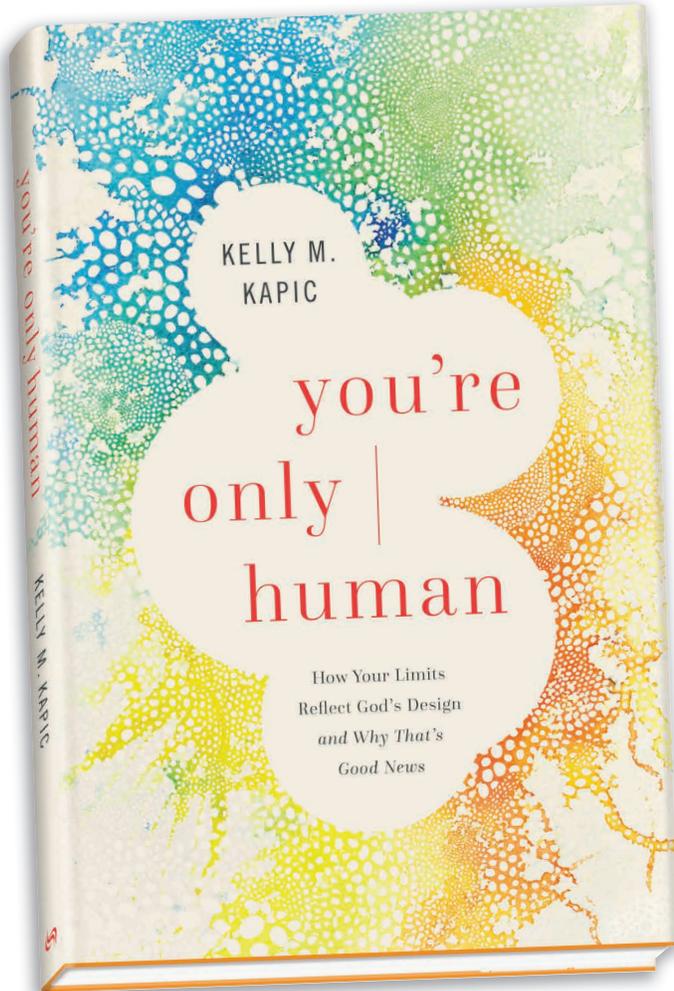




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# How Embracing Human Limits Fosters Freedom and Joy



- Kopic is a noted Reformed thinker and has been featured in *Christianity Today*, *WORLD Magazine*, and The Gospel Coalition
- Author wrote the successful book *Embodied Hope*, winner of the 2018 *Christianity Today* Book Award in Theology/Ethics
- Author blends rich theological insights with practical pastoral concerns in a way that is accessible for a broad readership

**W**ork. Family. Church. Exercise. Sleep. The list of demands on our time seems to be never ending. It can leave you feeling a little guilty—like you should always be doing one more thing.

Rather than sharing better time-management tips to squeeze more hours out of the day, Kelly Kopic takes a different approach in *You're Only Human*. He offers a better way to make peace with the fact that God didn't create us to do it all.

Kopic explores the theology behind seeing our human limitations as a gift rather than a deficiency. He lays out a path to holistic living with healthy self-understanding, life-giving relationships, and meaningful contributions to the world. He frees us from confusing our limitations with sin and instead invites us to rest in the joy and relief of knowing that God can use our limitations to foster freedom, joy, growth, and community.

Readers will emerge better equipped to cultivate a life that fosters gratitude, rest, and faithful service to God.

## You're Only Human

Kelly M. Kopic



### VITAL INFORMATION

Available: January 18  
 \$24.99  
 978-1-58743-510-2

hardcover  
 6 x 9  
 272 pages  
 Case Quantity: 18

Category: RELIGION / Christian Living / Spiritual Growth  
 RELIGION / Christian Theology / Anthropology  
 Rights: Worldwide

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Kelly M. Kopic** (PhD, King's College, University of London) is a professor of theological studies at Covenant College in Lookout Mountain, Georgia, where he has taught for 20 years. He is an award-winning author of more than 15 books, including *Embodied Hope: A Theological Meditation on Pain and Suffering*, winner of a *Christianity Today* Book Award. Kopic, a popular speaker, has been featured in *Christianity Today*, *WORLD* magazine, and The Gospel Coalition and is a contributor to various journals.

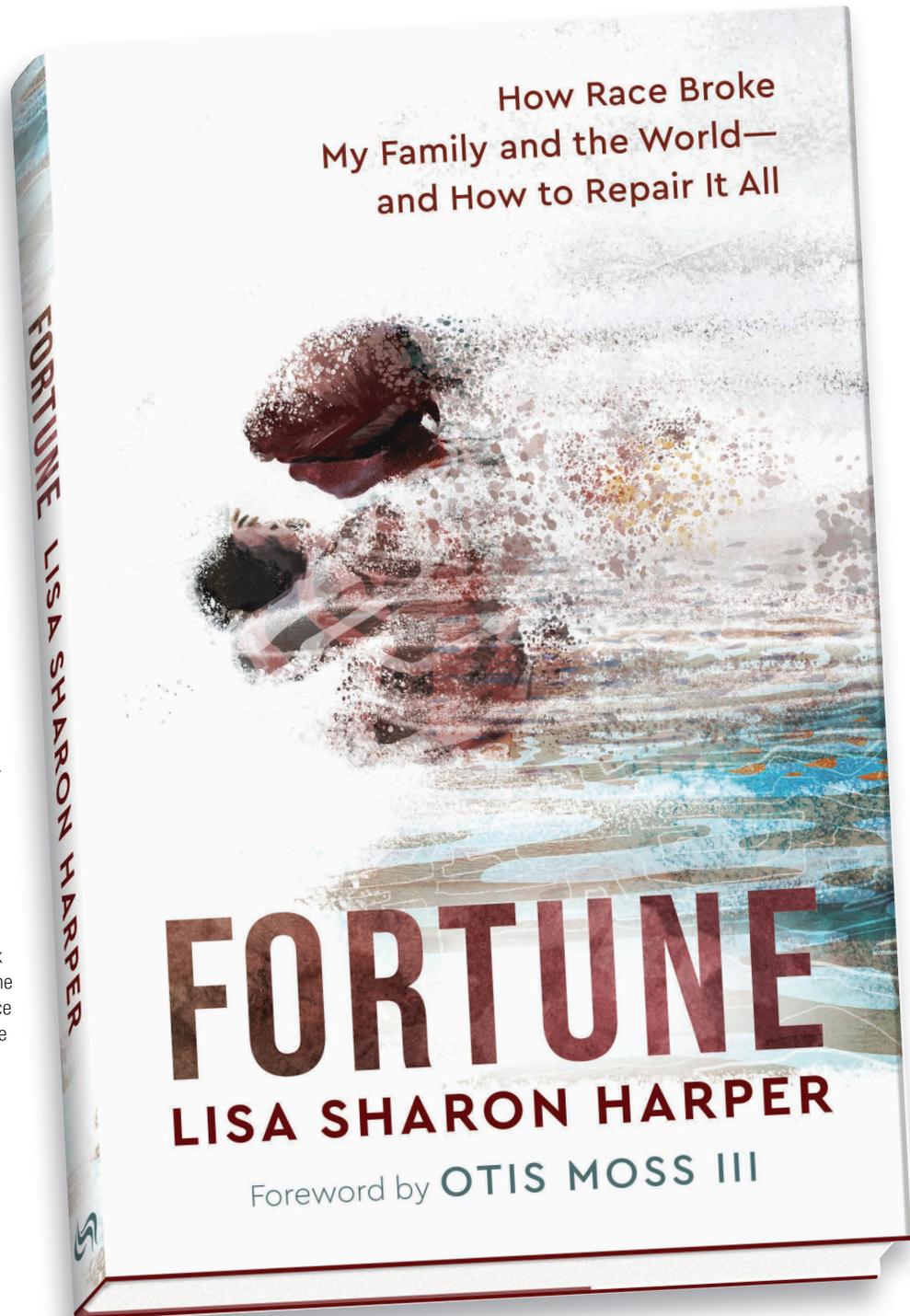


Tad Evaritt

EXCERPT

More than a decade of genealogical and DNA research has helped me, and all of us, make connections previously unfathomable. The fleshed-out picture clarifies the profound costs of the political constructs of race and gender in the US and on my family and all those trapped in the talons of America's hierarchies of human belonging. Several times, while researching the lives of my great-grandmothers and grandfathers I found myself weeping—literally weeping. If only the constructs of race hadn't existed, Martha might have lived, Annie might have flourished, Augustin might not have been such a monster to his children, family fracture might not be such a pathology on both sides of my family—and every woman in my matrilineal line might not have been molested or raped. How do we measure that cost? It is infinite, for it scrapes out the insides of the survivors and severely limits their capacity to flourish.

Mine is the first generation in more than four hundred years with enough distance from slavery and Jim Crow to try to assess the damage—and to demand repair. In the shadow of the four hundredth year since American slavery imposed itself on African lives—as scholars, documentarians, policymakers, and artists clarify the shape-shifting systems of control and confinement crafted to secure white supremacy on American soil—we are compelled to ask one question, lest we find ourselves in the same controlled, confined, shackled space four hundred years from now: How do we repair what race broke in the world?



# An Activist’s Journey to Recover Beauty, Expose Brokenness, and Envision Collective Repair

- Harper is president of Freedom Road and a speaker, trainer, and consultant with more than 100,000 social media followers
- Author’s work has been featured in the *New Yorker*, CNN, *Essence*, and *Sojourners*, and she has appeared on NPR, Fox News, and Al Jazeera America
- Author has spent three decades learning about 10 generations of her family through DNA research, oral histories, interviews, and genealogy

**D**rawing on her lifelong journey to know her family’s history, leading Christian activist Lisa Sharon Harper recovers the beauty of her heritage, exposes the brokenness that race has wrought in America, and casts a vision for collective repair.

Harper has spent three decades researching 10 generations of her family history through DNA research, oral histories, interviews, and genealogy. Fortune, the name of Harper’s first nonindigenous ancestor born on American soil, bore the brunt of the nation’s first race, gender, and citizenship laws. As Harper traces her family’s story through succeeding generations, she shows how American ideas, customs, and laws robbed her ancestors—and the ancestors of so many others—of their humanity and flourishing.

*Fortune* helps readers understand how America was built upon systems and structures in ways that blessed some and cursed others, allowing Americans of European descent to benefit from the colonization, genocide, enslavement, rape, and exploitation of people of color. As Harper lights a path through national and religious history, she clarifies exactly how and when the world broke and shows the way to redemption for us all. The book culminates with a vision of truth telling, reparation, and forgiveness that leads to beloved community. It includes a foreword by Otis Moss III, illustrations, and a glossy 8-page black and white insert featuring photos of Harper’s family.

## Fortune

Lisa Sharon Harper



### VITAL INFORMATION

**Available: February 8**  
**\$24.99**  
**978-1-58743-527-0**

hardcover  
 5½ x 8½  
 240 pages  
 Case Quantity: 36

Category: RELIGION / Christian Living / Social Issues  
 SOCIAL SCIENCE / Race & Ethnic Relations  
 RELIGION / Inspirational  
 Rights: Worldwide

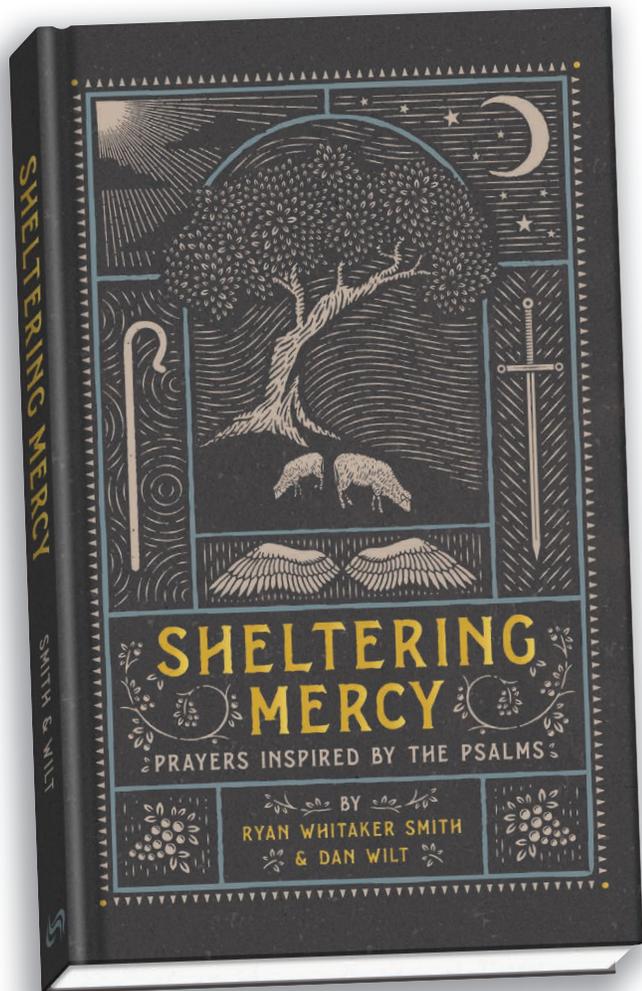
### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Lisa Sharon Harper** (MA, Columbia University; MFA, University of Southern California) is the founder of Freedom Road, a consulting group dedicated to shrinking the narrative gap. A sought-after speaker, trainer, and consultant with more than 100,000 social media followers, Harper has written several books, including the critically acclaimed *The Very Good Gospel: How Everything Wrong Can Be Made Right*. Her work has been featured in the *New Yorker*, *Relevant*, *Essence*, *HuffPost*, *The National Civic Review*, and CNN, and she has appeared on PBS’s *Religion & Ethics NewsWeekly*, TV One, Fox News, NPR, and Al Jazeera America. Harper previously served as chief church engagement officer at *Sojourners*, where she led campaigns on immigration reform and racial justice. She has researched her family’s origins for three decades and presented on her ancestors’ achievements at the African American Civil War Museum. Harper lives in the same Philadelphia neighborhood where three generations of her ancestors lived.



© Brianna Rapp

# Rediscover the Rich Treasures of the Psalms



- Smith is a filmmaker who often collaborates with his father, Michael W. Smith
- Wilt is a songwriter and pastor who founded [WorshipTraining.com](http://WorshipTraining.com)
- This artful, poetic, and classic devotional book features foil stamping and custom illustrations

**S**heltering Mercy helps us rediscover the rich treasures of the Psalms—through a free verse prayer rendering of their poems and hymns—as a guide to personal devotion and meditation.

The church has always used the Psalms as part of its prayer life, and they have inspired countless other prayers. This book contains 75 prayers drawn from Psalms 1–75, providing lyrical sketches of what authors Ryan Smith and Dan Wilt have seen, heard, and felt while sojourning in the Psalms. While each prayer corresponds to a particular psalm and touches on its themes and ideas, it is not a new translation of the Psalms or an attempt to modernize or contextualize their content or language. Rather, the prayers are responses to the Psalms written in harmony with Scripture. These prayers help us quiet our hearts before God and welcome us into a safe place amid the storms of life.

This artful, poetic, and classic devotional book features compelling custom illustrations and foil-stamped hardcover binding, offering a fresh way to reflect on and pray the Psalms.

## Sheltering Mercy

Ryan Whitaker Smith and Dan Wilt



### VITAL INFORMATION

Available: February 8  
**\$19.99**  
 978-1-58743-546-1

hardcover  
 5 x 8  
 240 pages  
 Case Quantity: 24

Category: RELIGION / Christian Living / Devotional  
 RELIGION / Christian Living / Spiritual Growth  
 RELIGION / Christian Living / Prayer  
 Rights: Worldwide

### ABOUT THE AUTHORS

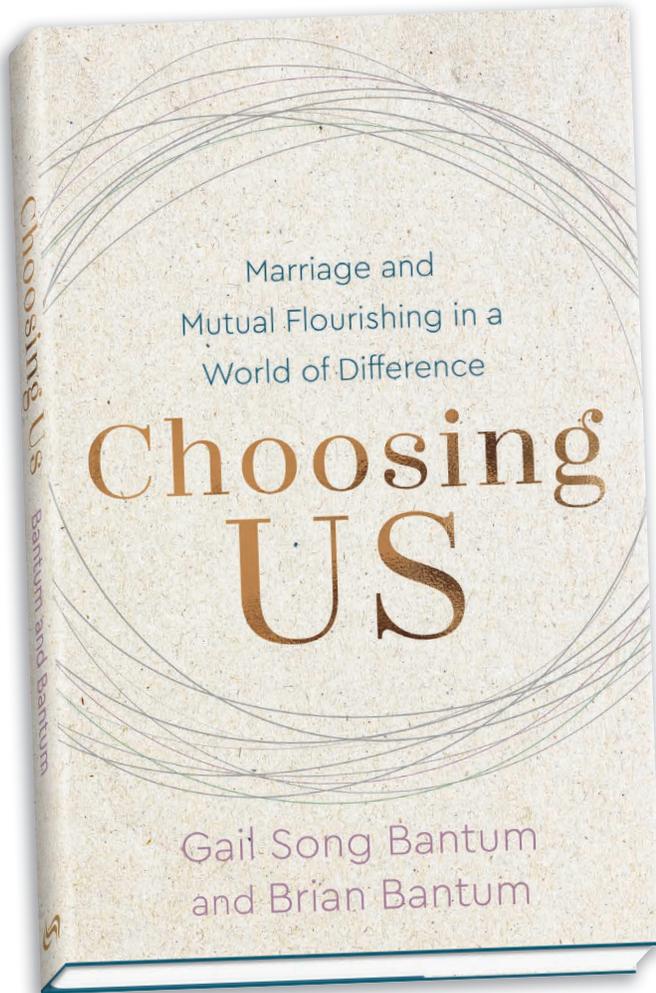
**Ryan Whitaker Smith** is an author and filmmaker from Nashville, Tennessee. His current projects include *Jesus Music*, a forthcoming documentary about the history of contemporary Christian music, and film adaptations of the award-winning memoir *Surprised by Oxford* and G. K. Chesterton's *The Ball and the Cross*. He has collaborated with his father, Michael W. Smith, on songs, music videos, and concert specials.

**Dan Wilt** is a songwriter, speaker, educator, and author who has his own teaching ministry in worship and spiritual formation through [DanWilt.com](http://DanWilt.com). He is the founder of [WorshipTraining.com](http://WorshipTraining.com) and has written several devotionals, including *A Well-Worn Path* and *Songs Are a Place We Go*. Wilt is also a contributing author to *Perspectives on Worship: Five Views* and an internationally respected communicator on worship and the arts. He lives outside Nashville, Tennessee.



Brandon Chesbro

# Building a Thriving Marriage across Personal and Social Differences



- Authors are a multiracial and egalitarian Christian couple with high-profile ministry callings
- Gail Song Bantum is lead pastor of Quest Church in Seattle and a nationally known speaker
- Brian Bantum is a theologian and seminary professor who writes and speaks on the intersections of identity, race, and gender

For years, others have asked Gail Song Bantum and Brian Bantum to reveal the secret to their marriage as a multiracial Christian couple with high-profile ministry callings. This book reveals the lessons, mistakes, and principles that have helped the Bantums navigate race, family history, and gender dynamics in their 20-plus years of marriage, while inspiring readers to pursue mutual flourishing in their marriages and relationships.

Marriage is about more than constant bliss or unending sacrifice, say the Bantums. It's about exploring your own story, seeing the other for who they are (even as they change), and being flexible and creative in discovering how those differences and stories come alive in new ways when joined together. It's the discovery of life in the gaps and the mysteries that emerge when we live in mutuality, believing that fullness is possible for each.

*Choosing Us* reflects the realities and demands of modern marriage and respects the callings and ambitions of both partners. It shows that marriage is about choosing the other's flourishing on a daily basis, amid differences and even systemic obstacles, to build a relationship that thrives and reflects the kingdom of God.

## Choosing Us

*Gail Song Bantum and Brian Bantum*



### VITAL INFORMATION

Available: March 1  
 \$21.99  
 978-1-58743-537-9

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 5½ x 8½  
 160 pages  
 Case Quantity: 36

Category: RELIGION / Christian Living / Love & Marriage  
 FAMILY & RELATIONSHIPS / Marriage & Long-Term Relationships  
 Rights: Worldwide

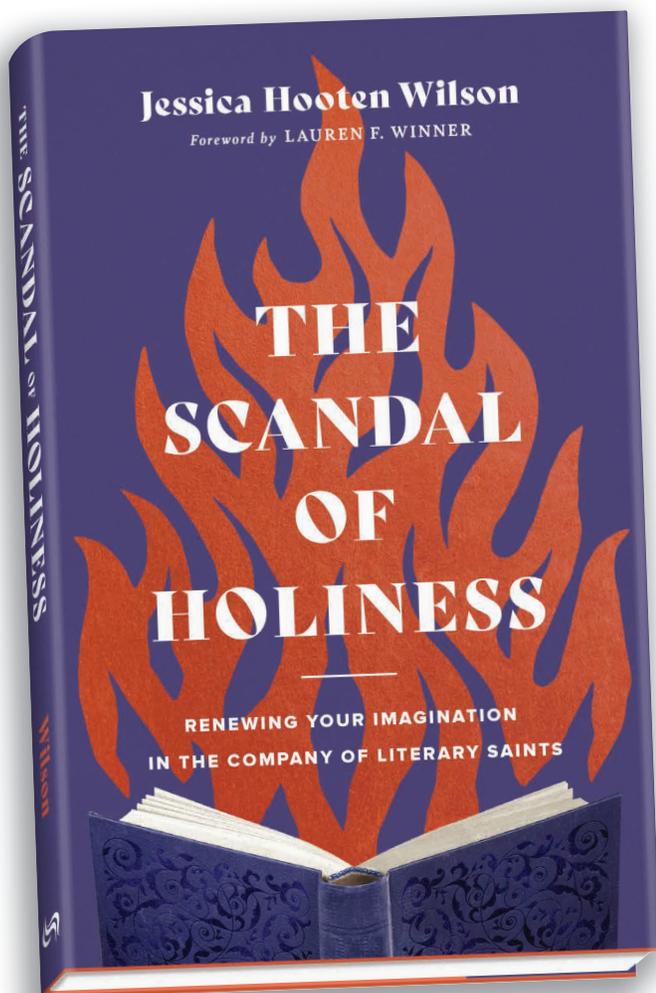
### ABOUT THE AUTHORS

**Gail Song Bantum** is lead pastor at Quest Church, where she has created four mentoring groups for young adult women of color. A nationally known speaker on topics of justice, leadership, and mentoring, she has spoken at Why Christian?, Evolving Faith, CCDA, and the Samuel DeWitt Proctor Conference, among others.

**Brian Bantum** (PhD, Duke University) writes and speaks on the intersections of identity, race, and gender. He is the Neal F. and Ila A. Fisher Professor of Theology at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, a contributing editor for the *Christian Century*, and author of *The Death of Race: Building a New Christianity in a Racial World*. The Bantums have three children and live in Seattle, Washington.



# Cultivate an Imagination That Moves You toward Holiness



- Wilson has written for *The Gospel Coalition*, *National Review*, and the *Christian Century*
- Author is a *Christianity Today* award-winning author
- Foreword by Lauren F. Winner

How do we become better people? Initiatives such as New Year’s resolutions, vision boards, thirty-day plans, and self-help books often fail to compel us to live differently. We settle for small goals—frugal spending, less yelling at the kids, more time at the gym—but we are called to something far greater. We are created to be holy.

Award-winning author Jessica Hooten Wilson explains that learning to hear the call of holiness requires cultivating a new imagination—one rooted in the act of reading. Learning to read with eyes attuned to the saints who populate great works of literature moves us toward holiness, where God opens up a way of living that extends far beyond what we can conjure for ourselves. Literature has the power to show us what a holy life looks like, and these depictions often scandalize even as they shape our imagination. As such, careful reading becomes a sort of countercultural spiritual discipline.

The book includes devotionals, prayers, wisdom from the saints, and more to help individuals and groups cultivate a saintly imagination. Foreword by Lauren F. Winner.

## The Scandal of Holiness

Jessica Hooten Wilson



### VITAL INFORMATION

Available: March 29  
 \$24.99  
 978-1-58743-524-9

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 5½ x 8½  
 224 pages  
 Case Quantity: 36

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 RELIGION / Christian Living / Personal Growth  
 LITERARY CRITICISM / Books & Reading  
 Rights: Worldwide

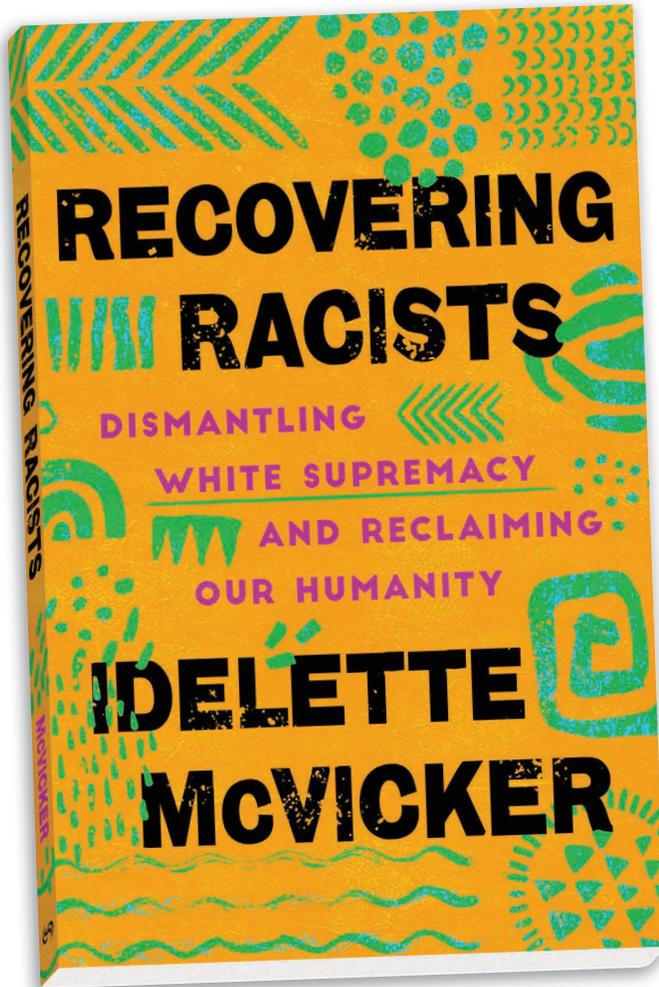
### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Jessica Hooten Wilson (PhD, Baylor University) is the Louise Cowan Scholar in Residence at the University of Dallas in Irving, Texas. She has written for *The Gospel Coalition*, *National Review*, the *Christian Century*, *Comment* magazine, and *Englewood Review of Books* and is the author of several books, including the *Christianity Today* Book Award Winner *Giving the Devil His Due: Demonic Authority in the Fiction of Flannery O’Connor and Fyodor Dostoevsky*. Wilson has been entrusted by the Flannery O’Connor Estate to prepare O’Connor’s unfinished third novel for publication. She speaks regularly around the country and has connections with a broad array of reading communities, such as Well-Read Mom, Mama Bear Apologetics, and classical education forums.



© Andrea Barnett Photo

# A Call to the Transformational, Lifelong Work of Antiracism



- McVicker is founder and president of SheLoves Media Society, a diverse online forum for Christian women
- Author brings a global perspective from a lifetime of grappling with racism on three different continents and through her experience living in apartheid South Africa
- Author is a popular speaker and retreat leader internationally

As a white Afrikaner woman growing up in South Africa during apartheid, Idelette McVicker was steeped in a community and a church that reinforced white supremacy and shielded her from seeing her neighbors' oppression. But a series of circumstances led her to begin questioning everything she thought was true about her identity, her country, and her faith.

*Recovering Racists* shares McVicker's journey over 30 years and across three continents to shatter the lies of white supremacy embedded deep within her soul. She helps us realize that grappling with the legacy of white supremacy and recovering from racism is lifelong work that requires both inner transformation and societal change. It is for those of us who have hit rock bottom in the human story of race, says McVicker. We must acknowledge our internalized racism, repent of our complicity, and learn new ways of being human.

This book invites us on the long, slow journey of healing the past, making things right, changing old stories, and becoming human together. As we work for the liberation of everyone, we also find liberation for ourselves. Each chapter ends with discussion questions.

## Recovering Racists

Idelette McVicker



### VITAL INFORMATION

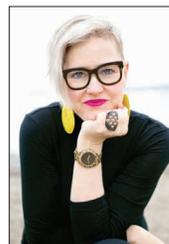
Available: April 12  
 \$18.99  
 978-1-58743-543-0

trade paper  
 5½ x 8½  
 176 pages  
 Case Quantity: 40

Category: RELIGION / Christian Living / Social Issues  
 SOCIAL SCIENCE / Race & Ethnic Relations  
 RELIGION / Christian Living / Women's Interests  
 Rights: Worldwide

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Idelette McVicker** is the founder and president of SheLoves Media Society, an online forum for Christian women that includes *SheLoves Magazine* and the Dangerous Women membership community. She is a popular speaker and retreat leader internationally. McVicker wrote the SheLoves manifesto, *Let Us Be Women Who Love*, which has been used by women's ministries around the world and in Sarah Bessey's book *Jesus Feminist*. After training as a journalist in South Africa, she lived in Taiwan, where she wrote for daily newspapers. McVicker moved to Canada in 1999 and lives in Surrey, British Columbia.



Flourish Photography by Emily