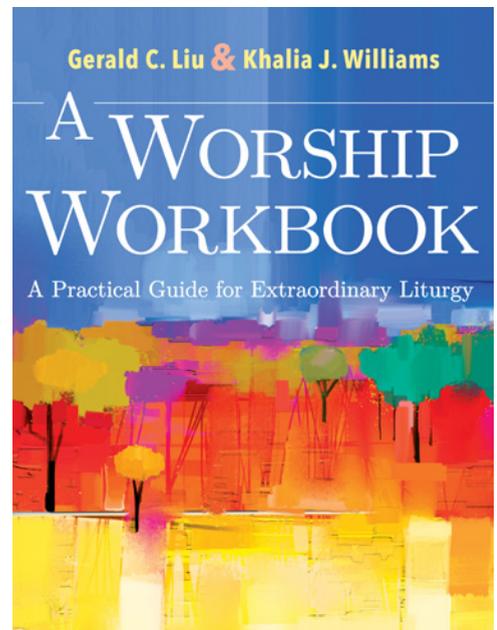
Gerald C. Liu & Khalia J. Williams

**Extraordinary Christian worship is honest and versatile in its expressions of diverse liturgy.**

*A Worship Workbook: A Practical Guide for Extraordinary Liturgy* introduces crucial and under-examined liturgical and social concepts for more honest and versatile excellence in the leadership of Christian worship. By “honest,” this workbook differentiates itself from other worship resources by swiftly and surgically underscoring how liturgy has led to transgressions as well as living out the truth of the Gospel. For example, the communion table for some is seen as violent because of the Crusaders who ate and drank of the meal before battle. Claiming that disturbing past and responding to it nurtures deeper and stronger practices of the Lord’s Supper. By “versatile,” this workbook offers practical advice for widening the reach and accessibility of liturgy as well as its social awareness so that, for example, celebrations of indigenous peoples are not reserved for a special Sunday. This workbook will inspire church leaders to commit to gathering people of diversity as an expression of faithfulness in God.

**Gerald C. Liu** is Assistant Professor of Worship and Preaching at Princeton Theological Seminary. He is author of *Music and the Generosity of God* (Palgrave, 2017) and edits the worship section of the journal *Homiletic*. Born and raised in Mississippi by Buddhist immigrants from Taiwan, Gerald is also an ordained United Methodist Elder from the Mississippi Annual Conference. In addition to preaching and teaching itinerantly along the East Coast of the United States, as well as other parts of the country, Gerald volunteers as a Minister in Residence at The Church of the Village, a small, multicultural United Methodist congregation in the West Village neighborhood of Manhattan.

**Khalia J. Williams** is Assistant Dean of Worship and Music, Assistant Professor in the Practice of Worship, and Co-Director of the Baptist Studies Program at Candler School of Theology, Emory University. A native of Los Angeles, California, Khalia is an ordained minister with affiliation in both the Baptist and Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Currently, Khalia serves as an associate minister at First Lady of Providence Missionary Baptist Church in Atlanta, Georgia. She is also an executive member of the Higher Education and Leadership Ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), a general ministry committed to nurturing and developing Christian leaders. Khalia is a professionally trained classical dancer, and brings her passion for the arts into her research and scholarship of embodied worship.



**Release:** October 20, 2020 **Price:** \$26.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501896569

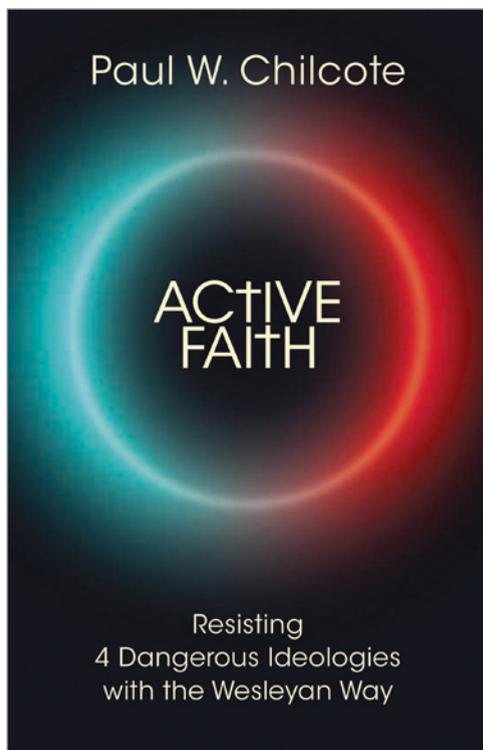
**Size:** 8.5 x 11 **Pages:** 160

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



## KEY FEATURES

- Honestly examines how cultural differences and even oppressions are ingrained in some liturgical practices.
- Provides practical ideas for responding to those differences and correcting past wrongs.
- Inspires church leaders to commit to gathering people of diversity as an expression of faithfulness in God.



**Release:** Available Now **Price:** \$13.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781791001728

**Size:** 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 112

**BISAC:** RELIGION / CHRISTIAN LIVING / SOCIAL ISSUES



## KEY FEATURES

- A reaction to four dangerous ideological insurgencies.
- Examines the changes in culture that have created fear in more conservative Christian communities.
- Connects scripture to truth, joy, peace, and love as a resistance to fear.

# ACTIVE FAITH

Resisting 4 Dangerous Ideologies with the Wesleyan Way  
Paul W. Chilcote

**A progressive declaration that challenges four dangerous trends.**

Christians are invited to practice the way of Jesus by engaging in four formative practices representing central themes of the Wesleyan way: humility, hospitality, healing, and holiness. These four practices function as counterpoints to four growing dangers based on fear in the contemporary church and in society:

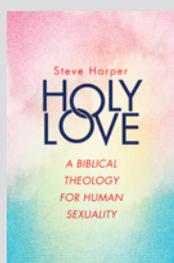
1. Christian fundamentalism
2. Nationalism
3. Dispensationalism
4. Antinomianism.

Each of the four practices is an antidote related to the quest for a particular virtue as well, namely, truth, joy, peace, and love in resistance to these dangerous movements.

Each of the four chapters discusses the relationship of these practices to scripture, identifying a signature biblical text or story related to each. They introduce the reader to a spiritual mentor who can help them understand and embrace the practice more fully. They describe contemporary forms of Christianity that distort or compromise our received faith tradition, directing their attention to a contemporary issue in which these distortions figure prominently and in which a progressive Wesleyan perspective offers an alternative vision of Christian authenticity. Finally, the chapters offer guidance showing how readers can engage in these practices on a very practical level.

**Paul W. Chilcote** is a retired United Methodist elder and professor of historical theology and Wesleyan studies who has taught on three continents. An award-winning author, he has published nearly thirty books, including *Praying in the Wesleyan Spirit*, *A Faith That Sings*, and *Recapturing the Wesleys' Vision*. He is a Benedictine Oblate of Mount Angel Abbey in Saint Benedictine, Oregon.

## COMPARABLE TITLES



9781501896088  
\$13.99



9781501871566  
\$17.99

# THE GENERAL EPISTLES

Hebrews; James; 1, 2 Peter; Jude

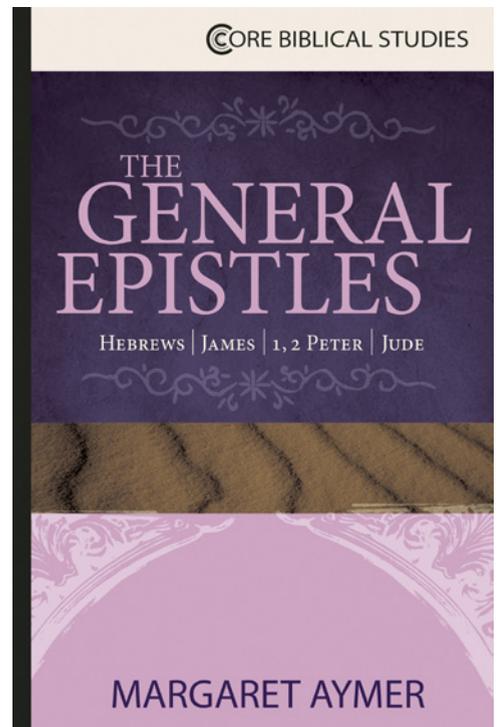
Margaret Aymer

Learn to interpret the General Epistles to unlock the meaning of their highly contextual content.

This book introduces and helps readers understand the life and times of a variegated and theologically diverse early Church. The catholic or “general” epistles present several challenges:

- First, they claim to be addressed to Christians in general, when in fact they are highly contextual; but it’s not immediately clear to what specific context they are addressed.
- Second, they seem to come from a generation later than that to which Paul’s letters are directed. In fact, they are parallel in time to the Gospels; but instead of focusing on Jesus’s life and meaning, they address matters of concern to the churches and view Jesus only secondarily.
- Finally, they are associated with strands of the early church hinted at by the pseudonymous authors, but from which we have no other materials, so figuring out what is received tradition and what is contextual adaptation is difficult.

**Margaret Aymer** is the D. Thomason Professor of New Testament at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary. She teaches core courses on the Introduction to the New Testament, Exegesis, and Greek and elective courses in numerous disciplines including African Americans and the Bible, and feminist and womanist biblical interpretation. Active in the Society of Biblical Literature and American Academy of Religion, she has spoken as a guest lecturer at numerous academic and church conferences across the United States. Prior to coming to Austin Seminary, she taught at Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta and has served the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) broadly. Aymer is the author of several books and a contributor to The CEB Women’s Bible.



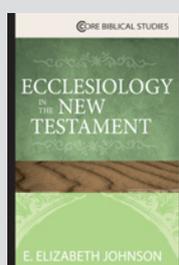
**Release:** November 17, 2020 **Price:** \$29.99  
 Paperback **ISBN:** 9781426767524  
**Size:** 6 x 9 **Pages:** 192  
**BISAC:** RELIGION / BIBLICAL STUDIES / NEW TESTAMENT



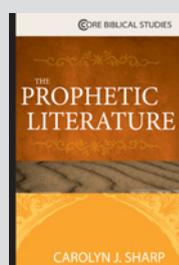
## KEY FEATURES

- Uses current methods in studying and interpreting these biblical texts.
- Gives a contextual reading of the Catholic Epistles.
- Introduces basic biblical texts.
- Readers will become familiar with contextual issues to better understand the biblical content.
- Readers will understand current trends and methods in biblical studies.
- Readers will have basic knowledge of fundamentals of New Testament biblical studies.

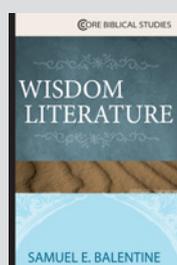
## OTHER BOOKS IN THIS ACADEMIC SERIES



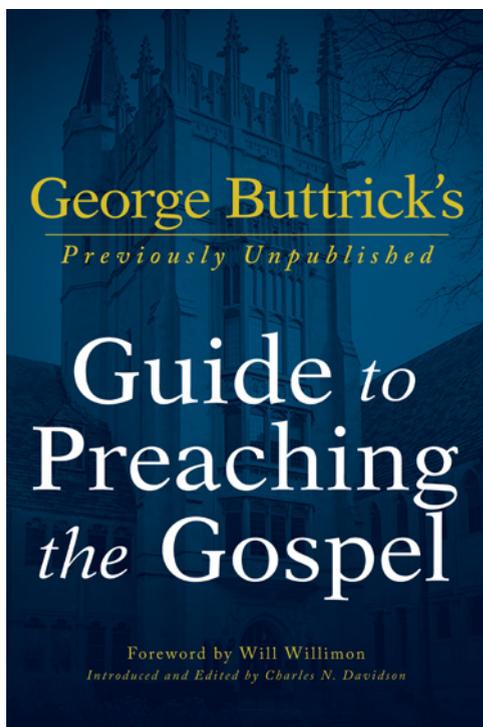
9781426771934  
\$29.99



9781426765049  
\$29.99



9781426765025  
\$29.99



**Release:** August 18, 2020 **Price:** \$24.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781791001742

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

**BISAC:** RELIGION / CHRISTIAN MINISTRY /  
PREACHING



## KEY FEATURES

- Answers the elusive question of whether we need preachers.
- Previously unpublished essays from well-respected preacher and teacher George A. Buttrick.
- Inspires modern preachers and provides practical help in crafting sermons.

# GEORGE BUTTRICK'S GUIDE TO PREACHING THE GOSPEL

George A. Buttrick

Edited by Charles N. Davidson

## Do we still need preachers?

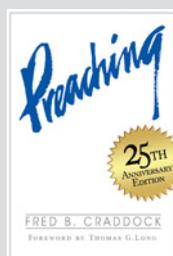
“Does the preacher now impress us as a ‘legate of the skies’? To many he is a pathetic figure, an anachronism, a stage-joke—an inoffensive little person jostled by the crowd, and wearing the expression of a startled rabbit. With one hand he holds a circular hat on a bewildered head and with the other desperately clutches an umbrella. The crowd pushes him from the sidewalk; the traffic shoots him back into the crowd. Some curse him; a few laugh; most are unaware of his existence.” (George Buttrick, Lyman Beecher Lectures, 1931).

Whether we need preaching has been asked for hundreds of years, long before an age of media saturation from streaming 24-hour news, entertainment, politics, and sports. This question hounded George Buttrick, one of the most profound preachers of the twentieth century and often compared with Billy Graham. Buttrick offers a compelling answer to the question, but his answer remained hidden for 40 years until now.

In *George Buttrick's Guide to Preaching the Gospel*, we learn why the world needs competent preachers, what the preacher must preach about, and how the preacher goes about creating the sermon with daily discipline and several practiced skills, including research, charting, outlining, writing, and performance. These writings have never been published before and were found by his grandchildren after his death. A brief biography of Buttrick introduces this master orator and professor to readers who do not know his work.

**Charles N. Davidson**, retired Presbyterian Church (USA) pastor, psychotherapist, and Darrel Rollins Professor of Holistic Ministry at Virginia University of Lynchburg, is the author of *Bone Dead and Rising: Vincent van Gogh and the Self Before God*.

## COMPARABLE TITLES



9780687659944

\$25.99



9781501842399

\$34.99

# PREACHERS DARE

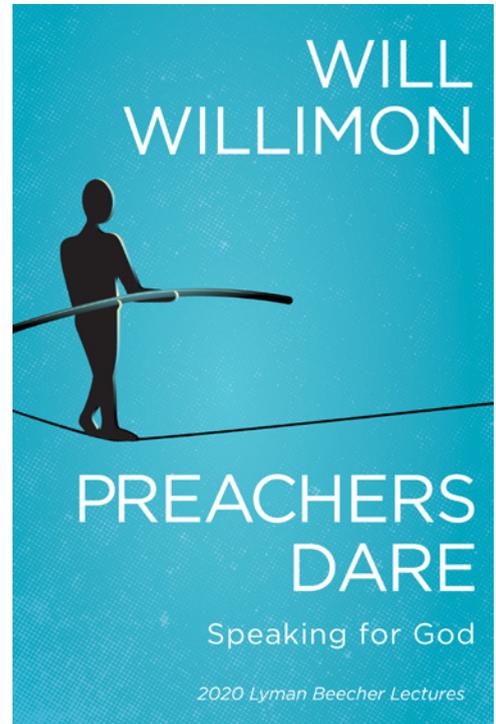
Speaking for God

Will Willimon

**Will Willimon presents a bold theology of preaching.**

*Preachers Dare* is adapted from Will Willimon's Lyman Beecher Lectures on Preaching at Yale and is inspired by a quote from the great theologian Karl Barth. In a world in which sermons too often become hackneyed conventional wisdom or tame common sense, preachers dare to speak about the God who speaks to us as Jesus Christ. Willimon draws upon his decades of preaching, as well as his many books on the practice of homiletics, to present a bold theology of preaching. This work emphasizes preaching as a distinctively theological endeavor that begins with and is enabled by God. God speaks, preachers dare to speak the speech of God, and the church dares to listen. By moving from the biblical text to the contemporary context, preachers dare to speak up for God so that God might speak today. With fresh biblical insights, creativity and pointed humor, Willimon gives today's preachers and congregations encouragement to speak with the God who has so graciously and effusively spoken to us.

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](http://MinistryMatters.com), *Pulpit Resource*, and *Fear of the Other: No Fear in Love*, both published by Abingdon Press.



**Release:** October 6, 2020 **Price:** \$19.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781791008055

**Size:** 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 160

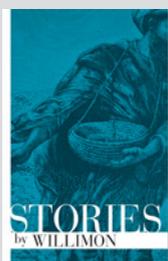
**BISAC:** RELIGION / CHRISTIAN MINISTRY / PREACHING



## KEY FEATURES

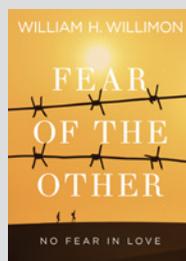
- Sound advice from one of today's most respected preachers.
- Views the practice of preaching as a theological endeavor.
- Inspires preachers to speak up for God so that God might speak today.

## BY THE SAME AUTHOR



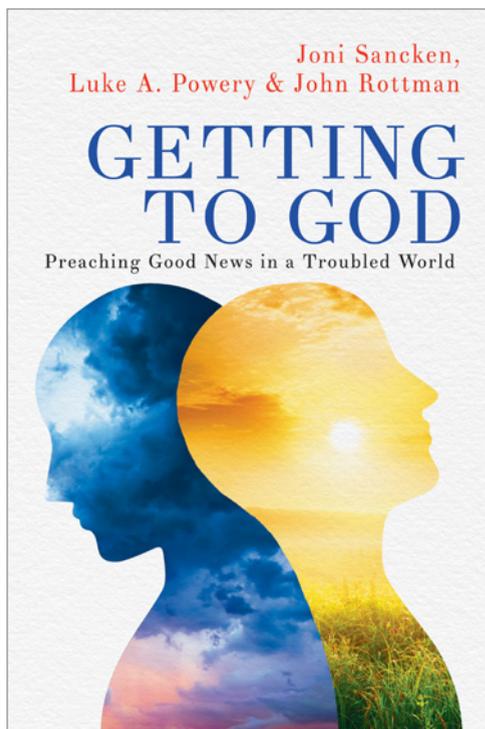
9781501894145

\$19.99



9781501824753

\$14.99



**Release:** November 17, 2020 **Price:** \$22.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781791004668

**Size:** 6 x 9 **Pages:** 144

**BISAC:** RELIGION / CHRISTIAN MINISTRY /  
PREACHING



## KEY FEATURES

- Encourages pastors to learn the practice of looking for and naming God's active presence in this modern world.
- Demonstrates how preachers can proclaim God's grace in our world today.

# GETTING TO GOD

Preaching Good News in a Troubled World

Joni Sancken, Luke A. Powery & John Rottman

**Preachers can proclaim God's grace in a divisive culture.**

God shows up, surprises us, and catches us off guard in offbeat settings and contexts. We name these saving encounters "gospel." Naming God's action in our world can be challenging for many today. Divisions in our culture make preaching feel perilous. Preachers turn to the biblical text and long to speak a powerful word of good news but many struggle with how to name God's grace amidst complex contextual issues and relational dynamics. Seminary does little to equip pastors for this important aspect of ministry. This book demonstrates how preachers can proclaim God's grace in our world today by building on the theological grammar and preaching method proposed by Paul Scott Wilson. This book operates on several levels, showing preachers how to contextualize a theologically rich approach to preaching, expanding the horizon of ministry for pastors who might not have experience in the contexts discussed in the book, and it equips pastors with the vital practice of learning to look for and name God's active presence in our world.

**Joni Sancken** is Associate Professor of Homiletics at United Theological Seminary in Dayton, OH. She is interested in theological and contextual issues in preaching. Joni is an ordained pastor in Mennonite Church USA and served congregations in Indiana and Pennsylvania and completed level one STAR training (Strategies for Trauma Awareness and Resilience) through the Center for Justice and Peacebuilding at Eastern Mennonite University in 2017.

**Luke A. Powery** is the dean of Duke University Chapel and associate professor of homiletics at Duke Divinity School. A national leader in the theological study of the art of preaching, Powery regularly delivers sermons at Duke Chapel as well as at churches throughout the U.S. and abroad. He is often a keynote speaker and lecturer at educational institutions, conferences, symposia, and retreats.

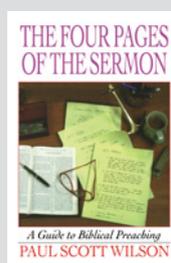
**John Rottman** is the Associate Professor of Preaching at Calvin Theological Seminary and spent five years working in a psychiatric hospital. It was during that time that he felt a call to the pastorate. It is with a strong theological training and understanding of the role of the Holy Spirit in preaching that John now equips students to bring proclaim the gospel through the medium of preaching.

## COMPARABLE TITLES



9781501870248

\$17.99



9780687023950

\$28.99

# THE ABINGDON PREACHING ANNUAL 2021

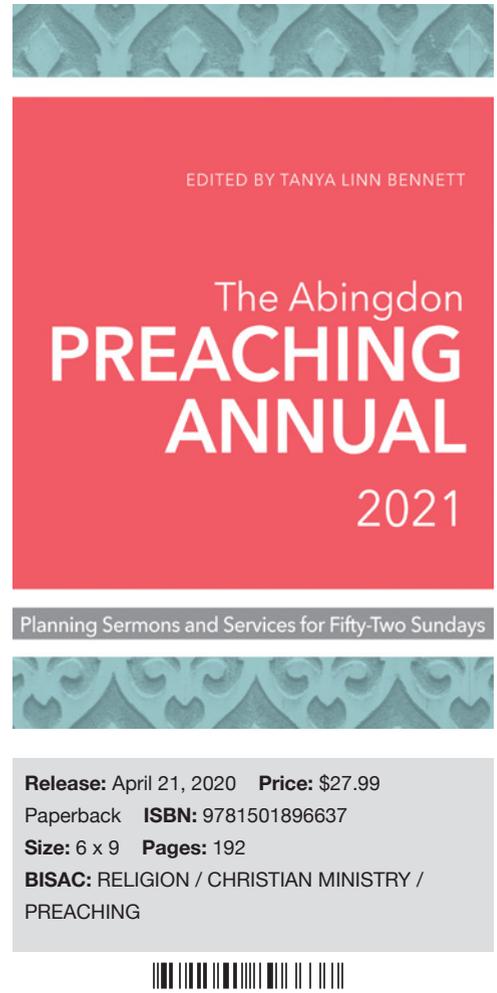
Planning Sermons and Services for Fifty-Two Sundays

Tanya Linn Bennett

**A source of inspiration and edification for pastors, who so rarely are on the receiving end of preaching.**

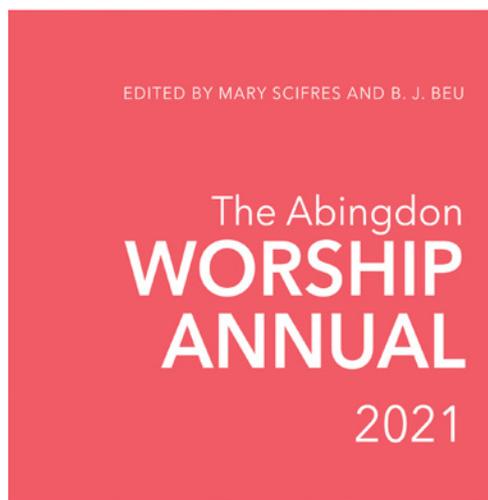
*The Abingdon Preaching Annual* is lectionary-based and follows the calendar year (January - December). Each week's entry includes Primary Theme, Secondary Themes and Worship Helps. The volume also includes essays on preaching topics, full sermons, and sermon series ideas. *The Abingdon Preaching Annual* is designed to stir the preacher's imagination; offer fresh, intriguing ideas; and point the preacher in a good direction.

**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.



## KEY FEATURES

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



Worship Planning Resources for Every Sunday of the Year



**Release:** April 21, 2020 **Price:** \$27.99

Paperback **ISBN:** 9781501896651

**Size:** 5.5 x 8.5 **Pages:** 352

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



## KEY FEATURES

- Comprehensive resource to help pastors and others plan and execute meaningful worship.
- Helps planners with time management by providing everything needed to plan worship.
- Provides a variety of worship themes, calls to worship, invocations, prayers, and benedictions brings people into a closer relationship with God through the worship service.

# THE ABINGDON WORSHIP ANNUAL 2021

Worship Planning Resources for Every Sunday of the Year

**The trusted planning resource for traditional and contemporary worship.**

*The Abingdon Worship Annual* is lectionary-based and follows the calendar year (January - December). It 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.” 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 Revised Common Lectionary, 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

*The Abingdon Worship Annual* is a must-have source book offering countless opportunities for planning meaningful and insightful worship.

**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.

# PREPARE! 2020-2021

An Ecumenical Music & Worship Planner

David L. Bone and Mary Scifres

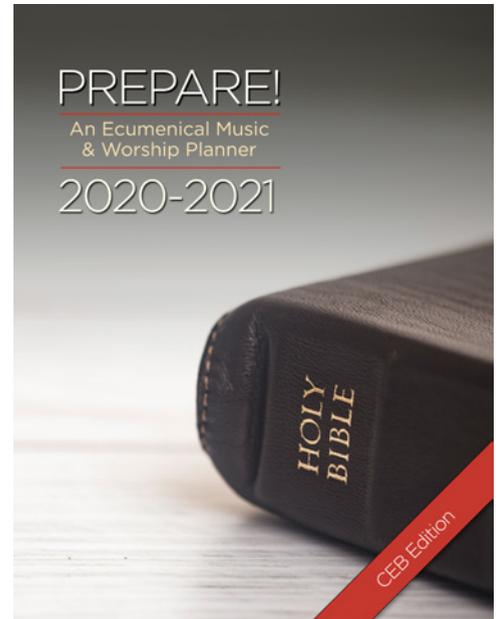
**A weekly worship planning book for pastors and musicians.**

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 2020-2021 edition of *Prepare!* is lectionary based and places everything at your fingertips:

- New Theme Index! Includes themes like: assurance, doubt, family, justice, prayer, temptation, and many more.
- Scripture Index
- Calendar format that helps you plan the entire choir year, from September through August.
- Eight or more suggested hymns for each service keyed to 16 hymnals from at least 7 different denominations, including: *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.

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

**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.

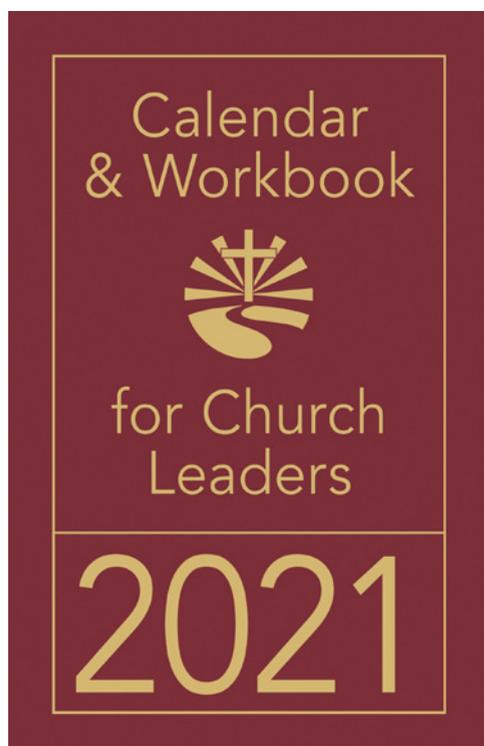


**Release:** April 21, 2020 **Price:** \$27.99  
 Spiral bound **ISBN:** 9781501896446  
**Size:** 8.5 x 11 **Pages:** 144  
**BISAC:** RELIGION / CHRISTIAN RITUALS & PRACTICE / WORSHIP & LITURGY



**NRSV Edition**  
 9781501896460 \$27.99





**Release:** May 19, 2020 **Price:** \$19.99  
 Calendar **ISBN:** 9781501896620  
**Size:** 6 x 9 **Pages:** 160  
**BISAC:** RELIGION / CHRISTIAN CHURCH /  
 ADMINISTRATION



# CALENDAR & WORKBOOK FOR CHURCH LEADERS 2021

**Keep track of appointments and worship plans.**

An enhanced appointment calendar for all church leaders. View appointments for the entire week in one spread. Convenient, stay-flat, spiral binding. Helpful features—all the information one expects to find in an outstanding calendar:

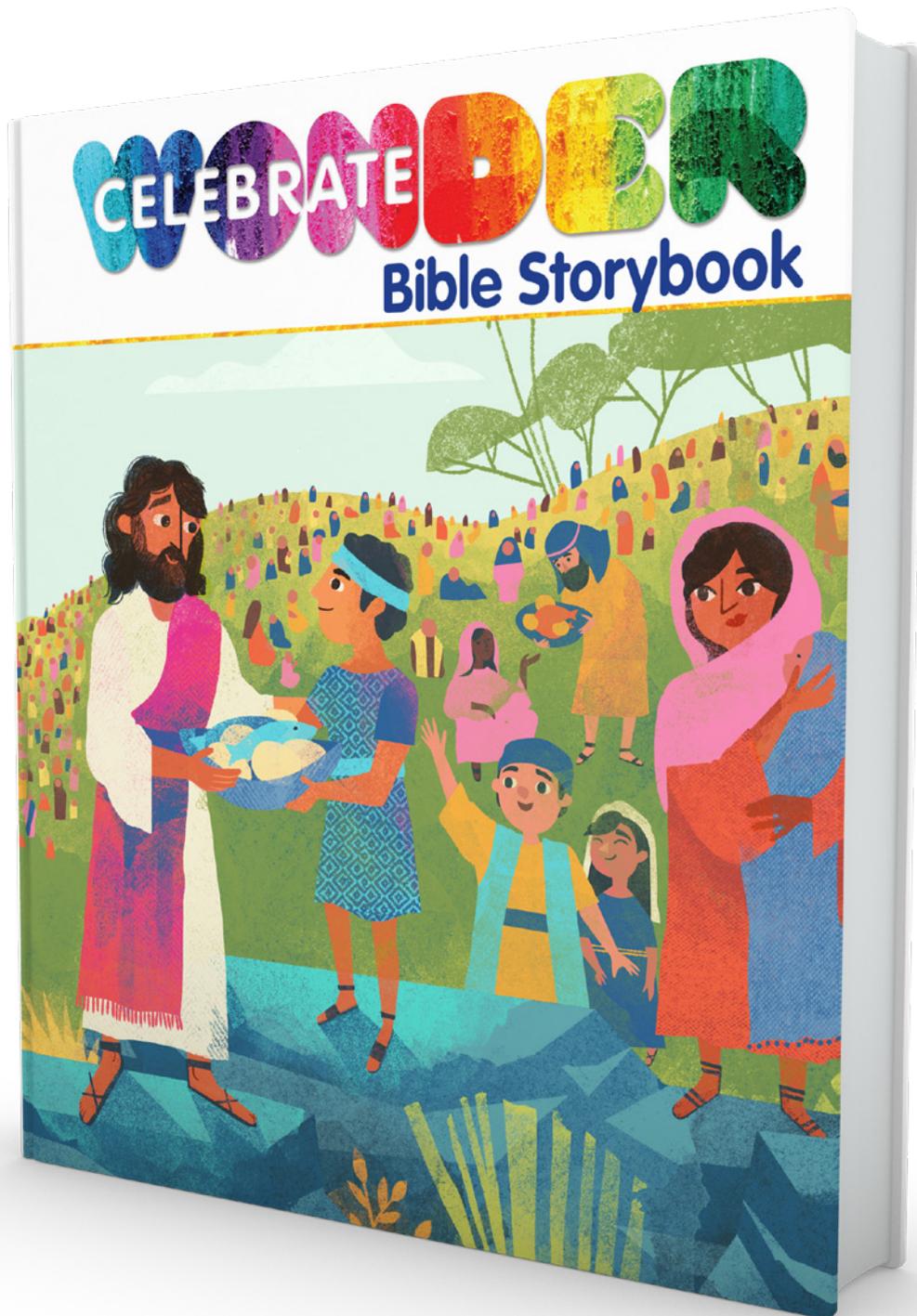
- Extra space on Sunday to record special details related to worship services including attendance and offerings.
- A chart of the lectionary readings from the Revised Common Lectionary.
- Liturgical days and colors.
- National days for the United States and Canada.
- Dates for Orthodox Good Friday, Easter, and Pentecost, major Jewish feasts and festivals.
- Beginning and ending dates for Daylight Savings Time.
- Also includes a month-at-a-glance section and pages for recording contact information for the current worship team, church leaders, or other groups.

## KEY FEATURES

- Easy-to-use layout.
- A stay-flat spiral binding.
- Everything needed at a glance for planning worship.
- Planning Section for each Sunday.
- Allows for customizing the service to meet the needs of congregation.
- Spend less time planning worship without sacrificing quality of service.
- Worship will be meaningful and strengthen participants' relationships with God.

# **CURRICULUM**

FALL & WINTER 2020-2021



# CELEBRATE WONDER BIBLE STORYBOOK

Brittany Sky

Curiosity and wonder are how children navigate everyday life. They look for ways to make sense of the world around them. God invites all of us to wonder and together, children and adults, can read and explore the stories of Jesus, Joseph and his brothers, Peter and Paul, Deborah and Jonah, and so many other familiar and formational stories in the *Celebrate Wonder Bible Storybook*.

The *Celebrate Wonder Bible Storybook* includes 150 colorfully illustrated stories and engages children through simple storytelling and open-ended questions. This format encourages children to wonder about each Bible story and make connections between the Bible and their lives.

**Brittany Sky** holds a Bachelor of Arts in Christian Education from Oklahoma City University, a Master of Arts in Christian Education from Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, and a Master of Business Administration from Tennessee State University. Brittany is the Senior Editor of Children's Resources at The United Methodist Publishing House. Before coming to UMPH, Brittany worked as a minister with children and their families in local congregations.

## KEY FEATURES

- Beautiful illustrations to go along with each story.
- Questions or activities that engage a child's sense of wonder.
- 36 faith words with definitions to help build a faith vocabulary in young children.
- Each story teaches children about God's love.
- For children ages 3-7.

**Release:** July 21, 2020 **Price:** \$21.99

Hardback **ISBN:** 9781501897252

**Size:** 6.5 x 7.75 **Pages:** 320

**BISAC:** JUVENILE NON FICTION / RELIGION / BIBLE STORIES / GENERAL



## Interior spread



# ONE ROOM SUNDAY SCHOOL

Based on the award-winning CEB Deep Blue Kids Bible, this awe-inspiring resource incorporates adventure, exciting stories, science experiments, arts and crafts, animated video storytelling, and active games into a living-faith experience that will help children discover what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ today!

Ideal for churches where children of various ages learn together as a group, *One Room Sunday School* includes everything needed for Sunday school, and it's all in one kit.

The Kit contains:

- Leader Guide
- Reproducible Book
- Resource Pak
- CD-ROM
- Deep Blue Kids Tote

The CD-ROM is a quarterly music CD-ROM with added PowerPoint slides, song sheets, and instrumental tracks. The Resource Pak contains colorful, easy-to-use posters to reinforce the Bible story, plus storytelling helps, an attendance chart, and more! The Reproducible Book is 96 pages of activities tailored to each session throughout the quarter.

From coloring pages to creative writing prompts, this resource will lead children to a deeper understanding of each Bible lesson.



Kit | \$79.99

Fall 2020 | 9781501899331 | Available July 21, 2020

Winter 2020-2021 | 9781501899355 | Available October 20, 2020

Leader Guide | \$19.99

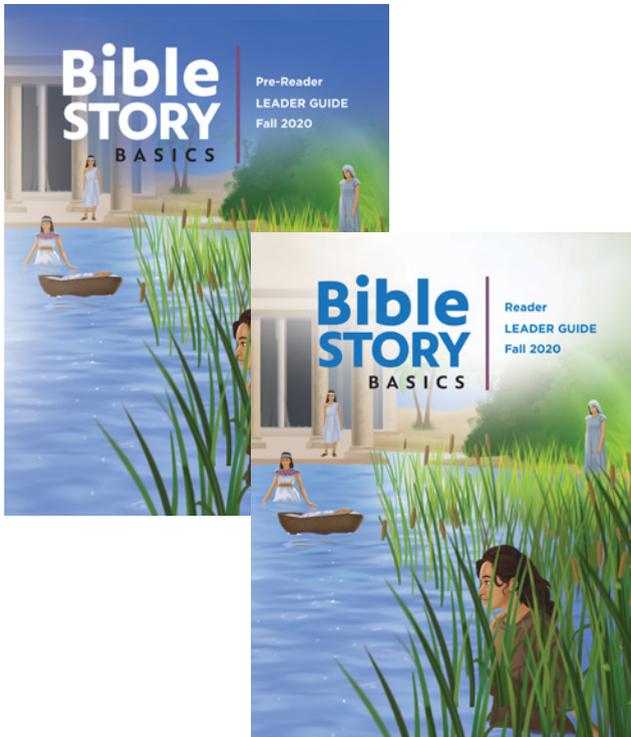
Fall 2020 | 9781791000097 | Available July 21, 2020

Winter 2020-2021 | 9781791003241 | Available October 20, 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-Reader (ages 3-7) and Reader (ages 8-12).



## Leader Guides

The *Bible Story Basics* Leader Guides feature 13 low-prep 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 | \$15.99**

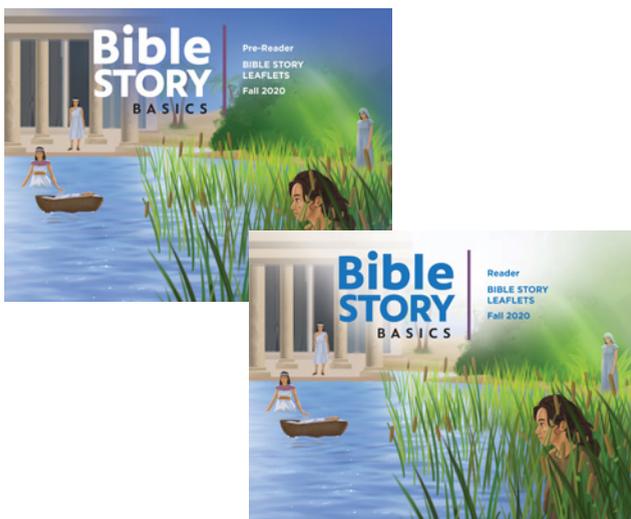
Fall 2020 | 9781791000486 | Available July 21, 2020

Winter 2020-2021 | 9781791000523 | Available October 20, 2020

**Reader Leader Guide | \$15.99**

Fall 2020 | 9781791000509 | Available July 21, 2020

Winter 2020-2021 | 9781791000547 | Available October 20, 2020



## 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 | \$9.99**

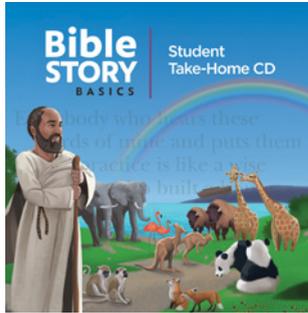
Fall 2020 | 9781791000479 | Available July 21, 2020

Winter 2020-2021 | 9781791000516 | Available October 20, 2020

**Reader Leaflets | \$9.99**

Fall 2020 | 9781791000493 | Available July 21, 2020

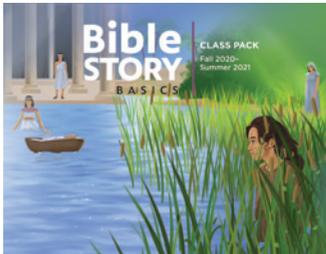
Winter 2020-2021 | 9781791000530 | Available October 20, 2020



### 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 | Now Available



### Annual Class Pack | \$49.99

The Annual Class Pack includes 12 beautiful pictures (8.5 x 11) for each unit’s memorization 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. One pack covers both age groups and is recommended for each classroom.

9781791000639 | Available July, 21 2020

## Scope & Sequence | Fall 2020 – Summer 2021

#### Fall 2020

##### UNIT 1: Joseph BV: Jeremiah 29:11

Joseph & His Brothers  
Genesis 37:1-36

Joseph in Egypt  
Genesis 39:1-40:23

Joseph Saves the Day  
Genesis 41:1-57

Joseph & His Brothers Reunite  
Genesis 42:1-46:34

#### Winter 2020-21

##### UNIT 1: Joy BV: Luke 1:46-47

Gabriel’s Message  
Luke 1:26-38

Mary Visits Elizabeth  
Luke 1:39-66

Jesus Is Born  
Luke 2:1-7

Joyous News  
Luke 2:8-20

#### Spring 2021

##### UNIT 1: Christ BV: John 13:34

Mary Anoints Jesus  
John 12:1-8

Jesus Washes Feet  
John 13:1-17

Last Supper  
Mark 14:12-26

Palm/Passion Sunday  
Mark 11:1-11; 15:1-47

#### Summer 2021

##### UNIT 1: Courage BV: Psalm 27:14

Courageous Queen  
Book of Esther

Daniel Obeyes God  
Daniel 1:1-21

Fiery Furnace  
Daniel 3:1-30

Daniel in the Lions’ Pit  
Daniel 6:1-28

##### UNIT 2: Exodus BV: Exodus 3:12

The Baby in the Basket  
Exodus 1:8-2:10

The Burning Bush  
Exodus 2:11-3:22

Moses and Pharaoh  
Exodus 5:1-13:9

Crossing the Sea  
Exodus 13:17-14:31

##### UNIT 2: Amazement BV: Psalm 9:1

A Voice in the Wilderness  
Mark 1:1-11

Five Friends  
Mark 2:1-12

Jesus Calms the Storm  
Mark 4:35-41

Jairus’s Daughter  
Mark 5:21-43

Go Two by Two  
Mark 6:7-13

##### UNIT 2: Resurrection BV: John 11:25

Easter  
John 20:1-18

Peace Be with You  
John 20:19-23

Thomas Believes  
John 20:24-31

Come to Breakfast!  
John 21:1-14

##### UNIT 2: Redemption BV: Jonah 2:2

Ruth: Part 1  
Ruth 1:1-22

Ruth: Part 2  
Ruth 2:1-4:22

Jonah and the Fish  
Jonah 1:1-3:10

Jonah and the Shrub  
Jonah 4:1-11

##### UNIT 3: Wilderness BV: Exodus 15:2

Songs of Joy  
Exodus 15:1-21

In the Wilderness  
Exodus 15:22-17:7

Ten Commandments  
Exodus 19:1-20:21

A House for God  
Exodus 25:1-31:18; 35:4-40:38

Elizabeth & Zechariah  
Luke 1:5-25

##### UNIT 3: Surprise BV: John 3:16

Born Anew  
John 3:1-21

The Woman at the Well  
John 4:1-42

A Youth’s Lunch  
John 6:1-15

Jesus Walks on Water  
John 6:16-25

##### UNIT 3: Peter BV: Acts 2:17

Peter and John Heal  
Acts 3:1-4:22

Peter and Tabitha  
Acts 9:36-43

Peter and Cornelius  
Acts 10:1-48

Peter Preached at Pentecost  
Acts 2:1-41

Peter in Prison  
Acts 12:1-17

##### UNIT 3: Joshua BV: Joshua 24:15

God Chooses Joshua  
Joshua 1:1-9

Rahab  
Joshua 2:1-24

Crossing the Jordan  
Joshua 3:1-4:24

Jericho  
Joshua 6:1-27

Joshua Chooses God  
Joshua 24:14-15, 25-28

# **CHURCH SUPPLIES**

**FALL & WINTER 2020-2021**

## Looking for Bulletins?

Warner Press has acquired the WordAlive! worship bulletins and Abingdon Press stock bulletin lines from United Methodist Publishing House, beginning with the Fall/Winter 2020-2021 season.

Abingdon Press will continue to sell currently available designs (found in our Spring/Summer 2020 trade catalog) through July, 2020.

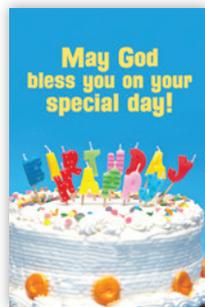
Beginning August 1st, we encourage to place orders with Warner Press by phone at **800.741.7721**, fax at **800.347.6411**, or email [wporder@warnerpress.org](mailto:wporder@warnerpress.org) for all your bulletin needs!



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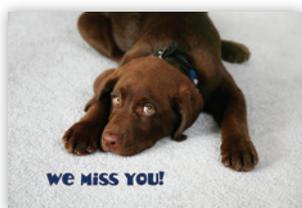
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**PSALM 81:1-2**  
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**GALATIANS 1:15**  
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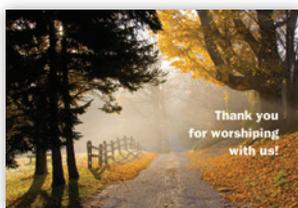
**WE MISS YOU**  
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**WE MISS YOU!**  
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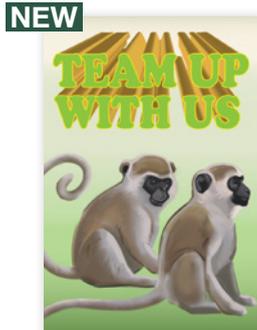


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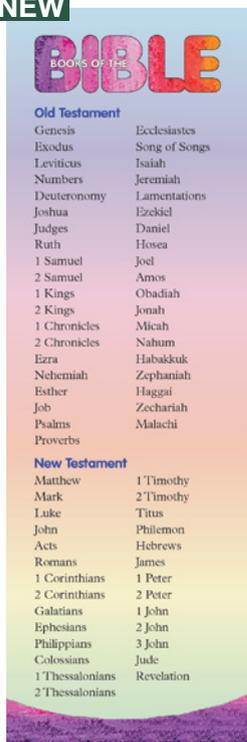
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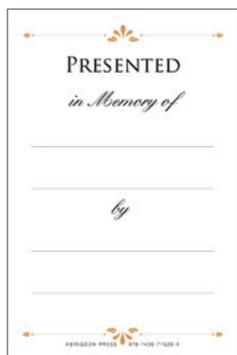
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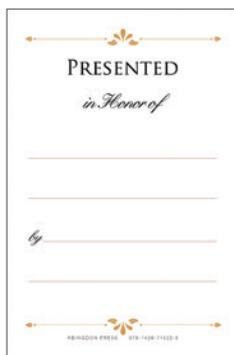
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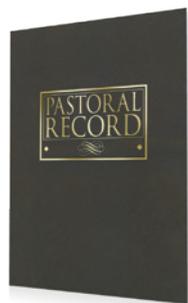
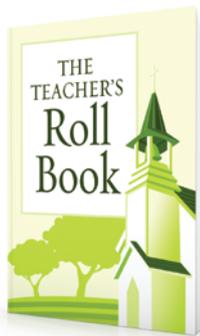


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9780687410293 | \$3.99

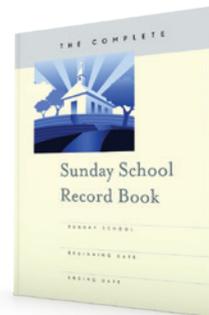
Contains space for the names of 140 Sunday school students, with a weekly summary section.



**PASTORAL RECORD**

9780687301416 | \$44.99

Records 40 years of pastorates, baptisms, members received, marriages, funerals, sermons delivered, funds raised, and more. Acid-free paper; gift boxed.



**THE COMPLETE SUNDAY SCHOOL RECORD BOOK**

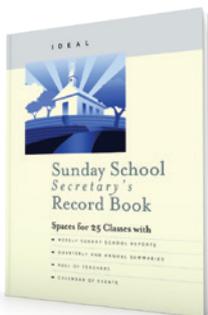
9781426774140 | \$14.99

This book includes space for 13 classes of 29 students each, with weekly summaries, and tracks information for one year.

**IDEAL SUNDAY SCHOOL SECRETARY'S RECORD BOOK**

9781426774157 | \$8.99

Features an arrangement of weekly, quarterly, and annual report pages and space for recording by age group.



**IDEAL CLASS BOOK (25 NAMES)**

9781426774188 | \$1.99

**IDEAL CLASS BOOK (75 NAMES)**

9781426774195 | \$2.29

Enables one to record attendance for a full year.



**FLOWER CHART**

9780687043460 | 15 X 31 | \$5.99

This attractive, full-color flower chart is for recording the names of persons presenting altar flowers. Each month includes seven ruled lines for easy writing, with name of each month superimposed over beautiful flower designs, and words "Date" and "Presented By" under name of month. Mylar reinforced and shipped in a mailing tube to prevent creases.



**TRADITIONAL FLOWER CHART**

9780687062218 | 15 X 31 | \$5.99

This attractive chart is used for recording the names of persons presenting altar flowers. Each month includes six ruled lines for easy writing, with beautiful full-color flower designs over the name of each month, and words "Date" and "Presented By" under name of month. Mylar reinforced and shipped in a mailing tube to prevent creases.

**ABINGDON BIBLE LAND MAPS WITH CHARTHEAD & TRIPOD**

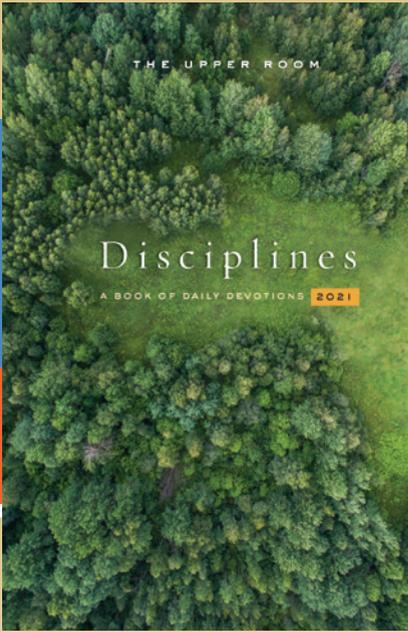
9780687043378 | \$269.99 | (SET OF 8)

**ABINGDON BIBLE LAND MAPS**

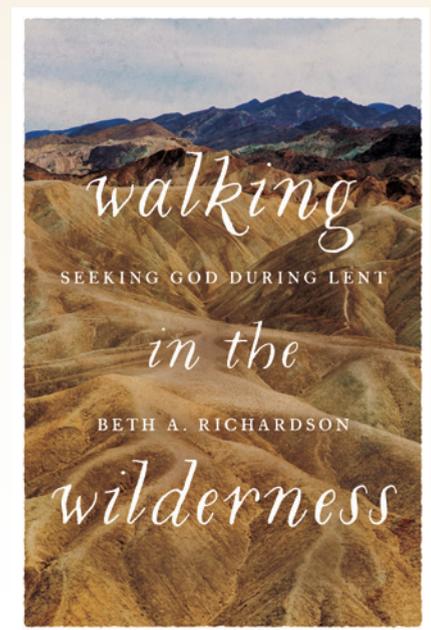
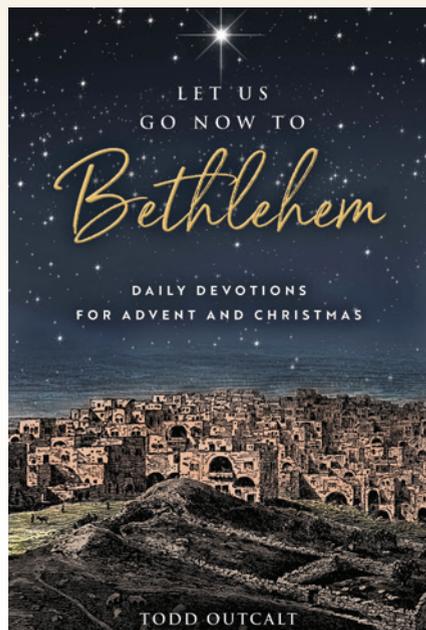
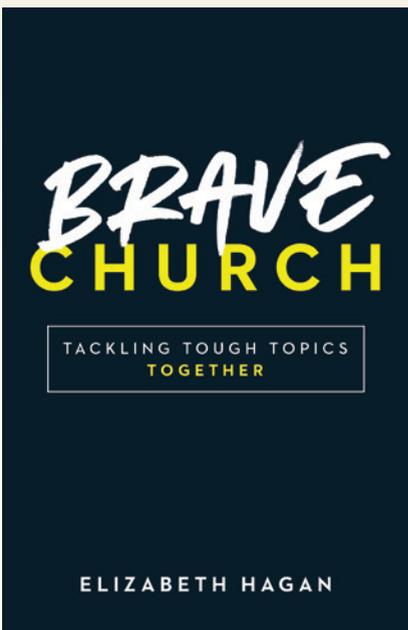
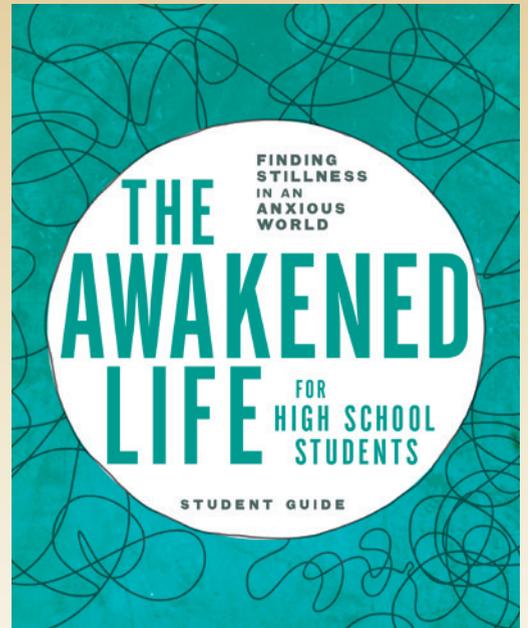
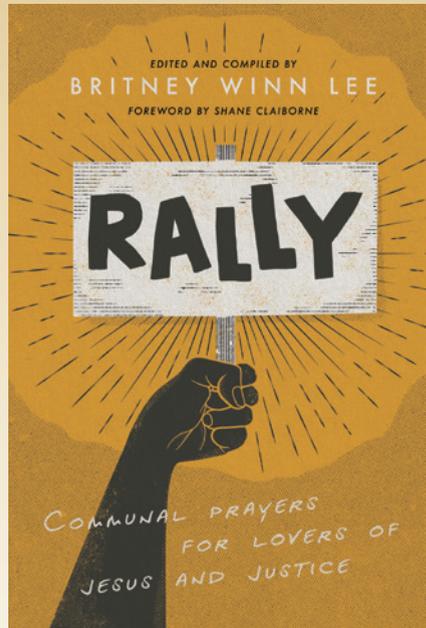
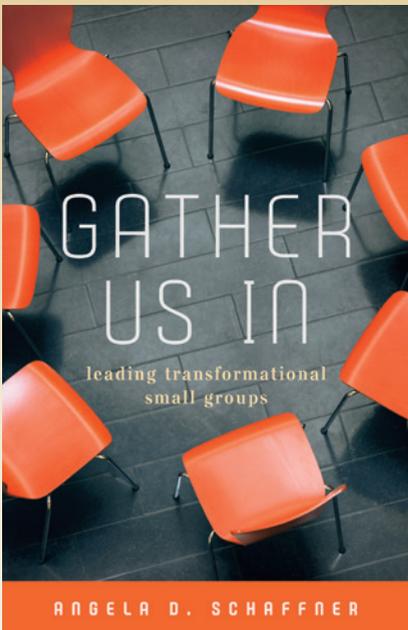
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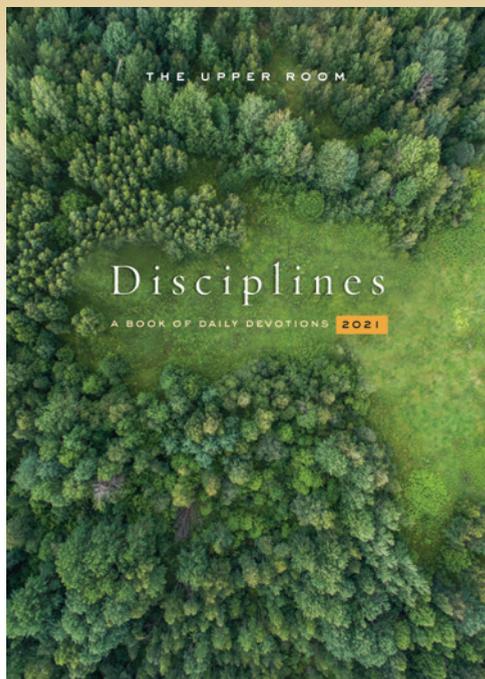


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# NEW RELEASES



**REGULAR EDITION**

PUB DATE: September 2020

PAPERBACK \$14.99

978-0-8358-1924-4

PAGES: 448 TRIM SIZE: 5 x 7

RELIGION/CHRISTIAN LIVING/DEVOTIONAL

**ENLARGED-PRINT**

PAPERBACK \$17.99

978-0-8358-1925-1

PAGES: 448 TRIM SIZE: 7.5 x 9.25

**TARGET AUDIENCE**

- People desiring devotions with depth and life application.
- Those seeking a lectionary-based Bible study and devotional guide.
- Pastors, Sunday school teachers, and others who enjoy reflecting on scripture.

**KEY FEATURES**

- Scripture overview for each week, plus questions and suggestions for reflections.
- Scripture readings from the Revised Common Lectionary that focus on a weekly theme.
- Brief but thoughtful daily readings written by persons from diverse Christian traditions.
- Prayers for every day.

# THE UPPER ROOM DISCIPLINES 2021

## A Book of Daily Devotions

Thought-provoking meditations that help us apply God's Word to our daily lives.

How important is it to have a daily spiritual routine? The habit of reading and reflecting on God's Word daily can bring a much-needed respite from the grind of everyday life. "We sometimes experience seasons in our lives when our faith seems dormant," Junius B. Dotson wrote in the 2018 edition of *The Upper Room Disciplines*. "It's especially important to practice the daily discipline of scripture devotion in our seasons of winter," he remarked. "When we engage in daily spiritual formation, we deepen our roots . . . and grow our capacity to handle any season of life." Daily devotional reading is essential to our spiritual growth, and it helps keep our faith alive.

*Disciplines* invites readers to spend unrushed time with God, reading a scripture passage, reflecting on the author's insights, and thinking about how to apply the truths from the readings to their daily life. This devotional book features 53 authors from diverse backgrounds, including some of the leading Christian thinkers of our time.

Among the writers for 2021 are J. Dana Trent, James A. Harnish, Enuma Okoro, George Donigian, Beth A. Richardson, Ken Carter, D. L. Mayfield, Stephane Brooks, Rachel G. Hackenberg, Rosalind Hughes, Memory Chikosi, Elizabeth Mae Magill, Charity Kiregyera, Joe Pennel, and Beth Taulman Miller.

# GATHER US IN

## Leading Transformational Small Groups

Angela D. Schaffner

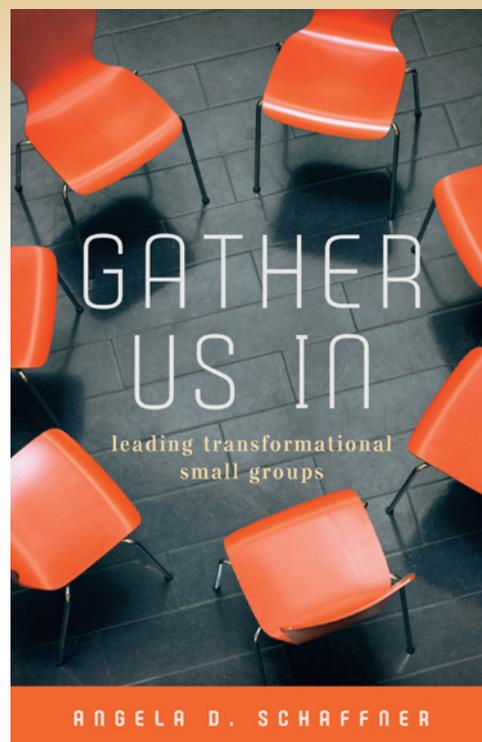
An easy-to-use handbook for leaders of small groups.

The church can become a place where people want to run to instead of away from during times of suffering. Small groups offer a safe space for individuals to connect meaningfully with one another, and they also provide an environment where relational healing can begin.

This comprehensive guide to leading small groups dispels common myths about leading groups, helps readers understand how groups work and the life stages of a group, and offers eight strategies for leading transformative small groups. With the Holy Spirit as their primary group facilitator and the learning gleaned from reading this book, readers will discover ways to lead that touch participants' hearts, encourage deep conversation, and unite them in central truths of the Christian faith.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Angela D. Schaffner** is a licensed counseling psychologist and eating disorders specialist who owns a private psychotherapy practice in Atlanta. Schaffner holds a PhD in counseling psychology and a master of arts in community counseling from Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana, and a bachelor of science in psychology from University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. She is the author of *Revealed: What the Bible Can Teach You About Yourself*. An active member of Oak Grove United Methodist Church in Decatur, Georgia, Schaffner is married to Dusty, and they are the parents of three sons. She has a black belt in taekwondo.



PUB DATE: July 2020

PAPERBACK \$13.99

978-0-8358-1943-5

PAGES: 128 TRIM SIZE: 5.5 x 8.5

RELIGION/CHRISTIAN EDUCATION/ADULT



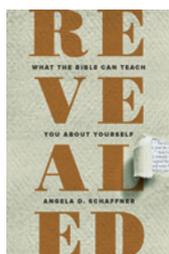
### TARGET AUDIENCE

- Leaders of Bible studies and other spiritual formation groups.
- Ministers of discipleship and small groups.
- Those considering facilitating a small-group study.

### KEY FEATURES

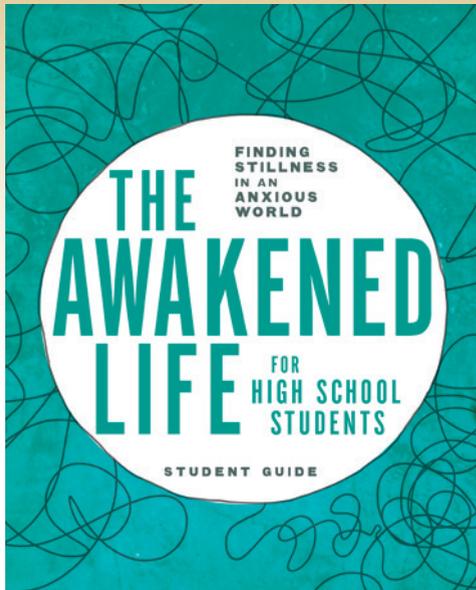
- Practical guidance and wisdom from an experienced small-group facilitator and professional therapist.
- Wisdom for navigating conflict that arises in groups.
- Explanation of stages in the life of a small group.
- Eight strategies for leading groups well.
- Topical summaries at the end of each chapter.

### ALSO BY THIS AUTHOR



978-0-8358-1861-2  
\$12.99





## STUDENT GUIDE

PUB DATE: July 2020

PAPERBACK \$11.99

978-0-8358-1939-8

PAGES: 96 TRIM SIZE: 7.5 x 9.25

RELIGION/CHRISTIAN EDUCATION/CHILDREN &amp; YOUTH



## TARGET AUDIENCE

- High school students.
- Groups of youth in grades 9–12.
- Youth pastors.
- Christian youth workers.
- Youth leaders with ministries outside of the church.

## KEY FEATURES

- Invites teens to cultivate daily spiritual practices that can help them navigate the demands of high school life.
- Equips youth workers and church leaders to address the spiritual and emotional needs of teens.
- Provides tools to build resiliency and foster spiritual growth and emotional well-being.
- Deepens teens' connection to God, self, others, and creation.
- Offers scientific research to demonstrate the need for spiritual practices and mindfulness techniques and how they can support well-being.
- Nurtures connection to and compassion for self and others.

# THE AWAKENED LIFE FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

## Finding Stillness in an Anxious World

Sarah E. Bollinger and Angela R. Olsen

**A small-group guide to help teens find stillness, peace, balance, and joy amid high school pressures.**

One out of five teens lives with depression, anxiety, or another mental illness. Some come to believe that worry, isolation, and fear are all life has to offer. Yet God created us for lives full of joy, well-being, and connection.

*The Awakened Life for High School Students* is an 8-week small-group guide that empowers teens to awaken to a more abundant life through practices that build resiliency, teach psychosocial skills, and foster emotional and spiritual well-being. It is designed to be led by those who provide spiritual and emotional care to students but who are not professional counselors or therapists. Over the course of this study, students will learn how to connect with their own minds and bodies, expand their understanding of the importance of connection to others, develop connections to nature, and then combine all of these practices to build a resilient, joyful, and awakened life.

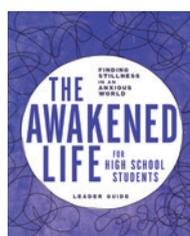
The curriculum walks participants through 8 weeks of practices and reflections. Each weekly session lasts for about an hour and includes a mindfulness or spiritual practice to explore as a group. Many of these practices involve prayer and meditation techniques, coupled with discussion and journaling. Students will be encouraged to try each week's spiritual practice at home, to reflect on the experience in a journal, and to check in with an accountability partner at least once a week.

Each week's session follows the same rhythm by revisiting these themes: Awake, Aware, Alive, Abide, and Arise. Through participation in *The Awakened Life*, high school students can wake up to abundant life; become aware of their worth and belonging; come alive to their senses, thoughts, and emotions; abide in the love and grace of God; and arise to live a life as connected, whole people.

## ABOUT THE AUTHORS

**Sarah E. Bollinger, PhD**, is a licensed clinical social worker.

**Angela R. Olsen** holds a master of divinity. Both of them wrote the original collegiate curriculum, *The Awakened Life: An 8-Week Guide to Student Well-Being*. The Upper Room adapted the curriculum for high school students.



## COMPANION RESOURCES

## LEADER GUIDE

978-0-8358-1940-4 \$15.99

PAGES: 144 TRIM SIZE: 7.5 x 9.25



## RALLY

### Communal Prayers for Lovers of Jesus and Justice

Edited and Compiled by Britney Winn Lee



#### A prayer book for Christian activists.

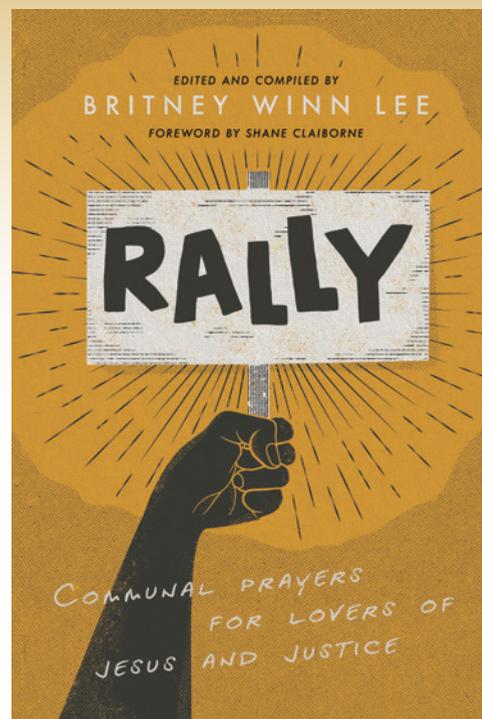
“This is not your grandmother’s prayer book,” Shane Claiborne writes in the foreword. “This is a prayer book for revolution—a revolution of love and compassion and justice.” The prayers in this collection are meant to be prayed in community.

*Rally* is a prayer book for faith communities searching for words to express how they respond to the injustices around them. It’s a prayer book for Christian activists who believe in putting feet to their prayers. The book supplies words for concerned Christians who yearn to lift their voices to God about such issues as racism; the abuse of power and privilege; mistreatment of migrants and refugees; lives tragically lost; our violent society; white supremacy; and people being marginalized because of their gender, ethnic identity, sexual orientation, or economic status. *Rally* contains prayers for perpetrators, for loving our bodies, for listening to one another, for those who have been wounded by the church. In this resource, readers will find prayers that evoke hope and connection, guidance for sifting through the news and social media headlines, laments about destruction of the earth, and pleas for loving alike though we don’t think alike.

The beauty of this book lies in the rich variety of voices and experiences of its writers—leaders who work at the intersection of Christianity and social justice and who want to resource those who gather to lament the needs and celebrate the possibilities of a better world. “Lord, stir us up to holy action,” cries this powerful book. *Rally* spurs people to compassionately continue the important work of loving God and neighbor until all of God’s people feel safe and seen.

#### ABOUT THE EDITOR AND COMPILER

**Britney Winn Lee** is the director of a community arts program in Shreveport, Louisiana, where she lives with her designer husband and big-hearted son. The author of *Deconstructed Do-Gooder: A Memoir About Learning Mercy the Hard Way* and *The Boy with Big, Big Feelings*, Lee compiled this collection of prayers. An artist and word-wielder since childhood, Lee has worked for 10 years in efforts focused on building community and connecting the church to the world. Her passions are being a good neighbor, writing about that topic in a variety of ways, crocheting, and making spicy pickles. See what she’s creating at [www.britneywinnlee.com](http://www.britneywinnlee.com) and on Instagram @brittanywinnlee.



PUB DATE: August 2020

PAPERBACK \$16.99

978-1-935205-31-9

PAGES: 176 TRIM SIZE: 6 x 9

RELIGION/CHRISTIAN LIVING/SOCIAL ISSUES



#### TARGET AUDIENCE

- Christian congregations, intentional faith communities, and individuals working at the front lines of social justice issues who grapple with the existence of these plights and need encouragement and connection for ways of life that give priority to the marginalized and forgotten.

#### KEY FEATURES

- Foreword written by Christian activist Shane Claiborne.
- More than 50 call-and-response prayers.
- Contributors include Jonathan Wilson-Hartgrove, Rose Marie Berger, Rachel G. Hackenberg, Lydia Wylie-Kellermann, Brandan Robertson, Austen Hartke, Delonte Harrod, D. L. Mayfield, Onleilove Chika Alston, and Bruce Reyes-Chow.
- Prayers that address social justice issues of our times.
- Prayers that rouse people to action, provide balm for the activist’s soul, and sustain those doing the hard work of justice and peacemaking.



PUB DATE: August 2020

PAPERBACK \$12.99

978-0-8358-1936-7

PAGES: 128 TRIM SIZE: 5.5 x 8.5

RELIGION/CHRISTIAN LIVING/SOCIAL ISSUES



### TARGET AUDIENCE

- People who attend mainline churches.
- Social and political moderates.
- Those who have/are having difficult experiences but feel there's not a space to talk about them in their congregation.
- Those who are ready to begin new conversations in church but don't know how.

### KEY FEATURES

- Hopeful examples of congregations who are talking about tough topics.
- Questions for discussion and reflection.
- Suggested activities that encourage readers to take action related to the topic.
- Suggested resources for further study and conversation on controversial topics.

## BRAVE CHURCH

### Tackling Tough Topics Together

Elizabeth Hagan

Tools for helping your congregation become a brave and safe place to have conversations about real-life issues.

"I grew up in a church that never felt real. I became a pastor because I wanted to change that," Elizabeth Hagan writes in the introduction to *Brave Church*. She describes the congregation of her childhood as a place where parishioners talked a lot about doctrine, church activities, outreach, and stewardship. But she never observed people in her church talking about real life—the bad things that happen as well as the good.

In today's deeply divided world where discussions can quickly become heated and uncivil, churches need to learn the skills for having conversations about sensitive issues. Our society needs brave churches where people can talk about the real struggles they are experiencing—where they can be honest about their lives without fear of shame or judgment. People need their church to be a safe place to talk openly about their daily challenges and to know that others will listen and respond with loving hearts and open minds.

*Brave Church* will help congregations begin to talk about controversial topics with sensitivity to those who see the world and have experienced life differently from themselves. It will guide readers to think through how the church relates to infertility/miscarriage, mental health, domestic violence, racism, and sexuality. Each chapter begins with a scriptural meditation and prayer. Throughout the 6-week study, readers will follow "brave space rules" so they can learn how to stay in hard conversations with one another. Each topical chapter highlights churches and ministries who are bravely talking about tough topics. Each chapter concludes with questions for discussion and reflection. While it can be read alone, *Brave Church* is designed to be used as a small-group resource for those committed to meeting with one another for 6 weeks. For readers who want to keep talking about these difficult topics, the book suggests resources for further reading and action.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Elizabeth Hagan** is senior minister of Palisades Community Church, Washington, DC. She holds a master of divinity from Duke Divinity School and a bachelor of science in education from Samford University. An ecumenical pastor at heart, Hagan was ordained as an American Baptist and has served United Methodist, United Church of Christ, Presbyterian USA, and Disciples of Christ congregations in various pastoral roles. She is married to Kevin Hagan, and they reside in Arlington, Virginia, with their daughter and other young adults in need who have become a part of their chosen family. To learn more, visit [elizabethhagan.com](http://elizabethhagan.com).

# LET US GO NOW TO BETHLEHEM

Daily Devotions for Advent and Christmas

Todd Outcalt

**Brief devotions that encourage hope, anticipation, and wonder during Advent and Christmas.**

This charming devotional book takes readers on an inward journey to the miracle of Christ’s birth in the little town of Bethlehem. Many who will read this book probably haven’t actually traveled to Bethlehem. “But that is of little consequence to the adventure of arriving there, to the adventure of discovery that awaits the mystery and wonder in the birth of Jesus,” Todd Outcalt writes. The devotions are both personal and challenging. “I hope readers can discover something new that they may have overlooked in the old, old story,” says Outcalt.

It’s important to stay alert on the pilgrimage to Bethlehem, Outcalt reminds readers, for they may encounter Jesus in unexpected moments and surprising people or when they are most tired or confused. “The way to Bethlehem is saturated with stops and starts, with both darkness and light, with angels and the common touch of shepherds,” writes Outcalt.

*Let Us Go Now to Bethlehem* contains devotions for the 28 days of Advent, the 12 days of Christmas, and the day of Epiphany. For small-group leaders, the book includes a 6-week study guide with weekly questions for reflection and conversation, a suggested scripture passage for each week, and an invitation to ponder the happenings of that week. As the Gospel of Luke attests, *Let Us Go Now to Bethlehem* is both an expectant declaration filled with mystery and a declaration of faith. Each day can offer these same expectations and wonders for readers if they open themselves to awe and joy.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Todd Outcalt** is a United Methodist pastor, artist, and author of some 40 books in six languages. He also has been published in *The Christian Century*, *Preaching*, *Youth Minister*, *Group*, and *The Christian Science Monitor*. Outcalt lives in Brownsburg, Indiana, with his wife, Becky.

## ALSO BY THIS AUTHOR



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PUB DATE: September 2020

PAPERBACK \$13.99

978-0-8358-1930-5

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RELIGION/HOLIDAYS/CHRISTMAS & ADVENT

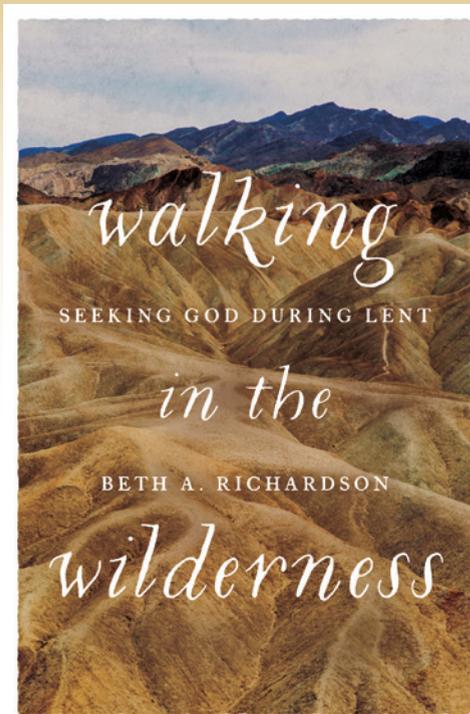


## TARGET AUDIENCE

- Individuals who long for hope, wonder, and gratitude during the Advent season.
- Book groups.
- Small groups and Sunday school classes.
- Pastors and other spiritual formation leaders.

## KEY FEATURES

- Short, inspiring, relatable stories and insightful reflections.
- A scripture and prayer for every day from the first day of Advent through Epiphany.
- A study guide containing reflection questions, a scripture passage, and a question to ponder for each of the 6 weeks.



# WALKING IN THE WILDERNESS

Seeking God During Lent

Beth A. Richardson

A companion for walking through the wilderness of Lent.

People of faith are struggling these days as they watch unbelievable events unfold. The United States, once a refuge for immigrants, has closed its borders to many of the world’s most vulnerable citizens. Fear of people different from us has created an atmosphere of hatred, incivility, and violence. We are living in a time of wilderness and exile.

Yet the wilderness is a familiar place for those who follow Jesus. Like Jesus, we spend 40 days in the wilderness. During Lent God calls us to examine ourselves, repent, and make room in our lives for the Holy One.

*Walking in the Wilderness* is meant to be a companion for readers’ journey through Lent. It may be studied by individuals or groups. The book includes daily reflections for Ash Wednesday through Easter. Sunday of each week introduces a spiritual practice for the wilderness. The practices for the six Sundays of Lent are Being Present, Lament, *Lectio Divina*, Trust, Compassion, and Hospitality.

Each reading contains a quotation from an Upper Room resource, a short scripture passage, an insightful reflection and prayer written by Richardson, and a single word for readers to carry with them throughout the day.

“We come hungry to this season of Lent,” Richardson writes, “hungry for words of life, for rituals of preparation, for disciplines to help us on our way.” *Walking in the Wilderness* provides a spiritual feast for readers.

PUB DATE: October 2020

PAPERBACK \$13.99

978-0-8358-1933-6

PAGES: 144 TRIM SIZE: 5.5 x 8.5

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## TARGET AUDIENCE

- Readers of Richardson’s Advent book *The Uncluttered Heart*.
- Adults who seek meaningful and encouraging spiritual practices for uncertain times.
- People who feel that they are in a wilderness or in exile.

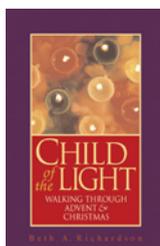
## KEY FEATURES

- A 6-session guide for small groups.
- Six spiritual practices for times of wilderness.
- A word readers can carry with them each day during Lent.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Beth A. Richardson** serves as the director of prayer and worship life at The Upper Room and as dean of The Upper Room Chapel. She is an ordained deacon in The United Methodist Church and a member of the Mountain Sky Conference. Richardson holds a master of divinity from Vanderbilt Divinity School and a bachelor of arts in sociology from Oklahoma City University.

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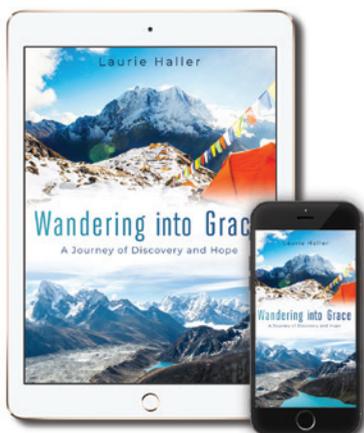
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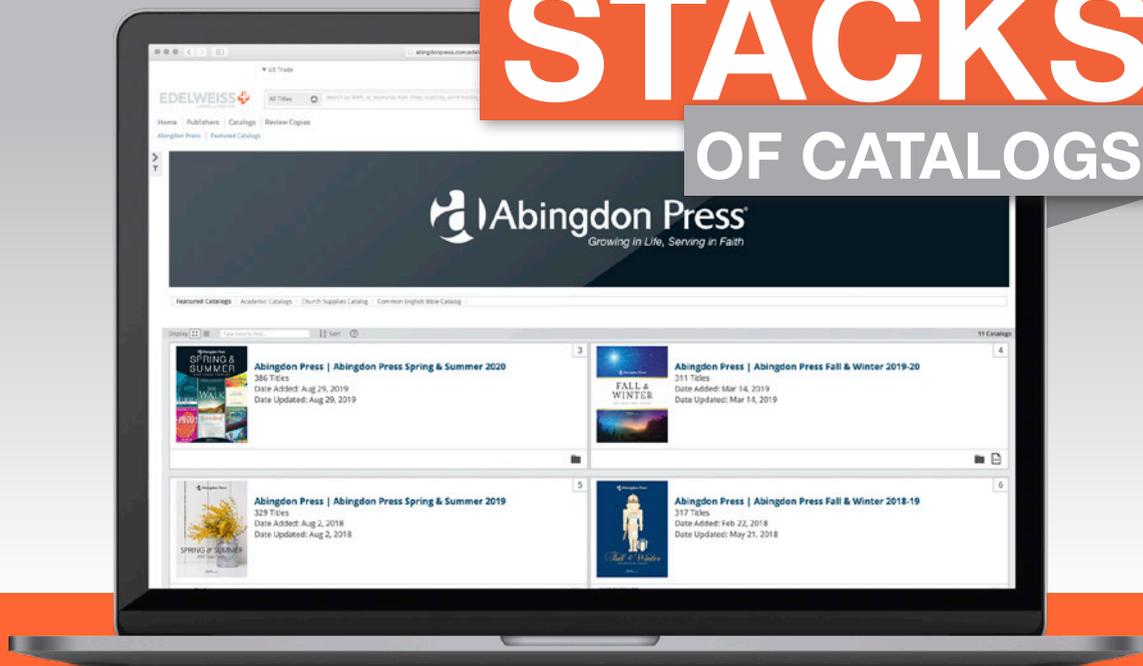
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