

Interim Ministry Resources

Chapter 15 Mission

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Resources

1) Disciple

A Church to Believe In: Discipleship and the Dynamics of Freedom by Avery Robert Dulles (Author)

Avery Dulles is an American Jesuit theologian, and his book is a collection of articles related to a central theme. That theme is best formulated in the lead essay, titled "Imaging the Church for the 1980s." Here he returns to the ideas of his earlier, groundbreaking work, "Models of the Church." He pinpoints conflicting images of the church as a major and often overlooked aspect of the crisis of present day Catholics. The facts are clear: Different Catholics both instinctively and reflectively use different (and sometimes conflicting) images for understanding the reality of the church.

<http://www.nytimes.com/1983/04/03/books/the-church-now-and-the-church-to-come.html>
<http://www.amazon.com/Church-believe-Discipleship-dynamics-freedom/dp/B0006E4THA>
<http://averydulles.blogspot.com/>
<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/12/13/AR2008121301911.html>
<https://www.commonwealmagazine.org/model-church>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Avery_Dulles
<https://www.thriftbooks.com/a/avery-dulles/202584/>
<https://www.librarything.com/author/dullesaveryrobert>
<https://www.amazon.com/Avery-Dulles/e/B001J3H3BG>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/239379.Avery_Dulles
Images for Avery Robert Dulles (Author)

[Images for A Church to Believe In: Discipleship and the Dynamics of Freedom by Avery Robert Dulles \(Author\)](#)

A Retreat with Mark: Embracing Discipleship (Retreat With-- Series) [Stephen C. Doyle]

In this seven-day retreat, *Embracing Discipleship*, your director is Mark the Evangelist, author of the first Gospel. In writing his Gospel, Mark gathered the things that Jesus had said and done that Mark heard from the community. The evangelist was the first to convey Jesus' invitation to follow him at the beginning of the first millennium. The invitation still stands and still asks for our response. In this retreat, Stephen C. Doyle, O.F.M., acts as interpreter for Mark, helping us to get to know Jesus better and enter more deeply into the mystery of Jesus' love.

<http://www.amazon.com/Retreat-With-Mark-Embracing-Discipleship/dp/0867163240>
<http://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/a-retreat-with-mark-stephen-c-doyle/1015163958>
<https://www.waterstones.com/book/a-retreat-with-mark/stephen-doyle/9780867163247>
<https://www.thriftbooks.com/a/stephen-c-doyle/434203/>
<https://www.amazon.com/Stephen-C.-Doyle/e/B001KIP6W8>
https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/754009.Stephen_C_Doyle
Images for Stephen C. Doyle, author a retreat with mark

[Images for A Retreat with Mark: Embracing Discipleship \(Retreat With-- Series\) \[Stephen C. Doyle\]](#)

Bible Studies - Evangelical Lutheran Church in America - ELCA

Daily **Discipleship** and Daily Faith Practices are online downloadable Bible studies based on the lectionary used at Sunday worship. Use these Bible Studies for small group discussions, personal devotions, or sermon preparation. These two-page Bible Studies connect the Word of God with daily life experiences and strengthen faith practices in everyday living.

- Daily Faith Practices: A Bible Study based on the Second Lesson and the Five Gifts of Discipleship
- Daily Discipleship: A Bible Study based on the Gospel Lesson

<https://elca.org/DailyDiscipleship>
[Images for Bible Studies - Evangelical Lutheran Church in America - ELCA Daily Discipleship and Daily Faith Practices](#)
<https://www.elca.org/Resources/Faith-Practices>
<http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Deep.pdf> DEEP – our relationship with one another (discipleship and community building)
[Images for Daily Discipleship and Daily Faith Practices - ELCA](#)
<https://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Congregations-and-Synods/Faith-Practices>
http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Implementing_ELCA_Faith_Practices.pdf
[Images for Living Our Baptism](#)
[Images for Five Gifts of Discipleship](#)
http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Disciples_Teaching_Disciple.pdf
[Images for Disciples Teaching Disciples](#)
<https://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Congregations-and-Synods/Faith-Practices/Bible-Studies>
[Images for elca/Our-Work/Congregations-and-Synods/Faith-Practices/Bible-Studies](#)
<https://www.elca.org/Resources/Bible-Studies>
<https://elcaymnet.org/Resources/Documents/Practice%20Discipleship/PD1%20Docs/Practice%20Discipleship%20Curriculum%20for%20PD%20Web.pdf>
<http://nisynod.org/resources/faith-practices/>
<https://lumin-network.com/book-faith-bible-studies/>
<https://www.prcli.org/webinars-res/adult-ministry/>

Blessed to Follow: The Beatitudes as a Compass for Discipleship (Lutheran Voices) by Martha Ellen Stortz.

In Matthew's Gospel, the Sermon on the Mount inaugurates Jesus' public ministry, and the first word out of Jesus' mouth is "blessed." He repeats this word throughout his first sermon. Jesus calls his disciples by blessing them, and as he speaks, Jesus introduces himself to us but also introduces disciples to themselves, for the Beatitudes offer a character sketch of who disciples will become if they follow him.

The Beatitudes, says Martha Stortz, function as a compass for the journey of Christian discipleship. The first group of Beatitudes target people in situations of suffering. The second group of Beatitudes target people who help those who suffer. Each chapter in *Blessed to Follow* is structured around a similar pattern: appeal to experience; biblical stories; Jesus: the one blessing and the one blessed; disciples: blessed to be a blessing; practice: the blessing made real. Includes questions for discussion and additional resources.



<http://store.augsburgfortress.org/store/product/8179/Blessed-to-Follow-The-Beatitudes-as-a-Compass-for-Discipleship>

<http://www.amazon.com/Blessed-Follow-Beatitudes-Discipleship-Lutheran-ebook/dp/B001O5CYQS>

<https://www.goodreads.com/en/book/show/2959557-blessed-to-follow>

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1451414072>

https://books.google.com/books/about/Blessed_to_Follow.html?id=r3bcne76PtKC

Blessed to Follow: The Beatitudes As a Compass for Discipleship

http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Complete_Annotated_Bib.pdf

<http://www.augsburg.edu/now/2010/10/01/she-loves-being-an-auggie-meet-martha-stortz/>

<http://faithasawayoflife.typepad.com/blog/2010/01/horray-martha-e-stortz-appointed-christensen-chair-at-augsburg-college.html>

<http://worldcat.org/identities/lccn-n90600244/>

<http://wipfandstock.com/author/view/detail/id/60678/>

<https://www.christiancentury.org/contributor/martha-ellen-stortz>

<https://www.facebook.com/martha.e.stortz>

<https://www.amazon.com/Martha-Ellen-Stortz/e/B001HCXYIA>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/284880.Martha_Ellen_Stortz

Images for Martha Ellen Stortz, author

Images for *Blessed to Follow: The Beatitudes as a Compass for Discipleship (Lutheran Voices)* by Martha Ellen Stortz

<https://www.thriftbooks.com/series/lutheran-voices/82458/>

<https://www.librarything.com/series/Lutheran+Voices>

<http://store.afcanada.com/store/productfamily/102/Lutheran-Voices>

<http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Deep.pdf>

Images for lutheran voices

Call to Discipleship (Facets): Karl Barth

In this brief essay, drawn from *Church Dogmatics*, Barth articulates what it means to follow Jesus in faith. He emphasizes that discipleship involves a detachment from the authority of possessions, foregoing the pursuit of personal glory, challenging the fear and use of force, the dissolution of self-evident personal attachments, and a "better righteousness," which goes beyond actions to intentions and practices piety in secret. "The command of Jesus . . . is issued with all the freedom and sovereignty of grace against which there can be no legitimate objections, of which no one is worthy, for which there can be no preparation, which none can elect, and in the face of which there can be no qualification."

<http://www.amazon.com/Call-Discipleship-Facets-Karl-Barth/dp/0800636325>

http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/131725.Call_to_Discipleship

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1451412223>

<http://www.christianitytoday.com/history/people/theologians/karl-barth.html>

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Karl_Barth

https://en.wikiquote.org/wiki/Karl_Barth

<http://www.theopedia.com/karl-barth>

<https://www.amazon.com/Karl-Barth/e/B001IQW9P4>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/23117.Karl_Barth

Images for Karl Barth, author

Images for *Call to Discipleship (Facets): Karl Barth*

Congregation Informational Meeting – Oct. 6, 2013

Mission/Vision Team

Dave Henningsen, spokesperson, stated the excitement of this team in doing God's work in a faithful, deliberate fashion, working towards the mission that God made us to be. With nearly 400 surveys collected from Bethany members, we have learned that Christian Education, teaching Christian values for youth, securing strong and engaging preaching, and reaching for excellence in the worship experience are our top priorities.

Remembering **discipleship**, he stated that Outreach will be emphasized, improving on the many ways in which we already reach out. He asks, "Where is God leading us in the next 10 years?" Our new mission statement addresses this: We INVITE all; We GROW in faith; We GO to share God's love and grace. Because our worship attendance is decreasing, our membership declining, as in ½ of the ELCA congregations across the nation and other mainstream denominations, we will have a deliberate focus shift: That from ourselves to others; from membership to discipleship; from pastor-centered to lay empowered, from settled to sent.

<http://www.bethanyricelake.org/Portals/1475/Publications/Oct%206%202013%20Special%20Congregation%20Informational%20Meeting%20for%20print.pdf>

Disciple: Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study (Study Manual) by Richard Byrd Wilke (Author), Julia Kitchens Wilke (Author), William J. A. Power (Contributor), Leander E. Keck (Contributor)

Sally Kilpatrick rated it 5 of 5 stars · review of another edition

This intensive Bible study is incredible. I also worked harder for this class than some of my college courses. If you're looking for a thorough approach to the Bible complete with a modern interpretation of ancient texts, look no further than this book.

<http://www.amazon.com/Disciple-Becoming-Disciples-Through-Manual/dp/0687783496>

<http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/547805.Disciple>

<http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/24739771-disciple-i-becoming-disciples-through-bible-study>

<http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/10225206-disciple-iii-remember-who-you-are>

<http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/20653860-disciple-iii-study-manual>

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1426727828>

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1426726902>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/301009.Richard_B_Wilke

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/4180358.Julia_Wilke

https://www.amazon.com/s?ie=UTF8&page=1&rh=n%3A283155%2Cp_27%3AWilliam%20J%20A%20Power

<https://www.amazon.com/Leander-E.-Keck/e/B001H6OGIS>

http://www.abingdonpress.com/leander_e_keck

<http://fortresspress.com/author/leander-e-keck>

Images for Disciple: Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study (Study Manual) by Richard Byrd Wilke (Author), Julia Kitchens Wilke (Author), William J. A. Power (Contributor), Leander E. Keck (Contributor)

Disciple - Wikipedia

A disciple is a follower and student of a mentor, teacher, or other figure. It can refer to:

Religion

- Disciple (Christianity), a student of Jesus Christ
- Twelve Apostles of Jesus, sometimes called the Twelve Disciples
- Seventy disciples in the Gospel of Luke

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Disciple>

[Images for Disciple](#)

[Images for • Disciple \(Christianity\), a student of Jesus Christ](#)

[Images for • Twelve Apostles of Jesus, sometimes called the Twelve Disciples](#)

[Images for Seventy disciples in the Gospel of Luke](#)

Disciplemaking Teachers by Josh Hunt (Author), Larry Mays (Author)

Disciples are made, not born. This clear, practical guide equips you with a Bible-based, proven process that's achieved results in churches just like yours. Discover what needs to happen before class in preparation, in class during teaching, and after class through service. You'll explore topics such as: discipline in daily life, building intimate friendships, self-image, corporate worship, lay ministry, and much more.

<https://www.amazon.com/Disciplemaking-Teachers-Josh-Hunt/dp/1500354635>

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/22719240-disciplemaking-teachers>

<https://www.bookdepository.com/Disciplemaking-Teachers-Dr-Larry-Mays/9781500354633?ref=grid-view>

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=0764420313>

<http://www.joshhunt.com/>

<https://www.logos.com/product/55104/josh-hunt-collection>

<https://www.amazon.com/Josh-Hunt/e/B001IOH8CK>

https://www.goodreads.com/author/list/234883.Josh_Hunt

[Images for Josh Hunt \(Author\)](#)

[Images for Larry Mays \(Author\) disciplemaking](#)

[Images for Disciplemaking Teachers by Josh Hunt \(Author\), Larry Mays \(Author\)](#)

Disciples Quotes - BrainyQuote

<https://www.brainyquote.com/topics/disciples>

[Images for disciple quotes](#)

<https://www.goodreads.com/quotes/tag/discipleship>

www.tentmaker.org/Quotes/discipleshipquotes.htm

<https://www.christianquotes.info/quotes-by-topic/quotes-about-discipleship/>

<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/blogs/jared-c-wilson/20-quotes-from-the-imperfect-disciple/>

<https://www.mobilizingdisciples.com/discipleship-quotes.html>
www.azquotes.com/quotes/topics/disciple.html
<https://brokenbelievers.com/2016/05/26/some-quotes-on-being-his-disciple/>
[Images for quotes-on-being-his-disciple](#)
<https://www.biblegateway.com/blog/2016/08/five-memorable-dallas-willard-quotes-about-being-a-disciple-of-christ/>
[Images for quotes-about-being-a-disciple-of-christ](#)
<https://www.pinterest.com/mingik/discipleship-quotes/>
[Images for pinterest/discipleship-quotes](#)

Disciples: Reclaiming Our Identity, Reforming Our Practice by Dr. Jan Linn (Author), Rev. Dr. Michael Kinnamon (Author)

Respected Disciples Michael Kinnamon and Jan Linn propose reclaiming the Disciples movement's identity in a way that encourages reform of worship, relationships, and mission. With praise for the founding leaders' willingness "to follow their vision of what it meant to be church in their own time in history," the authors call on the denomination to do the same today, not in order to survive as an institution, but in order to enhance the church's participation in God's mission of peacemaking and compassionate service. Kinnamon and Linn explore the Disciples' historic commitment to covenant and claim that heritage as a tool for addressing current issues such as money, minister licensing, homosexuality, the future of seminaries, and more.

<http://www.amazon.com/Disciples-Reclaiming-Identity-Reforming-Practice-ebook/dp/B002QMLBDA>
<https://disciples.org/resources/noted-scholars-update-book-on-disciples-identity/>
<http://linnposts.com/jans-published-books/>
<https://linnposts.com/about-jan-linn/>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/430301.Jan_Linn
[Images for Dr. Jan Linn \(Author\)](#)
<https://www.facebook.com/michaelkinnamon>
<https://www.faihandleadership.com/multimedia/michael-kinnamon-denominations-are-wonderful-adjectives-idolatrous-nouns>
<http://www.nccusa.org/news/BIOMichaelK.htm>
http://chuckcurrie.blogs.com/chuck_currie/2006/03/michael_kinnamo.html
<http://www.chalicepress.com/Author.aspx?AuthorID=23>
<https://divinity.uchicago.edu/michael-kinnamon>
<https://www.amazon.com/Michael-Kinnamon/e/B001K7M60E>
https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/360264.Michael_Kinnamon
[Images for Rev. Dr. Michael Kinnamon \(Author\)](#)
[Images for Disciples: Reclaiming Our Identity, Reforming Our Practice by Dr. Jan Linn \(Author\), Rev. Dr. Michael Kinnamon \(Author\)](#)

Discipleship - Enrichment Journal - AG.org

DISCIPLESHIP: The neglected mandate

[enrichmentjournal.ag.org › media › EJ_2008_01_Winter.PDF](http://enrichmentjournal.ag.org/media/EJ_2008_01_Winter.PDF)
[file:///C:/Users/Owner/Downloads/EJ_2008_01_Winter%20\(1\).pdf](file:///C:/Users/Owner/Downloads/EJ_2008_01_Winter%20(1).pdf)
[Images for Discipleship - Enrichment Journal - AG.org DISCIPLESHIP: The neglected mandate](#)

Discipleship Essentials: A Guide to Building Your Life in Christ [Greg Ogden]

A 2014 ECPA Christian Book Award Finalist

Discover the fullness of life in Christ.

We grow in Christ as we seek him together. Jesus' own pattern of disciple-making was to be intimately involved with others and allow life to rub against life. By gathering in twos or threes to study the Bible and encourage one another, we most closely follow Jesus' example with the twelve disciples.

This workbook by Greg Ogden is a tool designed to help you follow this pattern Jesus drew for us. Working through it will deepen your knowledge of essential Christian teaching and strengthen your faith.

Each week contains the following elements: a core truth presented in a question-answer format, a memory verse and accompanying study, a field-tested inductive Bible study, a reading on the theme for the week, questions to draw out key principles in the reading.

This material is designed for groups of three. It has also been used successfully as an individual study program, a one-on-one discipling tool and small group curriculum.

Jesus had a big enough vision to think small. Focusing on a few did not limit his influence. Rather, it expanded it. *Discipleship Essentials* is designed to help us influence others as Jesus did--by investing in a few.

Second edition includes a new foreword by the author. These studies are for both individuals and groups.

<http://www.amazon.com/Discipleship-Essentials-Guide-Building-Christ/dp/0830810870>
https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/659988.Discipleship_Essentials
https://www.goodreads.com/author/quotes/144065.Greg_Ogden
<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/discipleship-essentials-greg-ogden/1002986578#/>
<http://www.ivpress.com/cgi-ivpress/book.pl/code=1087>
<https://www.christianbook.com/discipleship-essentials-building-christ-expanded-edition/greg-ogden/9780830810871/pd/810871>
<https://www.logos.com/product/35582/discipleship-essentials-a-guide-to-building-your-life-in-christ>
<http://www.gregogden.com/books.htm>
<https://www.theglobaldiscipleshipinitiative.org/en-us/about-us/greg-ogden>
<https://library.villanova.edu/Find/Record/1110467/TOC>

<https://www.efciem.org/discipleship-essentials.html>
<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=0830878092>
https://books.google.com/books/about/Discipleship_Essentials.html?id=UCpurwxrR7wC
https://books.google.com/books/about/Discipleship_Essentials.html?id=yeEnaEFT11YC
https://books.google.com/books/about/Discipleship_Essentials.html?id=tR59DwAAQBAJ
https://books.google.com/books/about/Discipleship_Essentials.html?id=0J7QgmqwsHcC
https://books.google.com/books/about/Discipleship_Essentials.html?id=6Ysm9aAEGYgC
https://books.google.com/books/about/Discipleship_Essentials.html?id=3REKITP3u6gC
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s_5SbY53IR4 Intro to discipleship essentials – YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cfPx-ibinAw> Mobile Ed: Greg Ogden, Introducing Discipleship | Logos Bible Software - YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UQCylMNI6io> Discipleship Essentials with author Greg Ogden – YouTube
[Images for Discipleship Essentials with Greg Ogden - YouTube](#)
<https://www.theglobaldiscipleshipinitiative.org/en-us/about-us/greg-ogden/>
<https://www.amazon.com/Greg-Ogden/e/B001H6MKTK>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/144065.Greg_Ogden
[Images for Greg Ogden, author](#)
[Images for Discipleship Essentials \[Greg Ogden\]](#)

Discipleship - Pinterest

<https://www.pinterest.com/adrianthoover/discipleship/>
[Images for Discipleship - Pinterest](#)
<https://www.pinterest.com/JennArman/discipleship/>
<https://www.pinterest.com/jikminnich/discipleship/>
<https://www.pinterest.com/adrianthoover/discipleship/>
<https://www.pinterest.com/mingik/discipleship-quotes/>
<https://www.pinterest.com/susaninsf/discipleship/>
<https://www.pinterest.com/karenmtrigg/discipleship/>
<https://www.pinterest.com/michiganhill/i-believe-discipleship/>
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<https://www.pinterest.com/dirklagerwerf/discipleship/>
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<https://www.pinterest.com/gtroxell/discipleship/>
<https://www.pinterest.com/newspringchurch/discipleship/>
<https://www.pinterest.com/nathanbyes/discipleship/>
<https://www.pinterest.com/tjcnave/discipleship-tools/>
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<https://www.pinterest.com/c1app3r5/disciple-of-christ/>
[Images for disciple-of-christ](#)
<https://www.pinterest.com/sarathomascoach/discipleship-and-mission/>
[Images for pinterest/discipleship-and-mission](#)

Discipleship that Fits: The Five Kinds of Relationships God Uses to Help Us Grow by Bobby Harrington (Author), Alex Absalom (Author), Thom Rainer (Foreword)

For far too long, the church has tried to make disciples using a one-size-fits-all approach. Some churches advocate 1-on-1 discipling, others try getting everyone into a small group, while still others training through mission trips or service projects. Yet others focus all their efforts on attracting people to a large group gathering to hear biblical teaching and preaching. But does one size really fit everyone?

Based on careful biblical study and years of experience making disciples in the local church, Bobby Harrington and Alex Absalom have identified five key relationships where discipleship happens in our lives. In each relational context, we need to understand *how* discipleship occurs and we need to set appropriate expectations for each context.

Discipleship That Fits shows you the five key ways discipleship occurs. It looks at how Jesus made disciples and how disciples were formed in the early church. Each of the contexts is necessary at different times and in different ways as a person grows toward maturity in Christ:

- *Public Relationships*: The church gathering corporately for worship
- *Social Relationships*: Networks of smaller relationships where we engage in mission and live out our faith in community
- *Personal Relationships*: Small groups of six to sixteen people where we challenge and encourage one another on a regular basis
- *Transparent Relationships*: Close relationships of three to four where we share intimate details of our lives for accountability
- *The Divine Relationship*: Our relationship with Jesus Christ where we grow through the empowering presence of the Holy Spirit

Filled with examples and stories, Alex and Bobby show you how to develop discipleship practices in each relational context by sharing how Jesus did it, how the early church practiced it, and how churches are discipling people today.

<https://www.amazon.com/Discipleship-That-Fits-Kinds-Relationships/dp/0310522617>
<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/26309274-discipleship-that-fits>

<https://www.harpercollins.com.au/9780310522645/discipleship-that-fits/>
<https://zondervanacademic.com/products/discipleship-that-fits>
<https://www.netgalley.com/catalog/book/81676>
<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=0310522641>
https://books.google.com/books/about/Discipleship_that_Fits.html?id=WEwVCgAAQBAJ
<http://www.lifeway.com/Product/discipleship-that-fits-the-five-kinds-of-relationships-god-uses-to-help-us-grow-P006103082>
<http://discipleship.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/Discipleship-That-Fits-eBook.pdf>
<https://zondervanacademic.com/products/discipleship-that-fits>
<https://joemcfadden.org/2016/03/30/discipleship-that-fits-the-five-kinds-of-relationships-god-uses-to-help-us-grow/>
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/bobby-harrington-02a07a49>
<https://www.amazon.com/Bobby-Harrington/e/B01BW2QQDO>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/5853523.Bobby_Harrington
 Images for Bobby Harrington (Author)
<http://www.faithgateway.com/author/bobby-harrington/>
<http://discipleship.org/author/bobby/>
<http://www.gracecentered.com/author/dr-bobby-harrington>
<http://www.gracecentered.com/interview-with-bobby-harrington.htm>
<https://www.amazon.com/Alex-Absalom/e/B00J21B80Y>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/4492223.Alex_Absalom
 Images for Alex Absalom (Author)
<https://portablechurch.pressbooks.com/chapter/absalom-author-page/>
<https://twitter.com/alexabsalom?lang=en>
<http://dandelionresourcing.com/>
<http://3dmpublishing.com/authors/alexabsalom/>
<http://thomrainer.com/about/>
<https://www.facebook.com/Thom.S.Rainer/>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thom_S._Rainer
<https://www.amazon.com/Thom-S.-Rainer/e/B0011GLMVG>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/27470.Thom_S_Rainer
 Images for Thom Rainer, author
 Images for Discipleship that Fits: The Five Kinds of Relationships God Uses to Help Us Grow by Bobby Harrington (Author), Alex Absalom (Author), Thom Rainer (Foreword)
 Images for Discipleship that Fits: Public Relationships, Social Relationships, Personal Relationships, Transparent Relationships, Divine Relationship
 Images for church gathering corporately for worship
 Images for Networks of smaller relationships where we engage in mission and live out our faith in community
 Images for Small groups of six to sixteen people in the church where we challenge and encourage one another on a regular basis
 Images for Close relationships of three to four in the church where we share intimate details of our lives for accountability
 Images for Our relationship with Jesus Christ where we grow through the empowering presence of the Holy Spirit

Discovering Hope: Building Vitality in Rural Congregations by David Poling-Goldenne (Author), L. Shannon Jung (Author)
 Chapter 4 Making **Disciples**: Learning to Live Jesus' Way Page 46

God's Spirit is breathing new vitality into rural congregations! Hear what 26 effective rural congregations have to say about God's activity in and through them. In these stories, you can explore the best practices for vital ministry and identify action steps for your own setting.

<https://www.augsburgfortress.org/store/product/6363/Discovering-Hope-Building-Vitality-in-Rural-Congregations>
<https://www.amazon.com/Discovering-Hope-Building-Vitality-Congregations/dp/0806641479>
 Images for Discovering Hope: Building Vitality in Rural Congregations by David Poling-Goldenne (Author), L. Shannon Jung (Author)
 Chapter 4 Making Disciples: Learning to Live Jesus' Way

Dissident Discipleship: A Spirituality of Self-Surrender, Love of God, and Love of Neighbor [David Augsburger]

We all want to improve our spiritual lives, but the task often can seem overwhelming. And while there is no shortage of self-help gurus hawking their wares, not enough Christians are making meaningful progress toward a deeper relationship with God. Now best-selling author David Augsburger reveals the life-giving nature of surrender and service in *Dissident Discipleship*. Moving beyond self-centered therapies and "Lone Ranger" spirituality, Augsburger reveals that our spiritual lives will grow when we look outside of ourselves and lay down our lives in service to God and neighbor. Anyone interested in the topic of spiritual growth, from pastors to counselors, will be sure to welcome Augsburger's balanced approach.

<http://www.amazon.com/Dissident-Discipleship-Spirituality-Self-Surrender-Neighbor/dp/1587431807>
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<http://apriyamasaki.com/2013/02/25/david-augsburger-dissident-discipleship-and-me/>
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<http://fuller.edu/faculty/daugsburger/>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/David_Augsburger
https://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/authors/d/david_augsburger.html
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https://www.goodreads.com/author/list/388167.David_W_Augsburger
[Images for David Augsburger](#)
[Images for Dissident Discipleship: A Spirituality of Self-Surrender, Love of God, and Love of Neighbor \[David Augsburger\]](#)
<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/258605203573540833/> Dissident Discipleship: A Spirituality of Self-Surrender, Love of God, and Love of Neighbor

Down to Earth Discipling: Essential Principles to Guide Your Personal Ministry (Living the Questions) by Scott Morton (Author)

This personal guide to discipleship is practical, friendly, and manageable. It shows how God can use anyone—even the person who considers himself not gifted in discipleship—to build His kingdom.



<https://www.amazon.com/Down-Earth-Discipling-Essential-Principles/dp/1576833399>
https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/751849.Down_to_Earth_Discipling
<https://www.christianbook.com/discipling-essential-principles-guide-personal-ministry/scott-morton/9781576833391/pd/33397>
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[Images for Scott Morton \(Author\)](#)
[Images for Down to Earth Discipling: Essential Principles to Guide Your Personal Ministry \(Living the Questions\) by Scott Morton](#)
<https://www.livingthequestions.com/>
[Images for Living the Questions](#)

Experiencing God: Intentionally and consistently engaging with God in deeper relationship (Dimensions of Discipleship) (Volume 1) by Robert E Logan (Author), Charles R Ridley (Author), David J DeVries (Author)

Experiencing God is one of eight discipleship guides for the Dimensions of Discipleship series. Experiencing God focuses on the way we interact with and dialogue with God, the way we become increasingly aware of his presence, and how we continue to form a more personal relationship with him. This study will lead you through five essential expressions of experiencing God:

<https://www.amazon.co.uk/Experiencing-God-Intentionally-consistently-relationship/dp/B011YU8JNE>
<https://www.abebooks.com/book-search/author/robert-e-logan-and-charles-r-ridley/>
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<https://www.amazon.com/Robert-E.-Logan/e/B001KHGUPQ>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/15546013.Robert_E_Logan
[Images for Robert E Logan \(Author\)](#)
<https://loganleadership.com/tag/dimensions-of-discipleship/>
<https://www.facebook.com/robertelogan/>
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<https://vimeo.com/127276068> Small Town USA Webinar - Dimensions of Discipleship with Bob Logan
<https://www.amazon.com/Charles-R.-Ridley/e/B001IQZPO6n>
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[Images for Charles R Ridley \(Author\)](#)
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<https://www.amazon.com/Mark-DeVries/e/B001IGJMD6>
https://www.amazon.com/gp/bookseries/B013J3WDTU/ref=dp_st_1939921368
https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/14021986.David_J_DeVries

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[Images for David J DeVries \(Author\) authentic relationships](#)

[Images for Experiencing God: Intentionally and consistently engaging with God in deeper relationship \(Dimensions of Discipleship\) \(Volume 1\) by Robert E Logan \(Author\), Charles R Ridley \(Author\), David J DeVries \(Author\)](#)

<https://www.vineyardresources.com/equip/category/resource-type/vineyard-dimensions-discipleship>

[Images for \(Dimensions of Discipleship\)](#)

From Members to Disciples: Leadership Lessons from the Book of Acts [Michael W. Foss]

The book of Acts serves as our playbook for ministry as it prepares us for the active presence of God.

Studying the book of Acts takes us back to the future. It shows the church how to trust in the active presence of God and inspire people to move from being mere members to bold disciples. As members become disciples of faith, they experience the unstoppable power of disciplined growth and divine purpose in Christian living.

<http://www.amazon.com/From-Members-Disciples-Leadership-Lessons/dp/0687467306>

https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/1164551.From_Members_to_Disciples

<https://www.cokesbury.com/product/9780687467303/from-members-to-disciples/>

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<https://www.christianbook.com/members-disciples-leadership-lessons-acts-ebook/michael-foss/9781426720598/pd/20126EB?event=EBRN>

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[From Members to Disciples: Leadership Lessons from the Book of Acts](#)

<http://www.stmarkwdm.org/>

http://day1.org/363-the_rev_dr_michael_foss

<http://fortresspress.com/author/michael-w-foss>

<https://twitter.com/mwfoss>

<https://www.librarything.com/author/fossmichaelw>

<https://www.amazon.com/Michael-W.-Foss/e/B001H6QC6M>

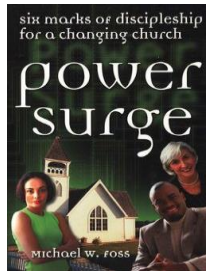
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/319095.Michael_W_Foss

[Images for Michael W. Foss, author](#)

[Images for From Members to Disciples: Leadership Lessons from the Book of Acts \[Michael W. Foss\]](#)

Power Surge: Six Marks of Discipleship for a Changing Church [Michael W. Foss]

Addressed to rostered and non-rostered professional and non-professional church leaders interested in transforming their churches into centers for discipleship and mission, Power Surge makes the case for a dynamic, functional model of church affiliation that moves away from a membership model centered on prerogatives of membership to a discipleship model centered on the notion of Christian vocation/calling. It proposes a grace-centered, rather than legalistic, model of discipleship and builds a bridge through transferable principles between congregational mission mindedness and the individual Christian's life of faith.



<http://www.amazon.com/Power-Surge-Discipleship-Changing-Church/dp/0800632648>

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<https://www.goodreads.com/work/quotes/1297099-power-surge-6-marks-of-discipleship-for-a-changing-church>

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<http://store.augsburgfortress.org/store/product/2393/Power-Surge-Six-Marks-of-Discipleship-for-a-Changing-Church>

<https://www.christianbook.com/power-surge-marks-discipleship-changing-church/michael-foss/9780800632649/pd/632648>

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http://www.graceandglory.org/PDF_Files/Word%20Pro%20-%20Power%20Surge%20Study%20Guide.pdf

http://www.zionsuperior.org/six_marks_discipleship.html

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<http://metrolutheran.org/2005/06/burnsville-congregation-surgin-with-six-step-discipleship-plan/>
<http://www.workingpreacher.org/craft.aspx?post=3108>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KzpKEchtYw> Power Surge - Chapter 1: Pray Daily – YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BTCuiHhYWLc> Power Surge - Chapter 2: Worship Weekly - YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vcEUk81GldQ> Power Surge - Chapter 3: Read the Bible Daily – YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m5tgLYUS1eo> Power Surge - Chapter 4: Serve at and Beyond St. Mark - YouTube
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R_VG5oGtl2o Power Surge - Chapter 5: Relationships for Spiritual Growth – YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x5WCc73A1oI> Power Surge - Chapter 6: Give of Time, Talent & Tithe or Beyond – YouTube
[Images for Power Surge: Michael W. Foss - YouTube](#)
[Images for Power Surge: Six Marks of Discipleship for a Changing Church \[Michael W. Foss\]](#)

Real Faith for Real Life: Living the Six Marks of Discipleship [Michael W. Foss]

For Christians seeking to apply their faith to everyday life, *Real Faith for Real Life* invites readers to answer the call of discipleship and provides guidance and examples of how to do so successfully. Michael Foss, author of *Power Surge*, encourages readers to rely on six time-tested marks of discipleships that encourage the practice of faith in everyday life: Daily prayer Bible reading Weekly worship Christian service Relationships that encourage spiritual growth Giving in the spirit of generosity Using Bible passages and real-life stories, Foss illustrates how each mark of discipleship enhances and supports the growth of a person's faith journey. This book also includes study questions and journaling suggestions for small group discussion and individual reflection.

<http://www.amazon.com/Real-Faith-Life-Living-Discipleship/dp/0806648015>
https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/585126.Real_Faith_for_Real_Life
<http://store.augsburgfortress.org/store/product/6950/Real-Faith-for-Real-Life-Living-the-Six-Marks-of-Discipleship>
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[Real Faith for Real Life: Living the Six Marks of Discipleship](#)
[Images for Real Faith for Real Life: Living the Six Marks of Discipleship \[Michael W. Foss\]](#)

The Disciple's Joy: Six Practices for Spiritual Growth (Truth and Christian Imagination) [Michael W. Foss]

Focusing on the powerful theme of discipleship, *The Disciple's Joy* explores the joy of faith, helping you to discover joy in the midst of struggle. Foss explores the benefits of practicing discipleship and shows, through recent research, how a practicing faith provides meaning, belonging, and joy. Intended for both personal reflection and small group study, *The Disciple's Joy* builds on the six-time-tested marks of discipleship and introduces six practices for spiritual growth. Includes questions for reflection and discussion.

<http://www.amazon.com/The-Disciples-Joy-Practices-Imagination/dp/0806653671>
https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/587945.The_Disciple_s_Joy
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[Images for Truth and Christian Imagination series](#)

From "Membership" to "Discipleship" | Building Faith

It means moving from a membership model to a discipleship model . . .

<http://www.buildfaith.org/2012/05/04/from-membership-to-discipleship/>
[Images for From "Membership" to "Discipleship" | Building Faith](#)
<http://slideplayer.com/slide/3465101/> From Membership to Discipleship: An Introduction to the Catechumate - SlidePlayer
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Go Make Disciples: An Invitation to Baptismal Living: A Handbook to the Catechumenate

This highly-informative handbook is intended to help congregations implement the task of making disciples in their own community. *Go Make Disciples* provides updated resources for preparing adults for baptism or affirmation of baptism, and for Christian discipleship. Appropriate for a wide range of Protestant denominations, especially Lutheran, Episcopal, Anglican, United Methodist, Presbyterian, and Reformed traditions.

<http://store.augsburgfortress.org/store/product/17352/Go-Make-Disciples-An-Invitation-to-Baptismal-Living>
<http://store.augsburgfortress.org/store/product/17353/Go-Make-Disciples-CD-ROM>
<http://www.amazon.ca/Make-Disciples-Invitation-Baptismal-Catechumenate/dp/1451426127>
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[Images for Go Make Disciples: An Invitation to Baptismal Living: A Handbook to the Catechumenate](#)

Growing True Disciples: New Strategies for Producing Genuine Followers of Christ [George Barna]

Christ's command to the church is clear: "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations..." It is in building disciples - helping others to embrace Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, mature in him, and then lead others to do the same - that the Kingdom grows. And when the Kingdom grows, churches do, too.

In *Growing True Disciples*, respected author and researcher George Barna helps pastors and leaders assess how their churches are doing in fulfilling their role as disciple makers. And he reveals models and examples that will equip churches to dramatically increase their effectiveness. As a result, your church can begin to see more involved members who want to live out their faith in submission to God, and joyfully share their resources to fulfill Christ's commission.

<http://www.amazon.com/Growing-True-Disciples-Strategies-Producing/dp/1578564239>
https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/1033855.Growing_True_Disciples
<https://waterbrookmultnomah.com/books/8680/growing-true-disciples-by-george-barna/>
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https://www.goodreads.com/author/list/32052.George_Barna
[Images for George Barna](#)

Images for Growing True Disciples: New Strategies for Producing Genuine Followers of Christ [George Barna]

<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/393713192399203012/> [Growing True Disciples: New Strategies for Producing Genuine Followers of Christ - Pinterest](#)

How to Turn Bystanders into Active Disciples | The Parish Paper

The Bottom Line

Take comfort in the fact that no church engages 100 percent of their members at a 100 percent level. Keep a balanced focus on the church's entire ministry. "Do not neglect the team on the field (present active members) and the potential team on the bench (prospective active members) by focusing all your attention on the ex-team that has retreated to the bleachers (inactive members)." If some members choose to return as active disciples, welcome them. If they choose to remain on the side lines, love them anyway.

[PDF]Parish Paper: How to Turn Bystanders into Active Disciples

<https://www.wisconsinumc.org/Resources/Documents/ParishPaper/ParishPaper-May12.pdf>
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http://www.abcgrr.org/current_pm/May2012/How_to_Turn_Bystanders_Into_Active_Disciples.pdf
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Intentional Disciplemaking: Cultivating Spiritual Maturity in the Local Church by Ron and Mary Bennett (Authors)

This book lays out what a biblical disciple of Christ looks like and how the church can create an environment geared toward making disciples and helping its people grow in spiritual maturity.

Disciples don't just happen. While there's a lot of talk about discipleship these days, churches need to evaluate how well they're doing when it comes to fulfilling Jesus' Great Commission to "Go . . . make disciples." Veteran disciplemaker Ron Bennett extends church ministries three essential questions to help evaluate their progress: *What impact is your church having on the culture in which it lives? How effective is your church in populating heaven? Are the lives of believers radically changed as a result of their encounter with Christ and your church?* This practical, concise resource will help churches that want to be purposeful about making disciples.

<https://www.amazon.com/Intentional-Disciplmaking-Cultivating-Spiritual-Maturity/dp/1576832627>
http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/389154.Intentional_Disciplmaking
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<https://www.navpress.com/authors/ron-and-mary-bennett/2985>
<https://www.navigators.org/FindStaff/StaffPages?username=22301>
<https://www.amazon.com/Ron-Bennett/e/B001K8F2EK>
https://www.goodreads.com/author/list/221280.Ron_Bennett
https://www.goodreads.com/author/list/878767.Mary_Bennett
[Images for Ron and Mary Bennett \(Authors\)](#)
[Images for Intentional Disciplmaking: Cultivating Spiritual Maturity in the Local Church by Ron and Mary Bennett \(Authors\)](#)

The Adventure of Discipling Others: Training in the Art of Discipleship Making (Redefining Life) by John Purvis (Author), Ron and Mary Bennett (Author)

Jesus believed in the power of one. From the woman dawdling by the well to the tax collector dangling from a tree. Jesus called out and mentored the individual. He turned the beleaguered into the beautiful, the meager into the mighty, by pointing them to God and spotlighting their potential. He knew one person could stir up the world and make a spiritual difference. With *The Adventure of Discipling Others*, anyone can mentor and love the process. Reading this book, you'll cultivate a passion for life-to-life discipling. You'll discover the amazing impact one life can have on another. Just like Jesus, you can pour faith into believers, helping them grow spiritually and fulfill their unique niche in God's kingdom. In this handbook and Bible study you'll learn: Why we are called to disciple believers, What topics lay a biblical foundation for new Christians, How to develop a discipling process. God can use you to help them grow spiritually and fulfill their unique niche in God's Kingdom. In this this comprehensive handbook and Bible study you'll learn why Christians are called to disciple believers, what topics lay a biblical foundation for new Christians, and how to develop a discipling process.

<https://www.amazon.com/Adventure-Discipling-Others-Disciplmaking-Redefining/dp/1576833488>
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[Images for The Adventure of Discipling Others: Training in the Art of Discipleship Making \(Redefining Life\) by John Purvis \(Author\), Ron and Mary Bennett \(Author\)](#)
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[Images for Redefining Life books](#)

Learning the Way: Reclaiming Wisdom from the Earliest Christian Communities [Cassandra Carkuff Williams]

How should the church respond to the changing cultural and societal changes going on around it? Should it reject the historical traditions that served the early Christian church, or should it turn a blind eye to the changes happening in modern society? Neither, as Cassandra D. Carkuff Williams advocates - it should, and it must recover and reclaim our foundations and reinterpret them in light of present-day realities.

In *Learning the Way: Reclaiming Wisdom from the Earliest Christian Communities*, Williams suggests that the biggest problems facing the church today are the victim mentality created out of its own presumptions and that we have allowed our cultures and societies to dictate the way in which we lead our churches. Williams explores early Christian communities and their practices in order to create principles for **discipleship** formation. She then offers expert advice on how to approach modern-day issues of Christian education and the nurturing of disciples based on the examples set forth by our earliest forebears in the faith. As Williams states, "Discipleship is a way of being grounded in vocation, nurtured within community, and guided by tradition." This book provides an overview of the past in order that we might take the proven example and apply it toward our present and our future.

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 Images for Learning the Way: Reclaiming Wisdom from the Earliest Christian Communities [Cassandra Carkuff Williams]

Making Disciples: A New Approach to Confirmation by William H. Willimon

Making Disciples is a 13-session mentor-based confirmation program that pairs confirmands with adult mentors and guides them through a variety of learning experiences that will strengthen the student's understanding of the faith while connecting him or her with the community of believers in a personal way. It can be used as a stand-alone program, or in conjunction with your current curriculum as a special experiential unit.

This is a confirmation program that is more like a process and less like a reading assignment, more engaging and congruent with the nature of the Christian faith than existing programs. Using an "apprenticeship" approach to confirmation Will Willimon produced a series of learning experiences where adult mentors and confirmands are both teachers and learners at the same time.

This time-tested approach has been extensively revised and updated for usage in today's churches that take seriously Christ's command to be engaged in disciple making.

The bulk of the Mentor Guide is exactly the same as the Confirmand's Journal. You are encouraged to work through the activities right along with the confirmands and to complete the activities and writing assignments just as he or she does. By working along with your confirmand, you will demonstrate the need to keep learning and growing. Topics explore the basics of Christian faith: God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, worship, the Bible, gifts, ministry, baptism, spiritual life, death and resurrection, the church.

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Making Friends, Making Disciples: Growing Your Church through Authentic Relationships (Living Church) [Lee B. Spitzer]

This first volume in Judson Press's Living Church series addresses the topic of church growth and discipleship. For centuries, the Christian church has led the way in creating communities of people. Pastor Lee Spitzer proposes that today's church can sustain that leadership role by developing a transformative paradigm for church growth not only in terms of the number of people who join but in regard to the maturity of disciples who participate in the life of the Body of Christ. The key, Spitzer asserts, is learning to expand and enrich our circles of friendship in our home, our congregation, and our community. Includes chapter studies on friendship in the Bible and in the life of Jesus!

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Discipleship

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Multiply: Disciples Making Disciples [Francis Chan, David Platt, Mark Beuving]

Jesus gave his followers a command: "Follow me." And a promise: "And I will equip you to find others to follow me." We were made to make disciples.

Designed for use in discipleship relationships and other focused settings, *Multiply* will equip you to carry out Jesus's ministry. Each of the twenty-four sessions in the book corresponds with an online video at www.multiplymovement.com, where *New York Times* bestselling author David Platt joins Francis in guiding you through each part of *Multiply*.

One plus one plus one. Every copy of *Multiply* is designed to do what Jesus did: make disciples who make disciples who make disciples.... Until the world knows the truth of Jesus Christ.

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[Images for Multiply: Disciples Making Disciples \[Francis Chan, David Platt, Mark Beuving\]](#)

Preparation for Discipleship: A Handbook for New Christians by Jerry Schmalenberger

Preparation for Discipleship is for those who wish to improve their understanding of the language of faith. In the process it leads the reader to a deeper awareness of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ. Written in easy-to-understand language, the book will be a useful resource for: individuals seeking clarity about their life as Christians new member classes for congregations pastors in teaching and preaching. Contents include: What Disciples Believe: The Basics of Our Faith How Disciples Live Out Their Faith. Grasping The Message: A Series of Summary Quizzes

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Images for invitation to discipleship

Real-Life Discipleship: Building Churches That Make Disciples [Jim Putman]

Real-Life Discipleship explains what should happen in the life of every Christian and in every small group so that the church becomes an army of believers dedicated to seeing the world saved. With the overriding goal to train disciples who know how to make more disciples, this book offers proven tools and strategies from Real Life Ministries, one of America's fastest-growing churches. Discover what the Bible says about true and effective discipleship with these strategies and practices.

Build up your church with this dynamic approach to discipleship! Offering proven tools and tested strategies from Real Life Ministries, Putman shares true stories and practical tips that will help leaders identify and train potential followers. His results-oriented process for small groups will help you develop disciples who are well equipped to train other believers.

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Renovation of the Heart: Putting on the Character of Christ (Designed for Influence) [Dallas Willard]

Renovation of the Heart, a bestseller by Dallas Willard, explains the common misunderstandings about human nature and the **discipleship** process by outlining the general pattern of personal spiritual transformation—not as a formula, but as a systematic process. As intentional apprentices of Jesus, we are to move deeper into a relationship with God while becoming more like Jesus. In his unique, winning way, Willard guides you in discovering your true identity while exploring spiritual growth in a new way. Includes discussion questions.

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The Great Omission: Reclaiming Jesus's Essential Teachings on Discipleship [Dallas Willard]

Jesus's Last Command—Ignored!

The last command Jesus gave the church before he ascended to heaven was the Great Commission, the call for Christians to “make disciples of all the nations.” But Christians have responded by making “Christians,” not “disciples.” This, according to brilliant scholar and renowned Christian thinker Dallas Willard, has been the church's Great Omission.

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Shalom Church: The Body of Christ as Ministering Community [Craig Nesson]

While many manuals advise clergy on tactics for church survival or thriving, few address the deepest identity, shape, and imperatives of the church in its identity in Christ and the tradition of **discipling** that stems from his life, work, death, and resurrection. As compelling as it is clear, Craig Nesson's important new work retrieves biblical metaphors of the body of Christ and, following Dietrich Bonhoeffer, sees church today as “Christ existing as community.” The theological-probing Nesson then adds contextual analysis and describes the four chief imperatives that mark Christ's presence in the world today: peacemaking, justice-making, care for creation, and engagement with the other. He then unfolds the real-life implications of this paradigm of Christian community for local church structure, strategies for partnering, public witness, and interreligious engagement.

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[Images for Shalom Church: The Body of Christ as Ministering Community \[Craig Nesson\]](#)

Simple Church: Returning to God's Process for Making Disciples [Thom S. Rainer, Eric Geiger]

The simple revolution is here. From the design of Apple products to Google's uncluttered homepage, simple ideas are changing the world. Now in paperback, multi-awarded #1 national bestseller *Simple Church* guides Christians back to the simple gospel-sharing methods of Jesus. No bells or whistles required. With insights based on case studies of 400 American churches, Thom Rainer and Eric Geiger prove the disciple-making process is often too complex. Simple churches thrive by taking four ideas to heart: Clarity. Movement. Alignment. Focus.

Simple Church examines each idea, clearly showing why it is time to simplify. This updated trade paper edition includes a new chapter with further insights the authors have gained through hundreds of conversations with church leaders since this landmark book's original release.

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[Images for Simple Church: Returning to God's Process for Making Disciples \[Thom S. Rainer, Eric Geiger\]](#)

Eight Steps to More Effective Discipleship – Rainer on Leadership #150 – ThomRainer.com

Today we discuss a recent post by Chuck Lawless on discipleship and cover eight steps that can lead to more effective discipleship in your church. We also reveal some lead indicators which show that discipleship is growing in your church.

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Simple Discipleship: Tom Cocklereece

Too many believers have never been discipled, and too few churches are prepared to address this problem. Tom Cocklereece has proposed a process that drives discipleship into the DNA of a congregation.

Ask yourself the following questions:

1. What process does your church use to make disciples?
2. How is it working?
3. How do you know it is working?
4. What does God expect of each member in your church?
5. Do the people in your church provide similar, unified answers to the four questions above?
6. Is there an effective disciple-making process that speaks to each of these questions?

As you work to answer these six questions, you may find the process the author has developed to be a useful tool in disciple-making. This book includes a resource CD with graphics from the book, PowerPoint presentation and an assessment tool.

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[Images for Tom Cocklereece \(author\) simple discipleship](#)

[Images for Simple Discipleship: Tom Cocklereece](#)

Sunday School Can Be Strategic for Disciple-making - The Sunday School Revolutionary

Gather your leaders. Pray together. Define your mission and process simply. Utilize Sunday School as a strategic step in the process and move people into Sunday School intentionally. Make Sunday School central by promoting and working through the powerful organization called Sunday School. Examine the church's programs, ministries, and events and seek to simplify so that there is less competition for Sunday School as a strategic part of your disciple-making process. Make disciples. Be revolutionary!

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The Cost of Discipleship [Dietrich Bonhoeffer]

One of the most important theologians of the twentieth century illuminates the relationship between ourselves and the teachings of Jesus.

What can the call to discipleship, the adherence to the word of Jesus, mean today to the businessman, the soldier, the laborer, or the aristocrat? What did Jesus mean to say to us? What is his will for us today? Drawing on the Sermon on the Mount, Dietrich Bonhoeffer answers these timeless questions by providing a seminal reading of the dichotomy between "cheap grace" and "costly grace." "Cheap grace," Bonhoeffer wrote, "is the grace we bestow on ourselves...grace without discipleship.... Costly grace is the gospel which must be sought again and again, the gift which must be asked for, the door at which a man must knock.... It is costly because it costs a man his life, and it is grace because it gives a man the only true life."

The Cost of Discipleship is a compelling statement of the demands of sacrifice and ethical consistency from a man whose life and thought were exemplary articulations of a new type of leadership inspired by the Gospel, and imbued with the spirit of Christian humanism and a creative sense of civic duty.



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 Images for Cost of Discipleship [Dietrich Bonhoeffer]

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The Disciple Making Church: From Dry Bones to Spiritual Vitality by E. Stanley Ott, Glenn McDonald.

In a recent study, pollster George Barna stated that the number one topic of interest for church leaders today is discipleship. Not growth, not pastoral care, not evangelism. Discipleship.

According to E. Stanley Ott, President of The Vital Churches Institute, there is no person more qualified to address the greatest need in the church today than Glenn McDonald that of showing how the local church can grow vital disciples.

In his easy going writing style, author Glenn McDonald tells the story of how he, as the busy pastor of a large and growing suburban church near Indianapolis was struggling with the ABCs of attendance, building and cash. One evening at the end of another church board meeting one of his elders asked a simple question. How long would it take for someone who visits our church to learn about his or her need for Jesus and to find out what to do about it? From that night forward, the entire focus of the church changed. All canned programs for ministry were ended as everything about the church was examined in the light of Christ's charge to go forth and make disciples.

The Disciple Making Church is presented in two parts six discipling relationships and six marks of a disciple. McDonald weaves vivid Scriptural insights and the wisdom of scholars with the experiences of his own congregation and others, and distills it all into one helpful, valuable and enjoyable book. If you've ever wondered if the busyness of many of today's churches isn't what Christ was talking about, this book will have a lasting impact on your church.

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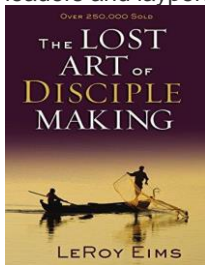
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[Images for The Disciple Making Church: From Dry Bones to Spiritual Vitality by E. Stanley Ott, Glenn McDonald.](#)

The Lost Art of Disciple Making by LeRoy Eims (Author), Robert E. Coleman (Foreword)

"Every believer in Jesus Christ deserves the opportunity of personal nurture and development." says LeRoy Eims. But all too often the opportunity isn't there. We neglect the young Christian in our whirl of programs, church services, and fellowship groups. And we neglect to raise up workers and leaders who can disciple young believers into mature and fruitful Christians. In simple, practical, and biblical terms, LeRoy Eims revives the lost art of disciple making. While there is no "instant path" to maturity, this book examines the growth process in the life of a Christian and considers what nurture and guidance it takes to develop spiritually qualified workers in the church.

The fruit of many years of personal experience and seminars on disciple making, this is an extremely helpful book for Christian leaders and laypersons desiring to have personal discipling ministries.



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[Images for The Lost Art of Disciple Making by LeRoy Eims \(Author\), Robert E. Coleman \(Foreword\)](#)

The Master's Plan for Making Disciples: Every Christian an Effective Witness through an Enabling Church by Win Arn (Author), Charles Arn (Author)

Win and Charles Arn's book *The Master's Plan for Making Disciples* has been used by thousands of church leaders and laypeople to expand Christ's church. In a new edition of this influential work, the authors reaffirm their blueprint for effective Christian witness. The strategy reviewed in this text, the authors explain, uses the powerful principles of disciple-making exemplified and called for by our own Master. *The Master's Plan for Making Disciples* seeks to identify, illustrate, explain, and apply for you and your church both principles and practices which have produced and will continue to produce abundant results in the lives of individuals and churches.

The Master's Plan for Making Disciples contends that instead of using canned approaches to sharing the gospel, individual Christians should focus on disciple-making as a part of their lifestyle, sharing their faith naturally within their own network of friends and relatives. According to the authors, throughout the history of the church this method has been the most successful in leading people to faith in Christ and membership in the church.

The Arns suggest that this approach is the most effective avenue for witnessing because: it provides a natural framework for sharing the good news, it makes people more receptive to the gospel, it allows for unhurried and natural sharing, it provides natural support when the friend or relative comes to Christ, it results in more effective assimilation of new converts into the church, it tends to win families, it provides a constantly enlarging source of new contacts, it is church-based.

After articulating principles for making disciples, the authors offer ideas for reaching friends and family, insights on how congregations can support evangelism, and suggestions for more effective incorporation of new converts into the church community. The second edition of *The Master's Plan for Making Disciples* features many helpful charts and several ten-minute Bible studies.

Perfect book for evangelism-minded churches and small groups. Details nine church-centered principles for reaching others for Christ through networks of family and friends.

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[Images for The Master's Plan for Making Disciples by Win Arn \(Author\), Charles Arn \(Author\)](#)

The Shape of Faith to Come: Spiritual Formation and the Future of Discipleship [Brad J. Waggoner]

Various studies suggest Christians in North America are not qualitatively different in their character and practices than non-believers. While some churches are growing numerically, many wonder to what impact. Can we determine if our churches are producing Christians who look, think and act like true followers of Jesus Christ?

In *The Shape of Faith to Come*, research expert Brad J. Waggoner and his team measure the beliefs and actions of 2,500 active Protestant churchgoers from across the country against seven key standards of Biblical spiritual formation: Learning the truth, Obeying God and denying self, Sharing faith, Serving God and others, Exercising Biblical faith, Building solid relationships, Seeking God. The findings reveal the current state and forecast of spiritual formation in the U.S.A. Adding encouragement to his insights, Waggoner calls all Christians to spiritual maturity and challenges church leaders to intentionally take up the mantle of making true disciples.



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The Shape of Faith to Come: Spiritual Formation and the Future of Discipleship

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The Word That Redescribes the World: The Bible and Discipleship [Walter Brueggemann]

In the last several years, Walter Brueggemann's writings have directly addressed the situation of Christian communities in today's globalized context, with its consumerist lifestyles, vast inequalities, and near-imperial exercises of power. His insights, forged in rugged encounters with the texts of the Old Testament, are sharp, painful, and indispensable. In the People of Israel Brueggemann finds a model of an alternative community — anchored in YHWH, ever exploring new possibilities, and prophetically bent against empire.

Part I: The Word Redescribing the World

Part II: The Word Redefining the Possible

Part III: The Word Shaping a Community of Discipleship

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[Images for The Word That Reddescribes the World: The Bible and Discipleship \[Walter Brueggemann\]](#)

Transforming Discipleship: Making Disciples a Few at a Time [Greg Ogden]

Many churchgoers complain that their churches lack a coherent plan for discipleship and spiritual growth. In turn, many church leaders lament their lack of resources to build and manage effective programs to help people become fully devoted followers of Christ. In *Transforming Discipleship* Greg Ogden introduces his vision for discipleship, emphasizing that solutions will not be found in large-scale, finely-tuned, resource-heavy programs. Instead, Ogden recovers Jesus' method of accomplishing life change by investing in just a few people at a time. And he shows how discipleship can become a self-replicating process with ongoing impact from generation to generation. Biblical, practical and tremendously effective, *Transforming Discipleship* provides the insights and philosophy of ministry behind Ogden's earlier work, *Discipleship Essentials*. Together, these ground-breaking books have the potential to transform how your church transforms the lives of its people.



<http://www.amazon.com/Transforming-Discipleship-Making-Disciples-Time/dp/0830823883>
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<https://www.logos.com/product/144865/transforming-discipleship-making-disciples-a-few-at-a-time>
<https://www.scribd.com/book/377944795/Transforming-Discipleship>
https://books.google.com/books/about/Transforming_Discipleship.html?id=7AaHCJLy9_kC
https://books.google.com/books/about/Transforming_Discipleship.html?id=MTIBDQAAQBAJ
<https://www.theglobaldiscipleshipinitiative.org/images/files/MakingDisciplesJesusWay.pdf>
<http://place.asburyseminary.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1044&context=firstfruitspapers>
<https://georgepwood.com/2017/01/06/review-of-transforming-discipleship-by-greg-ogden/>
<http://gregogden.com/bio.htm>
<https://www.ivpress.com/Media/Default/Press-Kits/4131-excerpt.pdf>
<https://www.ivpress.com/greg-ogden>
<http://www.camarillocommunitychurch.org/greg-ogden/>
<https://www.amazon.com/Greg-Ogden/e/B001H6MKTk>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/144065.Greg_Ogden
 Images for greg ogden, author
 Images for Transforming Discipleship: Making Disciples a Few at a Time [Greg Ogden]

Traveling Together: A Guide for Disciple-Forming Congregations [Jeffrey D. Jones, Director of Ministry Studies]

Anyone concerned for the life and ministry of the church, who has a sense that things are not what they might be, and who is seeking a new understanding of congregational life and mission will find hope and help in the pages of this book. Jeff Jones takes his readers on a journey, providing a guidebook that maps out the factors facing congregations in this postmodern, post-Christendom world. With the heart of a pastor, Jones shows congregational leaders how to embrace the best parts of their church's rich heritage and reclaim it for a new day.

Jeff Jones provides a helpful overview of where the church currently stands and offers biblical and practical suggestions for how we might move forward as disciple developers. This book does not pretend to have all of the answers, but it does present many ideas to consider as you or your church think seriously about discipleship. The chapters assessing our current church climate and reviewing biblical foundations of discipleship were particularly strong. A good, quick read.

<http://www.amazon.com/Traveling-Together-Guide-Disciple-Forming-Congregations/dp/1566993199>
https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/1295734.Traveling_Together
<https://www.cokesbury.com/9781566993197-Traveling-Together>
<https://rowman.com/ISBN/9781566996846>
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 Traveling Together: A Guide for Disciple-Forming Congregations
http://www.transformingchurch.com/resourcetoolbox/2006/01/traveling_toget.php
<http://www.lifeandleadership.com/book-summaries/jones-traveling-together.html>
<https://alban.org/archive/where-are-we/>
<https://alban.org/2015/01/30/jeffrey-d-jones-new-questions-for-a-new-day/>
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<https://www.thriftbooks.com/a/jeffrey-d-jones/489831/>
<https://www.amazon.com/Jeffrey-D.-Jones/e/B001JS2UUK>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/13825610.Jeffrey_D_Jones_Director_of_Ministry_Studies
 Images for Jeffrey D. Jones, author
 Images for Traveling Together: A Guide for Disciple-Forming Congregations [Jeffrey D. Jones, Director of Ministry Studies]

Vocation and the Call to Discipleship | The Washington Institute

What does it mean to be "called"? Often the notions of calling and vocation are spoken of in relation to the ordination of priests, pastors and religious leaders. But to boil down what vocation is from a theological stance comes down to this: to 'be called' is the act of paying attention and following God or, writes Annie Dillard, "waking up."

<http://www.washingtoninst.org/535/vocation-and-the-call-to-discipleship/>
 Images for Vocation and the Call to Discipleship

What Does the Bible Say About Discipleship? - OpenBible.info

<http://www.openbible.info/topics/discipleship>
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<https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Bible-Verses-About-Discipleship/>

<http://biblereasons.com/discipleship/>
<https://www.biblestudytools.com/dictionary/disciple-discipleship/>
<https://bible.org/seriespage/15-discipleship-its-definitions-and-dangers-matthew-231-12>
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<https://www.9marks.org/article/journaldiscipleship-according-scriptures/>
<https://www.christiantoday.com/article/growing-your-faith-10-bible-verses-on-the-importance-of-discipleship/87914.htm>
<http://discipleship.org/theology/the-bible-and-discipleship/#.WvXHAoqvYUk>
<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/blogs/trevin-wax/4-marks-of-biblical-discipleship/>
[Images for marks-of-biblical-discipleship](#)
<https://www.desiringgod.org/interviews/what-is-discipleship-and-how-is-it-done>
www.discipleshipdefined.com/resources/biblical-basis-discipleship
<https://www.allaboutfollowingjesus.org/biblical-discipleship-faq.htm>
<https://carm.org/what-is-the-biblical-view-of-discipleship>
<https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/discipleship,-nature-of>
<https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/discipleship,-benefits-of>
<https://www.allaboutfollowingjesus.org/discipleship-definition.htm>

YOUR CHILDREN ARE DOING WHAT IN THE CHURCH?

Rev. Melinda Halom, Bethel Lutheran, New Auburn

Our young people are NOT the future of the church, they ARE the church of today just as much as our members that have been a part of the faith for decades. So, what does congregational life look like when we treat them that way? "No one will serve on the ... Committee?" What does it look like when we raise our children living out their call to serve from their baptism on? Come and join together in sharing how inviting our youth into the life of the church is part of our call to raise up **disciples** living out their lives in relationship to Christ!

View the web page for Walking Together details. - Northwest Synod of Wisconsin

http://www.nwswi.org/news_and_events/Walking_Together.phtml

[Images for call to raise up disciples living out their lives in relationship to Christ](#)
info@nwswi.org

<http://archive.constantcontact.com/fs191/1101126434512/archive/1120124384451.html>

<http://www.bethellutherannewauburn.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/Bethel-Lutheran-Church-115573038471999/>

2) Disconnected

Disconnected from God by Tyler Edwards - SermonCentral

Scripture: Psalms 22:1-19 ... Summary: Have you ever felt disconnected from God? ... Don't you think Abraham at some point felt disconnected from God?

<http://www.sermoncentral.com/sermons/disconnected-from-god-tyler-edwards-sermon-on-love-for-god-134527>

[Images for disconnected from god](#)

<https://www.christianblog.com/blog/excelgodsway/do-you-recognize-the-9-early-warning-signs-of-being-disconnected-with-god/>

[Images for early-warning-signs-of-being-disconnected-with-god](#)

<http://www.changingthefaceofchristianity.com/opinions-and-editorials/the-cure-from-feeling-disconnected-from-god/>

[Images for cure-from-feeling-disconnected-from-god](#)

<http://jaridwilson.com/what-to-do-when-you-feel-disconnected-from-god/>

[Images for feel-disconnected-from-god](#)

Help for those who feel "Disconnected" at Church | TGC

What follows is a list, some help for those who are aiming to feel connected at church.

<https://blogs.thegospelcoalition.org/erikraymond/2014/09/08/help-for-those-who-feel-disconnected-at-church/>

[Images for "Disconnected" at Church](#)

www.clingingtothevine.com/2017/05/feeling-disconnected-from-church.html

<http://dfranks.com/2017/11/15/feeling-disconnected-heres-fix/>

<https://www.nathanrouse.org/4-reasons-why-you-might-feel-disconnected-from-your-church/>

<http://www.churchleaders.com/worship/worship-how-tos/146688-what-to-do-when-you-re-disconnected.html>

[Images for Do When You're Disconnected](#)

<http://pastors.com/4-ways-re-connect-hurt-disconnected-in-your-church/>

[Images for Disconnected in Your Church](#)

<https://www.amazon.com/Beyond-Boundaries-Learning-Trust-Relationships/dp/0310330769>

<http://drtownsend.com/>

<http://www.lifeway.com/pastors/2015/02/24/three-reasons-why-people-leave-your-church/> #1

[Images for why people leave the church](#)

<https://www.crosswalk.com/church/pastors-or-leadership/the-church-or-family-disconnect-11636975.html>

Ways to Grow Your Group (Part 1): Five Ways to Connect with Disconnected People | Ed Stetzer

Smaller groups are essential in reaching out to disconnected people in our churches.

<http://www.christianitytoday.com/edstetzer/2013/december/ways-to-grow-your-group-part-1-five-ways-to-connect-wi.html>

<http://www.christianitytoday.com/edstetzer/>

<https://churchleaders.com/outreach-missions/outreach-missions-articles/172282-ed-stetzer-ways-to-connect-with-disconnected-people.html>

[Images for Connect with Disconnected People | Ed Stetzer](#)

3) Dones

A Response to Christians Who Are Done with Church – Carey Nieuwhof

I completely understand why a growing number of people are bailing on church. Even people who used to lead in the church often stop attending ([here are 9 reasons why church leaders do that](#)).

We've spent a lot of time working through the issue of declining church attendance (and growing disillusionment with the church) on this blog and in [my leadership podcast](#). (For a summary of the issues, here's a piece on the [10 reasons even committed church attenders are attending church less often](#)).

<http://careynieuwhof.com/2015/06/a-response-to-christians-who-are-done-with-church/>

[Images for A Response to Christians Who Are Done with Church – Carey Nieuwhof](#)

<http://connexuschurch.com/grand-opening-weekend-because-people-arent-done-with-god/>

<https://churchleaders.com/pastors/pastor-articles/264688-a-response-to-christians-who-are-done-with-church.html>

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<http://careynieuwhof.com/10-reasons-even-committed-church-attenders-attending-less-often/>

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<http://stevebremner.com/2016/02/the-called-out-ones-rethinking-the-unthinkable-podcast/>

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<https://www.amazon.com/Carey-Nieuwhof/e/B003GJCLCM>

https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/3396023.Carey_Nieuwhof

<http://connexuschurch.com/about-us/carey-nieuwhof/>

<https://www.facebook.com/cnieuwhof/>

[Images for carey nieuwhof \(author\)](#)

Church Refugees: Sociologists reveal why people are DONE with church but not their faith by Josh Packard Ph.D (Author), Ashleigh Hope (Author)

As millions of church members fall into inactivity each year, they've probably also started skipping church on Sunday.

We need answers—not statistics. We need to understand and hear from people who are leaving church so we can find a way to turn around the trend.

This book uses in-depth sociological research to get to the heart of the issue. The data is collected from interviews with real people about why they left and who they really are. These aren't the "nones" who have no religious affiliation. They're the "dones" who've been faithfully serving in local churches for years. This is their story.

<https://www.amazon.com/Church-Refugees-Sociologists-reveal-people/dp/1470725924>

<https://www.goodreads.com/work/quotes/43600463-church-refugees-sociologists-reveal-why-the-dechurched-left-and-what-t>

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<http://www.group.com/refresh-the-church/church-refugees/#.V7-YMCgrKUk>

<http://thewartburgwatch.com/2015/06/22/the-dones-faithful-church-refugees-and-the-dechurched-project/>

https://digitalcommons.olivet.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1025&context=lsci_facp Review

<http://www.patheos.com/blogs/jesuscreed/2015/07/22/church-refugees-1-ethans-story/>

<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/0731121418800270> Being Done: Why People Leave the Church, But Not Their Faith

<https://www.amazon.com/Josh-Packard/e/B00DX5LULW>

https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/6511979.Josh_Packard

[Images for Josh Packard Ph.D \(Author\)](#)

<http://www.unco.edu/hss/sociology/faculty-staff/josh-packard.aspx>

<https://dechurched.net/>

<https://www.joshpackard.com/>

<http://www.videonarrative.com/casestudies/josh-packard/>

<http://www.patheos.com/blogs/theologyintheraw/2015/09/4-questions-for-preston-sprinkle-by-josh-packard/>

<https://as.vanderbilt.edu/sociology/bio/ashleigh-hope>

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[Images for Ashleigh Hope \(Author\) church refugees](#)

[Images for Church Refugees: Sociologists reveal why people are DONE with church but not their faith by Josh Packard Ph.D \(Author\), Ashleigh Hope \(Author\)](#)

Meet the 'Dones' | CT Pastors | Christianity Today

The Dones are people who are disillusioned with church. Though they were committed to the church for years—often as lay leaders—they no longer attend.

<https://www.christianitytoday.com/pastors/2015/summer-2015/meet-dones.html>

<https://www.christianitytoday.com/pastors/2014/november-online-only/meet-dones.html>

Meet The Dones - thedones.com

The WorldVision LGBT employee debacle was my crossroads. How could a community that espouses commitment to the heart of Christ threaten to withdraw financial support for children in perilous circumstances? Why would they do so over an issue that centers on a commitment towards condemnation of a people group? This was my "done" moment. We talked as a family about options for home church or Bible study.

<http://www.thedones.com/meet-the-dones/>
[Images for Meet The Dones](#)

The Dones: Faithful Church Refugees and the DeChurched Project

A few of my thoughts on why faithful people are leaving the church.

Here are some thoughts on things I think are causing people to become *Dones*.

1. Ill-defined church discipline (You know the type-You are questioning the elders too much so-discipline time)
2. Ridiculous church discipline ala Karen Hinkley.
3. Pastors, aka talking heads, who believe their sermons are the center of the worship time.
4. Pastors who spend more time writing books, going to conferences and making BFFs with other celebrity pastors than they do caring about and being involved in the lives of their church members.
5. Music that is so loud that the words are not understood.
6. Churches which cover up child sex abuse and domestic violence.
7. Constant harping on homosexuality while ignoring child sex abuse in their own churches.
8. Interminable building campaigns for millions of dollars while ignoring poverty and suffering around the world (and even in their own church!)
9. The Internet making it easier to find support and information.

<http://thewartburgwatch.com/2015/06/22/the-dones-faithful-church-refugees-and-the-dechurched-project/>
[Images for The Dones: Faithful Church Refugees and the DeChurched Project](#)

The Rise of the Dones | Holy Soup

Pastors and other ministry leaders would benefit from asking and listening to these long-time members, before they flee. This will require a change of habit. When it comes to listening, church leaders are too often in the habit of fawning over celebrity pastors for answers. It would be far more fruitful to take that time and spend it with real people nearby—existing members. Ask them some good questions, such as:

Why are you a part of this church?

What keeps you here?

Have you ever contemplated stepping away from church? Why or why not?

How would you describe your relationship with God right now?

How has your relationship with God changed over the past few years?

What effect, if any, has our church had on your relationship with God?

What would need to change here to help you grow more toward Jesus' call to love God and love others?

It's time to listen. Even as I'm writing this today, another high-capacity lay leader emailed me with his decision to leave his church. He's done. Like many others I know, he's also a nationally known Christian leader. But he's done.

Your church, even if it's one of the rare growing ones, is sitting on a ticking time bomb. The exodus of the Dones, the rise of the Nones, and the disappearance of the Millennials do not look good for a church afraid to listen.

<http://holysoup.com/2014/11/12/the-rise-of-the-dones/>

[Images for Rise of the Dones | Holy Soup](#)

<https://holysoup.com/are-the-dones-really-christian/>

<http://www.churchleaders.com/outreach-missions/outreach-missions-articles/177144-thom-schultz-rise-of-the-done-with-church-population.html>

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[Images for done-with-church-but-not-with-god](#)

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/thom-schultz-5331ba4>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=deQwLggK064> Thom Schultz discusses the decline of the Christian Church in America - theDove.us

[Images for Thom Schultz discusses the decline of the Christian Church in America](#)

<http://www.nytimes.com/roomfordebate/2013/10/27/if-jews-skip-synagogue-and-christians-skip-church/pastors-need-an-attitude-adjustment>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/22983.Thom_Schultz

<https://www.amazon.com/Thom-Schultz/e/B001ITNDW>

<http://www.patheos.com/blogs/thegodarticle/2014/11/the-rise-of-the-dones-as-the-church-kills-spiritual-community/>

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<http://mennoworld.org/2015/04/28/the-world-together/the-rise-of-the-dones-done-with-church-that-is/>

[Images for rise-of-the-dones-done-with-church](#)

The Rise of the Dones: The 'Done With Church' Population

Sometimes referred to as the "de-churched," this group of people is leaving the church in droves.

<http://www.churchleaders.com/outreach-missions/outreach-missions-articles/177144-thom-schultz-rise-of-the-done-with-church-population.html>

Images for Rise of the 'Done with Church' Population

<http://www.patheos.com/blogs/thegodarticle/2014/11/the-rise-of-the-dones-as-the-church-kills-spiritual-community/>

<http://mennoworld.org/2015/04/28/the-world-together/the-rise-of-the-dones-done-with-church-that-is/>

Images for rise of the dones done with church

<http://holysoup.com/2014/11/12/the-rise-of-the-dones/>

<http://www.churchleaders.com/outreach-missions/outreach-missions-articles/177144-thom-schultz-rise-of-the-done-with-church-population.html>

<http://holysoup.com/2015/05/12/done-with-church-but-not-with-god/>

Images for done with church but not with god

WE'RE DONE: Why Thoughtful People Are Dumping 'Church'

There are many Christians who have stopped going to church. They have not given up on God, have not renounced their faith, have not denied Christ, and have not become pagans. They simply are no longer going to church. That this is happening is not a matter of doubt, but why this is happening is in fact a difficult question to answer.

<http://clashdaily.com/2014/12/done-thoughtful-people-dumping-church/#>

Images for WE'RE DONE: Why Thoughtful People Are Dumping 'Church'

Who are the dones? - The Mennonite

Relationships are important. They want to be active in the church, but feel stifled by bureaucracy. Churches often have too many rules that discourage innovation.

<https://themennonite.org/daily-news/who-are-the-dones/>

Images for Who are the dones with church?

<https://www.newleafnetwork.ca/who-are-the-dones/>

4) Dropouts

Caring for church dropouts - Ministry Magazine

Many congregations do have a caring ministry for the church dropout.

<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/archive/1986/04/caring-for-church-dropouts>

Images for Caring for church dropouts - Ministry Magazine

Church Dropouts - why people find it easy to leave

Work at facilitating relationships. No friends within 6 months is a sure way to back door.

<http://www.evangelismcoach.org/2009/church-dropouts-why-people-find-it-easy-to-leave/>

Images for Church Dropouts - why people find it easy to leave

Don't become a spiritual dropout | The Kansas City Star

Don't become a spiritual dropout but ask God to help you find a church where you can grow.

<http://www.kansascity.com/living/advice-columns/article330080/Don%E2%80%99t-become-a-spiritual-dropout.html>

Images for Don't become a spiritual dropout

Essential Church? Reclaiming a Generation of Dropouts by Thom S. Rainer (Author), Sam S. Rainer (Author)

Why do so many young adults (18 to 22) leave the church, and what will it take to bring them back? This important question is examined and duly answered in *Essential Church?*, a follow-up to Thom S. Rainer's best-selling *Simple Church* co-written this time with his son, research expert Sam Rainer.

The book is based on a study of one-thousand so-called "church dropouts" who were interviewed about why they left. Their answers are quite surprising, having less to do with "losing their religion" and more about the desire for a community that isn't made stale by simply maintaining the status quo.

In turn, the Rainers offer churches four concrete solutions toward making their worship community an essential part these young people's lives again:

Simplify - develop a clear structure and process for making disciples.

Deepen - provide strong biblical teaching and preaching.

Expect - let members know the need for commitment to the congregation.

Multiply - emphasize evangelism, outward focus, and starting new churches.



<https://www.amazon.com/Essential-Church-Reclaiming-Generation-Dropouts/dp/0805443924>
<http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/4698681-essential-church>
<http://www.lifeway.com/Product/essential-church-P005018267?carid=jhowe-rainer-essential>
http://www.lifeway.com/lwc/files/lwcF_PDF_Rainers_Essential_Church_Sample.pdf
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http://books.google.com/books/about/Essential_Church.html?id=7t2kyH9W4qQC
https://books.google.com/books/about/Essential_Church.html?id=iZe4AwAAQBAJ
<https://www.sermoncentral.com/content/Sam-Rainer-Squaring-Off-Church-Dropout-Rate?ac=true>
<http://images.acswebnetworks.com/1/48/EssentialChurch.pdf>
<http://www.bivosmallchurch.net/Books/EssentialChurch.pdf>
<http://thomrainer.com/books-by-rainer/essential-church-reclaiming-a-generation-of-dropouts/>
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<http://thomrainer.com/2016/01/six-early-warning-signs-of-church-dropouts/>
<http://thomrainer.com/2013/04/six-critical-issues-to-prevent-church-members-from-dropping-out/>
<https://www.amazon.com/What-Every-Pastor-Should-Know/dp/0801014352>
<http://www.christianpost.com/news/church-dropouts-6-early-warning-signs-people-leaving-congregation-154360/>
<https://www.christianpost.com/news/7-reasons-very-active-church-members-drop-out-113768/>
<http://thomrainer.com/2014/01/seven-reasons-very-active-church-members-drop-out/>
<https://www.wretched.org/7-reasons-active-church-members-drop-thom-rainer/>
<http://thomrainer.com/2016/09/rainer-leadership-264/> Four Reasons People Are Dropping out of Church
<https://thomrainer.com/2018/02/five-major-questions-answers-losing-church-members/> #1
<http://thomrainer.com/2015/09/five-ways-some-senior-adult-churches-became-younger/>
<http://thomrainer.com/2015/03/church-reflections-22-year-old/>
<http://thomrainer.com/2015/10/transitioning-a-senior-adult-church-to-one-who-reaches-all-generations-rainer-on-leadership-168/>
<http://thomrainer.com/2016/10/seven-key-reasons-people-choose-church/>
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[Images for Sam Rainer \(Author\)](#)
[Images for Essential Church? Reclaiming a Generation of Dropouts by Thom S. Rainer \(Author\), Sam S. Rainer \(Author\)](#)

Five Myths about Young Adult Church Dropouts - Barna Group

The Barna Group team spent much of the last five years exploring the lives of young people who drop out of church. The research provides many insights into the spiritual journeys of teens and young adults. The findings are revealed extensively in a new book called, *You Lost Me: Why Young Christians are Leaving Church...and Rethinking Faith*.

The research uncovered five myths and realities about today's young dropouts.

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Images for Young Adult Church Dropouts

The Real Reasons Young Adults Drop Out of Church | The Exchange

Young adults drop out of church because their faith isn't their own. / Ed Stetzer

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http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/25148.Ed_Stetzer

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What Can We Do about Church Dropouts? (Creative Leadership Series) [C. Kirk Hadaway]

Describes reasons for dropouts and offers specific programs to prevent them.

<http://www.amazon.com/about-Church-Dropouts-Creative-Leadership/dp/0687446058>

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[Images for Creative Leadership Series](#)

5) Elevator Pitch

A Discipleship Elevator Speech? - Stewardship of Life

Today, Peter gives us a good example of how our faith journey can be shaped, crafted, refined, and articulated effectively. Every one of us has a faith story. Each disciple is on a faith journey. The joy is in the sharing. Jesus came to you, and Jesus comes to all people. So, let us shake off the living water, drink the wine of salvation, eat the bread of life, and tell the story. Every second counts.

<https://www.stewardshipoflife.org/2014/01/a-discipleship-elevator-speech/>

[Images for Discipleship Elevator Speech? - Stewardship of Life](#)

Crafting an Elevator Pitch - Communications Skills from Mind Tools

An elevator pitch is a brief, persuasive speech that you use to spark interest in what your organization does. You can also use them to create interest in a project, idea, or product – or in yourself. A good elevator pitch should last no longer than a short elevator ride of 20 to 30 seconds, hence the name.

<https://www.mindtools.com/pages/article/elevator-pitch.htm>

[Images for Crafting an Elevator Pitch](#)

Elevator pitch - Wikipedia

An elevator pitch, elevator speech or elevator statement is a short [sales pitch](#), that is, a summary used to quickly and simply define a process, product, service, organization, or event and its [value proposition](#).^[1]

The name 'elevator pitch' reflects the idea that it should be possible to deliver the summary in the time span of an [elevator](#) ride, or approximately thirty seconds to two minutes and is widely credited to Ilene Rosenzweig and Michael Caruso (while he was editor for *Vanity Fair*) for its origin.^{[2][3]} The term itself comes from a scenario of an accidental meeting with someone important in the elevator. If the conversation inside the elevator in those few seconds is interesting and value adding, the conversation will either continue after the elevator ride, or end in exchange of [business cards](#) or a scheduled meeting. A variety of people, including [project managers](#), [salespeople](#), [evangelists](#), and [policy-makers](#), commonly rehearse and use elevator pitches to get their points across quickly.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elevator_pitch

[Images for Elevator pitch](#)

17 best Elevator Pitch images on Pinterest

<https://www.pinterest.com/nyusternccwp/elevator-pitch/>

[Images for Elevator Pitch Pinterest](#)

<https://www.pinterest.com/uwocareerservcs/elevator-pitch-101/>

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The Best Elevator Pitch Has Three Elements - Ian Altman

In our upcoming book, Same Side Selling, my co-author Jack Quarles and I share a concept called the Same Side Selling Elevator Pitch. The pitch starts with the elevator rant as the foundation. It then uses a formula with these three elements: Entice, Disarm, and Discover.

<https://www.ianaltman.com/2013/11/04/the-best-elevator-pitch-has-three-elements/>
https://www.huffingtonpost.com/ian-altman/the-best-elevator-pitch-has_b_4216415.html

Images for The Best Elevator Pitch Has Three Elements - Ian Altman

Are you tired of playing games with your customers?

The most widely used metaphors in sales are those related to sports, battle, or games. The challenge with this mindset is it requires that one person wins, and the other loses. Instead of falling victim to a win-lose approach, what if you shared a common goal with your potential client? How might things change if the client felt that you were more committed to their success than making the sale?

Does it sometimes seem like you and your client are working against each other?

Same Side Selling gives practical steps to break through sales barriers and turn confrontation into cooperation. Sellers that implement the Same Side Selling approach will be seen as a valuable resource, not a predatory peddler.

A Different Type of Book on Selling

What makes Same Side Selling different from any other book on this topic is that it is co-authored by people on both sides: a salesman (Ian) and a procurement veteran who understands how companies buy (Jack). The buyer's perspective is baked into every sentence of the book, along with the seller's point of view. Our aim is to replace the adversarial trap with a cooperative, collaborative mindset. We also want to replace the old metaphor of selling as a game.

The New Metaphor: Selling Is a Puzzle

Same Side Selling is the idea of solving a puzzle instead of playing a game. Discover how to sell with integrity from the same side of the table for better results all around.

Same Side Selling: A Radical Approach to Break Through Sales Barriers by Ian Altman (Author), Jack Quarles (Author)

<https://www.amazon.com/Same-Side-Selling-Approach-Barriers/dp/1940858062>
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What's your elevator pitch? | Jennifer Fulwiler

"I don't believe in God or anything like that, but you seem like a reasonable enough person," he says as the doors close. "I'd be interested to know: why are you a Christian?"

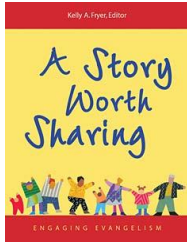
You have about 40 seconds to answer. What do you say?

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<https://www.pinterest.com/explore/pitch/> Images for Tips for Composing the Perfect Christian Elevator Pitch

6) Evangelism

A Story Worth Sharing: Engaging Evangelism by Kelly A. Fryer

God is up to something, and we are called to share this news! *A Story Worth Sharing: Engaging Evangelism* explores what God is doing in our lives, church, and communities -- and how we can share this story in every place with all people in today's world. Engaging real-world writers tell their own stories and show how living and telling the story can be a natural part of daily life. Contributors include Bishop Jon Anderson, Mike Foss, George Tan, and many more.



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[Images for kelly a. fryer](#)

[Images for A Story Worth Sharing: Engaging Evangelism by Kelly A. Fryer](#)

ABCs of Evangelism: An Easy Plan for Training Anyone to Witness (Lifestream Resources Ser) [Stan Toler]

Many people get nervous at the prospect of evangelism. Often, they are afraid, or think that one needs to be a Bible expert to truly evangelize. Or that one needs to know the four spiritual laws. But evangelism, and training for evangelism, can be easy.

As easy as ABC, according to Stan Toler, pastor, teacher, and evangelist. Based on a simple plan, *ABCs of Evangelism* offers practical advice on how to evangelize people. In five steps, Toler shows you how you can effectively reach out and share the gospel. Step one, pray for God's presence in your presentation. Step two, present the ABC plan. Step three, lead the person in a sinner's prayer. Step four, assure the convert of their salvation. Step five, follow up with the new convert.

So what is the ABC plan? A, Admit that you are a sinner, based on Romans 3:23 (For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God). B, Believe that Jesus Christ died for you, based on John 1:12 (Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God). C, Confess that Jesus Christ is Lord of your life, based on Romans 10:9-10 (That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved).

ABCs of Evangelism will help your church learn: the ABC plan, how to refute common objections from the unsaved, soul-winning verses, how to use networking and church events for evangelization, how to share faith in a small group, or with children, or during visitations, and how to have effective altar counseling for altar calls. Plus, there are recordings of messages from Stan Toler and John Maxwell. So, let this simple, and short book inspire you to get out and share the good news.



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Images for Stan Toler, author
Images for ABCs of Evangelism: An Easy Plan for Training Anyone to Witness (Lifestream Resources Ser) [Stan Toler]
Images for (Lifestream Resources Ser)

Amplifying Evangelism—Helping Non-Christian Friends Hear God's Voice | Ed Stetzer

Given that at least a part of your witness is relational—one that builds trust between a Christian and his or her friends—how else would you partner with the Holy Spirit to help that person trust Jesus as his or her Lord and Savior

<http://www.christianitytoday.com/edstetzer/2016/may/amplifying-evangelism-helping-non-christian-friends-hear-go.html>
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[Images for Evangelism | Ed Stetzer](#)

Becoming a Contagious Christian by Bill Hybels (Author), Mark Mittelberg (Author)

Evangelism doesn't have to be frustrating or intimidating. Bill Hybels and Mark Mittelberg believe that effectively communicating our faith in Christ should be the most natural thing in the world. We just need encouragement and direction. In *Becoming a Contagious Christian*, Hybels and Mittelberg articulate the central principles that have helped the believers at Willow Creek Community Church become a church known around the world for its outstanding outreach to unchurched people. Based on the words of Jesus and flowing from the firsthand experiences of the authors, *Becoming a Contagious Christian* is a groundbreaking, personalized approach to relational evangelism. You will discover your own natural evangelism style, how to develop a contagious Christian character, to build spiritually strategic relationships, to direct conversations toward matters of faith, and to share biblical truths in everyday language. This landmark book presents a blueprint for starting a spiritual epidemic of hope and enthusiasm for spreading the Gospel.

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[Images for Becoming a Contagious Christian by Bill Hybels \(Author\), Mark Mittelberg \(Author\)](#)

Just Walk Across the Room: Simple Steps Pointing People to Faith by Bill Hybels

What if you knew that by simply crossing the room and saying hello to someone, you could change that person's forever? Just a few steps to make an eternal difference. It has nothing to do with methods and everything to do with taking a genuine interest in another human being. All you need is a heart that's in tune with the Holy Spirit and a willingness to venture out of your "Circle of Comfort" and into another person's life. *Just Walk Across the Room* brings personal **evangelism** into the twenty-

first century. Building on the solid foundation laid in *Becoming a Contagious Christian*, Bill Hybels shows how you can participate in the model first set by Jesus, who stepped down from heaven 2,000 years ago to bring hope and redemption to broken people living in a fallen world. Now it's your turn. Your journey may not be as dramatic, but it can have a life-changing impact for someone standing a few steps away from you—and for you as well, as you learn the power of extending care, compassion, and inclusiveness under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The highest value in personal evangelism is cooperating with the Spirit, says Hybels. This means playing only the role you're meant to play—walking when the Spirit says to walk, talking when he says to talk, and falling silent when he suggests that you've said enough. Hybels encourages you to “live in 3D” ... Developing friendships Discovering stories Discerning appropriate next steps ... as a means of learning to understand the Holy Spirit's promptings. With fresh perspectives from his own reflections and experiences collected during his most recent decade of ministry, Bill Hybels shows with convincing and inspiring clarity the power of this personal, richly relational approach to evangelism. The stakes are high. The implications are eternal. And you may be only a conversation away from having an eternal impact on someone's life—if you will just walk across the room.

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[Images for Just Walk Across the Room: Simple Steps Pointing People to Faith by Bill Hybels](#)

Beyond Maintenance to Mission: A Theology of the Congregation by Craig L. Nesson

Visionary yet practical, Nesson's influential book makes a persuasive case for the centrality of mission in the life of the church. Nesson's model of mission-driven leadership is strongly centered on the community of faith's worship and draws unique connections between the worship life of a congregation and every aspect of the church's ministry. Around the twin foci of congregational identity and mission, the chapters in this dynamic book provide solid theological and radical direction on the themes of worship, education, fellowship, stewardship, evangelism, global connections, and social ministry.

9. **Evangelizing** the Kingdom

Unprecedented Diversity: Are We Ready to be Changed?

Evangelizing Defined

Learning to Speak the Truth

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[Images for Craig L. Nesson, author](#)

[Images for Beyond Maintenance to Mission: A Theology of the Congregation by Craig L. Nesson](#)

Beyond the Comfort Zone: Evangelism as Parabolic Witness

The gospel can no longer be reduced to a verbal exercise. Evangelism must truly be about parabolic witness. It must be about the harder task of creating community, of generating first a counterculture, and then a Kingdom culture. Of course, none of us has any idea what Kingdom culture is, but reflecting on the apophatic tradition of the Eastern Orthodox Church may offer us a way. Apophatic theology is not about asserting who God is but who God is not. This seems to me a humbler approach and one that retains the mystery of God.

<https://alban.org/archive/beyond-the-comfort-zone-evangelism-as-parabolic-witness/>

[Images for Beyond the Comfort Zone: Evangelism as Parabolic Witness](#)

Discovering Hope: Building Vitality in Rural Congregations by David Poling-Goldenne (Author), L. Shannon Jung (Author)

Chapter 5 **Evangelism**: A Way of Life

Page 59

God's Spirit is breathing new vitality into rural congregations! Hear what 26 effective rural congregations have to say about God's activity in and through them. In these stories, you can explore the best practices for vital ministry and identify action steps for your own setting.

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[Chapter 5 Evangelism: A Way of Life](#)

Do Lutherans hate evangelism? Hate is such a strong word. | The Lutheran

Hate is such a strong word. That's why Raymond LeBlanc won't say that Lutherans hate evangelism. "I don't know whether we dislike evangelism, or whether we don't have a clear biblical perspective of what evangelism is," says the pastor of First Lutheran Church, Carson, Calif.

"It's about who we are. So, let's be who we are — Christ-centered, excited and passionate about Jesus."

http://www.thelutheran.org/article/article.cfm?article_id=3955

[Images for Do Lutherans hate evangelism? Hate is such a strong word. | The Lutheran](#)

<https://www.livinglutheran.org/contact-us/>

<https://www.livinglutheran.org/issues/>

Effective Evangelistic Churches: Successful Churches Reveal What Works and What Doesn't by Thom S. Rainer (Author)

Part research project, part detective story, this book presents results from the most comprehensive study of successful churches in history. These 586 churches across America all excel in winning new souls for Christ, and have a remarkable range of things in common. Some stereotypes are shattered, some results are astonishing, and everything is written in a readable, non-technical style. - Includes churches with at least one baptism per 19 members annually-- Churches range from 60 to 6,000 in membership; more than 2/3 claim 100-499 members-- Reveals the seven evangelism tools most important to successful churches-- Discusses popular misconceptions about church location, size, event evangelism and more

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[Images for Effective Evangelistic Churches: Successful Churches Reveal What Works and What Doesn't by Thom S. Rainer \(Author\)](#)

Evangelism after Christendom: The Theology and Practice of Christian Witness [Bryan P. Stone]

Most people think of evangelism as something an individual does--one person talking to one or more other people about the gospel. Bryan Stone, however, argues that evangelism is the duty and call of the entire church as a body of witness. *Evangelism after Christendom* explores what it means to understand and put to work evangelism as a rich practice of the church, grounding evangelism in the stories of Israel, Jesus, and the Apostles. This thorough treatment is marked by an astute sensitivity to the ways in which Christian evangelism has in the past been practiced violently, intentionally or unintentionally. Pointing to exemplars both Protestant and Catholic, Stone shows pastors, professors, and students how evangelism can work nonviolently.

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[Images for Evangelism after Christendom: The Theology and Practice of Christian Witness \[Bryan P. Stone\]](#)

Evangelism basics: Starting with tip from a cat | The Lutheran

Making disciples

I've been a pastor for almost 30 years, entering now into the home stretch and newly pondering the practical gist of Jesus' Great Commission in [Matthew 28](#): to go and make disciples.

"Disciples are made, not born" said the wise Christian author Tertullian many centuries ago. And if he's right about such a seemingly simple declaration, then a rather complex follow-up question always tags along: "Well, how are disciples made?"

http://www.thelutheran.org/article/article.cfm?article_id=12129
[Images for Evangelism basics | The Lutheran](#)

[PDF]Evangelism Essentials - Nebraska Synod ELCA

Use this assessment tool, developed as a companion piece to Making Christ Known: A Guide to Evangelism for Congregations (Augsburg Fortress, ISBN #0- 8066-3334-4 \$9.95), to help measure your congregation's effectiveness in the ministries of evangelism and to determine which areas might be enhanced or strengthened. Consider each of the four areas of effective congregational evangelism to determine where your congregation can grow in its domestic mission emphasis. Keep in mind that this assessment tool is aimed at helping you dream the possibilities; very few congregations will be able to engage all the suggested ministries with equal attention. Use this resource as an evaluation tool and a discussion starter with key leaders in your congregation.

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[Images for Evangelism Essentials - Nebraska Synod ELCA - assessment tool](#)
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[Images for Making Christ Known: A Guide to Evangelism for Congregations](#)

Evangelism for Shy Christians | Select Learning

Patrick Keifert, Associate Professor of Systematic Theology at Luther Seminary, St. Paul.

Why are we so shy about sharing our faith and inviting people to church? This course, designed for use with laity, will demonstrate that laity can be empowered to do effective evangelism.

<http://www.selectlearning.org/store/all/evangelism-shy-christians>

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Images for Evangelism for Shy Christians | Select Learning Patrick Keifert, Associate Professor of Systematic Theology at Luther Seminary, St. Paul.

Evangelism: How the Whole Church Speaks of Jesus (9Marks: Building Healthy Churches) [J. Mack Stiles]

Evangelism is more than a program.

Every few years, churches jump into the latest evangelistic fad. Leaders administrate the new program, and members go on a raid. But picture a church where evangelism is simply part of the culture. Leaders share their faith consistently and openly. Members follow, encouraging one another to make evangelism an ongoing way of life.

Such is the way of evangelism presented by this brief and compelling book. No program here. Instead, it just might give your church a new way to live and share the gospel together.

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Images for J. Mack Stiles, author

Images for Evangelism: How the Whole Church Speaks of Jesus (9Marks: Building Healthy Churches) [J. Mack Stiles]

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Images for 9Marks: Building Healthy Churches

Evangelism in the Early Church by Michael Green (Author)

Now a modern classic, Michael Green's *Evangelism in the Early Church* provides a comprehensive look at the ways the first Christians -- from the New Testament period up until the middle of the third century -- worked to spread the good news to the rest of the world.

In describing life in the early church, Green explores crucial aspects of the evangelistic task that have direct relevance for similar work today, including methods, motives, and strategies. He assesses the strengths and weaknesses of the evangelistic approaches used by the earliest Christians, and he also considers the obstacles to evangelism, using outreach to Gentiles and to Jews as examples of differing contexts for proclamation. Carefully researched and frequently quoting primary sources from the early church, this book will both show contemporary readers what can be learned from the past and help renew their own evangelistic vision.

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[Images for michael green author evangelism in the early church](#)
[Images for Evangelism in the Early Church by Michael Green \(Author\)](#)

Evangelize is a verb | The Lutheran

The key is not a grand plan but to be Christ for others

"The church universal has marvelous opportunities for mission, brilliantly disguised as unsolvable problems," says Suzan Farley, pastor of Ascension Lutheran Church, Newtown, Pa., serving rural Bucks County in the Philadelphia-New York City corridor.

Evangelizing, she says, finds its bearings by listening to your neighbors' needs.

Volunteers from Ascension were helping renovate a parish hall in inner-city Philadelphia when they noticed African American boys and young men hanging out on the street. Parishioner Fred Seabright grabbed a football from his car and walked to a park, calling down the block, "Anyone want to play catch?"

From that spontaneous beginning, men and young adults from Ascension now spend five hours every Saturday with between 30 and 60 African American and Latino teenage boys in Hunting Park, a Philadelphia neighborhood marked by poverty, addiction, and abuse. They play seasonal sports, share a meal and join in conversation, prayer and Bible study. "Christ's Coach" is now

Seabright's affectionate nickname

<http://www.thelutheran.org/article/issue.cfm?issue=98>

[Images for Evangelize is a verb | The Lutheran](#)

Evangelism Is in the Bag at Epiphany Lutheran - Living Lutheran

Sometimes extending a warm welcome to new neighbors can yield big results.

That's been the experience for [Epiphany Lutheran Church](#), an ELCA congregation in Eagle Lake, Minn.

A new "God's work. Our hands." banner is proudly on display outside the church.

And the congregation has just started sponsoring a missionary in Chile through the ELCA.

Both projects were possible because of Epiphany Lutheran's Welcome Bags.

This innovative program, launched in 2006, has raised thousands of dollars to date for the congregation's outreach and evangelism ministries.

<http://www.elca.org/en/Living-Lutheran/Stories/2011/12/111216>

[Images for Evangelism Is in the Bag at Epiphany Lutheran - Living Lutheran](#)

Evangelism Quotes - BrainyQuote

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<https://www.pinterest.com/SierraJuliets/evangelism-quotes/>

E-Vangelism: Sharing the Gospel in Cyberspace: Andrew Careaga

Christians are using the Internet to spread the light of the gospel. E-VANGELISM offers helpful tips for witnessing to the on-line community. The author gives instructions to his readers on getting themselves or their church on the Internet. Provided are ideas for building a web site and helpful guides for readers to find their way around the maze of chat rooms, discussion groups and bulletin boards found on the Internet. Mr. Careaga even suggests ways in which readers can use cyberspace to strengthen their faith.

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[Images for Andrew Careaga](#)

[Images for E-Vangelism: Sharing the Gospel in Cyberspace: Andrew Careaga](#)

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Evangelism tips | The Lutheran

One of the best seats in town to view the fireworks during the Three Rivers Festival, Fort Wayne, Ind., in July is at **Trinity English Lutheran Church**. Angela Shannon, a pastor, and members walk the downtown district to invite people to watch the fireworks from the church's "back yard."

They pass out fans that have worship times, contact information and the congregation's Web address. Free snow cones and popcorn are provided and, this year, barbecue chicken was sold. There was a jazz band too. More than 250 people attended this year, including many more from the community.

"The members and community folks interacted well," Shannon said. "No one was threatened by the ominous 'E' word! When newcomers came, naturally they were curious about our church. In a relaxed environment 'the frozen chosen' thawed a bit and happily answered questions about Trinity." For more information, contact Shannon at 260-426-3424; pshannon@trinityenglish.org

More

[Can Luther help?](#)

[Ribbons make difference](#)

[Home visits by pastors push right bell](#)

[Not so fast](#)

[Follow Jesus like it really matters to you](#)

http://www.thelutheran.org/article/article.cfm?article_id=6656

http://www.thelutheran.org/article/article.cfm?article_id=6195

[Images for Evangelism tips | The Lutheran](#)

EVANGELISM 201: BE THE LEGS OF CHRIST'S CHURCH!

Peter Johnson, Chicken Coop Church, a synodically authorized worshipping community, rural Grantsburg

It's time to show our neighbors a relevant Jesus and an essential church. Let's wipe away our fears, pull on our courage, zip up our faith, and be the LEGS of Christ's church! Let's evangelize by Listening to our neighbor, Engaging beyond the invitation to church, Growing in relationship with ones not in the pew, and Serving saints and strangers six ways from Sunday.

[View the web page for Walking Together details. - Northwest Synod of Wisconsin](#)

http://www.nwswi.org/news_and_events/Walking_Together.phtml

[Images for EVANGELISM 201: BE THE LEGS OF CHRIST'S CHURCH! Peter Johnson, Chicken Coop Church](#)

<http://www.chickencoopchurch.com/about.html>

info@nwswi.org

Evangelism - Wikipedia

In Christianity, Evangelism is the commitment to or act of publicly preaching of the **Gospel** with the intention of spreading the message and teachings of **Jesus Christ**.

Christians who specialize in evangelism are often known as evangelists, whether they are in their home communities or living as [missionaries](#) in the field, although some Christian traditions refer to such people as *missionaries* in either case. Some Christian traditions consider evangelists to be in a leadership position; they may be found preaching to large meetings or in governance roles.

Christian groups who encourage evangelism are sometimes known as evangelistic or *evangelist*.



The Four Evangelists

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Evangelism>

[Images for evangelism](#)

<https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Evangelism>

- [1Open-air preaching](#)
- [2Trickle-down evangelism](#)
- [3Door-to-door preaching](#)
- [4Evangelizing through a sermon](#)

- 5Lifestyle evangelism
- 6Friendship evangelism
- 7Child evangelism
- 8Creative evangelism
- 9Using Gospel tracts
- 10Televangelism
- 11Radio evangelism
- 12Internet evangelism
- 13Phone evangelism
- 14Personal evangelism
- 15Creation evangelism
- 16Archaeology evangelism
- 17Prophetic evangelism
 - 17.1Treasure hunts
- 18Use of props
- 19Notes
- 20References
- 21External links

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[Images for approach to evangelism trickle down evangelism](#)

[Images for approach to evangelism door-to-door preaching](#)

[Images for approach to evangelism evangelizing through a sermon](#)

[Images for approach to evangelism lifestyle evangelism](#)

[Images for approach to evangelism friendship evangelism](#)

[Images for approach to evangelism child evangelism](#)

[Images for approach to evangelism creative evangelism](#)

[Images for approach to evangelism using Gospel tracts evangelism](#)

[Images for approach to evangelism televangelism](#)

[Images for approach to evangelism radio evangelism](#)

[Images for approach to evangelism internet evangelism](#)

[Images for approach to evangelism phone evangelism](#)

[Images for approach to evangelism personal evangelism](#)

[Images for approach to evangelism creation evangelism](#)

[Images for approach to evangelism archeology evangelism](#)

[Images for approach to evangelism prophetic evangelism](#)

[Images for approach to evangelism treasure hunts evangelism](#)

[Images for approach to evangelism use of props evangelism](#)

Evangelism (Winter 1981) - Word and World

It is not an accident that the first issue of Word and World focuses on evangelism. We do want to say that the Word is for the world, and that theology is for ministry. We intend to keep saying that in a great variety of ways throughout what we believe will be the long life of this journal. We read and benefit from, and work with and contribute to, other journals and other theological and churchly enterprises. We shall continue to do so. But this journal will have a special importance for us as a vehicle for exploring those particular congruities and disjunctions between Word and world which constitute the matrix of both serious theology and effective ministry.

https://wordandworld.luthersem.edu/issues.aspx?issue_id=1

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https://wordandworld.luthersem.edu/issues.aspx?article_id=98 BONHOEFFER ON BAPTISM: DISCIPLINE FOR THE SAKE OF THE GOSPEL. Glenn L. Borreson

http://wordandworld.luthersem.edu/issues.aspx?article_id=78 EVANGELISM IN CURRENT FERMENT AND DISCUSSION: A BIBLIOGRAPHIC SURVEY. James A. Berquist

https://wordandworld.luthersem.edu/issues.aspx?article_id=3955 GAISERIC, THE VANDALS, AND THE WORD IN THE WORLD. Mark A. Grandquist

https://wordandworld.luthersem.edu/issues.aspx?article_id=1068 PROSPECTS AND PROBLEMS IN GLOBAL EVANGELIZATION.

James A. Scherer

https://wordandworld.luthersem.edu/issues.aspx?article_id=536 A PROGRAM FOR PARISH EVANGELISM. E. Harold Jansen Bishop

52 best Evangelism images on Pinterest

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Images for christian evangelism pinterest

Finding Them, Keeping Them: Effective Strategies for Evangelism and Assimilation in the Local Church [Glen Martin, Gary L. McIntosh]

A basic resource for strategies for outreach and assimilation of new church members. Key resource for pastors and outreach ministers.

This book is an excellent step to help laypeople understand the science of church growth and apply it to their local church.

McIntosh and Martin have taken the traditional concepts of church growth and written them so the average layperson can understand them...For many years church growth has been in the hands of scholars and pastors. This book attempts to help laypeople and church leaders understand the terms and apply them to their church.

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Images for Gary L. McIntosh, author

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Images for Glen Martin, author evangelism

Images for Finding Them, Keeping Them: Effective Strategies for Evangelism and Assimilation in the Local Church [Glen Martin, Gary L. McIntosh]

Gone fishin - The Lutheran Magazine

With Jesus the method is not to catch people but to know people

Maybe I could fish with nets like Peter did. But I can't fish like my parents-in-law by sticking my hands into a cage full of live crickets and pulling one out only to pierce it on a hook.

Jesus said to the fishermen one day, "Follow me, and I will make you fish for people." And Jesus says to us, "Come, let's fish for people."

But too often we don't follow him. Why? What don't we like about fishing? The bait: **evangelism**. Or witnessing.

http://www.thelutheran.org/article/article.cfm?article_id=1124

[Images for Gone fishin - The Lutheran Magazine With Jesus the method is not to catch people but to know people](#)

Graceful Evangelism: Christian Witness in a Complex World [Frances S. Adeney]

The word evangelism evokes strong reactions among Christians. Conflict about what it is, whether to do it, how to go about it, and the desired results divides churches, demonstrating the need for new theologies and methods that address today's religiously pluralistic and secular contexts. This book offers a comprehensive treatment of evangelism, from biblical models to contemporary practice. Frances Adeney shows that understanding different contexts and approaches to evangelism and accepting the views of others on this crucial topic can help replace the "evangelism wars" (social action vs. proclamation) with a more graceful approach to sharing God's good news with the world.



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[Images for frances s. adeney, author](#)

[Images for Graceful Evangelism: Christian Witness in a Complex World \[Frances S. Adeney\]](#)

Guerrilla Evangelism: How Is Your Congregation Perceived by Your Community?

Walking Together - A Congregational Resource Event for Congregations

Guerrilla Evangelism: How Is Your Congregation Perceived by Your Community?

Rev. Roger Pittman

Do we want our congregations to grow? How those in our communities and those who visit our churches see us will have a great impact on whether we stay the same (get smaller/die) or grow. People look at how we look outside and inside and make decisions on whether they will attend our worship or stay away. There are several things they see, hear, or feel as they attend that can make a big difference.

http://www.nwswi.org/webfiles/fnitools/documents/program_book_3.16.13.pdf Page 4

[Images for Guerrilla Evangelism: How Is Your Congregation Perceived by Your Community?](#)

Guidelines Evangelism | Cokesbury

Evangelism is vital to the disciple-making process because it is a primary ministry of sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Evangelism is more than just one individual talking about faith; it is a ministry of the whole church that develops a church "lifestyle" of welcome, invitation, and support. This *Guideline* is designed to help equip you in leading this ministry group in your congregation.

<https://www.cokesbury.com/product/9781501829604/guidelines-evangelism/>

[Images for Guidelines Evangelism | Cokesbury](#)

https://books.google.com/books/about/Guidelines_Evangelism.html?id=Uj1wDQAAQBAJ

[Images for Guidelines Evangelism Share the Good News](#)

<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/leadership-resources/evangelism>

[Images for Evangelism - GBOD | Equipping World Changing Disciples](#)

Here We Stand Student Book | Augsburg Fortress

How to Adopt an **Evangelistic** Lifestyle without Alienating People

Page 258

<http://store.augsburgfortress.org/store/product/8604/Here-We-Stand-Student-Book>

[Images for Here We Stand Student Book | Augsburg Fortress How to Adopt an Evangelistic Lifestyle without Alienating People](#)

How to Strengthen Clergy/Staff Leadership & Relationship Skills – Parish Paper

12. The **Evangelism** Model.

Page | 42

This ministry ideal, prevalent during the 1930s in mainline congregations, appeared with rare frequency in mainline denominations during the 1970s. Two decades of full pews following World War II caused many mainline clergy to think evangelization endeavors unnecessary. Beginning in the 1980s and continuing to the present, a slightly higher percentage of young pastors in mainline churches began exhibiting an evangelism ministry ideal. Some of them are entrepreneurial in personality, a trait often seen in second-career pastors who spent the forepart of their lives in businesses and corporations. Meanwhile, in Southern Baptist and other theologically evangelical denominations, the majority of clergy and staff possessed this directional focus during all of the above-mentioned decades.

[PDF]Ch. Effectiveness Nuggets--Volume 22--How to Strengthen Clergy/Staff Leadership & Relationship Skills - The Parish Paper
<http://www.theparishpaper.com/files/resources/Church%20Effectiveness%20Nuggets-%20Volume%2022.pdf>
Images for Evangelism Model
<https://www.theparishpaper.com/sites/default/files/resources/Church%20Effectiveness%20Nuggets-%20Volume%2022.pdf>
<https://www.theparishpaper.com/free-resources> Church Effective Nugget, Volume 22: How to Strengthen Clergy/Staff Leadership & Relationship Skills
<https://www.theparishpaper.com/back-issue-index> Back Issue Index | The Parish Paper

Ice cream evangelism | The Lutheran

One Monday morning, Twila Schock, pastor of [Christ Lutheran Church](#), Belvidere, Ill., was in for a pleasant surprise when she opened her work email. A mother wrote to thank her for the free ice cream provided by the church's evangelism effort that weekend.



http://www.thelutheran.org/article/article.cfm?article_id=12830
Images for Ice cream evangelism | The Lutheran
<http://www.makingchristknown.org/about-christ-lutheran>
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/twila-schock-71b0b810>
Images for Twila Schock, pastor

Identity evangelizing: How we reach out without reaching out and learn how to welcome urban visitors | The Lutheran

Dwindling membership and finances. That's what my congregation, Holy Trinity Lutheran on Chicago's North Side, faced four years ago. Many questioned the future viability of the tiny congregation. Today worship attendance has more than tripled to 109. The congregation now confronts the happy challenges of crowded worship and Sunday school classroom space.

What happened in those intervening years was neither miracle nor magic but the culmination of a learning process about how to engage a unique urban constituency.

The Lutheran | August 2003 Issue

http://www.thelutheran.org/article/article.cfm?article_id=3959
Images for Identity evangelizing: How we reach out without reaching out and learn how to welcome urban visitors | The Lutheran

In praise of digital evangelists - The Lutheran Magazine

Confessions & tips in 140 characters or more

Christians have been given a daunting task: to bring the good news of Jesus Christ to the whole world. Never before has this been more attainable than now, using tools of technology and social media. Like it or not, we have a sphere of influence, and it can be used by the church to spread news about our congregation and the message we proclaim.

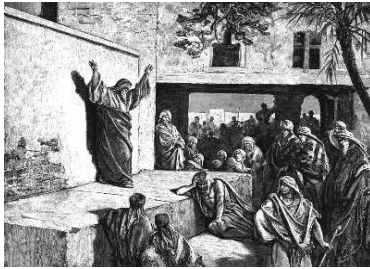
Social networking can connect our congregation to everyone connected to our members. Imagine what would happen if 120 worshipers each posted something about worship. Those posts would be seen by an average of 100 people for each post (a low estimate). Suddenly, and without a penny from the budget, 12,000 people have heard about Sunday morning worship.

http://www.thelutheran.org/article/article.cfm?article_id=11838
Images for In praise of digital evangelists - The Lutheran Magazine

Jonah the Evangelist - Ministry Magazine

It would appear that the Nineveh campaign holds lessons for the personal preparation of today's evangelist, and there is real merit in the psychology of the method of approach that Jonah used.

<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/archive/1967/10/jonah-the-evangelist>
Images for Jonah the Evangelist - Ministry Magazine
<http://disorientedtheology.wordpress.com/2011/11/11/jonah-the-evangelist/>
<http://theosproject.blogspot.com/2008/01/chapman-and-warner-rethinking.html>
<http://cruciformitythoughts.blogspot.com/2008/12/four-principles-of-evangelism-from.html>
Images for Principles of Evangelism from Jonah



File:138. Jonah Preaches to the Ninevites.jpg – Wikimedia Commons
https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:138.Jonah_Preaches_to_the_Ninevites.jpg
[Images for Jonah Preaches to the Ninevites](#)

Meet the E-team – The Lutheran

Bright-Eyed Bill or Communication Corinee? Putting together a committee on **evangelizing**? Experienced congregational leaders say you should look for these personality types and take these steps.

The Lutheran | August 2003 Issue - The Lutheran Magazine
http://www.thelutheran.org/article/article.cfm?article_id=3957
[Images for Meet the Evangelism team – The Lutheran](#)
[Images for putting together a committee on evangelizing](#)

Ministry Resource Guides Index - LifeandLeadership.com

Evangelism

[Evangelism, Introduction](#)

[Evangelism, Theology and Practice](#)

[Evangelism, Practical Approaches](#)

<http://www.lifeandleadership.com/ministry-resource-guide-index/>
[Images for Ministry Resource Guides Index - LifeandLeadership.com Evangelism](#)

NADEI: Need-oriented Evangelism

Need-oriented evangelism intentionally cultivates relationships with pre-Christian people, so they can become fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ who are actively participating within the life of the church and community. Using appropriate ministries and authentic relationships, believers can guide others into the family of God.

<http://www.nadei.org/article/23/evangelism-services/natural-church-development/the-survey/need-oriented-evangelism>

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<http://baptist.ca/churches/church-health/eight-quality-characteristics/> #7

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<https://christianity.works/adp/need-oriented-evangelism/>

<http://www.communitychurchofwurtsboro.org/natural-church-development.html>

Needs-Based Evangelism: Becoming a Good Samaritan Church [Robert D. Pierson]

By meeting needs of people through intentional ministries, churches will grow; but more importantly they will fulfill their biblical mandate to care for those who are hurting and suffering.

Being a Good Samaritan church begins with the leadership. It requires an absolute commitment to address the needs of people in order to invite them to become disciples of Jesus Christ. But in order to compete with and appeal to unchurched people in today's secular and consumer-driven society, the church needs to be entrepreneurial in its method of evangelist outreach. In this book, Rev. Robert Pierson, shows how churches can better organize ministry in order to be effective witnesses. By meeting felt needs of people through intentional ministries, the church will grow to be sure; but more importantly it will fulfill its biblical mandate to care for those who are hurting and suffering.

<http://www.amazon.com/Needs-Based-Evangelism-Becoming-Samaritan-Church/dp/0687332486>

<http://www.christianbook.com/needs-based-evangelism-becoming-samaritan-church/robert-pierson/9780687332489/pd/332486>

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[Images for Robert D. Pierson, author needs-based evangelism](#)

[Images for Needs-Based Evangelism: Becoming a Good Samaritan Church \[Robert D. Pierson\]](#)

Notice, Share, Invite by David Lose - Craft of Preaching – Working Preacher

Notice. Share. Invite. These are the three elements of **evangelism**, sharing the good news of what God has done and is still doing through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ for us and all the world.

<http://www.workingpreacher.org/craft.aspx?post=3002>
[Images for Notice. Share. Invite. These are the three elements of evangelism.](#)

ON EVANGELIZING NONES, VAGINA-GATER, & CHRISTIAN BULLIES

It's time for mainline Christians to stop pretending these Pew reports are aberrations, to stop hoping that the religiously unaffiliated will be able to distinguish their tall steeples from the American Family Association and LifeWay. It's time for mainline Christians to stop ramping up their old welcome strategies and launch entirely new approaches for connecting with the religiously unaffiliated. By and large, the nones still believe in God (atheist and agnostics come in at 6% of the U.S. population) but their numbers will continue to grow until we have a compelling counter story to tell.

The story of the good news of God in Jesus Christ is about as powerful as they come, but only if it's told compellingly, addressed appropriately, and supported relationally. The plea, "But, we need more kids in our Sunday School" does not, and has never, cut it.

<http://www.adamjcopeland.com/2012/10/15/on-evangelizing-nones-vagina-gate-christian-bullies/>
[Images for adamjcopeland/evangelizing-nones](#)

Out of the Saltshaker & into the World: Evangelism as a Way of Life [Rebecca Manley Pippert]

Most of us can think of at least one hundred reasons to share the gospel. Evangelism can be intimidating. But it can also be a natural and exciting way of life. These Bible studies will help you discover creative ways to share the gospel in your everyday situations and surroundings.

This LifeGuide Bible Study features questions for starting group discussions and for meeting God in personal reflection. Leader's notes are included with information on study preparation, leading the study and small group components as well as helps for specific Bible passages covered in the study. Presented in a convenient workbook format and featuring the inductive Bible study approach, LifeGuides are thoroughly field-tested prior to publication; they're proven and popular guides for digging into Scripture on your own or with a small group.

This thoroughly revised and expanded edition of Rebecca Manley Pippert's evangelism classic now contains new chapters on the stages of evangelism, new stories of God's work in people's lives and added material on meeting the challenges of new competitors to the Christian faith.

<http://www.amazon.com/Evangelism-Life-Lifeguide-Bible-Studies/dp/0830830502>
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<https://www.amazon.com/Rebecca-Manley-Pippert/e/B001HPAA3Y>
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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xZS6SLI63sM> The "Heresy" of Niceness by Rebecca Manley Pippert – YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nmhxt9TeMc> Becky Pippert - How to share Gospel? – YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bu9NRx8UGdQ> Multiplex: A Fresh Approach to Witness - Evangelism - Becky Pippert (Part 2) - Cape Town 2010 – YouTube

[Images for Evangelism - Becky Pippert - YouTube](#)

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[Images for Rebecca Manley Pippert, author](#)

[Images for Out of the Saltshaker and into the World: Evangelism as a Way of Life \[Rebecca Manley Pippert\]](#)

Presbyterian Mission Agency Evangelism Ministry | Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Welcome to the Evangelism area in the Presbyterian Mission Agency.

Through the following ministries we partner with mid councils, congregations and other Christian organizations to develop disciples.

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/theology-formation-and-evangelism/evangelism/>

<http://www.evangelismcoach.org/2008/evangelism-in-the-presbyterian-church-usa/>

[Images for Evangelism in the Presbyterian Church \(USA\)](#)

Proclaim: Evangelism Tips - Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

These articles are available for download and distribution in full-page or bulletin insert format. Use for committee and council meetings; or copy and duplicate the bulletin inserts to distribute to the whole congregation in worship or in your newsletter.

<http://www.elca.org/en/Our-Work/Congregations-and-Synods/Faith-Practices/eTips>

[Images for Proclaim: Evangelism Tips - Evangelical Lutheran Church in America](#)

<http://resources.elca.org/Products-Evangelism.html>

Purpose Driven Life - What on Earth Am I Here For?

We were made for a mission

So, your fifth purpose is to live out real **evangelism**.

<http://purposedriven.com/books/pdlbook/>

[Images for Purpose Driven Life - What on Earth Am I Here For? We were made for a mission So, your fifth purpose is to live out real evangelism.](#)

The *New York Times* #1 bestselling book by Pastor Rick Warren that helps you understand the purpose of your life. As one of the best-selling nonfiction books in history, with more than 34 million copies sold, and more than 70 translations available, *The Purpose Driven Life* is far more than just a book; it's the roadmap for your spiritual journey. A journey that will transform your life. "Movie stars and political leaders aren't the only ones turning to Rick Warren for spiritual guidance. Millions of people - from NBA and PGA players to corporate executives to high school students to prison inmates - meet regularly to discuss The Purpose Driven Life."

-Time

In *The Purpose Driven Life* you'll find the answers to three of life's most important questions:

- The Question of Existence: Why am I alive?
- The Question of Significance: Does my life matter?
- The Question of Purpose: What on earth am I here for?

Living out the purpose you were created for moves you beyond survival or success to a life of significance - the life you were meant to live.

You will discover the five benefits of knowing your purpose:

1. It will explain the meaning of your life.
2. It will simplify your life.
3. It will focus your life.
4. It will increase your motivation.
5. It will prepare you for eternity.

The Purpose Driven Life is designed to be read in 42 short chapters that will inspire you to stop and realize how God uniquely designed you for a purpose only you can fulfill. It also includes links to 3-minute video introductions to each chapter and a 30 to 40-minute audio Bible study message for each chapter. There are also appendixes including questions for further study and additional resources.

Before you were born, God already planned your life. God longs for you to discover the life he created you to live - here on earth, and forever in eternity. Let *The Purpose Driven Life* show you how.

The Purpose Driven Life is available in audio book, ebook, softcover, and hardcover editions. Also available: *The Purpose Driven Life* video study and study guide, journal, devotional, book for kids, book for churches, Spanish edition, Large Print edition, and more.

The Purpose Driven Life: What on Earth Am I Here For?: Rick Warren

<https://www.amazon.com/Purpose-Driven-Life-What-Earth/dp/031033750X>

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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rjD7PGBAwxc> What On Earth Am I Here For?: The Purpose Driven Life by Rick Warren Group

Bible Study – Trailer - YouTube

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S7_K6VCEpWM What On Earth Am I Here For? The Purpose Driven Life Expanded Edition

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qWWZikUO8qE> What On Earth Am I Here For? Small Group Bible study by Rick Warren

[Images for What On Earth Am I Here For?: The Purpose Driven Life by Rick Warren - YouTube](#)

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https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/711.Rick_Warren

[Images for The Purpose Driven Life: What on Earth Am Here For?: Rick Warren](#)

Reclaiming Evangelism: A Practical Guide for Mainline Churches [Dr. Jan Linn]

Linn argues that evangelism is not a numbers game, but an unbridled spirituality that finds its expression in ministries that intentionally witness to Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. Included are detailed practical steps for reclaiming this essential ministry, plus a model for restructuring congregational life to implement these steps.

<http://www.amazon.com/Reclaiming-Evangelism-Practical-Mainline-Churches/dp/0827232160>

<http://www.uccresources.com/products/reclaiming-evangelism-a-practical-guide-for-mainline-churches-linn>

<https://linnposts.com/about-jan-linn/>

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https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/430301.Jan_Linn

[Images for dr. jan linn \(author\)](#)

[Images for Reclaiming Evangelism: A Practical Guide for Mainline Churches \[Dr. Jan Linn\]](#)

Sharing the Good News

There are two aspects of **evangelism**: 1) Having members talk about their faith with people outside the congregation, 2) telling the community about the congregation and inviting them to come and see.

How do you equip members to share their faith?

What difference has being a Christian made in your own life?

What is your evangelizing outreach strategy?

How do you make the community aware of your congregation?

Comprehensive Ministry Review. Rev. Laurie Skow-Anderson. Assistant to the Bishop. Northwest Synod of Wisconsin. Director for Evangelical Mission. lskow-anderson@nswi.org

info@nswi.org

[Images for members talk about their faith with people outside the congregation](#)

[Images for telling the community about the congregation and inviting them to come and see](#)

[PDF]60 Evangelism Questions - Nebraska Synod ELCA

Reaching out to new people is a four-step process which varies from person to person and from congregation to congregation.

Each step has its own challenges and opportunities. Place an "X" on the "YES" or "NO" line next to each question; place a "C" on the "YES" line, if the item is something your congregation is not doing but would consider doing. REMEMBER: ministry is contextual; what works in one location may or may not work in another location.

http://nebraskasynod.org/file_download/inline/56381cb0-5259-440c-b7f5-6eff0ab03e18

http://synodresourcecenter.org/evang/resources/specialists/0006/evangelism_questions.html

<http://www.feautor.org/id/11956139181> 60 Evangelism Questions

[Images for Evangelism Questions - Nebraska Synod ELCA](#)

Strategic Directions for the ELCA Churchwide Organization

- Assist members, congregations, synods, and institutions and agencies of this church to grow in **evangelical** outreach

<http://www.elca.org/Who-We-Are/Our-Three-Expressions/Churchwide-Organization/Office-of-the-Presiding-Bishop/Plan-for-Mission/Our-Mission-and-Vision/Strategic-Directions.aspx>

[Images for Strategic Directions for the ELCA Churchwide Organization grow in evangelical outreach](#)

Synod Resource Center - Evangelism

<http://synodresourcecenter.org/evang/evanlinks.html>

[Images for Synod Resource Center - Evangelism](#)

The Art of Personal Evangelism: Sharing Jesus in a Changing Culture [Will McRaney]

Personal evangelism is the foundation for all church growth. As the culture and landscape of America shifts, people are looking for spiritual answers to life's significant questions. However, in the increasingly crowded marketplace of spiritual ideas, people are looking to the church less and less.

Will McRaney addresses this problem at the heart of the solution. If the Kingdom of God is to expand, individual Christians will have to learn to communicate their faith story in a way that is engaging, personal, and relevant to the listening culture today.

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The Art of Personal Evangelism: Sharing Jesus in a Changing Culture

The Art of Personal Evangelism: Sharing Jesus in a Changing Culture

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<http://www.saltybeliever.com/bibliography>

<https://jacksonrl527.wordpress.com/category/discipleship/>

<http://willmcraney.com/>

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<https://www.amazon.com/Will-McRaney/e/B001KHQM18>

[Images for Will McRaney, author](#)

[Images for The Art of Personal Evangelism: Sharing Jesus in a Changing Culture \[Will McRaney\]](#)

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The Evangelistic Love of God and Neighbor: A Theology of Witness and Discipleship by Scott J. Jones (Author)

There are, it seems, as many definitions of the term "evangelism" as there are people doing the defining. For some, it means proclaiming the gospel to those who have not heard it. To others, it means making disciples of Jesus Christ. To others, it means working for the transformation of the world into the kingdom of God. For still others, it has principally to do with building vibrant, healthy congregations. Underlying this confusion is a fundamental inability to locate the practice of evangelism within one's overall theological convictions.

We will never understand the part that proclamation, disciple making, kingdom building, and church growth play in evangelism until we first ask a more important question: What does evangelism have to do with who God is? What is it we know about God that makes evangelism a central part of what it means to be Christian? In this comprehensive theology of evangelism, Scott J. Jones proposes to ground the practice of evangelism in an understanding of God's love for the world, specifically as seen in the incarnation of God in Christ. In Jesus, God took on all of what it means to be human. Because of this, evangelism must be a ministry to the whole person. The typical distinctions between soul-winning, social action, and church growth evaporate; individual conversion and acts of mercy are part of the same ministry of bringing persons more fully into the reign of a loving God.



<http://www.amazon.com/The-Evangelistic-Love-God-Neighbor/dp/0687046149>
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<https://www.imagesforchrist.com/book/The-Evangelistic-Love-of-God-and-Neighbor-A-Theology-of-Witness-and-Discipleship-by-Scott-J-Jones>

Page 79

The Year-Round Church Event Planner – by Elmer L. Towns (Author) & Stan Toler (Author)

Before you plan your next celebration, event or campaign, you need The Year-Round Church Event Book. Inside are ideas, plans and strategies for more than 50 special events and celebrations many of them **evangelistic**. From old-fashioned church picnics and ice-cream socials to the National Day of Prayer, this indispensable planner does it all! Each complete event includes a state purpose, event goals, activities, organizational suggestions and a list of helpful resources-even theme related sermon ideas-all crossed indexed for easy reference! And there are reproducible sample letters, surveys, publicity forms, clip art and checklists that you can adapt to promote and coordinate your events.

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Three Essential C's to Evangelism - Sermon Central

Today I want to look at three C's which I believe are essential for effective evangelism. We live in an age where the Church is a buzz with evangelism tools you can buy endless books, go to conferences, start courses, join training programs on evangelism etc. But I believe that the Bible is the best source we have in our possession to aid in effective evangelism, because here we have living examples to emulate from Jonah to Jesus Himself.

<http://www.sermoncentral.com/sermons/three-essential-cs-to-evangelism-aubrey-vaughan-sermon-on-evangelism-how-to-112892.asp>

Transforming Evangelism (Transformations Series): David Gortner

At once "travel guide" and vision for the future, the Transformation series is good news for the Episcopal Church at a time of fast and furious demographic and social change. Series contributors - recognized experts in their fields - analyze our present plight, point to the seeds of change already at work transforming the church, and outline a positive new way forward. What kinds of churches are most ready for transformation? What are the essential tools? What will give us strength, direction, and purpose to the journey? Each volume of the series will: Explain why a changed vision is essential, Give robust theological and biblical foundations, Offer a guide to best practices and positive trends in churches large and small, Describe the necessary tools for change, Imagine how transformation will look.

How can Episcopalians reclaim evangelism primarily as an enriching spiritual practice? How soon will we recognize that our traditional hands-off approach has led to a crisis of evangelism with our own children? How can we learn to practice evangelism in a multicultural and multi-faith society? and to what purpose? What styles and practices of spirituality do most to enrich our sense of evangelical calling? These are some of the questions David Gortner asks in this book on evangelism for clergy and congregational discussion. He delivers both good and bad news about Episcopalians and evangelism, and provides models and spiritual practices to feed the growing hunger in our churches for good news.



<http://www.amazon.com/Transforming-Evangelism-Transformations-Series-Gortner/dp/0898695856>

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[Images for David Gortner, author](#)

[Images for Transforming Evangelism \(Transformations Series\): David Gortner](#)

[Images for transformations series evangelism](#)

Unbinding the Gospel: Real Life Evangelism, 2nd Edition [Martha Grace Reese, Brian L. McLaren]

Based on a major, four-year study of superb evangelism, funded by the Lilly Endowment, *Unbinding the Gospel* sparkles with life, practicality and spiritual depth. *Unbinding the Gospel: Real Life Evangelism* is a book for pastors who want to know the truth about the state of evangelism. Recently selected by The Christian Century as a featured "Take and Read" book (2007 book issue), *Unbinding the Gospel* is a book for Christians who want a hopeful, powerful, joy-filled way to learn to share their faith. (It's also a book for people who cringe when they hear the "E" word!) This book for congregational use has been enthusiastically endorsed by 8 heads of denominations, Brian McLaren, Richard Peace, as well as by countless pastors and church leaders. *Unbinding the Gospel*, 2nd ed. is the foundation of the *Unbinding the Gospel* Series, which can lead to a six-week, all-congregation saturation study with individual prayer, small group study and all-church worship and prayer dimensions. See *Unbinding Your Heart* (the 6-week version of GOSPEL, with a different 40-day prayer journal) and *Unbinding Your Church* (the Pastor's Guide). Follow up your all-church saturation study (the "E-vent") with a small group based Experiment in Christian Prayer & Community using *Unbinding Your Soul*. Small groups will double when members invite their unchurched friends into the Experiment. *Unbinding the GOSPEL* is in more than 12,000 congregations, in 49 denominations, all 50 states and 8 countries. The new second edition contains a personal 40-day prayer journal. Order one copy for each small group participant. From the *Unbinding the Gospel* Series.

<http://www.amazon.com/Unbinding-Gospel-Real-Evangelism-Edition/dp/0827238088>

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[Images for Brian L. McLaren, author](#)

[Images for Unbinding the Gospel: Real Life Evangelism, 2nd Edition \[Martha Grace Reese, Brian L. McLaren\]](#)

Vibrant Faith in the Congregation by David W. Anderson (Author)

Chapter 1 **Evangelism**: Being Church in Congregation, Homes, and Community

Do you wonder what vibrant faith looks like in a congregation? The Vibrant Faith Frame is a great place to start! The Vibrant Faith Frame helps connect all of a congregation's programs into one ministry, rather than having several disconnected activities under one roof. As a result, congregations stay focused on two foundational tasks in everything they do—Christian faith formation and community outreach. Whether just getting started or looking for best practices, this book outlines what the Vibrant Faith Frame should look like from the perspective of various congregational ministries, including evangelism, Christian education, worship and preaching, youth and family, and stewardship. As the second book in a trilogy, this is an excellent follow up to *From the Great Omission to Vibrant Faith: The Role of the Home in Renewing the Church*.

<http://www.amazon.com/Vibrant-Faith-Congregation-ebook/dp/B0054E7B2M>

http://store.vibrantfaith.org/product_p/vfitc.htm

[Images for Vibrant Faith in the Congregation by David W. Anderson \(Author\) Chapter 1 Evangelism: Being Church in Congregation, Homes, and Community](#)

What Does the Bible Say About Evangelism? - OpenBible.info

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[Images for evangelism-principles](#)

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<https://www.crossway.org/articles/10-things-you-should-know-about-evangelism/>

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<https://www.9marks.org/article/how-should-we-define-evangelism/>

X-Factor Evangelism [Michael Wiles, Stuart Hoffman, Julie Becker]

To the early Christians a capital X signified Christ. When we involve ourselves in X Factor Evangelism, we are trying to emulate Christ's example in reaching the lost. How did He do it? Christ always started with love. Love is the key that opened the door for Him to minister. But Christ did not stop with love. Love is not enough if it is separated from the light and truth of the Scriptures. Too often when we try to evangelize, we emphasize one aspect over the other. Trying to be the light of the world without love is often hurtful and pushes people away. Love without the light does not bring the true healing that a lost and hurting world needs. This book introduces readers to four evangelism styles that are common in the church today: The Jonah Syndrome, the Eli Syndrome, the Viper Syndrome and the X Factor. The X Factor style of dealing with people is the only style that pulls people toward God instead of pushing them away. Try to honestly ask yourself as you read these chapters, 'In which style do I function in and what can I do to reach the X Factor?'

X Factor evangelists are willing to love those who are different from themselves and be salt and light in their lives. They are willing to overlook the differences of custom, language, dress and style. Their motivation is to help, not hurt, to make the hurting feel better and not just make themselves feel better. They desire to have a positive impact on all those around them, not just the ones who look, act, and talk like them. They strive to have an impact with life-changing results, an impact that involves bringing everyone to the true Light – Jesus.

<http://www.amazon.com/X-Factor-Evangelism-Michael-Wiles/dp/1889638528>

<http://pbygenval.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/47/2013/01/Natural-Church-Development.pdf>

<http://www.amazon.com/Michael-Wiles/e/B00IYZW11C>

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