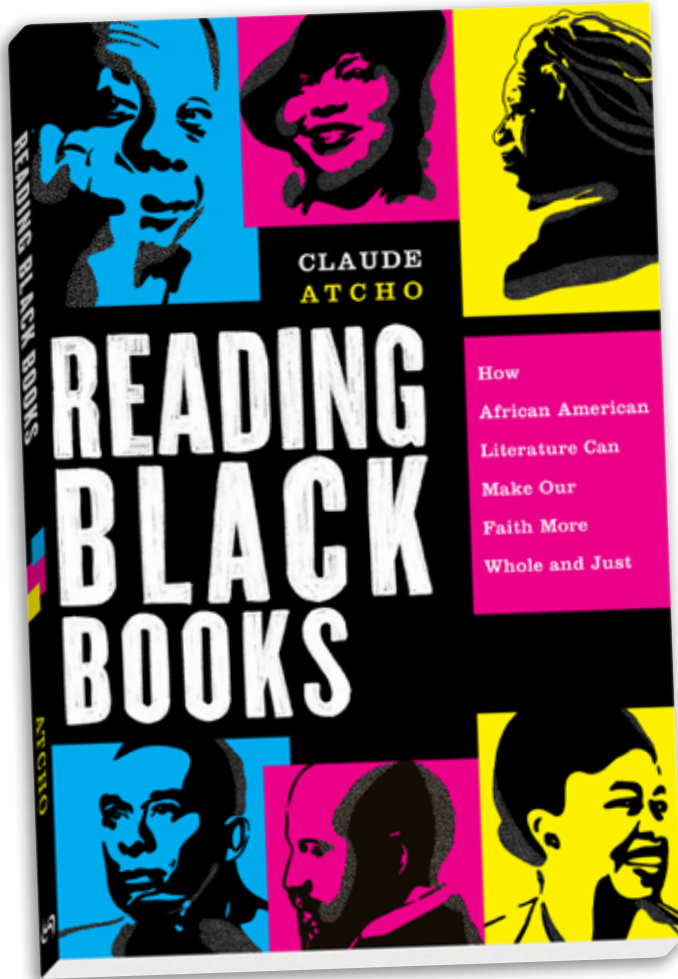




BrazosPress

# Centering the Black Experience in Christian Reflection



- Atcho is a pastor at Fellowship Memphis, a growing multiethnic, multicampus church in Tennessee
- Author is a regular writer and podcast contributor for *Think Christian* and has written for *Christ & Pop Culture*, *The Gospel Coalition*, and *The Witness: A Black Christian Collective*
- Covers works by James Baldwin, Countee Cullen, W. E. B. DuBois, Ralph Ellison, Zora Neale Hurston, Nella Larsen, Toni Morrison, Margaret Walker, and Richard Wright

Learning from Black voices means listening to more than snippets. It means attending to Black stories. *Reading Black Books* helps Christians hear and learn from enduring Black voices and stories as captured in classic African American literature.

Pastor and teacher Claude Atcho offers a theological approach to 10 seminal texts of 20th-century African American literature. Each chapter takes up a theological category for inquiry through a close literary reading and theological reflection on a primary literary text, from Ralph Ellison’s *Invisible Man* and Richard Wright’s *Native Son* to Zora Neale Hurston’s *Moses, Man of the Mountain* and James Baldwin’s *Go Tell It on the Mountain*. The book includes end-of-chapter discussion questions.

*Reading Black Books* helps readers of all backgrounds learn from the contours of Christian faith formed and forged by Black stories, and it spurs continued conversations about racial justice in the church. It demonstrates that reading about Black experience as shown in the literature of great African American writers can guide us toward sharper theological thinking and more faithful living.

## Reading Black Books

Claude Atcho



### VITAL INFORMATION

Available: May 17  
 \$19.99  
 978-1-58743-529-4

trade paper  
 6 x 9  
 208 pages  
 Case Quantity: 36

Category: RELIGION / Christianity / Literature & the Arts  
 RELIGION / Christian Living / Social Issues  
 LITERARY CRITICISM / American / African American & Black  
 Rights: Worldwide

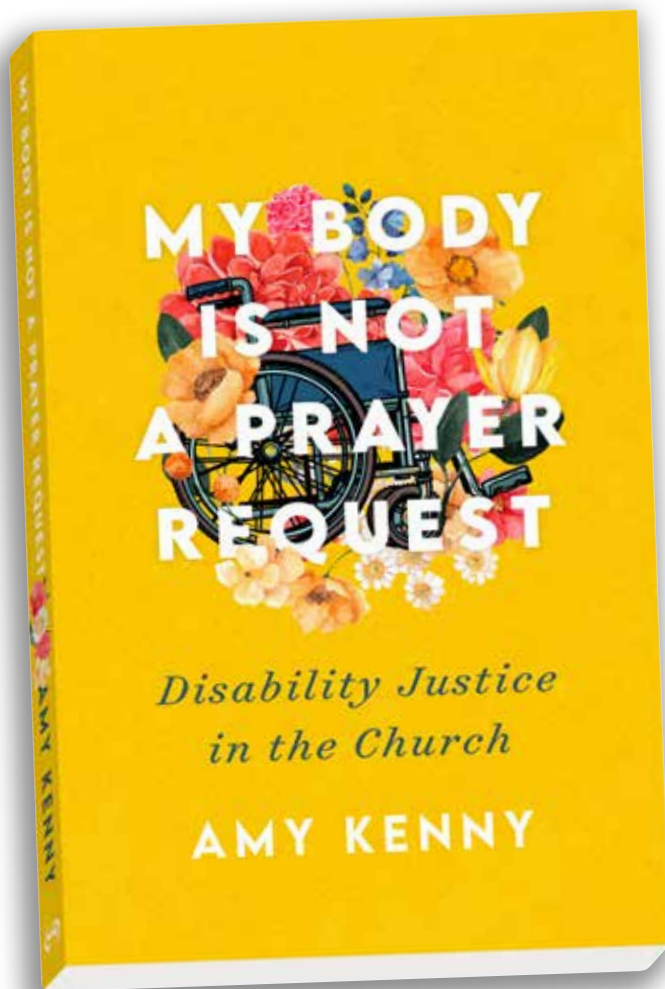
### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Claude Atcho** (MTS, Midwestern Seminary) is a pastor at Fellowship Memphis, a growing multiethnic, multicampus church in Memphis, Tennessee. He has taught African American literature at the collegiate level and is well connected to a cross-section of churches and pastors in Acts 29, ACNA, and NAMB. Atcho is a regular writer and podcast contributor for *Think Christian* and has written for *Christ & Pop Culture*, *The Gospel Coalition*, and *The Witness: A Black Christian Collective*.



Jonny Pineda

# Casting a New Vision for How Christian Communities Engage Disability Justice



- Kenny is a disabled scholar whose research focuses on medical and bodily themes in literature
- Speaks to growing mainstream conversations about ableism and disability justice
- Author offers a unique blend of personal storytelling, biblical exegesis, and practical application

The church has forgotten that we worship a disabled God whose wounds survived resurrection, says Amy Kenny. It is time for the church to start treating disabled people as full members of the body of Christ who have much more to offer than a miraculous cure narrative and to learn from their embodied experiences.

Written by a disabled Christian, this book shows that the church is missing out on the prophetic witness and blessing of disability. Kenny reflects on her experiences inside the church to expose unintentional ableism and cast a new vision for Christian communities to engage disability justice. She shows that until we cultivate church spaces where people with disabilities can fully belong, flourish, and lead, we are not valuing the diverse members of the body of Christ.

Offering a unique blend of personal storytelling, fresh and compelling writing, biblical exegesis, and practical application, this book invites readers to participate in disability justice and create a more inclusive community in church and parachurch spaces. Engaging content such as reflection questions and top-ten lists are included.

## My Body Is Not a Prayer Request

Amy Kenny



### VITAL INFORMATION

Available: May 17  
 \$19.99  
 978-1-58743-545-4

trade paper  
 5½ x 8½  
 208 pages  
 Case Quantity: 36

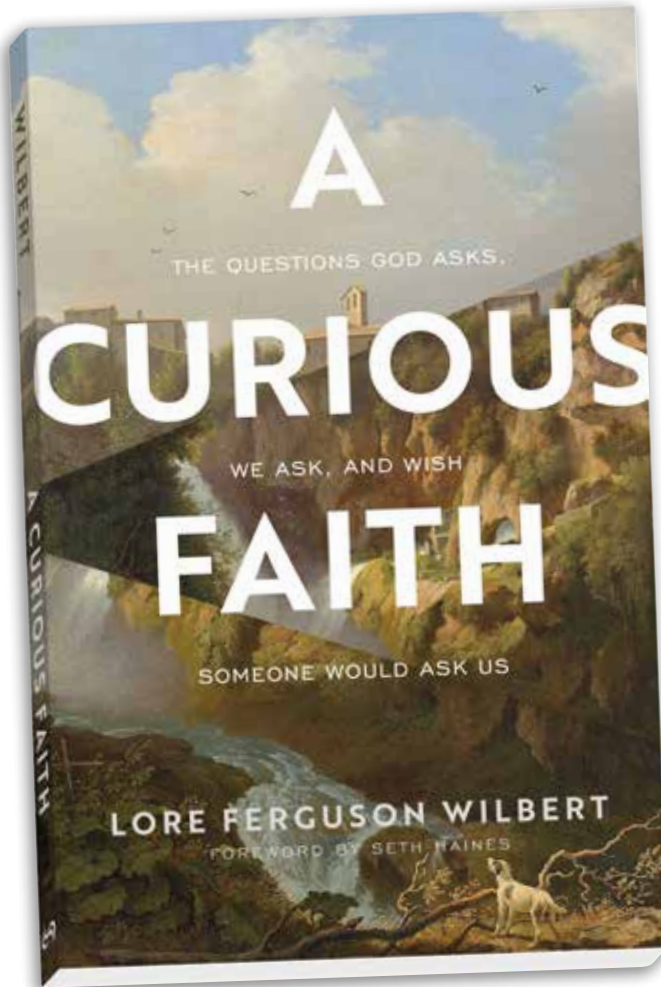
Category: RELIGION / Christian Living / Social Issues  
 RELIGION / Christian Ministry / General  
 Rights: Worldwide

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Amy Kenny** (PhD, University of Sussex) is a disabled scholar whose research focuses on medical and bodily themes in literature. She is a Shakespeare lecturer at the University of California, Riverside, and is on the editorial board of *Shakespeare Bulletin*. Kenny is a member and scribe of the Freedom Road Global Writers' Group hosted by Lisa Sharon Harper and has written for *Sojourners* about disability in the church. She serves on the mayor's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Task Force in her home city, coordinates support for people experiencing homelessness, and is colaunching Jubilee Homes OC, a permanent supportive housing initiative in her local community.



# A Permission Slip for Asking Difficult Questions about and to God



- Wilbert reaches an audience of 40,000+ through email and social media and is the founder of Sayable.net
- Author wrote *Handle with Care*, winner of a 2021 *Christianity Today* Book Award, and has written for *Christianity Today*, *Fathom* magazine, and *She Reads Truth*
- Foreword by Seth Haines

God created us curious. We innately wonder about the world, one another, ourselves, and God. But technology, fear of the unknown, cultural taboos, or even church leaders can smother our curiosity.

Popular writer Lore Ferguson Wilbert has belonged to Christian communities that discouraged curiosity. The point of the Christian life was to have the right answers, and asking questions reflected a wavering faith. But Wilbert came to discover that the Bible is a permission slip to anyone who wants to ask questions.

Reflecting her own theological trajectory toward a more contemplative, expansive faith, Wilbert invites readers to foster curiosity as a spiritual habit. This book explores questions God asks us, questions we ask God, and questions we ask each other. Christianity is not about knowing good answers, says Wilbert, but about asking good questions—ones that foster deeper intimacy with God and others.

*A Curious Faith* invites readers to go beyond pat answers and embrace curiosity, rather than certainty, as a hallmark of authentic faith. Foreword by Seth Haines.

## A Curious Faith

Lore Ferguson Wilbert



### VITAL INFORMATION

Available: August 2  
 \$18.99  
 978-1-58743-569-0

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 5½ x 8½  
 192 pages  
 Case Quantity: 36

Category: RELIGION / Christian Living / Personal Growth  
 RELIGION / Christian Living / Spiritual Growth  
 RELIGION / Spirituality  
 Rights: Worldwide

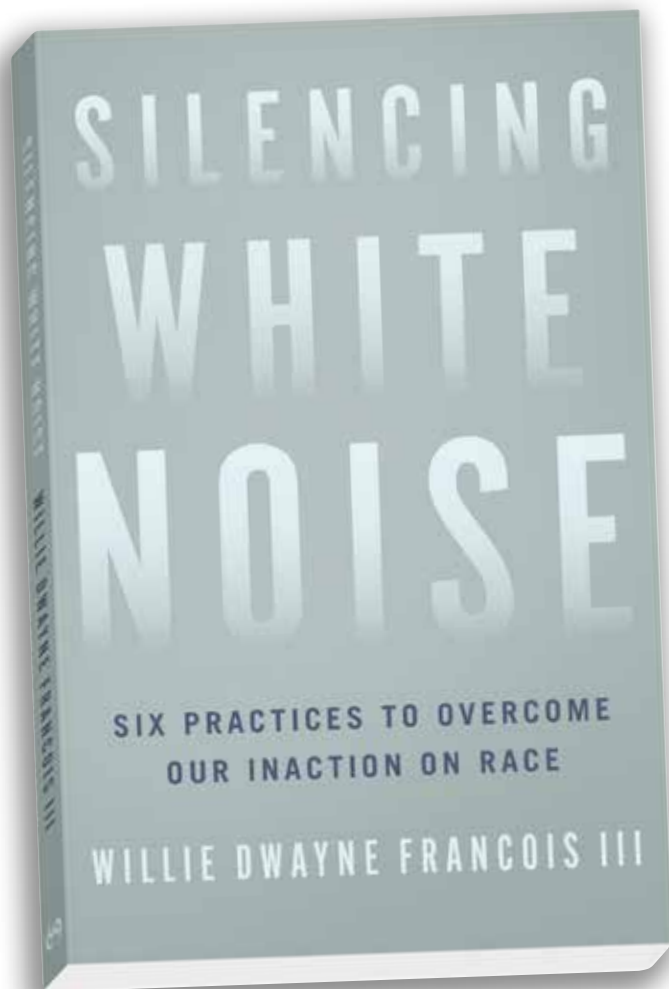
### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Lore Ferguson Wilbert** is the founder of Sayable.net and the author of *Handle with Care*, winner of a 2021 *Christianity Today* Book Award. She has written for *Christianity Today*, *Fathom* magazine, and *She Reads Truth* and served as general editor of B&H's *Read and Reflect with the Classics*. Wilbert reaches an audience of more than 40,000 through email and social media. She is currently pursuing an MA in Christian spiritual formation and leadership from Friends University and lives in upstate New York.



Ashley McCauley, 2020

# 6 Practices to Develop Lifelong Christian Antiracism



- Francois is a prominent Black church leader and president of the Black Church Center for Justice and Equality
- Author founded the Public Love Organizing and Training (PLOT) Project, an antiracism curriculum
- Author has written for the *Huffington Post*, *The Hill*, and *Sojourners*

Racism is omnipresent in American life, both public and private. We are immersed in what prominent Black church leader Willie Dwayne Francois III calls white noise—the racist speech, ideas, and policies that lull us into inaction on racial justice. White noise masks racial realities and prevents constructive responses to microaggressions, structural inequality, and overt interpersonal racism.

In this book, Francois calls people of all races to take up practices that overcome silence and inaction on race and that advance racial repair. Drawing from his antiracism curriculum, the Public Love Organizing and Training (PLOT) Project, Francois encourages us to move from a “colorblind” stance and mythic innocence to one that takes an honest account of our national history and acknowledges our complicity in racism as a prelude to antiracist interventions.

Weaving together personal narrative, theology, and history, this book invites us to engage 6 “rhythms of reparative intercession.” These are 6 practices of antiracism that aim to repair harm by speaking up and “acting up” on behalf of others. *Silencing White Noise* offers concrete ways to help people wrest free from the dangers of racism and to develop lifelong Christian antiracist practices.

## Silencing White Noise

Willie Dwayne Francois III



### VITAL INFORMATION

Available: August 16  
**\$19.99**  
 978-1-58743-551-5

trade paper  
 5½ x 8½  
 192 pages  
 Case Quantity: 36

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

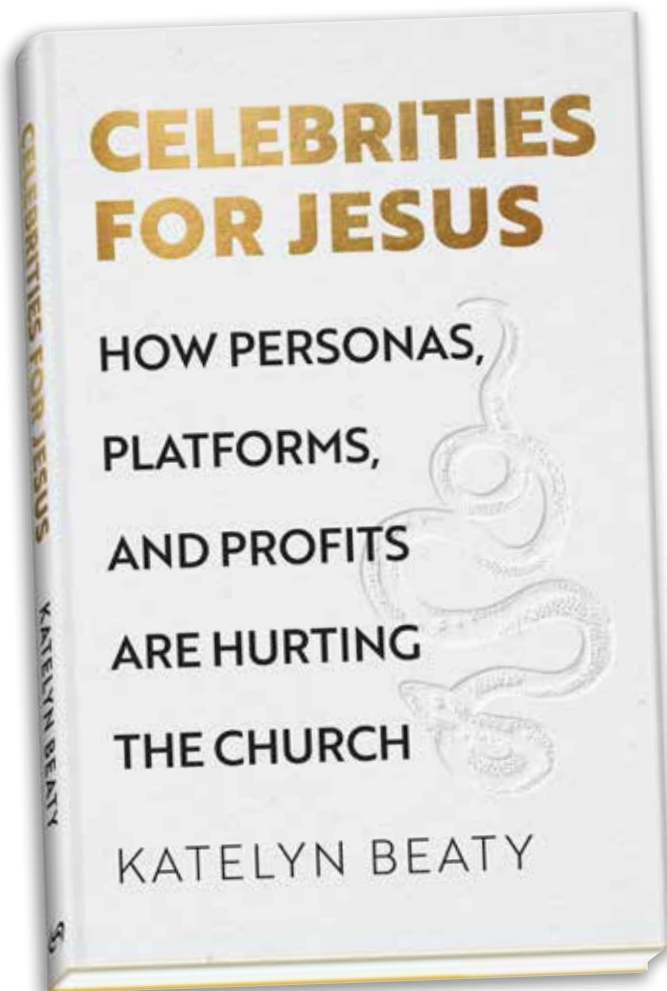
### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Willie Dwayne Francois III** (DMin, Candler School of Theology) is senior pastor of Mount Zion Baptist Church in Pleasantville, New Jersey, and president of the Black Church Center for Justice and Equality. He serves as assistant professor of liberation theology at New York Theological Seminary and directs a master’s degree program at Sing Correctional Facility. He created the Public Love Organizing and Training (PLOT) Project and has served in various organizations engaging racial justice issues, including the Atlantic City chapter of Black Lives Matter, the Samuel DeWitt Proctor Conference, and the NJ Department of State’s MLK Jr. Commission. Francois is an active speaker and has written for *HuffPost*, *Sojourners*, *The Hill*, the *Christian Century*, and *Religion Dispatches*.



Daphne Youree Photography

# Why the Church Needs a Reckoning with Celebrity Power



- Beaty is a writer, journalist, editor, and keen observer of trends in the American church
- Author has written for the *New York Times*, the *New Yorker*, and the *Washington Post* and has appeared on CNN, ABC, and NPR
- Author has 33,000 combined social media followers

Many Christian leaders use their fame and influence to great effect. Whether that popularity resides at the local church level or represents national or international influence, many leaders have effectively said to their followers, “Follow me as I follow Christ.” But fame that is cultivated for its own sake, without attendant spiritual maturity and proper accountability, has a shadow side that can run counter to the heart of the gospel message. Celebrity in the church has led to abuses of power, the cultivation of persona, and a fixation on profits.

In light of the fall of famous Christian leaders in recent years, the time has come for the church to reexamine its relationship to celebrity. Award-winning writer Katelyn Beaty explores the ways fame has reshaped the American church, explains how and why celebrity is woven into the fabric of the evangelical movement, and identifies many ways fame goes awry. She shows us how Christians unwittingly foster a celebrity culture and offers a vision of ordinary, unseen faithfulness, helping all of us—whether leaders or everyday believers—to keep celebrity power in its proper place.

## Celebrities for Jesus

Katelyn Beaty



### VITAL INFORMATION

Available: August 16  
 \$24.99  
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Category: RELIGION / Christian Living / Social Issues  
 RELIGION / Christian Ministry / Discipleship  
 Rights: Worldwide

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

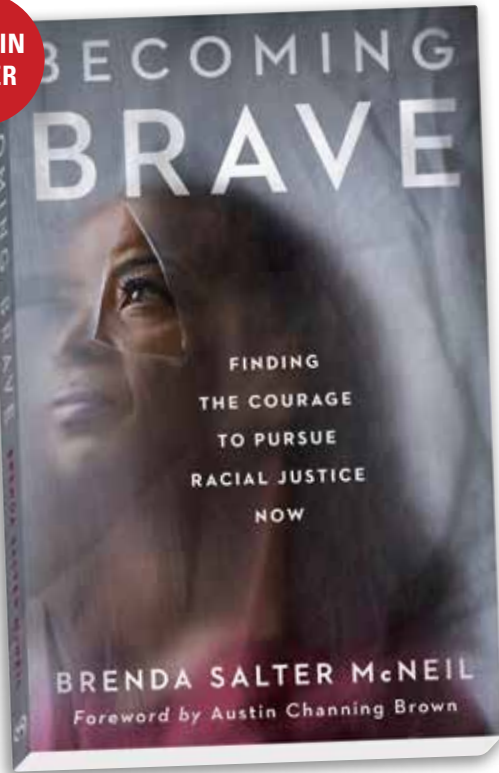
**Katelyn Beaty** is a writer, journalist, editor, and keen observer of trends in the American church. She has written for the *New York Times*, the *New Yorker*, the *Washington Post*, Religion News Service, *Religion & Politics*, and *The Atlantic* and has commented on faith and culture for CNN, ABC, NPR, the Associated Press, and the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. She also cohosts the *Saved by the City* podcast (Religion News Service). Beaty previously served as print managing editor at *Christianity Today* and is the author of *A Woman's Place: A Christian Vision for Your Calling in the Office, the Home, and the World*.



Julia Hembree Smith

## A Distinctly Christian Framework for Addressing Racial Injustice

**NOW IN PAPER**



Reconciliation is not true reconciliation without justice! Brenda Salter McNeil has come to this conviction as she has led the church in pursuing reconciliation efforts over the past three decades. This book offers a distinctly Christian framework for addressing systemic injustice. McNeil challenges Christians to be everyday activists who become brave enough to break the silence and work with others to dismantle systems of injustice and inequality. The hardcover edition won a *Foreword* INDIES 2020 Book of the Year Award (BRONZE Winner for Religion).

### Becoming Brave

Brenda Salter McNeil



#### VITAL INFORMATION

**Available**  
**\$17.99**  
**978-1-58743-579-9**

trade paper  
 5½ x 8½  
 208 pages  
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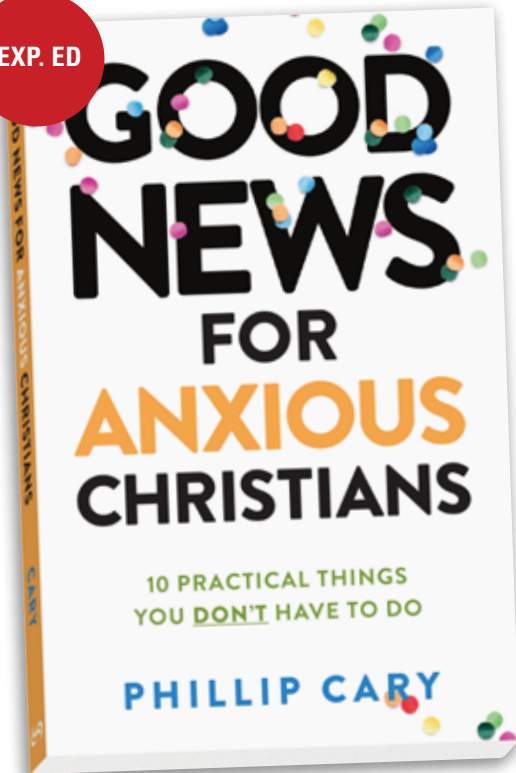
Category: RELIGION / Christian Living / Social Issues  
 RELIGION / Christian Church / General  
 SOCIAL SCIENCE / Discrimination  
 Rights: Worldwide

#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Brenda Salter McNeil** (DMin, Palmer Theological Seminary), a dynamic speaker, author, and thought leader, is associate professor of reconciliation studies and director of the Reconciliation Studies program at Seattle Pacific University. She is also associate pastor of preaching and reconciliation at Quest Church in Seattle, Washington. Her books include *Roadmap to Reconciliation 2.0* and *A Credible Witness*.

## 10 Things You Don't Have to Do to Be Close to God

**EXP. ED**



A talented teacher unpacks the riches of traditional Christian spirituality for Christians burdened by the guilt and anxiety of introspective, in my heart spiritual techniques. Phillip Cary explains that knowing God is a gradual, long-term process that comes through the Bible experienced in Christian community. The first edition has sold over 17,000 copies. The expanded edition includes a new conclusion that offers further insights since the first edition was published over 10 years ago.

### Good News for Anxious Christians, exp. ed.

Phillip Cary



#### VITAL INFORMATION

**Available: August 9**  
**\$21.99**  
**978-1-58743-568-3**

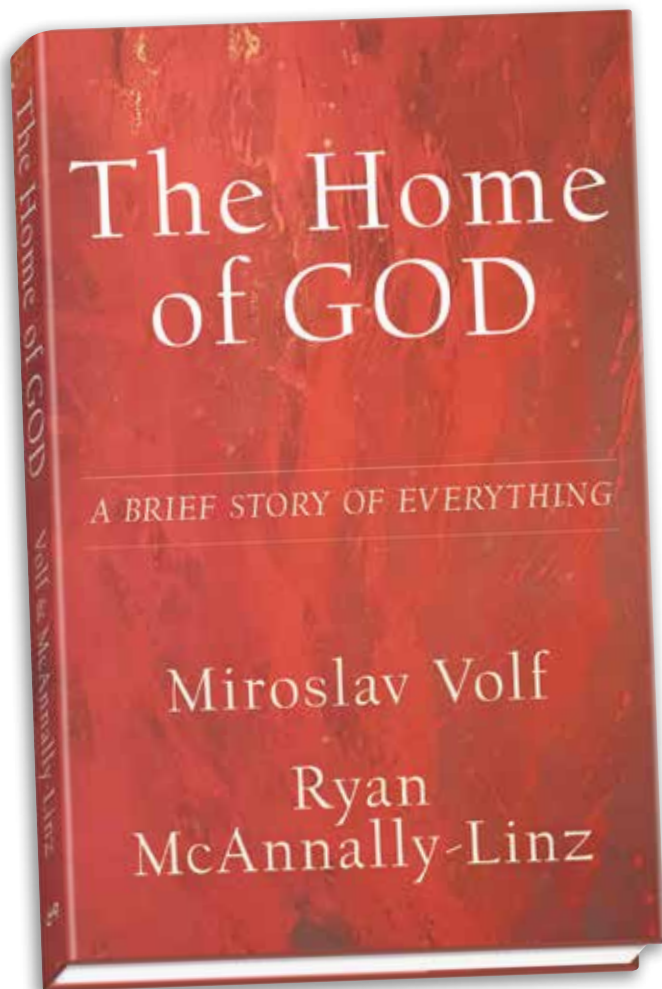
trade paper  
 5½ x 8½  
 224 pages  
 Case Quantity: 32

Category: RELIGION / Christian Living / General  
 RELIGION / Christian Ministry / Discipleship  
 Rights: Worldwide

#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Phillip Cary** (PhD, Yale University) is scholar-in-residence at the Templeton Honors College and professor of philosophy at Eastern University in St. Davids, Pennsylvania. He serves as editor-in-chief of *Pro Ecclesia* and has written numerous books, including three critically acclaimed volumes on the life and thought of Augustine.

# Hope for Our Crisis of Belonging



- Volf is a leading public intellectual, a world-renowned theologian, and an award-winning author
- Volf has over 54,000 social media followers
- Authors direct the Yale Center for Faith & Culture

We live in the midst of a crisis of home. It is evident in the massive uprooting and migration of millions across the globe, in the anxious nationalism awaiting immigrants in their destinations, in the unhoused populations in wealthy cities, in the fractured households of families, and in the worldwide destruction of habitats and international struggles for dominance. It is evident, perhaps more quietly but just as truly, in the aching sense that there is nowhere we truly belong.

In this moment, the Christian faith has been disappointingly inept in its response. We need a better witness to the God who created, loves, and reconciles this world, who comes to dwell among us.

This book tells the “story of everything” in which God creates the world as the home for humans and for God in communion with God’s creatures. The authors render the story of creation, redemption, and consummation through the lens of God’s homemaking work and show the theological fruit of telling the story this way. The result is a vision that can inspire creative Christian living in our various homes today in faithfulness to God’s ongoing work.

## The Home of God

THEOLOGY FOR THE LIFE OF THE WORLD  
*Miroslav Volf and Ryan McAnnally-Linz*



### VITAL INFORMATION

**Available: August 2**  
**\$26.99**  
**978-1-58743-479-2**

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 Case Quantity: 24

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 RELIGION / Christian Theology / General  
 Rights: Worldwide

### 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 20 books, including *A Public Faith*, *Flourishing*, and *Exclusion and Embrace* (winner of the Grawemeyer Award in Religion).



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**Ryan McAnnally-Linz** (PhD, Yale University) is associate director of the Yale Center for Faith and Culture. He is the coauthor, with Miroslav Volf, of *Public Faith in Action* and editor of *The Joy of Humility* and *Envisioning the Good Life*.



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