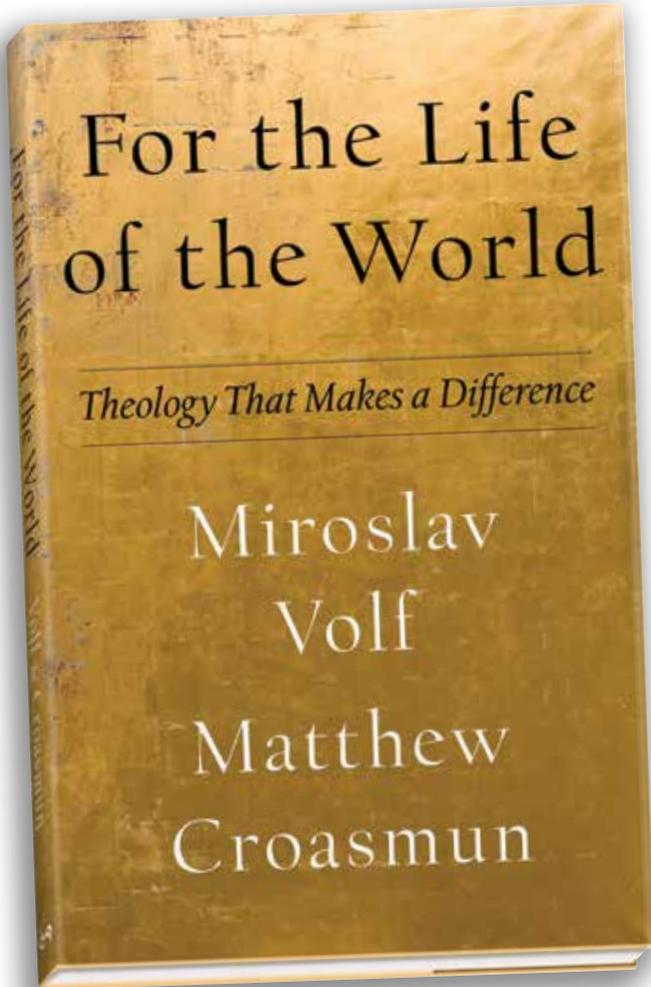




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How Theology Addresses Life's Most Pressing Questions



- Volf is a world-renowned theologian, leading public intellectual, and award-winning author (Grawemeyer)
- Volf's *Exclusion and Embrace* was named one of *CT's* 100 best religious books of the 20th century
- Provides a provocative new contribution to public theology

The question of what makes life worth living is more vital now than ever. In today's pluralistic, postsecular world, universal values are dismissed as mere matters of private opinion, and the question of what constitutes flourishing life—for ourselves, our neighbors, and the planet as a whole—is neglected in our universities, our churches, and our culture at large. Although we increasingly have technology to do almost anything, we have little sense of what is truly worth accomplishing.

In this provocative new contribution to public theology, world-renowned theologian Miroslav Volf (named "America's New Public Intellectual" by Scot McKnight on his *Jesus Creed* blog) and Matthew Croasmun explain that the intellectual tools needed to rescue us from our present malaise and meet our new cultural challenge are the tools of theology. A renewal of theology is crucial to help us articulate compelling visions of the good life, find our way through the maze of contested questions of value, and answer the fundamental question of what makes life worth living.

For the Life of the World

THEOLOGY FOR THE LIFE OF THE WORLD
Miroslav Volf and Matthew Croasmun



VITAL INFORMATION

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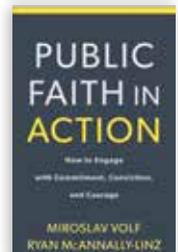
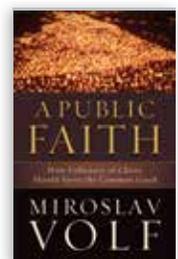
ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Miroslav Volf (DrTheol, University of Tübingen) is the Henry B. Wright Professor of Theology at Yale Divinity School and founding director of the Yale Center for Faith and Culture in New Haven, Connecticut. He has written more than twenty books, including *A Public Faith*, *Public Faith in Action*, and *Exclusion and Embrace* (winner of the Grawemeyer Award in Religion and selected as among the 100 best religious books of the 20th century by *Christianity Today*).

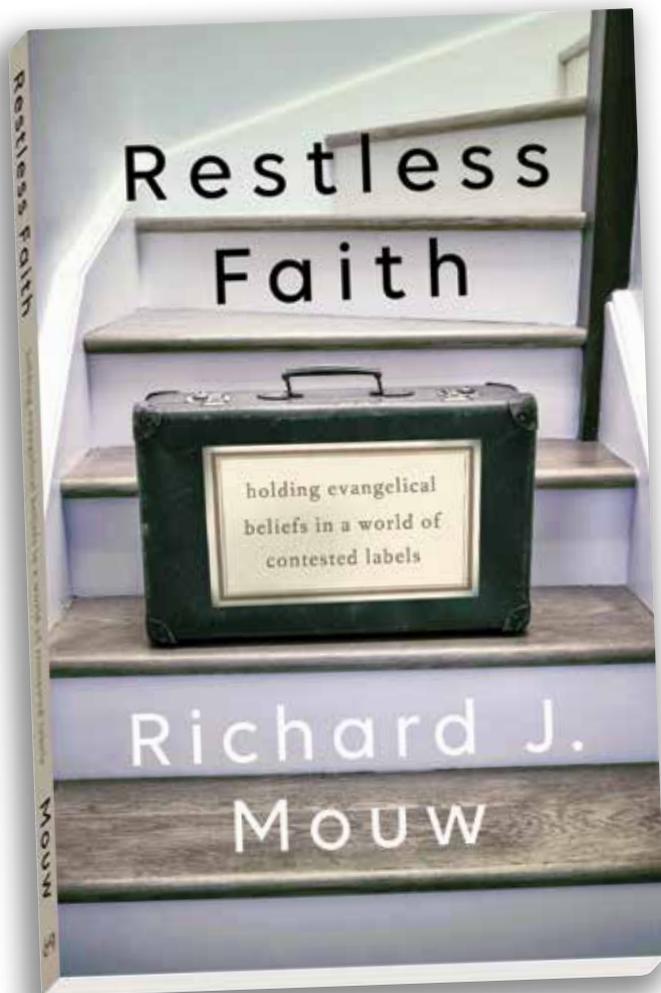
Matthew Croasmun (PhD, Yale University) is associate research scholar and director of the Life Worth Living Program at the Yale Center for Faith and Culture. He is also staff pastor at the Elm City Vineyard Church.

ALSO AVAILABLE

A Public Faith
978-1-58743-343-6
Public Faith in Action
978-1-58743-410-5



Is the Label “Evangelical” Worth Keeping?



- Mouw is one of the most influential evangelical voices in America
- Affirms the essentials of the evangelical faith
- Candidly reflects on wrestling with traditional evangelical beliefs for nearly 50 years

One of the most influential evangelical voices in America chronicles what it has meant for him to spend the past half century as a “restless evangelical”—a way of maintaining his identity in an age when many claim the label “evangelical” has become so politicized that it is no longer viable. Richard Mouw candidly reflects on wrestling with traditional evangelical beliefs over the years and shows that although his mind has changed in some ways, his core beliefs have not. He contends that we should hold on to the legacy that has enriched evangelicalism in the past. The Christian life in its healthiest form, says Mouw, is always a matter of holding on to essentials while constantly moving on along paths that we can walk in faithfulness only by seeking the continuing guidance of the light of God’s Word. As Mouw affirms the essentials of the evangelical faith, he helps a new generation see the wisdom embodied in them.

Restless Faith

Richard J. Mouw



VITAL INFORMATION

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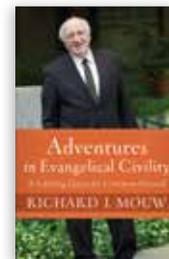
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Richard J. Mouw (PhD, University of Chicago), a renowned author and a widely traveled speaker, is professor of faith and public life at Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, California, where he served as president for twenty years. He is a regular columnist with Religion News Service and has written numerous books, including *Adventures in Evangelical Civility*, *Uncommon Decency*, *Calvinism in the Las Vegas Airport*, and *The Smell of Sawdust*.



ALSO AVAILABLE

Adventures in Evangelical Civility
 978-1-58743-391-7



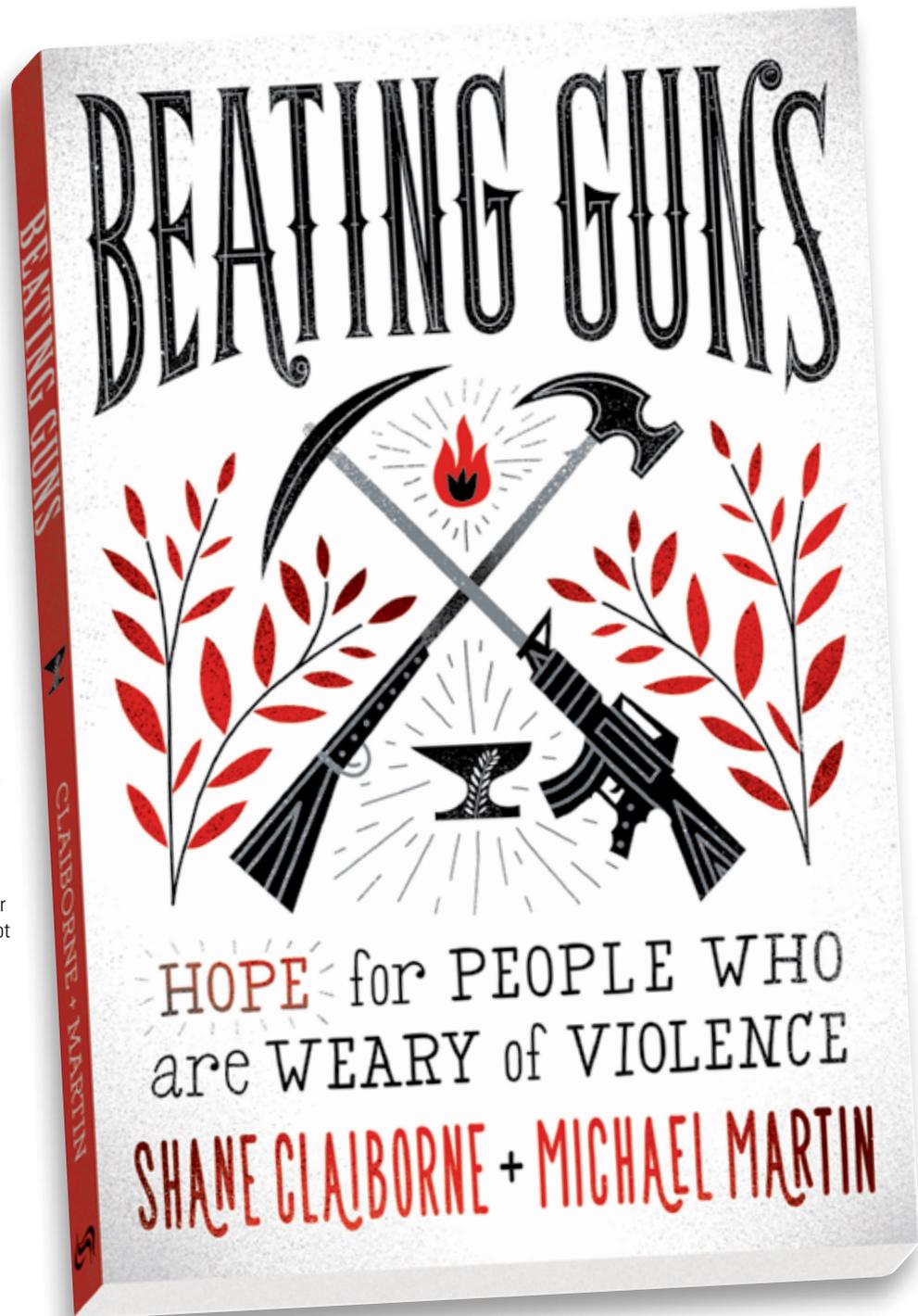
EXCERPT

This is the story of turning all kinds of swords into all kinds of plowshares in the midst of an environment that is telling us it won't work. The environment is telling us that since we can't escape the violence, we should, therefore, join the violence. This is about the transformation that happens when a mother forgives the teen who killed her three-year-old son. It's about the mass-shooting survivors who refuse to be labeled as only victims, but also wounded healers. It's about those who have been affected by unimaginable trauma and who then choose to lean into their communities and tell us that those ripples of trauma affect us all, so listen up.

Here's one really powerful piece of good news: an overwhelming majority of gun owners are concerned about gun violence. They aren't necessarily the loudest voices, but they are by far the majority. That's good news, and it is also critical to remember. This book is not about demonizing gun owners. It is about saving lives and working with everyone who is committed to that.

There are those who say we do not have a gun problem but a heart problem. We say, it's both.

So let's gather around a table. But it's not an ordinary table; it's the top of an anvil. And that oven over there isn't baking bread; it's baking gun metal. Together we can beat guns. You'll see that it's a lot like breaking bread.



Hard Facts and Real Hope for People Who Are Weary of Violence

- Claiborne is a bestselling author, high-profile speaker, renowned activist, and tireless supporter of his books
- Launch will be supported by a national book tour, numerous speaking engagements, and national media
- Offers a clarion call to Christians to address one of the most significant moral issues of our time
- Allows victims and perpetrators of gun violence to tell their own stories
- Includes a 4-color, lavishly illustrated interior

Parkland. Las Vegas. Dallas. Orlando. San Bernardino. Paris. Charleston. Sutherland Springs. Newtown. These cities are now known for the people who were shot and killed in them. With less than 5% of the world’s population, the people of the US own nearly half the world’s guns. America also holds the record for the most gun deaths—homicide, suicide, and accidental gun deaths—at around 90 a day and about 33,000 per year. Some people say it’s a heart problem. Others say it’s a gun problem. The authors of *Beating Guns* believe it’s both.

This book is for people who believe the world doesn’t have to be this way. Inspired by the prophetic image of beating swords into plows, *Beating Guns* provides a provocative look at gun violence in America and offers a clarion call to change our hearts regarding one of the most significant moral issues of our time. Bestselling author, speaker, and activist Shane Claiborne and Michael Martin show why Christians should be concerned about gun violence and how they can be part of the solution. The authors transcend stale rhetoric and old debates about gun control to offer a creative and productive response. Full-color images show how guns are being turned into tools and musical instruments across the nation. Charts, tables, and facts convey the mind-boggling realities of gun violence in America, but as the authors make clear, there is a story behind every statistic. *Beating Guns* allows victims and perpetrators of gun violence to tell their own compelling stories, offering hope for change and helping us reimagine the world as one that turns from death to life, where swords become plows and guns are turned into garden tools.

Beating Guns

Shane Claiborne and Michael Martin



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VITAL INFORMATION

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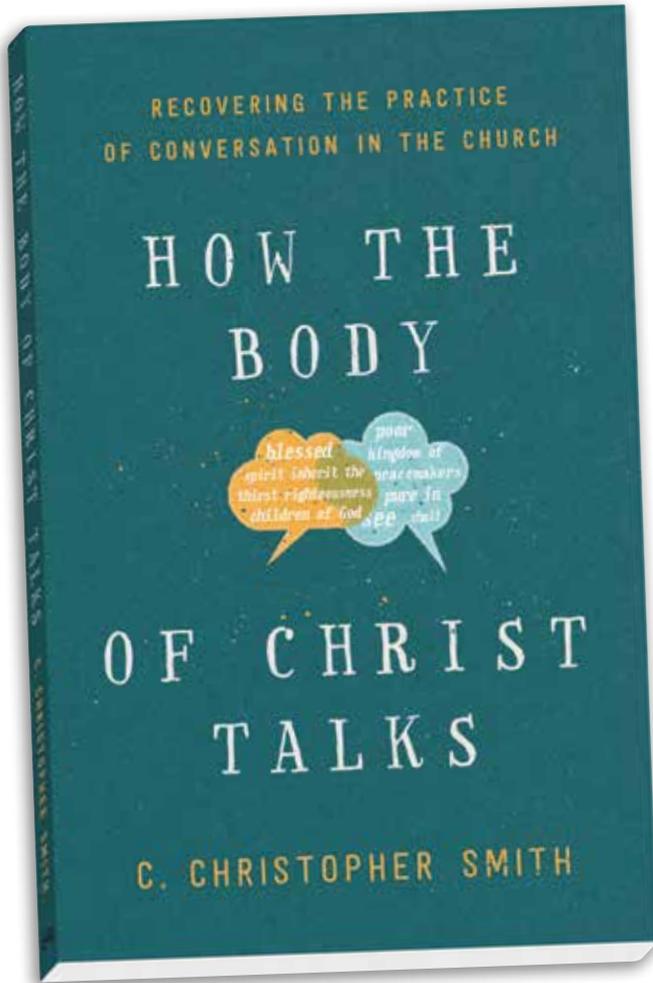
Category: RELIGION / Christian Life / Social Issues
 RELIGION / Religion, Politics & State
 SOCIAL SCIENCE / Violence in Society
 Rights: Worldwide

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Shane Claiborne is a bestselling author, renowned activist, sought-after speaker, and self-proclaimed “recovering sinner.” He writes and speaks around the world about peacemaking, social justice, and Jesus, and is the author or coauthor of numerous books, including *The Irresistible Revolution*, *Jesus for President*, and *Executing Grace*. Claiborne is the visionary founder of The Simple Way in Philadelphia and executive director of Red Letter Christians. His work has been featured in the *Wall Street Journal*, *Christianity Today*, *Esquire*, and *SPIN* and on Fox News, NPR, and CNN. He did graduate work at Princeton Seminary and received an honorary doctorate from Eastern University. Claiborne lives in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Follow him on Twitter (@shaneclaiborne), on Facebook (ShaneClaiborne), and at www.redletterchristians.org.

Michael Martin is founder and executive director of RAWtools Inc. and blogs at RAWtools.org. RAWtools turns guns into garden tools (and other lovely things), resourcing communities with nonviolent confrontation skills in an effort to turn stories of violence into stories of creation. Martin previously served as a youth and young adult pastor in the Mennonite church and lives in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Reclaiming the Spiritual Practice of Conversation



- Smith is coauthor of the critically acclaimed and influential *Slow Church*
- Author's work has appeared in the *Washington Post*, *USA Today*, the *Indianapolis Star*, *HuffPost*, *CT*, *Relevant*, and *Sojourners*
- Explores how church communities can initiate and sustain practices of conversation, including working through seasons of conflict

In today's highly-charged social and political environment, we often don't know how to talk well with others—especially people whose backgrounds differ from our own. C. Christopher Smith addresses why conversation has become such a challenge in the 21st century and argues that it is perhaps the most needed spiritual practice of our individualistic age.

Smith explains that we must learn to converse effectively with those who differ from us in the body of Christ so we can embody Christ together in the world. In community, we learn what it means to belong to others and to a story that is bigger than ourselves. He shows how church communities can be training hubs where we learn to talk and listen to each other with kindness and compassion. The book explores how churches can initiate and sustain conversation, including working through seasons of conflict; suggests the contours of a spirituality that can foster conversation; and features stories from a diverse range of congregations that are learning to practice conversation.

How the Body of Christ Talks

C. Christopher Smith



VITAL INFORMATION

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 Case Quantity: 32

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 RELIGION / Christian Life / Spiritual Growth
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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

C. Christopher Smith (MA, Indiana University) is a writer, community developer, and founding editor of *The Englewood Review of Books*. He is coauthor of the award-winning book *Slow Church: Cultivating Community in the Patient Way of Jesus* and the author of *Reading for the Common Good: How Books Help Our Churches and Neighborhoods Flourish*. His work has appeared in the *Washington Post*, *USA Today*, the *Indianapolis Star*, *HuffPost*, *Christianity Today*, the *Christian Century*, *Relevant*, and *Sojourners*. Smith lives on the urban Near Eastside of Indianapolis, Indiana, where he is a longtime member of Englewood Christian Church, a congregation that has been learning to talk together for over two decades.



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