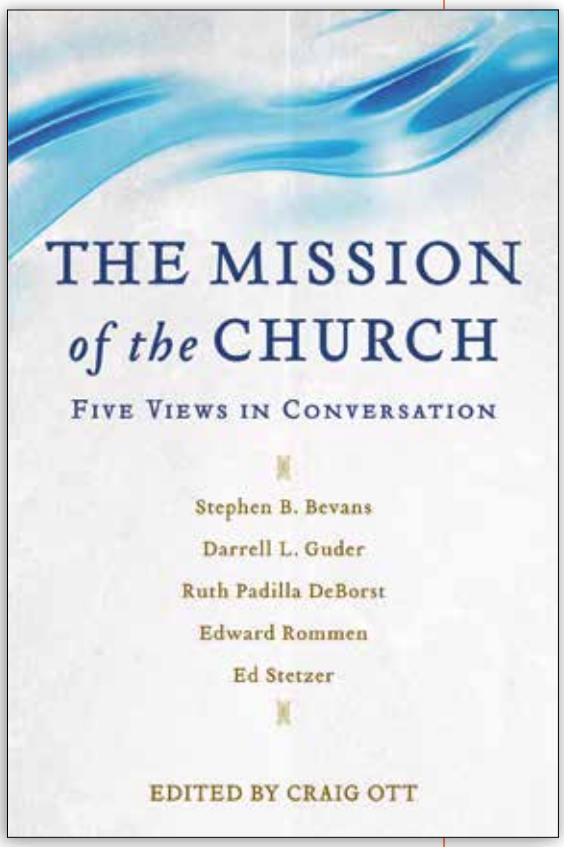
The Mission of the Church

Five Views in Conversation

Craig Ott, editor



Leading voices representing a range of Christian traditions engage in an enlightening conversation as they present and compare their perspectives on the mission of the church. Contributors include:

Stephen B. Bevans, a Roman Catholic priest in the missionary congregation of the Society of the Divine Word (SVD) and Louis J. Luzbetak, SVD Professor of Mission and Culture Emeritus at Catholic Theological Union, Chicago. He is a member of the World Council of Churches' Commission on World Mission and Evangelism.

Darrell L. Guder, professor emeritus at Princeton Theological Seminary, where he served as Henry Winters Luce Professor of Missional and Ecumenical Theology.

Ruth Padilla DeBorst, who coordinates the Networking Team of the International Fellowship of Mission as Transformation, serves on the board of the Latin American Theological Fellowship, and teaches with the Center for Interdisciplinary Theological Studies in Latin America.

Edward Rommen, rector of Holy Transfiguration Orthodox Church (OCA) in Raleigh-Durham, North Carolina, and adjunct professor of theology at Duke Divinity School.

Ed Stetzer, executive director of LifeWay Research and an adjunct professor at several seminaries.

ENDORSEMENTS

"I know that I shall read this book again and often. The contributors provide both a breadth of perspectives and a depth of historical background that are illuminating, instructive, and challenging. The book has increased my understanding of and respect for divergent confessional views on Christian mission, while compelling me to re-examine and clarify my own. Like the Bereans, I am motivated afresh to search the Scriptures to see if these things are true—and such an effect is surely the mark of a truly stimulating and worthwhile book." —**Christopher J. H. Wright**, Langham Partnership; author of *The Mission of God* and *The Mission of God's People*

"A special invitation into a very engaging and respectful ecumenical conversation about the theology and practice of mission. Ott has done a wonderful service in facilitating this stimulating and in-depth process of dialogue that highlights the complementarity and creative tension among the various perspectives on mission within various streams of Christianity today."—**Roger Schroeder**, Catholic Theological Union at Chicago

Craig Ott (PhD, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School) is professor of mission and intercultural studies at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, where he occupies the ReachGlobal Chair of Mission and directs the PhD in intercultural studies program. He has authored or edited numerous articles and five books, including *Global Church Planting*, *Encountering Theology of Mission*, and *Globalizing Theology*.

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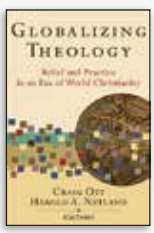

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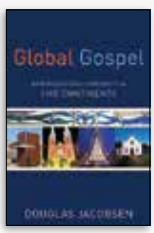

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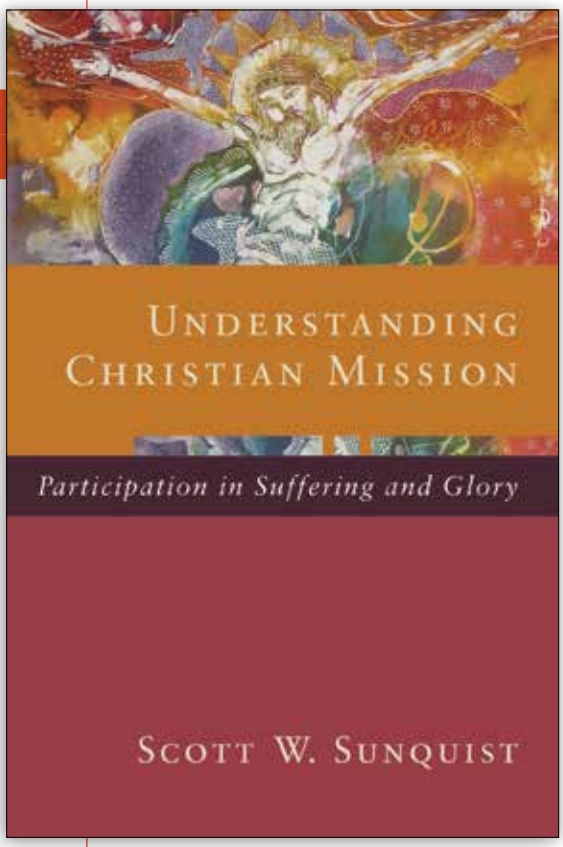

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Scott W. Sunquist (PhD, Princeton Theological Seminary) is dean of the School of Intercultural Studies and professor of world Christianity at Fuller Theological Seminary. He previously served as professor of world Christianity at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. Sunquist is the author of *The Unexpected Christian Century*, coauthor of the multivolume *History of the World Christian Movement*, and coeditor of *A Dictionary of Asian Christianity*.

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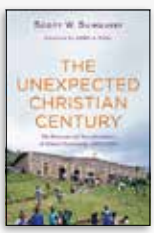

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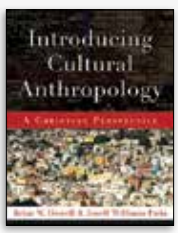

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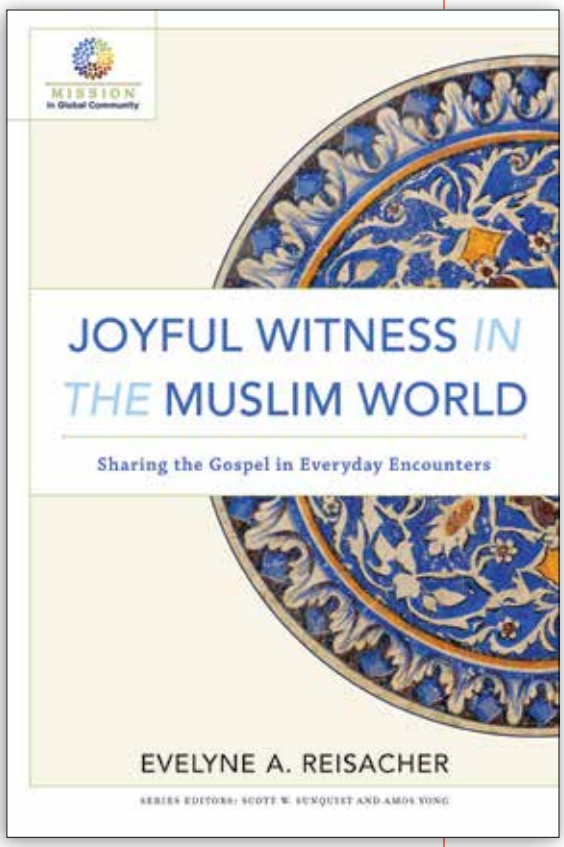

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ENDORSEMENTS

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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 experiences and those of their global colleagues to illumine present realities and chart a course into the future. Series editors are Scott W. Sunquist and Amos Yong.

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 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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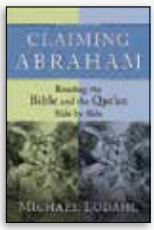

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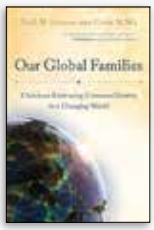

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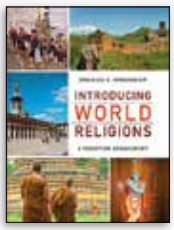

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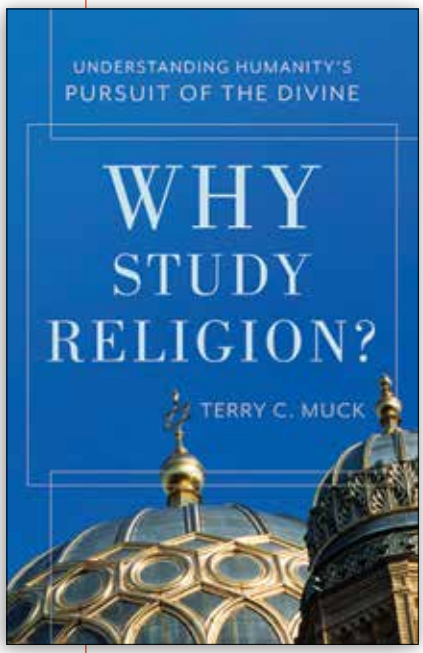

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Terry C. Muck (PhD, Northwestern University) served as executive director of the Louisville Institute after teaching for many years at Austin Presbyterian Seminary and Asbury Theological Seminary. He is the author or editor of numerous books.

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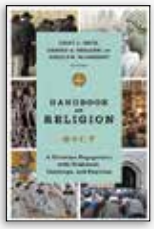

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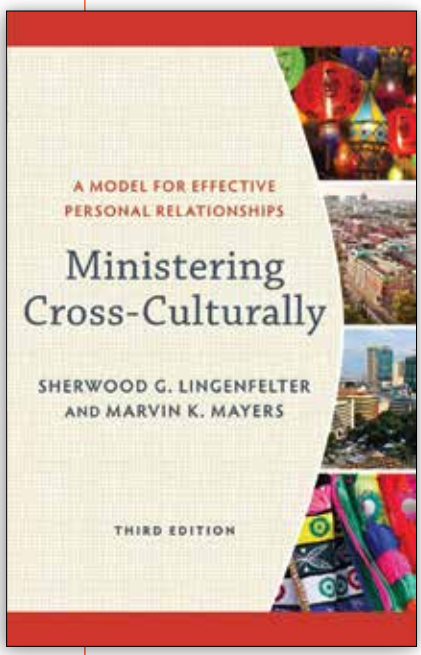

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Sherwood G. Lingenfelter (PhD, University of Pittsburgh) is provost emeritus and senior professor of anthropology at Fuller Theological Seminary.

Marvin K. Mayers (1927–2015; PhD, University of Chicago) founded the Cook School of Intercultural Studies at Biola University, where he taught for many years.

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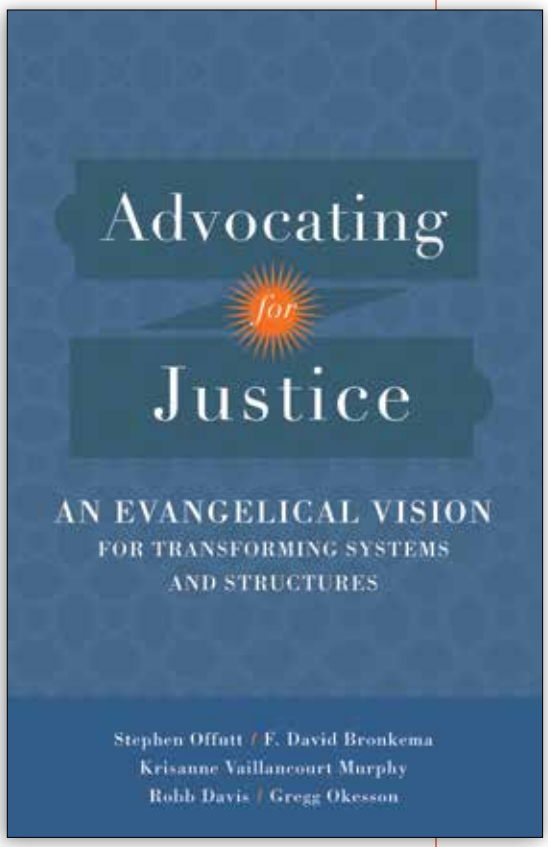

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Stephen Offutt (PhD, Boston University) is assistant professor of development studies at Asbury Theological Seminary.

F. David Bronkema (PhD, Yale University) is interim dean of Palmer Theological Seminary at Eastern University.

Krisanne Vaillancourt Murphy (MTS, Weston Jesuit School of Theology) is senior associate for national Catholic engagement at Bread for the World.

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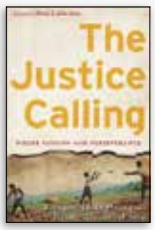

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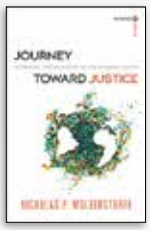

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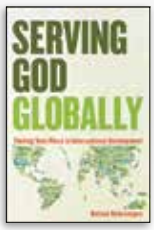

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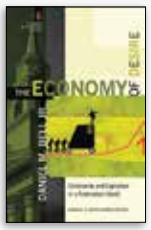

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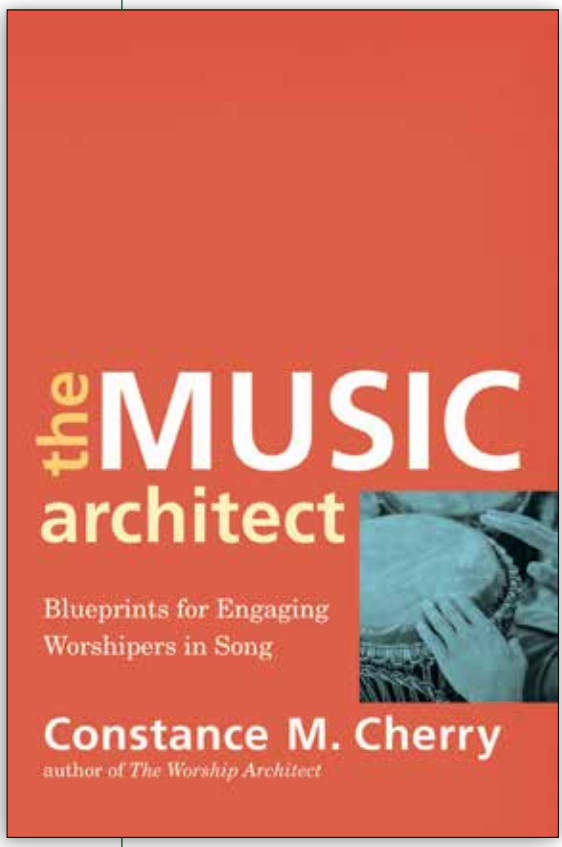

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"The twenty-first century is the post–worship war era. It is an era where an unsettling divide shaped by the desire for tradition or the pressing need for relevance reveals itself through Christian worship expressions. Oftentimes, this tension manifests itself in the choice of music used for corporate worship. Without a doubt, music making has a significant role in realizing Christian worship, a role comparable to ritual actions and the art of rhetoric in earlier eras. To that end, Cherry in *The Music Architect* has strategically and helpfully unpacked the purpose, functions, and implications of music making in the context of worship in our day. Shaped by Cherry's overarching concern for leadership formation in enabling congregational singing, this book offers much guidance to those who are preparing to serve or are already serving in the fields of worship and sacred music. It is a timely gift for all of us who are in the forefront of nurturing God's people in song."
—**Lim Swee Hong** (林瑞峰), Emmanuel College of Victoria University, University of Toronto

Constance M. Cherry (DMin, Northern Baptist Theological Seminary) is professor of worship and pastoral ministry at Indiana Wesleyan University and a founding faculty member of the Robert E. Webber Institute for Worship Studies. She speaks and teaches internationally and is a regular adjunct professor at several seminaries. Cherry has also served local churches as a minister of music/worship and as a United Methodist pastor. She is the author of *The Worship Architect* and *The Special Service Worship Architect*.

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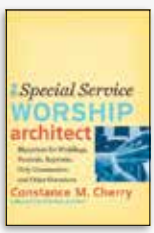

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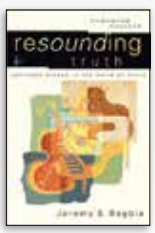

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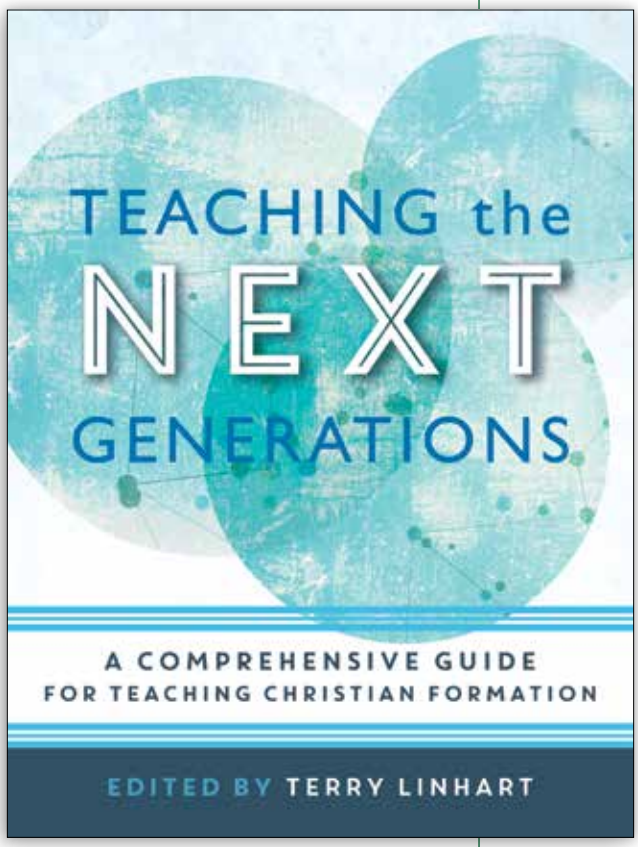

Teaching the Next Generations champions the role of teaching as a necessary skill for ministers and future ministers to develop, equipping them to work effectively for the spiritual growth of young people. Terry Linhart brings together expert Christian educators representing a broad array of evangelical institutions and traditions to show how teaching connects to discipleship and the church in current contexts. Designed for the classroom, the book covers a wide range of topics and includes helpful illustrative diagrams, tables, line drawings, and charts.

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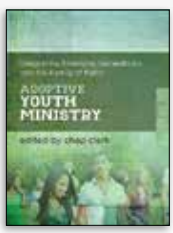

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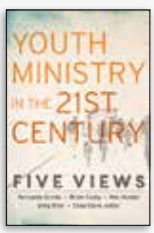

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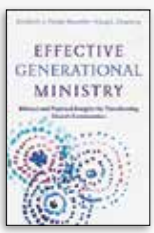

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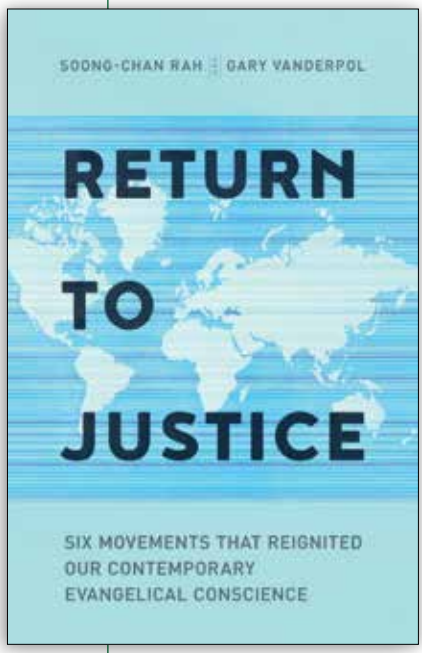

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Soong-Chan Rah (ThD, Duke University) is Milton B. Engebretson Associate Professor of Church Growth and Evangelism at North Park Theological Seminary. He is the author of *Many Colors* and *The Next Evangelicalism*.

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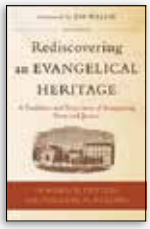

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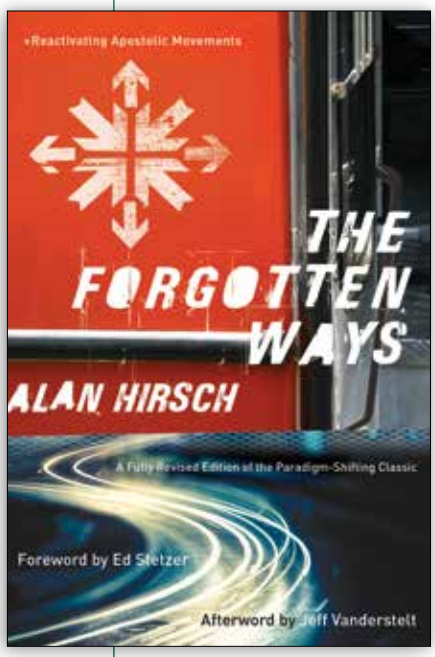

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Alan Hirsch is founder of Forge Mission Training Network, Future Travelers, and 100Movements. He is an adjunct professor at Fuller Theological Seminary, George Fox Seminary, Asbury Theological Seminary, and Wheaton College among others, and he lectures frequently throughout Australia, Europe, and the United States. He has authored numerous award-winning books.

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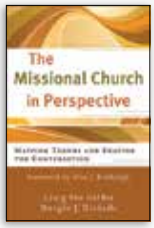

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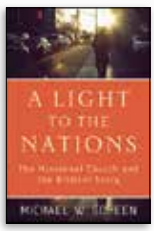

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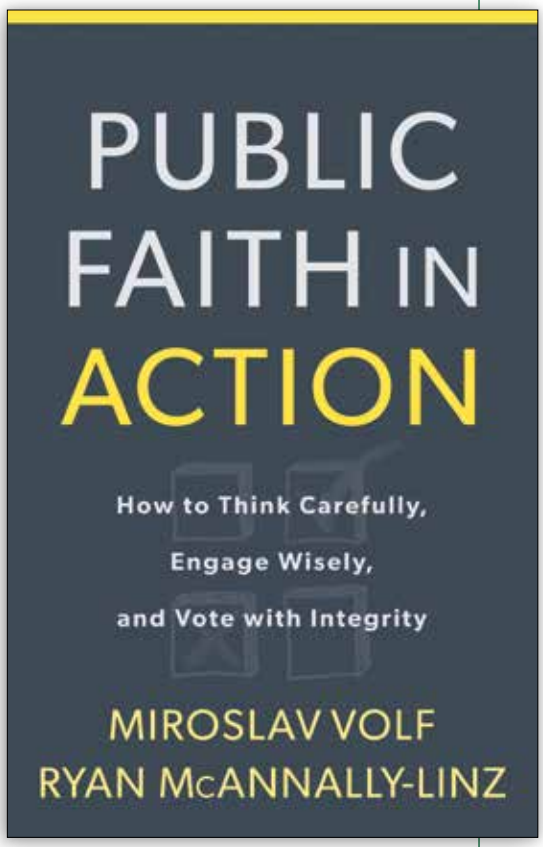

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Miroslav Volf (DrTheol, University of Tübingen) is the Henry B. Wright Professor of Systematic Theology at Yale Divinity School and founding director of the Yale Center for Faith and Culture. He has written more than fifteen books, including *A Public Faith*, *Exclusion and Embrace* (winner of the Grawemeyer Award in Religion and selected among the one hundred best religious books of the twentieth century by *Christianity Today*), *After Our Likeness*, and *The End of Memory*.

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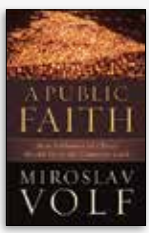

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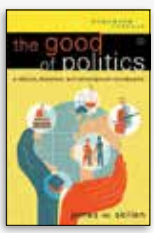

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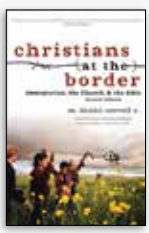

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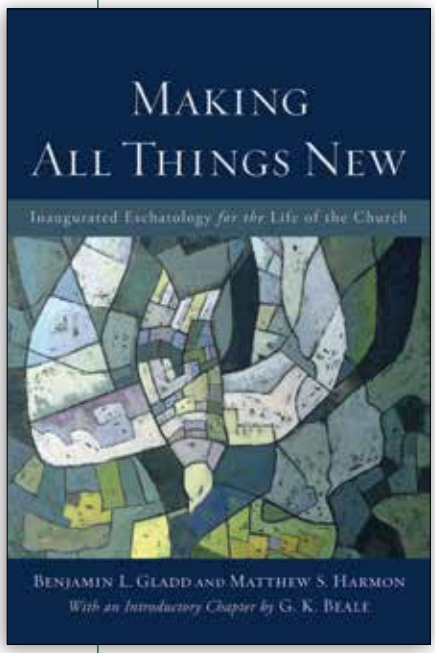

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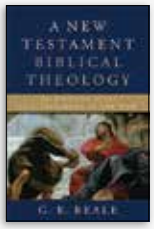

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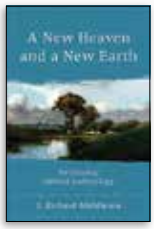

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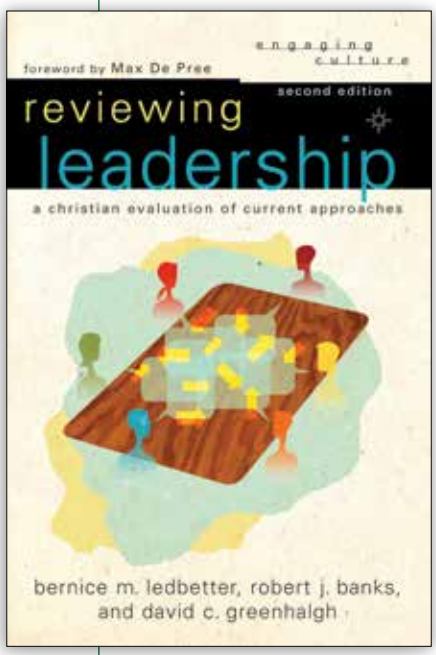

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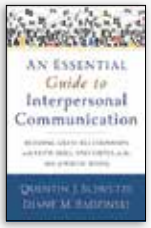

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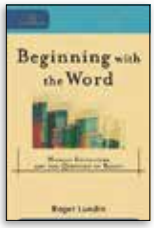

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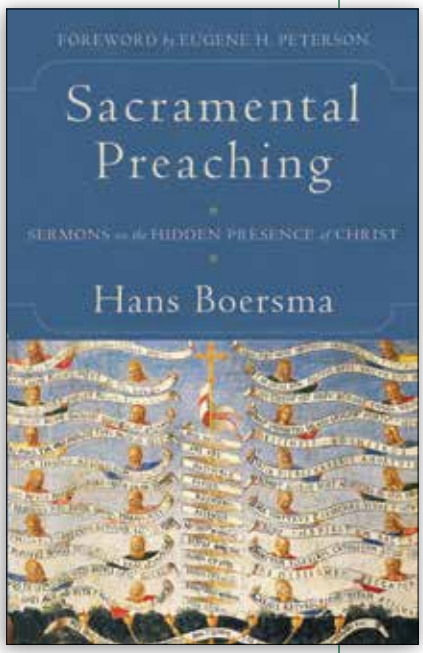

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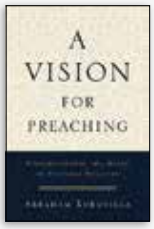

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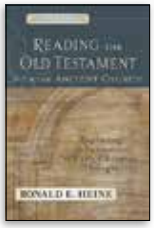

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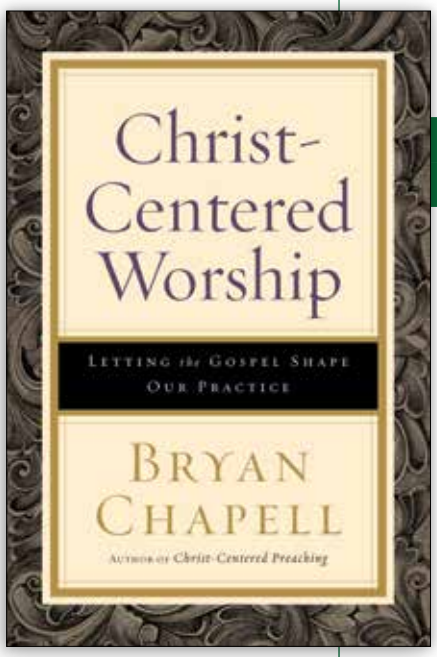

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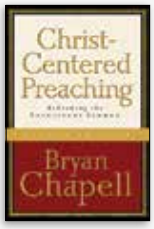

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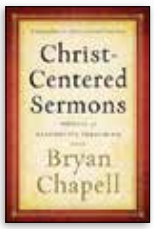

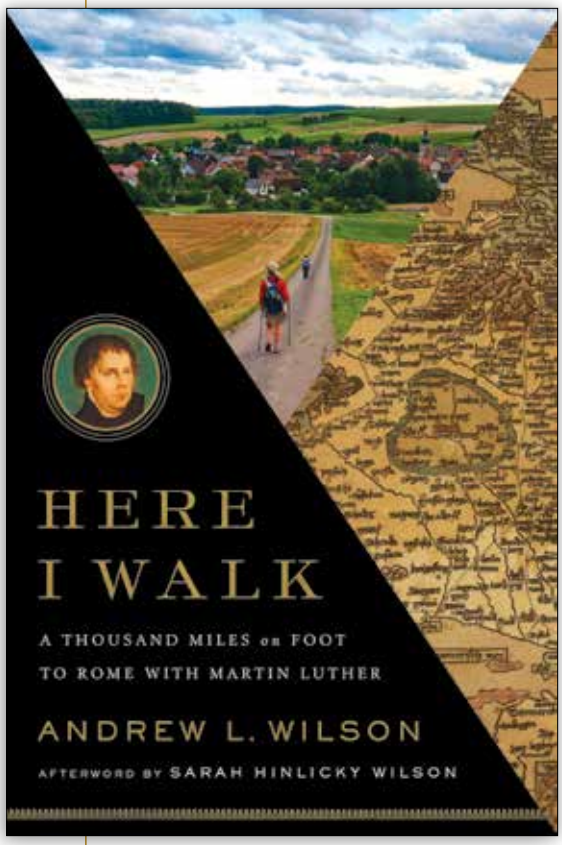

Here I Walk

A Thousand Miles on Foot to Rome with Martin Luther

Andrew L. Wilson

Afterword by Sarah Hinlicky Wilson

In 2010, Andrew Wilson and his wife, Sarah, walked in the footsteps of Martin Luther, re-creating his famous pre-Reformation pilgrimage from Erfurt to Rome. Their seventy-day, thousand-mile trek was well publicized, and thousands of readers followed along on the Wilsons' blog. This engaging narrative brings readers along as Andrew and Sarah traverse Europe, visiting sites such as Coburg Castle, Ulm's Münster, the Alps, Milan, Florence, and Rome. Their journey provides a unique window into the history of the Protestant Reformation and a creative entryway into the life of Luther. *Here I Walk* also reflects on the contemporary ecumenical significance of the events of the Reformation, exploring what the changes of the past 500 years mean for the Christian present and future. The book offers a unique combination of firsthand travel narrative, fascinating explorations in history, and theological and spiritual reflection. Pictures and maps are included.

EXCERPT

A whole crop of historical psychoanalysis has grown from the fertile field of Luther's silent youth. Was Luther paranoid? Manic? Depressed? Did all this stem from a troubled relationship with his father? These lacunae play particularly well in movies, which cannot really capture the religious terror that seems to have dogged the young monk—and many people of his epoch. The latest *Luther* film (2003) sums up half a century's worth of guesswork in an imaginary scene, memorable for its simplicity. I think of it as I pace over the very spot where it is supposed to have occurred. In the movie we see the overwrought and hungry look of actor Joseph Fiennes, on his knees and scrubbing his assigned patch of this very cloister's floor with an unhealthy obsession. His strip of stone is already bone white, and yet he labors unabated, convinced against all reasonableness of his indelible imperfection.

There is no such bone-white strip in Erfurt's cloister. But neither is there any overwhelming evidence to distinguish this young zealot, who certainly took his obligations with exceptional seriousness, from a thousand other novices negotiating the spiritual ropes here and elsewhere. To the contrary, Luther himself reports quite confidently late in life that his early days in Erfurt were among his happiest. The rigors of the religious life do not appear to have been particularly difficult for him; Luther's self-control seems to have been as native as his genius. His mind proved a more fickle servant.

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Andrew L. Wilson (PhD, Princeton Theological Seminary) is a traveler, author, and scholar who has spoken and written on a wide variety of subjects, from Bartolomé de las Cases to hiking shoes. His trek with Sarah Hinlicky Wilson from Erfurt to Rome from August to October 2010 was followed by thousands and featured in articles in *The Christian Century*, *First Things*, the *Wall Street Journal*, and *Books & Culture*. After seven and a half years living in Strasbourg, France, Wilson now makes his home in St. Paul, Minnesota.

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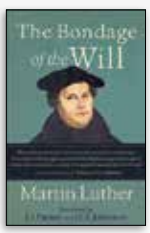

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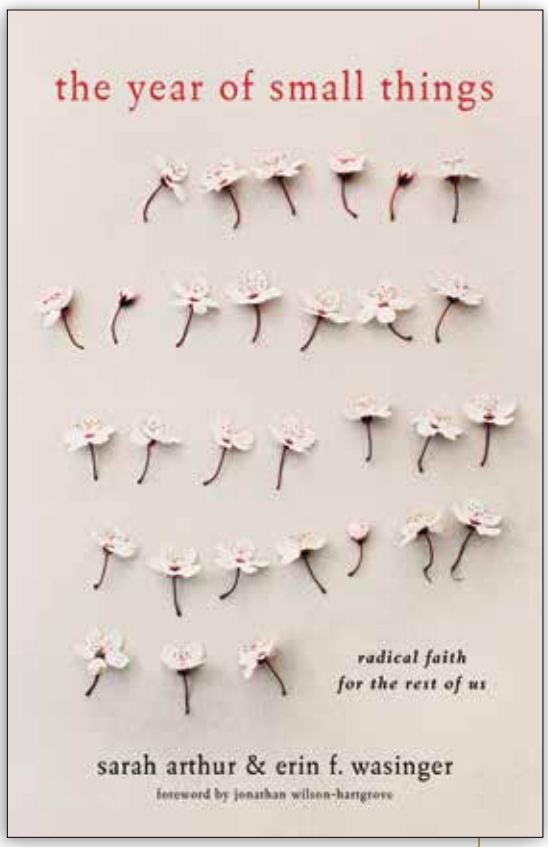
The Year of Small Things

Radical Faith for the Rest of Us

Sarah Arthur and Erin F. Wasinger

Foreword by Jonathan Wilson-Hartgrove



When Sarah and Tom Arthur were appointed to a suburban church after three years in an urban Christian community, they faced a unique challenge: how to translate the practices of "radical" faith into their new context. What do authors like Shane Claiborne (*The Irresistible Revolution*) or David Platt (*Radical*) have to say to those who find themselves squarely in the American Dream? Together with their friends and fellow church members Erin and Dave Wasinger, the Arthurs embarked on a yearlong experiment to implement twelve small practices of radical faith—not waiting until they were out of debt or the kids were out of diapers or God sent them elsewhere, but right now.

The Year of Small Things is Sarah and Erin's story, told with humor, theological reflection, and practical insight, exploring such practices as simplicity, hospitality, accountability, sustainability, and social justice—but, most of all, discernment. Along the way readers will consider how God might be calling them to embark on their own year of small but radical changes, right where God has planted them. Each chapter includes discussion questions and suggested readings.

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1. Covenantal Friendship
2. Hospitality beyond Martha Stewart
3. Radical Finances
4. Reclaiming Spiritual Habits
5. Stuff
6. Holy Time
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12. Just Living
Closing Thoughts
Appendix A: Engaging Three Strands of "Radical" Christianity
Appendix B: Hospitality Covenant
Appendix C: The Arthurs' Christmas Letter

Sarah Arthur (MTS, Duke University Divinity School) is a fun-loving speaker and the award-winning author/compiler of eleven books, including the bestseller *Walking with Frodo: A Devotional Journey through "The Lord of the Rings"* and *At the Still Point: A Literary Guide to Prayer in Ordinary Time*. She has written for such publications as *Christianity Today*, Her.meneutics, and *Image Journal* online, and has served as a fiction judge for the *Christianity Today* Book Awards. Visit her website at www.saraharthur.com.

Erin F. Wasinger is a freelance writer, speaker, storyteller, lay theologian, and journalist who has worked as a newspaper editor and columnist. She writes at www.erinwasinger.com.

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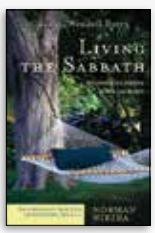

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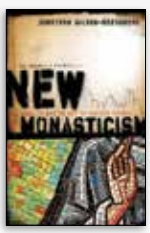

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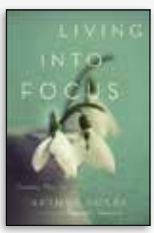

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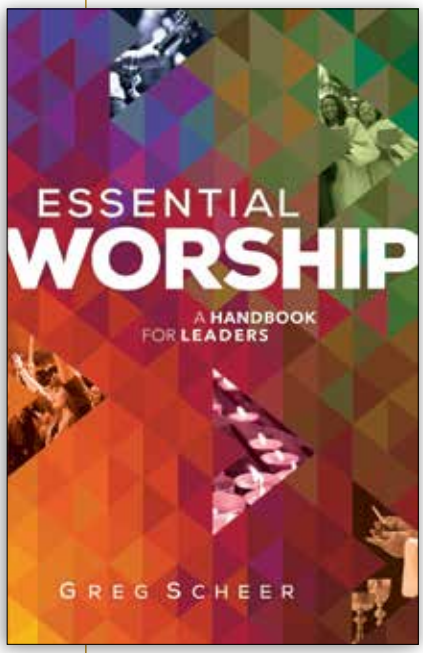

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Greg Scheer (MA, University of Pittsburgh) is a composer, church musician, and choir and music director. He is currently minister of worship at Church of the Servant in Grand Rapids, Michigan, and a music associate with the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship.

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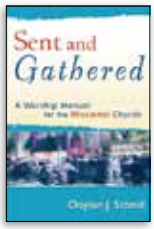

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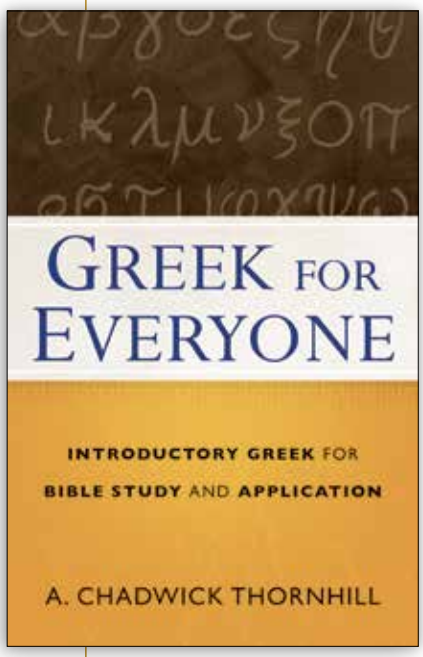

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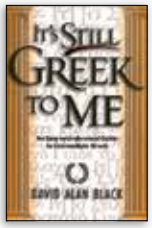

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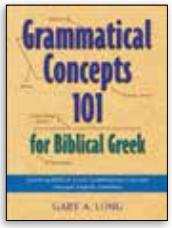

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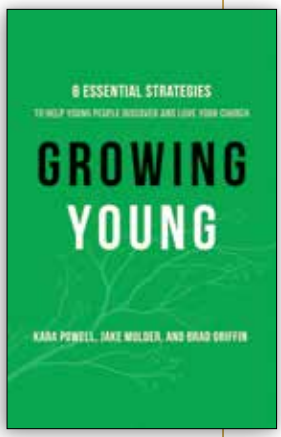

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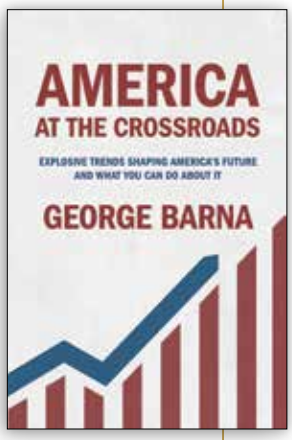

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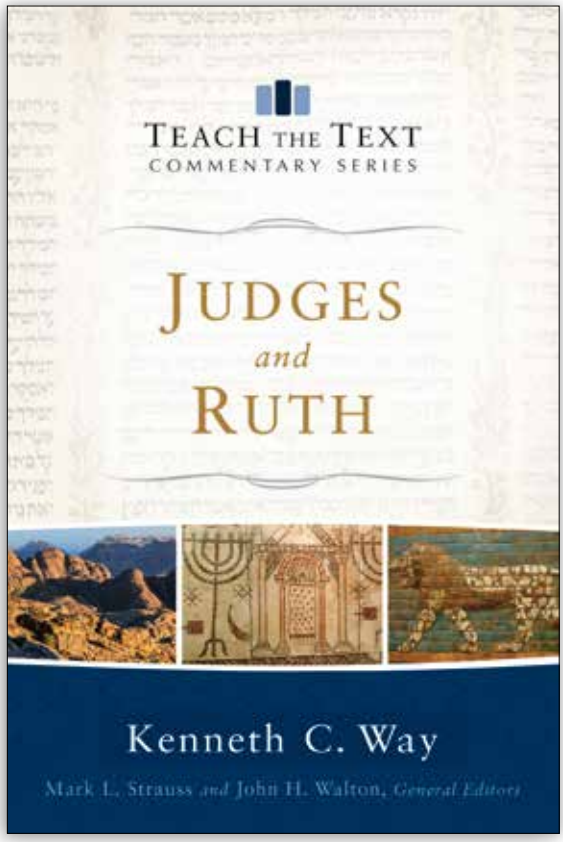

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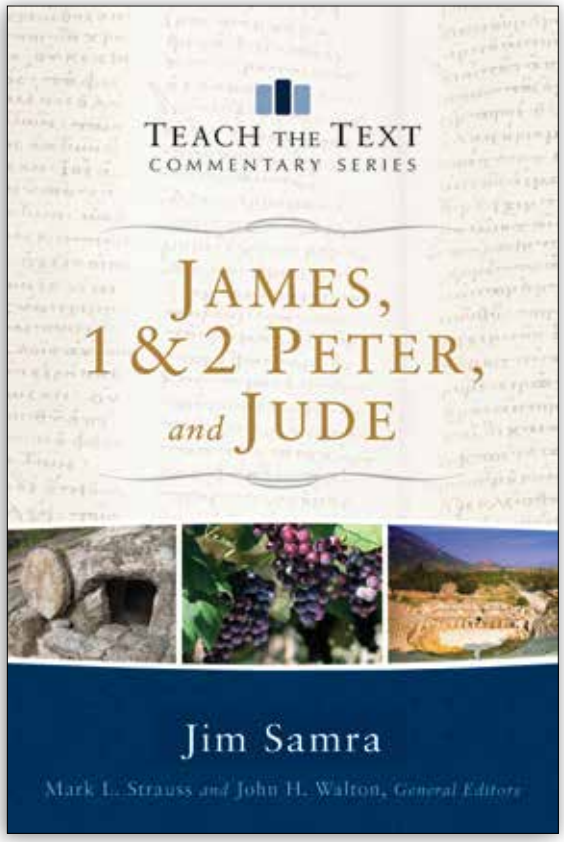

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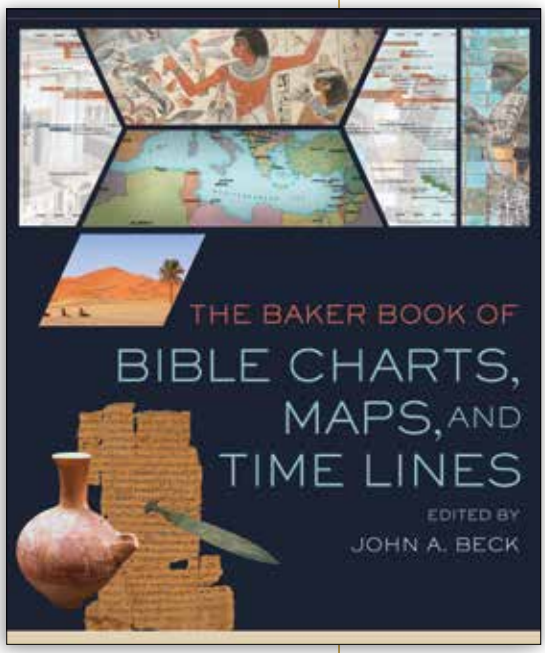

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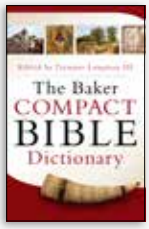

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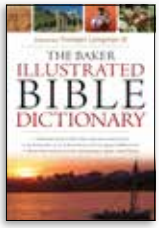

J. Daniel Hays (PhD, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary) is dean of the School of Christian Studies and professor of biblical studies at Ouachita Baptist University.

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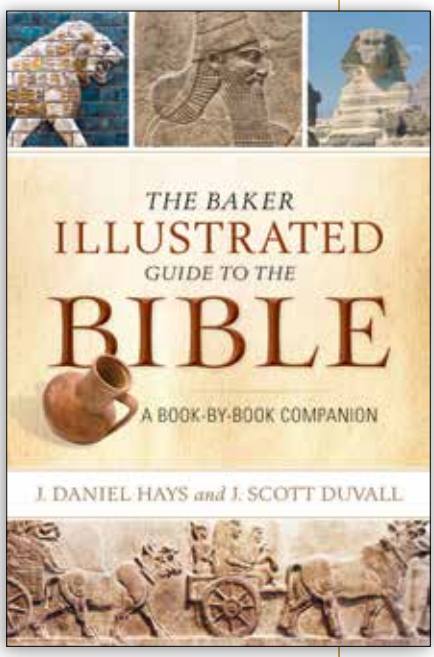

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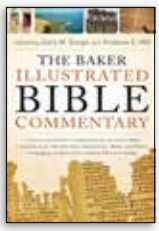

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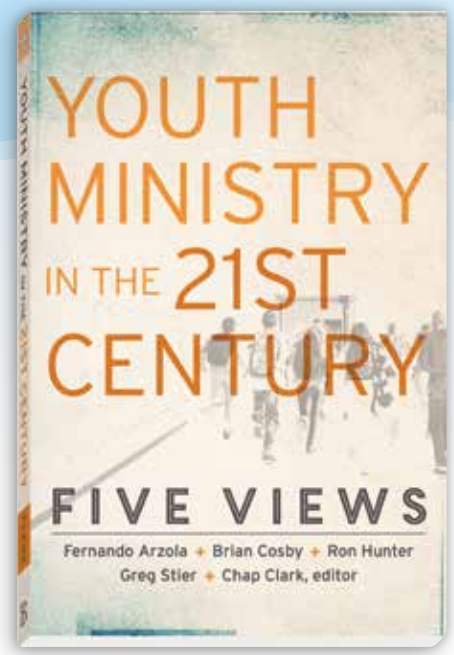

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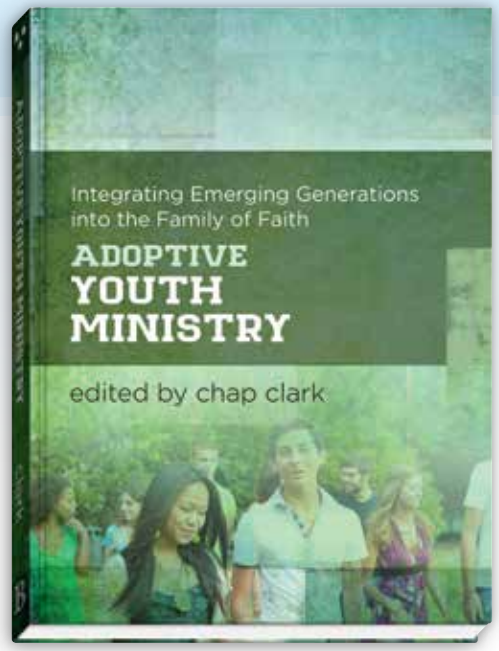

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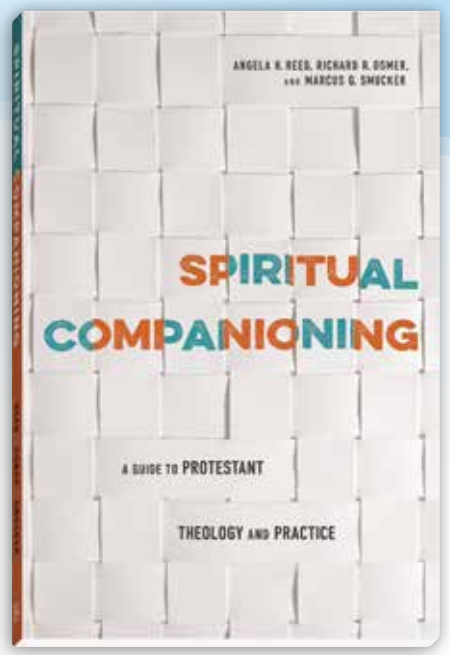

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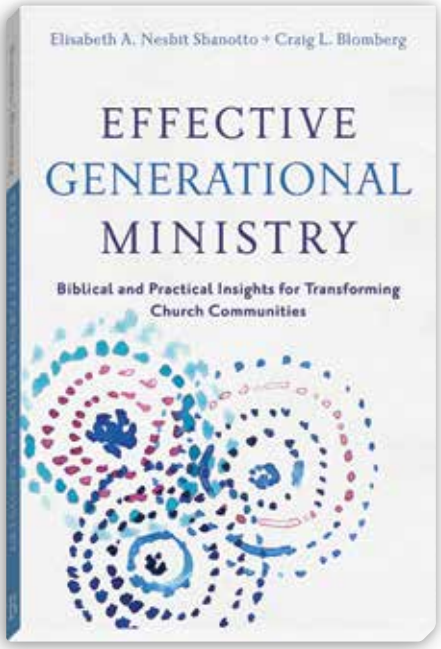

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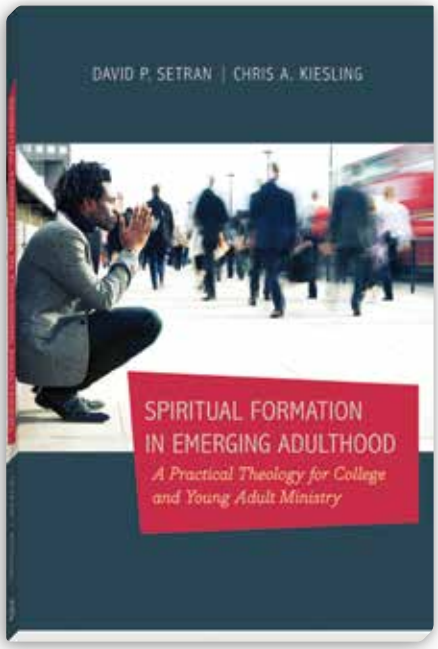

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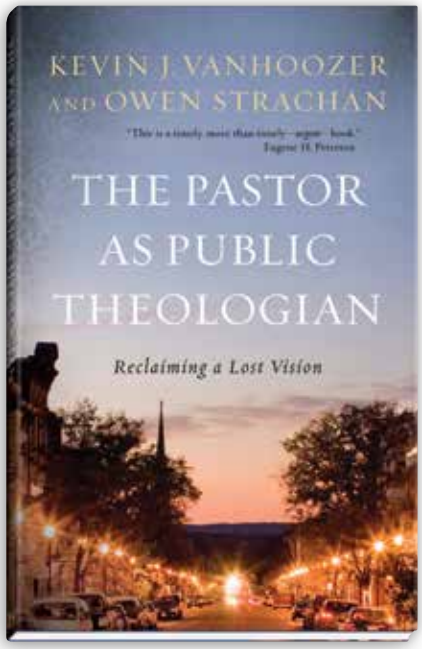

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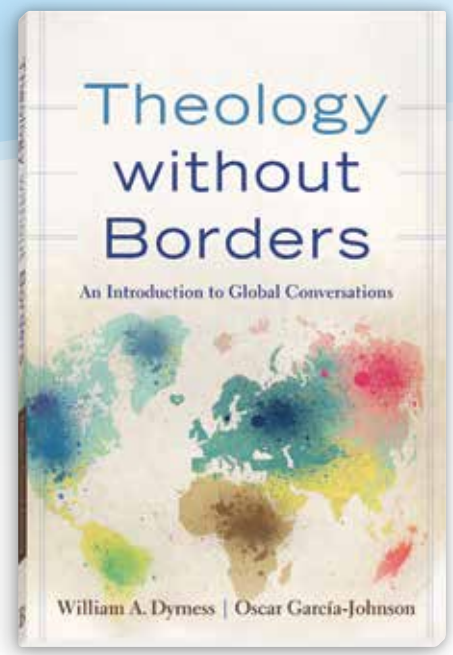

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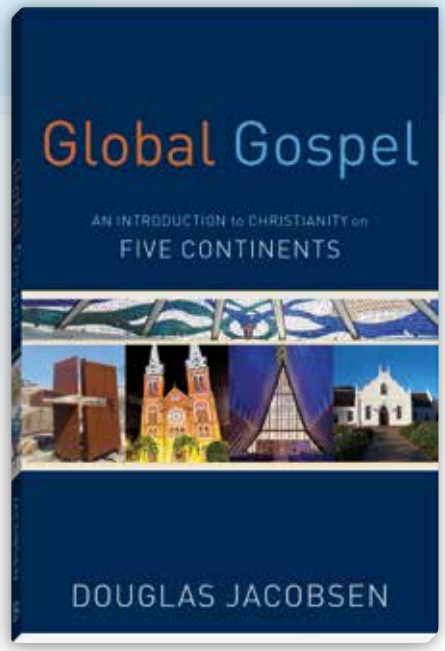

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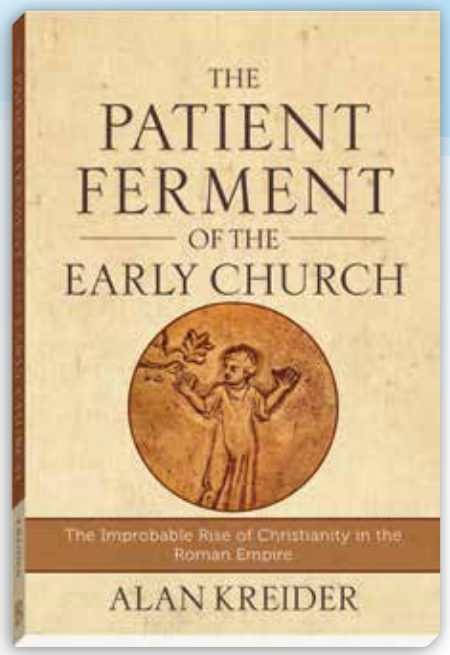

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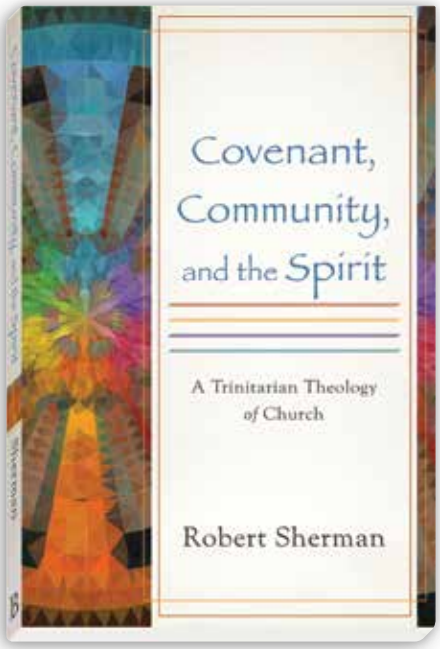

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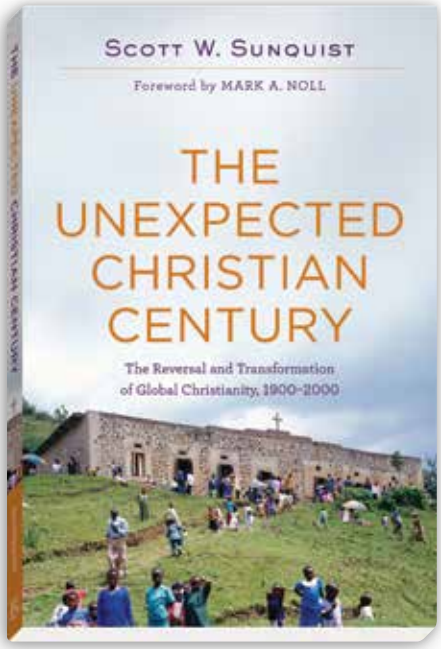

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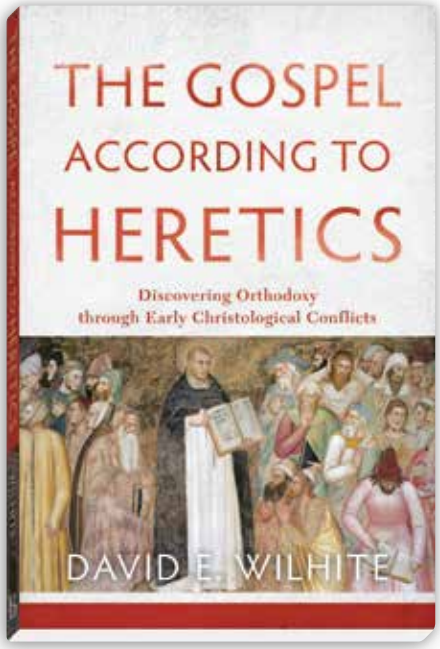

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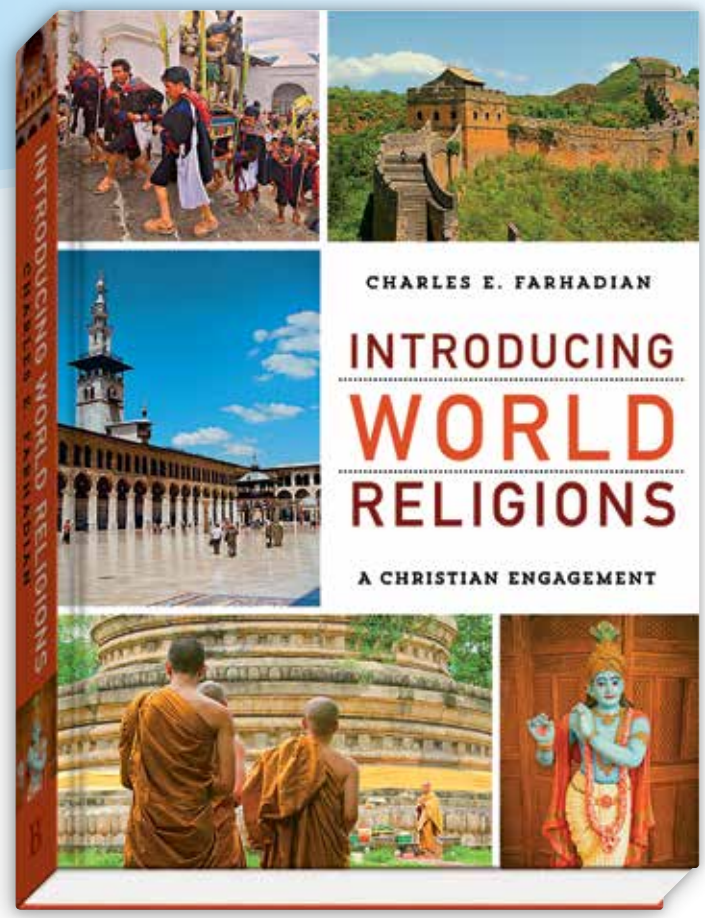

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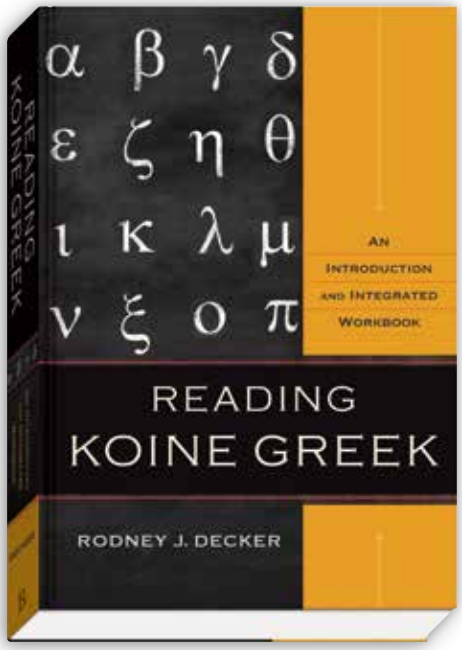

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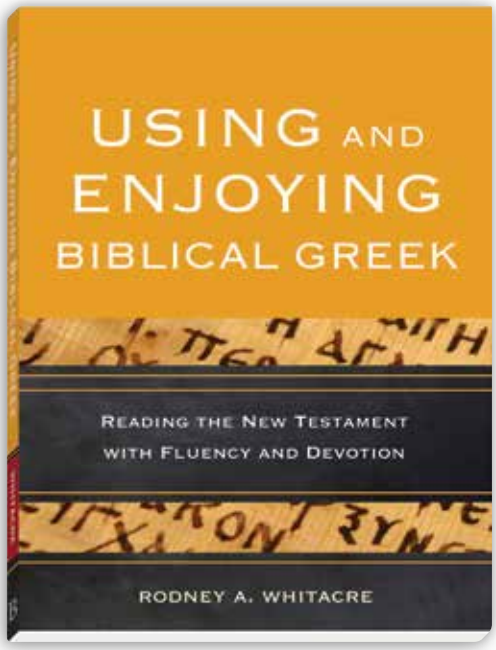

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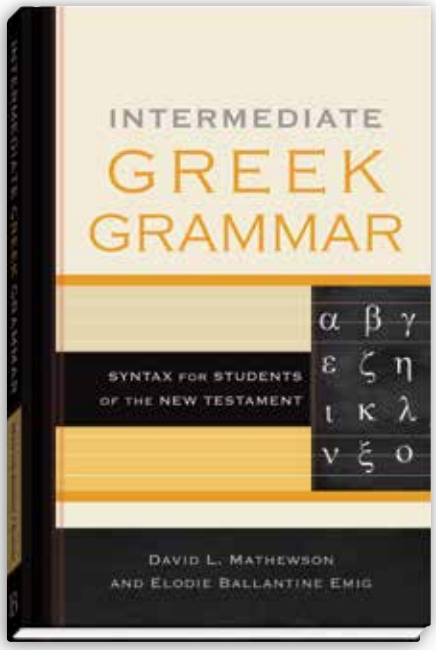

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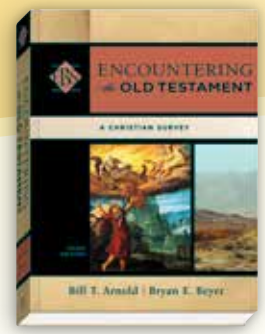

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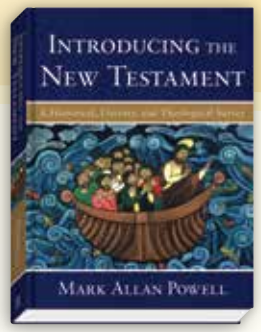

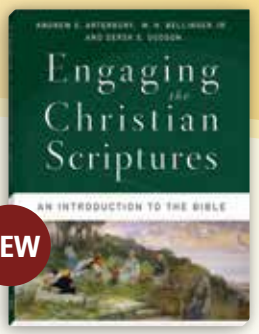

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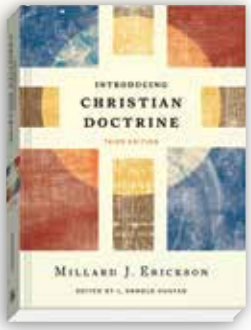

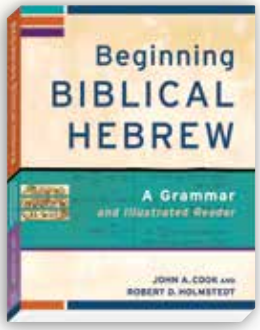

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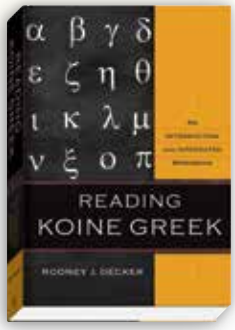

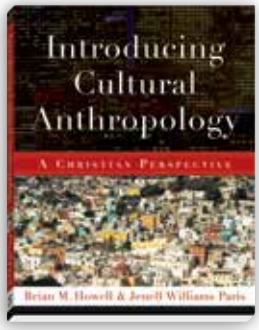

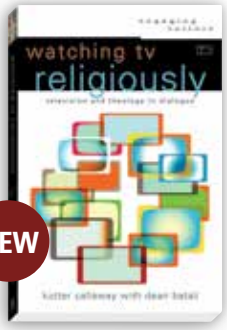

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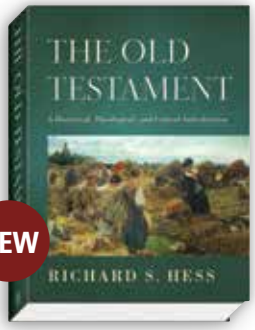

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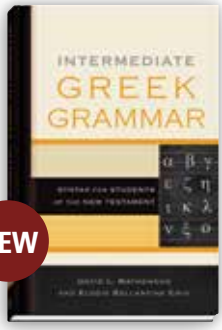

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