

New Resource
September 9, 2009 through February 10, 2010

3:16: the Numbers of Hope Lucado, Max
Offers a word-by-word study of one of the best known passages in the Bible, grounding the verse in the greater context of who Jesus was.

90 Minutes in Heaven: a True Story of Death & Life Piper, Don
Baptist minister Piper tells of experiencing heaven for the 90 minutes he was pronounced dead at the scene of a car accident. After miraculously coming back to life and working through a long and painful recovery, friends and family finally convinced him to share his remarkable story.

The Attentive Life: Discerning God's Presence in All Things Ford, Leighton.
Framed around the monastic concept of praying through the hours of the day, Ford's work helps readers develop spiritual attentiveness so they can pay attention to how God is working through them and in the world

Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary Hefley, Jacqueline D. - editor
2009-2010 Catalogue

Being Is What is
Faithfully seeking authentic relationship with the God Who is.

Believing God Moore, Beth
Do you take God at His word, believing what He has told us, or do you just believe in His existence and the salvation He offers? Beth Moore has believed in God all of her life. She has been dedicated to teaching others to believe in Him as well. But as an adult she came face to face with the single most important question as she meditated on a passage from Isaiah: "You are my witnesses," declares the Lord, "and my servant whom I have chosen, so that you may know and believe me and understand that I am he." - Isaiah 43:10 Come Experience a Fresh Explosion of Faith. What does it mean to believe God? Abraham and Moses believed God. This planted in them a seed of faith that grew into towering oaks of steadfast trust and belief. Hebrews 11 is full of other examples of bold belief. Beth Moore brings these characters to life in a way that will spring forth in you a fresh explosion of faith!

Brining Up Boys Dobson, Dr. James
Parents will benefit from Dr. Dobson's decades of expertise as he shares the secrets of raising boys and answers important questions in this lively, relevant, and life-changing series. The four DVDs and accompanying workbook will equip parents with the practical understanding, dynamic biblical principles, and encouragement they need to steer the boys they care about toward confident, responsible manhood.

Brothers, We Are Not Professionals: a Plea to Pastors for Radical Ministry Piper, John
John Piper pleads with fellow pastors to abandon the secularization of the pastorate and pursue the prophetic call of the Bible for radical ministry.

Call to Worship Volume 43.1 Year C Lectionary Aids for 2009-2010 Long, Kimberly Bracken - editor
This resource offers insight and inspiration for pastors, church musicians, artists and other worship leaders. This quarterly journal is published by the Office of Theology and Worship of the Presbyterian Church USA.

The Case for Christ [Sound Recording]: [A Journalist's Personal Investigation of the Evidence for Jesus] Strobell, Lee
Using the dramatic scenario of an investigative journalist pursuing his story and leads, Strobel uses his experience as a reporter for the Chicago Tribune to interview experts about the evidence for Christ from the fields of science, philosophy, and history. Read by Dick Fredricks.

The Case for Faith [Sound Recording] Strobel, Lee
Was God telling the truth when he said, "You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart?" In his #1 best-seller The Case for Christ, Lee Strobel examined the claims of Christ, reaching the hard-won verdict that Jesus is God's unique son. But despite the compelling historical evidence that Strobel presented, many people grapple with serious concerns about faith in God. As in a court of law, they want to shout, "Objection " They say, "If God is love, then what about all the suffering in our world? What about hell? What about those who never heard of Jesus?" In The Case for Faith, Strobel turns his journalistic skills to the most persistent emotional objections to belief--the eight "heart" barriers to faith. The Case for Faith is for those who may be feeling attracted to Jesus but who are faced with intellectual barriers. It will also deepen the convictions of Christians and give them fresh confidence in discussing Christianity with even their most skeptical friends.

The Case for the Real Jesus [Sound Recording]: [A Journalist Investigates Current Attacks on the Identity of Christ] Strobel, Lee
Focusing on rediscovering the real Jesus, whose identity and message have come under attack in recent years, the author, an investigative journalist, addresses six major challenges and claims and attacks the issues through experts who refute each objection.

Cast of Characters: Common People in the Hands of an Uncommon God Lucado, Max
Some of the most powerful stories from the Bible will come alive for today's readers through these inspiring selections from the writings of Max Lucado. Max provides a compelling look at the most high-impact moments in the biblical narrative, drawn from his previous 20+ years of writing.

Comfort My People: a Policy Statement on Serious Mental Illness with Study Guide
A policy statement on serious mental illness with study guide.

Connecting to the Creed

A guide for understanding and applying the centennial Social Creed, adopted by ecumenical representatives of 35 Protestant and

Orthodox church communions for 2008.

Cure for the Common Life: Living in Your Sweet Spot Lucado, Max
Best-selling author Lucado offers practical tools for exploring and identifying one's own "sweet spot"--a zone or life precinct created by God and meant for exclusive dwelling by an individual.

Desiring God: Meditations of a Christian Hedonist Piper, John
Scripture reveals that the great business of life is to glorify God by enjoying Him forever. In this paradigm-shattering classic, John Piper reveals that the debate between duty and delight doesn't truly exist: Delight is our duty. Join him on a dramatically different and joyful experience of your faith.

Experiencing God: Knowing and Doing the Will of God Blackaby, Henry T.
The Experiencing God ministry is even more vibrant today than when it began. As it continues to rise, and the world continues to change, the "Experiencing God "book has been revised and expanded with more than seventy percent of its material newly written.

Fear Not Tomorrow, God Is Already There Graham, Ruth
Discover the all-sufficiency of God and His power. Replace fear with hope and anticipation. Grow in your understanding of who God is. You will never look at tomorrow through the same eyes again.

Fearless: Imagine Your Life Without Fear Lucado, Max
Each sunrise seems to bring fresh reasons for fear. They're talking layoffs at work, slowdowns in the economy, flare-ups in the Middle East, turnovers at headquarters, downturns in the housing market, upswings in global warming. The plague of our day, terrorism, begins with the word "terror." Fear, it seems, has taken up a hundred-year lease on the building next door and set up shop. Oversized and rude, fear herds us into a prison of unlocked doors. Wouldn't it be great to walk out? Imagine your life, wholly untouched by angst. What if faith, not fear, was your default reaction to threats? If you could hover a fear magnet over your heart and extract every last shaving of dread, insecurity, or doubt, what would remain? Envision a day, just one day, where you could trust more and fear less.

Fifty Reason Why Jesus Came to Die Piper, John
WHY? The most important questions anyone can ask are: Why was Jesus Christ crucified? Why did He suffer so much? What has this to do with me? Finally, who sent Him to His death? The answer to the last question is God did. Jesus was God's son. The suffering was unsurpassed, but the whole message of the Bible leads to the answer. The central issue with Jesus death is not the cause, but the meaning, God's meaning. This is what the book is about. John Piper has gathered from the New Testament fifty reasons. Not fifty causes, but fifty purposes, in answer to the most important question each one of us face. What did God achieve for sinners like us in sending His Son to die?

Finding God in The Shack: Seeking Truth in a Story of Evil and Redemption Olson, Roger E.
Roger Olson, who has faced his own Great Sadness, finds a good deal of comfort in this much beloved, story as have so many others. Some may ask, however, Is God really like that? Is that really how God responds to evil? Can God be trusted? Olson also views The Shack with a theologian's eye and finds much sound truth. He delves into many of the significant issues raised by the book such as forgiving those who have done us great evil, how God acts in the world, how God is three persons in one and what difference this makes to us. While he offers his own criticisms of the book, he largely finds the truth about God in The Shack. --from publisher description

Finding God in Unexpected Places Yancey, Philip.
An Atlanta slum. A pod of whales off the coast of Alaska. The prisons of Peru and Chile. The plays of Shakespeare. A health club in Chicago. For those with eyes to see, traces of God can be found in the most unexpected places. Yet many Christians have not only missed seeing God, they've overlooked opportunities to make him visible to those most in need of hope. In this enlightening book author Philip Yancey serves as an insightful tour guide for those willing to look beyond the obvious, pointing out glimpses of the eternal where few might think to look. Whether finding God among the newspaper headlines, within the church, or on the job, Yancey delves deeply into the commonplace and surfaces with rich spiritual insight. "Finding God in Unexpected Places" takes readers from Ground Zero to the Horn of Africa, and each stop along the way reveals footprints of God, touches of his truth and grace that prompt readers to search deeper within their own lives for glimpses of transcendence.

Fingerprints of God: Recognizing God's Touch on Your Life Rothschild, Jennifer
This interactive Bible study for women exposes the wonder of God's touch upon our lives. Participants will discover that when they experience God's touch, they will recognize six things: honor, intimacy, shelter, guidance, redemption, and refinement. And just like clay in the skilled hands of a potter, God's touch molds us and shapes us from glory to glory. Encouraging, practical, engaging, and challenging, this study communicates Jennifer's personal experience in receiving and giving the touch of God. (6 sessions)

First Place: The Bible's Way to Weight Loss Moore, Beth

First Things First: the Rules of Being a Warner Warner, Kurt
Kurt Warner is the two-time NFL MVP-winning quarterback of the Arizona Cardinals. Brenda Warner is an ex-Marine turned stay-at-home mom who collects coats for low-income kids and rocks babies to sleep at a hospital for chronically-ill infants. Together they're the parents of seven, going into their 12th year of marriage, and founders of a foundation that helps disadvantaged children and families. Their formula for success? They put "First Things First"-family, faith, and giving to others-it's their family motto, and it drives everything they do. "First Things First "is an honest, insightful, and entertaining look at life inside the Warner household. Kurt and Brenda speak candidly about their marriage, the values they are working to instill in their kids, things they've done right, mistakes they've made, the importance of giving back, and the legacy they hope to leave behind. Includes a 16-page full-color photo insert.

Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations Schnase, Robert C.
Schnase contends that successful congregations often have certain characteristics in common. These fundamental practices demonstrate congregational health, vitality, and fruitfulness. They also help churches fulfill their mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

From Homelessness to Hope: Constructing Just, Sustainable Communities for All God's People

Found In The Middle!: Theology And Ethics For Christians Who Are Both Liberal And Evangelical Wildman, Wesley J.
Found in the Middle! offers a foundational approach to the theology and ethics that undergird a congregation where moderate Christians can thrive. Wildman and Garner serve as helpful guides on a quest for a humble theology, an intelligible gospel message, a compelling view of church unity, and a radical ethics deeply satisfying to most Christians with both liberal and evangelical instincts.

Fresh Wind, Fresh Fire: What Happens When God's Spirit Invades the Heart of His People Cymbala, Jim
The story of what happened to this broken-down church in one of America's meanest neighborhoods points the way to new spiritual vitality in the church and in your own life. Fresh Wind, Fresh Fire shows what the Holy Spirit can do when believers get serious about prayer and the Gospel. As this compelling book reveals, God moves in life-changing ways when we set aside our own agendas, take him at his word, and listen for his voice.

Giving: Growing Joyful Stewards in Your Congregation

This annual stewardship magazine has helpful articles, worship resources, planning guides and information on ordering additional 2009 Stewardship Theme Material.

God Is Closer than You Think: this Can Be the Greatest Moment of Your Life Because this Moment Is the Place Where You Can Meet God Ortberg, John
According to the author, every moment of one's life is like a page in a "Where's Waldo" book. "God is there, the Scriptures tell us--on every one of them. But the ease with which he may be found varies from one page to the next. God is closer than you think!"

God Wins: A Look at the Mysteries of Revelation Meer, Lew Vander
This 8-session DVD-based study will draw you into the triumphant message of Revelation: God wins! This kit includes DVD segments by Rev. Lew Vander Meer, a session guide with activities and discussion questions, and a leader guide

Good News Bible: Today's English Version

Good to Great in God's Eyes: 10 Practices Great Christians Have in Common Ingram, Chip
Good to Great in God's Eyes shows how Christians can honor God with lives of great faith and excellent work. Believers become great in God's eyes by applying the 10 common characteristics of great Christians: - think great thoughts - read great books - pursue great people - dream great dreams - pray great prayers - take great risks - make great sacrifices - enjoy great moments - empower

great people - develop great habits Using Scripture, personal stories, and examples from Christians who left a lasting legacy, Best-selling author Chip Ingram offers practical steps for becoming great in all areas of life, in spiritual growth, family, relationships, and career.

Healthy Congregations Facilitator Manual Supplement (Inductive Methods) Verner, Sallie & Barnett, Elaine

Healthy Congregations Workshop 1 - 4 Stienke Peter, Dr.
Relationships in Healthy Congregations Series of 4 Workshops.1 - Creating Healthy Congregations,2-Healthy Congregations Respond to Anxiety and Change,3-Leadership In A Healthy Congregation,4-Relationships In A Healthy Congregation

Healthy Congregations Workshop 5 & 6 Stienke Peter, Dr.
Relationships in Healthy Congregations Series of 4 Workshops.1 - Creating Healthy Congregations,2-Healthy Congregations Respond to Anxiety and Change,3-Leadership In A Healthy Congregation,4-Relationships In A Healthy Congregation

Heaven Alcorn, Randy
We all have questions about what heaven will be like. Randy Alcorn helps answer some of these questions by sharing from his extensive research on the topic--all from a biblical perspective. His writing will surprise readers and stretch their thinking beyond anything they've imagined heaven to be like. "Heaven will help readers strive for eternity while they're living on earth.

Heaven Is Real: Lessons on Earthly Joy-- from the Man Who Spent 90 Minutes in Heaven Piper, Don
So how should we spend our time on Earth? Don Piper, the Minister of Hope who spent 90 minutes in Heaven, brings us God's message. Millions believe in Heaven. Don Piper's been there. He was pronounced dead after a car accident on January 18, 1989. Ninety minutes later, Piper came back to life with an extraordinary story. His "90 Minutes in Heaven" has strengthened the faith of countless people. When Piper returned to this life, he had a long road back to health, dealing with painful treatments and physical disabilities--the "new normal," as Piper calls it. Still, he had been transformed spiritually and this allowed him not only to cope with his suffering, but to transcend it. Piper found purpose in his pain, he found the message in the mess, and so can anyone else who embraces God's grace in the here and now--as well as the Hereafter. Don Piper did not return from Heaven alone--he brought the gift of hope back with him. Those who read "Heaven Is Real" can use what he learned to live the lives God has called them to live.

The Hedge People: How I Kept my Sanity and Sense of Humor as an Alzheimer's Caregiver Carery, Louise
Caring for those with Alzheimer's can be emotionally depleting. Frustration often dominates the day as you try to bridge the gap between real life and a person who has lost touch with reality. Combine that with the grief over the loss of the person you used to know and a haunting fear of what is to come and it seems as though life will never see laughter and joy again. But it does. In her collection of true stories, author Louise Carey conveys attitudes and techniques for treating dementia patients with respect while also finding humor in the unusual and frustrating situations encountered by the caregiver. The Hedge People offers caregivers solace in the stories and joy in the journey as they face the daily challenges of care giving with God's help. Filled with humor, warmth, and encouragement, each chapter includes a caregiver prayer, a leading question for reflection, and space to journal.

If God Is Good--: Faith in the midst of Suffering and Evil Alcorn, Randy C.
In this captivating new book, best-selling author Randy Alcorn challenges the logic of disbelief, and brings a fresh, realistic, and thoroughly biblical insight to the issues these important questions raise.

Israel - God's Chosen People

For the very first time you can listen to The Word of God describe the events and scenes of God's Chosen People and their "Promised Land." Follow 4,000 years of history of the Old Testament from the Creation through the redemption of man. God's Plan for man was fulfilled through a Chosen People called the Jews - in a promised land called Israel

The Jesus You Can't Ignore: What You must Learn from the Bold Confrontations of Christ MacArthur, John
In the much-needed message in "The Jesus You Can't Ignore," renowned Bible teacher and best-selling author John MacArthur reintroduces the compelling and often unsettling passion of Jesus' ministry. MacArthur points to the compelling picture of the real Jesus the world is so eager to gloss over. And he calls readers to emulate Jesus' commitment to further the kingdom by confronting lies and protecting the truth of God.

John Wayne Movie: Bible Study Skelton, Steven

The John Wayne Movie Bible Study will help you reach adults, youth, non-church members - even to refresh the world-weary souls of long-time believers! With practical applications for daily living, this video-based Bible study features a classic film with relevant scriptures for you to use as a modern parable on the teaching of Jesus.

Johnny Cash and the Great American Contradiction: Christianity and the Battle for the Soul of a Nation Clapp, Rodney

"I highly endorse this powerful work. Clapp raises an essential question that we all need to meditate upon. 'Can someone be both a conscientious Christian and a loyal American?' There is no banal answer in this as Clapp helps us wrestle with what it means to be a Christian and an American, and give us vision to see how both need not cancel out the other."

Joshua: A Journey of Faith Mikhael, Mary

In the nine lessons of Joshua: A Journey of Faith, Mary Mikhael invites us to explore the challenging, sometimes heartrending, book of Joshua. Pursuing such themes as leadership, the promise of land, the concept of "holy war", and outsiders becoming insiders, we learn ultimately to find rest in the justice and mercy of God.

Just like Jesus Lucado, Max

In "Just Like Jesus", master storyteller Max Lucado portrays the image of changing from a sinful being--filled with guilt, doubt, anxiety and bad habits--to Christlikeness. Lucado asks, "What if, for one day, Jesus became you?" With this simple premise, Lucado tells how God loves people just the way they are, but Christ refuses to leave them that way. An award-winning work now in comfort print.

- Kilowatt Ours: A Plan to Re-Energize America Barrie, Jeff
 Find out how Jeff and his wife Heather cut their energy bills in half and use a portion of the savings to buy green power.
- Know Your Story and Lead with It: the Power of Narrative in Clergy Leadership Hester, Richard L. (Richard Loren)
 The aim of this book is to show leaders how to explore their story of reality, tell it to other group members, and consider how it can be used as a resource for leadership. This narrative perspective holds that because there's always more than one story about a situation, we have choices about which story we will embrace.
- The Legacy of Billy Graham: Critical Reflections on America's Greatest Evangelist Long, Michael G.
 Perhaps no individual person has had more of an effect on twentieth-century American Christianity than the renowned evangelist Billy Graham. And although Graham's influence on evangelicalism has long been recognized, Michael G. Long's The Legacy of Billy Graham is the first book to examine his impact on mainline Christianity and American civil religion.
- The Life and Teachings of John Calvin Bratt, John H.
 A study manual of the life and teachings of John Calvin.
- Living Beyond Yourself: Exploring the Fruit of the Spirit Moore, Beth
 Living Beyond Yourself: Exploring the Fruit of The Spirit by Beth Moore is a 10-week interactive Bible study of the fruit of The Spirit as presented in the book of Galatians and concentrating on Galatians 5:22-23. Beth walks participants through each trait listed in the fruit and encourages women to know the freedom of a Spirit-filled life
- Living the Lord's Prayer Haase, Albert
 Contained in the Lord's Prayer is a complete picture of our life with God. Covering topics ranging from our view of God to our most intimate human relationships to how we treat the world around us and the people in it, this beloved prayer is a trustworthy guide for spiritual formation and a compact handbook for holiness.
- Longing for God: Seven Paths of Christian Devotion Foster, Richard J.
 Foster and Beebe, both experienced leaders in spiritual formation, introduce readers to people from the past who have known God deeply. Each person helps explain one of the seven primary paths to intimacy with God that have been developed throughout Christian history.
- Low Carbon Diet: a 30-day Program to Lose 5,000 Pounds Gershon, David
 The average American household generates 55,000 pounds of carbon dioxide every year. Gershon explains how, by making specific changes to actions we already take every day, we can significantly reduce our CO₂ emissions.
- The Magnificent Obsession: Embracing the God-filled Life Lotz, Anne Graham
 What is missing from lives that seem full, but are actually hollow at the core? The author says the answer is knowing God intimately

as Abraham did--and being known by Him--as His friend.

Marriage Built to Last: Living Intentionally & Loving Biblically Ingram, Chip

Research has shown that over 50% of Marriages are ending in divorce. That is why we've partnered with Pastor Chip Ingram of Living on the Edge Radio Program, financial guru Dave Ramsey and Super Bowl MVP Kurt Warner to tackle the common issues couples are facing in their marriages today. Marriage: Built to Last isn't your typical marriage study. Throughout the series, you'll watch 24 real life couples from across the country share candidly about their struggles in communication, finances, sexual intimacy, expectations, and more. In the study, you will hear the story of Dave Ramsey and his wife Sharon as they recovered from financial stress and hardship. You will hear the story of Kurt Warner and his wife Brenda share candidly about expectations, trust issues, and adjusting to a blended family.

Mere Christianity Lewis, C. S.

One of the most popular and beloved introductions to Christian faith ever written, "Mere Christianity" has sold millions of copies worldwide. The book brings together Lewis's legendary broadcast talks of the war years, talks in which he set out simply to "explain and defend the belief that has been common to nearly all Christians at all times."

Moses: the Deliverance of Israel and God's Commands Master Books

In this book, yo will retrace the stages of a great journey from slavery to freedom. You will meet the King of Egypt, the Israelites, and Moses. You will hear about the amazing love of God that seeks freedom for all who suffer oppression.

Mudhouse Sabbath - DVD Workshop Winner, Lauren F.

Divided into seven sections or lessons, with discussion topics filmed on location, this 65-minute DVD resource will help you or your study group explore how our faith is rooted in ancient, Jewish, spiritual traditions and ritual. Through the expertise and personal experiences of Lauren Winner, Mudhouse Sabbath DVD will challenge you to practice your faith in ways that are biblical, Christ-like, and imminently practical

Mudhouse Sabbath: An Invitation to a Life of Spiritual Discipline Winner, Lauren F.

After her conversion from Orthodox Judaism to Christianity, Lauren Winner found that her life was indelibly marked by the rich traditions and spiritual practices of Judaism. She set out to discover how she could incorporate some of these practices into her new faith. Winner presents eleven Jewish spiritual practices that can transform the way Christians view the world and God. Whether discussing attentive eating, marking the days while grieving, the community that supports a marriage, candle-lighting, or the differences between the Jewish Sabbath and a Sunday spent at the Mudhouse, her favorite coffee shop, Winner writes with appealing honesty and rare insight.

The New Shape of World Christianity: How American Experience Reflects Global Faith Noll, Mark A.

In this book Mark Noll revisits the history of the American church in the context of world events. He makes the case that how Americans have come to practice the Christian faith is just as globally important as what the American church has done in the world.

He backs up this claim, lucidly explaining the relationship between the development of Christianity in North America and the development of Christianity in the rest of the world, with attention to recent transfigurations in world Christianity. -- from publisher description.

The next Evangelicalism: Releasing the Church from Western Cultural Captivity Rah, Soong-chan
Soong-Chan Rah calls the North American church to escape its Western cultural captivity and to embody a next evangelicalism that is diverse and multiethnic. This prophetic minority report casts a vision for a dynamic evangelicalism that fully embodies the cultural realities of the twenty-first century.

The Owner's Manual for Christians: the Essential Guide for a God-honoring Life Swindoll, Charles R.
Best-selling author Charles Swindoll uses clear, biblical teaching and pastoral instruction to show Christians the essentials of the Christian life. The instant after salvation, the new believer's question is: "What next? How should I live now that my life has changed?" What they discover, and what every Christian discovers, is that living a life that glorifies God requires mastering some basics, nothing more nothing less. Yet most honest Christians would say that sin persists in their lives, and walking the walk can be harder than it looks. Written for all believers, "The Owner's Manual for Christians "captures the essentials of the Christian life in simple, inspiring terms. Clear biblical teaching and pastoral instruction encourages readers onto the Christian life they long for . . . and can have. It just takes a God-given desire for obedience and the practical applications this book teaches. This will be a must-have for every Christian for years to come.

Piece Work/peace Work: Working Together for Peace and Sudan: a Study for Children Gee, Martha Bettis
This study is designed for elementary children from Grades 1-6.

Pocket Dictionary of Church History Feldmeth, Nathan P.
The Pocket Dictionary of Church History is designed to help students identify the people, places, events, movements and ideas that checker the story of the church through the ages.

Prayer: Does it Make Any Difference? Yancey, Philip
In his most powerful book since What's So Amazing About Grace? and The Jesus I Never Knew, Philip Yancey probes the very heartbeat—the most fundamental, challenging, perplexing, and deeply rewarding aspect—of our relationship with God: prayer. What is prayer? How does it work? And more importantly, does it work? In theory, prayer is the essential human act, a priceless point of contact between us and the God of the universe. In practice, prayer is often frustrating, confusing, and fraught with mystery. Prayer: Does It Make Any Difference? is an exploration of the mysterious intersection where God and humans meet and relate. Writing as a fellow pilgrim, Yancey explores such questions as: •Is God listening? •Why should God care about me? •If God knows everything, what's the point of prayer? •Why do answers to prayer seem so inconsistent and capricious? •Why does God seem sometimes close and sometimes far away? •How can I make prayer more satisfying? "I have found that the most important purpose of prayer may be to let ourselves be loved by God," says Yancey. Prayer: Does It Make Any Difference? encourages us to pray to God the Father who sees what lies ahead of us, knows what lies within us, and who invites us into an eternal partnership—through prayer.

Praying God's Word: Breaking Free from Spiritual Strongholds Moore, Beth
Beth Moore's #1 best-selling book (more than one million copies in print) is available in paperback for the first time "Praying God's Word "is the perennial favorite Scripture-prayer resource designed to help us decisively overcome specific strongholds: pride, idolatry, addiction, loss, depression, unbelief, temptation, and more. No matter how overwhelmed or out of control a person may feel today, Beth boldly reminds us that nothing is bigger or more powerful than the Lord. With this landmark book we learn to wield the sword of the Spirit, praying God's Word to break free from anything that has a hold on us until the joy and authority of Christ rules in our lives.

The Promise of Christmas Augustine, Peg
Based on the biblical account, The Promise of Christmas tells of the angel's visits to yung Mary and ever-faithful Joseph, the journey to Bethlehem, the birth of baby Jesus, and the visits of the shepherds and the wise men.

Quiet Strength: [The Principles, Practices & Priorities of a Winning Life] Dungy, Tony
Tony Dungy's words and example have intrigued millions of people, particularly following his victory in Super Bowl XLI, the first for an African American coach. How is it possible for a coach--especially a football coach--to win the respect of his players and lead them to the Super Bowl without the screaming histrionics, the profanities, and the demand that the sport come before anything else? How is it possible for anyone to be successful without compromising faith and family? In this inspiring and reflective memoir, now updated with a new chapter, Coach Dungy tells the story of a life lived for God and family--and challenges us all to redefine our ideas of what it means to succeed.

A Ready Hope: Effective Disaster Ministry for Congregations Haueisen, Kathryn M.
A Ready Hope is an initiation for people of faith who are new to the ministry of disaster preparedness and response. By disaster most people usually mean something that results in significant loss, destruction, hardship, and injury or death to the residents of an area. Authors Kathy Haueisen and Carol Flores have both personal and professional experience dealing with the disaster of the tropical storms and hurricanes that have roared through the Gulf Coast region in the past decade. Residents of Houston, Texas, they have worked closely with ecumenical faith-based and other non-governmental networks, governmental groups, judicatory leaders, and congregations as they have assisted those affected by these circumstances. They share their experience to help congregations facing situations from large-scale disasters to less severe, local conditions.

Seasons of the Soul: Stages of Spiritual Development Demarest, Bruce A.
Spiritual formation professor and New Testament scholar Bruce Demarest helps us grasp the whole picture of the journey we're on with Christ that we might live our days with intention and keep moving toward maturity in faith. Using Scripture, writings from our rich spiritual tradition and stories of present-day believers walking the same path of faith, the Demarest leads us through the three main stages of the journey to become more like Christ.

Simple Life: Time, Relationships, Money, God Rainer, Thomas S. & Art
The research and change methods that made "Simple Church "a multiawarded, #1 ministry best seller are now applied to everyday

matters in "Simple Life." Authors Thom S. Rainer and Art Rainer interviewed a cross-section of 1,077 individuals to confirm that most people feel their lives are overly stressful and misguided, not allowing enough time for what really counts. As they share these highly relatable stories, the Rainers chart a simple path from joyless to joyful. Breaking life down into four key sections (Time, Relationships, God, Money), the authors show how four key goals (Clarity, Movement, Alignment, Focus) can begin to foster a life that is more spiritual and less busy, a life rich in experiences with family and friends rather than double-booked to-do lists and late nights at the office. The book even lays out an easy-to-follow action plan that will move readers assuredly toward the simple life in just thirty days.

A Skeptic's Guide to Faith Yancey, Philip
A Skeptic's Guide to Faith reads like a conversation, inviting those skeptical of religion and turned off by the church to consider the possibility of an unseen world coexisting with our visible world.

Spiritual Leadership for Church Officers Gray, Joan S.
This timely new leadership guide for the PC(USA) is written for church officers looking for a deepened relationship with God as they serve the church. Gray challenges elders and deacons to see themselves as spiritual leaders and equips them to act as spiritual leaders alongside their pastors. This helpful volume also provides resources for dealing with interpersonal relationships in the church and identifies ways in which churches can create an atmosphere that supports the spiritual leadership of elders and deacons.

Strategic Leadership for Schools: Creating and Sustaining Productive Change Mauriel, John J.
This book shows how local school administrators can apply a broad range of corporate leadership approaches to help plan and implement strategic change within school districts.

Tending to the Holy: the Practice of the Presence of God in Ministry Epperly, Bruce Gordon.
Tending to the Holy invites pastors to embody their deepest beliefs in the routine and surprising tasks of ministry. Inspired by Brother Lawrence's classic text in spirituality, The Practice of the Presence of God, Tending to the Holy integrates the wisdom and practices of the Christian spiritual tradition with the commonplace practices of pastoral ministry. Bruce and Katherine Epperly utilize a variety of spiritual disciplines—especially Benedictine, Celtic, Ignatian, Rhineland, and process spiritualities—to provide a framework for helping clergy nurture the awareness of God, creative imagination, and personal well-being in every aspect of their ministerial lives.

To Live is Christ: Joining Paul's Journey of Faith Moore, Beth
For the apostle Paul - author of most of the books of the New Testaments - life with Christ was a total 180 degree turn from where he had been. From Christian basher to Christian Champion. From church attacker to church father. Truly, when Jesus captured Paul's soul, He got all of him.

Too Busy Not to Pray: Slowing Down to Be with God Hybels, Bill
Most of us have trouble finding time to pray. There's church and school and neighborhood and job and friends and recreation. And

then the crises hit Time for prayer seems an impossible luxury. As a pastor, Bill Hybels knows hundreds of people with schedules like this. Yet in his own life he has made the hard discovery that prayer doesn't happen on the run. He decided he was too busy not to pray. Hybels's accessible introduction to prayer has already helped over 400,000 readers develop a rich and regular prayer life in the midst of life's busyness. Now, in this revised and expanded 10th anniversary edition, he includes new insights from his years of ministry and his own spiritual journey. He shows how to slow down to pray, listen to God, respond to what we hear, practice the presence of God and overcome prayer barriers. His fun and practical book offers the resources we need for growing, ongoing experiences in prayer.

The Turnaround Church: Inspiration and Tools for Life-sustaining Change Gifford, Mary Louise.

The Turnaround Church is the story of Wollaston Congregational Church United Church of Christ, a 130-year-old congregation that once was thriving in ministry, membership, mission, music, and money. For half a century, however, the church had slowly declined and was considering closing its doors. The two dozen remaining members knew they had to change, but did not know how. They had very little money left, but they were willing to risk it all.

What Would Jesus Do? In His Step Sheldon, Charles M.

Purchase of this book includes free trial access to www.million-books.com where you can read more than a million books for free. This is an OCR edition with typos. Excerpt from book: CHAPTER II. "He that saith he abideth in Him ought himself also to walk even as He walked." DWARD NORMAN, editor of the Raymond "Daily News," sat in his office room Monday morning and faced a new world of action. He had made his pledge in good faith to do everything after asking, "What would Jesus do?" and as he supposed with his eyes open to all the possible results. But as the regular life of the paper started on another week's rush and whirl of activity he confronted it with a degree of hesitation and a feeling nearly akin to fear. He had come down to the office very early and for a few minutes was by himself. He sat at his desk in a growing thoughtfulness that finally became a desire which he knew was as great as it was unusual. He had yet to learn, with all the others in that little company pledged to do the Christlike thing, that the Spirit of Life was moving in power through his own life as never before. He rose and shut his door and then did what he had not done for years. He kneeled down by his desk and prayed for the divine presence and wisdom to direct him. He rose with the day before him and his promise distinct and clear in his mind. "Now for action," he seemed to say. But he would be led by events as fast as they came on. He opened his door and began the routine of the office work. The managing editor had just come in and was at his desk in the adjoining room. One of the reporters there was pounding out something on a typewriter. Edward Norman began an editorial. The "Daily News" was an evening paper and Norman usually completed his leading editorial before eight o'clock. He had been writing about fifteen minutes when the managing editor called out, "Here's this press report of yesterday's prize fight at the Resort. It will make up three columns and ...

The Will of God: Answering the Hard Questions Howell, James C.

How are we to know "the will of God?" In this honest discussion, veteran pastor and theologian James C. Howell considers a number of issues relating to God's will, how it is known, how it is done, and how we respond when bad things happen and we feel God is absent or has turned away from us. In this sensitive presentation, Howell explores these questions and provides ways of recognizing the true things to which we can hold in the midst of hard times. Howell proceeds simply and practically to consider

personal understandings of God, God's will for our lives, and ways in which God's will is lived. He reflects on what to do and believe when bad things happen, "why they happen, and the quest for God in the midst of it all, recognizing that God's will is for good. Howell provides pastoral and theological help for the issues we face in life, showing us what we can do and how to "believe even more deeply in God, even as we grieve losses, resist evil, and muster hope." Questions for discussion accompany each chapter.

The Wisdom of the Seasons: How the Church Year Helps Us Understand Our Congregational Stories Olsen, Charles M.
The church year is often seen as a framework for church programs, but well-known Alban author Charles Olsen shows readers how it can be a prism through which congregations more deeply understand their own stories. By weaving together our narratives and those of Christian tradition, a congregation can clarify its identity, grow in wisdom, and discover a new vision and ministry. Olsen draws parallels between the church seasons and practices of spiritual formation--letting go, naming and celebrating God's presence, and taking hold. He shows us how these movements are expressed in the three major cycles of the church year--Christmas, Easter, and Pentecost. Focusing on communal narratives, he presents a process for telling a story and forming a corporate memory of the story, and then deepening and reflecting on it by exploring the season of the church year that captures its character. Readers will appreciate the real stories from congregational life and ministry--each rooted in and illuminated by a season of the church year. Through these stories, readers learn how to claim the treasure of the seasons for communal spiritual formation, church leadership, and governance.

With Hearts & Hands Uplifted

Each daily devotion includes a cherished hymn or carol, Scripture readings and author commentary.