

New Resources March 2015

Date: 2015-04-06

ADULTS 212.7 Hybels, Bill. **Celebrating God: Discover the Truth of God's Character.**

HYBELS Grand Rapids, Mich: Zondervan, 2010.

Summary: A stadium full of football fans jump to their feet and cheer with deafening volume when a game-winning pass is caught. Family members gather every year to give gifts and sing choruses of Happy Birthday. Friends congregate just to have a party ... they hardly need a reason. In the Bible God instituted festivals and feasts. There is something in the human spirit that loves to rejoice, shout, and celebrate ... and God likes it that way. We were created for celebration, and the focal point of our praise should always be God. When we get glimpses of His character, expressions of joy should spontaneously erupt. God is a refuge; He is generous and righteous, full of extravagant love toward us. The Maker of heaven and earth is relational, He guides us, and He will never leave us. It's time to discover God's character and make Him the focal point of our celebration. Six sessions. --Zondervan

ADULTS Johnson, Luke Timothy. **The Story of the Bible Course Guidebook.**

220.09 Chantilly, Va: The Teaching Company, 2006.

JOHNSON

Summary: In *The Story of the Bible*, renowned scholar Luke Timothy Johnson can illuminate for you the remarkable and complicated process by which this great book came into being. Tracing the development of biblical texts across millennia, Professor Johnson takes you on a journey from the farthest reaches of ancient history through antiquity and the Middle Ages up to the present. You'll learn about the many forms the Bible has taken and the ways history, scholarship, and technology have helped shape this great tradition, as well as the Bible's powerful influence on human history and culture. Our journey takes us inside medieval monasteries where scribe monks copied scripture into beautifully illuminated manuscripts. We'll venture into the caves of Qumran where the Dead Sea Scrolls lay hidden for hundreds of years and examine how the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem forever changed the way the Jews read their sacred texts. Throughout this enthralling story, you'll develop a deep appreciation for the tremendous power of this astonishing book—one that has endured through centuries and touched the lives of countless millions. 24 sessions. --The Great Courses

ADULTS Johnson, Luke Timothy. **The Story of the Bible DVD.** Chantilly, Va: The

220.09 Teaching Company, 2006.

JOHNSON

Summary: In *The Story of the Bible*, renowned scholar Luke Timothy Johnson can illuminate for you the remarkable and complicated process by which this great book came into being. Tracing the development of biblical texts across millennia, Professor Johnson takes you on a journey from the farthest reaches of ancient history through antiquity and the Middle Ages up to the present. You'll learn about the many forms the Bible has taken and the ways history, scholarship, and technology have helped shape this great tradition, as well as the Bible's powerful influence on human history and culture. Our journey takes us inside medieval monasteries where scribe monks copied scripture into beautifully illuminated manuscripts. We'll venture into the caves of Qumran where the Dead Sea Scrolls lay hidden for hundreds of years and examine how the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem forever changed the way the Jews read their sacred texts. Throughout this enthralling story, you'll develop a deep appreciation for the tremendous power of this astonishing book—one that has endured through centuries and touched the lives of countless millions. 24 sessions. --The Great Courses

ADULTS
220.8598
BLUE

Blue, Debbie. **Consider the Birds: A Provocative Guide to Birds of the Bible.** Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2013.

Summary: From biblical times to today, people have found meaning and significance in the actions and symbolism of birds. We admire their mystery and manners, their strength and fragility, their beauty and their ugliness—and perhaps compare these very characteristics to our own lives in the process. From the well-known image of the dove to the birds that gorge on the flesh of the defeated “beast” in Revelation, birds play a dynamic part in Scripture. They bring bread to the prophets. They are food for the wanderers. As sacrifices, they are the currency of mercy. They also challenge, offend, devour, and fight. Highlighting 10 birds throughout Scripture, author Debbie Blue explores their significance in both familiar and unfamiliar biblical stories and illustrates how and why they have represented humanity across culture, Christian tradition, art, and contemporary psyche. With these (usually) minor characters at the forefront of human imaginations, poignant life lessons illuminate such qualities as desire and gratitude, power and vulnerability, insignificance and importance—and provide us with profound lessons about humanity, faith, and God’s mysterious grace. --Cokesbury

ADULTS
220.92
BRYAN

Bryan, Tim. **Bible People: Prophets.** Nashville: Abingdon Press, [1996].

Summary: This study contains seven 45-minute sessions using the Bible Discovery Method™ to help participants examine Bible reference tools and discover information and insights about specific biblical persons. Reference books such as commentaries, atlases, and Bible dictionaries are used with this study. *Examine the lives of Jeremiah; Isaiah; John the Baptist; Anna; Huldah; Nathan; and Miriam. --Cokesbury

Content Notes:

- Introduction -- Quick Lead -- Icons -- The Bible Discovery Method -- Bible People and Study Skills -- Isaiah -- Jeremiah -- John the Baptist -- Anna -- Huldah -- Nathan -- Miriam -- Basic Bible Reference Tools

ADULTS
221.04 ADAIR

Adair, Sharilyn S. **Commitment : Committed to Doing Right .** Nashville, Tenn. : Abingdon Press, 2006.

Summary: Designed for adult Sunday school classes, this series features short-term Bible studies ideal for organizing new groups and for assimilating newer members into the fuller life of the congregation. The studies examine great themes that are universally relevant for faith formation, including call, creation, covenant, Christ, commitment, and community. Commitment: Committed to Doing Right looks at several Old Testament prophets and the historical contexts for their messages in Second Kings and Second Chronicles. The messages of the prophets consistently pointed to the relationship with God and its requirements for God's people. Includes seven sessions. Each session lasts 45-60 minutes.

ADULTS
225.92
WRIGHT

Wright, N. T. **The Apostle Paul: Purpose and Passion.** Forest, Va: CARES, Date of publication not identified.

Summary: Lesson 1: The Apostle Paul - Paul saw himself as straddling the past and the future, the Jews and the Gentiles, the old covenant and the new. How did Paul, a Pharisaic Jew, become the champion of Christianity? Lesson 2: God’s New Creation - Paul believed that in Jesus, God had brought the future redemption into the present. In Jesus, the new Exodus from slavery to freedom had arrived. What did Paul mean by this? Lesson 3: God’s New People - Paul tells his readers in Galatia and in Rome that God had declared those “in Christ” to be justified and declared righteous. How were God’s “redeemed” to live and act? What instructions does Paul give to his churches

and followers? Lesson 4: Paul's Understanding of Jesus - Paul believed that in Jesus, God's future for Israel had arrived. In Jesus, the God of Israel was personally present. In Jesus, God had come to defeat the powers of the world. How did Paul, a monotheistic Jew, come to believe that Jesus was divine? Lesson 5: Paul's View of Resurrection - Jesus' followers were to be, in the midst of the Roman Empire, a colony for God's kingdom on earth. At the end of the age, all they would be changed. But changed into what? Lesson 6: Paul For Today - According to Paul, in the person of Jesus, the new eschatological age had arrived. Then why is God's creation still groaning and suffering? What is Paul's word for today? Includes printable discussion guide on CD-ROM. --CARES Online

ADULTS 226.1 Wright, N. T. **The Gospels: Four Stories, One Jesus.** Forest, Va: CARES, WRIGHT Date of publication not identified.

Summary: 1. The Four Gospels. An introduction to the gospels--authorship, when and where written, and sources - and why they were written and the stories they tell. 2. Matthew: The Scriptures are Fulfilled! Matthew tells his readers that Jesus fulfilled the Old Testament messianic prophecies--and also fulfilled Israel's 'story.' Matthew's Jesus is Emmanuel -- "God-with-us." 3. Mark: Read this Quickly! Mark's gospel is a revolutionary tract written for Christians hiding in the catacombs in Rome and on the run. Mark's Jesus is the Son of God for all who have eyes to see and ears to hear. 4. Luke: The Kingdom of God is the True Empire. Luke writes as an historian and connects Jesus' story with events in history and in the world. Rome ruled the world, but now a new king has come: Jesus of Nazareth. 5. John: On a Clear Day You Can See Forever. John's gospel is very different from the other three in terms of content, style and christology. John's Jesus is very clear about who he is and about his mission. 6. Many Gospels, One Jesus. The gospels explain the meaning of Jesus' crucifixion and death. They all say, in different ways, that in Jesus the living God of the universe was present on earth as a human being, and that in his death and resurrection he dealt with the plight of Israel, the plight of the world and the plight of every individual. --CARES Online

ADULTS 226.6 **A. D. 12-Week Study Through the Book of Acts: Official A.D. Church Kit** OUTREACH : **Based on the Epic TV Series Event.** Colorado Springs, Colo: Outreach, 2015.

Summary: Launch the 12-week sermon series through the Book of Acts that makes the epic stories come alive like never before. The A.D. sermon series presents an opportunity to teach on the Book of Acts and have the TV series and video clips bring the messages to life. It is recommended that you launch your series on Easter Sunday, April 5, to coincide with NBC's premier of A.D. that evening. Imagine your congregation and community celebrating the resurrection of Jesus on Easter, and then watching the birth of the early church on primetime television with friends and neighbors! Designed to be used as a 12-week campaign, this kit contains everything you need to launch a sermon series and outreach campaign. Includes sermons from respected Bible teachers and access to video clips from each week's TV episodes. The Church Kit includes: Twelve sermons based on each episode of the TV series, covering the first 10 chapters of the Book of Acts. Sermons by renowned Bible teachers such as Wilfredo "Choco" De Jesus, Mark Batterson, Sr., Rice Broocks and more! (subject to change); Access to streaming video clips from each A.D. episode that correspond with the sermons; Campaign Planning Guide, Social Media Marketing Guide; Digital resources such as web graphics, PowerPoint Slides, and countdown video; Official A.D. Study & Guidebook; A.D. Viewing Party Kit, Promotional tool samples. --Outreach

ADULTS 227.1 Wright, N. T. **Romans: The Greatest Letter Ever Written**. Forest, Va: WRIGHT CARES, Date of publication not identified.

Summary: Paul's Letter to the Romans - Paul's letter to the Romans stands like Shakespeare's Hamlet or Beethoven's Fifth Symphony: the master-work of a master craftsman. In this letter, Paul creates a tradition of Christian thought where none had existed before. Romans 1-4: God's Justice Revealed in Christ - Paul believed that God's purpose is to bring order and celebration to all of creation, which has been distorted because humankind, like Adam and Eve, worships the creature rather than the creator. Romans 5-8: God's New Exodus in Christ - God's action in Christ is the new exodus. Through Adam's disobedience, sin came into the world; through Christ's obedient faithfulness to God's saving plan, the effect of Adam's disobedience has been reversed. Romans 9-11: God's Faithfulness to Israel - God's promises to Abraham have been fulfilled in Christ--not for ethnic Israel, but for all people--which is being accomplished through the ongoing work of the Holy Spirit. Romans 12-16: God's People in God's World - Paul tells his readers how to live as Christians in pagan Rome: by presenting themselves as visible, living witnesses to God. He ends the letter with greetings to his many friends in Rome. Romans Then and Now - The main theme of Romans is God's plan to redeem the world, which was accomplished in and through Jesus' death and resurrection. The gospel--the good news--has the power to bring people to faith, and so to justification, and to challenge the principalities and powers of the world. Includes PDF discussion guide. --CARES Online

ADULTS 227.91 LE Peau, Andrew T. **James: Faith That Works**. Downers Grove, Ill: PEAU InterVarsity Press, 1999.

Summary: We all want a faith that won't let us down in times of trouble or loss, uncertainty or fear. A faith that can pull us through the worst--and best--times in our lives. This is the kind of faith that James writes about. It is a faith that we must practice day by day. These studies by Andrew and Phyllis Le Peau on the teaching of James will help us grow a steadfast faith that can carry us through all the ups and downs of life. Nine sessions. --InterVarsity Press

ADULTS 230 Cyzewski, Ed. **Coffeehouse Theology : Reflecting on God in Everyday Life** : **Bible Study Guide** . Colorado Springs, CO : NavPress, 2008.

Summary: Learn how to live out your faith in a postmodern world. As a companion to Coffeehouse Theology, this guide incorporates Scripture, discussion questions, meditations, and commentary to help you apply your theology to daily life. The conversational style, stories, and illustrations are ideal for small groups and Bible studies. --Christian Book Distributors

ADULTS 232.97 Skelton, Stephen. **A Resurrection Believer: Are There Contradictions in the Resurrection Accounts?**. Franklin, Tenn: The Entertainment Ministry, SKELTON 2015.

Summary: The Resurrection accounts in the Gospels form the record of the Risen Christ. The report of death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus stands as the cornerstone of Christianity. Yet, many critics have raised questions about contradictions in the accounts. Inside this book, not only will we address the differences in the accounts but also the explanations for those differences--so that you may have a greater confidence in the account and a ready defense of the Resurrection story. Also includes reflection questions for individuals and groups. --Back Cover

ADULTS Strobel, Lee. **The Case for Easter : A Journalist Investigates the**

232.97
STROBEL

Evidence for the Resurrection . Grand Rapids, Mich. : Zondervan, 2003.

Summary: How credible is the evidence for—and against—the resurrection? Focusing his award-winning skills as a legal journalist on history's most compelling enigma, Lee Strobel retraces the startling findings that led him from atheism to belief. He examines: The Medical Evidence—Was Jesus' death a sham and his resurrection a hoax? The Evidence of the Missing Body—Was Jesus' body really absent from his tomb? The Evidence of Appearances—Was Jesus seen alive after his death on the cross? Written in a hard-hitting journalistic style, *The Case for Easter* probes the core issues of the resurrection. Jesus Christ, risen from the dead: superstitious myth or life-changing reality? --Zondervan

ADULTS
232.97
WRIGHT

Wright, N. T. **The Challenge of Easter** . Downers Grove, Ill. : IVP Books, 2009.

Summary: Historian, biblical scholar and bestselling author N. T. Wright, in this excerpt from *The Challenge of Jesus*, takes a step back from the hoopla surrounding Easter to look at it in its earliest context, where we see a band of followers discovering the fulfillment of all the promises God had made to their people over the centuries, and pronouncing a new era that unsettled their friends and scandalized their oppressors. That era extends to our day, where to celebrate Easter is to receive an invitation to live as though God is among us, making everything new. --InterVarsity Press

Content Notes:

- The question of Jesus' Resurrection -- Paul, the Resurrection and the messianic movement -- The Gospel accounts -- The light of the world -- Retaining and forgiving sins.

ADULTS
241.672
EHMAN

Ehman, Karen. **Keep It Shut DVD: [What to Say, How to Say It, and When to Say Nothing at All]**. Grand Rapids, Mich: Zondervan, 2014.

Summary: From Bible times to modern times women have struggled with their words: what to say and how to say it. What not to say. When it is best to remain silent. Or what to do when you've said something you wish you could now take back. Beyond just a "How not to gossip" study, Karen teaches what the Bible says about the many ways we are to use our words and the times we should remain silent. Learn the best ways to use your speech to interact with friends, co-workers, family and strangers, along with the many places you use words such as in private, in public, online, and in prayer. Even the words you say silently to yourself. You'll also explore unsolicited opinion-sliding, speaking the truth in love, not saying words just to people-please, and dealing with verbal anger. Each session features a character from the Bible, who will teach you what to do or what not to do. This DVD can be used for personal reflection or for group discussion with the coordinating study guide. --Zondervan

Content Notes:

- 1. Sparks, Squabbles, Spats, and Such: Our Words Matter (19:00) -- 2. On Filling Gaps and Zipping Lips: Listen to Others, Talk to God (18:00) -- 3. Opinion-Sliding and Salty Speech: Assessing Our Digital Tongues (22:00) -- 4. Gossip, Flattery, and People-Pleasing: How to Speak the Truth in Love (22:00) -- 5. Pause Before You Pounce: On Cultivating Soft Speech (23:00) -- As Sweet as Honey: Wonderful Ways to Use Your Words (23:00)

ADULTS
241.672
EHMAN

Ehman, Karen. **Keep It Shut Study Guide: What to Say, How to Say It, and When to Say Nothing at All**. Grand Rapids, Mich: Zondervan, 2014.

Summary: From Bible times to modern times women have struggled with their words: what to say and how to say it. What not to say. When it is best

to remain silent. Or what to do when you've said something you wish you could now take back. Beyond just a "How not to gossip" study, Karen will teach what the Bible says about the many ways we are to use our words and the times when we are to remain silent. Using our speech to interact with friends, co-workers, family and strangers will be covered along with the many places we use our words such as in private, in public, online and in prayer. Even the words we say silently to ourselves. Unsolicited opinion-slinging, speaking the truth in love, not saying words just to people-please and dealing with our verbal anger are sub-topics that will also be addressed. Each session will feature a different character from the Bible, using them either as an example of someone to emulate or whose verbal actions we should avoid replicating. Six or seven sessions. --Zondervan

Content Notes:

- How to Use This Guide -- Session 1. Sparks, Squabbles, Spats, and Such: Our Words Matter -- Session 2. On Filling Gaps and Zipping Lips: Listen to Others, Talk to God -- Session 3. Opinion-Slinging and Salty Speech: Assessing Our Digital Tongues -- Session 4. Gossip, Flattery, and People-Pleasing: How to Speak the Truth in Love -- Session 5. Pause Before You Pounce: On Cultivating Soft Speech -- Session 6: As Sweet as Honey: Wonderful Ways to Use Your Words -- Bonus Session Leader Helps -- Bonus Session 7: Just Gotta Have the Last Word -- Additional Resources -- Scripture Memory Verses

ADULTS 242
KALAS

Kalas, J. Ellsworth. **Life from the Up Side : Seeing God at Work in the World** . Nashville : Dimensions For Living, 2004.

Summary: Using an approach similar to the one he took in his popular Back Side books, author J. Ellsworth Kalas looks at familiar Old and New Testament Bible stories through the lens of a time-tested faith and hope to open up new possibilities of insight and meaning. Each of the twelve chapters features a key passage of Scripture and is centered on a theme such as overcoming a bad start in life, dealing with rejection, capitalizing on adversity, not letting others define you, never giving up, finding the gain in your loss, and measuring your true self-worth. Includes a 12-session study guide. --Back Cover

Content Notes:

- Introduction -- On Being Born with a Rusty Spoon: For those who've had a bad start -- When Life Is at January: Who knows what wonders lie ahead? -- A Woman Who Lived with Scorn: For those who suffer rejection close at hand -- Don't Blame the Donkey! Capitalize on your adversity -- When You've Been Given a Bad Name: Don't let others define you -- Color Her Moses: Never give up. Never. -- Plot for a Life: More than success -- Party Gone Flat: What to do when life loses its flavor -- Suppose You're Worth More Than You Think You Are: It's time you calculated your worth -- How Wide Is a Boat? Gladness is nearer than you think -- Strange Victory: The gains in our losses -- The View from Mount Nebo: And then, there is heaven -- Study Guide

ADULTS
248.088
CLAPPER

Clapper, Gregory Scott. **As If the Heart Mattered : A Wesleyan Spirituality** . Nashville, Tenn. : Upper Room Books, 1997.

Summary: Using Wesleyan spirituality as a guide and the scriptures as a solid grounding, *As If the Heart Mattered* renders a balanced understanding of what "heart religion" involves. This Book expounds on John Wesley's image of religion as a house by exploring three main parts: the porch of repentance, the door of faith, and holiness (the house itself). *As If the Heart Mattered* shares Wesley's vision of how the essential truths of Christianity are to be embodied in the lives of believers. --Back Cover

ADULTS 248.32 FINCK Finck, Murray D. **Stretch and Pray: A Daily Discipline for Physical and Spiritual Wellness.** Minneapolis, Minn: Augsburg Fortress, 2006.
Summary: While on a pilgrimage trek through Thailand, Finck discovered the benefits of daily stretching and quiet prayer. On the physical level, after only one week, the chronic back pain that had plagued him for twenty years disappeared. On a spiritual level, the poses deepened his prayer experiences. This helpful DVD features Pastor Finck guiding you through forty gentle stretches, movements, and postures to improve physical and spiritual well-being. Included are an interview with Murray Finck about why he decided to do the video and an interview with wellness expert and educator, Tammy Devine. Original music by John Ylvisaker is used throughout to calm the mind and inspire a deep spiritual journey. --Augsburg Fortress

ADULTS 248.4 BROOKS Brooks, Geraldine. **Caleb's Crossing** . New York : Viking, 2011.
Summary: Once again, the author takes a remarkable shard of history and brings it to vivid life. In 1665, a young man from Martha's Vineyard became the first Native American to graduate from Harvard College. Upon this slender factual scaffold, she has created a luminous tale of love and faith, magic and adventure. The narrator of the story is Bethia Mayfield, growing up in the tiny settlement of Great Harbor amid a small band of pioneers and Puritans. Restless and curious, she yearns after an education that is closed to her by her sex. As often as she can, she slips away to explore the island's glistening beaches and observe its native Wampanoag inhabitants. At twelve, she encounters Caleb, the young son of a chieftain, and the two forge a tentative secret friendship that draws each into the alien world of the other. Bethia's minister father tries to convert the Wampanoag, awakening the wrath of the tribe's shaman, against whose magic he must test his own beliefs. One of his projects becomes the education of Caleb, and a year later, Caleb is in Cambridge, studying Latin and Greek among the colonial elite. There, Bethia finds herself reluctantly indentured as a housekeeper and can closely observe Caleb's crossing of cultures. Like the author's beloved narrator Anna, in *Year of Wonders*, Bethia proves an emotionally irresistible guide to the wilds of Martha's Vineyard and the intimate spaces of the human heart.

ADULTS 248.4 MOORE Moore, James W. **Noah Built His Ark in the Sunshine** . Nashville, TN : Dimensions for Living, 2003.
Summary: Noah built his ark on a sunny day; trusting in God, he prepared in advance for the storm that was to come. He didn't wait until the last minute. He used the sunny days to get himself ready. He used those bright days to build up the resources he would need when the rain and the floods came later. In his story, we learn many important things about his faith, gratitude, and spiritual strength. But the question is, "How do we get there? How do we reach that level of spiritual maturity? That kind of faith and spiritual maturity doesn't just happen overnight. We have to build it! We have to work at the faith, practice it, express it, study it, share it. And as we do, our faith will grow, and our gratitude will deepen, and we too will be able to pray, "Lord, whatever this day may bring, you are here, you are in it, you are with us, so may your name be praised!" --Cokesbury

ADULTS 248.4 MOORE Moore, James W. **The Top Ten List for Christians : Priorities for Faithful Living** . Nashville, TN : Dimensions for Living, 1999.
Summary: Jim Moore says that the first and best Top Ten list is called the Ten Commandments and is just as relevant today as it was in ancient times. This book offers a "contemporary" Top Ten list of important things for Christians to remember as we make our way through life's journey.

Acknowledging that we all need guideposts to help us along the way, Moore offers ten witty and wise reminders of the real priorities in life - God's priorities for faithful living. These uplifting reminders - along with a number of warm, inspirational stories and anecdotes - will encourage you to live each day with faith, hope, love, joy, trust and commitment, so that you may live purposefully and in celebration, trusting in God's faithfulness. The book includes a study guide designed for both group and individual use and featuring questions related to each chapter. --Cokesbury

Content Notes:

- Introduction -- Number 10 - Love Is the Greatest! -- Number 9 - Hope Is Still Alive -- Number 8 - Faith Has Its Own Taste Test! -- Number 7 - It Matters Intensely What You Believe -- Number 6 - God Is Smarter Than You Are -- Number 5 - Every Now and Then We All Hear a Rooster Crow -- Number 4 - You Don't Have to Cross the Fox River Until You Get to It -- Number 3 - There Are Some Roads We Just Don't Need to Go Up -- Number 2 - You Do Better When You Try -- Number 1 - Christianity Is a Life We Live, Not Just a Creed We Profess -- Epilogue - You Can Be Near, But Yet So Far -- Study Guide

ADULTS 248.4 Ortberg, John. **All the Places to Go . . . How Will You Know? DVD: God has placed before you an open door. What will you do?** [Carol Stream, Ill.]: Tyndale, 2015.

Summary: Very rarely in the Bible does God command someone to "stay." He opens a door, and then he invites us to walk through it—into the unknown. And how we choose to respond will ultimately determine the lives we will lead and the people we will become. In this six-session video curriculum, bestselling author John Ortberg opens our eyes to the countless open doors God places before us every day, teaches us how to recognize them, and gives us the encouragement to step out in faith and embrace all of the extraordinary opportunities that await. So go ahead—walk through that door. You just might do something that lasts for eternity. --Tyndale

Content Notes:

- Session 1: The Open Door: How to Recognize Divine Opportunities -- Session 2: Door #1 or Door #2?: How Do I Decide Which Door to Walk Through? -- Session 3: How to Cross a Threshold: Practicing Discernment -- Session 4: The Doors We Open for Others: Seizing the Opportunity to Bless Others -- Session 5: The Jonah Complex: The Things That Hold Us Back -- Session 6: Thank God for Closed Doors: Why God Leaves Some Doors Closed

ADULTS 248.4 Ortberg, John. **All the Places to Go . . . How Will You Know? Participant's Guide: God has placed before you an open door. What will you do?** Carol Stream, Ill: Tyndale, 2015.

Summary: Very rarely in the Bible does God command someone to "stay." He opens a door, and then he invites us to walk through it—into the unknown. And how we choose to respond will ultimately determine the lives we will lead and the people we will become. In fact, to fail to embrace the open door is to miss the work God has made for us to do. In *All the Places to Go . . . How Will You Know?*, bestselling author John Ortberg opens our eyes to the countless open doors God places before us every day, teaches us how to recognize them, and gives us the encouragement to step out in faith and embrace all of the extraordinary opportunities that await. Whether used in conjunction with the DVD curriculum or the book, this participant's guide contains video notes, discussion questions, suggestions for further study, and ideas for practical application that will help you get the most out of *All the Places You'll Go*. So go ahead—walk through that door. You just might do something that lasts for eternity. --Tyndale

Content Notes:

- Introduction -- Materials Needed -- Leader Tips -- A Word to Leaders -- A Word to Participants -- Session 1: The Open Door -- Session 2: Door #1 or Door #2? -- Session 3: How to Cross a Threshold -- Session 4: The Doors We Open for Others -- Session 5: The Jonah Complex -- Session 6: Thank God for Closed Doors -- About the Author

ADULTS 248.4 **Freeway: A Not-So-Perfect Guide to Freedom.** [Place of publication not identified]: People of the Second Chance, [2013].

Summary: Freeway is a way to be free. It's a six-step guide built upon God's amazing grace, conversations with friends, and a personal exploration of our pain and loss. This resource will help you find a redemptive purpose in your pain and live the life you have always wanted. In these teachings sessions, Mike Foster shares how to experience God's love and freedom in your life. This DVD is designed to be watched in a group setting, and studied in tandem with the Freeway workbook. --People of the Second Chance

Content Notes:

- Intro: A Prodigal's Story -- Step 1: Awareness - Step 2: Discovery -- Step 3: Ownership -- Step 4: Forgiveness -- Step 5: Acceptance -- Step 6: Freedom

ADULTS 248.4 Foster, Mike. **Freeway [Workbook]: A Not-So-Perfect Guide to Freedom.** PEOPLE [Place of publication not identified]: People of the Second Chance, 2013.

Summary: This innovative workbook and small group study will lead you and your friends on a powerful soul adventure. This six-step guide is a powerful exploration of pain, loss and the power of God's amazing grace. Filled with core biblical insights, unique learning experiences and engaging group questions, Freeway will lead you to freedom. Learn How To: Heal your deepest hurts & learn to be OK with being OK; Let your identity & value be shaped by a loving God; Overcome your setbacks & pursue your dreams; Break cycles of shame & feeling like you're "never enough;" Discover how pain, fear and loss hijack our God story; Allow yourself to be loved by the one who loves you most; Face your fear of failure and be liberated by amazing grace. --People of the Second Chance

Content Notes:

- Intro: A Prodigal's Story -- Step 1: Awareness - Step 2: Discovery -- Step 3: Ownership -- Step 4: Forgiveness -- Step 5: Acceptance -- Step 6: Freedom

ADULTS 248.4 **Doing Life Together: 36 interactive sessions on DVD with study guides.** ZONDERVAN Grand Rapids, Mich: Zondervan, 2003.

Summary: Cultivate intimacy, depth, and belonging in your Bible study group as you: Enjoy eye-opening talks by well-known Bible teachers, Discuss questions that bring each topic home to your lives, Take turns leading---it's so easy and so important, Worship together with inspiring songs, lyrics, and video images, and Discover and fulfill God's purpose for your lives. With video talks by these popular teachers: Steve Arterburn, Alvin Bibbs, Henry Cloud, Dee Eastman, Steve Farrar, Doug Fields, Judy Hampton, Chip Ingram, J.P. Jones, Carol Kent, Erwin McManus, John Ortberg, Anne Ortlund, Joe Stowell, Denise Wendorff, Todd Wendorff, Mike Wilkins, Bruce Wilkinson, Lance Witt. You've never experienced anything like Doing Life Together. Harnessing the creativity, flexibility, and convenience of audio-video technology, this groundbreaking series is the first ever to integrate superbly crafted study guides with powerful new-media capabilities and apply them to the unique setting of group Bible study. DLT is riveting. Multidimensional. And so easy that anyone in your group can facilitate a dynamic group session. No need to be a seasoned leader. Just slip the DVD into your player and have everyone

follow along with their study guides. Guidebooks and corresponding DVDs are carefully coordinated. Each of the six sessions includes: Leader Lifter---pre-session video training talk, offering weekly insights and practical techniques for leading small groups, Creative Element---a personal story, interview, drama, or music video related to the weekly topic, Dynamic Teaching---featuring well-known teachers such as Bruce Wilkinson, John Ortberg, Anne Ortlund, Joe Stowell, and Erwin McManus, and Worship Music---featuring the songs of Maranatha! together with lyrics, uplifting video images, and visual introductions by popular Christian artists. Based on the five biblical purposes that form the bedrock of Saddleback Church, Doing Life Together will help your group discover what God created you for and how you can turn this dream into an everyday reality. Experience the transformation firsthand as you begin Connecting, Growing, Developing, Sharing, and Surrendering your lives together for him. This kit contains the complete, 6-volume Doing Life Together series. It includes one DVD with leader's guide insert and one study guide for each of the following titles: Beginning Life Together, Connecting with God's Family, Growing to Be Like Christ, Developing Your Shape to Serve Others, Sharing Your Life's Mission Every Day, and Surrendering Your Life for God's Pleasure. For each title, the DVD contains six small group study sessions. Each study session contains a theme-introducing video (3-4 minutes long) and a 10- to 15-minute long teaching segment. On-screen questions that match those found in the study books are also included, as is a song, if a group chooses to worship in music. The remaining time on the DVD is for leader training each week. --Zondervan

Content Notes:

- Beginning Life Together -- Connecting with God's Family -- Developing Your Shape to Serve Others -- Growing to Be Like Christ -- Sharing Your Life Mission Every Day -- Surrendering Your Life for God's Pleasure

ADULTS
252.07
OUTLER

Wesley, John. **John Wesley's Sermons : An Anthology** . Nashville : Abingdon Press, 1991.

Summary: Adapted from Albert Outler's 4-volume text The Works of John Wesley, this anthology of 50 of Wesley's finest sermons are presented in an affordable, convenient paperback. Arranged chronologically with introductory commentary by Richard Heitzenrater. --Cokesbury

ADULTS 253
ARMSTRONG

Armstrong, Jacob. **The New Adapters : Shaping Ideas to Fit Your Congregation** . Nashville, Tennessee : Abingdon Press, 2015.

Summary: Learn how new and young pastors from across the country are translating eight time-tested principles of church leadership. Adam Hamilton and Mike Slaughter introduce each principle and discuss its importance in their ministries. Author Jacob Armstrong then shows how the principle works in new contexts today. The New Adapters is full of energy, wisdom, and stories of hope. --Back Cover

Content Notes:

- The vision must fit the mission field -- It has to be good news to the poor -- New places for new people -- Adaptive worship -- Conflict and criticism -- Good-bye to the solo, heroic leader -- No more turf -- Raising up new and young leaders -- Isn't she lovely?

ADULTS 253
BROWN

Brown, Daniel. **The Boys in the Boat: Nine Americans and Their Epic Quest for Gold at the 1936 Berlin Olympics**. New York: Penguin Books, 2014.

Summary: The #1 New York Times--bestselling story about American Olympic triumph in Nazi Germany. For readers of Unbroken, out of the depths

of the Depression comes an irresistible story about beating the odds and finding hope in the most desperate of times—the improbable, intimate account of how nine working-class boys from the American West showed the world at the 1936 Olympics in Berlin what true grit really meant. It was an unlikely quest from the start. With a team composed of the sons of loggers, shipyard workers, and farmers, the University of Washington's eight-oar crew team was never expected to defeat the elite teams of the East Coast and Great Britain, yet they did, going on to shock the world by defeating the German team rowing for Adolf Hitler. The emotional heart of the tale lies with Joe Rantz, a teenager without family or prospects, who rows not only to regain his shattered self-regard but also to find a real place for himself in the world. Drawing on the boys' own journals and vivid memories of a once-in-a-lifetime shared dream, Brown has created an unforgettable portrait of an era, a celebration of a remarkable achievement, and a chronicle of one extraordinary young man's personal quest. --Penguin Books

ADULTS 259
LAMPE Lampe, Karen. **The Caring Congregation : How to become one and why it matters** . Nashville : Abingdon Press, 2011.

Summary: Caring for the congregation is more than any one person can do, even the pastor. All persons eventually experience grief and loss, crisis and suffering; and many come to church for the first time as a result of needing help. Using this four-session study, modeled after The United Methodist Church of the Resurrection in Leawood, Kansas, churches can form an effective team by addressing four key areas of congregational care: prayer ministry, support ministry, hospital visitation, and grief and death ministry. Karen Lampe says congregational care should be modeled after the ministry of Jesus, who offered compassion, understanding, healing, and wholeness as a way of offering God's redemptive gift of grace. Congregational care is one reason, according to pastors Adam Hamilton and Karen Lampe, that their church is successful in attracting and keeping new members. In each richly illustrated session, readers will find inspiration, Bible-connection, skill building, practical tips, and resources, including: information about anointing, helpful scriptures, application forms, suggested requirements and application for team member, a volunteer leader covenant, safety and self-care contract, and a counseling guide. --Cokesbury

Content Notes:

- In all things: pray first! -- Support ministries: creating the toolbox for care -
- The most sacred hours: caring for the sick -- Leading through the valley of the shadow of death.

ADULTS
261.58 Short, Robert L. **The Parables of Dr. Seuss** . Louisville : Westminster John Knox Press, 2008.

SHORT

Summary: This breezy and engaging book will delight the Dr. Seuss fan in all of us. Robert Short looks at spirituality in the stories of children's book author and illustrator Theodore "Dr. Seuss" Geisel, arguing that Geisel was "a first-class Christian thinker." The book explores Green Eggs and Ham, Horton Hears a Who, How the Grinch Stole Christmas, and others. Short writes in the introduction, "When I first became acquainted with his books and was struck by the many parallels I saw between his work and what is said in the Bible and by Christian faith, I considered these similarities to be merely 'happy accidents.' Today I still see these parallels as 'happy,' but I'm now convinced that they are not merely 'accidents.'" --Westminster John Knox Press

ADULTS
261.58 Willimon, William H. **Reading with Deeper Eyes : The Love of Literature and the Life of Faith** . Nashville : Upper Room Books, 1998.

WILLIMON

Summary: Reading with deeper eyes shows us that "secular" (or non-sacred) reading can be a stunning revelation of ourselves before God and God's wondrous ways in the world. By retelling and interpreting various works of literature, Will Willimon opens us to the fresh possibilities and directions that God offers. He discusses titles as distinctly different as *Saint Maybe* by Anne Tyler, *Love in the Ruins* by Walker Percy, *Crime and Punishment* by Fyodor Dostoevsky, and *Mariette in Ecstasy* by Ron Hansen. --Back Cover

ADULTS 264.2 **Reflect Reclaim Rejoice DVD: Preserving the Gift of Black Sacred**
DISCIPLESHIP **Music.** Nashville, Tenn: Discipleship Ministries of the United Methodist Church, [2014].

Summary: Four centuries ago, Blacks enslaved in America created a music form that gave solace even during the most inhumane conditions. *Reflect, Reclaim, Rejoice: Preserving the Gift of Black Sacred Music* traces the music's history and invites readers to see and experience the ways it is being kept alive. Filmed on location in Methodist churches where the oldest living African American music is still sung--Georgia, Maryland, and South Carolina--viewers come to understand the key role that spirituals played in liberating a people who had little more than a song. The DVD features choirs, groups, and soloists performing traditional Christian forms of the Ring Shout, Singing and Paying Bands, Long-Meter Hymns, and Negro Spirituals. Part of the Africana Hymnal Project of The United Methodist Church. Special features include 18 full-length hymns recorded on location. --Container

ADULTS 264.2 Fosua, Safiyah. **Reflect Reclaim Rejoice Small-Group Study: Preserving**
DISCIPLESHIP **the Gift of Black Sacred Music.** Nashville, Tenn: Discipleship Resources, 2015.

Summary: This companion small-group study resource to the DVD documentary *Reflect, Reclaim, Rejoice: Preserving the Gift of Black Sacred Music*, is excellent for Christian Education class offerings and any person or group seeking a greater understanding of the history of Black sacred music in America. The study is divided into three sections, "Ring Shout, Prayer Band", "Negro Spirituals", and "Long-Metered." This small-group study is part of the Africana Hymnal Project of The United Methodist Church. --Cokesbury

ADULTS
268.6407
ORTBERG

Ortberg, John. **Journey toward God: Exodus.** Grand Rapids, Mich: Zondervan, 1999.

Summary: Consult the compass for the journey of your life. Life as a Christian is a journey -- a journey toward God. But how do you set your compass? How do you make sure that God is guiding your steps and that you are not being blown willy-nilly by life's shifting winds of circumstance? Turn to the book of Exodus and discover guidance and joy for your pilgrimage. You will grow to know God in a deeper, more personal way. You will learn to trust him more than ever before. You will discover who your fellow travelers are. And you will learn how to chart your course by the compass of God's will as you take the trip of your life. Six sessions. --Zondervan

ADULTS
271.302
CRON

Cron, Ian Morgan. **Chasing Francis : A Pilgrim's Tale .** Grand Rapids, Michigan : Zondervan, [2013].

Summary: What happens when the pastor of a mega church loses his faith? Pastor Chase Falson has lost his faith in God, the Bible, evangelical Christianity, and his super-sized megachurch. When he falls apart, the church elders tell him to go away: as far away as possible. Join Chase on his life-changing journey to Italy where, with a curious group of Franciscan friars, he struggles to resolve his crisis of faith by retracing the footsteps of Francis of

Assisi, a saint whose simple way of loving Jesus changed the history of the world. Read this riveting story and then begin your own life-changing journey through the pilgrim's guide included in this powerful story.

ADULTS 287.6 Joyner, F. Belton. **United Methodist Questions, United Methodist Answers : Exploring Christian faith** . Louisville, KY : Westminster John Knox Press, [2014].

Summary: Popular author F. Belton Joyner has revised his best-selling resource for introducing the United Methodist Church. In a humorous yet respectful style, Joyner takes the reader through illuminating questions and answers on United Methodist terms and beliefs on God, Jesus, the Bible, the church, salvation, and more. Examples of Joyner's questions include "Why did Jesus have to die?" "Who was John Wesley, and who were all those other figures?" "Is the Bible infallible?" "What is The Book of Discipline?" This revised edition includes new sections on United Methodism as a global church, United Methodist ministries beyond the congregation, and United Methodist theology in conversation with other Christian traditions. It has also been updated to reflect recent changes to The Book of Discipline and the orders of ministry. The book's question-and-answer format easily lends itself to use in Sunday school classes and also works for individual study. From new recruits to lifelong United Methodists, readers will gain a lively sense of what is special and important about their denominational home. --Back Cover

ADULTS 658.421 Ramsey, Dave. **EntreLeadership : 20 Years of Practical Business Wisdom from the Trenches** . New York : Howard Books, 2011.

Summary: Offers advice on growing a business, including setting and attaining goals, time management, and operating debt free.

Content Notes:

- EntreLeadership defined -- Start with a dream, end with a goal : living your dreams, visions, mission statements, and goals -- Flavor your day with steak sauce : making the most of time management and organization -- "Spineless leader" is an oxymoron : the easier way to make hard decisions -- No magic, no mystery : the System, the recipe, and the truth about great marketing -- Don't flop whoppers : a practical guide to launching your dream -- Business is easy ... until people get involved : hiring, firing, and personality styles -- Death of a salesman : the art of selling by serving -- Financial peace for business : bulletproof principles for money, debt, and funding your future -- The map to the party : grasping the undeniable relationship between great communication and great companies -- People matter most : building unity and loyalty with your best resource -- Caught in the act : amplifying the success of your business through recognition and inspiration -- Three things successful people never skip : dealing with contracts, vendors, and collections -- Show me the money! : compensation plans that fire people up -- Mastering "the rope" : delegation, the best way to build a business bigger than you.

CHILDREN 220.95 **Wacky Bible Gross Outs : Can You Believe It?**. Grand Rapids, Michigan : Zonderkidz, [2014].

Summary: Imagine trying to sleep with gnats crawling in your nose, being covered with bull's blood, or eating nothing but locusts and honey—every single day! Wacky Bible Gross Outs will open your eyes to all the disgusting stuff in the Bible that you never knew was in there. Astound your friends and maybe even inspire someone to pick up the Bible and explore these facts for themselves. Completely, 100% historically accurate. --Zondervan

CHILDREN **The Prodigal Pig: God forgives me and always loves me!**. Nashville:
226.8 TOMMY Tommy Nelson, 2005.

Summary: Porkchop the Pig teaches the story of the Prodigal Son in a funny and memorable way! Wacky animals and their hilarious antics will have kids rolling with laughter as they watch the story of Porkchop (Randy Travis), a pig with dreams of making it big in the music business—no matter the cost! Farmer Bob gives Porkchop the money he needs to follow his dreams, but the friends Porkchop makes in the big city don't turn out to be as nice as he thought. When Jenny the sheepdog (Amy Grant) and some of the other animals save the day, Farmer Bob welcomes Porkchop home with open arms, and even Hercules the tough-talking rooster (Vince Gill) learns the value of forgiveness. Bonus educational features include a music video and cartoon based on the letter P, a read-along digital storybook that lets kids decide when to "turn the page," and an option to view the entire Prodigal Pig DVD with pop-up Ps every time a word that begins with P is used! A literacy message to parents is also included. More bonus features include bloopers, character commentary, and a behind-the-scenes look at how Farmer Bob's farm was created! Based on the Parable of the Prodigal Son, this funny and educational DVD will have kids laughing and learning along with their favorite farm critters! --Thomas Nelson

CHILDREN Strobel, Lee. **The Case for Christ for Kids Curriculum: Six Lessons**. Grand
232.908 Rapids, Mich: Zondervan, 2013.

STROBEL

Summary: How would the kids in your children's ministry answer friends who ask questions like: Was Jesus really born in a stable? Did his friends tell the truth? Did he really come back from the dead? In these six lessons children will learn answers to these and other pressing questions in kid-friendly language that will help them grow in their faith. Packed full of well-researched, reliable, and fun investigations of some of the biggest questions kids have, *The Case for Christ for Kids Curriculum* brings Jesus to life by addressing the existence, miracles, ministry, and resurrection of Christ. This DVD-ROM makes your children's ministry planning simple and includes everything you need for a successful Sunday school, children's church, or VBS program: A checklist to help leaders organize each week's study, Lesson Plans, Parent Pages, Promotional materials, and a VBS expansion kit to help leaders teach *The Case for Christ Children's Curriculum* as a Vacation Bible School or Backyard Bible Club program. The six sessions include: *The Case of the Baby Messiah*, *The Case of the Voice from Heaven*, *Eyewitnesses to the Messiah*, *The Case of the Wedding Crisis*, *The Case of the Living Water*, *The Case of the Risen Messiah*. --Zondervan

YOUTH 248.4 Gross, Craig. **See-Through Life: Helping Teenagers Get Real, Get
GROSS Honest, Get Accountable**. Loveland, Colo: Group Publishing, Inc, 2014.

Summary: Today's teenagers face so many temptations, so many opportunities, so many possible ways to follow the road to future success down the road—and just as many possible ways to derail those plans by messing up. But author and speaker Craig Gross knows that youth ministries can make a difference in leading young people toward a lifestyle of accountability. And that's a piece of amazingly good news—teenagers don't have to figure this out on their own. They have parents and other adults who want to help them. They also have one another—fellow Christians who are trying to make sense of the teenage years. True accountability opens the door to experiencing life with the knowledge that someone is backing you up, no matter what. It's a lifestyle that will inevitably deepen young people as individuals and as followers of Christ. Because they aren't hiding anything,

they don't have to look over their shoulder in worry. And they can pursue the path toward living a full and satisfying life into and through adulthood. In addition to the 4 weeks of video teachings, See-Through Life also includes discussion guides, promotional materials, and other helpful materials. And all of the resources are editable and reproducible. Plus, this conversation-driven series includes separate content specifically focused on guys and girls. --
Simply Youth Ministry

Content Notes:

- Lesson 1: The Rewards of Being Open -- Lesson 2: The Power of Honesty and Courage -- Lesson 3: The Impact of the Right People -- Lesson 4: For Girls Only/For Guys Only