

Both-And: Living the Christ-Centered Life in an Either-Or World

October 2013

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Rich Nathan and Insoo Kim show how Christians can live out the fullness of the gospel through the both-and. They affirm that we believe in both proclamation and demonstration of the gospel, justice and mercy, and unity and diversity as one body with many parts. The answer is not to choose one or the other, but to hold both together for a richer, more holistic experience of Christianity. Then we will live into the realities of the kingdom of God, both now and not yet, on earth as it is in heaven.

Tired of the polarization of the American Christian faith?

Why did you decide to write *Both-And*?

Rich Nathan and Insoo Kim: We wrote this book because we have personally experienced the power of both-and Christianity. We have lived in this both-and tension for twenty-five years at Vineyard Columbus. We have multiple practical life experiences to share with our audience. It is our heart's desire that God would use this book to stir a radically Christ-centered faith among his followers.

How does *Both-And* speak into the culture today?

Rich and Insoo: In a time of great polarization within the body of Christ, we believe that Christians are called to radically live out the whole gospel in a way that transcends the conservative-liberal agenda and the traditional-progressive divide. Using this as the basis of the book, each chapter will cover a topic where many in the church have an either-or leaning. We will call for a radical both-and approach.

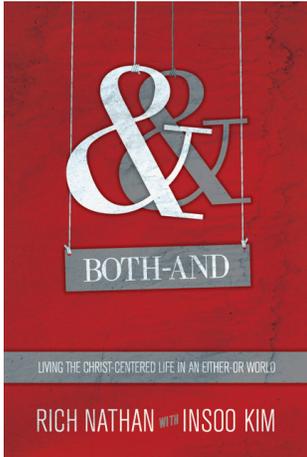
What do you hope readers take away from *Both-And*?

Rich and Insoo: First, in order for the church to be all that God intends it to be, we must embrace a both-and approach to the Christian faith. This means that in many areas where the church has bought into an either-or paradigm, we must not choose one or the other, but both.

Second, living the both-and faith is to live in tension. Both-and faith requires us getting on the high wire and walking in the tension. This tension is where the power is. It is this tension that gives our faith its vibrancy. You take away the tension, you take away the power. We are called to be both evangelical and charismatic. We are called to celebrate both unity and diversity. We are called to do both mercy and justice. We must both proclaim and demonstrate the gospel. Our ethic must be both personal and social. We are called to live in between the already and the not-yet, all the while striving for both relevant practice and orthodox doctrine! But none of this is done by moderate people who pursue a gospel of moderation. We believe that taking up our cross to follow Jesus means to radically and passionately walk on the high wire of both-and Christianity.



AUTHOR BIO



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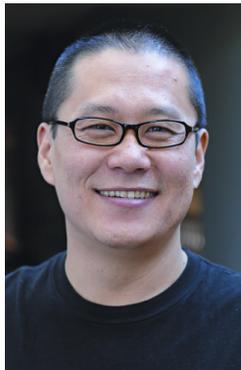


Rich Nathan is the senior pastor of Vineyard Columbus, a position that he has been serving since 1987. Vineyard Columbus is a thriving community of faith with over one hundred nations represented at the weekend services. The church that began with just a handful of people is now a multiracial, multigenerational church that averages 8,500 people at its weekend services, making it the largest church in Central Ohio and the second largest church in the state. Vineyard Columbus is the largest Vineyard church in the world.

Prior to pastoring, Rich taught business law at The Ohio State University. He is a graduate of Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio, and received his Juris Doctorate with honors from The Ohio State University College of Law in 1980. Rich has served on the Vineyard's national board for nearly two decades and is currently serving as the Large Church Task Force leader for the Vineyard. He is a popular national and international conference speaker.

Rich wrote *Who Is My Enemy? Welcoming People the Church Rejects* (Zondervan, 2002) and coauthored *Empowered Evangelicals* (Ampelton, 2009) with Ken Wilson. He has written numerous articles in publications such as *Leadership*.

Rich was born and raised in New York City. He and his wife, Marlene, have been married for over thirty-five years. They have two children and six grandchildren.



Insoo Kim serves as the pastor of ministry strategies at Vineyard Columbus. He is also the director of the Church Planting Residency Program, which exists to launch new church plants from Vineyard Columbus. Insoo is also a regular preacher at weekend services. He previously served as an assistant pastor at a Vineyard church in Chicago.

Insoo received his Bachelor of Arts from the University of Chicago and his Master of Divinity from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School. He has been married to his wife Angela since 2004, and they are the proud parents of Elliot, Isaiah and Oliver.