



MEDIA IDEA BOOK

Bringing the Stories to You.
Starting the Discussions for You.

2014

Welcome to the annual Media Idea Book brought to you by the publicity team at InterVarsity Press! We're pleased to offer you this handpicked collection of recent titles, and we've included angles, talking points and author biographies for your reference and referral.

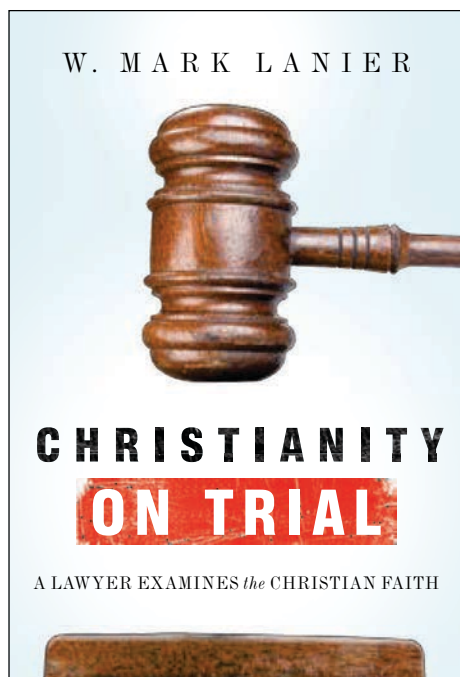
We've organized the books into the following categories, but if you don't find the topic you are looking for, please feel free to contact one of us, and we'll be happy to assist you.

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For the latest news, press kits and additional information about our most recent titles, you can visit our Media Idea Center at ivpress.com/media or follow us on Twitter @ivpress or on the InterVarsity Press Facebook page.

As always, let us know if you would like to see review copies or schedule interviews with any of our authors.

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Christianity on Trial: A Lawyer Examines the Christian Faith
June 2014
\$16, 230 pages, paperback
978-0-8308-3667-3

America's Top Trial Lawyer Examines Case for the Christian Faith

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

W. Mark Lanier, widely recognized as one of America's top trial lawyers, uses his experienced legal eye to examine the plausibility of the Christian faith. Following the format of a traditional legal trial, Lanier takes us from opening statement to closing summation by way of testimony from well-known witnesses—the scientist, the theologian, the linguist, the humanist, the philosopher and the ancient biblical eyewitness. These sources and many others investigate the sticky subjects of the Christian worldview that are commonly scrutinized by skeptics or overlooked by marginal believers.

- How did making this case for Christianity compare in difficulty to preparing your other cases, like Toyota or Vioxx?
- How does *Christianity on Trial* speak to the large numbers of young people grappling with faith issues in college?
- What does the case for Christianity have in common with the O. J. Simpson trial?

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY



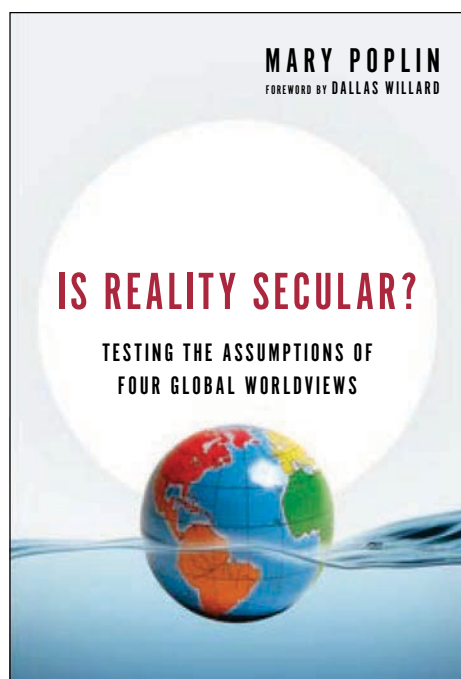
W. MARK LANIER is a trial lawyer and founder of the Lanier Law Firm. His work for clients across the country is supported by firm offices in Texas, New York and California. He was named to the Best Lawyers in America list for nine consecutive years and most recently as the 2013 Top Class Action Attorney in America. Mark has been featured in the *Wall Street Journal*, the *New York Times* and the *American Lawyer* and is also a frequent guest on news shows on CNBC, Fox Business News, ABC and other networks. Mark is the founder of the Lanier Theological Library, one of the nation's largest private theological collections. He also teaches a weekly, 750-plus-member Sunday school class focusing on biblical literacy at Champion Forest Baptist Church.

lanierlawfirm.com

laniertheologicallibrary.org

"Authored by one of the nation's leading trial lawyers, Christianity on Trial brilliantly employs the truth-finding methods of the legal process to produce an eminently readable, highly persuasive work of Christian apologetics. This is an extraordinary trial lawyer's version of Mere Christianity. . . . Mark Lanier combines his superb expertise as a courtroom lawyer with profound knowledge of biblical scholarship and thoughtful reflection on daily life. Fearless in tackling the most difficult matters of belief, this engaging book speaks to all those interested in seeking truth—whether in the courtroom, in the library or in everyday life."

—KEN STARR, president, Baylor University



Is Reality Secular? Testing the Assumptions of Four Global Worldviews

January 2014

\$18, 320 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-4406-7

From Finding Calcutta to Finding Reality

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

In her new book, Mary Poplin uproots the reasons why cultures clash so violently in today's society and how our incredibly diverse and often contentious worldviews are frequently the cause of said clashes. The disagreements between cultures and their inability to find common ground has become a cause for great concern for many people worldwide. However, few people understand the basic worldviews that are the foundation for these stark differences.

Following her time working with Mother Teresa, as outlined in *Finding Calcutta*, Poplin returned home to the States only to begin grappling with these difficult questions as well as the concept of relating her experiences to others. "I was struggling myself to understand the worldviews that operate in the university, the United States and the world, particularly as they relate to Christ's teachings," writes Poplin. "I was trying to more fully understand the Christian worldview and those contending worldviews. Then, I realized that most people (Christian or not) do not understand them either."

- Provides a brief, highly readable explanation of the differences and similarities between naturalism, secular humanism and pantheism in light of Judeo-Christianity
- Offers the overlapping principles between these worldviews
- Gives an argument for the ultimate test of a worldview, asking if it corresponds with reality

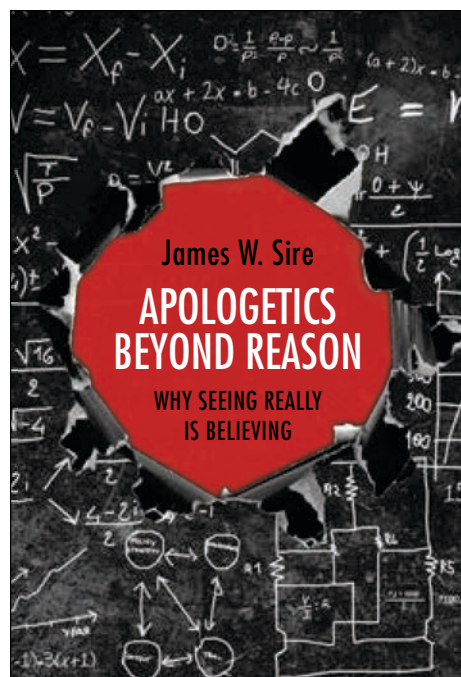
AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY



MARY POPLIN (PhD, University of Texas) is a professor of education at Claremont Graduate University in California, where she has served as director of the teacher education program and dean of the School of Educational Studies. Poplin conducts research inside urban classrooms and schools that promote both justice and accountability. She teaches courses on pedagogy, history and philosophy of education, as well as Christian principles related to these areas. She is also a frequent speaker at Veritas Forums and for both Protestant and Catholic retreats across the country.

"Mary Poplin and I take very different sides on the topics discussed in her book. That is why I prize her writings, because they are so fair and comprehensive. She shows me clearly what I must grapple with and defeat—or give up and join her side! Very much recommended."

—MICHAEL RUSE, Lucyle T. Werkmeister Professor of Philosophy, Florida State University



Apologetics Beyond Reason: Why Seeing Really Is Believing
August 2014
\$18, 176 pages, paperback
978-0-8308-4055-7

Literature, Art and Apologetics

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

In his final book, which he calls his “last will and testament,” Jim Sire provides for readers a culmination of his career in apologetics. Fresh material that outlines his maturation as a scholar since the publication of *The Universe Next Door*, *Apologetics Beyond Reason* is no mere repackaging of previous work. Basing the book around the argument “There is everything. Therefore there is a God. Either you see this or you don’t,” Sire walks the reader through his apologetic development.

- Offers an engaging perspective and fresh approach to apologetics from a master in the field
- Urges the value of the arts in apologetics, focusing on the significance of literature
- Draws from a wide variety of literary sources, including Stanislaw Lem, Gerard Manley Hopkins, Virginia Woolf, Francisco Goya and more
- Explains the concept of signals of transcendence that point to God
- Provides a critique of the autonomy of human reason

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY

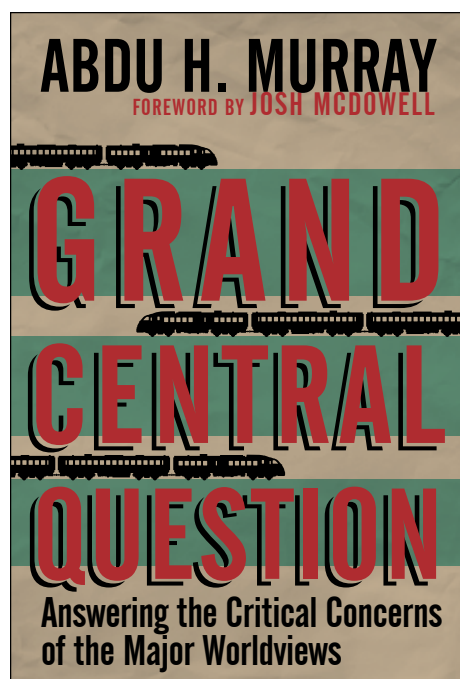


JAMES W. SIRE (PhD, University of Missouri), formerly a senior editor at InterVarsity Press, is an active speaker and writer. He has taught English, philosophy, theology and short courses at many universities and seminaries. He continues to be a frequent guest lecturer in the United States and Europe.

His InterVarsity Press books and Bible studies include *The Universe Next Door* (a worldviews textbook), *Scripture Twisting*, *Discipleship of the Mind*, *Chris Chrisman Goes to College*, *Why Should Anyone Believe Anything at All?*, *Habits of the Mind: Intellectual Life as a Christian Calling*, *Naming the Elephant: Worldview as a Concept*, *Learning to Pray Through the Psalms*, *Why Good Arguments Often Fail* and *A Little Primer on Humble Apologetics*.

“Over the last twenty-five years, no one has written so widely and helpfully about the challenge facing Christian students as James Sire. Page upon page, year after year, he has set before a generation the meaning of the Christian faith—intellectually rich and profoundly true—but always in tension with the ideas and issues of our time.”

—STEVEN GARBER, scholar-in-residence, Council for Christian Colleges and Universities, author of *The Fabric of Faithfulness* and *Visions of Vocation*



Grand Central Question: Answering the Critical Concerns of the Major Worldviews

March 2014

\$17, 261 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-3665-9

Critical Concerns and the Case for Christianity

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

All religions and worldviews seek to answer fundamental questions of human existence, but not every worldview places equal emphasis on each issue. Lawyer and former Muslim Abdu Murray digs deeply into three major worldviews of our day—secular humanism, pantheism and Islam—to explore the central questions of each. With compassion, understanding and clear analysis, Murray compares the answers of each view to the central message of Christianity.

- Offers overview of three dominant worldviews
- Written by an author raised in Islam who rigorously tested the claims of Christ before deciding to follow him
- Brings the experience and mental discipline of a lawyer to fundamental questions of life

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY



ABDU H. MURRAY (JD, University of Michigan) is president of Embrace the Truth International and also visiting professor of Christian thought and apologetics for the Josh McDowell Institute at Oklahoma Wesleyan University. He has spoken across the United States and around the world and has been a featured guest on numerous national and international television and radio programs. Murray is the author of *Apocalypse Later* and a contributor to a number of books on apologetics and missiology. He is also host of the Detroit area radio show *Embrace the Truth with Abdu Murray*.

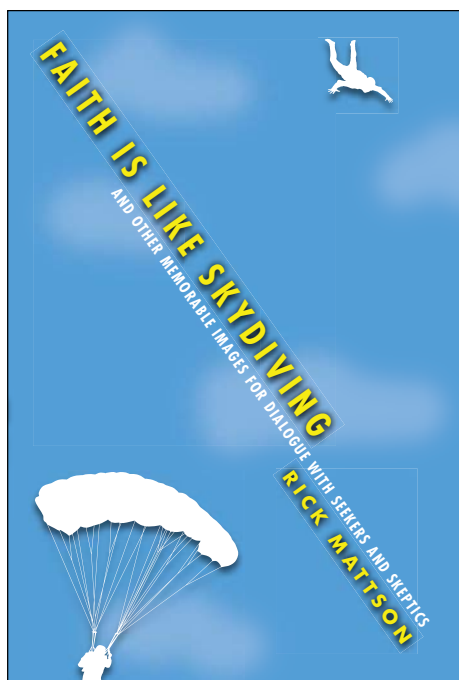
embracethetruth.org

“Outstanding! My friend Abdu Murray, an attorney and former Muslim, uses his razor-sharp intellect to analyze the big questions addressed by various worldviews—and explains why Christianity offers the most satisfying answers. Written with compassion and keen insight, this book will both equip Christians and bring clarity to the spiritually curious.”

—LEE STROBEL, author of *The Case for Christ*

“Here you will find a wise and gentle voice who truly understands the doubter and skeptic. Abdu has wrestled with the claims of truth made by many worldviews and shows how the gospel is utterly unique and beautiful. I enthusiastically recommend his work.”

—RAVI ZACHARIAS, author and speaker



Faith Is Like Skydiving: And Other Memorable Images for Dialogue with Seekers and Skeptics

April 2014

\$15, 231 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-4411-1

Hell Is Like An Empty Pub

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

Apologetic arguments can be hard to remember. What distinguishes *Faith Is Like Skydiving* from other apologetic works is that it provides “handles and hooks.” That is, it goes beyond traditional case-making to informing readers how to verbally illustrate the case for Christian faith. Instead of abstractions like “intelligent design,” you can say that the wonder of the universe is like getting dealt a royal flush over and over and over again. Hell isn’t a party with all your friends; hell is more like an empty pub, and that’s no fun. Experienced evangelist and apologist Rick Mattson has collected dozens of easy-to-use images for explaining Christianity. Chapters include:

- Faith Is Like Skydiving: Look Before You Leap!
- The Telephone Game: Why the Bible Is Not Full of Errors
- Religions Are Like Books: Images for Discussing Religious Pluralism
- Miracles Are Like a Hole-in-One

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY



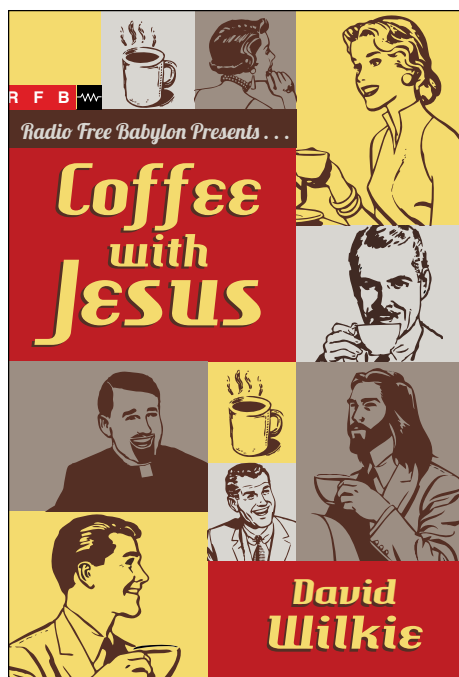
RICK MATTSON is an apologetics specialist for InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, where he has served as a staff worker for over thirty years. Based at Macalester College in St. Paul, Minnesota, he is a frequent speaker on college campuses across the country.

rickmattson.blogspot.com

rickmattsonoutreach.com

“Many books on apologetics do well with the arguments, but have little on how to present them. Faith Is Like Skydiving combines reason with rhetoric, clarity with intellectual depth. It provides a vast array of arguments and a host of images to make those arguments clear and compelling. Intellectually sound and amazingly practical, this terrific book deserves widespread reading.”

—JAMES W. SIRE, author of *The Universe Next Door* and *Apologetics Beyond Reason*



Coffee with Jesus
November 2013
\$16, 120 pages, paperback
978-0-8308-3662-8

Coffee Talk with the Lord

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

If you could sit down for coffee with Jesus today, what might he say to you?

In his hugely popular comic strip *Coffee with Jesus*, David Wilkie has created a recurring cast of characters that get such an opportunity. Carl, Lisa, Ann, Kevin and Joe all honestly engage with Jesus about their successes and failures and wants and needs, effectively showing what conversation with God—or prayer—might look like.

- Features classic strips as well as all-new material such as character sketches, twelve-panel megastrips and “behind the strip” reflections on life, faith and art
- Organized around six themes: getting to know Jesus, spiritual disciplines, relationships, culture, church and the challenges of life

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY



From his earliest days, DAVID WILKIE has been fascinated with the written word as well as the audio and visual arts. He enjoys most the ability of all of these mediums to make people laugh and think. He is the cofounder, with his wife, of Radio Free Babylon.

Radiofreebabylon.com

“We can all wish that the author is right and that Jesus was as funny as this; Wilkie’s book deserves a place on the shelf of every pastor.”

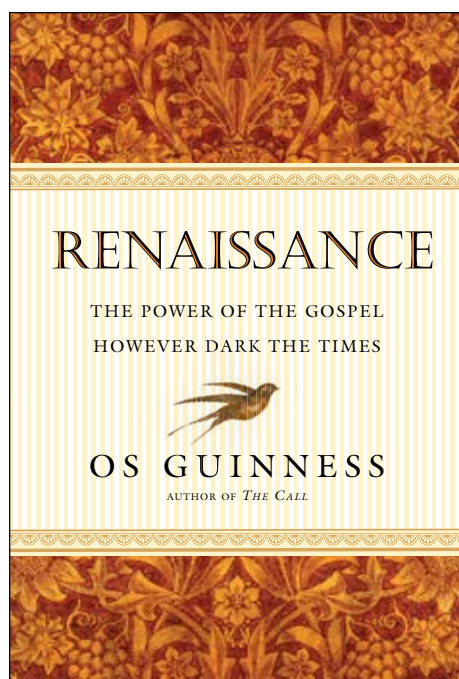
—LIBRARY JOURNAL, November 2013

“The heart is the comic collection and its humor, at once gentle and barbed and more thought-provoking than many a sermon. Buy this for a Christmas gift, to be read over a cup of strong joe.”

—PUBLISHERS WEEKLY, November 2013

“The cheeky, online comic strip that has gained a cult audience of 40,000-plus followers in less than three years is now ready to burst upon the world as a giftable, brightly hued coffee-table book. . . . The wit is barbed, theology surprisingly relevant, and the overall effect highly addictive.”

—JOHN MURASKI, *Religion News Service*, December 2013



*Renaissance: The Power of the Gospel However
Dark the Times*
August 2014
\$16, 192 pages, paperback
978-0-8308-3671-0

The Future Hope for a Christian Culture

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

Is it possible for society to have redemption and renewal? Is the Christian faith still relevant in the very global world of today? Os Guinness declares here a hopeful *Yes!* We are in a time of renewal, of change, of continuous reformation, and, as Os writes in chapter one, “a movement that is led by the Spirit of God, which involves the people of God returning to the ways of God and so demonstrating in our time the kingdom of God, and not in word only but in power and with the plausibility of community expression.” Throughout the book, Os answers such questions as:

- What does it mean to have a Christian renaissance today?
- What historical examples can we rely upon?
- Why must we rethink megachurches, statistics, etc.?
- What effect does modernity have on the church?
- Why is it problematic to be reactionary to issues in the church and society?
- How can we possibly have hope amidst all that is plaguing the church?

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY

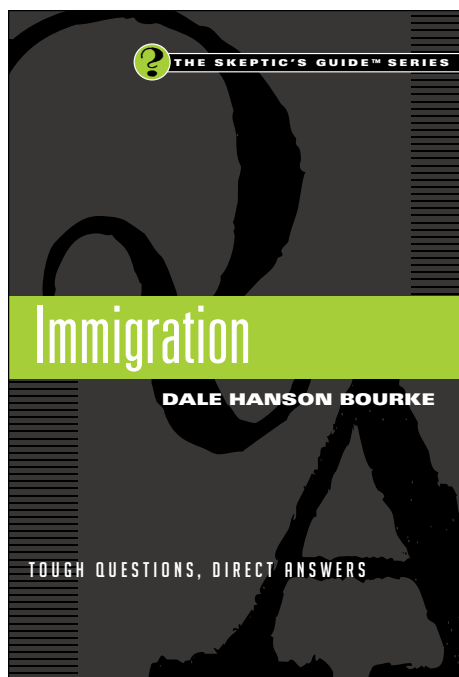


OS GUINNESS (DPhil, Oxford) is the author or editor of more than twenty-five books, including *The Call*, *A Free People's Suicide*, *Time for Truth* and *The Case for Civility*. A frequent speaker and prominent social critic, he is the founder of the Trinity Forum and has been a visiting fellow at the Brookings Institution and a guest scholar at the Woodrow Wilson Center for International Studies. He lives near Washington, D.C.

www.osguinness.com

“How we see the world shapes what we do in the world. Unfortunately many in the West have lost the ability to see our culture through the lenses of history and Christian faith, and God’s people oscillate between cultural captivity or fearful activism. Thankfully Christ has given us church leaders like Os Guinness to restore our sight. Drawing from history, Scripture and his own experience of global Christianity, Os helps us see our present circumstances in the right light. He illuminates why the catastrophizing done by many Christians amid cultural change is unwarranted, but also soberly addresses the genuine challenges we face with new clarity and gravity. Most helpful of all, Os directs our sight back to Christ, the author and completer of our faith, in whom we find both the courage and the resources to be his people in our time. You will not regret a single minute invested in this book.”

—SKYE JETHANI, executive editor of *Leadership Journal* and author of *Futureville*

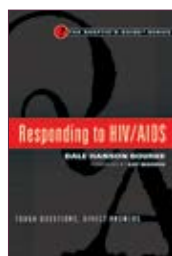


Immigration: Tough Questions, Direct Answers
July 2014
\$15, 152 pages, paperback
978-0-8308-4409-8

Other Skeptic's Guide™ Books:



*The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict:
Tough Questions, Direct Answers*
\$15, 144 pages, paperback
978-0-8308-3763-2



*Responding to HIV/AIDS:
Tough Questions, Direct Answers*
(Third Edition)
\$15, 128 pages, paperback
978-0-8308-3761-8

A Civil Immigration Conversation

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

How can we be sure terrorists aren't entering our country? What does it mean to be a citizen? Do immigrants help or hurt the economy? What's wrong with calling someone an illegal immigrant?

In this Skeptic's Guide, Dale Hanson Bourke sheds light on key terms and concepts, historical events and current concerns that drive the immigration debate. Such a complex issue offers no easy answers, but Bourke's volume allows the conversation to continue, thoughtfully and civilly.

- Includes a chapter on the facts behind programs like SNAP and Medicare
- Equips readers for more discussion by not taking a side in the debate
- Defines terms like *emigration*, *alien*, *undocumented*, *refugee*, *asylum* and *Temporary Protected Status*

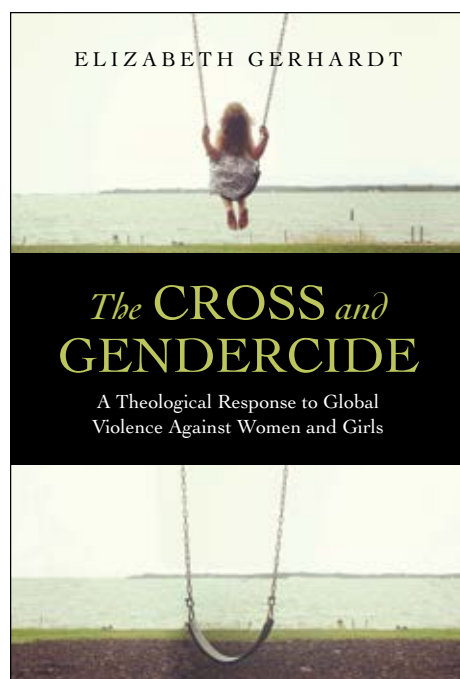
AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY



DALE HANSON BOURKE is president of PDI, a marketing and communications strategy firm. The author of ten books and numerous magazine articles, she often speaks and writes on international development and women's issues. Previously president of the CIDRZ Foundation and SVP at World Relief, Bourke has also served as publisher of Religion News Service and editor of *Today's Christian Woman*, and was a nationally syndicated columnist. Dale holds an MBA from the University of Maryland and has served on the boards of World Vision US, World Vision International, International Justice Mission, Sojourners, ECFA and Opportunity International. She currently serves on the board of MAP International and the Center for Interfaith Action on Global Poverty (CIFA).

"‘A lie will go round the world,’ Charles Spurgeon once quipped, ‘while truth is pulling its boots on.’ Few contemporary issues are as mired in misinformation, half-truths and rumors as the topic of immigration, and sorting myth from reality can seem like a full-time job. Thanks to this most recent installment in Dale Hanson Bourke’s Skeptic’s Guide Series, though, the facts have a chance of catching up with the inaccuracies. With concise responses to many of the most pressing questions on one of the most urgent issues impacting the church and our nation today, Immigration lays out the facts, allowing readers to reach their own informed opinions.”

—MATTHEW SOERENS, US church training specialist at World Relief, field director of Evangelical Immigration Table and coauthor of *Welcoming the Stranger*



The Cross and Gendercide: A Theological Response to Global Violence Against Women and Girls

April 2014

\$22, 185 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-4049-6

The Theological Problem of Gendercide

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

In *The Cross and Gendercide*, Elizabeth Gerhardt makes a case that violence and sexual assault against women is heresy. In her groundbreaking study, Gerhardt proposes a holistic theology of the cross as the basis for a prophetic response by the church to a problem that is not only moral and ethical but also confessional.

“Years of working with abused women has led me to a deeper understanding of the systemic causes of violence against women and girls,” says Gerhardt.

“Currently, there are many good reading resources that focus on education, counseling and self-help in the area of domestic violence. However, it is important for the church to develop a holistic and theologically based response to global violence against women that addresses the underlying economic, cultural, religious and political causes of violence against women and girls.”

Facts about worldwide gendercide:

- Women 15-44 years old are more at risk from rape and domestic violence than from cancer, motor accidents, war and malaria, according to World Bank data.
- One in five women will become a victim of rape or attempted rape in her lifetime.
- Between 40 and 50 percent of women in the European Union reported some form of sexual harassment in the workplace. In Malawi, 50 percent of schoolgirls surveyed reported sexual harassment at school.
- Female infanticide, prenatal sex selection and systematic neglect of girls are widespread in South and East Asia, North Africa, and the Middle East.

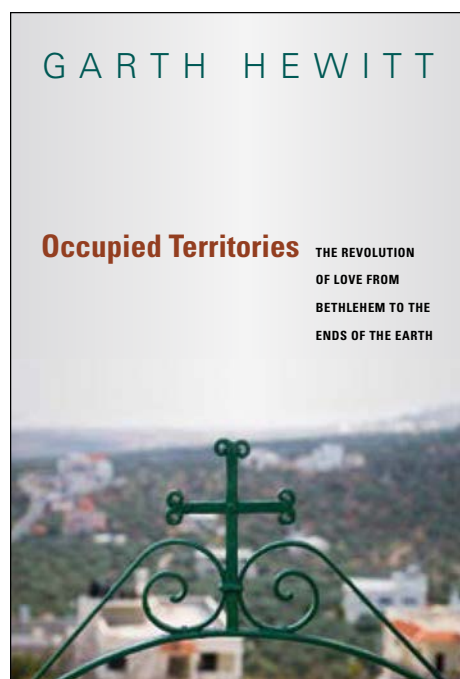
AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY



ELIZABETH GERHARDT (ThD, Boston University) is professor of theology and social ethics at Northeastern Seminary, Rochester, New York, and adjunct professor in the department of religion and humanities at Roberts Wesleyan College, Rochester.

“The Cross and Gendercide is a thoughtful and thought-provoking call to action for the church to be holistic and creative in our response to ending violence against women and children by our close attention to an informed theology of the cross. Elizabeth Gerhardt examines global gender-based violence and offers the reader a sustained theological response using notions of confession and resistance. This book offers an invitation to churches and their leaders to imagine a theological approach to the evil of gendercide and then to act. Every pastor and every seminary student should have this book on their reading list.”

—NANCY NASON-CLARK, University of New Brunswick



Occupied Territories: The Revolution of Love from Bethlehem to the Ends of the Earth

October 2014

\$16, 192 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-3670-3

Legendary Musician Calls for Justice, Reconciliation and “Revolution of Love”

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

In *Occupied Territories*, singer-songwriter, author and human rights activist Garth Hewitt lays out a theology for justice and reconciliation, emerging from the story of Bethlehem and carrying through to modern activism. The founder of Amos Trust, an organization which promotes justice and hope for forgotten communities, Hewitt shows that justice is an essential part of the biblical message, and specifically that the story of Jesus’ prophesied birth in Bethlehem dictates a call to justice executed in love.

- Establishes a “theology of Bethlehem”
- Reflects a commitment to nonviolence as a way to bring hope in the world
- Centers around key places like Bethlehem, Palestine, India and Nicaragua
- Calls for a “revolution of love” coming from forgotten or oppressed communities
- Provides an alternative, simpler way of life to consumerism and materialism of the twenty-first-century Western world

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY



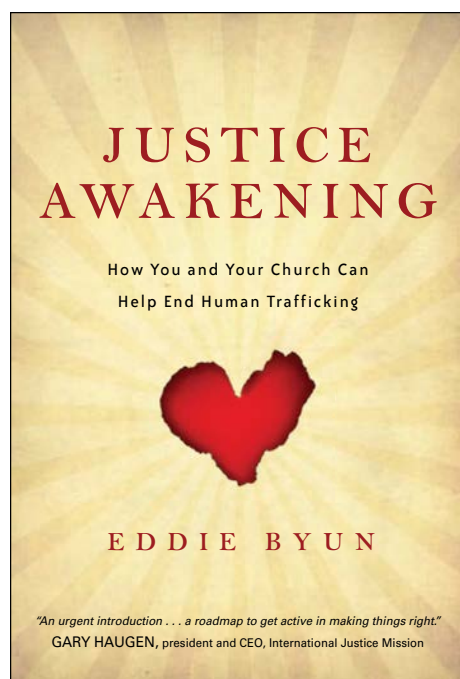
GARTH HEWITT is a self-proclaimed troubadour, gospel singer and protest singer, releasing nearly forty albums in his storied forty-year music career while championing social justice worldwide through his human rights organization, the Amos Trust. The author of ten books on spirituality, social justice and the arts, Hewitt passionately believes that it is time for people of all faiths to speak up and call for justice, especially for communities in developing or volatile nations.

www.amostrust.org

www.garthhewitt.org

“There are very few people who, when you think of them, you know are thinking of Bethlehem at exactly the same moment. This is the level of commitment that I have seen in Garth over the years, even when he was a lonely (and many times marginalized) voice in a desert of theologies that had no tolerance to even hear the Palestinian cry. In this book, Garth is not only continuing his journey of giving voice to the voiceless, but as the apostles did many years ago he is challenging the world to go beyond simply listening and is calling for us to live out the message of peace, justice and love for Bethlehem and its people today.”

—SAMI AWAD, executive director, Holy Land Trust, Bethlehem, Palestine



Justice Awakening: How You and Your Church Can Help End Human Trafficking

April 2014

\$13, 160 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-4419-7

This Is What Your Church Can Do to Fight Modern-Day Slavery

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

Justice Awakening is a handbook for Christians who want to bring an end to human trafficking and modern-day slavery. Pastor and activist Eddie Byun offers practical, on-the-ground steps that any believer or church can take. For example:

- Have the church fast from slavery-made food and products
- Host movie nights and screen films that offer insight into the trafficking industry
- Rally men's and women's ministries to educate and actively engage in the fight against trafficking by helping anti-trafficking and after-care programs
- Work as a church to push for legislation to punish traffickers

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY



EDDIE BYUN (DMin, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary) is lead pastor at Onnuri English Ministry (OEM), the English-speaking ministry of Onnuri Community Church in Seoul, South Korea. He fights against modern-day slavery through HOPE Be Restored, a ministry of OEM.

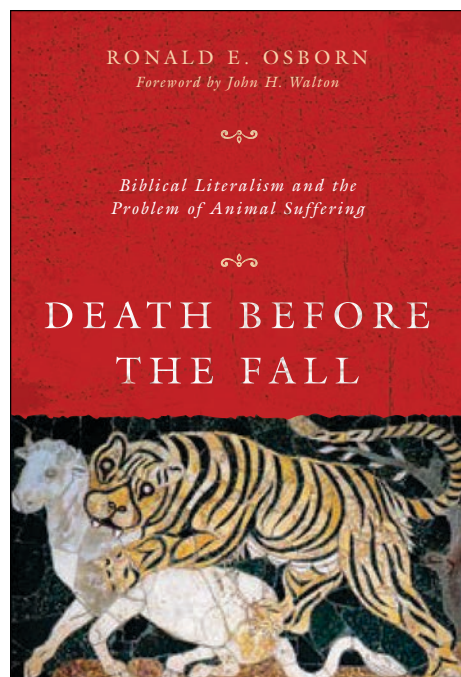
hopeberestored.com

"Everyone loves the idea of justice—until there's a cost. But the truth is there's always a cost to justice. Pastor Eddie calls the church to pursue justice, not because it's trendy, but because God loves justice and hates injustice. This book walks us through the path of seeking justice."

—EUGENE CHO, pastor of Quest Church, founder of One Day's Wages

"In Justice Awakening, Pastor Eddie Byun provides an urgent introduction to one of the most brutal forms of violent injustice in our world today: human trafficking. But Pastor Eddie doesn't just share what's wrong with the world—he provides a roadmap to get active in making things right. His great passion for the church and for the most vulnerable people in our world fills each page."

—GARY HAUGEN, president and CEO of International Justice Mission (IJM)



Death Before the Fall: Biblical Literalism and the Problem of Animal Suffering

February 2014

\$25, 197 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-4046-5

Beyond Biblical Literalism

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

Why does animal suffering exist? When it comes to the culture war between creationism and theistic evolution, is there a way forward? In this startlingly brave book, professor Ronald Osborn addresses the topic of animal suffering as a pertinent case in point to reveal the inadequacies of a strictly literal interpretation of the Genesis narratives.

- Did animals have predatory natures before the fall?
- Did God punish innocent animals with a curse because of human sin?
- Is it possible for theistic evolution to be compatible with the Bible?
- How has being a Seventh-day Adventist shaped your thinking about creation and evolution?

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY



RONALD E. OSBORN (PhD, University of Southern California) was a Bannerman Fellow with the program in politics and international relations at the University of Southern California. He has published articles in numerous journals and magazines and is the author of *Anarchy and Apocalypse: Essays on Faith, Violence, and Theodicy*. Osborn serves as an adjunct faculty member in the department of international relations at the University of Southern California.

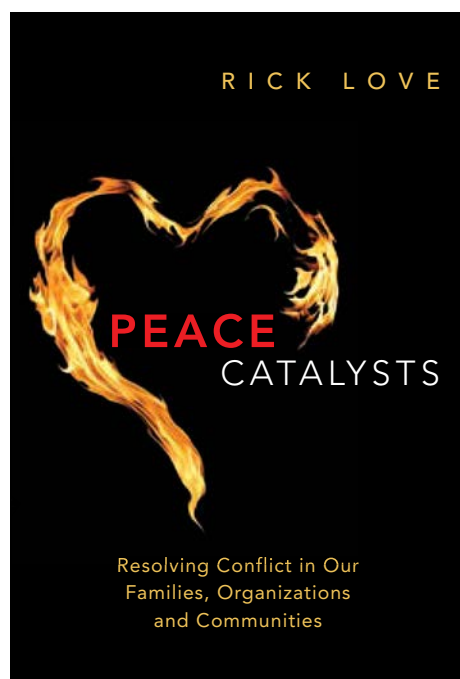
ronaldosborn.com

"Osborn has written a thoroughly distinctive book on the suffering of animals. . . . His ingenious argument is that a too-literal reading of Genesis tends to make us too complacent about animal suffering, and a more nuanced, open approach makes us better advocates for animal rights and better witnesses of the proposed coming redemption. . . . Highly recommended for church groups of all denominations."

—LIBRARY JOURNAL, February 2014

"Osborn offers a response to animal suffering that does not require seeing their actions as the result of a curse. . . . The book will be of particular interest to those seeking a gentle but faithful critique of creationism."

—PUBLISHERS WEEKLY, January 2014



Peace Catalysts: Resolving Conflict in Our Families, Organizations and Communities

June 2014

\$15, 207 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-3668-0

Guidance on Conflict Resolution from President of Peace Catalyst International

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

“I did not choose to be a peacemaker; it chose me,” says Rick Love, author of *Peace Catalysts*. “My experiences mediating conflict and pursuing peace as a pastor, an international church planter and as the international director of Frontiers led me on a pursuit to understand and practice peacemaking.” Founder and president of Peace Catalyst International, Love shares the principles that have guided his peacemaking efforts around the world. Masterfully blending Scripture and personal experience, he provides a biblical framework for how the God of peace seeks restoration for all who experience conflict—in the home and workplace and even across international borders.

- A practical guide to Christian peacemaking by an international expert in peacemaking
- Advice for families and organizations, especially when working together in teams
- Examples from local and international settings

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY



RICK LOVE (PhD, Fuller Theological Seminary) is an internationally recognized expert in Christian-Muslim relations. He is president of Peace Catalyst International, which devotes much of its resources to peacemaking between Muslims and Christians, and serves as associate director of the World Evangelical Alliance Peace and Reconciliation Initiative.

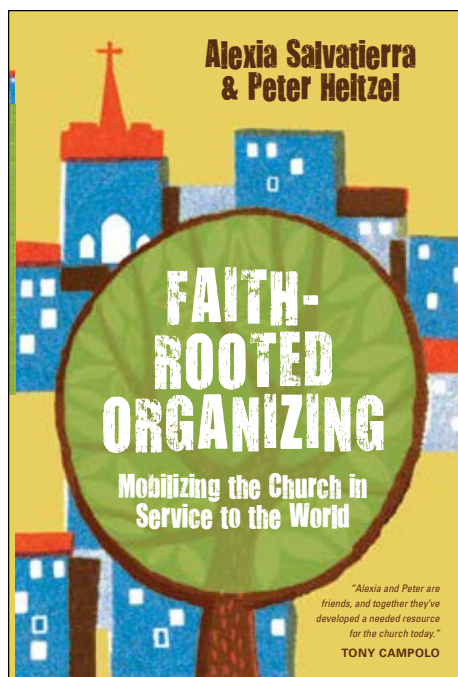
peace-catalyst.net

“Peace Catalysts is a book for this exact moment in history—a time of partisan rancor and polemical pundits. I love this book and pray that it would get into the hands of every Christian leader.”

—RICH NATHAN, senior pastor, Vineyard Columbus, author of *Empowered Evangelicals* and *Both-And*

“As conflicts around the world continue to escalate, Christian peacemakers have an unparalleled opportunity to be true ambassadors of reconciliation. This book gives a long-overdue call to the church to embrace the call to be peacemakers in all areas of life while giving concrete lessons on how to do it.”

—LISA GIBSON, global conflict coach, author of *Releasing the Chains* and *Life in Death*



*Faith-Rooted Organizing: Mobilizing the Church
in Service to the World*

December 2013

\$16, 208 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-3661-1

Leading Christian Organizers Provide Model for Mobilizing Against Injustice

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

Since the 1930s, organizing movements for social justice in the United States have largely been built on secular assumptions such as reliance on self-interest and having a common enemy as a motivator for change. But what if Christians were to shape their organizing around the implications of the truth that God is real and Jesus is risen? Alexia Salvatierra has developed a model of social action that is rooted in the values and convictions born of faith. Together with theologian Peter Heltzel, this model of “faith-rooted organizing” offers a path to meaningful social change that takes seriously the command to love God and to love our neighbor as ourselves.

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY



REV. ALEXIA SALVATIERRA is an ordained pastor in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. She also serves as a consultant for a variety of organizations, including World Vision USA/World Vision International/Women of Vision, InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, the Christian Community Development Association, the Women Donors Network, Auburn Theological Seminary, Interfaith Worker Justice, PICO and Sojourners. She is adjunct faculty at the New York Theological Seminary and Biola University, and for over eleven years she was the executive director of Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice (CLUE).

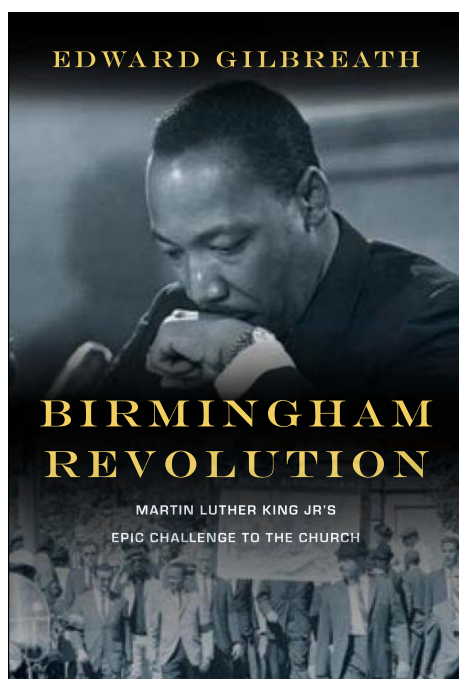
alexiasalvatierra.com



PETER HELTZEL is associate professor of systematic theology and director of the Micah Institute at New York Theological Seminary, which seeks to educate New York City faith leaders on issues of social and economic justice, to equip leaders to serve as change agents for social transformation and movement building, and to act as a powerful coalition of organizers and advocates transforming New York City. Heltzel is also assistant pastor of evangelism at Park Avenue Christian Church in New York City and author of *Jesus and Justice*. He received the 2014 Nelson Mandela Community Activist Award for his ongoing work to make a difference in New York City.

“A superb integration of biblical faith and community organizing. This book is both an excellent manual and a vast feast of delightful, empowering stories. A must-read for anyone interested in empowering people to work for justice.”

—RONALD J. SIDER, founder of Evangelicals for Social Action



Birmingham Revolution: Martin Luther King Jr.'s

Epic Challenge to the Church

November 2013

\$16, 208 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-3769-4

What Would Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Say to the Church and Culture Today?

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

Birmingham Revolution is not simply a work of historical reflection. Edward Gilbreath encourages us to reflect on the relevance of King's work for the church and culture of our day. Whether it's in debates about immigration, economic redistribution or presidential birth certificates, race continues to play a role in shaping society. What part will the church play in the ongoing struggle?

- In-depth exploration of the "Letter from Birmingham Jail"
- Examines the place of the jail letter in light of all that came before and after in King's ministry
- Explores the letter in light of current events
- Offers implications for the contemporary church

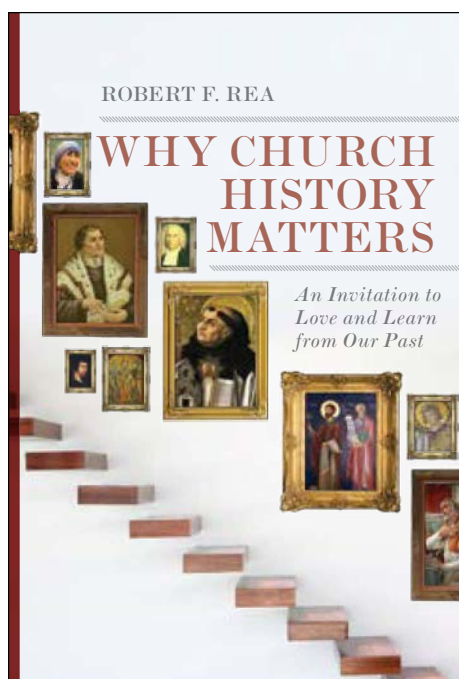
AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY



EDWARD GILBREATH is the author of *Reconciliation Blues: A Black Evangelical's Inside View of White Christianity*. An award-winning journalist, he serves as an editor at large for *Christianity Today* magazine and as the executive director of communications for the Evangelical Covenant Church. He was the founding editor of Urban Ministries Inc.'s online magazine, *Urban Faith*. Since the release of *Reconciliation Blues*, he has spoken to thousands of people across the nation at churches, conferences and university campuses on issues of race, faith and culture.

"Read the headlines these days, and it can seem like the country is splitting at the seams. The vitriol of our political and cultural debates is enough to make anyone wonder whether the 'better angels of our nature' have gone into permanent hibernation. . . . Reading Edward Gilbreath's Birmingham Revolution has given me a fresh perspective and renewed hope.

—MICHAEL O. EMERSON, *Christianity Today*, December 2013



Why Church History Matters: An Invitation to Love and Learn from Our Past

July 2014

\$20, 235 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-2819-7

Ignore Church History at Your Own Peril

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

Without a proper understanding of church history, believers may misinterpret Scripture, overlook cultural blind spots and rob themselves of numerous practical theology insights. In *Why Church History Matters*, professor and church historian Robert Rea reveals the pitfalls that can be avoided and the rewards that can be reaped from a fruitful engagement with church tradition.

- Why does it matter how Christians in other times and places thought?
- If the Bible alone is God's revelation, why spend time studying church history?
- How might church history serve as a corrective to our own situation?
- What are some guiding principles for engaging with church history well?

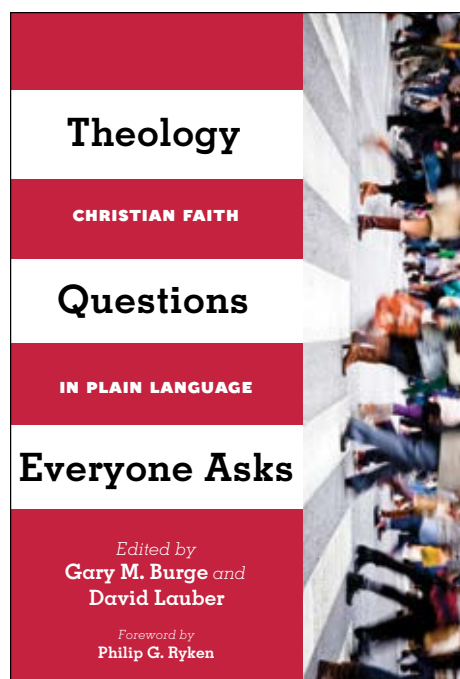
AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY



ROBERT F. REA (MDiv, Emmanuel School of Religion; PhD, Saint Louis University) is a professor of church history and historical theology at Lincoln Christian University. He is a member of numerous professional societies, including the North American Patristics Society and the American Society of Church History. Prior to his teaching career, he served as a pastor and youth minister, and has contributed articles or book reviews to publications such as the *Encyclopedia of Early Christianity*, *Christian Standard* and the *Stone-Campbell Journal*.

"Robert Rea, who describes himself as a 'Bible-focused' Christian believer, wants others who focus on the Bible to take church history seriously. His careful, thought-provoking study shows why there is no biblical reason to fear 'tradition' properly understood, but every reason to heed believers from the past as guides to Christian life today. Most importantly, the book is successful in explaining why full commitment to Scripture demands close and respectful attention to the past."

—MARK NOLL, Francis A. McAnaney Professor of History, University of Notre Dame



Theology Questions Everyone Asks: Christian Faith in Plain Language
February 2014
\$20, 203 pages, paperback
978-0-8308-4044-1

What Does an Earthquake Say About God?

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

While books about doctrine supply description and analysis of the classic questions of the faith, they often miss the contemporary questions on the minds of readers. This book fills that gap. Organized around the key topics of Jesus, the Bible, church, the Holy Spirit, evil, salvation and hope, the sometimes-provocative questions on these topics aim to ring true with the lived experience of real people.

- Isn't talk about God really a guessing game?
- How can we have free will if God controls everything?
- What does an earthquake say about God?
- What did Jesus think about getting married?
- Does being a Christian mean having particular political views?

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY



DAVID LAUBER (PhD, Princeton Theological Seminary) is associate professor of theology at Wheaton College in Wheaton, Illinois. He is author of *Barth on the Descent into Hell: God, Atonement and the Christian Life*.

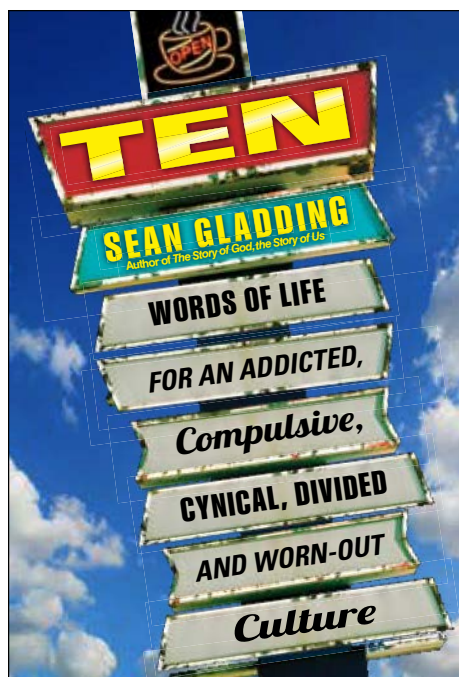


GARY M. BURGE (PhD, University of Aberdeen) is professor of New Testament at Wheaton College in Wheaton, Illinois. Among his many published books are *John: The Gospel of Life* and the award-winning *Whose Land? Whose Promise? What Christians Are Not Being Told About Israel and the Palestinians*.

garyburge.org

"Don't we all have questions? I do. Not just the acceptable questions people feel comfortable asking, but the haunting questions that linger in your mind and heart—the kind of questions you may be afraid to verbalize because people will accuse you of doubt or irreverence. But these essays freely engage our questions and ask ones we have not even yet thought about. Thankfully, they also provide thoughtful answers, built on solid research and reflection, yet remaining always accessible and clear. This is a fantastic book for all who long to have their questions about the faith taken seriously."

—KELLY M. KAPIC, professor of theological studies, Covenant College



Ten: Words of Life for an Addicted, Compulsive, Cynical, Divided and Worn-Out Culture
December 2013
\$16, 266 pages, paperback
978-0-8308-3656-7

From Rules in Stone to Real Freedom

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

Like many books from pastors, the book *Ten* has its origin in a sermon series. Unlike many books from pastors, however, *Ten* is written as a narrative, telling the story of a pastor at his local coffee shop who enlists fellow patrons to help him workshop a sermon series on the “Ten Words” from Exodus. The characters come from a variety of backgrounds—some Christian, some not, some adults in recovery and some high school students. All, however, come to see the life-giving power of the Ten Words for today.

- Why do you refer to the commandments as the “Ten Words”?
- Why does the pastor begin with the last commandment and work his way backwards to the first?
- How does understanding the context of the Israelites help us better apply the Ten Words to our lives in the twenty-first century?
- Why did you write this as a story rather than nonfiction?

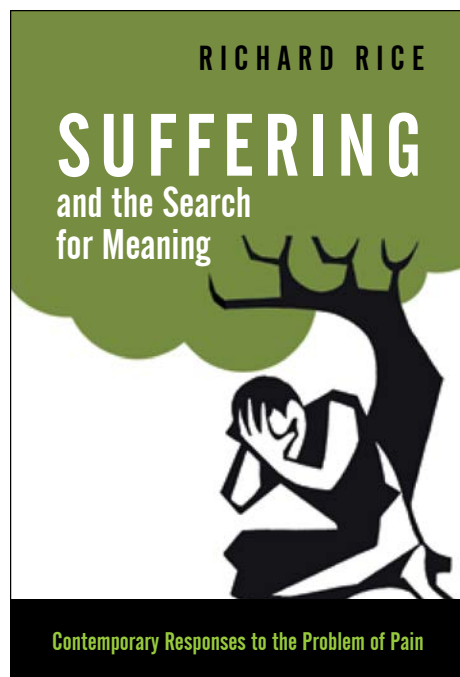
AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY



Hailing from Norwich, England, SEAN GLADDING has lived in the United States for the last two decades, serving in various forms of pastoral ministry. For seven years, Sean served as a copastor at Mercy Street, a church in Houston, Texas. Sean and his wife, Rebecca, and their two children now reside in Lexington, Kentucky, with their friends at Communality where they are seeking the welfare of the city. Sean is also the author of *The Story of God, the Story of Us*.

“Gladding brilliantly exposes how fragile we are in the face of cultural, political, psychological and spiritual forces that militate against our freedom and set us back on our journey toward becoming fully human. This creative and timely work upends the myth that the Ten Commandments are onerously restrictive, and reveals what God intended the Law to be—a pathway to the joy that is our birthright.”

—IAN MORGAN CRON, author of *Chasing Francis*



Suffering and the Search for Meaning: Contemporary Responses to the Problem of Pain

July 2014

\$18, 170 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-4037-3

Seeking to Understand Suffering

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

Philosopher Richard Rice's book *Suffering and the Search for Meaning* provides informed yet accessible assistance to those who want to explore questions about suffering, including its possible purposes and origins. Weighing the strengths and limitations of seven different theodicies, Rice helps readers think through difficult issues, addressing questions such as:

- How can ideas about suffering help those experiencing suffering?
- How might we best care for friends or family who are suffering?
- How does an understanding of human agency help account for suffering?
- What are some of the benefits of suffering?
- What does Scripture suggest about the devil's power to cause suffering?
- Why does Christ's suffering on the cross matter?
- How might a person go about constructing a personal theodicy?

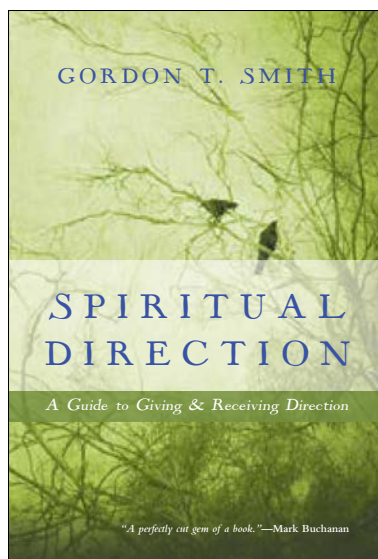
AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY



RICHARD RICE is professor of religion at Loma Linda University in Loma Linda, California. He is the author of several books, including *God's Foreknowledge and Man's Free Will* and *Reason and the Contours of Faith*.

"Rice presents an accessible and even-handed overview of the dominant responses to pain and evil. I especially appreciate his bringing together the practical and theoretical aspects, as he weaves together stories and ideas. This book helps to round out the kind of conversations we all end up having about God, pain and the relationship between the two!"

—THOMAS J. OORD, author of *The Nature of Love: A Theology*

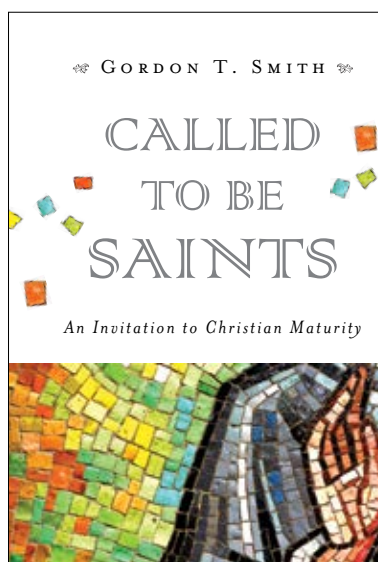


Spiritual Direction: A Guide to Giving & Receiving Direction

March 2014

\$15, 103 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-3579-9



Called to Be Saints: An Invitation to Christian Maturity

December 2013

\$26, 256 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-4030-4

Gordon T. Smith Offers Methods for Maturing in Faith

EXCERPTS FROM *SPIRITUAL DIRECTION*

“Even if we have been Christians and maturing in our faith for many years, we still need the encouragement and guidance that might come through spiritual direction. Only pride would lead us to think we could go it alone. Genuine humility is evident in our realization that we need a companion, a fellow pilgrim and Christian, who can help us discern and foster an attentiveness to God’s presence in our lives. This is the gift of spiritual direction.”

“Spiritual direction has a very clear agenda: *directing our attention to the presence of God in our lives*. The language of direction recalls for us the legitimate place of spiritual authority and accountability in our lives. But first and foremost, spiritual direction is the ministry of directing our thoughts and the movements of our hearts toward God and the presence of God in our lives.”

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS FOR *CALLED TO BE SAINTS*

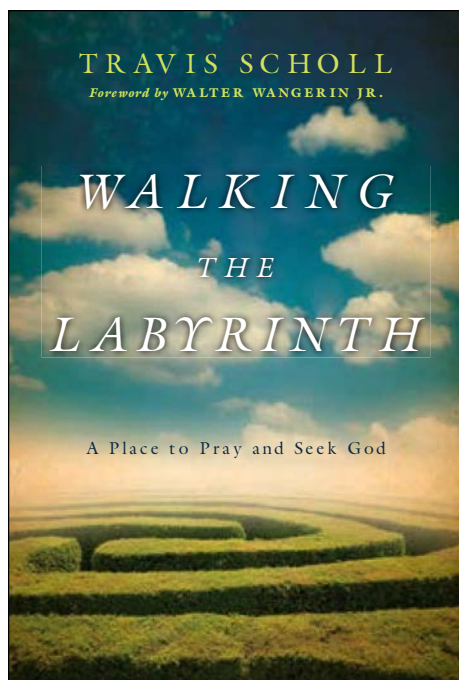
Evangelicals are known for their emphasis on conversion. But what about life *after* conversion and *beyond* justification? Desperately needed is a comprehensive theology of the Christian life from beginning to end, along with the means of formation and transformation. In *Called to Be Saints*, Gordon Smith draws on a distinguished lifetime of reflecting on these themes to offer us a theologically rich account of our participation in the life of Christ.

- Written by a well-respected leader in the field of Christian initiation and spiritual formation
- Provides a comprehensive theology of the Christian life, including the beginning, the goal and the means of moving toward maturity

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY



GORDON T. SMITH is president and professor of systematic and spiritual theology at Ambrose University College and Seminary in Calgary, Alberta. He is the author of many books, including *Courage and Calling: Maximizing Your God-Given Potential* and *The Voice of Jesus: Discernment, Prayer and the Witness of the Spirit*.



Walking the Labyrinth: A Place to Pray and Seek God
October 2014
\$16, 240 pages, paperback
978-0-8308-3583-6

One day Travis Scholl discovered a labyrinth in his neighborhood . . .

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

As he began to walk the labyrinth, he found this ancient practice offered a much-needed path away from life's demands, allowing him to encounter God in quiet solitude. With no end, but only a center, labyrinths become a physical symbol of prayer and our journey with God. Providing a historical and modern context for this unique spiritual discipline, Scholl weaves his own journey through a labyrinth with the Gospel of Mark's telling of the twists and turns of Jesus' life, providing forty reflections ideal for daily reading during Lent or any time of the year.

Scholl says, "In the shortest terms, I think the central thesis of *Walking the Labyrinth* is that life itself is a labyrinth, a singular journey that winds its way to God in an encounter with Jesus Christ."

- Forty brief chapters ideal for daily reading through Lent or any time of the year
- Includes historical information on the practice of walking a labyrinth and shows how it is relevant today
- Find a labyrinth at labyrinthlocator.com

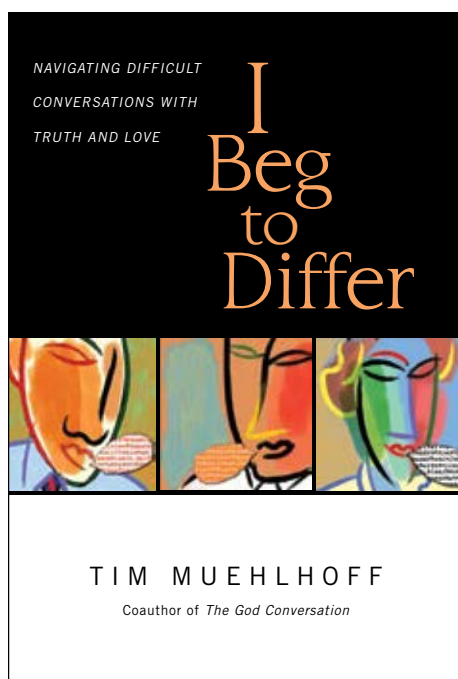
AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY



TRAVIS SCHOLL is the managing editor for theological publications at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis. He writes regularly for the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* on religion and culture and has published poems in *Peregrine*, *Palimpsest* and *Prospect*. He holds an MDiv from Yale University Divinity School and is ordained in the LCMS. He is also the author of *Living Lent: Daily Prayers for the Season*. Scholl is currently a PhD candidate in the Creative Writing Program at the University of Missouri, Columbia.

"Travis Scholl contributes a thorough model for those of us who have little experience with the discipline of walking a labyrinth. Basing his multifarious reflections on the solid foundation of Mark's Gospel, he demonstrates the copious kinds of meditation latent in the discipline. This is a heart-provoking book!"

—MARVA J. DAWN, theologian, speaker and author of *Keeping the Sabbath Wholly* and *Being Well When We're Ill*



I Beg to Differ: Navigating Difficult Conversations with Truth and Love

February 2014

\$15, 224 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-4416-6

Communication Expert Offers a Guide for Your Next Difficult Conversation

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

In today's polarized world, friends and strangers clash with each other over issues large and small. Coworkers have conflicts in the office. Married couples fight over finances. And online commentators demonize one another's political and religious perspectives. Is there any hope for restoring civil discourse? Communications expert Tim Muehlhoff provides a strategy for having difficult conversations, helping us move from contentious debate to constructive dialogue.

- Introduces readers to a four-part strategy for navigating difficult conversations
- Explains how to monitor self-talk
- Helps readers understand where other people are coming from, with ways to find common ground
- Offers sound, practical advice for making true advances with those who disagree with you most

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY

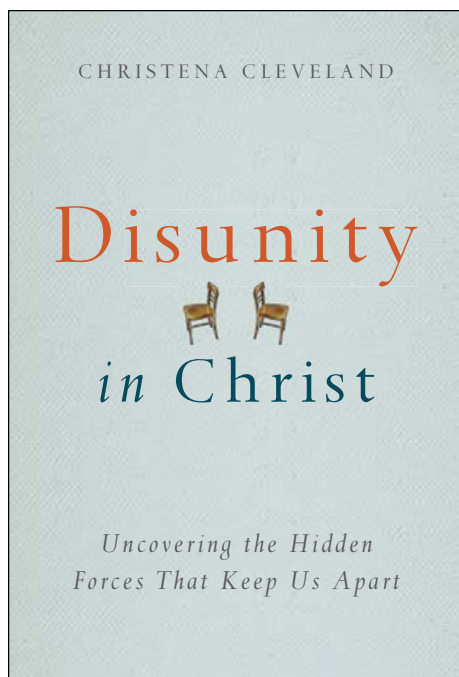


TIM MUEHLHOFF (PhD, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill) is a professor of communication at Biola University in La Mirada, California, where he teaches classes in family communication, interpersonal communication and gender. Tim is the coauthor of *The God Conversation: Using Stories and Illustrations to Explain Your Faith* and *Authentic Communication: Christian Speech Engaging Culture*. He and his wife, Noreen, are frequent speakers at FamilyLife Marriage Conferences, and Tim has served with Campus Crusade since 1986. They live in Brea, California, with their three boys.

timmuehlhoff.com

"One doesn't have to look far to find myriad examples of incivility—from political commentators who cut off and ridicule their guests to boardrooms to church and faculty meetings to the dinner table. I can think of no one better than Tim Muehlhoff to provide insight and practical wisdom on how to navigate difficult conversations with grace and truth. Tim doesn't just apply his considerable scholarly expertise and biblical knowledge to the subject; he lives what he writes."

—CAROL TAYLOR, president, Evangel University



Disunity in Christ: Uncovering the Hidden Forces That Keep Us Apart

October 2013

\$16, 192 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-4403-6

Are You Contributing to the Epidemic of Christian Division?

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

Despite Jesus' prayer that all Christians "be one," divisions have been epidemic in the body of Christ from the beginning of the church to the present. We cluster in theological groups, gender groups, age groups, ethnic groups, educational and economic groups. We criticize freely those who disagree with us, don't look like us, don't act like us or don't even like what we like. Though we may think we know why this happens, Christena Cleveland says we probably don't. In this eye-opening book, learn:

- Why I think all my friends are unique but those in other groups are all the same
- Why little differences often become big sources of conflict
- Why categorizing others is often automatic and helpful but can also have sinister side effects
- Why we are so often victims of groupthink and how we can avoid it
- Why women think men are judging them more negatively than men actually are, and vice versa
- Why choices of language can actually affect unity

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY



CHRISTENA CLEVELAND (PhD, University of California, Santa Barbara) is a social psychologist who teaches at St. Catherine University in St. Paul, Minnesota. She is an award-winning researcher and gifted teacher who brings organizational experience to her efforts to build unity. She consults with pastors and organizational leaders on multicultural issues and speaks regularly at organizations, churches, conferences, universities and schools.

christenacleveland.com

"Disunity in Christ reveals to us those very human tendencies that keep us divided. Along the way, Cleveland helps us to see, laugh at and rethink our very selves. . . . As a pastor serving a church of some thirty nationalities, I found it an extremely useful analysis of what hurts and helps unity."

—THABITI M. ANYABWILE, senior pastor, First Baptist Church of Grand Cayman, and author of *The Decline of African American Theology*

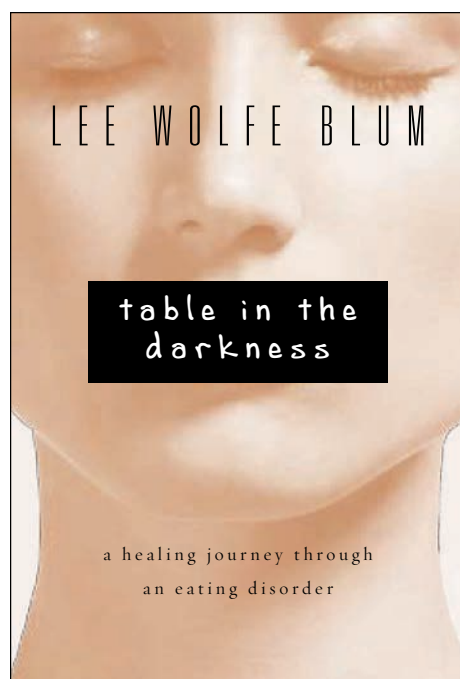


Table in the Darkness: A Healing Journey Through an Eating Disorder

November 2013

\$15, 205 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-4308-4

Light at the End of the Anorexia Tunnel

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

In this deeply personal memoir, Lee Wolfe Blum recounts her struggles with an eating disorder and depression throughout her formative years and into early adulthood. The beauty of her story comes in her ability to move out of the dark tunnel of both and onto a continual healing path, filled with faith and love of life. She uncovers some very challenging aspects of her journey, answering questions for readers like:

- How can you have faith in God and have an eating disorder at the same time?
- How did your eating disorder affect your personal relationships?
- What were the major steps that led up to your struggle with depression?
- What was the lowest point you had in the midst of your eating disorder?
- How has your faith helped you with anorexia and depression?
- Was writing this book cathartic? Painful? Both?
- How do you deal with depression and control today?

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY



LEE WOLFE BLUM works as a health educator at the Melrose Center for Eating Disorders in St. Louis Park, Minnesota, where she helps run the Eating Disorder and Chemical Dependency Program, encouraging and inspiring patients with co-occurring disorders to find hope and healing. Lee also speaks regularly, sharing her story of hope at churches, schools and conferences. Lee lives in Edina, Minnesota.

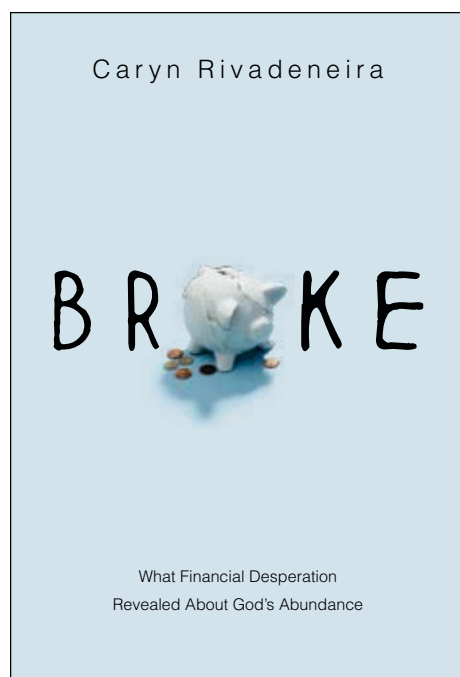
leewolfeblum.com

"Table in the Darkness offers women hope while bringing balance to the roles of faith and therapy in leading broken individuals into a place of healing and restoration. Intense, powerful, it's highly recommended."

—KRISTINE WILSON, *CBA Retailers + Resources*, December 2013

"Having waged my own war with eating disorders, I identified with Lee's account of almost overwhelming struggles, and then the welcome outcome of a hard-won recovery. Her story is raw, real and revealing. . . . a clear and victorious validation of the fact that recovery is possible."

—CHERRY BOONE O'NEILL, author of *Starving for Attention*, eldest daughter of Pat Boone



*Broke: What Financial Desperation Revealed About
God's Abundance*

March 2014

\$16, 173 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-4311-4

Finding God in the Brokenness

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

In *Broke*, Caryn Rivadeneira shows readers that God is always present—even in the midst of financial desperation, brokenness and loss—and he is always good.

“I think most of us publicly eschew the ‘prosperity gospel’ but secretly we believe it,” says Rivadeneira. “We believe in God’s goodness and love when we’re blessed with good stuff. . . . We have a much harder time believing that he might allow desperation so that we might be drawn to him and know him better.” Throughout the book Rivadeneira grapples with what it means to find God’s abundance amidst all that is thrown at you. She works through questions like:

- How can we find God’s gifts to us, even when it seems like life is falling apart?
- Does God really hear and answer our prayers (even when we don’t take them seriously)? How seriously does he take them?
- How does God reveal his faithfulness to us?
- Why do money issues and finances seem to have a bigger hold on us than the other issues we face on a daily basis?

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY

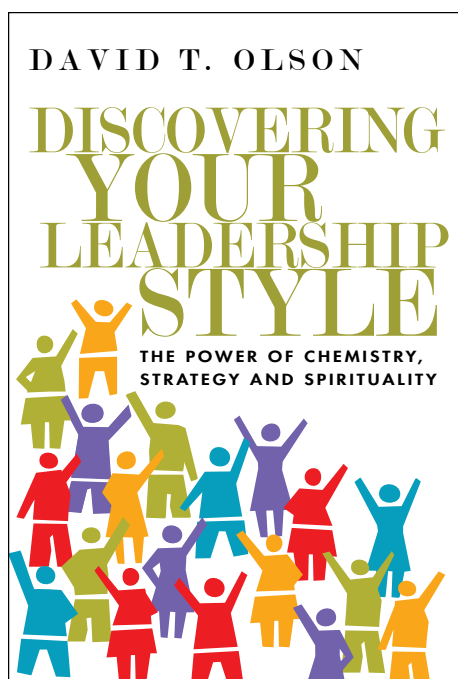


CARYN RIVADENEIRA is a writer, speaker and regular contributor at the Her.menutics blog. She spent years as an editor at Christianity Today’s magazines and currently serves on the worship staff at Elmhurst Christian Reformed Church. Caryn is cofounder of the Redbud Writers Guild, a collective of writers seeking to expand the feminine voice in churches, communities and culture. She has over fifteen years of experience in the publishing industry and is the author of *Grumble Hallelujah: Learning to Love Your Life Even When It Lets You Down*, *Known and Loved: 52 Devotions from the Psalms* (with MOPS International) and the novel *Shades of Mercy*.

carynrivadeneira.com

“In the vein of Ann Voskamp and Sarah Young, Rivadeneira offers a devotional perspective on financial desperation in the suburbs. Balancing between mystical mirth and spiritualized snark, she reflects on her skepticism about God’s trustworthiness and interweaves life stories of misfortune and small miracles to help readers find God and also ‘find him good.’ A sterling storyteller, Rivadeneira spins a narrative of finding benediction and a benevolent God amidst economic trial that will speak to fellow suburbanites. . . . She addresses what she understands to be a ‘First-World’ dilemma with depth and heart, and her message is a timely and virtuous one, fortified with Scripture and apt analogies that speak to many a weary soul.”

—PUBLISHERS WEEKLY, February 10, 2014



Discovering Your Leadership Style: The Power of Chemistry, Strategy and Spirituality

April 2014

\$16, 208 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-4113-4

What's Your Leadership Style?

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

What is the fundamental nature of a leader? How do you evaluate and discover strengths and weaknesses? It can be quite challenging for churches to understand why Christian leadership is sometimes ineffective and weak. In *Discovering Your Leadership Style*, David Olson presents in thirty succinct chapters a way of evaluating these issues, and shows how God can use your unique gifts, passions and personality to help you become a better leader.

With the use of an online assessment much like the popular StrengthsFinder, you can find your personal leadership style. The book and inventory will reveal how your spirituality, chemistry and strategy work together. The six styles outlined by *Discovering Your Leadership Style* are:

- The Sacred Leader
- The Relational Leader
- The Inspirational Leader
- The Building Leader
- The Mission Leader
- The Imaginative Leader

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY

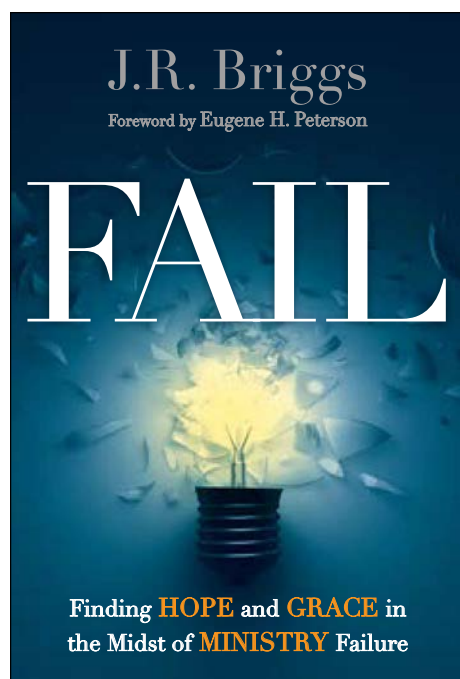


DAVID T. OLSON is a religious researcher, church planting leader and leadership coach. For the past twenty years, he has served in leadership for church growth and evangelism in the Evangelical Covenant Church. Dave is also the director of the American Church Research Project and is the author of *The American Church in Crisis*. Dave and his wife, Shelly, live in Minneapolis.

sixstyles.org

"Discovering Your Leadership Style is one of the most helpful books on leadership that I have come across. Using a new and innovative model, Dave provides Christian leaders with a practical and easy-to-use method for developing into better and stronger leaders, as well as helping their staff and lay leaders do the same. I highly recommend this book."

—TODD WILSON, CEO of the Exponential Conference



Fail: Finding Hope and Grace in the Midst of Ministry Failure

July 2014

\$16, 208 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-4111-0

Finding Freedom Through Failure

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

It is inevitable that pastors will fail in one way or another in ministry, and when they do, where will they find help? In *Fail*, J.R. Briggs provides the CPR that wounded pastors need. He gives pastors permission to rethink their metrics of success, overcome shame, grieve their losses and find restoration. Ultimately J.R. provides a crucial reframe: embracing failure is the only path to long-term ministry success.

- Why did you create the Epic Fail Pastors Conference?
- Why do pastors need to evaluate their metrics of ministry success?
- What are some of the masks that pastors wear to hide pain or vulnerability?
- What are some essential practices for overcoming shame and finding healing?
- How is failure an essential part of ministry?

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY



J.R. BRIGGS serves as cultural cultivator of the Renew Community, a Jesus community for skeptics and dreamers in Lansdale, Pennsylvania. He also serves as the director of leadership and congregational formation with the Ecclesia Network and is on staff with Fresh Expressions US. He is the creator and curator of the Epic Fail Pastors Conference, giving pastors opportunities to process failure and grow to see failure as an invitation for grace and healing instead of shame.

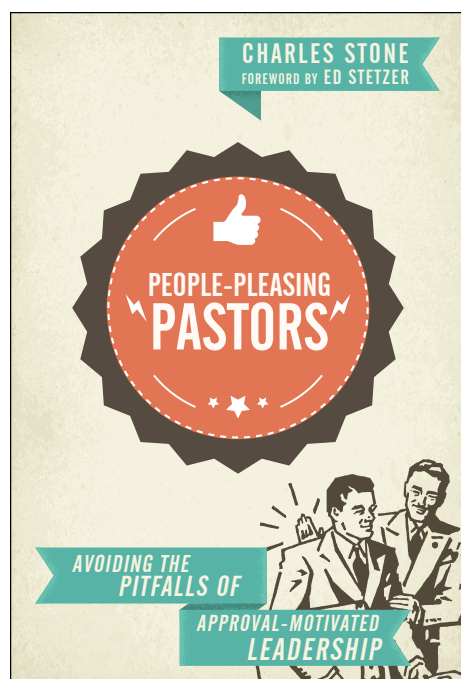
epicfailevents.com

“With Fail, J.R. Briggs has captured a truth we all crave but fear to articulate. There is not merely grace for the burning- or burnt-out, there is the very life of Christ: full of honesty, meaning and sharp joy. Beyond platitudes or Twitter-quote pep talks, J.R. offers peace, real encouragement, and a better definition of success for Christian ministry.”

—PAUL PASTOR, associate editor of Christianity Today’s *Leadership Journal* and PARSE

“In Fail, J.R. Briggs succeeds in shining a light on an often taboo subject in modern-day ministry. . . . If you are a minister, a former pastor, a fallen pastor or a struggling believer, Fail will encourage, strengthen and instruct you in the freedom offered at the cross. For ‘by his wounds, we are healed.’”

—ED STETZER, author of *Subversive Kingdom*



People-Pleasing Pastors: Avoiding the Pitfalls of Approval-Motivated Leadership
 January 2014
 \$16, 236 pages, paperback
 978-0-8308-4109-7

Breaking Free from the Pitfalls of People-Pleasing

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

In *People-Pleasing Pastors*, pastor Charles Stone draws on over thirty years of ministry experience as well as extensive research to provide essential practices that will empower pastors to break free from debilitating people-pleasing patterns and embrace their true God-given calling with vitality, joy and effectiveness. Weaving together insights from Scripture, neuroscience and family systems theory, Stone offers a unique antidote to an all-too-common malady.

- In your research on what two thousand pastors revealed about their struggle to please others, what surprised you?
- Why are pastors especially susceptible to people-pleasing?
- What are some of the benefits pastors can gain from engaging their critics?
- What are some practical tips for overcoming people-pleasing tendencies?

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY



CHARLES STONE is lead pastor of West Park Church in London, Ontario, and the founder of StoneWell Ministries, where he coaches pastors and church leaders, applying neuroscience insights to spiritual leadership. A frequent conference speaker and consultant, he has over three decades of experience in pastoral ministry as a senior pastor, teaching pastor and church planter. He is also the author of *5 Ministry Killers* and *How to Defeat Them*.

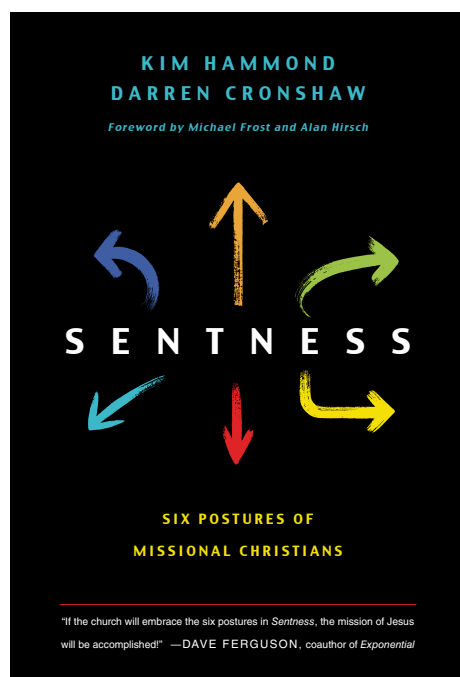
www.charlesstone.com

"Charles Stone has that rare gift of knowing and speaking directly to the heart of today's shepherd-leader about the one big leadership issue we all have but rarely admit: our tendency to want to be liked. He cuts through the fluff and helps us recognize our tendency to be people pleasers and gives us a practical way back to strong, authentic leadership. Churches will be far healthier whose pastors and leaders read this book!"

—BRANDON COX, editor of *Pastors.com*

"Filled with rich insights and profound wisdom born out the crucible of decades of ministry, People-Pleasing Pastors is a must-read for every pastor. I was challenged both personally and in the next growth steps for my own leadership. Charles Stone has given the church a great gift!"

—PETER SCAZZERO, pastor and author of *Emotionally Healthy Spirituality* and *The Emotionally Healthy Church*



Sentness: Six Postures of Missional Christians

February 2014

\$16, 208 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-4418-0

Prepare to Get Sent

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

In *Sentness*, two Christians who were missional long before it was a buzzword come together to chart the postures and practices needed to live life on mission. Kim Hammond and Darren Cronshaw bring years of experience and study to the critical question of how Christians can embrace their “sentness,” getting out of the pews and joining God at work in the world.

- How has consumerism infiltrated and undermined the church?
- How do each of the six postures help believers align themselves with God’s redeeming work in the world?
- What practices will lead to more effective, more authentic ministry?
- How does your work contribute to the larger missional conversation that’s happening right now?

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY



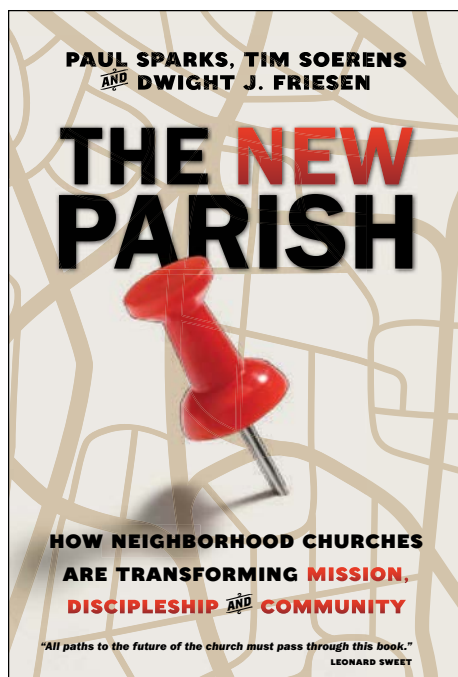
KIM HAMMOND serves as the international director for Forge Missions Training Network. A church planter in Australia, he moved with his family to the United States in 2009 to launch and lead the work of Forge in America. He is also the director of missional imagination for Community Christian Church in Chicago.



DARREN CRONSHAW trains leaders through the Baptist Union of Victoria, a network of churches and congregations in Victoria, Australia, and is the pastor of AuburnLife Baptist Church. He also serves as a research associate at Whitley College (Melbourne College of Divinity).

“The word missional is in danger of becoming a vacuous trend in twenty-first-century evangelicalism, claiming to be new wine but packaged and consumed in the same old programmatic wineskins. This is why we need Sentness. Hammond and Cronshaw pull back the curtain on what ‘missional’ really means and help us conceive the new wineskins (postures and practices, not programs) that are needed to hold this missional wine that looks new but is actually very old, and very powerful. . . . Hammond and Cronshaw—drawing from their deep well of experience—describe our way forward as a sent people into the missional frontier of North America.”

—MIKE BREEN, CEO, 3DM



The New Parish: How Neighborhood Churches Are Transforming Mission, Discipleship and Community
 April 2014
 \$17, 208 pages, paperback
 978-0-8308-4115-8

Putting the Church in Its Place

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

Common perception holds that the Western church is dying. But *The New Parish* describes an amazing movement of love and compassion that is springing up in the everyday life of neighborhoods all over North America. The parish movement is a phenomenon that has escaped traditional measurements of success. It cannot be discovered within the walls of church buildings. You don't hear about it on the news. But it is happening.

ABOUT THE PARISH COLLECTIVE



PAUL SPARKS

Over the years PAUL SPARKS, TIM SOERENS and DWIGHT FRIESEN, cofounders of the Parish Collective, have walked the streets and shared stories together with faith communities in hundreds of parishes. While Paul, Tim and Dwight each have their own unique biographies, they have used their combined experience in parish ministry, community organizing and academic research in the formation of the Parish Collective, the Leadership in the New Parish Certificate and the Inhabit Conference.



TIM SOERENS

Parish Collective connects and resources the people of faith in particular neighborhoods to be the church together in the place they live. This grassroots-level work weaves together neighborhood churches, missional communities and any group of Christ-followers desiring renewal in their parish. The members of these groups develop postures and practices for participating in what the Spirit is up to in their neighborhoods. This means discerning, supporting and collaborating together on projects that contribute to neighborhood reconciliation and parish renewal.



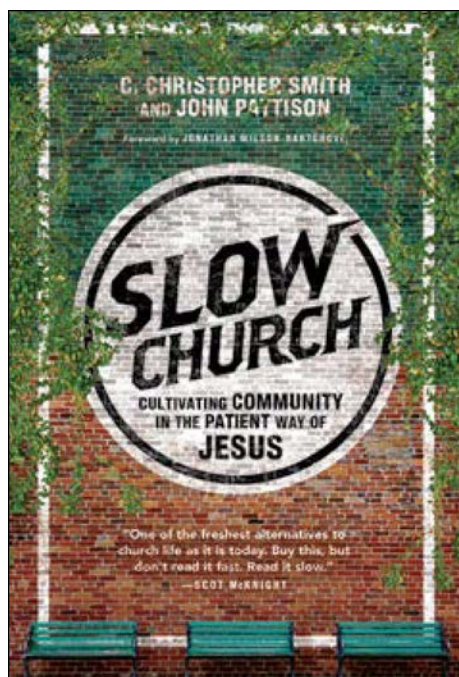
DWIGHT FRIESEN

Parish initiatives have started in diverse parishes across North America, from the Highland Park Neighborhood in Edmonton, Canada, to the Hillside Neighborhood in Richmond, Virginia. These are local churches, missional communities and faith-based groups of all kinds that are committed to being present to the relationships in their neighborhoods.

parishcollective.org

"In a world of increasing mobility, fragmenting relationships and a loss of any real sense of covenant, we need to learn again to attend to the various people and places where God has located us. This book is a much-needed antidote to the endemic alienation of our time. Missionary grow home!"

—ALAN HIRSCH, author, activist, dreamer



Slow Church: Cultivating Community in the Patient Way of Jesus

June 2014

\$16, 247 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-4114-1

Beyond Franchised Faith

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

Just as the Slow Food movement has critiqued the industrialization of food production while celebrating the virtues of local agriculture and good eating, the authors of *Slow Church* question the standardized approach to church while championing practices that will enable people to richly share life together in church communities. In an age addicted to speed, Christopher Smith and John Pattison offer a compelling vision: when a church slows down, it results in faith well-lived.

- What does the term “slow church” mean?
- Why are you encouraging the church to slow down?
- What are the benefits of a church more committed to its surrounding community?
- Why are hospitality and the Sabbath two essential practices for the church today?

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY



CHRISTOPHER SMITH is editor of the *Englewood Review of Books* and a member of the Englewood Christian Church community in the urban Near Eastside of Indianapolis. Englewood is one of the churches whose experiences gave root to the concept of slow church. Chris’s recent work has appeared in *Books and Culture*, *Sojourners*, *The Christian Century* and *Indiana Green Living*.



JOHN PATTISON is managing editor of *CONSPIRE* magazine. Previously he served as the deputy editor of the Burnside Writers Collective. A member of the National Book Critics Circle, his essays, articles and reviews appear frequently in *Relevant* magazine, the *Englewood Review of Books*, and in newspapers and magazines around the country. He is also the coauthor of *Besides the Bible: 100 Books That Have, Should, or Will Create Christian Culture*. He lives in Oregon’s Mid-Willamette Valley with his wife and two daughters.

patheos.com/blogs/slowchurch/

“The only way the church can be the church as God wants it is when the people of the church slow down enough to become the church. Good themes, excellent quotations, compelling stories and solid research mark what is one of the freshest alternatives to church life as it is today. Buy this, but don’t read it fast. Read it slow.”

—SCOT MCKNIGHT, professor of New Testament, Northern Seminary



Unlost: Being Found by the One We Are Looking For
February 2014
\$16, 169 pages, paperback
978-0-8308-4415-9

Flipping the Script of Faith

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

Many of us have a deep-seated belief that we have to do all we can to please God and that the spiritual journey is about us finding our way to him. But the good news is the Bible tells a different story. God is doing all he can to get to us. When we encounter him, we become unlost and discover the joy of being found by the One we are looking for.

- Gives fresh language to the gospel story
- Emphasizes discipleship—following Christ is more than “getting saved”
- Incorporates missional concepts into what it means to follow Christ

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY



MICHAEL HIDALGO is the lead pastor of Denver Community Church, which under his leadership has grown from forty people to over fifteen hundred. A graduate of Grand Rapids Theological Seminary, Michael served alongside Ed Dobson as a teaching pastor at Calvary Church in Grand Rapids, Michigan. With the ONE Campaign and Malaria No More, Michael has addressed thousands nationally. He writes regularly for *Relevant* magazine and *Sojourners*. Michael, his wife and three children live in Denver.

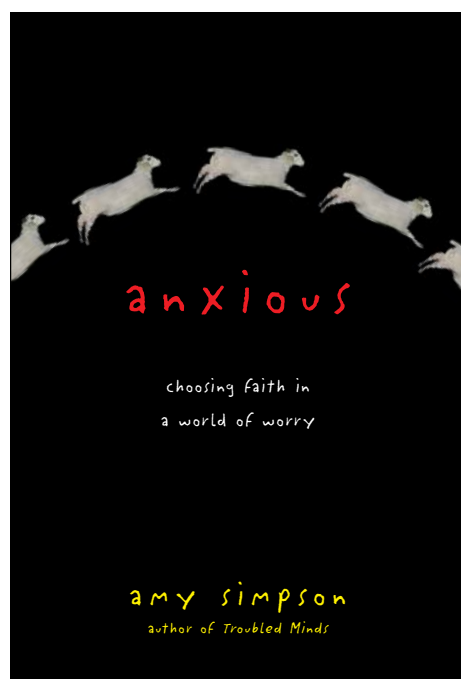
michael-hidalgo.com

“Michael Hidalgo is a gift—as a pastor, a thinker, a leader. This is a book you can’t afford to miss.”

—MARGARET FEINBERG, author of *Wonderstruck*

“Michael has a true talent for seeing an ancient problem in a very new and redemptive light. For millennia, humanity has worked from the pretext that we are able to ‘find God.’ Our ‘lostness’ has been demonstrated by an arrogance that has compounded the pain of our separation from God. With depth and humor, Michael helps us realize that God has not lost us, and when we allow him to, he embraces us. Not only can I enthusiastically recommend this book, but I commend my friend Michael Hidalgo to you as a man who has lived this story and loves God and his neighbors intensely.”

—JIM LISKE, president and CEO, Prison Fellowship Ministries



Anxious: Choosing Faith in a World of Worry

October 2014

\$15, 192 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-4314-5

Courage in the Face of Worry

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

Worry is a sin we don't take very seriously. But it is serious—it amounts to rejection of God's sovereignty and damages our capacity for the life he calls us to. Rooted in a theological misunderstanding of who God is, worry affects our views of the nature of life in this world and our place in the universe. Overcoming worry starts not with a list of therapeutic steps, but with a reorientation around God, who is not threatened by what scares us. In her new book, *Anxious*, Amy Simpson:

- Demonstrates how our culture encourages and expects worry
- Makes a clear distinction between worry and clinical anxiety disorders
- Explores Bible passages that forbid worry, learning that God's call for his people to trust him was as difficult—and as sensible—then as it is today
- Helps readers understand how all worry hurts us and our relationship with God
- Shows how worry keeps people from health and spiritual fulfillment
- Provides practical ideas to change their thoughts and behaviors and reject worry

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY

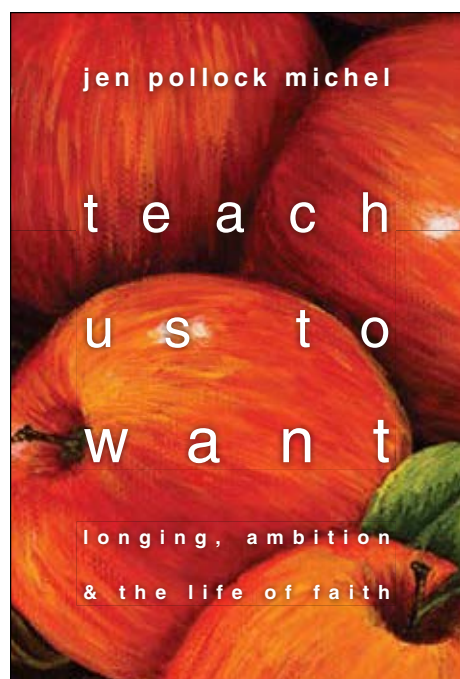


AMY SIMPSON is an editor at Christianity Today, leading publishing efforts for GiftedForLeadership.com and serving as senior editor of *Leadership Journal*. Amy is an award-winning writer, contributing to many church ministry resources and author of *Troubled Minds: Mental Illness and the Church's Mission*. Amy is married to Trevor Simpson, a licensed certified professional counselor, and is mom to two girls. They live in Illinois.

amysimpsononline.com

"Amy Simpson challenges our popular approaches to worry. Many of us believe worrying isn't a problem for us; she helps us realize that it is. We often believe we can overcome worry through willpower or good behavior. She helps us understand that it's far more effective to address worry as a problem with the way we think, rooted in what we believe about God. Here's the good news: there is hope for all of us worried people, and it's found in faith."

—ANITA LUSTREA, author of *What Women Tell Me: Finding Freedom from the Secrets We Keep* and host of *Middy Connection*



Teach Us to Want: Longing, Ambition & the Life of Faith
July 2014
\$16, 208 pages, paperback
978-0-8308-4312-1

What Do You Want?

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

Within evangelical circles, desire is often seen as suspect. But the truth is that we ignore our desires at our own peril. In *Teach Us to Want*, Jen Pollock Michel honestly charts her own desires—holy and not so holy—and teaches us how to name and submit our desires to God. Jen courageously examines her heart in light of Scripture and through the lens of the Lord's Prayer, revealing the surprising truth that desire is essential to discipleship.

- How might our desires draw us closer to God?
- What can the Lord's Prayer teach us about desire?
- How do we respond faithfully when we feel that the desires of our heart have been denied?
- What is the relationship between desire, obedience and holiness?
- Why is it essential to be part of a Christian community as we navigate our desires?

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY



JEN POLLOCK MICHEL is a regular contributor for Christianity Today's Her.meneutics blog and writes for *Today in the Word*, published by Moody Bible Institute. Jen earned her BA in French from Wheaton College and her MA in literature from Northwestern University. She lives in Toronto, Canada, with her husband and five children.

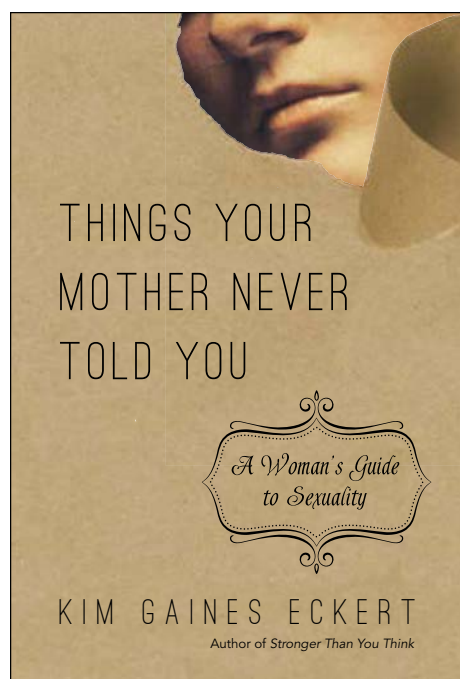
jenpollockmichel.com

"As women, we often feel the urge to hide our longings, especially in the church. Through her own story of fear, loss and God's goodness, Jen stirs us to recover and reshape these desires in light of the kingdom of God."

—REBEKAH LYONS, author of *Freefall to Fly*

"Jen Pollock Michel fuses three things that make her book essential reading: deep insight, raw honesty and radiant prose. She's a terrific writer, an agile thinker and—if that were not enough—a fearless witness to her own heart's darkness and light. By inviting me deeply into the mess and beauty of her own story, she has given me courage to step into the mess and beauty of my own—and, with her, to meet afresh the One who awakens, names, purifies and meets all the desires of my heart."

—MARK BUCHANAN, author of *Your Church Is Too Safe*



Things Your Mother Never Told You: A Woman's Guide to Sexuality

January 2014

\$15, 171 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-4309-1

Ladies, Let's Talk About Sex

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

In *Things Your Mother Never Told You*, experienced therapist and licensed psychologist Kim Gaines Eckert offers theological and psychological insights to reveal who women are as fundamentally relational, sexual, gendered beings, as well as how they are called to reflect that loving, relational nature in the way they live out their sexual, gendered lives.

- What are some of the damaging myths about sexuality that can keep women from experiencing sexual wholeness?
- Where do these myths come from?
- What is the truth about our sexuality?
- We hear plenty about sex for married couples, but what about those who are single, divorced or widowed?
- What is the path of healing for someone who has been sexually abused?

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY



DR. KIM GAINES ECKERT is a licensed psychologist in Chattanooga, Tennessee, where she maintains a private counseling practice at the Relationship Therapy Center. She teaches at Lee University on an adjunct basis and is the clinical director of the Lee University Play Therapy Center. She is also the author of *Stronger Than You Think* and has published in *Today's Christian Woman*, *Psychology for Living* and *Youth & Christian Education Leadership*. Eckert is a national speaker and has been featured on programs such as Moody Radio's *Prime Time America* and *Midday Connection*.

www.drkimeckert.com

"Redemptive, wise, practical, honest and tender, this book is a welcome addition to the conversation about women's sexuality."

—SARAH BESSEY, author of *Jesus Feminist*

"A refreshingly grace-filled and intelligent discussion on the ever-daunting topic of sex. . . . Not only will you find things your mother never told you, you will find things society, church and culture never told you. These pages contain a no-nonsense honesty that, if applied, will change our lives and the lives of those we seek to love."

—SHAYNE MOORE, author of *Refuse to Do Nothing*



BIBLICAL imagination S E R I E S

The Biblical Imagination Series: 4 books, 4 CDs
Complete August 2014

BOOKS:

Matthew: The Gospel of Identity,
\$18, 269 pages, paperback
978-0-8308-3812-7

Mark: The Gospel of Passion,
\$16, 208 pages, paperback
978-0-8308-3813-4

Luke: The Gospel of Amazement,
\$18, 272 pages, paperback
978-0-8308-3835-6

John: The Gospel of Wisdom,
\$18, 240 pages, paperback
978-0-8308-4413-5

MUSIC CDs:

Matthew: The Penultimate Question
\$12.98, 978-0-8308-3803-5

Mark: The Beginning of the Gospel
\$12.98, 978-0-8308-3802-8

Luke: A World Turned Upside Down
\$12.98, 978-0-8308-3801-1

John: The Misunderstood Messiah
\$12.98, 978-0-8308-3804-2

Artful Commentary Series Now Complete

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

Published over a three-year span, Michael Card's Biblical Imagination Series is now coming to a close with the final volume, *John: The Gospel of Wisdom*, and its companion CD, *John: The Misunderstood Messiah*.

In this series, Card invites readers to enter into Scripture as he does, at the level of the imagination. Taking seriously the individual life of each Gospel writer, these volumes help us reintegrate our minds with our hearts to recapture our imaginations for Christ. With these books and CDs, readers and listeners get a clearer picture of what has motivated Card's prolific output: a simple desire to read and teach the Bible. Bringing together the author and the musician under the heading of the "biblical imagination," this series is a touchstone in the career of this celebrated Christian artist.

"Imagine the possibilities if we could bring more of ourselves to the task of listening to the Bible," writes Card in the preface of *Matthew: The Gospel of Identity*. "How many new connections might be made, and how many new insights might come to the surface, all as a result of loving God by listening to him with all that we are—all our hearts and all our minds."

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY

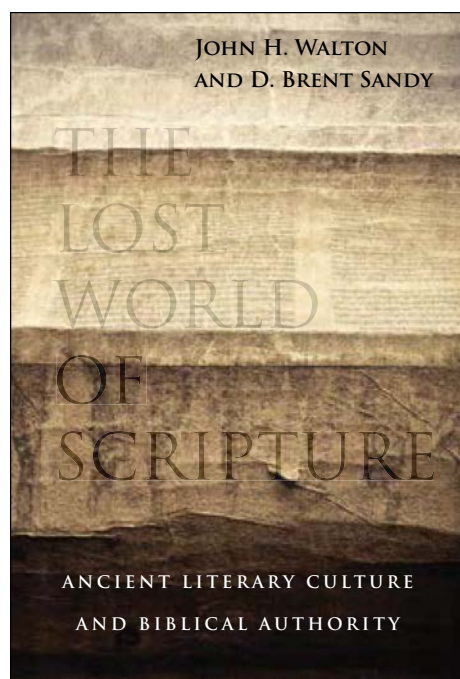


MICHAEL CARD has recorded over thirty-one albums, authored or coauthored over twenty-four books, hosted a radio program and written for a wide range of magazines during his thirty-year career. An award-winning musician and performing artist, he has penned such favorites as "El Shaddai," "Immanuel" and many other songs. His books include *A Sacred Sorrow*, *A Violent Grace* and *The Parable of Joy*. A graduate of Western Kentucky University with a bachelor's and master's degree in biblical studies, Card also serves as mentor to many younger artists and musicians, teaching courses on the creative process and calling the Christian recording industry into deeper discipleship. Card lives in Tennessee with his wife and four children.

michaelcard.com

"Matthew: The Gospel of Identity shimmers with life. . . . Michael Card has captured our imaginations with his books centering on the four Gospels, this being the third in the series. Providing the back story, historical, and emotional context, he connects and weaves together the 'Story' from the two testaments and places us squarely in the middle of the action—a distillation that reads like a Bible and a film script. Dull hearts feel, blind eyes see, and disengaged minds connect to passages heard or read many times—and to the person of Jesus."

—WORSHIP LEADER MAGAZINE, July/August 2013



The Lost World of Scripture: Ancient Literary Culture and Biblical Authority

November 2013

\$24, 320 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-4032-8

Is Our Doctrine of Scripture Too Small?

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

From Dr. John H. Walton, author of the bestselling *The Lost World of Genesis One*, and Dr. D. Brent Sandy, author of *Plowshares & Pruning Hooks*, comes a fascinating new book that asks where scriptural authority was derived from in ancient oral cultures and how it informs our doctrine of Scripture today.

“This book is about a lost world,” write Walton and Sandy. “But it’s not about a search for lost books, or lost chalices or the lost Atlantis of Plato. This is a search for a lost culture that had a significant effect on how the Bible was written.” The authors answer questions like:

- How did the scribal culture impact the creation of texts in the ancient world?
- How should we view oral tradition in light of what we read in the Bible today?
- How do our modern assumptions affect the reading of texts?
- Should reading the Bible in light of oral tradition change how we feel about inerrancy?

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY



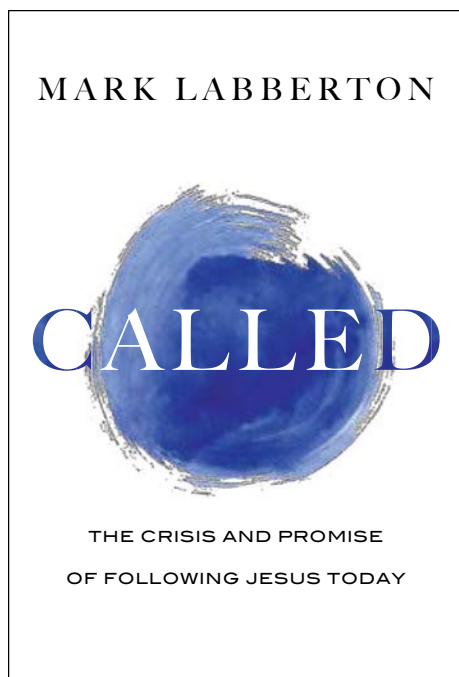
JOHN H. WALTON (PhD, Hebrew Union College) is professor of Old Testament at Wheaton College. Previously he was professor of Old Testament at Moody Bible Institute in Chicago, Illinois. Some of his books include *Ancient Near Eastern Thought and the Old Testament*, *The Essential Bible Companion*, *Old Testament Today* (with Andrew Hill), *Genesis* (NIV Application Commentary) and *The IVP Bible Background Commentary: Old Testament* (with Victor Matthews and Mark Chavalas).



D. BRENT SANDY (PhD, Duke University) teaches New Testament and Greek at Wheaton College. His books include *Plowshares & Pruning Hooks: Rethinking the Language of Biblical Prophecy and Apocalyptic*. He also edited (with Ron Giese) *Cracking Old Testament Codes: A Guide to Interpreting the Literary Genres of the Old Testament*.

“Walton and Sandy have given us an important, even courageous, book. Firm advocates of the high authority of Scripture, they fully understand the deficiencies of many evangelical conceptions concerning the Bible’s literary production as well as its interpretation. Those who read and appreciate this book will find their understanding of Scripture enriched and their love for God, its ultimate author, deepened.”

—TREMPER LONGMAN III, Robert H. Gundry Professor of Biblical Studies, Westmont College



Called: The Crisis and Promise of Following Jesus Today
October 2014
\$16, 192 pages, hardcover
978-0-8308-3683-3

Will You Answer the Call?

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

“Will the church embody and articulate its only legitimate identity? Will God’s people live as followers of Jesus?” Mark Labberton doesn’t just ask if you will answer the call to follow Jesus—he makes you want to. In *Called*, Labberton describes how we live in a time in which the church has lost its way, but the potential for rediscovering our identity and reshaping our practice as Christians is great. Labberton points the way forward for renewal.

- Explores dissonance among Christians and non-Christians
- Displays our current situation of exile from the Promised Land in light of younger generations’ apprehension toward church
- Articulates the need for leaders who understand both faith and culture, and connects the two in a way that reflects God
- Emphasizes the need for a life rooted in “work”

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY

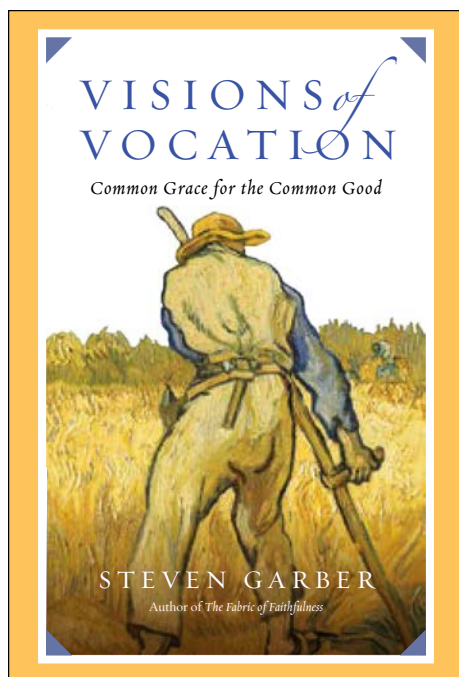


MARK LABBERTON is president of Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, California. He previously served as Lloyd John Ogilvie chair for preaching and director of the Lloyd John Ogilvie Institute for Preaching.

Labberton came to Fuller after sixteen years as senior pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Berkeley, California. He served as chair of John Stott Ministries from 2001 to 2004 and co-chair of the John Stott Ministries Global Initiative Fund from 2004 to 2007. Today he continues to contribute to the mission of the global church as a senior fellow of International Justice Mission. He is the author of *The Dangerous Act of Loving Your Neighbor* and *The Dangerous Act of Worship*.

“Mark Labberton makes me uncomfortable in the best possible way: uncomfortable with my small life, my small dreams and my small God. And yet in the midst of that holy discomfort he awakens hope that it is possible to wake up to the real life . . . that we were created for.”

—ANDY CROUCH, executive editor, *Christianity Today*, on *The Dangerous Act of Worship*



Visions of Vocation: Common Grace for the Common Good
February 2014
\$16, 256 pages, paperback
978-0-8308-3666-6

Can We Know the World and Love It?

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

Everyone thinks broadly about life—what we do, why we do it, and what meaning it has. In his new book, *Visions of Vocation*, Steve Garber poses the question, “Can we know the world and still love it?” By asking the follow-up question, “What will we do with what we know?” Garber connects these most challenging questions of life with the most important task: linking what we believe with what we do. He charts a vision for vocation, not just our careers, that will guide us to live a full, integrated life.

- Explains the difference between vocation and career
- Draws on literature to show that we must imitate the vocation of God
- Examines our most basic of human motivations: What will I do with what I know?
- Explores how we are responsible for how the world is
- Uses decades of experience in this field to work through critical questions of exhibiting grace for the common good

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY



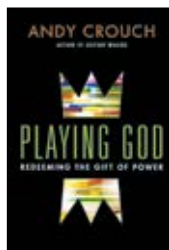
STEVEN GARBER is the principal of the Washington Institute for Faith, Vocation & Culture, which is focused on reframing the way people understand life, especially the meaning of vocation and the common good. A consultant to foundations, corporations and schools, he is a teacher of many people in many places. The author of *The Fabric of Faithfulness*, he is also a contributor to the books *Faith Goes to Work: Reflections from the Marketplace* and *Get Up Off Your Knees: Preaching the U2 Catalog*.

washingtoninst.org

“If I could sit at the feet of anyone to learn about vocation, it would be Steven Garber. Tuck yourself away in a corner with these pages and prepare your heart and soul to dream again. In a culture where imaginations are running dry, Garber floods your mind with the possibilities of what your role might be in putting the world back together, one vocation at a time.”

—GABE LYONS, author of *The Next Christians* and founder, Q Ideas

IF YOU ARE LOOKING FOR STRONG, NEWSWORTHY CONTENT, HERE ARE SOME OF OUR
BACKLIST TITLES YOU MAY HAVE MISSED:

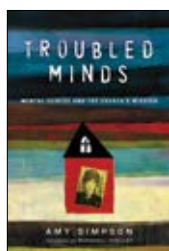


Playing God: Redeeming the Gift of Power

\$25, 288 pages, hardcover

978-0-8308-3765-6

It's time to change the conversation about power. Just as he illuminated the Christian calling to create culture in *Culture Making*, Andy Crouch now reveals the nature of true power in a world of idolatry and injustice in *Playing God: Redeeming the Gift of Power*. Crouch demonstrates that true power is a gift worth seeking and stewarding well because when we exercise it, we display the image of God and bring about the human flourishing God intended.

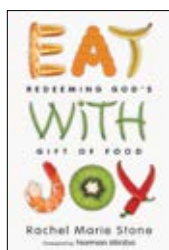


Troubled Minds: Mental Illness and the Church's Mission

\$16, 222 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-4304-6

Amy Simpson calls the church to a renewed commitment to people who suffer from mental illness and to the families that suffer with them. Drawing on her own family's history of mental illness, Simpson provides a bracing look at the social and physical realities of mental illness and explores new possibilities for ministry to this stigmatized group.

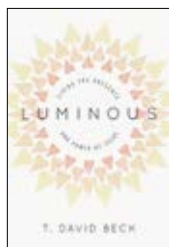


Eat with Joy: Redeeming God's Gift of Food

\$16, 208 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-3658-1

In *Eat with Joy*, Rachel Stone explores a practical theology of eating in the twenty-first century. Showing that God wants us to delight in our food, Stone digs into the implications of our modern culture of eating and how our inherent angst toward eating can effectively push us further away from our Creator.

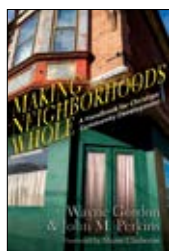


Luminous: Living the Presence and Power of Jesus

\$16, 208 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-3580-5

When pastor David Beck went to Haiti with a ministry team he found himself deeply experiencing the power of being Christ's own hands and feet. *Luminous* explores what it means to live out the reality of the incarnation, emphasizing the purpose, presence, power and peace Christ offers us and we in turn extend to the world.

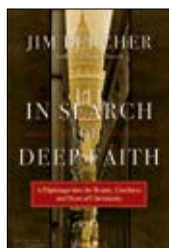


Making Neighborhoods Whole: A Handbook for Christian Community Development

\$16, 182 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-3756-4

In this handbook, civil rights leader John Perkins and Christian Community Development Association (CCDA) president Wayne Gordon revisit the founding principles of the CCDA and seek to address the emerging priorities of Christian community development today. *Making Neighborhoods Whole* will serve as the go-to textbook for practitioners of urban ministry and community development, and as an ideal starting place for anyone interested in community renewal.



In Search of Deep Faith: A Pilgrimage into the Beauty, Goodness and Heart of Christianity

\$17, 320 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-3774-8

Follow pastor Jim Belcher and his family as they take a pilgrimage through Europe, seeking substance for their faith in Christianity's historic, civilizational home. What they find, in places like Lewis's Oxford and Bonhoeffer's Germany, are glimpses of another kind of faith—one with power to cut through centuries and pierce our hearts today.



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