Samuel Brazos Press

ON THE ROAD WITH SAINT AUGUSTINE A Real-World Spirituality for Restless Hearts JAMES K. A. SMITH



OCTOBER 31 • US \$19.99 • CAN \$20.99 9781587434464 RELIGION / Spirituality
RELIGION / Christian Living / General

Paperback / softback 9.000 in H | 6.000 in W | 0.650 lb Wt 256 pages • Carton Quantity: 32

James K. A. Smith (PhD, Villanova University) is a popular speaker who has written many books, including the *Christianity Today* Book Award winner *You Are What You Love*. He is professor of philosophy at Calvin University in Grand Rapids, Michigan, where he holds the Gary and Henrietta Byker Chair in Applied Reformed Theology and Worldview. He is also editor in chief of *Image*, a quarterly journal at the intersection of art, faith, and mystery. Smith has written for *Christianity Today*, the *Christian Century*, the *New York Times*, the *Wall Street Journal*, *USA Today*, and the *Washington Post*.

ON THE ROAD WITH SAINT AUGUSTINE

A Real-World Spirituality for Restless Hearts

James K. A. Smith

Finding a Real-World Spirituality with the Patron Saint of Restless Hearts

- · On the Road with Saint Augustine was named one of the Top 100 Books and one of the 5 Best Books in Religion for 2019 by Publishers Weekly
- · This book was a *Christianity Today* Book Award winner, an *Outreach* Resource of the Year, and it received a *Foreword* INDIES Honorable Mention for Religion

This is not a book about Saint Augustine. In a way, it's a book Augustine has written about each of us.

Popular speaker and award-winning author James K. A. Smith invites us to join him on a journey with an ancient African thinker who knows far more about us than we might expect. Augustine, says Smith, is the patron saint of restless hearts--a guide who has been there, asked our questions, and knows our frustrations and failed pursuits. Augustine spent a lifetime searching for his heart's true home and he can help us find our way.

Addressing believers and skeptics alike, this book shows how Augustine's timeless wisdom speaks to our deepest hungers and hopes.

"By following Augustine's model and sharing his own faith journey, Smith makes Augustine's guidance accessible to a new generation of seekers."--*Publishers Weekly* (starred review)

THE UNDERSTORY

An Invitation to Rootedness and Resilience from the Forest Floor

Lore Ferguson Wilbert

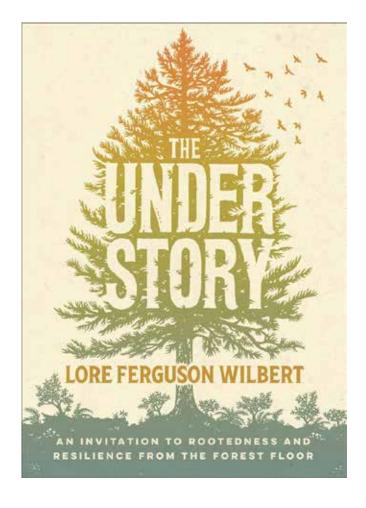
What the Forest Floor Reveals about a Rooted Faith

- \cdot Wilbert reaches an audience of over 50,000 through email and social media
- · Author is a *Christianity Today* Book Award winner and has written for *Christianity Today* and She Reads Truth
- · "We need more writers like Lore Ferguson Wilbert."-- **Emily P. Freeman**, Wall Street Journal bestselling author of The Next Right Thing

"Walk in the woods with me."

That's the invitation award-winning author Lore Ferguson Wilbert extends to readers in *The Understory*.

On this journey, Wilbert shares her story of alienation and disorientation after years of religious and political unrest in the evangelical church. In doing so, she looks to an unlikely place--the forest--to learn how to live and even thrive when everything seems to be falling apart. What can we learn from eroding soil, the decomposition process, the time it takes to grow lichen, the beauty of fiddlehead ferns, the regeneration of self-sowing seeds, and walking through the mud? Here, among the understory of the forest, Wilbert discovers rich metaphors for living a rooted and flourishing life within the complex ecosystems of our world. Her tenderness and honesty will help readers grieve, remember, hope, and press on with resilience.





MAY 21 • US \$18.99 • CAN \$23.99 9781587435706

Paperback / softback 7.000 in H | 5.000 in W 240 pages • Carton Quantity: 48 RELIGION / Christian Living / Personal Growth RELIGION / Christian Living / Spiritual Growth RELIGION / Spirituality

Lore Ferguson Wilbert is the author of *A Curious Faith* and *Handle with Care*, which won a 2021 *Christianity Today* Book Award. She writes at lorewilbert.com. Wilbert 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. She lives in the Adirondack mountains in upstate New York with her husband.

FINAL COVER COMING SOON

Brazos Press



MAY 28 • US \$24.99 • CAN \$30.99 9781587436505

Hardback 8.500 in H | 5.500 in W 224 pages • Carton Quantity: 28 RELIGION / Christian Living / Spiritual Growth RELIGION / Spirituality

USA, Canada, and the Philippines only

Elizabeth Oldfield hosts The Sacred, a podcast about our deepest values, the stories that shape us, and how we can build empathy and understanding between people who are very different. She has a regular column for UnHerd and has appeared on BBC One, Radio 5Live, Radio 4, and The World Service. Her work has appeared in The Financial Times, Prospect, The Times, CNN, The Guardian, and beyond. Oldfield is also a contributing editor at Comment magazine, a guest lecturer at the University of Birmingham, and former director and now senior fellow at Theos, the UK's leading religion and society think tank. She lives in London, England.

FULLY ALIVE

Tending to the Soul in Turbulent Times

Elizabeth Oldfield

Finding Spiritual Strength When Things Fall Apart

- \cdot Oldfield hosts *The Sacred* podcast (in the top 3% of British podcasts)
- · Author has appeared on BBC One and in CNN, The Guardian, and beyond
- · Author is former director and now senior fellow at Theos, the UK's leading religion and society think tank

In a world experiencing turbulent change, we need people who are resilient, kind, open, generous, and brave. How do we become those people?

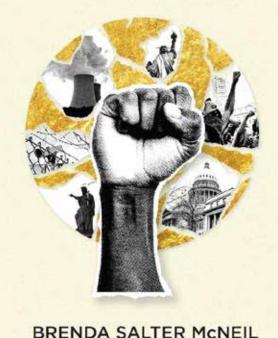
In *Fully Alive*, scholar and popular podcaster Elizabeth Oldfield uses the seven deadly sins as a framework to explore questions such as:

- · How can I move from **sloth** to **attention** in order to make the most of my short life and stop getting distracted by trivialities?
- · Is it possible to move from wrath to peacemaking? How do I become a depolarizing person in an age of outrage, tribalism, and division?
- · What might it look like to move from **gluttony** to **awe**, finding transcendence in expansive, life-giving ways-not in the bottom of a tub of ice cream?
- · How can I move from **pride** to **connection**, overcoming the disconnection that keeps me from intimacy, community, and ultimately from the divine?

Oldfield shows why, in a world heavy on judgment, she still finds the concept of sin liberating--and how, to her surprise, she keeps finding in her Christian faith ways to feel fully alive. Deeply serious yet amusingly relatable, this book helps us develop spiritual strength for when things fall apart.

EMPOWERED TO REPAIR

BECOMING PEOPLE WHO MEND BROKEN SYSTEMS
AND HEAL OUR COMMUNITIES





MAY 28 • US \$19.99 • CAN \$24.99 9781587434488

Hardback 8.500 in H | 5.500 in W 160 pages • Carton Quantity: 36 RELIGION / Christian Living / Social Issues RELIGION / Christian Church / General SOCIAL SCIENCE / Race & Ethnic Relations

Brenda Salter McNeil (DMin, Palmer Theological Seminary) is a dynamic speaker, award-winning author, professor, and thought leader. She 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. McNeil is the author of Becoming Brave: Finding the Courage to Pursue Racial Justice Now, Roadmap to Reconciliation, Roadmap to Reconciliation 2.0, and A Credible Witness. She is also the coauthor of The Heart of Racial Justice.

EMPOWERED TO REPAIR

Becoming People Who Mend Broken Systems and Heal Our Communities

Brenda Salter McNeil

A Framework for Activating Your Community to Seek Repair and Justice

- · McNeil is a leading scholar of racial justice who speaks regularly on the topic
- · Becoming Brave received a Foreword INDIES 2020 Book of the Year Award
- · Draws parallels between the biblical text of Nehemiah and our time

Political and cultural wars are tearing communities apart. Issues such as immigration, racism, and guns are driving wedges between people and hampering Christians' impact in the world.

In *Empowered to Repair*, Brenda Salter McNeil looks to the biblical story of Nehemiah for answers. There, she finds an action-based model for repairing and rebuilding our communities and transforming broken systems.

McNeil goes beyond theories, offering practical tools Christians need for organizing, empowering, and activating people to join in God's work of equality, reparations, and justice. She provides strategies to drive systemic changes that go beyond superficial diversity and teaches the skills needed to engage in this important work long-term, such as organizing people, leveraging resources, and avoiding burnout through rest, prayer, and self-care.

Learning from Nehemiah, readers will be emboldened to go out and help build congregations, organizations, and communities where all people can flourish and reach their full, God-given potential.

The MARY FORGOT WHAT THE APOSTLES



Jennifer Powell McNutt

JULY 16 • US \$19.99 • CAN \$24.99 9781587436178

Paperback / softback 8.500 in H | 5.500 in W 224 pages • Carton Quantity: 32 RELIGION / Christianity / History RELIGION / Biblical Studies / History & Culture RELIGION / Sexuality & Gender Studies

Jennifer Powell McNutt (PhD, St. Andrews University) is the Franklin S. Dyrness Chair of Biblical and Theological Studies at Wheaton College and associate professor of theology and history of Christianity. She is an awardwinning author, a fellow in the Royal Historical Society, and an ordained teaching elder in the Presbyterian tradition. McNutt serves as a parish associate at her church and regularly speaks at universities, seminaries, and churches across the country. She and her husband co-founded McNuttshell Ministries, which serves as a bridge between the academy and the church, and live with their three children in Winfield, Illinois.

THE MARY WE FORGOT

What the Apostle to the Apostles Teaches the Church Today

Jennifer Powell McNutt

Setting the Story Straight for the Mary Whom the Church Has Misunderstood

- · McNutt has written for *Christianity Today* and *Christian History* magazine
- \cdot Author is an award-winning scholar, professor, and theologian who speaks at universities, seminaries, and churches
- · Author is an ordained teaching elder in the Presbyterian church and a parish associate at her local church

Who was among the last at the cross and the first at the empty tomb? Mary Magdalene.

Her role in Jesus's ministry as told in all four Gospels was pivotal in many ways. Yet her story is often overlooked, confused, or scandalized by the church.

In *The Mary We Forgot*, award-winning church historian and theologian Jennifer Powell McNutt unpacks Scripture and church history to reveal the real Mary Magdalene as a model of discipleship for all Christians today--men and women alike.

McNutt also invites readers along on her journey through southern France, tracing the path remembered by the church as where Mary Magdalene spread the gospel. Christians will learn from the disciple known as the "apostle to the apostles" how to embrace Jesus's calling to "go and tell" with faith and courage. They'll also be encouraged by the reminder that God uses ordinary, imperfect, and unexpected people to share the good news of Jesus Christ.

THE CHURCH UNDERSTANDING AND RESISTING THE EVIL THAT SEDUCED THE EVANGELICAL MOVEMENT TIMES MIKE COSPER



AUGUST 20 • US \$19.99 • CAN \$24.99 **9781587435737**

Paperback / softback 8.500 in H | 5.500 in W 208 pages • Carton Quantity: 44 RELIGION / Christian Church / General RELIGION / Christian Living / Social Issues RELIGION / Philosophy

Mike Cosper has been creating music, radio shows, and podcasts for more than 20 years. He produced and hosted *The Rise and Fall of Mars Hill* podcast and is director of podcasts at *Christianity Today*. He now cohosts a weekly podcast called *The Bulletin*. Cosper also leads cohorts for church leaders and is the author of four books, including *Recapturing the Wonder*. He and his family live in Louisville, Kentucky.

THE CHURCH IN DARK TIMES

Understanding and Resisting the Evil That Seduced the Evangelical Movement Mike Cosper

How Evil Is Masked in the Church behind the Best of Intentions

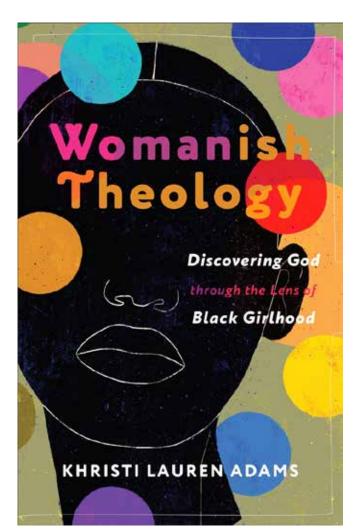
- · Cosper hosted the smash-hit podcast *The Rise and Fall of Mars Hill* and is director of podcasts at *Christianity Today*
- · Author regularly speaks on faith and culture issues at conferences and forums
- · Author leads cohorts for church leaders and wrote Recapturing the Wonder and Rhythms of Grace

When calling out evil, we often look for the obvious: malice, cruelty, and wickedness. We try to uncover the impulses and motivations. But all too often, malevolence masks itself behind the best of intentions.

In *The Church in Dark Times*, Mike Cosper unveils this dynamic in the growing crisis of abuse and other failures in modern evangelical churches.

Cosper, a cultural critic and church leader, examines how the workings of evil have shifted in the modern world. Drawing on the work of 20th-century writer and philosopher Hannah Arendt, Cosper explores what we can learn from her theory of the "banality of evil," or ordinary people going along with corrupt principles and practices that have been normalized over time.

Through this fascinating study, Cosper uncovers the underlying causes of the breakdowns of the church and then offers practices that foster healing and renewal. This book will engage Christian leaders and all followers who want to better understand how church crises keep happening--and how we can resist them and move forward.





AUGUST 20 • US \$19.99 • CAN \$24.99 **9781587436345**

Paperback / softback 8.500 in H | 5.500 in W 192 pages • Carton Quantity: 48 RELIGION / Christian Living / Social Issues RELIGION / Spirituality SOCIAL SCIENCE / Ethnic Studies / American / African American & Black Studies

Khristi Lauren Adams (MDiv, Princeton Theological Seminary) is a speaker, writer, youth advocate, and ordained Baptist minister. She is the award-winning author of *Parable of the Brown Girl* (named the Best Young Adult Book by the African American Literary Awards and the New York Black Librarians Caucus) as well as *Unbossed: How Black Girls Are Leading the Way* and its middle grade version, *Black Girls Unbossed: Young World Changers Leading the Way*. Adams also works as dean of spiritual life and equity and as an instructor of religious studies at the Hill School in Pottstown, Pennsylvania.

Brazos Press

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WOMANISH THEOLOGY

Discovering God through the Lens of Black Girlhood

Khristi Lauren Adams

Introducing Womanish Theology, the Theological Lens of Black Girlhood

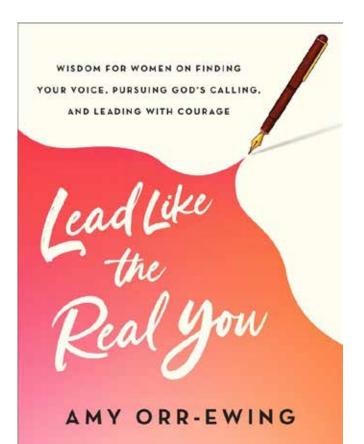
- · Adams is a speaker, youth advocate, and ordained Baptist minister
- · Author has over a decade of experience mentoring Black girls in church and school settings
- · Author wrote the award-winning Parable of the Brown Girl

Khristi Lauren Adams's faith was first shaped by her experiences as a Black girl--learning about Scripture from her grandmother, Mama Hattie; "playing church" with her seven cousins over summer vacation; and grieving the murder of her 16-year-old friend when she was just 15.

In Womanish Theology, Adams reflects on those experiences, inviting readers to learn from a new perspective and guiding them to a deeper understanding of their own spirituality.

This groundbreaking book introduces a new branch of theological thought Adams calls womanish, as a play on womanist (the theology of Black womanhood). "Womanish," remembers Adams, is a term Black mothers used for young girls as they grew more interested in doing grown-up things. Adams draws on her own life story as well as the life stories of other Black girls to explore theological concepts such as Scripture, theodicy, salvation, prayer, neighborly love, and the image of God.

Through this journey, readers will learn that theology is for everyone and that the whole community of God can learn from the spiritual insights of Black girls.





AUGUST 13 • US \$17.99 • CAN \$22.49 **9781587436062**

Paperback / softback 7.250 in H | 5.500 in W 192 pages • Carton Quantity: 40 RELIGION / Christian Living / Leadership & Mentoring RELIGION / Christian Church / General RELIGION / Christian Living / Women's Interests

Amy Orr-Ewing (DPhil, Oxford University) is an international speaker, theologian, and apologist. She is the author of multiple books, including Where Is God in All the Suffering? and Why Trust the Bible? Orr-Ewing speaks at churches and on university campuses around the world and has spoken in the UK Parliament, the United States Capitol, and the West Wing of the White House. She previously served as president of the Oxford Centre for Christian Apologetics and is an honorary lecturer at the University of Aberdeen. She lives near Oxford, England, with her husband and their three sons.

Brazos Press

AUGUST 2024

LEAD LIKE THE REAL YOU

Wisdom for Women on Finding Your Voice, Pursuing God's Calling, and Leading with Courage

Amy Orr-Ewing

Guiding a Younger Generation of Women Leaders in the Christian Church and Workplace

- · Orr-Ewing is an international theologian and apologist with a combined social media following of over 70,000
- · Author has been a leader in churches and Christian organizations for 25 years
- · Author previously served as president of the Oxford Centre for Christian Apologetics and speaks around the world

Amy Orr-Ewing has learned a lot of lessons the hard way.

As an internationally known speaker, theologian, and apologist, she has navigated it all: battling abuses of power, finding and using her own voice, building a lasting ministry, leading with confidence, thriving in friendship, relying on God in hard times, and more.

Now, she's sharing the wisdom she has gained over 25 years with other women so they, too, can grow in Christian leadership. In *Lead Like the Real You*, Orr-Ewing pens a deeply personal and engaging collection of letters that explore the unique challenges women face.

Rooted in honesty, practicality, and biblical guidance, these letters speak to women who lead in the workplace, classroom, church, and home, as well as those who support them. This book empowers the next generation of Christian women who hope to change the world to live and lead well, knowing they are not alone.