



MEDIA IDEA BOOK

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

2016

Welcome to the 2016 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.

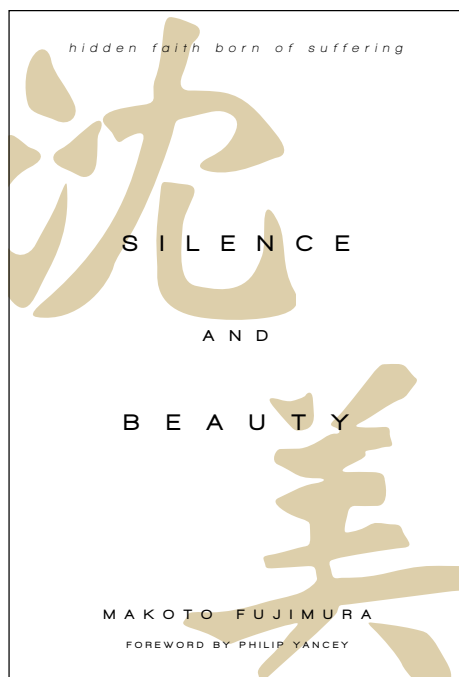
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For the latest news, press kits, experts listing and additional information about our most recent titles, you can visit our Media Center at ivpress.com/media or follow us on Twitter, @ivpress, or on the InterVarsity Press Facebook page.

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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Silence and Beauty: Hidden Faith Born of Suffering

May 2016

\$26, 263 pages, hardcover

978-0-8308-4459-3

Renowned Artist Makoto Fujimura Discovers the Beauty in Endo's Silence

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

Endo's *Silence* took internationally renowned visual artist Makoto Fujimura on a pilgrimage of grappling with the nature of art, the significance of pain and his own cultural heritage. His artistic faith journey overlaps with Endo's as Fujimura uncovers deep layers of meaning in Japanese history and literature, expressed in art both past and present. He finds connections to how faith is lived in contemporary contexts of trauma and glimpses of how the gospel is conveyed in Christ-hidden cultures.

- *Silence*, by Shusaku Endo, is a postwar story of a Jesuit missionary sent to seventeenth-century Japan. When did you first encounter his work?
- You write that Shusaku Endo is known for his "shockingly honest depictions of pain, torture and comical failures." Likewise, Martin Scorsese, director of the forthcoming film based on the novel, is also known for honest depictions of pain. Yet your book is titled *Silence and Beauty*. How did the beauty component of this work come into play for you?
- As an artist, how does the image and meaning of the fumi-e come into play in your grappling with the trauma outlined in Endo's novel?
- How do you hope readers and viewers can engage with both your book and the new Martin Scorsese film based on Endo's novel?

Author Biography



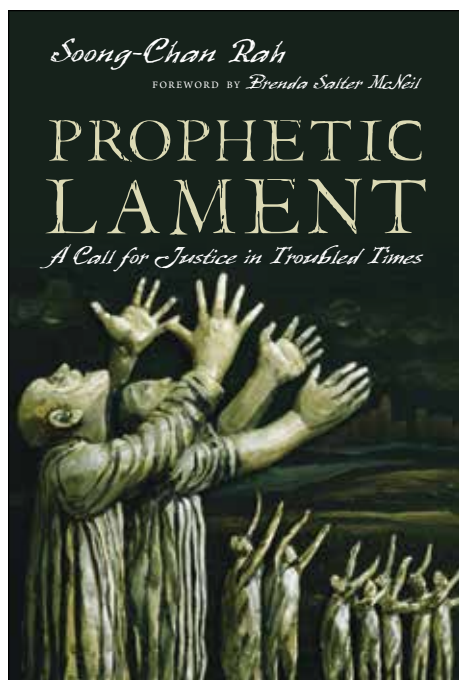
MAKOTO FUJIMURA is an internationally renowned artist, writer and speaker who serves as the director of Fuller Theological Seminary's Brehm Center for Worship, Theology and the Arts. He is also the founder of the International Arts Movement and served as a presidential appointee to the National Council on the Arts from 2003 to 2009. His books include *Refractions: A Journey of Faith, Art and Culture* and *Culture Care*. Among many awards and recognitions, the American Academy of Religion named him as its 2014 Religion and the Arts award recipient.

makotofujimura.com

Follow Makoto on Twitter: @iamfujimura.

"Fujimura . . . unearths universal implications about faith, suffering and art in this focused literary study of one novel, Shusaku Endo's *Silence*. . . . Fujimura analyzes Japan's fumi-e culture, calling it 'a culture of lament,' and asserts that 'faith can include our failures, even multiple failures.' Stories of historical figures on which Endo based *Silence*, scriptural analysis, and a wide range of literary and artistic references from both Japanese and Western culture (including Martin Scorsese's 2016 film adaptation of *Silence*) add rich, refracted layers to this carefully crafted, masterful book."

—PUBLISHERS WEEKLY STARRED REVIEW, MARCH 11, 2016



Prophetic Lament: A Call for Justice in Troubled Times
October 2015
\$17, 224 pages, paperback
978-0-8308-3694-9

How Should the Church Relate to a Suffering World?

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

When Soong-Chan Rah planted an urban church in Cambridge, Massachusetts, his first full sermon series was a six-week exposition of the book of Lamentations that shaped their community with a radically countercultural perspective. Rah's prophetic exposition of the book of Lamentations provides a biblical and theological lens for examining the church's relationship with a suffering world. Honors for *Prophetic Lament* include the following:

- Missio Alliance Essential Reading List of 2015
- Hearts & Minds Bookstore's Best Books of 2015, Social Criticism and Cultural Engagement
- Relevant's Top 10 Books of 2015, Non-Fiction
- Englewood Review of Books Best Books of 2015, Theology

Author Biography



SOONG-CHAN RAH (DMin, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary) is Milton B. Engbretson Associate Professor of Church Growth and Evangelism at North Park Theological Seminary in Chicago, Illinois. He is the author of *The Next Evangelicalism: Freeing the Church from Western Cultural Captivity* and *Many Colors: Cultural Intelligence for a Changing Church*, as well as coauthor of *Forgive Us: Confessions of a Compromised Faith* and contributing author for *Growing Healthy Asian American Churches*.

Rah has addressed thousands around the country at gatherings such as the 2003 Urbana Student Missions Conference, 2006 Congress on Urban Ministry, 2007 Urban Youth Workers Institute Conference, 2008 CCDA National Conference, 2010 Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary (GCTS) National Preaching Conference and the 2011 Disciples of Christ General Assembly.

Follow Soong-Chan on Twitter: [@profrah](https://twitter.com/profrah).

"In a culture today where we often elevate conversations about justice, reconciliation and peacemaking, Dr. Soong-Chan Rah provokes challenge and courage for the church not just to love the ideas of such things but to commit ourselves to the journey—even at the cost of including the oft forgotten process of deep lament and confession."

—EUGENE CHO, senior pastor, Quest Church, author of *Overrated*



What Does the Bible Say About Suffering?

September 2016

\$20, 176 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-5145-4

Why Is There Suffering in the World?

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

The question of suffering is perennial, personal and complex. Is there any meaning to be found in the hardships everyone endures? Looking to the Bible, Brian Han Gregg helps readers find answers by going through twelve different ways of understanding suffering. In weaving honest stories of hardship into careful explanations of Scripture, Gregg broadens our perspective, changes the way we approach suffering and shows how God is at work through it all.

“When it comes to the problem of suffering, the Bible’s approach makes it clear that discernment is necessary every step of the way,” Gregg writes. “If we are to follow the Bible’s lead as we struggle with suffering, we must cultivate an awareness and openness to the breadth of responses we see within it.”

- Reshapes how suffering is understood by broadening perspectives to twelve biblical views
- Avoids philosophical and theological theorizing and goes straight to the Bible
- Recounts vulnerable stories of suffering that connect the Bible to real life
- Ideal for small groups and anyone interested in the topic of suffering

Author Biography



BRIAN HAN GREGG (PhD, University of Notre Dame) is associate professor of biblical studies at the University of Sioux Falls in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. He is a contributor to the *Blackwell Companion to the New Testament* and *The Westminster Dictionary of New Testament and Early Christian Literature and Rhetoric*. His ministry experience includes college and missionary work with InterVarsity Christian Fellowship as well as pastoral ministry in California, Indiana and South Dakota.

“Brian Gregg brings the insights of a biblical scholar to the experience of suffering in ways that speak to mind and heart alike. His sensitive reading of the Bible shows that it has a variety of things to say about life’s greatest challenge, and each has important things to teach us. Even though no single view fits everyone’s experience and suffering is always mysterious, there is one thing we can know for sure—God is always with us, always working for good.”

—RICHARD RICE, author of *Suffering and the Search for Meaning*



Life's too short to pretend you're not religious David Dark

Life's Too Short to Pretend You're Not Religious

February 2016

\$20, 199 pages, hardcover

978-0-8308-4446-3

Religion's Not Dead!

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

In his latest book, David Dark defines religion as the controlling story in which people are blessed and cursed to find themselves. He writes that your religion is what you do with yourself, your resources and your passions, and it matters deeply. *Life's Too Short to Pretend You're Not Religious* calls readers to become more fully aware of their religion, making it the story of our lives.

- Why does the word *religious* carry so many negative connotations?
- What can we do to change the underlying meaning behind words like *religion* and *religious*?
- How does your own “weird religious background” shape the person you are today and your reasons for writing this book?
- Why does the word *religious* keep us from forming meaningful relationships and developing strong communities?
- Why is the judgment and narrow-mindedness that is directed toward the word *religious* so problematic to our culture?
- You write that, “Like God and the devil, religion is in the details.” Can you explain how and why the details matter with our religion?

Author Biography



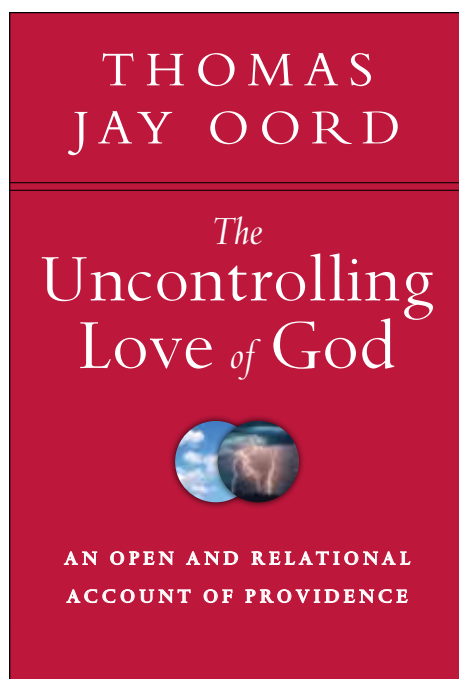
DAVID DARK (PhD, Vanderbilt University) teaches in the College of Theology at Belmont University and among the incarcerated communities of Nashville, Tennessee. He is the author of *The Sacredness of Questioning Everything*, *Everyday Apocalypse* and *The Gospel According to America*. He also contributed to the book *Radiohead and Philosophy* and has published articles in *Pitchfork*, *Paste*, *Oxford American*, *Books and Culture* and *Christian Century*. A frequent speaker, David has appeared on C-SPAN's *Book-TV* and in the award-winning documentary *Marketing the Message*. He lives with his singer-songwriter wife, Sarah Masen, and their three children in Nashville.

daviddark.org

Follow David on Twitter: @DavidDark.

“David Dark is one of our most astute and necessary cultural critics. His work gracefully opens new doors of understanding and breaks down barriers between secular and non-, and it puts a lot of old mythology out to pasture with a daring affirmation at the heart of his radical critique. Life's Too Short refreshingly ropes everyone in, insisting that we're all in it together. We forget that.”

—JESSICA HOPPER, author of *The First Collection of Criticism by a Living Female Rock Critic*



The Uncontrolling Love of God: An Open and Relational Account of Providence

December 2015

\$22, 229 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-4084-7

A Philosopher's Defense of Open Theology

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

Rarely does a new theological position emerge to account well for life in the world, including not only goodness and beauty but also tragedy and randomness. Drawing from Scripture, science, philosophy and various theological traditions, Thomas Jay Oord offers a novel theology of providence—essential kenosis—that emphasizes God's inherently noncoercive love in relation to creation. Throughout his much-talked-about book, Oord discusses such questions as:

- What does the thesis that God acts in relation to creation through uncontrolling love mean?
- How does evil play into the concept of love in relation to God?
- How do random chance and free will relate to an open account of providence?
- What is essential kenosis?
- How can God be the source of miracles while not controlling creatures and situations?

Author Biography



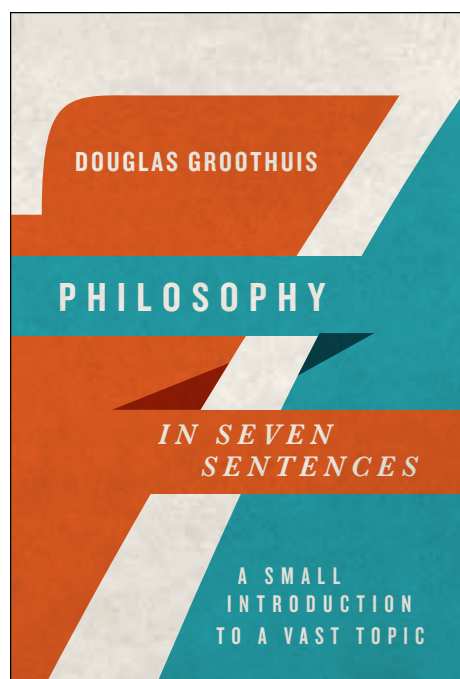
THOMAS JAY OORD (PhD, Claremont Graduate University) is professor of theology and philosophy at Northwest Nazarene University in Nampa, Idaho. He serves as adviser or on the councils of several scholarly groups, including the Open and Relational Theologies group (AAR), Biologos, Institute for Research on Unlimited Love, Research Theological Fellowship, Wesleyan Theological Society and the Wesleyan Philosophical Society. Oord has written or edited more than twenty books, including *Defining Love: A Philosophical, Scientific, and Theological Engagement*, *The Nature of Love: A Theology* and *Theologies of Creation: Creatio Ex Nihilo and Its New Rivals*. He is known for his contributions to research on love, open and relational theologies, post-modernism, issues in religion and science, and Wesleyan, holiness and evangelical theologies.

thomasjayoord.com

Follow Thomas on Twitter: @ThomasJayOord.

"A work of a mature thinker, this book secures Oord's legacy as the theologian of love. It is a comprehensive theological response to the age-old question of how genuine evil exists even assuming the omnipotent and omnibenevolent God of Christian faith, and is all the more compelling given its biblical, philosophical and scientifically informed tapestry—no mean feat! The faithful across all Christian traditions will be encouraged to live a life of love even as skeptics will be invited to think again and again."

—AMOS YONG, professor of theology and mission, Fuller Theological Seminary



Philosophy in Seven Sentences: A Small Introduction to a Vast Topic

February 2016

\$16, 160 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-4093-9

A Bite-Sized Introduction to Philosophy

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

Douglas Groothuis says, “Philosophy is not a closed club or a secret society. Since we can all think about ultimate questions, let us do it.” Here he offers an introduction to philosophy with a brief look at seven well-known phrases from seven noted philosophers:

1. Protagoras: Man is the measure of all things.
2. Socrates: The unexamined life is not worth living.
3. Aristotle: All men by nature desire to know.
4. Augustine: You have made us for yourself, and restless is our heart until it comes to rest in you.
5. Descartes: I think, therefore I am.
6. Pascal: The heart has its reasons of which reason knows nothing.
7. Kierkegaard: The greatest hazard of all, losing one’s self, can occur very quietly in the world, as if it were nothing at all.

Author Biography

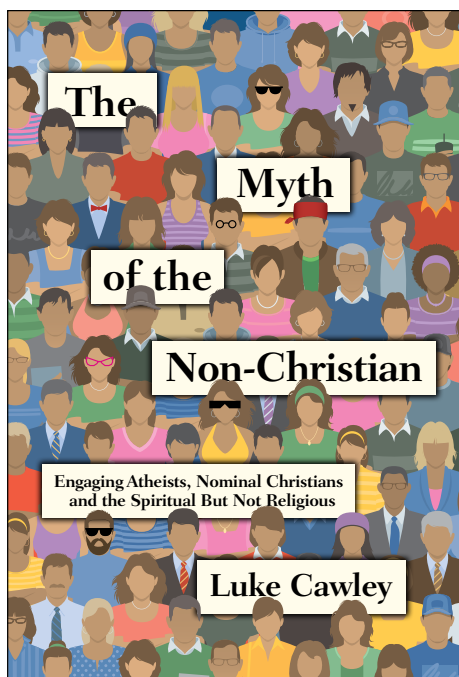


DOUGLAS GROOTHUIS (PhD, University of Oregon) is professor of philosophy at Denver Seminary in Denver, Colorado. He has also been a visiting professor or adjunct faculty member at Fuller Theological Seminary (Colorado Springs extension), Metropolitan State College of Denver, Westminster Theological Seminary (California campus), University of Oregon, New College Berkeley and Seattle Pacific University.

He has written several books, including *Truth Decay*, *In Defense of Natural Theology* (coeditor), *Unmasking the New Age*, *Jesus in an Age of Controversy*, *Deceived by the Light*, *The Soul in Cyberspace* and, in the Wadsworth Philosophers Series, *On Pascal* and *On Jesus*. His articles have been published in professional journals such as *Religious Studies*, *Sophia*, *Theory and Research in Education*, *Philosophia Christi*, *Themelios*, *Think: A Journal of the Royal Institute of Philosophy*, *Christian Scholar’s Review*, *Inquiry* and *Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society*.

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Follow Doug on Twitter: @DougGroothuis.



The Myth of the Non-Christian: Engaging Atheists, Nominal Christians and the Spiritual But Not Religious
March 2016
\$16, 240 pages, paperback
978-0-8308-4450-0

Talking About Jesus with Atheists and the Spiritual But Not Religious

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

After attending the Burning Man festival, Luke Cawley came to a realization: many people assumed to be far from the church are actually quite open to talking about the Christian faith. The trouble is that the church typically views everyone outside its fold in the same way, limiting the church's ability to connect and witness. In *The Myth of the Non-Christian*, Cawley describes how to strike up conversations that point people to Jesus through engaging stories and provides a detailed look at the backgrounds of the "spiritual but not religious," convinced atheists and nominal Christians.

- Argues that using the label "non-Christian" is hurting the church's witness
- Advocates for contextual apologetics, combining an understanding of others' contexts with apologetic reasoning in order to effectively share about Jesus
- Engages the majority of people not following Jesus in the West today: the "spiritual but not religious," convinced atheists and nominal Christians
- Relates real-life conversations with people from different backgrounds to demonstrate the flow of thoughtful conversations about the Christian faith

Author Biography



LUKE CAWLEY is the director of Chrysolis, an organization he helped start to enable organizations and churches to communicate the Jesus story. He has a master's degree in evangelism and leadership from Wheaton College and a certificate in theological and pastoral studies from Oxford University. He is a regular speaker and an active writer and blogger. He enjoys engaging with people who wouldn't normally consider Jesus and often speaks in contexts where God is not typically discussed, such as schools, bars, cafes and theaters.

lukecawley.org

Follow Luke on Twitter: [@lukecawley](https://twitter.com/lukecawley).

"I've been equipped and inspired anew by this book to better understand and connect with the many different kinds of people who don't yet follow Jesus. Ditch the one-size-fits-all approach to being a witness: let this book help you do the things that may actually meet our friends' felt spiritual needs."

—JAMES CHOUNG, national director of evangelism, InterVarsity Christian Fellowship/USA, author of *True Story*



Soul Bare: Stories of Redemption by Emily P. Freeman,
Sarah Bessey, Trillia Newbell and more
August 2016
\$16, 224 pages, paperback
978-0-8308-4326-8

Stories of Redemption from the Best of Today's Influential Young Writers

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

The women and men of *Soul Bare* not only intimately understand the risks of exposure, but they are also willing to share their most poignant and painful moments with you. *Soul Bare* features contributions from the best of today's influential young writers, including the following:

- Emily P. Freeman
- Trillia Newbell
- Holley Gerth
- Seth Haines
- Jennifer Dukes Lee

Editor Biography



CARA SEXTON lives with her husband and four children in southern Oregon in a 1902 homestead dubbed the “Crooked Little House,” whose walls are full of stories and land rush secrets. She writes creative nonfiction, spiritual memoir, poetry and fiction, and also worked as a nonfiction editor for *Duende*, the online literary journal of Goddard College, where she is currently completing a BFA program in creative writing. Her work has also appeared in *What a Woman is Worth* and *Finding Church*, among other places.

Follow Cara on Twitter: @WhimsySmitten.

“Most people are afraid to let their messy, complicated lives out into the open. We dress up for church on Sunday and we smile and shake hands, but we hide our deepest selves, our real lives, from one another. I don’t believe it is intended to be this way. I believe our vulnerability, our failures and fears, are the primary spot where the gospel has always penetrated first and deepest. I believe redemption happens over and over again for us in large and small ways all the time, and that sharing our stories—not just the neat and pretty stories, but the bloody and broken ones too—is part of the mission of sharing the gospel. Jesus always operated within vulnerability, in the very center of brokenness, and did not shy away from the messy edges. I think we ought to do the same with one another—to use our most tender places, our soul bare stories, to connect with each other and with the Divine.”

—CARA SEXTON, editor of *Soul Bare*



The Gift of Hard Things: Finding Grace in Unexpected Places
August 2016
\$16, 176 pages, paperback
978-0-8308-4608-5

Master Storyteller's Narrative About Finding Grace in Unexpected Places

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

Using extraordinary stories from his own life and the lives of others, Mark Yaconelli offers a narrative journey through ways in which disappointments have turned into gifts. He writes, "We are small, sensitive creatures with short lifespans, in a world that is often chaotic, capricious, mysterious, terrible and wonderful all at the same time. Failure, disappointment, loss and other difficult experiences call us to accept our humanity, feel grateful for what has been given, receive the care of others and seek guidance from the Holy Spirit."

Author Biography



MARK YACONELLI is the founder and executive director of The Hearth Community, a registered nonprofit that assists cities and charitable agencies in producing personal storytelling projects. He has developed, facilitated and produced community storytelling events for multiple groups within the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom including the Ford Family Foundation, the Church of Wales, the Boys and Girls Club, the Geos Institute, Asante Hospital Hospice, the Oregon Department of Human Services and many others.

Yaconelli is the author of numerous books including *Contemplative Youth Ministry*, *Growing Souls*, *Downtime and Wonder*, *Fear, and Longing*. Profiles of Mark and his work have appeared in the *Wall Street Journal*, *ABC World News Tonight*, *New York Times Online*, *Washington Post Online*, *CBS Radio* and *Youthworker Journal*.

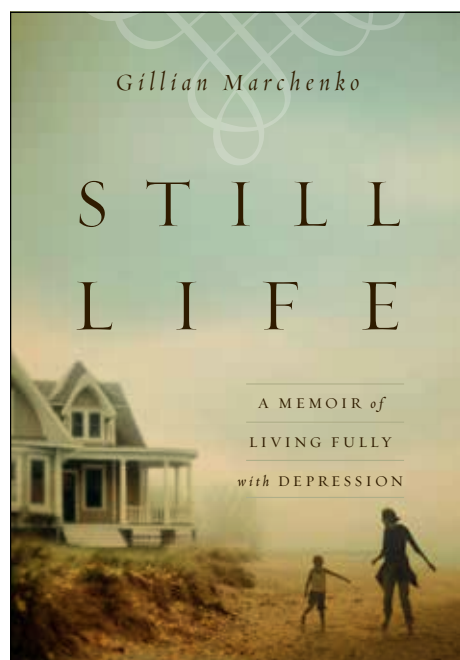
markyaconelli.wordpress.com

"To my thinking, Mark Yaconelli is one of this country's most important and articulate spiritual teachers. Anyone seeking knowledge and union with God will be informed, edified, nourished and utterly charmed by The Gift of Hard Things. I savored every story and was nurtured by the expression and depth. It is a book absolutely after my own heart."

—ANNE LAMOTT, author of *Traveling Mercies* and *Small Victories*

"I am undone. Maybe it's because Mark Yaconelli is the best storyteller of his generation, or because these pages are so achingly honest, or because somehow this guy just has my number—but whatever the reason, this book made me 'softer, more open, more human.' The Gift of Hard Things is a book of dazzling grace, a slice of holy ground, as life-giving as water in the desert. Take your shoes off and drink up."

—KENDA DEAN, Princeton Theological Seminary, author of *Almost Christian*



Still Life: A Memoir of Living Fully with Depression

April 2016

\$16, 192 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-4324-4

Life with Depression Is Still a Life Worth Living

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

For Gillian Marchenko, having depression means learning to accept and treat it as a physical illness. Her latest book, *Still Life*, follows her through the raw and realistic journey of living with chronic depression. She continually asks herself the question: How can she care for her family when she can't even get out of bed? Through this journey, she learns that although there aren't quick fixes, you can find hope in a life of depression.

She writes, "I wrote *Still Life* as an observation, a look at something a lot of people don't know intimately, about something that those who do know about it hide: life with depression. I have depression and it has been hard on my family. I wanted to figure out a way to glorify God in the struggle and to use it for good. Hopefully, God willing, this book will do that. I wanted to show other Christian women who struggle with mental health that they are not alone."

- Offers a hopeful realism for those suffering from depression
- Describes different therapeutic approaches the author experienced
- Reflects the difficulty of parenting during a season of depression

Author Biography



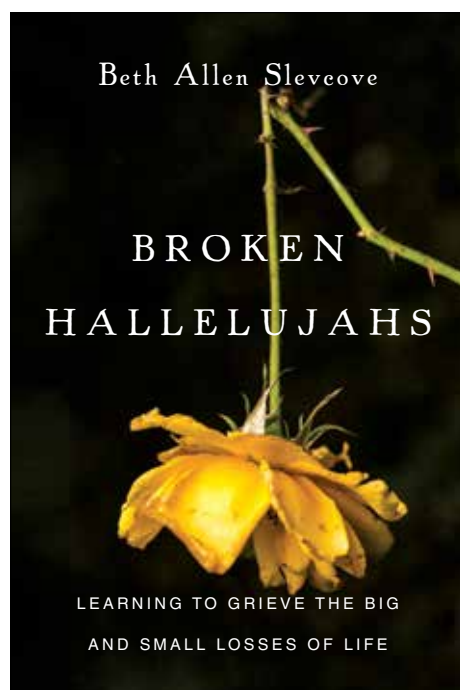
GILLIAN MARCHENKO is an author, speaker, wife, mother of four daughters and advocate for individuals with special needs. Her memoir, *Sun Shine Down* (T. S. Poetry Press), chronicles her experience having a baby with Down syndrome while serving as a missionary in Ukraine. Gillian writes and speaks about parenting kids with Down syndrome, faith, depression, imperfection and adoption. In addition to being featured in numerous radio interviews and guest blogging on several websites, Gillian has written for publications such as *Chicago Parent*, *Thriving Family*, *Gifted for Leadership*, *Today's Christian Woman*, *Literary Mama*, *MomSense Magazine* and *EFCA Today*. She and her husband Sergei spent four years as church planters with the Evangelical Free Church of America in Kiev, Ukraine, and they now live with their four daughters in St. Louis, Missouri.

gillianmarchenko.com

Follow Gillian on Twitter: @GillianMarchenk.

"With unflinching honesty, Gillian Marchenko holds up a mirror to her own clinical depression and in doing so gives language and definition to something that often feels vague and dark. A must-read for anyone trying to understand their depressed spouse, friend, family member . . . or self."

—ADDIE ZIERMAN, author of *When We Were on Fire and Night Driving*



Broken Hallelujahs: Learning to Grieve the Big and Small Losses of Life

March 2016

\$16, ii + 215 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-4323-7

How Do We Grieve Our Everyday Sorrows?

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

Beth Slevcove writes: “One of my favorite songs is Leonard Cohen’s perplexing and beautiful ‘Hallelujah.’ In it, he gorgeously weaves raw stories of fallen human beings who cry out ‘Hallelujah’ from the midst of brokenness. He calls it ‘a cold’ and ‘broken Hallelujah.’ Thanks to this song and an assortment of undesirable life experiences, hallelujah has become one of the most powerful words I know, a word capable of unapologetically lashing great pain and disillusionment to heartfelt praise, a seemingly impossible task. Yet this is our task. Living into the contradictory realities of brokenness and beauty is the spiritual journey. It’s not an easy journey, but it’s the only one that allows us to fully engage in the sacred symphony of life.”

How we deal with the big and small losses of life may mean the difference between depression and bitterness, and growth and compassion. In *Broken Hallelujahs* Beth teaches and shows through the stories of her own losses how to grieve in ways that move us forward toward a more abundant life.

Author Biography

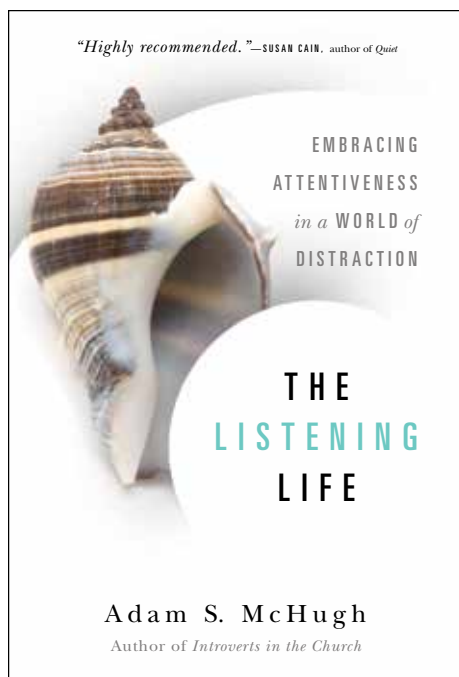


BETH ALLEN SLEVCOVE is a spiritual director, retreat leader, writer, surfer and mother. She served as the director of spiritual formation for Youth Specialties for seven years and holds advanced degrees in theology and education. She also co-led a spiritual direction training program through Christian Formation and Direction Ministries (CFDM) and currently co-leads the San Diego Spiritual Directors Association.

Beth is deeply rooted in her urban Lutheran congregation and is an Oblate at a Benedictine monastery. She created and runs the Surf Monkey Fellowship, a Southern California surf company and online community. She lives in San Diego, California, with her husband and two young children.

“What is truly refreshing about Broken Hallelujahs is the absence of sentimentalism. With a timely cadence, this book moved me to tears—tears of grief, loss and lament, but also tears of joyfulness and gratitude. Beth’s willingness to be vulnerable and to call a thing what it is gave me permission to sink into the profound truth that Jesus Christ shows us it is truly human to sometimes cry out, ‘My God, why have you forsaken me?’ Broken Hallelujahs ministered to my soul like a balm of Gilead. I love this book and hope you will take care of your soul by reading this astonishing story.”

—MIKE KING, president and CEO, Youthfront, author of *Presence Centered Youth Ministry*



The Listening Life: Embracing Attentiveness in a World of Distraction

December 2015

\$16, 224 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-4412-8

Are You a Good Listener?

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

Adam McHugh places listening at the heart of our spirituality, our relationships and our mission in the world. He says, “We are missing things. People are sharing deep things with us and we aren’t hearing them or we don’t know how to attune to them. God is moving among us but we aren’t paying enough attention. The natural world is speaking to us and proclaiming the glory of God, but we can’t always hear it. We are detached. Starting to truly listen is a way that we can attach to God, to others and to ourselves. It is a fundamental way that we grow into loving God and loving our neighbor as ourselves.”

Adam describes what it means to truly do the following:

- Listen to God
- Listen to Scripture
- Listen to creation
- Listen to others
- Listen to people in pain
- Listen to your life

Author Biography



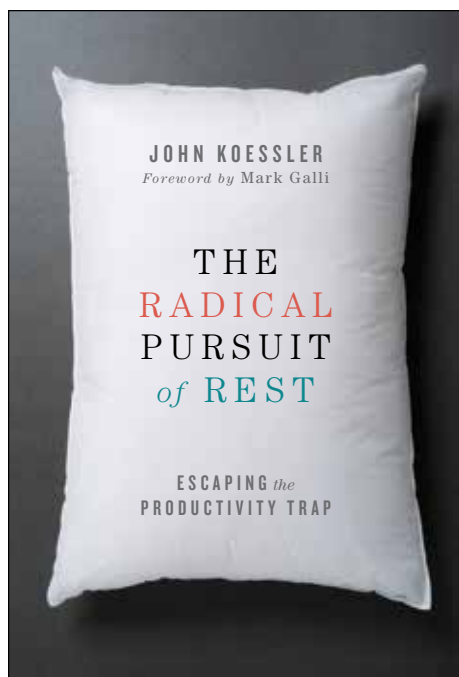
ADAM S. MCHUGH (ThM, Princeton Theological Seminary) is an ordained Presbyterian minister and spiritual director. He has served at two Presbyterian churches, as a hospice chaplain and as campus staff with InterVarsity Christian Fellowship. He is the author of *Introverts in the Church* and lives in Santa Barbara, California.

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Follow Adam on Twitter: @adamsmchugh.

“Adam McHugh has been a significant contributor to the conversation about how introverts experience the world. His new book, The Listening Life, has the power to reshape how both introverts and extroverts make space for deep listening in a world that swims in the shallows. Highly recommended.”

—SUSAN CAIN, author of *Quiet*



The Radical Pursuit of Rest: Escaping the Productivity Trap
January 2016
\$16, 176 pages, paperback
978-0-8308-4444-9

The Pursuit of Rest is the Pursuit of God

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

John Koessler writes, “Rest is an end in itself. We do not work in order to justify the fact that we rest. We do not rest in order to work. Rest as the Bible describes it is our destiny. It is what we were made for. In this book I am arguing for the radical pursuit of rest. . . . I am not arguing that we pursue rest by radical means. Rather, it is the pursuit of rest itself that is radical.” Koessler wants readers to walk away from *The Radical Pursuit of Rest* knowing the following:

- Rest is not a means to an end but an end in itself
- Rest is more than a spiritual discipline, and Sabbath is more than a day—rest is ultimately a person
- A church that is addicted to productivity is susceptible to false rest, unhealthy ambition and spiritual utilitarianism
- Worship is a mode of rest, and we are its primary beneficiaries
- The pursuit of rest is really the pursuit of God

Author Biography



JOHN KOESSLER (DMin, Trinity International University) is chair and professor of pastoral studies at Moody Bible Institute in Chicago, Illinois, where he has served for over twenty years. He is the author of several books, including *The Surprising Grace of Disappointment*, *True Discipleship*, *God Our Father* and *A Stranger in the House of God*. He is the general editor of *The Moody Handbook of Preaching and Foundational Faith*, and has written for publications such as *Christianity Today*, *Discipleship Journal*, *Leadership* and *Decision*.

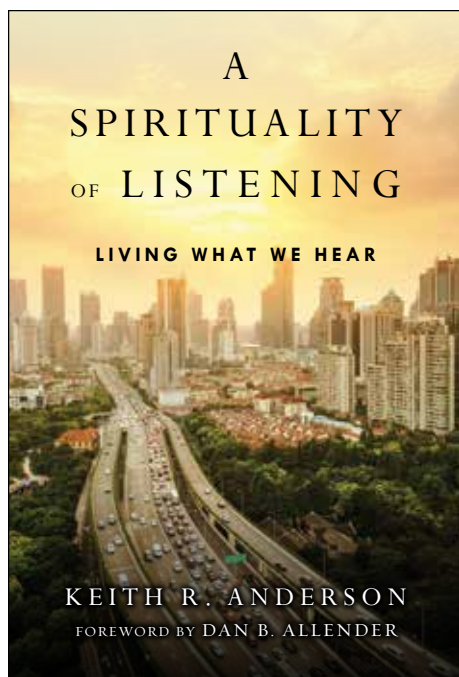
Previously, John served as a pastor at Valley Chapel in Green Valley, Illinois, and as consulting editor for *Moody Magazine*. He has made numerous radio and broadcast appearances, and is a frequent speaker at pastors’ conferences.

johnkoessler.com

Follow John on Twitter: @John_Koessler.

“Most of us yearn for some R & R, but we set our sights too low. It isn’t just that we don’t do Sabbaths well. We can hardly imagine what Jesus meant when he said, ‘I will give you rest.’ John Koessler, with his characteristically lucid and artistic writing, welcomes us into a kind of leisure that does not require us to wait for our day off.”

—LEE ECLOV, senior pastor, Village Church of Lincolnshire, author of *Pastoral Graces*, contributor to *Preaching Today* and *Leadership Journal*



A Spirituality of Listening: Living What We Hear

March 2016

\$16, 208 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-4609-2

God Still Speaks—Learn to Hear His Voice

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

Is it still possible to hear God's voice, or does God no longer speak to people? Keith R. Anderson contends that if we believe God is still active in the world, then he most certainly does speak to us—the problem is we have forgotten how to listen.

A Spirituality of Listening helps us re-learn centuries-old practices of knowing God—practices Jesus also engaged in—that open our ears to God's voice. The key to hearing God, Keith says, is recognizing that spirituality is found in listening to the ordinary details of day-to-day life.

Joining Keith on this path to spiritual growth leads to God's voice in the places God has always spoken.

- Why can't people hear God speak?
- What practices does the Bible teach about listening, from creation to Jesus? How do they apply today?
- Life is found in the details, but how do we hear God through all the noise?
- What's needed to learn to hear God in ordinary, day-to-day events?

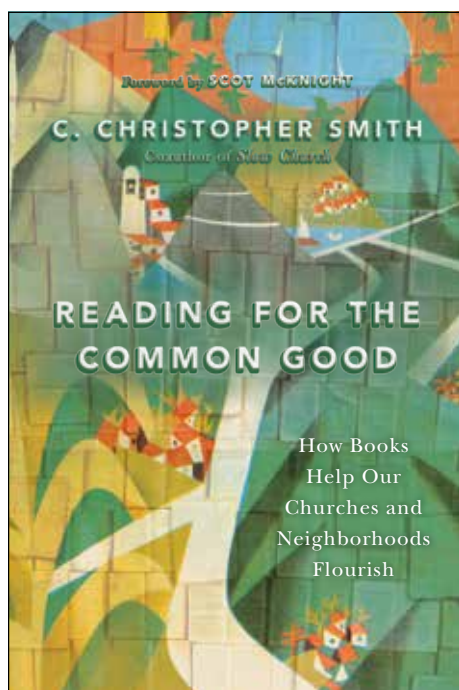
Author Biography



KEITH R. ANDERSON (DMin, George Fox Evangelical Seminary) is president of The Seattle School of Theology and Psychology and is also professor of practical theology. He is the author of six books, including *Spiritual Mentoring*, *Friendships That Run Deep* and *Does God Believe In You?* Keith previously served as dean of spiritual formation and vocation at Northwestern College in Orange City, Iowa, and was director of Vocare, a program for theological exploration of vocation.

"Keith Anderson is a fiercely humble, kind and generous man who will help you receive the blessing of attunement. Keith writes in a manner that is accessible but also invites you to join him on a theologically rich trek. . . . I am Keith's debtor for a lifetime of listening and now I am thankful that you get to listen to the beauty of his words and life. You too will never be the same."

—DAN B. ALLENDER, author of *To Be Told*



Reading for the Common Good: How Books Help Our Churches and Neighborhoods Flourish

July 2016

\$16, 179 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-4449-4

Awakening Churches from Electronic Slumbers

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

We have been created to live and work faithfully in community, and that involves two interwoven threads: learning and action. C. Christopher Smith explores the practice of reading and, in his words, “how we can read together as churches in ways that drive us deeper into action.” Further he writes, “Reading is a vital practice that can—if done carefully and well—ultimately contribute to the health and flourishing of our communities. . . . Flourishing is the opposite of sin and brokenness and suffering. It is an English synonym for the Hebrew word *shalom*, which means total peace, health and well-being. Thus, in these pages we will explore the sort of reading that moves us toward flourishing in our churches, our neighborhoods and the world at large.”

- Why is reading important for building community?
- How can communally engaging with different books and texts aid in the flourishing of our neighborhoods?
- What sorts of books are most apt to spur on change?
- How can reading in community serve as a wake-up call, allowing us to see God’s work all around us?

Author Biography



C. CHRISTOPHER SMITH is editor of the *The Englewood Review of Books* and a member of the Englewood Christian Church community on the urban Near Eastside of Indianapolis. He is the coauthor of *Slow Church*. Chris’s writing has appeared in *Books and Culture*, *Sojourners*, the *Christian Century* and *Indiana Green Living*.

englewoodreview.org

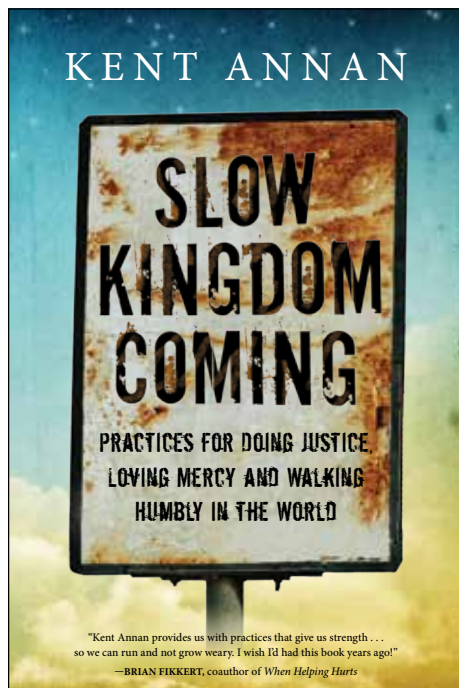
Follow Chris on Twitter: @ERBks.

“Opening up Reading for the Common Good is like sitting down for a chat with the best kind of friend. C. Christopher Smith’s references will provide layers of meaning and inspiration while his heartening and hopeful words will expand your soul.”

—CAROL HOWARD MERRITT, columnist, the *Christian Century*, author of *Healing Spiritual Wounds*

“Having devoted the entirety of my personal and professional life to the vision and practices laid out in Reading for the Common Good, I offer a hearty ‘Hear! Hear!’ This book will inspire, motivate and challenge anyone who cares a whit about the written word, the world of ideas, the shape of our communities and the life of the church.”

—KAREN SWALLOW PRIOR, author of *Booked* and *Fierce Convictions*



Slow Kingdom Coming: Practices for Doing Justice, Loving Mercy and Walking Humbly in the World
May 2016
\$16, 149 pages, paperback
978-0-8308-4455-5

Combating the Paralysis Caused by Helping Others

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

No one said pursuing justice would be easy. How do you stay committed to the journey when God's kingdom can seem so slow in coming? Kent Annan understands the struggle of working for justice over the long haul. In this book, he shares practices he has learned that will guide and strengthen you as you love mercy, do justice and walk humbly in the world.

- What's the meaning behind "slow kingdom coming"?
- How does this new book project align with your work on *Following Jesus Through the Eye of the Needle* and *After Shock*?
- Why does our commitment to change need to be deep rather than shallow?
- How have you found these spiritual practices—attention, confession, respect, partnering, truthing—so important to your own justice work? How have you seen them work for others?
- You've dedicated your life's work to doing justice and helping the least of these, but this book addresses how difficult and discouraging doing that work can be in light of the state of our world. How do you have the energy to write a book to help others find hope?

Author Biography



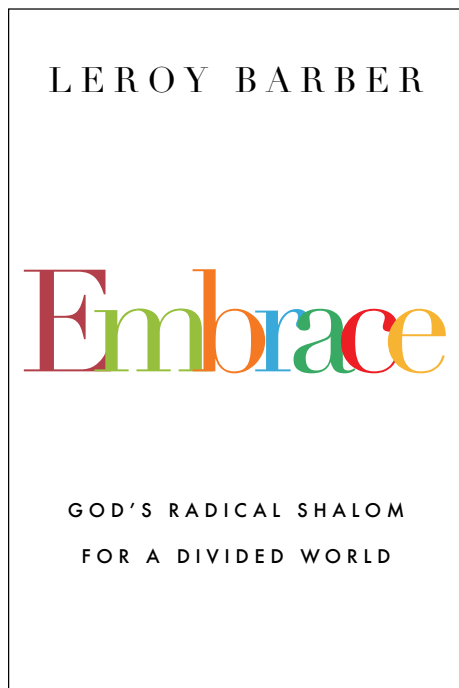
KENT ANNAN (MDiv, Princeton Theological Seminary) is a writer, speaker and codirector of Haiti Partners, a nonprofit focused on education in Haiti. He is the author of *After Shock* and *Following Jesus Through the Eye of the Needle* and has spent fifteen years working with people in difficult situations around the world, including in Europe with refugees and in Haiti. Kent's writing has appeared in publications including *Christianity Today*, *Utne Reader*, *Subtropics*, *Geez*, *Adbusters*, *The Sun*, *Orion* and *Sojourners*. One of his essays was cited as a "Notable Essay" in the Best American Essays series, and he wrote a chapter for the book *Global Perspectives on the Bible*. Speaking regularly to groups around the country, Kent also teaches adult education at his local church. He travels to Haiti regularly from Florida, where he lives with his wife, Shelly, and their two children.

kentannan.com

Follow Kent on Twitter: @kentannan.

"*Slow Kingdom Coming* is one of the most honest yet hopeful reads for those who seek to do the work of justice today. Kent calls out shortsighted, quick-fix approaches and then offers a more responsible, sustainable way to love the world. This book is accessible, inspiring and actionable. It should be required reading for anyone who is serious about participating in the slow yet beautiful work of God's redemption in the world."

—JENA LEE NARDELLA, cofounder, Blood:Water, author of *One Thousand Wells*



Embrace: God's Radical Shalom for a Divided World

September 2016

\$16, 192 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-4471-5

Ideas for Pursuing Shalom from a Leading Voice in Reconciliation

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

We live in an age of strife and division. Factors such as race, class, values and lifestyles keep us from connecting with others in meaningful ways. Leroy Barber has spent decades pursuing reconciliation and justice among groups of vastly diverse people. He knows the challenge of embracing those who are difficult to embrace, yet he advocates that the way to radical shalom on earth is through pursuing these relationships.

- Written by a seasoned reconciliation and justice leader
- Addresses the timely issues of race and class divisions
- Shares how to love hard people and places
- Considers what “Black Lives Matter” means in light of radical shalom

Author Biography



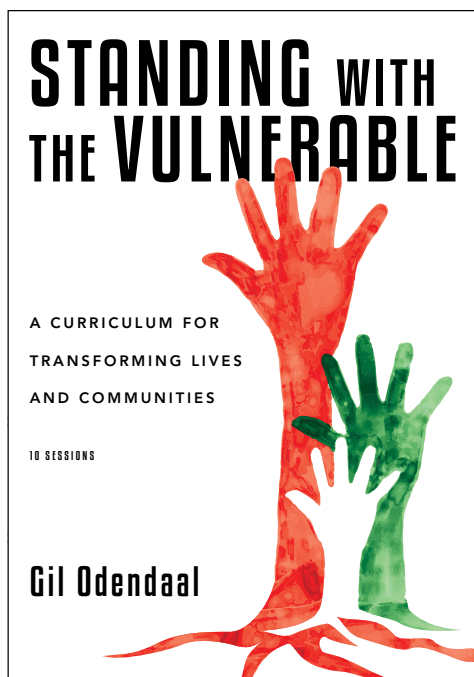
LEROY BARBER has dedicated more than twenty-five years to eradicating poverty, confronting homelessness, restoring local neighborhoods, healing racism and living what Dr. King called “the beloved community.” He is the author of *New Neighbor* and *Everyday Missions*, and the coauthor of *Red, Brown, Yellow, Black, White—Who’s More Precious in God’s Sight?* with Velma Maia Thomas. He is also a contributing author to *Tending to Eden* by Scott Sabin and the groundbreaking book *unChristian* by David Kinnaman and Gabe Lyons.

voices-project.org

Follow Leroy on Twitter: [@LeroyBarber](https://twitter.com/LeroyBarber).

“When we witness some great good, there are without a doubt friendships behind the scenes that made the difference. Large donations, peace processes between nations and even bipartisan advances in politics usually mean there is a good relationship in the background. If this is the case, then it is vital that we begin to relate to the others in our lives. This will move the world forward in peace.”

—LEROY BARBER, author of *Embrace*



Standing with the Vulnerable: A Curriculum for Transforming Lives and Communities
October 2016
\$18, 192 pages, paperback
978-0-8308-2099-3

Curriculum from World Relief Mobilizes the Church for the Causes of Our Day

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

Children are orphaned, refugees are displaced and families are devastated by natural disasters. This curriculum from World Relief is designed to mobilize the church to engage the great causes of our day, stand with the vulnerable and meet the needs of our neighbors as Jesus did. These ten sessions show how shaping our fundamental beliefs and values leads to better actions and results.

Topics include the following:

- Understanding development and poverty
- God's compassion for the poor
- Harmful beliefs and poverty
- Replacing harmful beliefs with God's truth
- The church's role in addressing poverty

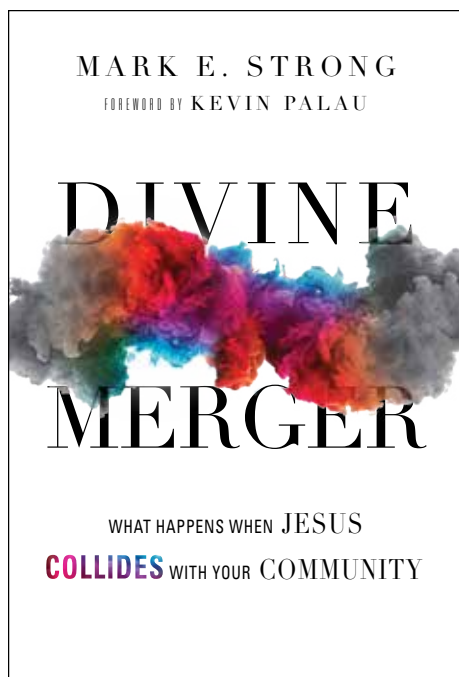
Author Biography



GIL ODENDAAL (PhD, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School; DMin, Westminster Theological Seminary) is a missionary, pastor, educator, leader and public speaker who serves as vice president of Integral Mission at World Relief. He previously served as the global director for PEACE Implementation with Saddleback Church in Lake Forest, California, as well as global director for the HIV/AIDS Initiative under Kay Warren.

Gil has dedicated more than thirty years to empowering the church around the world to seamlessly integrate word and deed ministries that transform communities, especially through health-related initiatives. He has served as regional coordinator for Africa, Russia and Eastern Europe with Medical Ambassadors International and he is currently serving on the Lausanne Movement Integral Mission Leadership team and on the board of Accord (Association of Christian Relief and Development Organizations).

worldrelief.org



Divine Merger: What Happens When Jesus Collides with Your Community
March 2016
\$16, 176 pages, paperback
978-0-8308-4452-4

A Trusted Guide Brings Together Communities and Churches

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

In *Divine Merger*, urban pastor Mark Strong inspires churches to break out of their walls and into ministry in their communities. Motivated by the transformation he saw in his own church and Oregon community, Mark says, “I’ve had a burning passion to see communities and cities impacted by the gospel. I want to help churches and followers of Jesus understand that God can and will use their gifts and passions to create a Jesus collision in their community.”

Bolstered by the discussion questions, step-by-step guidance and relatable stories in *Divine Merger*, churches receive just the jolt they need to begin this mission head on.

- Excites and motivates churches to begin working with and in their communities
- Provides steps to creating a “super-simple plan” that can have a great impact on complex issues affecting a community
- Gives a look into Mark’s own journey of connecting church and community
- Gives practical advice from beginning to end of the divine merger process, from first breaking out into the community to praying and mitigating stress when in the midst of service

Author Biography



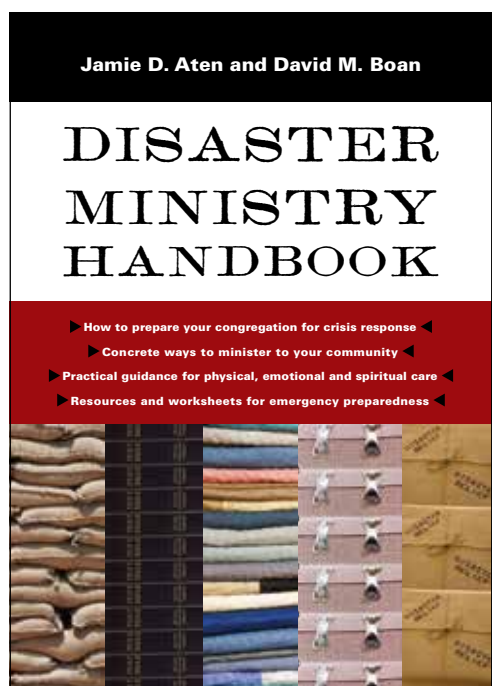
MARK E. STRONG (DMin, George Fox Seminary) is senior pastor of LifeChange Christian Church, a diverse congregation located in the heart of inner-city Portland, Oregon. He is the author of *Church for the Fatherless* and he serves on the Board of Regents at George Fox Seminary.

“Mark Strong is a legend in our city. The archetype of a wise, humble, faithful urban pastor. Many younger planters look to him for more than mentorship, but for a template to pour our own lives into. When a guy like Mark talks about the collision of Jesus and community, I listen.”

—JOHN MARK COMER, Bridgetown: A Jesus Church, Portland, Oregon

“The book is inspiring, biblical and practical. If you want to catalyze change in your church and community, this book, filled with stories of Mark’s own experiences and insights learned on the battlefield, can be a trusted guide.”

—MARYKATE MORSE, George Fox Seminary, author of *A Guidebook to Prayer*



Disaster Ministry Handbook
 March 2016
 \$19, 208 pages, paperback
 978-0-8308-4122-6

Is the Church Disaster Ready?

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

In a broken world, natural disasters and human tragedies abound. Church leaders need to ask themselves not “what will we do if disaster strikes?” but “what can we do when disaster strikes?” Based on research from real-life disasters and crisis management best practices, *Disaster Ministry Handbook* by Jamie Aten and David Boan provides the necessary tools for churches to prepare for, respond to and recover from disasters of all kinds.

“Most people do not know how to effectively prepare for or respond to disasters. Moreover, in conducting research around the globe, David and I have found that there is a great deal of variability among how ready churches are for disasters,” Jamie says. “Some churches in high-risk areas are relatively prepared, and others little or not at all. We have found an alarming trend: most churches realize there are threats but few do anything ahead of time to actually prepare for disasters.”

They have conducted research on various disasters worldwide, including the following:

- Hurricane Katrina (2005)
- The national H1N1 outbreak (2009)
- The Haiti earthquake (2010)
- The Japan tsunami (2011)

Author Biographies



JAMIE D. ATEN (PhD, Indiana State University) is the founder and codirector of the Humanitarian Disaster Institute, and Dr. Arthur P. Rech and Mrs. Jean May Rech Associate Professor of Psychology at Wheaton College (Wheaton, Illinois). Previously he served as the assistant director of the Katrina Research Center and as assistant professor of psychology at the University of Southern Mississippi.

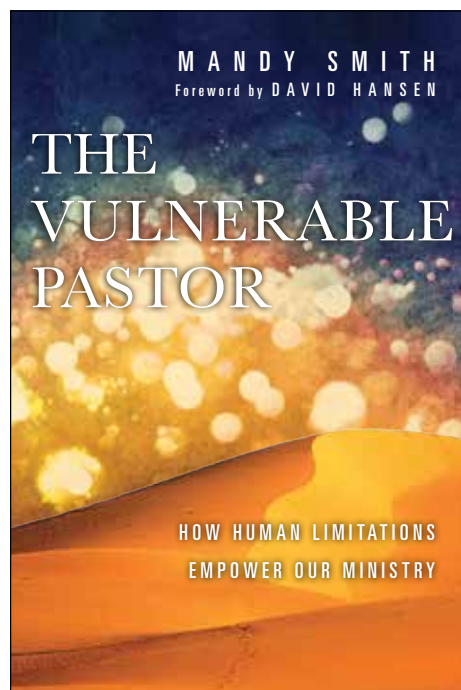


DAVID M. BOAN (PhD, Biola University) is associate professor of psychology at Wheaton College and codirector of the college’s Humanitarian Disaster Institute, where he leads basic and applied research on international relief efforts. He is the author of many peer-reviewed publications and lives with his wife, Andrea, and two children in Wheaton, Illinois.

wheaton.edu/HDI

“Aten and Boan provide practical procedures for establishing disaster ministries in your church, healing the hearts of those in distress as well as helping those in need. Every pastor should prepare to lead, even in the most difficult circumstances; to that end this book is vital.”

—ED STETZER, edstetzer.com



The Vulnerable Pastor: How Human Limitations Empower Our Ministry

November 2015

\$16, 208 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-4123-3

Can Weakness Be a Resource?

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

In *The Vulnerable Pastor: How Human Limitations Empower Our Ministry*, veteran pastor Mandy Smith uncovers what it might look like if the church didn't emphasize our leaders' strengths but instead acknowledged human weakness. "My own collision with Christian leadership ideals motivated me to write this book," writes Mandy. "If we expect that we must be strong to lead, we will never see our leadership potential (or we will put up a façade to pretend we're always strong). While this began with leadership, it also became a question about Christianity in general—if being a Christian also means being strong, how can we ever be Christians?"

- How has the emphasis on strength contributed to the burnout of so many of our leaders?
- Is the CEO model for leadership ideal for organizations or churches?
- Who should our Christian role models be? What are their characteristics?
- What does a leader look like if they aren't the typical powerful, has-everything-together leader?
- How does transparency in leadership relate to vulnerability?
- Are leaders really meant to be strong, seemingly unshakable individuals? Or should they have the ability to call on God in times of weakness?
- What opportunities does an emphasis on vulnerability in leadership provide for the church and other parachurch organizations?
- How has Mandy's experience as a missionary and pastor influenced the conclusions in her book?

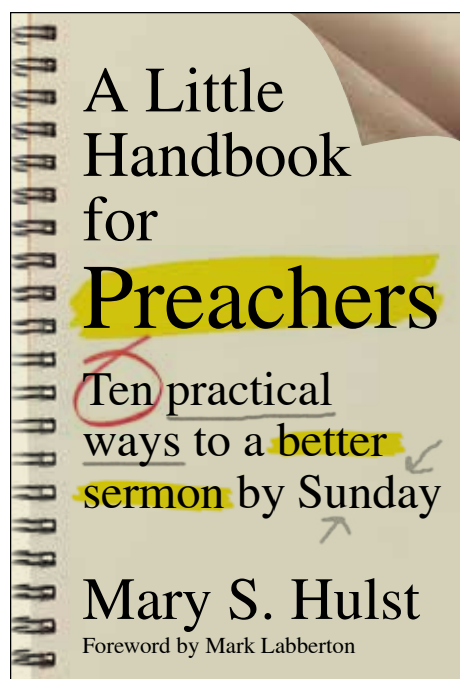
Author Biography



MANDY SMITH is lead pastor of University Christian Church, a campus and neighborhood congregation with its own fair-trade café in Cincinnati, Ohio. Originally from Australia, she is a regular contributor to *Leadership Journal* and *PARSE* and the author of *Making a Mess and Meeting God*. She is also the creator of The Collect, a citywide trash-to-art project. Mandy and her husband, Jamie, a New Testament professor at Cincinnati Christian University, live with their two kids in a little house where the teapot is always warm.

"It's hard to be both painfully honest and faith filled at the same time, but Mandy Smith does it. And she shows us how shepherding souls requires honest faith and hope and love, even when some pain is involved."

—MARSHALL SHELLEY, editor, *Leadership Journal*



A Little Handbook for Preachers: Ten Practical Ways to a Better Sermon by Sunday

May 2016

\$16, 208 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-4128-8

Practical Ways to a Better Sermon

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

No function of the pastor is as visible and stress inducing as preaching. Being a good preacher requires learning the mental, emotional, spiritual and physical skills needed to effectively share God's word with a congregation. It demands a commitment to the craft of preaching. But few pastors feel adequately prepared for this high-stakes responsibility when they begin their ministries.

Mary Hulst knows what it takes to preach well. Forged by her experiences as a pastor, preaching professor and college chaplain, she recognizes the challenges of the pulpit. In this uniquely practical book, Mary provides foundational concepts and tips that all pastors can use, whether they are ministry newcomers or seasoned professionals.

- Provides practical guidance from a highly experienced pastor, professor and college chaplain
- Offers tips and suggestions to help speakers, whether they are novices or experienced
- Engages readers with a clear, readable style and ten takeaways
- Gives readers exegetical examples and insights to unpack Scripture in their own sermons

Author Biography

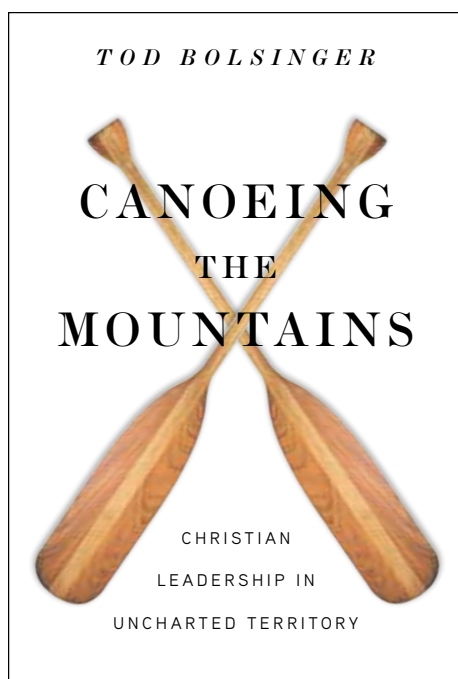


MARY S. HULST (PhD, University of Illinois) is the college chaplain and a member of the faculty at Calvin College. She previously served as a professor of preaching at Calvin Theological Seminary and as senior pastor of Eastern Avenue Christian Reformed Church.

Follow Mary on Twitter: [@PastorMary2U](https://twitter.com/PastorMary2U).

"Mary Hulst has the rare gift of not only being an extremely effective preacher, but also an extremely effective teacher of preaching. One particular virtue of this book is the way that it integrates excellence in biblical exegesis, theological interpretation, pastoral discernment, communication skills and interpersonal intelligence into one seamless vision. As a result, the book helps us envision how the highest ideals for ministry can be practiced in a realistic and sustainable way of life. This book promises to inspire both rookie and veteran preachers for seasons of vital and faithful ministry."

—JOHN D. WITVLIET, Calvin Institute of Christian Worship, Calvin College and Calvin Theological Seminary



Canoeing the Mountains: Christian Leadership in Uncharted Territory

November 2015

\$17, 250 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-4126-4

Leading in Uncharted Territory

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

Explorers Lewis and Clark had to adapt. They had prepared to find a waterway to the Pacific Ocean, but instead they found themselves in the Rocky Mountains. Drawing from his extensive experience as a pastor and consultant, Tod Bolsinger brings decades of expertise in guiding churches and organizations through uncharted territory. He offers a combination of illuminating insights and practical tools to help reimagine what effective leadership looks like in this rapidly changing world.

Author Biography



TOD BOLSINGER (PhD, Fuller Theological Seminary) is the vice president for vocation and formation and assistant professor of practical theology at Fuller Theological Seminary. He is the author of *It Takes a Church to Raise a Christian* and *Show Time*. A frequent speaker, consultant and blogger, he serves as an executive coach for corporate, nonprofit, educational and church organizations in transformational leadership. For seventeen years, he was the senior pastor of San Clemente Presbyterian Church in San Clemente, California, after serving for ten years at First Presbyterian Church of Hollywood.

bolsinger.blogs.com

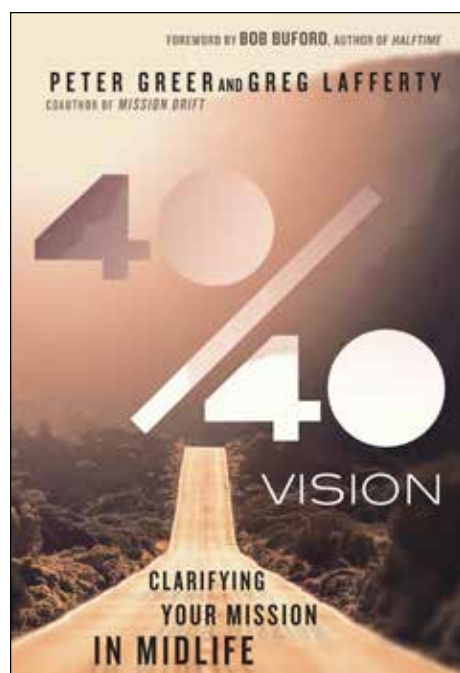
Follow Tod on Twitter: @todbol.

"When I first heard Tod share his insights about questions that keep leaders up at night, I was hooked. Lewis and Clark prepared for river canoeing and then suddenly faced a literal and insurmountable mountain range that threatened their mission. We read headlines every month about some established company confronted with extinction. They were unprepared to adapt and climb. The lessons in Tod's book may be based in history but are so timely and relevant for today. Facing unpredictable and confounding unknowns defines this era of leadership. Tod's book is one I am recommending to my clients. It's a map for navigating the future that I have made part of my practice."

—REX MILLER, author, futurist, principal for mindSHIFT

"In today's post-Christian world, we are navigating uncharted waters where our churches demand innovation at every turn. How do we lead for transformation when the world is transforming even faster? For anyone committed to and dazed by the changing realities of today's church, Tod Bolsinger offers a needed vision."

—MERITT LOHR SAWYER, executive director, Paul Carlson Partnership, Evangelical Covenant Church



40/40 Vision: Clarifying Your Mission in Midlife
November 2015
\$20, 208 pages, hardcover
978-0-8308-4434-0

Finding Vision Beyond a Midlife Crisis

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

In their book *40/40 Vision: Clarifying Your Mission in Midlife*, Peter Greer and Greg Lafferty take stock of their own personal journeys as leaders in midlife and realize that there is an excellent opportunity to recalibrate a vision that may have become clouded. Uniquely positioned to offer insight for navigating midlife with fresh clarity and purpose, they draw on the wisdom of the book of Ecclesiastes, showing how we can come to grips with the realities of who we are and what we should become in the years ahead.

- Why is forty considered such a pivotal age?
- Why is it important to consider your future impact and vision when you've already hit middle age?
- How does the wisdom of Ecclesiastes guide the vision for midlife?

Author Biographies



PETER GREER is president and CEO of HOPE International, a global, Christ-centered microfinance organization serving throughout Africa, Asia, Latin America and Eastern Europe. As an advocate for the church's role in missions and alleviating extreme poverty, Peter has been a featured speaker at conferences such as Catalyst, Passion, Harvest International's Development Conference and Jubilee, and he has been featured in *Christianity Today*, *World*, *Forbes*, *Relevant* and on CNN. Peter is the author or coauthor of *The Poor Will Be Glad*, *The Spiritual Danger of Doing Good*, *Mission Drift*, *Stop Helping Us* and *Watching Seeds Grow*.

peterkgreer.com

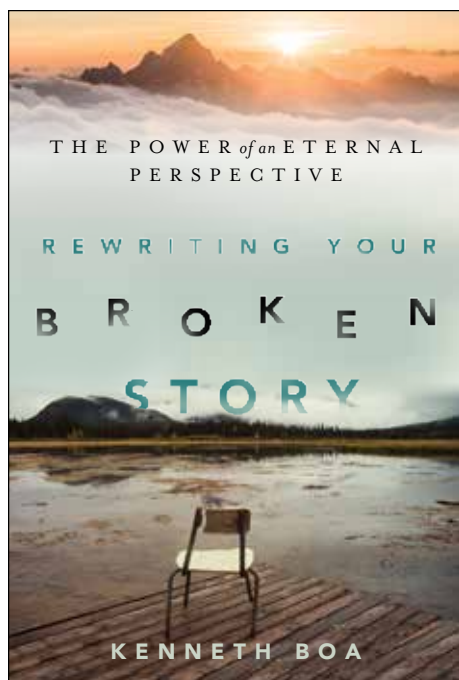
Follow Peter on Twitter: @peterkgreer.



GREG LAFFERTY is the senior pastor of Willowdale Chapel, a church with campuses in Kennett Square and Jennersville, Pennsylvania. A graduate of Wheaton College, he cut his ministry teeth working with junior high students for ten years before transitioning into adult ministry. Previously Greg served at both Wheaton Bible Church and Christ Community Church in suburban Chicago and Saddleback Church in Southern California. He has served the church his entire vocational career alongside his wife of over thirty years, Deane, with whom he has three children.

"Greer and Lafferty will make readers laugh at just the right moments to cushion the lessons of middle age. Christians and nonbelievers alike will find much to mull over as they approach this most ominous midlife point, or as they find themselves on either side of it. . . . Greer and Lafferty offer a touching, wise guide for making the midlife struggle a worthy one."

—*Publishers Weekly*, September 14, 2015



*Rewriting Your Broken Story: The Power of an
Eternal Perspective*

July 2016

\$16, 224 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-4461-6

Everyone Has a Broken Story

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

Kenneth Boa shows how God can transform our lives with an eternal perspective. The continual challenge, he says, is choosing whether to live as if this world is all there is or as if our earthly existence is a brief pilgrimage during which we learn, grow and prepare for eternity.

Kenneth writes: “Everyone has a broken story, and everyone has a choice. When moments [of wisdom that bring clarity] come, you can embrace your broken story and repair it by setting it in the context of a greater story, one that begins and ends well. Your pain can bring redemption when it forces you to reexamine what you believe. An eternal perspective can change everything, and it can help you to make sense of the story you are living right now.”

Author Biography



KENNETH BOA is an author, speaker and the president of Reflections Ministries. He is the author of over fifty books, including *Conformed to His Image*, *20 Compelling Evidences That God Exists*, *Face to Face* and *Faith Has Its Reasons*. He is a contributing editor to the *Open Bible*, the *Promise Keepers Men’s Study Bible* and the *Leadership Bible* and is the consulting editor of the *Zondervan NASB Study Bible*.

kenboa.org

Follow Kenneth on Twitter: [@kennethboa](https://twitter.com/kennethboa).

“Ken’s words have the potential to transform and to lift readers into the larger and eternal story of God. Rewriting Your Broken Story helped me to better see my smaller story as an opportunity to tell God’s larger story by how I live.”

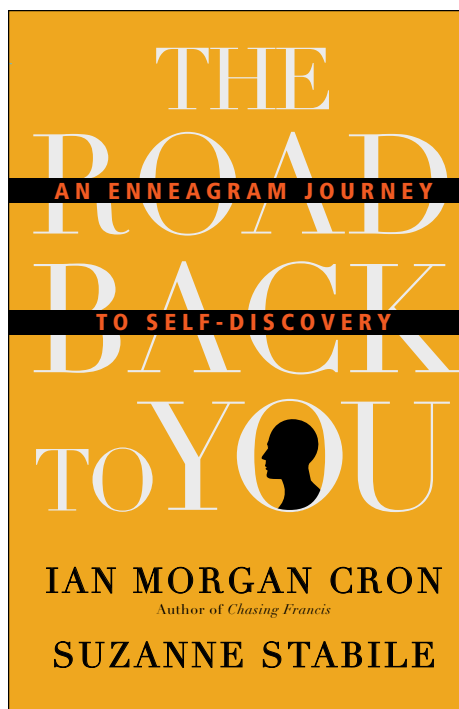
—LARRY CRABB, founder and president, NewWay Ministries

“Ken Boa is one of my favorite authors, and this book epitomizes why.”

—CHIP INGRAM, senior pastor, Venture Christian Church, teaching pastor, *Living on the Edge*

“As Ken Boa observes in this book, ‘an eternal perspective will inform us of something more (and better) than what we can see.’ Boa has provided a helpful and hopeful map to guide us through life’s journey.”

—RAVI ZACHARIAS, author and speaker



The Road Back to You: An Enneagram Journey to Self-Discovery

October 2016

\$24, 220 pages, hardcover

978-0-8308-4619-1

What's Your Number?

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

Bestselling author Ian Morgan Cron and Enneagram master teacher Suzanne Stabile partner in this new book, *The Road Back to You*, to break the complex spirituality of the Enneagram down for new learners. Providing clear, action-oriented explanations of the positive and negative dynamics of each of the nine Enneagram types and pairing them with hilarious personal stories, this book puts the wisdom of an ancient tool within easy, entertaining reach for greater self-awareness, insights into personal and professional relationships, and profound applications for spiritual growth.

“Over the years people have told me that working with the Enneagram has helped them find healing in their marriages, relate to their children with greater understanding, and become more forgiving, patient and compassionate toward those who differ from them,” writes Ian. “They know the crooked timber from which their own hearts are made.”

“I do not believe the Enneagram is infallible or inerrant. I do not think it is the be-all and end-all of Christian spirituality. People go through life without ever hearing about it and they get along just fine.”

“That said, here’s my advice. If you find that this book supports you on your spiritual path, great. If not, don’t throw it away. Put it on your bookshelf instead. It might come in handy one day. Life hands us a challenging syllabus. We need all the help we can get.”

Author Biographies



IAN MORGAN CRON is a bestselling author, speaker, Enneagram teacher, counselor, Dove Award-winning songwriter and Episcopal priest. His books include the novel *Chasing Francis* and spiritual memoir *Jesus, My Father, the CIA, and Me*. Ian draws on an array of disciplines to help people enter more deeply into conversation with God and the mystery of their own lives. He and his wife, Anne, live in Franklin, Tennessee.

IanCron.com

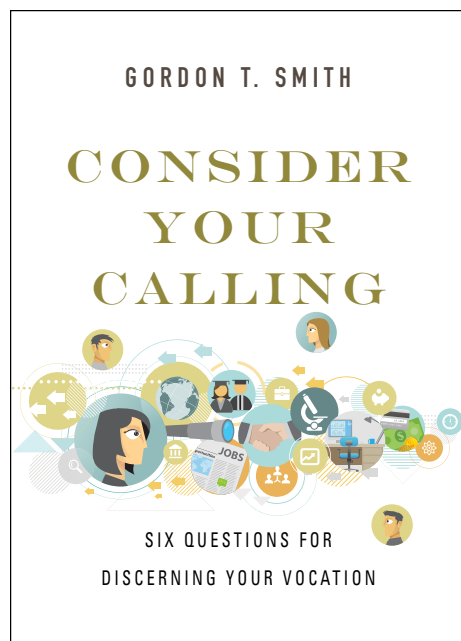
Follow Ian on Twitter: @iancron.



SUZANNE STABILE is a highly sought-after speaker, teacher and internationally recognized Enneagram master teacher. Along with her husband, Rev. Joseph Stabile, she is cofounder of Life in the Trinity Ministry, a nonprofit, nondenominational ministry committed to the spiritual growth and formation of adults. Their ministry home, the Micah Center, is located in Dallas, Texas.

LifeintheTrinityMinistry.com

Follow Suzanne on Twitter: @LTMSUZ.



Consider Your Calling: Six Questions for Discerning Your Vocation
January 2016
\$16, 128 pages, paperback
978-0-8308-4607-8

What Is the Good Work to Which I Am Called?

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

In *Consider Your Calling* Gordon Smith explores calling during three core stages of life as he unpacks six critical questions we all ask regarding vocation and calling, including the following:

- What on earth is God doing?
- Who are you?
- What is your stage of life?
- What are your circumstances?
- What is the cross you will have to bear?
- What are you afraid of?

Smith writes: “There are perhaps other questions that would be pertinent to a discussion on vocation, and I will reference a couple of additional questions in the conclusion, but these six are certainly a good starting point for fruitful conversation and they provide us with a vehicle for getting to the heart of the matter. In conversation with others, we can come closer to finding clarity and courage to face what lies before us.”

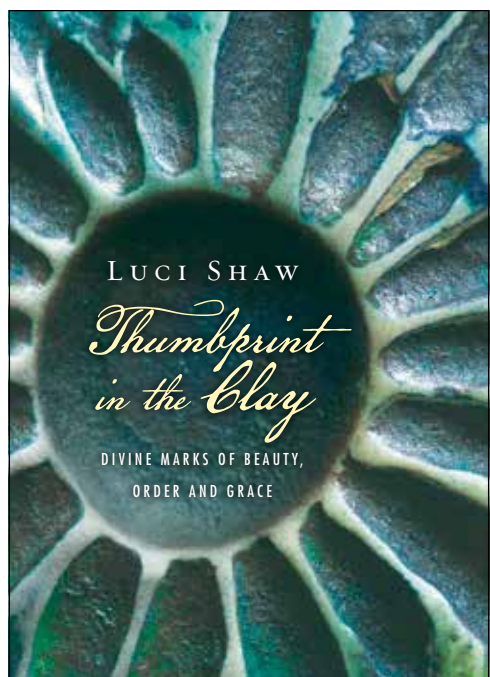
Author Biography



GORDON T. SMITH (PhD, Loyola School of Theology, Ateneo de Manila University) is the president of Ambrose University and Seminary in Calgary, Alberta, where he also serves as professor of systematic and spiritual theology. He is an ordained minister with the Christian and Missionary Alliance and a teaching fellow at Regent College, Vancouver, BC. He is the author of many books, including *Courage and Calling*, *Called to Be Saints* and *The Voice of Jesus*.

“‘What will you do with your one wild and precious life?’ poet Mary Oliver asks. In this brilliant, captivating and immensely practical meditation, Gordon Smith offers you a compass for every stage of your life. Read it slowly, prayerfully, take notes on the book and on your life and you will find your way.”

—KEN SHIGEMATSU, pastor of Tenth Church Vancouver and author of *God in My Everything*



Thumbprint in the Clay: Divine Marks of Beauty, Order and Grace

March 2016

\$17, 205 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-4457-9

The Artistry of God

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

“Perhaps God, the original artist of the universe, looks at each of us, his human creations, the work of his loving artist hands and heart, with the same intense anticipation. We are living proof of the Creator’s skill, and we hope we bring him not only usefulness but gratification!” So writes Luci Shaw in the opening chapter of her latest book *Thumbprint in the Clay*. In this book, she explains how we worship an endlessly creative God whose thumbprints are reflected everywhere we look—in sunsets, ocean waves and the invisible rhythms that shape our lives. Throughout the imagery-filled chapters, Luci examines the following:

- Verses in Scripture that describe God as the potter
- Personal stories of people that have experienced God’s marking them as his malleable clay
- The role of beauty in how we describe God

Author Biography



LUCI SHAW is a poet, essayist, lecturer and writer-in-residence at Regent College in Vancouver. Widely anthologized, her writing has appeared in numerous literary and religious journals and she has coauthored three books with Madeleine L’Engle. A founding member of the Chrysostom Society of Christian Writers, Luci is the author of ten volumes of poetry and other titles such as *Adventure of Ascent*, *Breath for the Bones: Art, Imagination & Spirit*, *Harvesting Fog*, *Scape*, *Water My Soul: Cultivating the Interior Life* and *The Crime of Living Cautiously*. In 2013 she received the Denise Levertov Award for Creative Writing from Seattle Pacific University and Image, and her papers are preserved in the Luci Shaw Collection at Wheaton College’s Buswell Library.

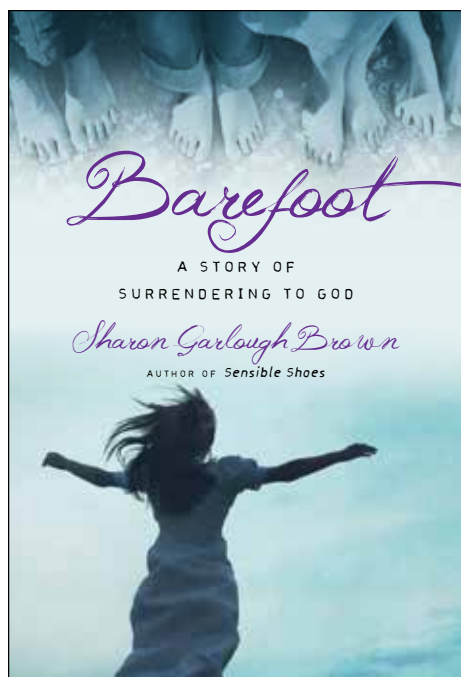
lucishaw.com

“Luci has thrown clay upon a wheel yet once more and fashioned it into a delightful vessel filled with my favorite drink: the ambrosia of art, faith and creativity. Yes, I am besotted, but who can turn away from the poetry of a life lived so beautifully in service to God?”

—LESLIE LEYLAND FIELDS, author of *Surviving the Island of Grace*

“What a delight when someone has something really good to say, and then says it with such style and grace. Such is Luci Shaw! She sees and describes the divine thumbprints well.”

—RICHARD ROHR, OFM, Center for Action and Contemplation



Barefoot: A Story of Surrendering to God

November 2016

\$18, 352 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-4321-3

From Sensible Shoes to Two Steps Forward and now, Barefoot

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

Acclaimed author Sharon Garlough Brown extends the spiritual journey for Hannah, Meg, Mara and Charissa, the characters we first met in the bestselling book *Sensible Shoes*, in her latest book, *Barefoot*. Kathie Lee Gifford of NBC's *Today* praised these books and set off a worldwide love of the characters when she said, "It's about four women, every one of them coming from a different place spiritually. But all of them in need of a fresh cup of mercy. . . . So it's terrific. I highly recommend it." Brown's series weaves these women's poignant stories while also providing a narrative that helps the reader understand their own spiritual development.

Brown's own spiritual experiences led to the birth of these beloved characters: "As we (the women in a weekly spiritual formation group) walked together, I sensed there was a story to tell—not a story about our particular journeys, but a story about the power of the Spirit to conform us into the image of Jesus Christ. I began to wonder what would happen if I created four characters who met at a retreat center in order to learn ways to walk more closely with God. . . . Each of them is invited to travel deeper into the heart of God and to discover the height and depth, length and breadth of his love. They're invited to know God and know themselves more intimately. And they're invited to say yes to the gift of community."

Part of the Sensible Shoes series:



Sensible Shoes: A Story About the Spiritual Journey

\$18, 349 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-4305-3



Two Steps Forward: A Story of Persevering in Hope

\$18, 336 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-4318-3

Author Biography



SHARON GARLOUGH BROWN (MDiv, Princeton Theological Seminary) is a pastor, spiritual director, retreat leader and author. Her book *Sensible Shoes* was named one of television personality Kathie Lee Gifford's "favorite things" in March 2013. She and her husband, Jack, have served congregations in Scotland, Oklahoma, England and in their current hometown, Caledonia, Michigan.

sensibleshoesclub.com

"Have you ever wondered what it would be like to meet with a spiritual director to talk about your spiritual journey? Sharon Brown does a masterful job of giving the reader a glimpse of what that process is like through the stories of four different women looking for peace and hope. For me, these women have become sacred companions on my own journey. I learned and pondered things with them like: What are you afraid of? Where do you want control? What agitates you? Learn to linger with what provokes you. What is God stirring in your soul? It is as though you enter into spiritual direction yourself, and it's life transforming!"

—MARILYN HONTZ, speaker, author of *Listening for God* and *Shame Lifter*



TIM McCONNELL

Foreword by JOHN ORTBERG

Happy Church

Pursuing Radical Joy as the People of God

Happy Church: Pursuing Radical Joy as the People of God

February 2016

\$16, 183 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-4456-2

If You're Happy and You Know It

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

"Happiness is a valid pursuit for the people of God," writes Tim McConnell of his new book *Happy Church: Pursuing Radical Joy as the People of God*. "The habits and culture of church should feed your awareness of happiness in Christ. This is a distinctive idea only in the sense that it has been forgotten and abandoned in recent generations. . . . This is not a book on new church practices to cultivate happiness, but on recognizing the happiness inherent in the common practices of church." McConnell offers a radical call for Christians to reclaim happiness. Happiness flows from the joy of the Lord and being glad in Christ. When the church expresses happiness, we are making a countercultural choice that the world cannot help but notice.

- Offers a hopeful and encouraging vision for the Christian life
- Challenges church leaders and pastors to think about their church culture
- Encourages readers to pursue deep gladness in their individual and congregational lives
- Features discussion questions for small group or church-wide use

Author Biography

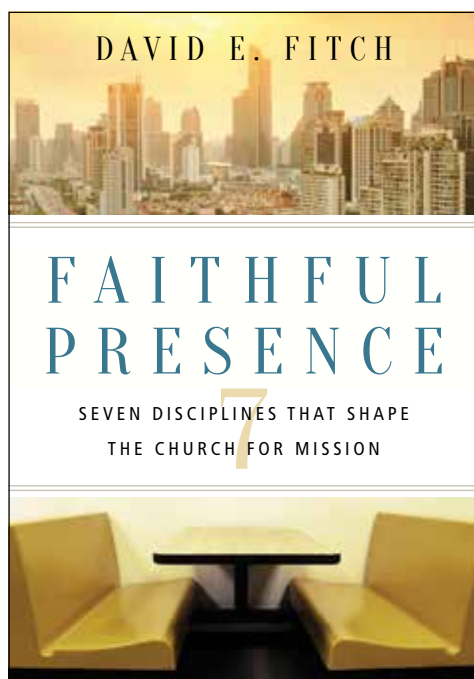


TIM McCONNELL (PhD, University of Virginia) is senior pastor of Eastminster Presbyterian Church (ECO) in Marietta, Georgia. Tim has been a pastor in New Jersey, Virginia and Georgia, and he is the author of *Illumination in Basil of Caesarea's Doctrine of the Holy Spirit*. He has served as a chaplain in the US Army Reserve, worked as the director of graduate ministries for the Center for Christian Study in Charlottesville, Virginia, and has taught Christian history and theology at the bachelor's and master's levels. Tim currently serves on the national Theological Task Force for his church, ECO: A Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians.

Follow Tim on Twitter: @Tim_McConnell.

"Churches, just like you and me, can focus on the wrong things and lose joy and wonder. God—who is a joy-lover himself—has given us enormous blessings to make us glad! Tim has provided a wonderful tool for churches and leaders to learn to be a happy community glorifying God for all he has done for us."

—JOHN ORTBERG, senior pastor, Menlo Park Presbyterian Church, author of *Soul Keeping* and *All the Places to Go*



Faithful Presence: Seven Disciplines That Shape the Church for Mission

December 2016

\$17, 256 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-4127-1

Missional Expert Outlines Practices for Community

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

David Fitch, a well-known expert voice in the missional and academic worlds, aims to reshape how we think about the church, what we do in the name of the church and the way we lead as church in his latest book *Faithful Presence*. Offering seven distinct spiritual practices that are undergirded by sound theology, David provides here a fuller vision for how people can come together to live in and for Christ and his kingdom.

- Offers a blend of sound research and theology with practical application in the church
- Provides a historical practice of the church in mission with a post-Christendom understanding
- Sculpt a new imagination for what church is and how it gathers communities in mission

Author Biography

DAVID E. FITCH (PhD, Northwestern University) is the B. R. Lindner Chair of Evangelical Theology at Northern Seminary. He is also the founding pastor of Life on the Vine Christian Community, a missional church in the northwest suburbs of Chicago. He is the author of *The Great Giveaway* and *The End of Evangelicalism?* and is the coauthor of *Prodigal Christianity*. David coaches a network of church plants in the Christian and Missionary Alliance and he writes and lectures on issues the local church must face in mission including cultural engagement, leadership and theology. He has also written numerous articles in periodicals such as *Christianity Today*, *The Other Journal* and *Missiology*, as well as various academic journals.

reclaimingthemission.com

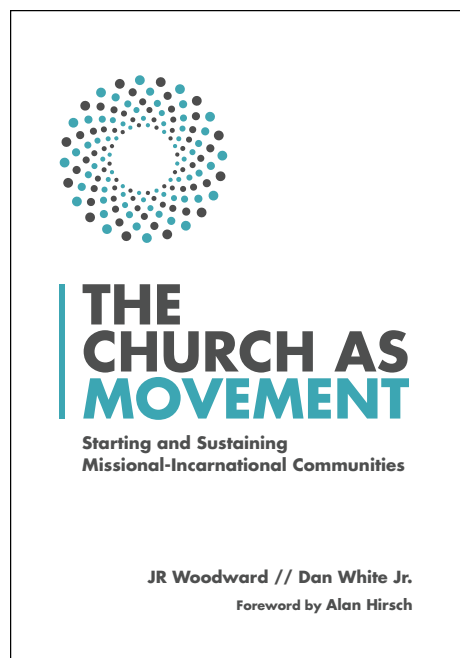
Follow David on Twitter: @fitchest.

“David Fitch continues his constructive work in ecclesiology by emphasizing the presence the church makes possible in a world that desperately needs God’s presence. The disciplines he calls attention to are life-giving because they are the disciplines God has given us to be a faithful presence. Hopefully this book will be widely read and used in churches everywhere.”

—STANLEY HAUERWAS, Gilbert T. Rowe Professor Emeritus of Divinity and Law, Duke Divinity School

“In Faithful Presence, a book long overdue, David Fitch provides a corrective to the work of James Davidson Hunter. He offers a winsome vision for following Jesus into the world that Christians across multiple traditions will find challenging, compelling and inspiring.”

—ANTHONY B. BRADLEY, associate professor of religious studies, The King’s College



*The Church as Movement: Starting and Sustaining
 Missional-Incarnational Communities*

August 2016

\$20, 256 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-4133-2

The Church Goes Viral

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

The Western church is steadily drifting into irrelevance for the wider culture—but this can change. In *The Church as Movement*, experienced missional leaders JR Woodward and Dan White Jr. explain how to plant vibrant churches that “reflect the viral movement of the early New Testament.”

In this workbook, church planters learn eight key competencies needed for starting and sustaining both missional and incarnational congregations. Featuring interactive tools, exercises, and reflection and application questions, this book makes missional theory practical for those wanting to start churches with a place-based, discipleship-focused, community-forming and movement-oriented approach.

- Unique workbook format allows for self-reflection and interaction with the eight competencies vital to starting missional-incarnational churches
- Provides a corrective for appearance-focused and resource-accumulating churches, offering a new vision of church “success” based on missional growth

Author Biographies



JR WOODWARD (MA, Fuller Theological Seminary) is a church planter, activist, missiologist and the national director for church planting with the V3 Movement. He is the author of *Creating a Missional Culture*, founder of New Life Christian Fellowship and cofounder of Kairos LA, the Solis Foundation, Ecclesia Network and Missio Alliance. He serves locally with the District Church in Washington, DC.

thev3movement.org

Follow JR on Twitter: [@dreamawakener](https://twitter.com/dreamawakener).

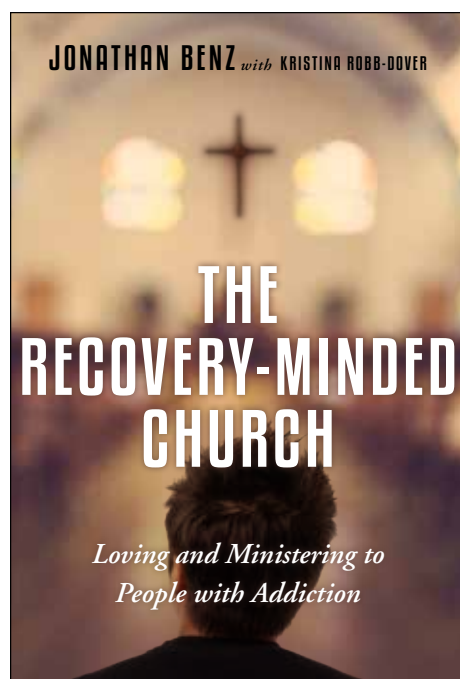


DAN WHITE JR. is cofounder of Axiom Church, a network of missional communities in Syracuse, New York. He works as a missional coach with the V3 Movement and also cofounded the Praxis Gathering. Dan is the author of *Subterranean: Why the Future of the Church Is Rootedness*, and his writing has been featured in *The Christian Post*, *The Missional Times*, *Outreach Magazine*, *Jesus Creed*, *Church Leaders Magazine* and the *Huffington Post*.

Follow Dan on Twitter: [@danwhitejr](https://twitter.com/danwhitejr).

“If you want to see the church through a radically different lens and recover the vision of how ordinary Christians working together in the neighborhood can become the greatest hope for change in these fractured and fragmented times, then this book is your guide.”

—TIM SOERENS, cofounder and director, Parish Collective, coauthor of *The New Parish*



The Recovery-Minded Church: Loving and Ministering to People with Addiction

January 2016

\$16, 192 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-4125-7

How the Church Can, and Should, Respond to People with Addictions

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

Jonathan Benz writes: “I have designed this book as a toolkit to help you encourage, plan for and celebrate the homecomings of recovering addicts, which in this country means finding ways to be in relational outreach to an estimated 30 percent of the population who struggle with some form of addiction.” Here is how Jonathan calculated this staggering estimate:

- At least 6 percent of Americans struggle with some form of sexual addiction
- Approximately 10 percent have drug or alcohol addictions
- Around 7.5 percent exhibit some form of an eating disorder
- Some 6 percent are compulsive shoppers
- At least 1 percent are pathological gamblers

Author Biographies



JONATHAN BENZ (MS, Palm Beach Atlantic University) is a clinician, public speaker, ordained minister and certified addictions professional who serves the recovery community nationally. As a leadership consultant to various agencies in the United States and United Kingdom, he specializes in teaching team leadership, task efficiency, crisis management and conflict resolution to people in the midst of life transitions. He is the author of *Live a Legacy: Spiritual Principles for Strategic Living*.

recoveryplace.com

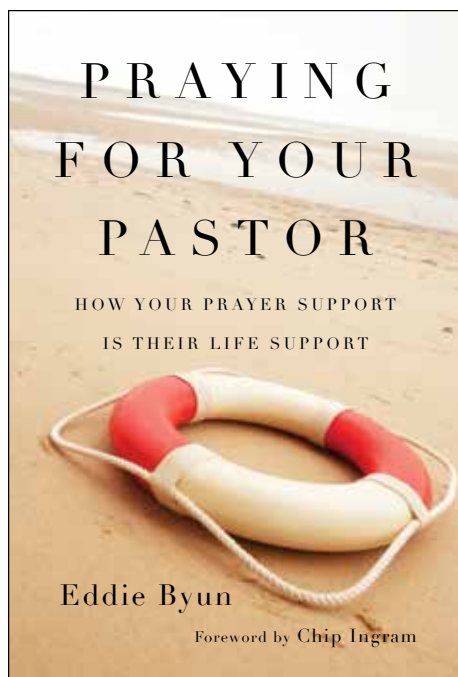
Follow Jonathan on Twitter: [@jonathanbenz](https://twitter.com/jonathanbenz).



KRISTINA ROBB-DOVER (MDiv, Princeton Theological Seminary) is a writer and minister in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), and has served in various church and chaplaincy settings. She is the author of *Grace Sticks: The Bumper Sticker Gospel for Restless Souls*. As a featured columnist with the online magazine Beliefnet, Kristina posts regularly at her blog *Fellowship of Saints and Sinners*, and her work has appeared in various publications, including *Touchstone*, *The Christian Century*, *Theology Today* and the *Washington Post*.

beliefnet.com

Follow Kristina on Twitter: [@saintplussinner](https://twitter.com/saintplussinner).



Praying for Your Pastor: How Your Prayer Support Is Their Life Support

September 2016

\$15, 160 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-4466-1

It's Tough to Be a Pastor

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

Pastors face demands and pressures on every side, from the challenges of church ministry to the realities of spiritual warfare. But, as Eddie Byun outlines in his new book *Praying for Your Pastor*, laypersons can make a difference. The prayers of the congregation provide a lifeline for a pastor's spiritual health and ministry effectiveness.

"I wrote this book because I felt the need for churches to understand the needs of the pastors in their lives and to learn how to effectively pray for them," says Eddie. "I felt that for many churches, pastors can be under-appreciated and under-prayed for."

Eddie offers a handy, practical guide to praying for pastors. He shares stories of how congregational intercession changes things, with specific guidelines for prayers for protection, rest, anointing, integrity and more. The types of prayer Eddie focuses on are (using the acronym PRAYERS):

- Protection
- Rest
- Anointing
- Yielded heart
- Effectiveness in ministry
- Righteousness and integrity
- Strong marriages and families

Author Biography



EDDIE BYUN is lead pastor of Crossway Mission Church in Seoul, South Korea. He is also professor of practical theology at Torch Trinity Graduate University and the author of *Justice Awakening: How You and Your Church Can Help End Human Trafficking*. He previously served as lead pastor at Onnuri English Ministry (OEM), the English-speaking ministry of Onnuri Community Church in Seoul, South Korea. He earned his MDiv at Regent College in Vancouver and DMin at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary in Boston.

eddiebyun.com

"There are few gifts more precious that congregants can give their pastor than ongoing, faith-filled intercessory prayer. By providing specific and practical ways to intercede on behalf of pastors, Eddie Byun helps to enhance that gift even more. I wish every congregant of every church would read this book. It would build up the body of Christ in deeply transformative ways."

—J.R. BRIGGS, pastor, founder, Kairos Partnerships, author of *Fail*, coauthor of *Eldership and the Mission of God*



ReBuild: Reset Your Life. Renew Your Church. Reshape Your World.

October 2015

\$16, 176 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-4445-6

The *ReBuild* hip-hop album is now available at Barnes & Noble, iTunes and Amazon.com.

Hip-Hop Artist and Leading Pastor of a Multiethnic Church Shares What It Takes to Restore a Family, a Life and a Church

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

Pastor and hip-hop artist Tommy Kyllonen faced a “rebuilding” journey when God led him to an abandoned Toys “R” Us building in inner-city Tampa and said, “Rebuild this into a church.” Drawing on Nehemiah’s example as the rebuilders of Jerusalem’s walls, Tommy reveals the struggles and joys that he, his family and his young, urban, multiethnic church experienced as they pursued a seemingly impossible dream of restoration.

Author Biography



TOMMY “URBAN D.” KYLLONEN has been in full-time urban ministry for over nineteen years at Crossover Church in Tampa, Florida. Under his leadership as youth pastor and since 2002 as lead pastor, the church has grown from forty to over one thousand, and was recognized as one of America’s Most Innovative Churches by *Outreach Magazine*. The multiethnic, multigenerational, economically diverse church has a vision for reaching those influenced by urban/hip-hop culture. Tommy is also an internationally known hip-hop artist who has released seven hip-hop albums as rapper “Urban D.”

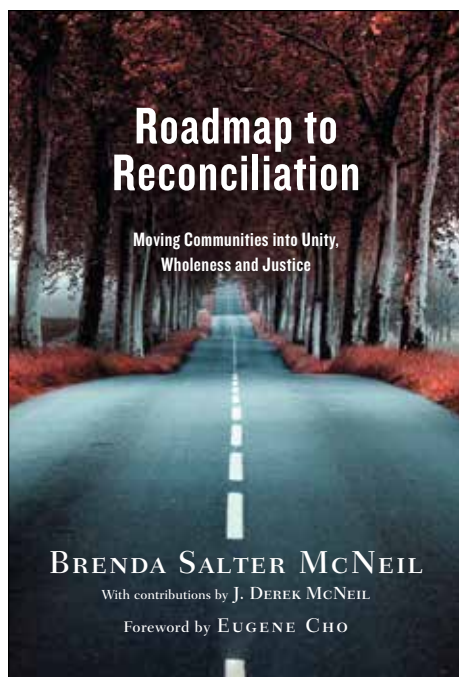
Tommy is the founder of the Urban Coaching Network, a six-month webinar coaching experience for lead pastors and church planters in an urban, multiethnic context. He is also the founder of the Flavor Fest Urban Leadership Conference, which has trained over five thousand leaders in fourteen years. Tommy is the publisher of *S.O.U.LMAG*, which has become the voice of the Christian hip-hop community with a readership in the tens of thousands. The magazine recently launched a TV show, *S.O.U.LMAG TV*, which Tommy hosts on JUCE Network (formerly JCTV). He has also authored articles for *Relevant*, *Pastors.com*, *UYWI*, *Rapzilla.com* and the American Bible Society.

urband.org

Follow Tommy on Twitter: @urband813.

“Many of the problems in your life are for the benefit of other people. In ReBuild, my friend Tommy Kyllonen shares fresh encouragement and practical insights for people to rebuild their lives in order to help rebuild those around them. Don’t miss the leadership lessons in this book!”

—RICK WARREN, lead pastor, Saddleback Church, author of *The Purpose Driven Church*



*Roadmap to Reconciliation: Moving Communities into
Unity, Wholeness and Justice*

January 2016

\$16, 142 pages, hardcover

978-0-8308-4442-5

Expert in Ethnic, Racial Reconciliation Offers Roadmap for Change

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

We can see the injustice and inequality in our lives and in the world. We are ready to rise up. But how, exactly, do we do this? We need a roadmap to guide us through common topics of interest and past the social terrain and political boundaries that will arise as we journey together and encounter challenging questions such as these:

- How do we reconcile with our next-door neighbor?
- How do we reconcile with our coworkers or the folks at church?
- How do we respond to current events?
- How do we embrace diversity in our communities?
- How do we reconcile with laborers in other countries who are being paid an unfair wage to make our clothes? Or the aide workers and missionaries abroad who might be doing more harm than good?

Based on her extensive consulting experience with churches, colleges and organizations, Rev. Dr. Brenda Salter McNeil has created a roadmap to show us the way. She guides us through these questions and more, leading us down the road to reconciliation.

Author Biography



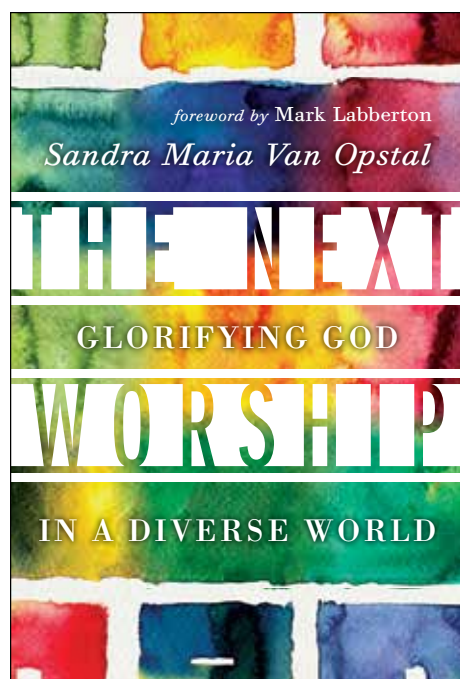
BRENDA SALTER MCNEIL is a dynamic speaker, author and trailblazer with over twenty-five years of experience in the ministry of racial, ethnic and gender reconciliation. She was featured as one of the fifty most influential women to watch by *Christianity Today* in 2012 and is an associate professor of reconciliation studies in the School of Theology at Seattle Pacific University, where she also directs the Reconciliation Studies program.

saltermcneil.com

Follow Brenda on Twitter: @RevDocBrenda.

"Dr. Brenda Salter McNeil is a legend. She's one of the church's greatest thinkers on one of the world's greatest challenges—reconciliation. Fifty years ago Dr. King lamented that the most segregated hour in the world is eleven o'clock on Sunday morning. Here is Dr. Salter McNeil's plan to change that. There could be no better time for this book to release than now as we see a new movement for racial justice sweeping across this country. Read this book and get ready for a holy revolution."

—SHANE CLAIBORNE, author, speaker, activist



The Next Worship: Glorifying God in a Diverse World
 January 2016
 \$18, 224 pages, paperback
 978-0-8308-4129-5

Gain a Vision for Multiethnic Worship

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

Leading practitioner of multiethnic worship Sandra Maria Van Opstal delivers a compelling look at the need for crosscultural worship in our churches in her latest book, *The Next Worship*. Sandra explains the value of participating in diverse worship styles and gives detailed guidance for undertaking the often challenging task of developing authentic multicultural worship experiences.

- Gain a vision for multiethnic worship in the church
- Start planning crosscultural worship experiences with advice from a well-respected worship leader
- Learn the values, culture, specific songs, order of service and more from a variety of church backgrounds
- Digest the content of each chapter with concluding key concepts, reflection and discussion questions, and prayers

Author Biography



SANDRA MARIA VAN OPSTAL (MDiv, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School) is a Chicago-born, second-generation Latina and a preacher, trainer, liturgist and activist passionate about creating atmospheres that mobilize people for reconciliation and justice. She was worship director for the Urbana Student Missions Conference and has led worship for the Willow Creek Association, the Christian Community Development Association, InterVarsity Christian Fellowship and more. Currently, Sandra regularly consults as both a worship leader and a mission trainer and serves on the board of Evangelicals 4 Justice. She and her husband Karl minister at Grace and Peace Community in Chicago.

sandravanopstal.com

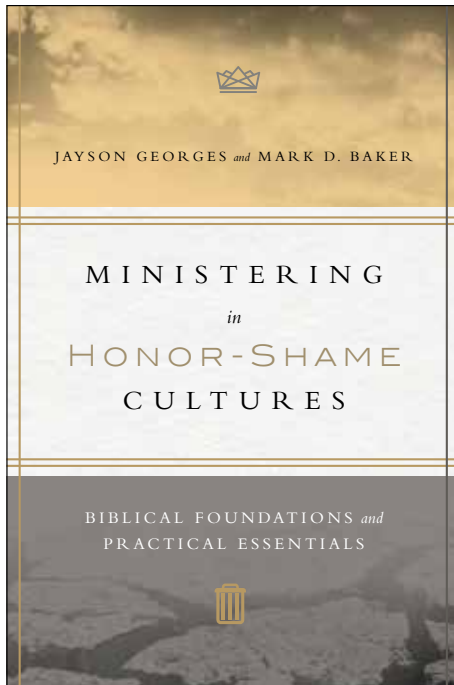
Follow Sandra on Twitter: [@sandravanopstal](https://twitter.com/sandravanopstal).

“What Sandra Van Opstal does so importantly here is to help make the arc of this worship transformation clear and practicable. . . . This book is a vital gift for a changing church that needs to reflect the God of all the nations.”

—MARK LABBERTON, president, Fuller Theological Seminary, author of *The Dangerous Act of Worship*

“One of the most significant challenges for the next era of evangelicalism is developing unity in the worship life of a multicultural Christian community. . . . This book may well become the essential text that helps multiethnic churches turn the corner in their worship life.”

—SOONG-CHAN RAH, author of *The Next Evangelicalism* and *Prophetic Lament*



Ministering in Honor-Shame Cultures: Biblical Foundations and Practical Essentials

October 2016

\$24, 272 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-5146-1

The Realities of Honor-Shame Culture

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

“Honor and shame are not just hermeneutical or psychological categories for humans, but are central to biblical salvation,” write Jayson Georges and Mark D. Baker in their new book *Ministering in Honor-Shame Cultures*. “Because God’s mission involves defeating shame and repairing honor, our mission as the church must also be informed by those realities. Since 80 percent of the world thinks and lives in terms of honor and shame, understanding the topic biblically is a missiological imperative for today’s church.”

Many Westerners have had a crosscultural experience of honor and shame. In this well-rounded and ministry-tested guide, Georges and Baker help us decode the cultural script of honor and shame, assisting us also in reading the Bible anew through that lens. Then they offer thoughtful and practical guidance for ministry within honor-shame contexts.

- Illuminates the misunderstandings and roadblocks Westerners encounter in honor-shame cultures
- Examines the Bible through the lens of honor and shame with surprising results
- Shows how understanding honor and shame perspectives transforms our understanding of relationships, spirituality, evangelism and conversion

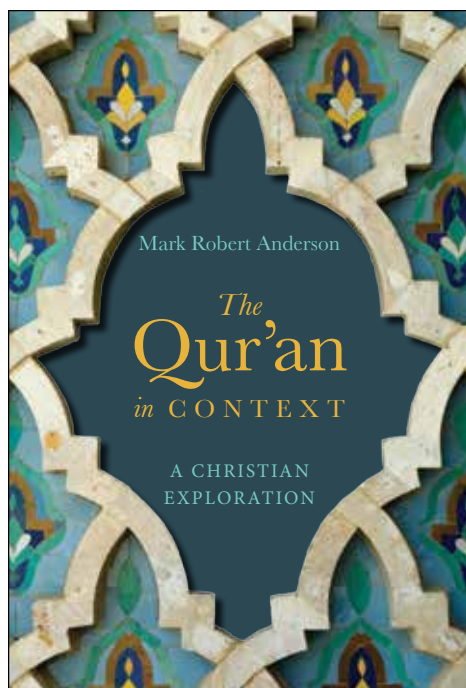
Author Biographies

JAYSON GEORGES (MDiv, Talbot) lived in Central Asia for nine years doing church planting and micro-enterprise development. He is the author of *The 3D Gospel*, founder and editor of honorshame.com, and creator of The Culture Test. He serves as missiologist-in-residence at an evangelical organization, developing tools and training for Christians working in honor-shame contexts. *For security reasons after living in Muslim-majority countries, Georges has asked not to be identified in photos.*

MARK D. BAKER (PhD, Duke University) is associate professor of mission and theology at Fresno Pacific Biblical Seminary in Fresno, California. He served as a Mennonite missionary in Honduras for ten years.

“Georges and Baker have taken the seeds of previous work on honor and shame in the environment of the biblical world and in modern cultures and cultivated them into fruitful insights and guidance in the areas of theology, crosscultural engagement and, especially, missions. They provide a culturally sensitive reading of Scripture and of modern non-Western situations, significantly advancing the question of how awareness of this dimension of the texts and our global community can improve our interactions with people living from a decidedly different axis of values and in our thinking about the contextualization of the gospel.”

—DAVID A. DESILVA, Ashland Theological Seminary



The Qur'an in Context: A Christian Exploration
October 2016
\$30, 360 pages, paperback
978-0-8308-5142-3

“The Qur'an can be made to say all kinds of things it never meant to say.”

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

Mark Anderson says, “To understand any text, we need to begin with its original context. And that’s a big part of our problem with the Qur’an. Most of us know very little about the world—let alone the hinterland of Arabia—during the early seventh century when the Qur’an originated. Divorced from its historical context—which is how it usually comes to us—the Qur’an can be made to say all kinds of things it never meant to say.”

Anderson offers a gateway into the original world and worldview of the Qur’an. Its theology, anthropology, soteriology, spirituality as well as its portrayal of Jesus are all carefully examined. Finally, the Qur’an’s claim to be the Bible’s sequel is probed and evaluated. Fortright in Christian conviction and yet sympathetically open to dialogue, *The Qur'an in Context* is a reliable guide for those who want to explore the holy book of Islam in its varied facets.

- Establishes the Qur’an’s original context as the key to its original meaning
- Informs readers unfamiliar with the Qur’an of its teachings and shows how they relate to those of the Bible, giving special emphasis to Jesus’ place in the Qur’an
- Offers an initial response to the Qur’an’s truth claims and encourages open dialogue between Christians and Muslims on their respective faiths

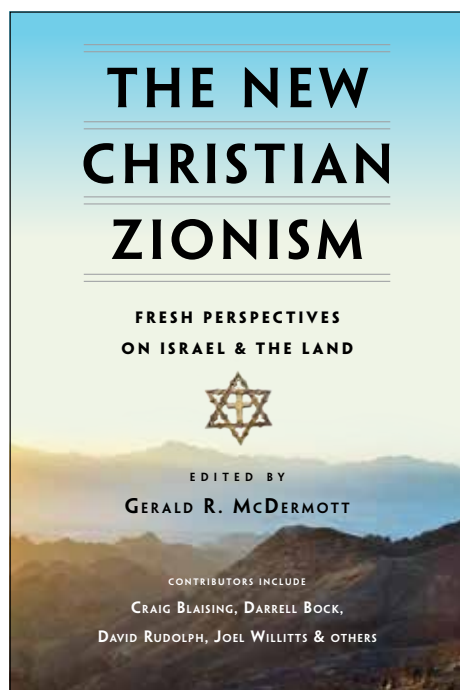
Author Biography



MARK ROBERT ANDERSON is the author of *Faithsongs: Ancient Psalms for Today* and lives in Vancouver, Canada. He has an MA in Islamic studies from McGill University and an MA in Christian religion from Westminster Theological Seminary. For over ten years he served as a missionary with WEC International (Worldwide Evangelization for Christ). Anderson is a member of Jacob’s Well, a faith-based organization seeking mutually transformative relationships with marginalized residents of Vancouver’s Downtown Eastside.

“Anderson avoids the pitfalls of inflammatory us–them polemics. He enters into the realities of the Muslim worldview by exploring the seventh-century context of the Qur’an on which Muslim belief and behavior is built. Without reservation, I commend Anderson’s work to all who desire to move beyond ‘breaking news’ and sensationalism and come to grips with the inside story of who Muslims really are.”

—PHIL PARSHALL, Serving in Mission (SIM) USA



The New Christian Zionism: Fresh Perspectives on Israel and the Land

September 2016

\$26, 304 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-5138-6

Can Israel Claim the Promised Land?

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

Christian Zionism is often seen as the offspring of premillennial dispensationalism. But the contributors to this work contend that the biblical and theological connections between covenant and land are nearly as close in the New Testament as in the Old. Written with academic rigor, this provocative volume proposes a place for Christian Zionism within an integrated biblical vision for today.

- Why is Zionism such a hot-button issue right now?
- What is the current widely accepted narrative regarding Christian Zionism?
- The contributors agree that the New Testament sees a future for both the people and the land of Israel. Why has this been missed by many Christians, academics and laypersons?
- How can readers support Christian Zionism without being a partisan for the present state of Israel?

Editor Biography



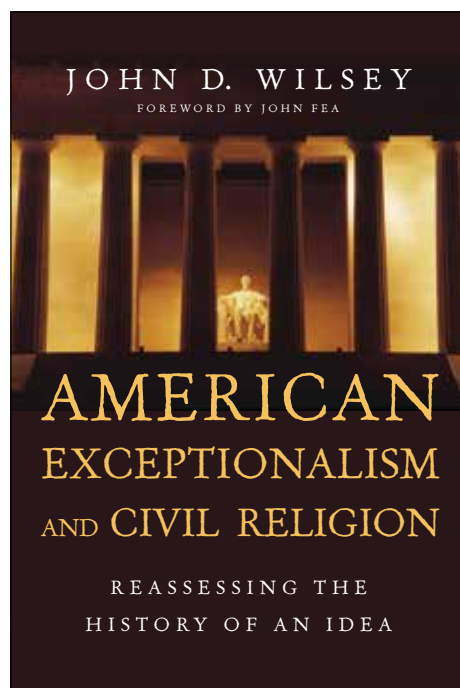
GERALD R. McDERMOTT (PhD, University of Iowa) is Anglican Chair of Divinity at Beeson Divinity School in Birmingham, Alabama. He is also associate pastor at Christ the King Anglican Church. His books include *The Other Jonathan Edwards: Readings in Love, Society, and Justice* (with Ronald Story), *The Theology of Jonathan Edwards* (with Michael McClymond), *A Trinitarian Theology of Religions* (with Harold Netland), *Jonathan Edwards Confronts the Gods and World Religions: An Indispensable Guide*.

"This book is rigorous in its scholarship and speaks with thoughtfulness and passion about an understudied and widely misunderstood subject. This important book is both learned and provocative. It is clearly written and argued throughout and displays a wealth of historical understanding, theological richness and exegetical savvy. This book is a must-read for all who are interested in the truly big questions of our day."

—BYRON R. JOHNSON, Institute for Studies of Religion, Baylor University

"The essays here offer a fresh perspective on Christian Zionism, one based on careful biblical exegesis and in dialogue with the historic traditions of the church. A paradigm-challenging volume."

—TIMOTHY GEORGE, founding dean, Beeson Divinity School, Samford University, general editor of the Reformation Commentary on Scripture



American Exceptionalism and Civil Religion: Reassessing the History of an Idea

November 2015

\$25, 263 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-4094-6

How Special Is America, Really?

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

The idea of America's unique place in history has been a guiding light for centuries. With thoughtful insight, John D. Wilsey traces the concept of exceptionalism, including its theological meaning and implications for civil religion. This careful history considers not only the abuses of the idea but also how it can point to constructive civil engagement and human flourishing.

Throughout *American Exceptionalism and Civil Religion*, Wilsey unpacks questions such as:

- Why is the discussion of American exceptionalism important in our current political climate?
- How does the history of America come into play in this idea?
- What does the issue of exceptionalism have to do with the Christian faith?
- How is it justifiable to have a love of America and yet a pointed critique of exceptionalism?

Author Biography



JOHN D. WILSEY (PhD, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary) is assistant professor of history and Christian apologetics at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He also serves as associate director and senior research fellow for faith and liberty at the Land Center for Cultural Engagement at Southwestern. He is the author of *One Nation Under God: An Evangelical Critique of Christian America*.

johndwilsey.com

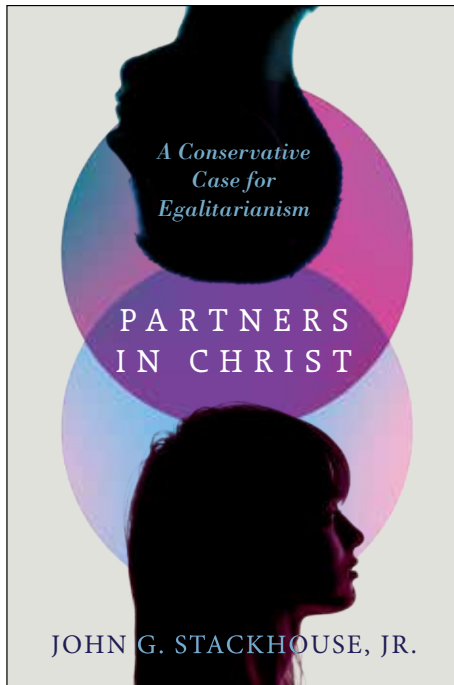
Follow John on Twitter: @JDWilsey.

"Far reaching, subtle, and profound, Wilsey's scholarly volume should be bracing reading for the serious or casual student of American history, theology, or contemporary culture."

—*Library Journal*, January 2016

"Wilsey's book is a helpful reminder of America's complicated historical legacy, of how we inherit a past at once brilliant, boisterous, inspiring, and highly destructive. . . . Wilsey's book is a terrific resource for readers seeking clarity, theological perspective, and historical context as they participate in that grand American tradition of defining—and debating—who we are."

—HAROLD K. BUSH, *Christianity Today*, January 28, 2016



Partners in Christ: A Conservative Case for Egalitarianism
November 2015
\$20, 215 pages, paperback
978-0-8308-4081-6

What Does Scripture Really Say About Gender Roles?

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

The Bible says that women should keep silent in church *and* that they should pray and prophesy. It calls wives the weaker partner *and* says that men and women are equal. When it comes to understanding what Scripture says about men and women, those on both sides of the debate can and do marshal strong evidence from the Bible. Why are they able to do this? John Stackhouse boldly contends it is because Scripture in fact says both things. Does the Bible contradict itself then? Not so. Rather Stackhouse describes the single approach in Scripture that guides us with clear direction on the important matters of relationships in the church and the family.

Stackhouse uses *Partners in Christ* to address the following:

- What a theological argument that goes beyond hermeneutics could look like
- How to take both sides of the argument seriously
- What role eschatology plays in the gender role debate
- Where narrative fits into the gender role discussion
- How to make sense of past patriarchal structures
- How the gender role debate differs from the homosexuality debate

Author Biography



JOHN G. STACKHOUSE, JR. is the Samuel J. Mikolaski Professor of Religious Studies at Crandall University in Moncton, Canada, and the author of nine books, including *Humble Apologetics*, *Finally Feminist* and *Can God Be Trusted?*

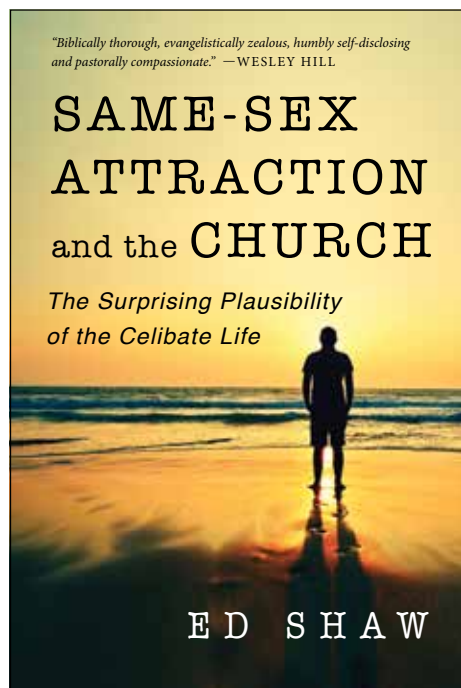
johnstackhouse.com

"John Stackhouse's Partners in Christ may be the most honest book ever written in the complementarian-egalitarian debate; it is without doubt the fairest book on the topic I've seen."

—SCOT MCKNIGHT, *Patheos*, November 3, 2015

"Stackhouse continues to challenge oversimplification in Christian conversation about gender, and he offers a model for real partnership in Christ. Readers will appreciate the care he takes with contested biblical passages. An evangelicalism that wishes to continue to be salt and light in the world will need to take that world seriously too, as Stackhouse does here."

—BETH FELKER JONES, associate professor of theology, Wheaton College



Same-Sex Attraction and the Church: The Surprising Plausibility of the Celibate Life

December 2015

\$16, 172 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-4451-7

Is Same-Sex Attraction Biblical?

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

"The reason that the Bible's teaching on homosexuality sounds so unreasonable is because of a whole number of missteps that the church has taken over the years, a whole host of ways in which we evangelicals have become too shaped by the world around us," writes pastor Ed Shaw, outlining the need for his new book *Same-Sex Attraction and the Church*. "Correct our mistakes and what Jesus says about sex and relationships will become more plausible, will sound, again, more like life to the full. And that will be good news for all of us."

Ed himself experiences same-sex attraction, yet he is committed to Scripture and the church's traditional position on sexuality. In this honest book, he shares his own experiences and shows us that obedience to Jesus is ultimately the only way to experience life to the full. Named one of Tim Challies's Top Books of 2015 and a Best Ministry Books of the Year by *Leadership Journal*, Ed looks at missteps the church has taken with homosexuality such as:

- A family is Mom, Dad and 2.4 children
- Sex is where true intimacy is found
- Godliness is heterosexuality
- Celibacy is bad for you

Author Biography

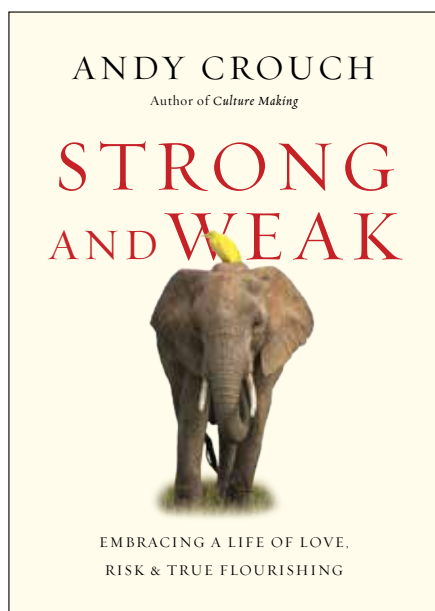


ED SHAW was educated at Durham University, the Cornhill Training Course and Oak Hill Theological College. He is the pastor of Emmanuel City Centre in Bristol, England, and part of the editorial team at livingout.org. He has worked for churches in Durham and London and was the student minister at Christ Church Clifton for six years before joining Emmanuel in 2009. He loves his family and friends, church and city, music and books.

livingout.org

"As a Christian who also knows same-sex desire firsthand, I would put a few things differently than how Ed Shaw does here. But that doesn't stop me from applauding this biblically thorough, evangelistically zealous, humbly self-disclosing and pastorally compassionate defense of traditional Christian sexual ethics. Ed Shaw's life and teaching are an inspiring variation on what the church throughout history has celebrated as consecrated, holy virginity. May his tribe increase!"

—WESLEY HILL, assistant professor of biblical studies, Trinity School for Ministry, Ambridge, Pennsylvania, and author of *Washed and Waiting*



Strong and Weak: Embracing a Life of Love, Risk & True Flourishing
March 2016
\$20, 192 pages, hardcover
978-0-8308-4443-2

The Latest from Andy Crouch, “One of Christianity’s Most Compelling Visionaries on Culture”

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

Strong and weak. We see this unlikely mixture in the best leaders—people who use their authority for the benefit of others, while also showing extraordinary willingness to face and embrace suffering. We see it in Jesus, who wielded tremendous power yet also exposed himself to hunger, ridicule, torture and death. Rather than being opposites, strength and weakness are actually meant to be combined in every human life and community.

Andy Crouch says, “The core need the book addresses is finding a way to hold together two of the most basic features of human life—authority and strength, vulnerability and weakness—to see how they both contribute to flourishing, and to choose the path that leads toward flourishing, for ourselves and others. It’s a path that requires us to learn to be both strong and weak.” With the characteristic insight, memorable stories and hopeful realism he is known for, Andy shows us how to walk this path so that the image of God can shine through us.

Author Biography



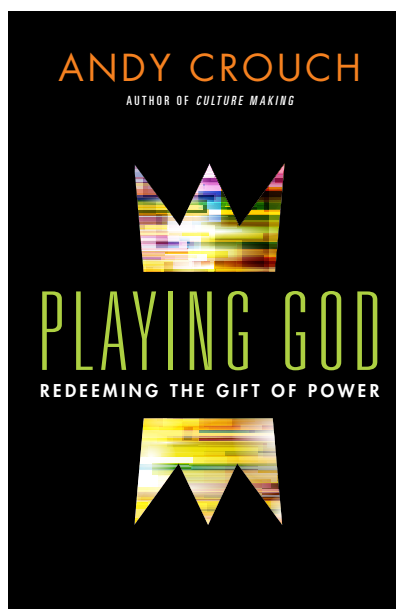
ANDY CROUCH (MDiv, Boston University School of Theology) is executive editor of *Christianity Today* and serves on the governing boards of Fuller Theological Seminary and Equitas Group, a philanthropic organization focused on ending child exploitation in Haiti and Southeast Asia. He is also a senior fellow of International Justice Mission’s Institute for Biblical Justice. His writing has appeared in *Time*, the *Wall Street Journal* and several editions of *Best Christian Writing* and *Best Spiritual Writing*.

Andy served as executive producer for the documentary films *Where Faith and Culture Meet* and *Round Trip*, as well as the multiyear project *This Is Our City*, which featured documentary video, reporting and essays about Christians seeking the flourishing of their cities. He also sits on the editorial board for *Books & Culture* and was editor-in-chief of *re:generation quarterly*. He also spent ten years as a campus minister with InterVarsity Christian Fellowship at Harvard University.

A classically trained musician who draws on pop, folk, rock, jazz and gospel, Andy has led musical worship for congregations of five to twenty thousand.

andy-crouch.com

Follow Andy on Twitter: @ahc.



Playing God: Redeeming the Gift of Power

October 2013

\$25, 288 pages, hardcover

978-0-8308-3765-6



Culture Making: Recovering Our Creative Calling

October 2013

\$22, 284 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-3755-7

Other Award-Winning Books from Andy Crouch

"I am not a philosopher or a scholar of any sort; I am a journalist, and my job as a journalist is to do my best to make complicated things clear, quickly, for people who could be doing something else."

—ANDY CROUCH from the introduction of *Playing God*

PLAYING GOD

- 2014 Midwest Publishing Association Award of Excellence (General Trade)
- 2014 *Outreach Magazine* Resource of the Year ("Also Recommended," Leadership)
- *ForeWord* 2013 Book of the Year Award Honorable Mention (Adult Non-fiction, Religion)

"If this book hadn't been by Andy Crouch, I wouldn't have read it. A book on power? No thanks. But a book on power by Andy Crouch? Yes, I'll give it a try, maybe a bit reluctantly. Glad I did. (So much so that I started over immediately and read it a second time.)"

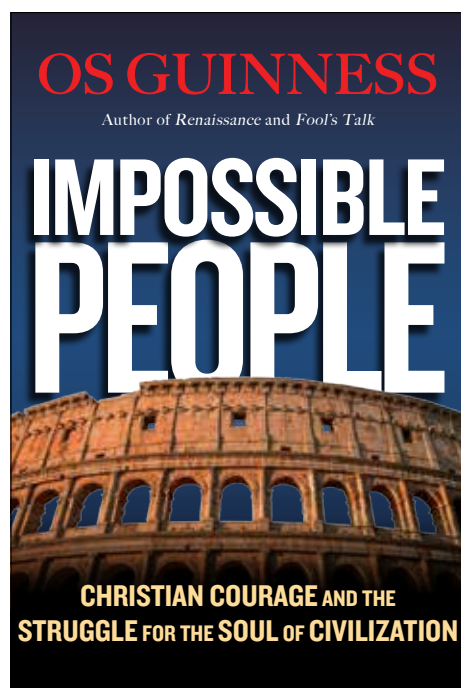
—JOHN WILSON, *Books & Culture*, "Favorite Books of 2013," December 2013

CULTURE MAKING

- 2009 *Christianity Today* Book Award winner
- Named one of *Publishers Weekly's* best books of 2008 (Religion category)

"Good books are either brilliant or helpful, but the best books are both—and Andy Crouch has attained that rare combination of virtues in Culture Making. As a Christian, as a parent and as an organizational leader, I would like to make a difference in the world. Crouch not only helps me understand where that yearning comes from, but how to pursue it with passion, commitment, power and spiritual health. Culture Making is a joyful gift of intelligence and practical provocation for thoughtful Christians."

—GARY HAUGEN, president, International Justice Mission



Impossible People: Christian Courage and the Struggle for the Soul of Civilization

July 2016

\$20, 239 pages, hardcover

978-0-8308-4465-4

Finding a Fresh Articulation of the Faith

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

More than ever, Christians must resist the negative cultural forces of our day with fortitude and winsomeness. We need followers of Christ who are willing to face reality without flinching and respond with a faithfulness that is unwavering. Os Guinness describes these Christians as “impossible people,” those who have “hearts that can melt with compassion, but with faces like flint and backbones of steel who are unmanipulable, unbribeable, undeterrable and unclubbable, without ever losing the gentleness, the mercy, the grace and the compassion of our Lord.” Os argues in *Impossible People* that we must engage secularism and atheism in new ways, confronting competing ideas with discernment and fresh articulation of the faith.

- What are the possible outcomes for the Western church as it stands today?
- What in our history has made the Christian faith culturally weak?
- How can the Western church avoid the outcomes of the German church caving in during Nazi reign or other similar situations?
- Why do you think people outside the Western church see Christians as “cut off from their roots”?
- You write that Christians are to have “no fear.” What do you mean by that?
- Why do you think an emphasis on the history of ideas is so important for solving the problems of the Western church?

Author Biography



OS GUINNESS (DPhil, Oxford) is the author or editor of more than thirty books, including *Fool's Talk*, *The Call*, *Renaissance*, *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, DC.

osguinness.com

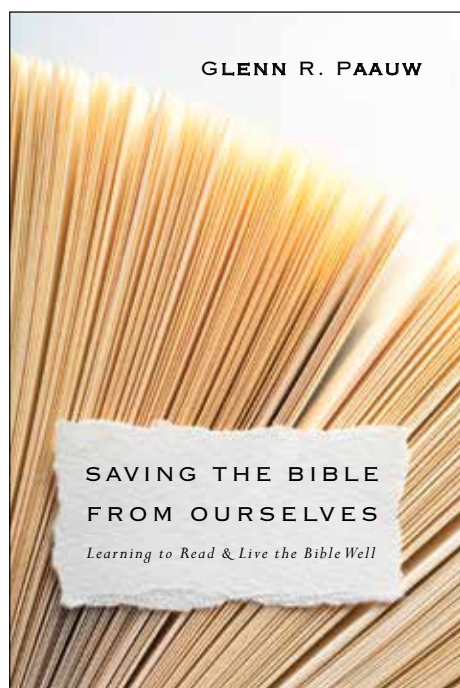
Follow Os on Twitter: @OsGuinness.

“I read everything Os Guinness writes because he always challenges my thinking and enlarges my perspective. Impossible People may be his most important work. Read it, then buy five copies for friends and discuss it together. The message is that important. This could be the most important book you read this year.”

—RICK WARREN, pastor, Saddleback Church, author of *The Purpose Driven Life*

“Every time I sit down to read the prophetic words of Os Guinness, I feel my spine strengthen and my mind perk up. His clear writing and earned wisdom bring both courage and uncertainty; for while we can't predict where our culture will head, we can rely on the truth that guides and emboldens every generation to meet the moment for which we've been called.”

—GABE LYONS, founder of Q, author of *Good Faith*



Saving the Bible from Ourselves: Learning to Read & Live the Bible Well

April 2016

\$18, 230 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-5124-9

Learn to Read the Bible Well

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

Saving the Bible from Ourselves provides students of the Bible with a new paradigm for reading and living the Bible well. Over the course of the centuries, Bible scholars and publishers have increasingly added “helps”—chapter divisions, verses, subheads, notes—to the Bible in an effort to make it easier to study and understand. But these simplifications have led to sampling of Scripture rather than deep reading, making the Bible a database of quick and easy answers to life’s troubling questions rather than a culture-shaping force.

In this book, author Glenn R. Paauw introduces seven new perspectives on Bible reading for slower, smarter and deeper engagement of Scripture.

- Discusses the nature and development of the Bible, criticizing modern and postmodern abuses
- Critiques deficiencies in how we currently interact with the Bible, followed by explanations of seven new practices for reading the Bible well
- Addresses the elegance and beauty of the biblical narrative, emphasizing community-based reading and study

Author Biography

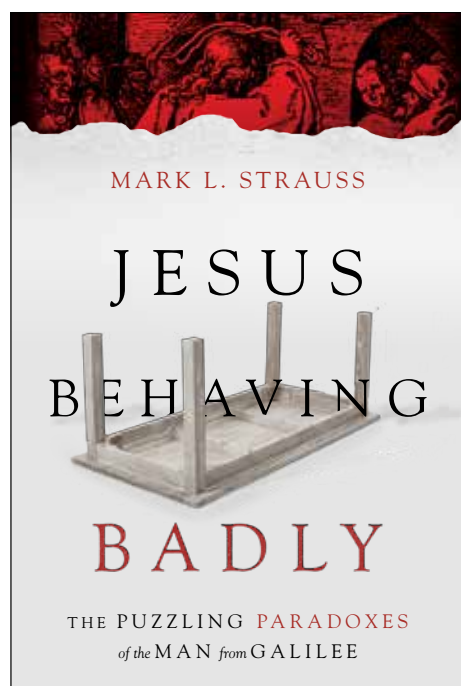


GLENN R. PAAUW is vice president of global Bible engagement at Biblica and a senior fellow at the Institute for Bible Reading. In his twenty-six years at Biblica, Paauw’s work has ranged from leading Scripture evangelism seminars at churches nationwide, to overseeing the nonprofit publishing of the NIV, NVI and NIrV translations in North America, to leading the development of the revolutionary *The Books of the Bible* format, which uncovers the natural literary form of the Scriptures and reintroduces people to the grand narrative of the Bible.

Glenn has spoken on the Bible at the Q Conference, Thrive, Radio Bible Class, and churches and conferences across the country. He has written for *Christianity Today*, *Discipleship Journal*, *Christian Research Journal* and *Q Ideas*. He studied philosophy and theology at Calvin College and Seminary.

“Because the Bible remains foundational to all Christian life, it is a very good thing to be reminded regularly how it should be put to use. Glenn Paauw’s clear, thoughtful and historically well-informed book explains ways of reading, marking and inwardly digesting Scripture that draw their wisdom from Scripture itself. The same wisdom provides welcome encouragement not only to learn from but to love the written Word of God.”

—MARK NOLL, author of *In the Beginning Was the Word*



Jesus Behaving Badly: The Puzzling Paradoxes of the Man from Galilee

October 2015

\$16, 223 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-2466-3

Everybody Likes Jesus, Right?

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

Can we really like the Jesus of the Gospels when we think about his following characteristics?

- Judgmental—preaching hellfire far more than the apostle Paul
- Uncompromising—telling people to hate their families
- Chauvinistic—excluding women from leadership
- Racist—insulting people from other ethnic groups
- Anti-environmental—cursing a fig tree and affirming animal sacrifice
- Angry—overturning tables and chasing moneychangers in the temple

The Jesus everybody likes, says Mark Strauss in his new book *Jesus Behaving Badly*, is not the Jesus found in the Gospels. He preached about hell far more than the apostle Paul. He told his followers to hate their families. Not one of his twelve apostles was a woman. How can the modern church make sense of that Jesus? In his book, Mark unpacks these puzzling paradoxes and more, helping us to gain greater insight into Jesus' countercultural message and mission.

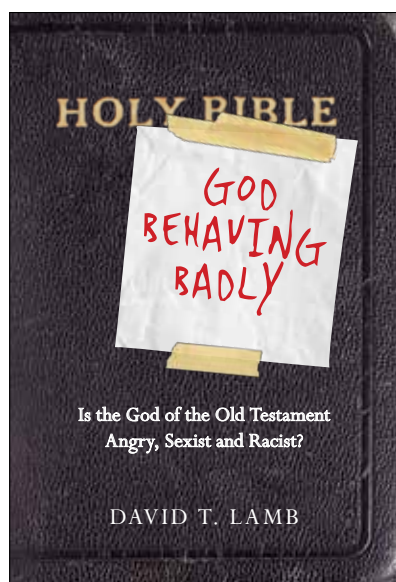
Author Biography



MARK L. STRAUSS (PhD, University of Aberdeen) is professor of New Testament at Bethel Seminary San Diego. He is the author or coauthor of several books and numerous articles, including *How to Read the Bible in Changing Times*, *Four Portraits, One Jesus: An Introduction to Jesus and the Gospels*, *How to Choose a Translation for All Its Worth* (with Gordon D. Fee), *The Essential Bible Companion* (with John Walton) and commentaries on Mark's Gospel in the Zondervan Exegetical Commentary series and Expositors Bible Commentary, Vol. 9. He is New Testament editor of *The Expanded Bible* and the Teach the Text Commentary series. He also serves as vice-chair of the Committee on Bible Translation for the New International Version and as an associate editor for the *NIV Study Bible*.

"In Jesus Behaving Badly, Mark Strauss provides a clear and compelling portrait of Jesus in his own terms and historical context. Strauss skillfully guides the reader through the maze of current questions about Jesus, such as 'Was Jesus a revolutionary?' and 'Why did Jesus curse a fig tree?' Students and pastors alike will find Jesus Behaving Badly an enriching read and invaluable tool in understanding the Jesus of the Gospels."

—LYNN H. COHICK, Wheaton College

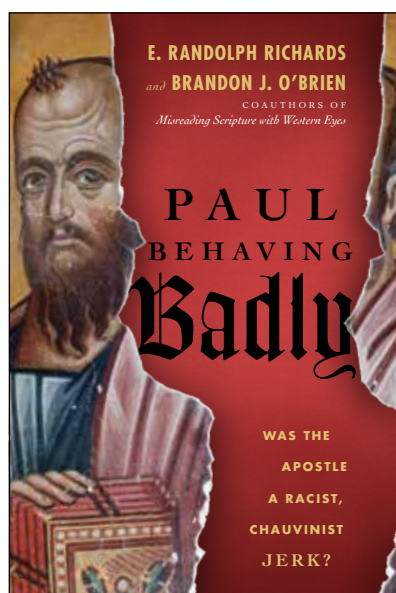


God Behaving Badly: Is the God of the Old Testament Angry, Sexist and Racist?

May 2011

\$17, 205 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-3826-4



Paul Behaving Badly: Was the Apostle a Racist, Chauvinist Jerk?

November 2016

\$16, 224 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-4472-2

The Bad Boys of the Bible: God, Jesus, Paul

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

In the books *God Behaving Badly*, *Jesus Behaving Badly* and the forthcoming *Paul Behaving Badly*, the authors work to unpack some of the less appealing aspects of God, Jesus and Paul to show why they were “bad” and why this is important to our faith today.

* * * * *

In *God Behaving Badly*, Old Testament scholar David Lamb provides historical and cultural background to shed light on problematic Old Testament passages and to bring underlying themes to the fore. Without minimizing the sometimes harsh realities of the biblical record, David assembles an overall portrait that gives coherence to our understanding of God in both the Old and New Testaments.

In *Paul Behaving Badly*, Randolph Richards and Brandon O'Brien explore the complicated persona and teachings of the apostle Paul. Unpacking his personal history and cultural context, they show how Paul both offended Roman perspectives and scandalized Jewish sensibilities, revealing a vision of Christian faith that was deeply disturbing to those of Paul's day and remains so in ours.

Author Biographies



DAVID T. LAMB (DPhil, Oxford) is associate professor of Old Testament at Biblical Theological Seminary in Hatfield, Pennsylvania. He previously worked in campus ministry with InterVarsity Christian Fellowship and has taught extensively in various crosscultural contexts.

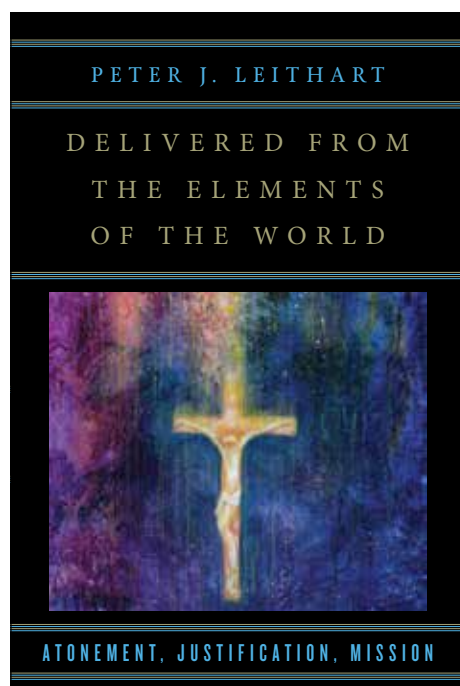
Follow David on Twitter: @DavidTLamb.



E. RANDOLPH RICHARDS (PhD, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary) is dean and professor of biblical studies in the School of Ministry at Palm Beach Atlantic University. He is a popular speaker and has authored and coauthored dozens of books and articles, including *Rediscovering Jesus*, *Misreading Scripture with Western Eyes*, *Rediscovering Paul*, *The Story of Israel* and *Paul and First-Century Letter Writing*.



BRANDON J. O'BRIEN (PhD, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School) is assistant professor of Christian theology at Ouachita Baptist University (OBU) and director of OBU at New Life Church. Brandon was a senior editor for *Leadership Journal* and is coauthor of *Misreading Scripture with Western Eyes* with E. Randolph Richards.



Delivered from the Elements of the World: Atonement, Justification, Mission

April 2016

\$30, 368 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-5126-3

Why Is the Cross the Center of Human History?

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

“How can the death and resurrection of a Jewish rabbi of the first century . . . be the decisive event in the history of humanity, the hinge and crux and crossroads for *everything*?” Peter J. Leithart delves into this question in *Delivered from the Elements of the World*, a wide-ranging study exploring how and why Jesus’ death and resurrection addresses the deepest realities of this world. Leithart marshals a stunning array of discourse to “show that atonement theology must be social theory if it is going to have any coherence, relevance or comprehensibility at all.” This is a book on the atonement that eludes conventional categories, prods theological imaginations and is sure to spark conversation and debate.

- Explores the biblical, theological, social and political dimensions of the atonement
- Asks how the death of Jesus became the hinge of history that changes everything
- Interprets Paul’s meaning of “the elements of the world” in Galatians 4:I-7 as socio-religious
- Challenges conventional notions of justification

Author Biography



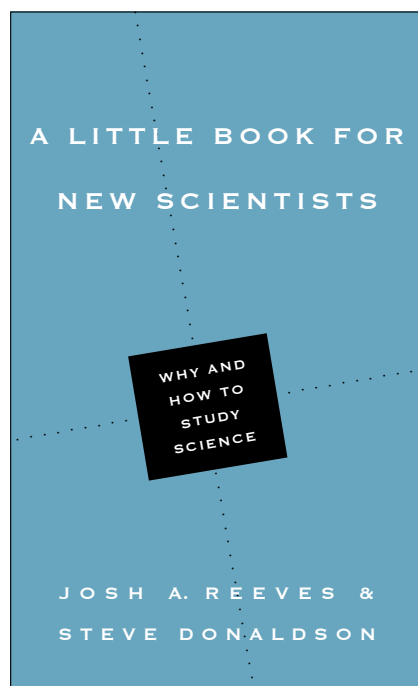
PETER J. LEITHART (PhD, University of Cambridge) is president of Theopolis Institute and an adjunct senior fellow of theology at New Saint Andrews College in Moscow, Idaho. He is the author of many books, including *Defending Constantine*, *Traces of the Trinity* and *Gratitude: An Intellectual History*. He is a blog writer and columnist for firstthings.com, and he has published articles in many periodicals, both popular and academic. Leithart is ordained in the Communion of Reformed Evangelical Churches and has pastored Reformed Heritage Presbyterian Church (now Trinity Presbyterian Church) in Birmingham, Alabama, and Trinity Reformed Church in Moscow, Idaho.

leithart.com

Follow Peter on Twitter: @PLeithart.

“Peter Leithart is one of our best and most creative theologians. In this wide-ranging book Leithart shows that doctrine is not some abstract entity disconnected from contemporary life but is in fact deeply relevant and pregnant with social and political insights. . . . Attending to the doctrines of the atonement and justification, he writes in the best tradition of apologetics, namely that of creative, orthodox, contextual theology.”

—CRAIG BARTHOLOMEW, professor of philosophy and religion and theology, Redeemer University College



A Little Book for New Scientists: Why and How to Study Science

October 2016

\$12, 128 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-5144-7

Why Christians Should Study Science

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

Many young Christians interested in the sciences feel torn between two options: remaining faithful to Christ or studying science. *A Little Book for New Scientists* relieves this tension, explaining why Christians are needed in the sciences and how the demands of a science career can be integrated with their faith. Authors Josh Reeves and Steve Donaldson fill this concise introduction with advice and encouragement and point to the unique contributions that only Christians who are scientists can make in both their fields of study and the church.

- Explains why Christians should study science
- Works through common questions about why science is viewed as secular, interpreting Scripture that seems in conflict with scientific findings and what it's like to be a Christian in the scientific community
- Emphasizes that Christians in the sciences have a unique perspective that is crucial for the life of the church and their chosen field

Author Biographies



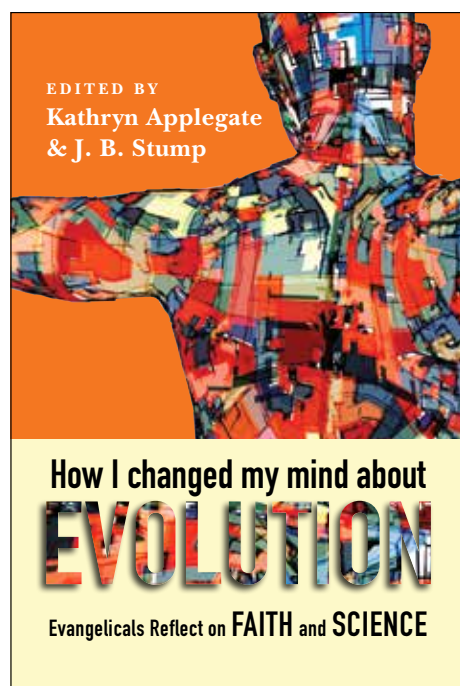
JOSH A. REEVES (PhD, Boston University) is a project administrator in the Samford University Center for Science and Religion in Birmingham, Alabama. In that role, he manages the New Directions in Science and Religion project, which brings constructive science and religion dialogue into the church. He completed a two-year postdoctoral fellowship at the Heyendaal Program on Theology and Science at Radboud University in the Netherlands and previously taught at Eastern Kentucky University.



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"A Little Book for New Scientists is certainly the most concise and helpful book for young persons (and their parents) on a science career that I have ever seen. I would hope that every young person considering a career in the sciences will read this book . . . rereading it regularly as they proceed through graduate school and their postdoc years."

—DARREL R. FALK, emeritus professor of biology at Point Loma Nazarene University, author of *Coming to Peace with Science*



How I Changed My Mind About Evolution: Evangelicals Reflect on Faith and Science

June 2016

\$16, 204 pages, paperback

978-0-8308-5290-1

biologos.org

Leading Evangelicals Relate How They Reconciled Their Faith with Evolution

ANGLE AND TALKING POINTS

How I Changed My Mind About Evolution includes twenty-five personal essays from respected scientists, theologians, philosophers, pastors and biblical scholars on the journey of reconciling faith and science. These narratives help readers think through their own beliefs and humanize the ongoing war between science and Christianity. This book is the first in IVP's new BioLogos Books on Science and Christianity series, which will address a range of topics on science and faith from an evolutionary understanding of God's creation.

Contributors include:

- Scientists—Francis Collins, Deborah Haarsma and Denis Lamoureux
- Pastors—John Ortberg, Ken Fong and Laura Truax
- Biblical scholars—N. T. Wright, Scot McKnight and Tremper Longman III
- Theologians and philosophers—James K. A. Smith, Amos Yong and Oliver Crisp

Editor Biographies



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"This book should be embraced as a treasure. In it you will find unique minds wrestling with how we got here and what our evolutionary history has to do with God, the Bible and the depth of our lived experience. I promise this book will challenge you on nearly every page as you discover new insight after new insight."

—ANDREW ROOT, Olson Baalson Associate Professor of Youth and Family Ministry, Luther Seminary, principal leader, Science for Youth Ministry



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