



*The Cost of Community:*

*Jesus, St. Francis and  
Life in the Kingdom*

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## Actually Doing What Jesus Said

Many of us read and are inspired by Jesus' words in the Sermon on the Mount and the seemingly paradoxical Beatitudes. Some of us read about and are inspired by the words and life of Francis of Assisi, who went from being a hedonistic youth to a Christian leader with great charisma and intensity. Fewer among us actually live out the teachings of Jesus in that great passage of Scripture or appropriate the radical choices of Francis.

Jamie Arpin-Ricci and his wife, Kim, have done just that on the rough-and-tumble West End streets of Winnipeg, Manitoba, as part of their work with Youth With A Mission (YWAM) Urban Ministries in Canada and as pastors of Little Flowers Community. *The Cost of Community* masterfully blends reflection on and exhortation from the words of Jesus, the example of Francis and the experiences of Little Flowers Community in Winnipeg as it guides us to live out the Sermon on the Mount—translating what we know and what we say into what we do.

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“Arpin-Ricci masterfully explores the spiritual genius of St. Francis of Assisi, the radical challenge of the Sermon on the Mount and the inspiring yet unvarnished story of a brave community that earths the values that each has to offer. This book could change the landscape of Western Christianity. Highly recommended!”

—Ian Morgan Cron, author of *Chasing Francis: A Pilgrim's Tale* and *Jesus, My Father, the CIA, and Me: A Memoir . . . of Sorts*

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**Jamie Arpin-Ricci** is an urban missionary, pastor, church planter and writer living in inner-city Winnipeg. He is founding codirector of Youth With A Mission Urban Ministries Winnipeg with his wife, Kim. He has served with YWAM in Canada since 1994, bringing him to eleven nations. Arpin-Ricci is also an active blogger as well as founder and pastor of Little Flowers Community, a missional church plant that is a partnership between YWAM and the Mennonite Church Manitoba.



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*Media Contact* | For more information and to schedule an interview with our featured author contact:

Krista Carnet, broadcast publicity, at 800.843.4587 ext. 4013 or [kkcarnet@ivpress.com](mailto:kkcarnet@ivpress.com)

Suanne Camfield, general print publicity, at 800.843.4587 ext. 4012 or [scamfield@ivpress.com](mailto:scamfield@ivpress.com)

Adrianna Wright, online publicity, at 800.843.4587 ext. 4096 or [awright@ivpress.com](mailto:awright@ivpress.com)

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