

Joyful Witness in the Muslim World

Sharing the Gospel in Everyday Encounters

Evelyne A. Reisacher

MISSION IN GLOBAL COMMUNITY

Scott W. Sunquist and Amos Yong, series editors

Joyful Witness in the Muslim World features global perspectives on current Christian engagement with Islam. It equips readers for mission among Muslims, exploring how to move from fear to joy in sharing the gospel.

After emphasizing the importance of joy in the biblical narrative on mission and in human relationship building, Evelyne Reisacher surveys areas where Muslims and Christians encounter one another in the twenty-first century, highlighting innovative models of Christian witness in everyday life. Drawing on insights from global Christianity, this survey takes account of diverse conceptions of Muslim-Christian relations. It may surprise those who believe mission among Muslims is difficult, challenging, and almost impossible.

Reisacher, who has decades of experience in engagement with Muslims, has noticed a certain dehumanization of Muslims by Christians. Muslims are seen as targets of mission instead of being accepted as human beings with whom we interact in everyday life. Walls have been erected between Muslims and Christians by social and political conflicts, and theological debates give the impression that Christians always meet with Muslims in extraordinary contexts. However, in today's global village, Muslims and Christians are likely to meet each other anywhere and everywhere. Reisacher demonstrates that suffering and joy in mission are not in contradiction. Joy can be a catalyst to relationship and witness in a world threatened by conflicts involving Christians and Muslims.

This volume will help enhance global and local mission among Muslims. It will be of use to professors and students in mission courses, to mission training institutions and organizations, and to mission-minded pastors and mission committees in local churches.

ABOUT THE SERIES

This is the first book in the Mission in Global Community series, which reframes missiological themes and studies for students around the common theme of mission as partnership with others. Series authors draw upon their own global experience and that of their global colleagues to illumine present realities and chart a course into the future. Series editors are Scott W. Sunquist, dean of the School of Intercultural Studies and professor of world Christianity at Fuller Theological Seminary, and Amos Yong, director of the Center for Missiological Research and professor of theology and mission at Fuller Theological Seminary.

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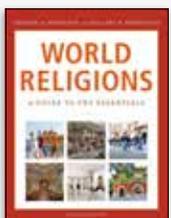
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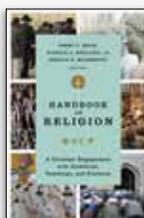
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Evelyne A. Reisacher (PhD, Fuller Theological Seminary) is associate professor of Islamic studies and intercultural relations in the School of Intercultural Studies at Fuller Theological Seminary, where she has taught for almost fifteen years. She spent over a decade in leadership in L'Ami, a Paris-based Christian organization, facilitating relationships between churches and North African immigrants and developing courses, teaching tools, and seminars for sharing the gospel cross-culturally. She has trained Christian leaders and church members in Europe, North Africa, the Middle East, and Southeast Asia.

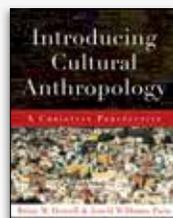
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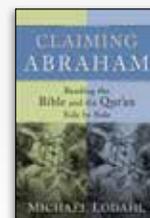
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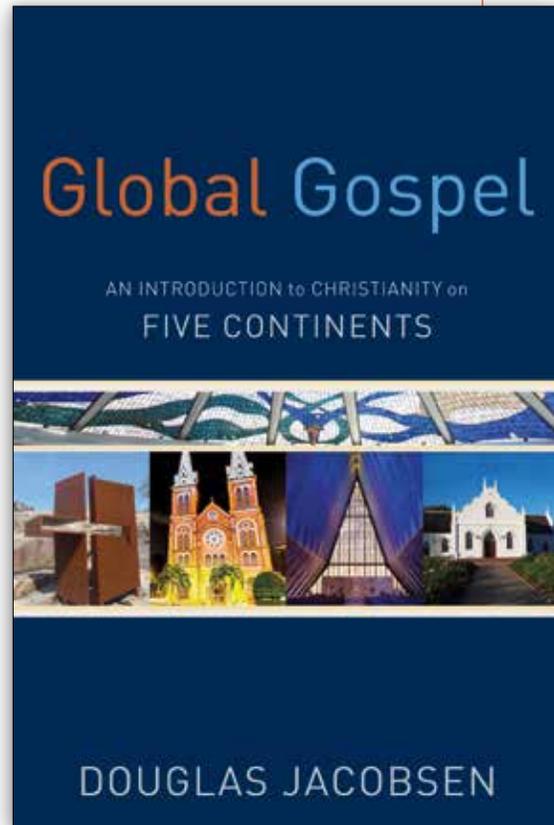
In this pathbreaking book, award-winning author Douglas Jacobsen describes global Christianity and provides a framework for understanding the varied experiences of Christians around the world. Focusing on the five big continents of Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, and North America, Jacobsen recounts their differing histories, contemporary experiences, and cultural theologies. In the current era of massive and dynamic global challenges, this accessible and fair-minded volume sets the stage for Christians worldwide to engage the gospel—and each other—more deeply.

Global Gospel contains numerous maps, charts, and illustrations that aid comprehension. Professors and students of the history of Christianity, global Christianity, and missions will value this work, as will all readers interested in world Christianity. Accompanying videos can be found on YouTube’s “Global Christianity” channel (www.youtube.com/globalchristianity).

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“Douglas Jacobsen has provided a succinct, well-organized, and clearly written historical account of contemporary Christianity as a truly global religion. Broad coverage of geographical regions and theological traditions—including very helpful graphs, charts, and bibliography—underscores the book’s emphasis on diversity. For a Christian world that is continuing to change with unprecedented speed, *Global Gospel* offers unusually perceptive guidance.”—**Mark A. Noll**, University of Notre Dame; author of *Turning Points: Decisive Moments in the History of Christianity*

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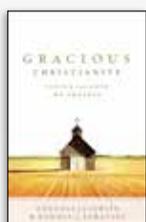
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Douglas Jacobsen (PhD, University of Chicago) is distinguished professor of church history and theology at Messiah College. He is the author, coauthor, or editor of ten books, including *Gracious Christianity*; *Thinking in the Spirit: Theologies of the Early Pentecostal Movement* (Pneuma Award of the Society for Pentecostal Studies); *The American University in a Postsecular Age* (Lilly Fellows Program Book Award); *No Longer Invisible: Religion in University Education*; and *The World’s Christians: Who They Are, Where They Are, and How They Got There*.

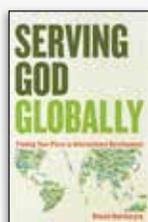
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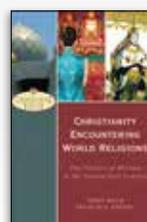
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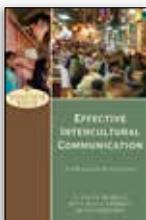
Gary R. Corwin (MA, Northwestern University) is a missiologist serving with SIM International.

Gary B. McGee (1945–2008; PhD, St. Louis University) taught at the Assemblies of God Theological Seminary.

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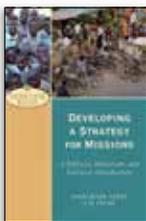
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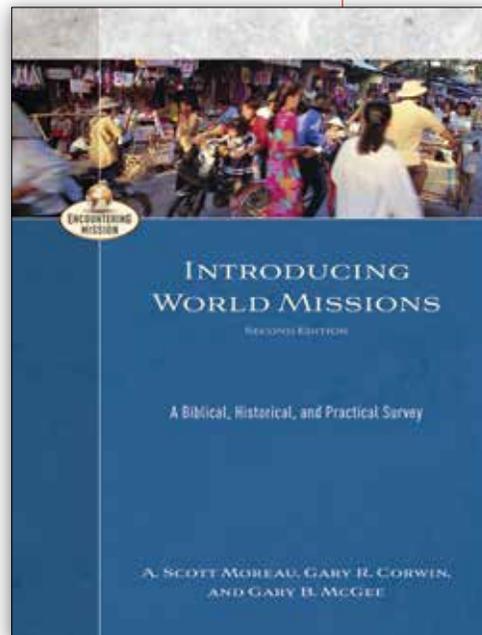
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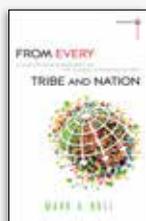
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Harold A. Netland (PhD, Claremont Graduate University) is professor of philosophy of religion and intercultural studies at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, where he also directs the PhD in intercultural studies program. He has authored or coauthored several books and coedited *Globalizing Theology* and *Handbook of Religion*.

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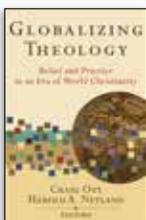
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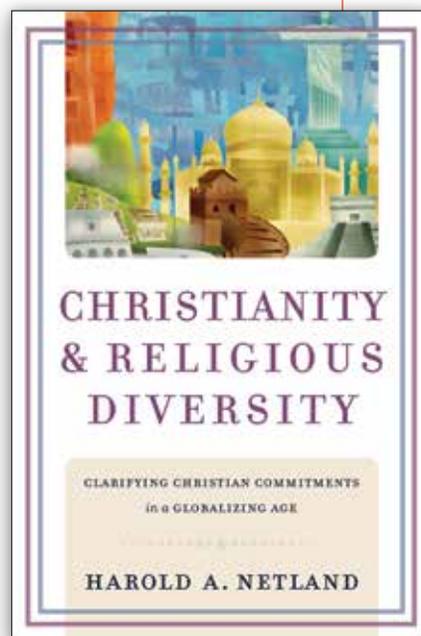
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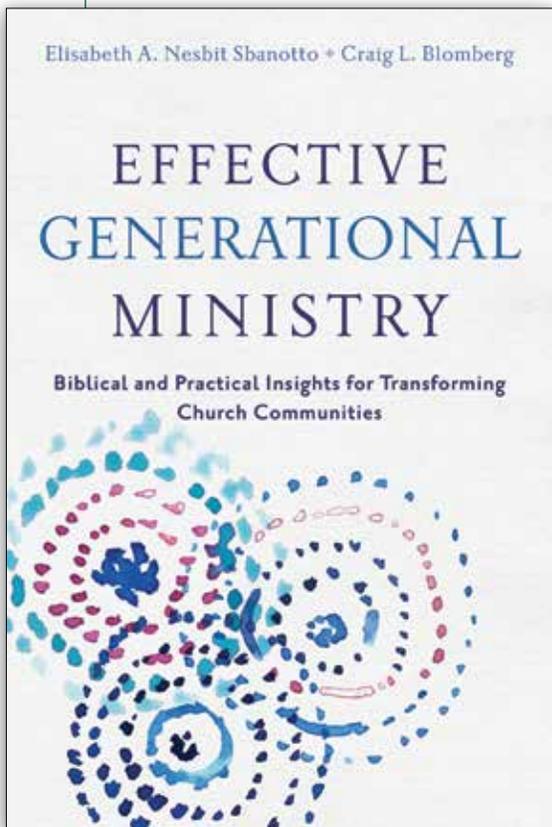
“As one of the most respected evangelicals working in the philosophy of religion over the past two-plus decades, Netland is attentive like few others to the challenges confronting Christian faith in a global context. His characteristically careful treatment and analysis in this book helps us understand why Christian mission has to proceed with humility rather than triumphalistically in the present ferment.”
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Elisabeth A. Nesbit Sbanotto and Craig L. Blomberg

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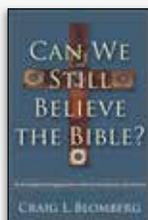
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Elisabeth A. Nesbit Sbanotto (PhD, University of Arkansas) is assistant professor of counseling at Denver Seminary and the author of *Generational Affiliation as a Component of Culture*. She is a registered psychotherapist and maintains a private counseling practice in Littleton, Colorado.

Craig L. Blomberg (PhD, University of Aberdeen) is distinguished professor of New Testament at Denver Seminary, where he has taught for more than twenty-five years. He is the author or editor of numerous books, including *Can We Still Believe the Bible?*, *A Handbook of New Testament Exegesis*, *Jesus and the Gospels*, *The Historical Reliability of the Gospels*, and several commentaries.

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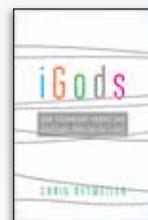
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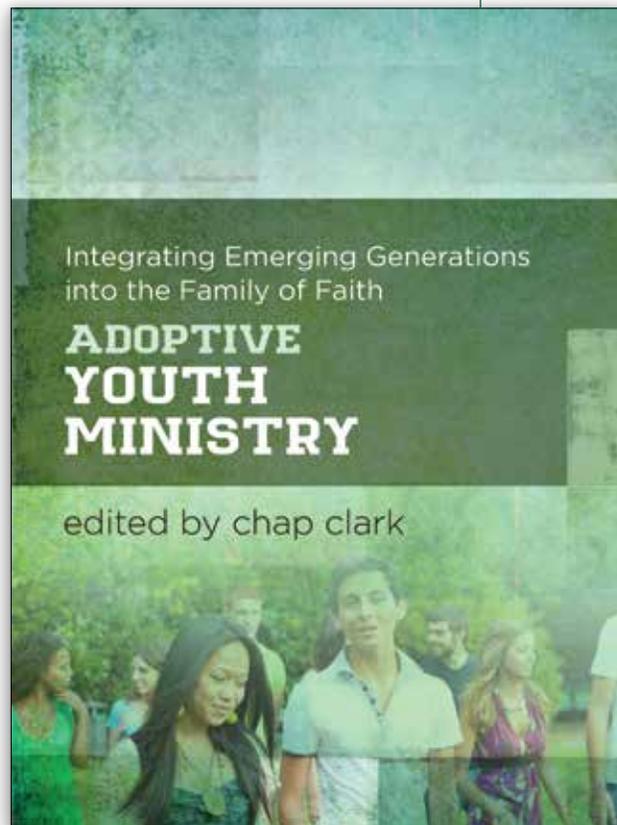
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Chap Clark (PhD, University of Denver) is professor and chair of the youth, family, and culture department at Fuller Theological Seminary, where he also directs the Student Leadership Project and is coordinator of Fuller Studio. He is on the teaching team at Harbor Christian Center Church in Gig Harbor, Washington, is president of ParenTeen, and works closely with Young Life. Clark has authored or coauthored numerous books, including *Hurt 2.0* and *Sticky Faith*.

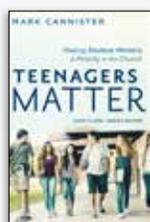
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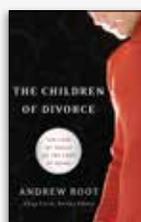
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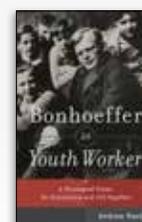
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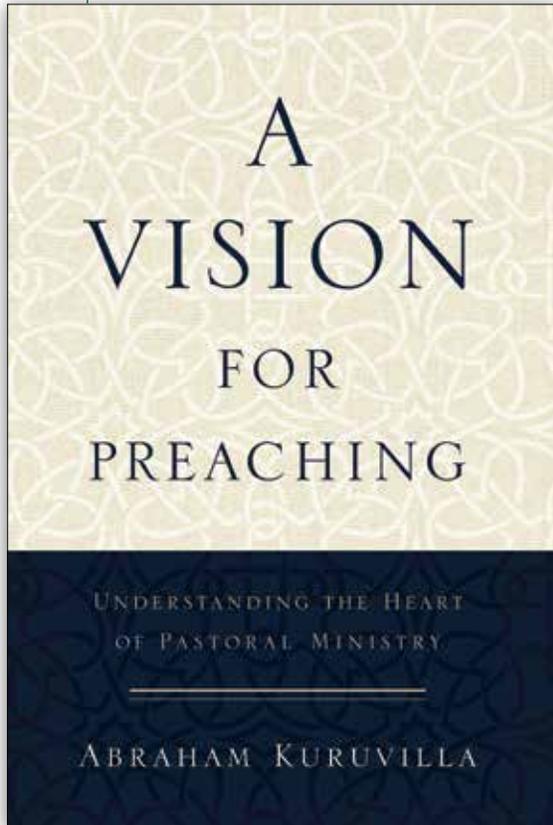
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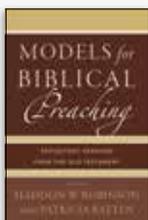
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Abraham Kuruvilla (PhD, University of Aberdeen) is professor of pastoral ministries at Dallas Theological Seminary and is a practicing dermatologist. He has authored several books, including *Privilege the Text! A Theological Hermeneutic for Preaching* and a number of preaching commentaries. Kuruvilla is a past president of the Evangelical Homiletics Society and currently serves as book review editor of the *Journal of the Evangelical Homiletics Society*. He blogs regularly at homiletix.com.

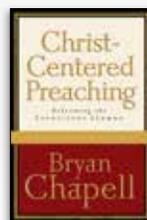
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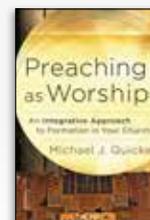
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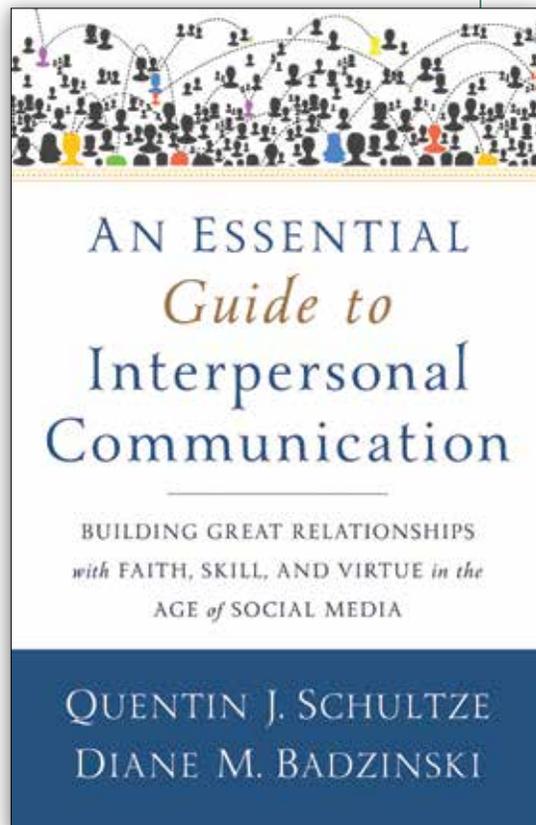
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“Schultze and Badzinski present students and others interested in healthy relationships with a wonderful companion to guide their reflection on and self-understanding of this important area. The balance between biblical sources and academic research sets this book apart from others and will make it valuable not only in schools but in church settings as well.”—**Paul A. Soukup, SJ**, Santa Clara University; author of *Out of Eden: 7 Ways God Restores Blocked Communication*

“Well researched, accessibly written, biblical in its wisdom, and practical in its advice. I gladly recommend this book as a rich resource for learning to build real community through effective communication.”—**Larry Crabb**, NewWay Ministries; author of *The Marriage Builder*



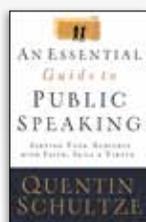
Quentin J. Schultze (PhD, University of Illinois) is professor emeritus of communication at Calvin College and CEO of Edenridge Communications. He has been quoted or interviewed in major media outlets and is the author of many books, including *An Essential Guide to Public Speaking*, *Habits of the High-Tech Heart*, and *Communicating for Life*. He blogs at www.quentinschultze.com.

Diane M. Badzinski (PhD, University of Wisconsin) is professor of communication and chair of the department at Colorado Christian University. She received the Outstanding Affiliate Faculty Award for contributions to Spring Arbor University’s online master of arts in communication program and writes regularly on communication topics.

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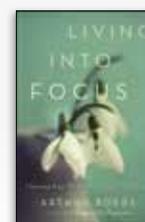
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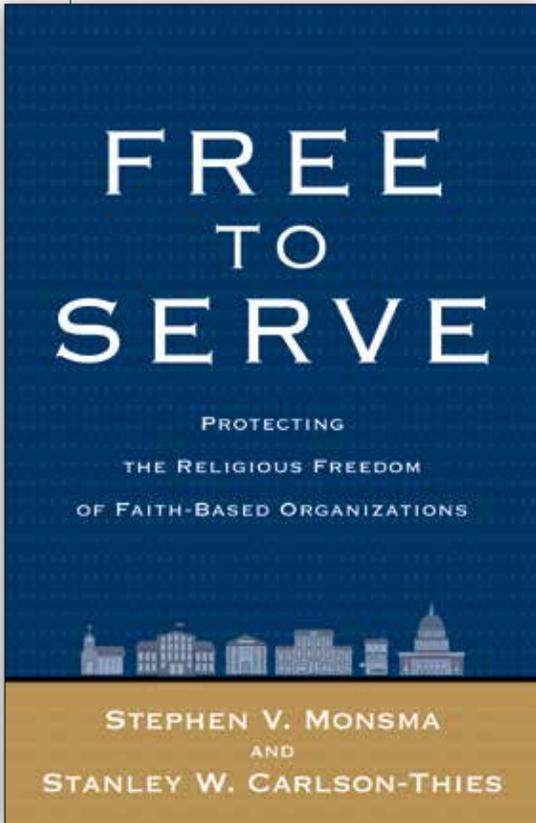
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Free to Serve

Protecting the Religious Freedom of Faith-Based Organizations

Stephen V. Monsma and Stanley W. Carlson-Thies

Free to Serve puts forth a pluralist vision for religious freedom for faith-based organizations of all religious traditions. It includes case studies that document the challenges faith-based organizations face to freely follow the practices of their religious traditions and analyzes these threats as originating in a common, yet erroneous, set of assumptions and attitudes prevalent in American society. Helpful perspectives from experts representing various faith traditions are interspersed throughout the book. Christians concerned about the intersection of government and religious freedom and readers active in faith-based organizations will value *Free to Serve*. It is also well suited for social work, public policy, and religion and politics classes.

ENDORSEMENTS

“In our pluralistic society, the only way we can get along with one another is by respecting the rights of groups with whom we don’t necessarily agree. This book explains how religious institutions caring for our communities risk losing their character as faith-based organizations. We have to protect the rights of everyone in our society if we are to protect the rights of anyone. This is an important book for our times.”—**Richard Stearns**, World Vision US; author of *The Hole in Our Gospel* and *Unfinished*

“An excellent, readable book on a crucial topic. The next decade may very well see more ferocious—and hugely important—battles over religious freedom than at any time in recent decades. This book is one of the very best guides to the threat and the solution. A must-read for anyone interested in preserving our country’s historic stance on religious freedom.”—**Ronald J. Sider**, Palmer Seminary, Eastern University

“The threat to religious liberty grows more intense, even as the debate over the meaning of religious freedom escalates. Monsma and Carlson-Thies speak into this critical moment, unveiling errors in the four common faith-based assumptions of our day. *Free to Serve* examines the unintended consequences of violating religious freedom and offers hope for a society where individual beliefs are fully expressed and diversity in those beliefs is respected and protected.”—**Tami Heim**, Christian Leadership Alliance

“Religious liberty is a first and fundamental freedom that the Constitution intends to protect all citizens of the United States, whether they are religious or not. Today that freedom is increasingly endangered. *Free to Serve* offers proactive remedies that nourish the hope of principled pluralism and promotes a civil society in which people of all faiths, or none, enjoy expansive freedom.”—**Philip G. Ryken**, Wheaton College



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Stephen V. Monsma (PhD, Michigan State University) is a senior research fellow at the Paul B. Henry Institute for the Study of Christianity and Politics at Calvin College and professor emeritus of political science at Pepperdine University. He is also a fellow at the Center for Public Justice. He served in the Michigan House of Representatives and Senate, after which he worked with the Michigan Natural Resources Commission and the Michigan Department of Social Services.

Stanley W. Carlson-Thies (PhD, University of Toronto) is director of the Institutional Religious Freedom Alliance, a division of the Center for Public Justice (CPJ), where he serves as a senior fellow. He convenes the Coalition to Preserve Religious Freedom, a multifaith alliance. Carlson-Thies served with George W. Bush’s White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives and on a task force of President Obama’s Advisory Council on Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships.

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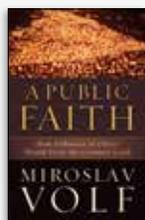
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The Future of Our Faith

An Intergenerational Conversation on Critical Issues Facing the Church
Ronald J. Sider and Ben Lowe

Younger Christians are leaving the church in droves. Many of them—and many of the older Christians who stay—are frustrated and disillusioned by the track record of American Christianity on a number of fronts. The generations don't see eye to eye on many things. There is a lot of talking and writing about the other instead of working to build bridges between generations so they can learn from each other.

In *The Future of Our Faith*, two evangelical leaders forty years apart in age discuss some of the biggest issues challenging the state and future of Christianity. The authors model and cultivate an intentional, charitable, and much-needed intergenerational dialogue as they discuss key issues that will define the church's faithfulness in the next generation. Each chapter includes sidebar reflections from notable Christian leaders, including Christena Cleveland, Jim Daly, Jason Fileta, Christopher A. Hall, Jo Anne Lyon, Gabriel Salguero, Carol and Peter Schreck, Nicholas Wolterstorff, and Jenny Yang. The book also includes individual and small group study questions.

Christians who care about the future of American Christianity will value this work, as will pastors, chaplains, and youth ministers who work with college and young adult ministries. It will also be useful in practical ministry classes.

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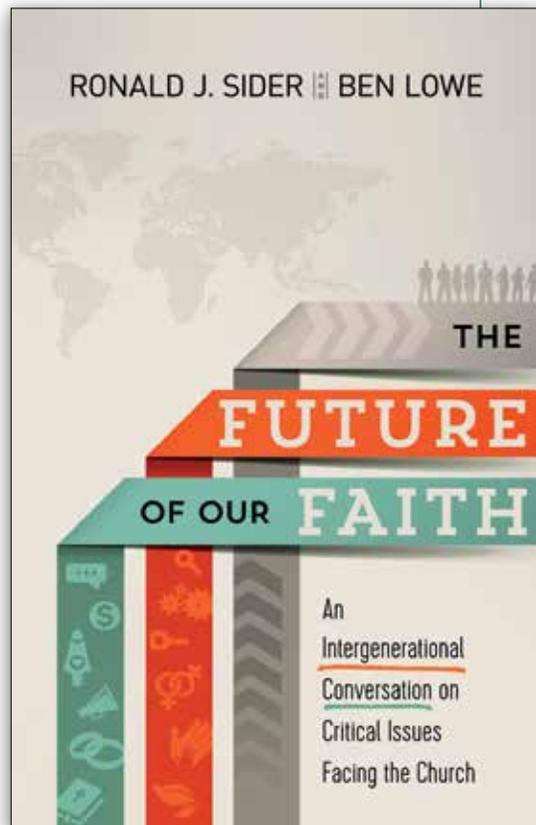
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Conclusion: Jesus at the Center



Ronald J. Sider (PhD, Yale University) is the founder and president emeritus of Evangelicals for Social Action and senior distinguished professor of theology, holistic ministry, and public policy at Palmer Theological Seminary, Eastern University. He is the author of more than thirty books, including *Nonviolent Action*, *The Early Church on Killing*, and *Rich Christians in an Age of Hunger*.

Ben Lowe is senior director of outreach at the Evangelical Environmental Network in Glen Ellyn, Illinois. He is board chair and trustee of the Au Sable Institute in Mancelona, Michigan, is environmental commissioner for the Village of Glen Ellyn, and has spoken on over fifty college campuses.



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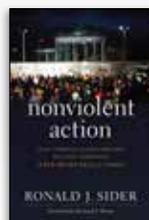
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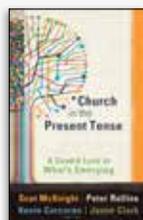
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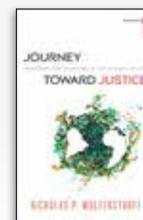
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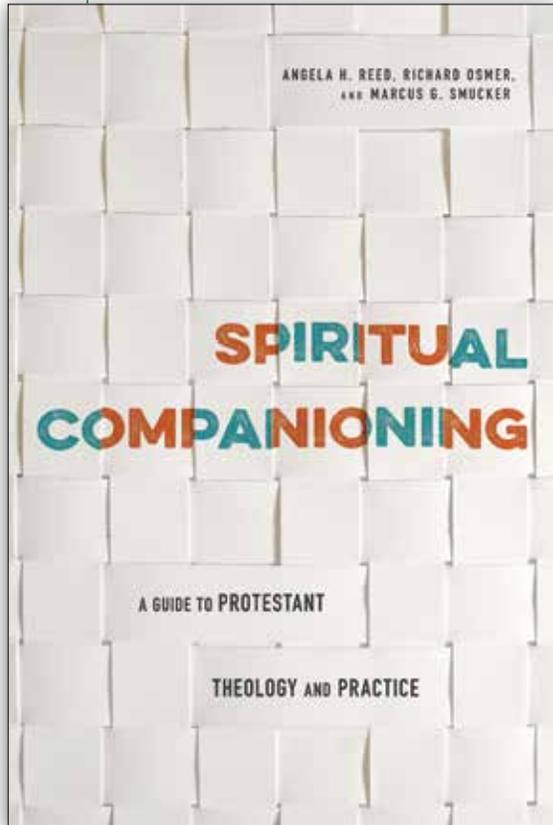
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Spiritual Companionship

A Guide to Protestant Theology and Practice
**Angela H. Reed, Richard Osmer,
 and Marcus G. Smucker**

Drawing on decades of experience in spiritual direction, congregational ministry, and seminary teaching, this book offers a clear and rich introduction to the theology and practice of spiritual companionship in the Protestant tradition. Angela Reed, Richard Osmer, and Marcus Smucker explore the topic in a biblically based and historically informed manner and give practical help for cultivating spiritual relationships in congregations and beyond, using stories throughout to illustrate key ideas. *Spiritual Companionship* will be of interest to seminary professors and students as well as pastors and lay leaders. Study materials are included.

ENDORSEMENTS

“Everyone who ventures into a church today is looking for more than simply an hour of spiritual entertainment. From the depths of their souls rises a yearning to be part of a truly spiritual community, to be knit together with other seekers of holiness. This book unfolds how it can happen.”—**Craig Barnes**, president, Princeton Theological Seminary

“*Spiritual Companionship* offers a comprehensive, well-rounded exploration of the ways spiritual guidance can become an animating vision for healthy congregations and their leaders. Carefully and clearly written, with exercises at the end of each chapter that are designed to inspire contemplative reflection on personal and congregational dimensions of faith formation, this book could be a stimulating guidebook for discussions among pastors and lay leaders, in Christian formation committees, or in seminary classrooms. Readers will be inspired by the clarity and simplicity of this vision, which is nothing less than a return to the pulsing heart of the gospel: loving God, neighbor, and self.”—**Marlene Kropf**, Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary

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- Introduction
- 1. Spiritual Companionship as Presence
- 2. Spiritual Companionship in the Congregation
- 3. Spiritual Companionship in Spiritual Direction
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- 5. Spiritual Companionship in Everyday Life
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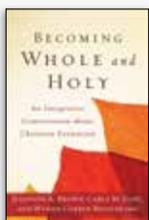
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Angela H. Reed (PhD, Princeton Theological Seminary) is assistant professor of practical theology and director of spiritual formation at George W. Truett Theological Seminary, Baylor University.

Richard Osmer (PhD, Emory University) is Ralph B. and Helen S. Ashenfelter Professor of Mission and Evangelism at Princeton Theological Seminary. He is the author of several books, including *Practical Theology: An Introduction* and *The Teaching Ministry of Congregations*.

Marcus G. Smucker (1931–2014; PhD, The Union Graduate School) was known as a pastor, teacher, spiritual advisor, and conflict mediator. He taught at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary and Eastern Mennonite Seminary.

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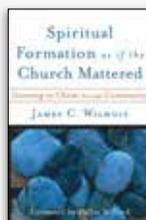
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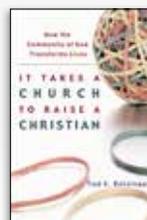
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To the Table

A Spirituality of Food, Farming, and Community

Lisa Graham McMinn

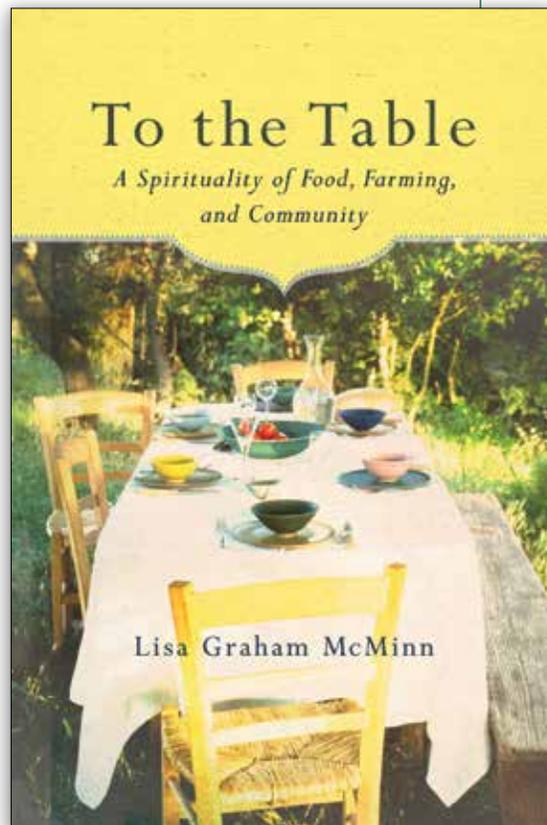
With the growing farm-to-table movement and increasing popularity of local farmers' markets, we are becoming more conscious of where our food originates. In this spirituality of eating and food, Lisa Graham McMinn encourages readers to reflect on the realities of food today and understand how eating forms their souls inwardly, upwardly, and outwardly. McMinn celebrates the goodness of food in God's creation, offering practical guidance on what it means to eat alone or in community with more intention, compassion, humility, and gratitude. She also tells the story of food that occurs every year as it transitions from seed to table. *To the Table* features sidebars containing gardening and food tips, recipes, and food preservation guides. End-of-chapter questions for individual and group use are included.

ENDORSEMENTS

"In *To the Table* Lisa Graham McMinn takes us on a practical and personal journey into the joys and trials of growing, cooking, preserving, and sharing food. Here we see that food is not reducible to a commodity but is instead the tasty medium of God's love for the whole creation. With inspiring and illuminating stories and astute cultural analysis, McMinn shows us how the whole of eating can be a sacramental act that brings healing to our hungry and hurting world. This beautifully written book is ideal for group study, and its recipes and cooking advice will encourage people to gather in kitchens and around tables to share in the grace of God."—**Norman Wirzba**, Duke Divinity School; author of *Food and Faith: A Theology of Eating*

"If this book were a table, it would bow under the weight of its abundance. Filled with research, recipes, how-to tips, and personal narrative, *To the Table* will encourage faithful readers to head straight for their own gardens, farmers markets, pantries, and tables as they learn to eat more intentionally, more prayerfully, and with stronger community ties. With insights from sociology and wisdom from lived experience in family, church, and community, Lisa McMinn is an expert guide for those wishing to eat better, live better, and follow Christ more deeply."—**Jenell Paris**, Messiah College

"*To the Table* is about dining devotionally, which feeds both body and soul; a deeply nourishing read."—**Joel Salatin**, Polyface Farm



Lisa Graham McMinn (PhD, Portland State University) is co-owner of Fern Creek, a twenty-five-family CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) Farm outside of Newberg, Oregon. She is writer in residence at George Fox University, where she previously served as professor of sociology. McMinn writes mostly about gender and sexuality, contentment, and environmental issues—particularly as related to food ethics—and speaks broadly in campus and conference settings. She is the author of *Growing Strong Daughters*.



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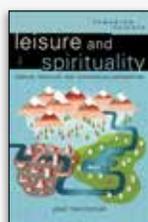
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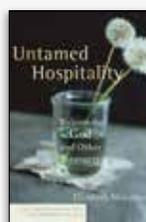
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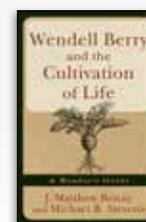
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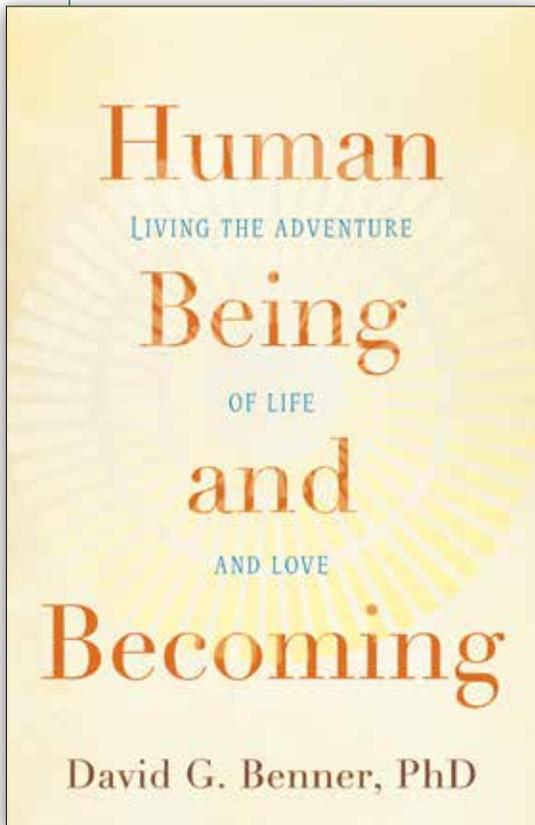
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Human Being and Becoming

Living the Adventure of Life and Love

David G. Benner

Becoming fully human is a lifelong journey. Even though we speak of infants being human at birth, what we know about human development requires acknowledging that becoming fully human is a lifelong process. Authentic transformation involves major shifts in how we see ourselves, others, and the world, which leads us toward the fulfillment of our humanity. However, becoming fully human does not always occur with the passage of time. It is far from automatic and far from inevitable.

In this volume, internationally respected depth psychologist, spiritual guide, and personal transformation coach David Benner explores the mysteries of human being and becoming, revealing the implications of our humanity for our spirituality. He examines the wholeness of reality, the importance of the human heart, and love as the foundation of all being and becoming. Drawing on insights from science, philosophy, and forty years of experience integrating psychology and spirituality, Benner presents concrete steps for living in ways that move us toward wholeness. He also draws on mysticism, the perennial wisdom tradition, interfaith dialogue, and the contemplative Christian tradition, developing a robust spirituality that reveals how we can align ourselves with God's presence in the world.

Readers interested in spiritual formation or the intersection of psychology and spirituality will value *Human Being and Becoming*. It will also interest chaplains, spiritual directors, clergy, therapists, and counselors as well as professors and students of spirituality and psychology.

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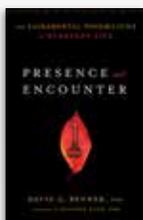
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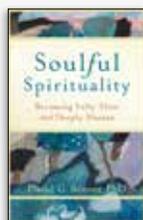
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David G. Benner (PhD, York University; postdoctoral studies, Chicago Institute of Psychoanalysis) is an internationally known depth psychologist, author, spiritual guide, and personal transformation coach. He has authored or edited more than twenty books, including *Presence and Encounter*, *Soulful Spirituality*, and *Spirituality and the Awakening Self*. He lectures widely around the world and has held numerous clinical and academic appointments.

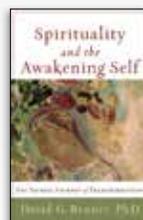
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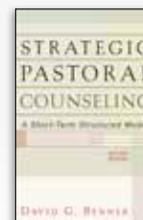
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Chap Clark (PhD, University of Denver) is professor and chair of the youth, family, and culture department at Fuller Theological Seminary, where he directs the Student Leadership Project and is coordinator of Fuller Studio. He is on the teaching team at Harbor Christian Center Church in Gig Harbor, Washington, and is president of ParenTeen.

Youth Ministry in the 21st Century

Five Views

Chap Clark, editor

YOUTH, FAMILY, AND CULTURE

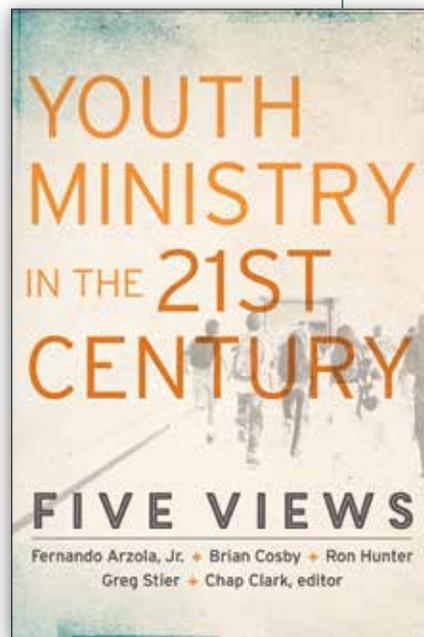
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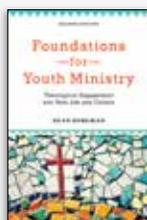
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Jonathan Grant (ThM, Regent College, Vancouver) is the leader of St. Paul's Symonds Street, one of the largest Anglican congregations in Australasia, located in the heart of Auckland, New Zealand. He pursued ordination training in the Church of England, serving in pastoral ministry at St. Mary's Bryanston Square, London.

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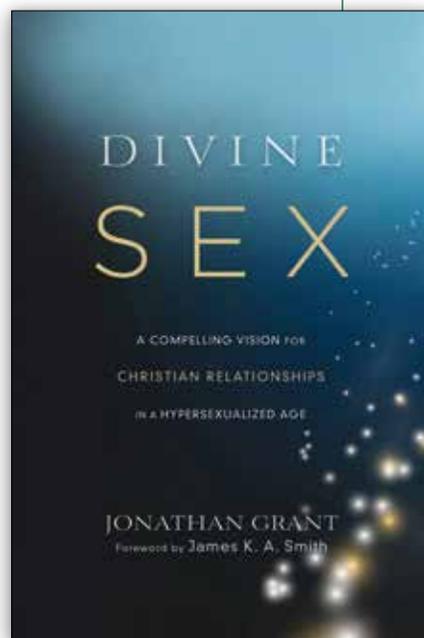
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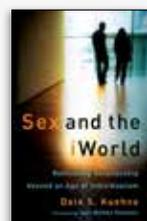
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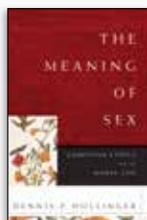
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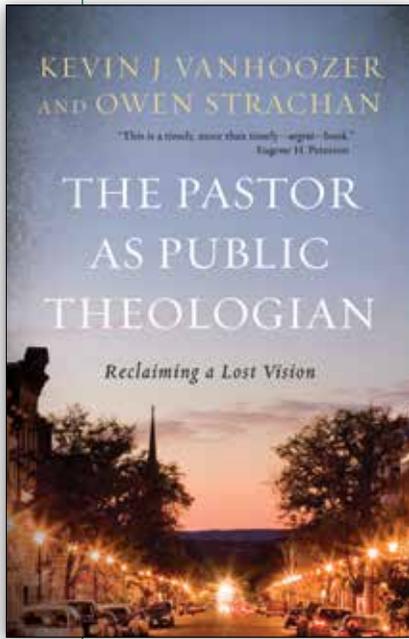
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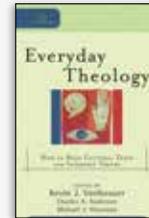
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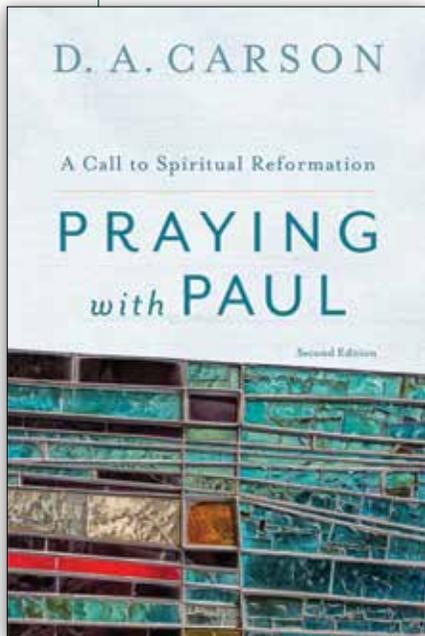
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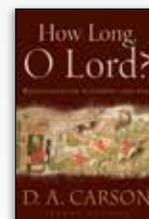
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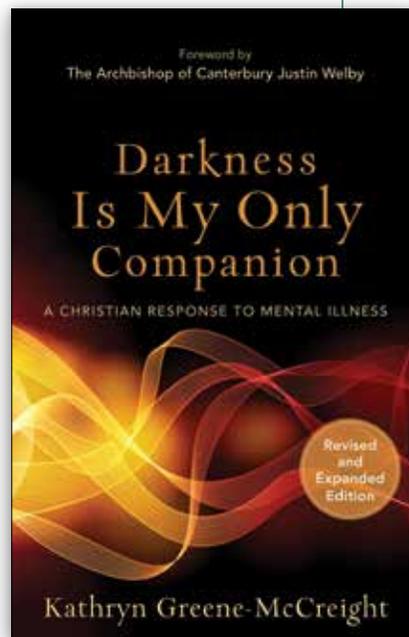
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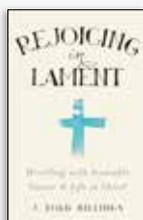
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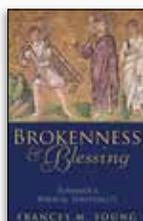
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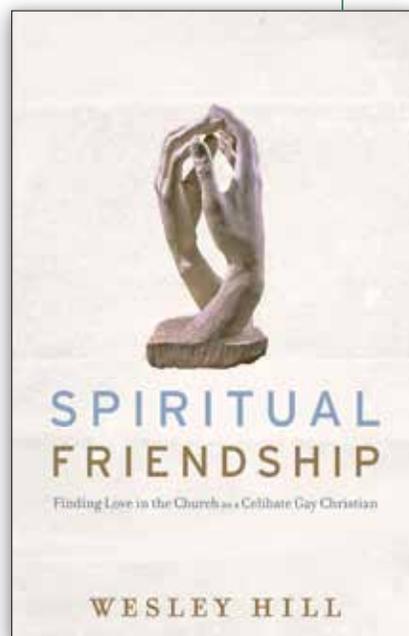
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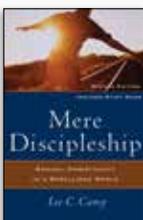
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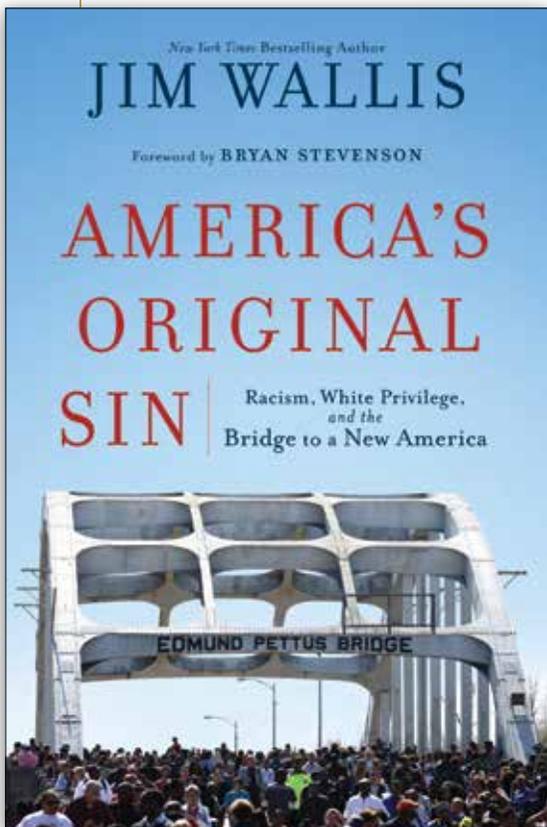
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Racism, White Privilege, and the Bridge to a New America

Jim Wallis
Foreword by Bryan Stevenson

America's problem with race has deep roots, with the country's foundation tied to the near extermination of one race of people and the enslavement of another. Racism is truly our nation's original sin. "It's time we right this unacceptable wrong," says leading Christian activist Jim Wallis. Fifty years ago, Wallis was driven away from his faith by a white church that considered dealing with racism to be taboo. His participation in the civil rights movement brought him back when he discovered a faith that commands racial justice. Yet as recent tragedies confirm, we continue to suffer from the legacy of racism. The old patterns of white privilege are colliding with the changing demographics of a diverse nation. The church has been slow to respond, and Sunday morning is still the most segregated hour of the week.

In *America's Original Sin*, Wallis offers a prophetic and deeply personal call to action in overcoming the racism so ingrained in American society. He speaks candidly to Christians—particularly white Christians—urging them to cross a new bridge toward racial justice and healing.

FROM THE FOREWORD

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Jim Wallis is president and founder of *Sojourners* and editor in chief of *Sojourners* magazine. He is a bestselling author, public theologian, national preacher, social activist, and international commentator on ethics and public life. Wallis has written ten books, including *The (Un)Common Good*, *God's Politics*, and *The Great Awakening*. He is a frequent speaker in the United States and abroad, has written for major newspapers, and appears frequently on major media outlets. Wallis also teaches at Georgetown University and has taught at Harvard University.

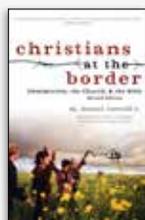
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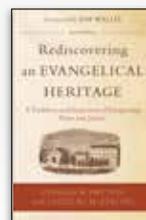
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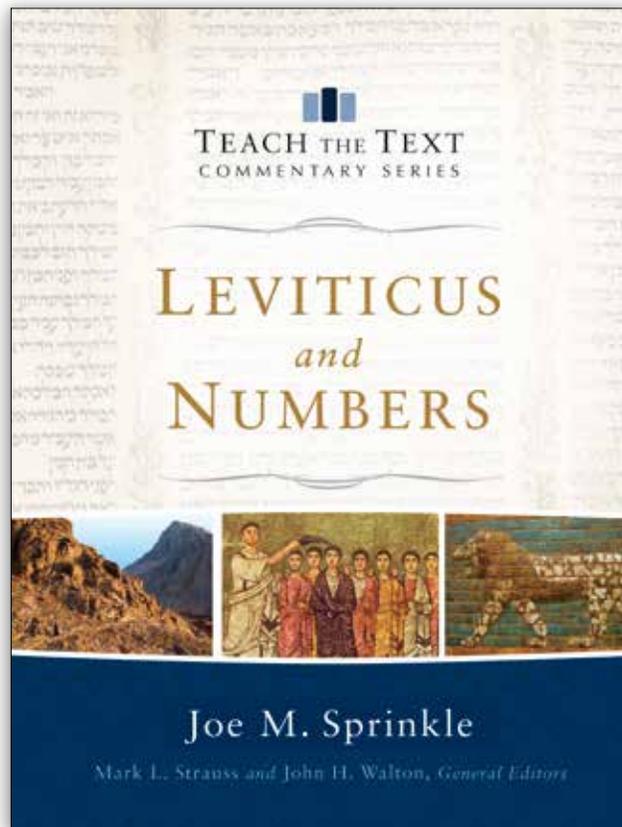
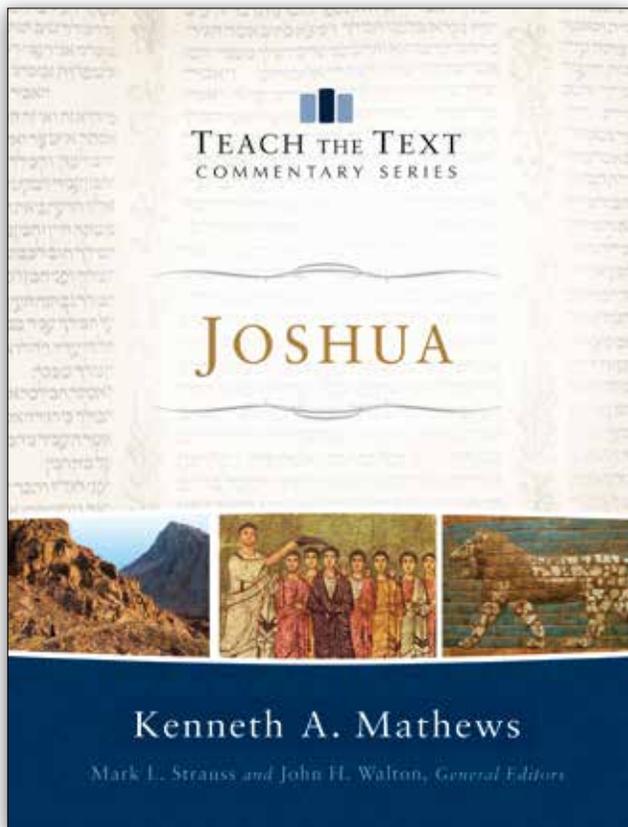
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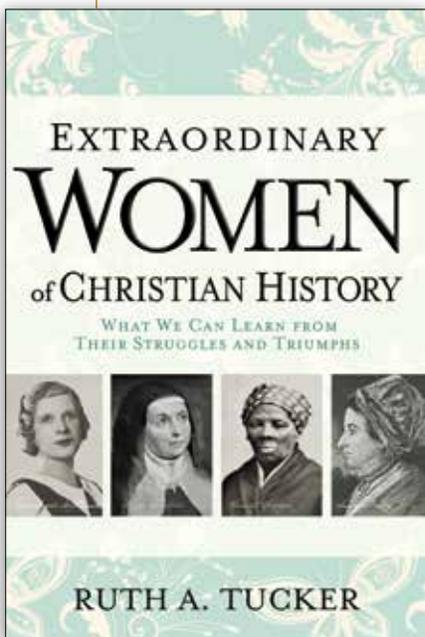
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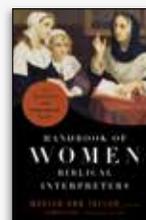
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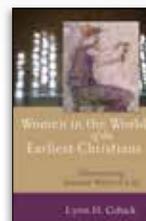
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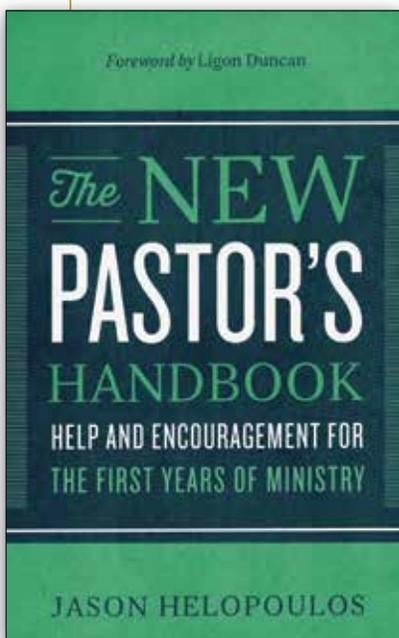
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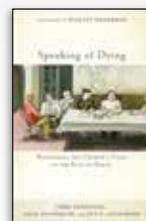
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Jason Helopoulos (ThM, Dallas Theological Seminary) is associate pastor at University Reformed Church in East Lansing, Michigan. Ordained in the Presbyterian Church in America, he has pastored three churches and speaks at conferences and retreats. He is the author of *A Neglected Grace* and blogs for the Gospel Coalition.

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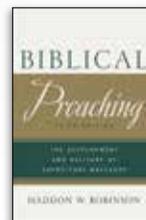
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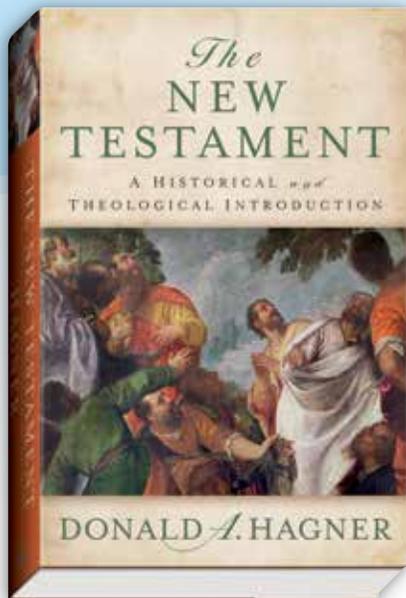
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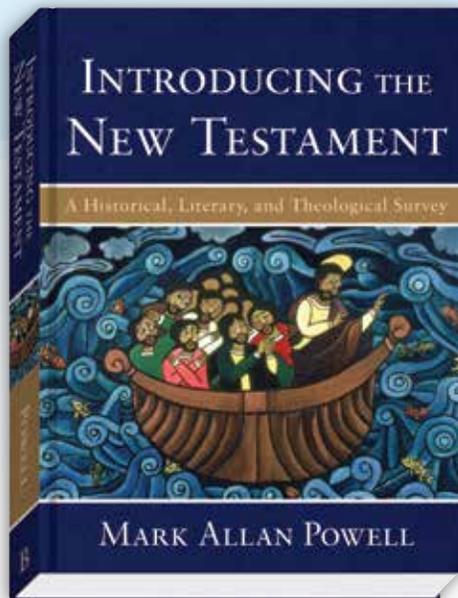
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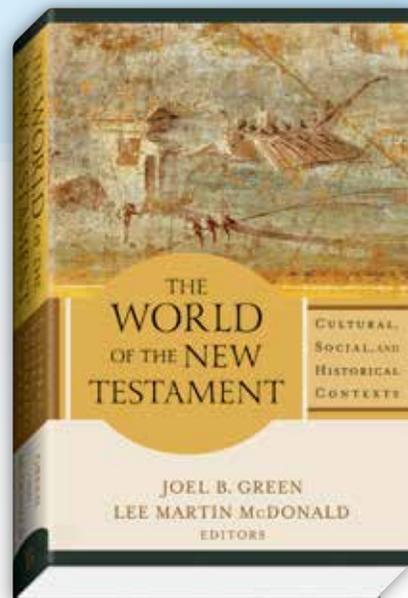
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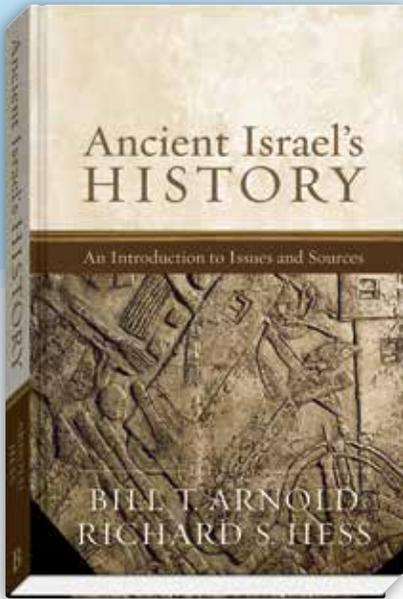
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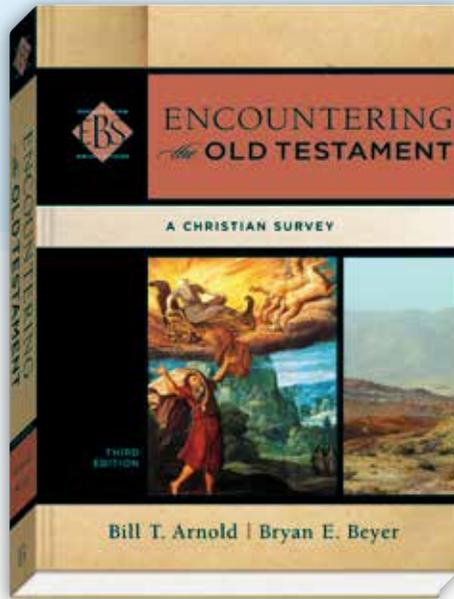
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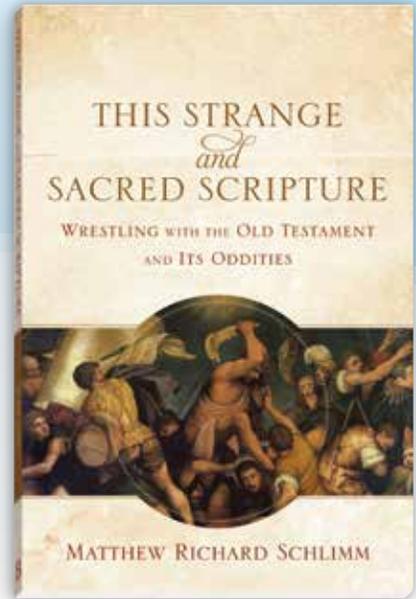
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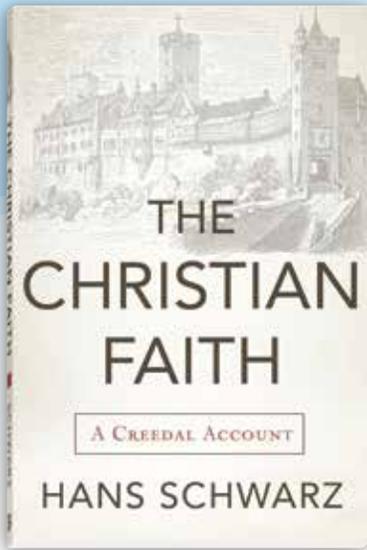
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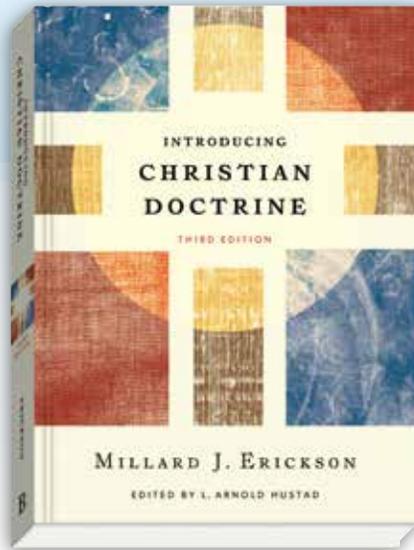
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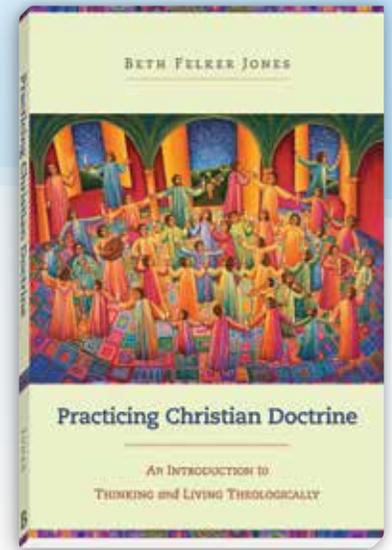


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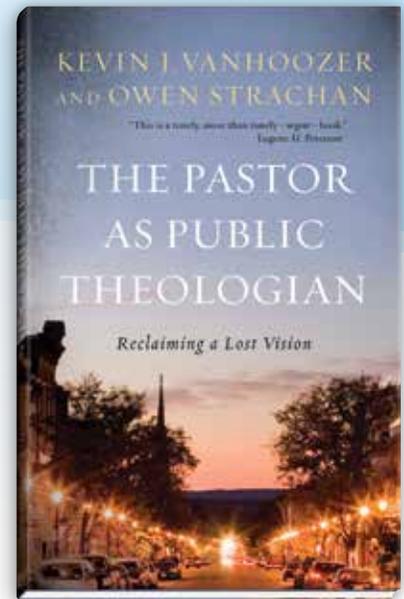
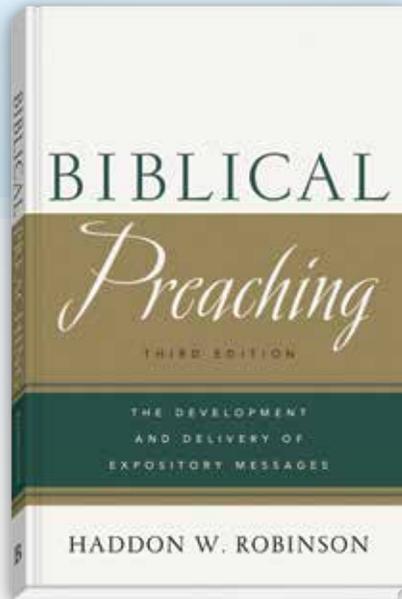
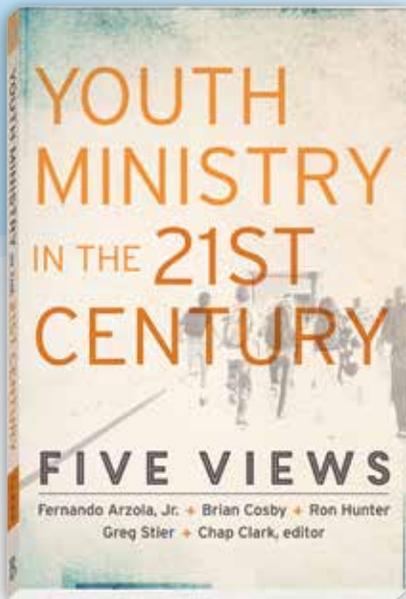
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