

DOR IS OPEN

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"See, I have placed before you an open door that no one can shut. I know that you have little strength, yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name."

REVELATION 3:8

Welcome.

In the spring of 2014, we weren't ready for the New Room Conference, but the Lord seemed to "have need of it." Full of faith, with no idea what we were getting into, and a little under six months lead time, we made ready. It began with a prayer meeting on that next Wednesday. Our prayer, inspired by the deep longing for God in Psalm 42, was singular— "Jesus, would you meet with us?"

On September 18, 2014, the second day of that first conference, at around 10:40 a.m., in the midst of one of the keynote presentations, the Holy Spirit seized the agenda. And we have never gotten it back. As Jesus revealed himself and his purposes, men and women began to give themselves unreservedly, with an uncommon abandon, to him alone.

The small fires of great awakening were lit. And everywhere that happens, from the Day of Pentecost forward, a door opens into a new room for the ever-expanding kingdom of heaven on earth.

Every Wednesday since that first Wednesday more than seven years ago, our prayer has remained the same, "Jesus, would you meet with us?" At that first prayer meeting, months before the first gathering, a door into a New Room was opened and it has never closed. We don't think of the New Room as a three-day event in September. It is a place, an "on-earth-asit-is-in-heaven" space we share and hold between us—holy ground—an ongoing, unceasing, ever-surprising meeting with God.

As the global pandemic and all its disruption and death has met up with the already churning forces of darkness and polarizing chaos all over the world, we discern the awakening activity of Jesus like never before. At the point where we seem to be the most tired and beleaguered and hard pressed on every side, we sense the readiness of the Holy Spirit to move like never before in our lifetimes. We sense a new door has opened and we are praying this New Room Conference will be the opportunity to walk through it into thousands of new rooms all over the world.

Let's be clear. All of this is for awakening. The measure of a meeting with God is not so much what happens in the meeting, but where the meeting goes next. New Room is not interested in becoming a bigger and bigger conference, or even a "movement" for that matter. We are praying for the launch of many movements—through you—through banded hearts, bonded homes, apostolic churches, and awakened cities.

A Great Awakening is the messy confluence of many people moving not in organizational coordination but in a divine concertedness, banding, praying, sowing, and reaping. It's not about an association or a denomination or a conference but a transcendent fellowship of travailing love, existing in the courts of heaven and moved on earth by the unseen hand of God, to do impossible things in unimaginable ways.

We want to hear from you about the doors of opportunity opening up in your hearts, homes, churches, and cities. And how about joining us next Wednesday for the watch for awakening prayer meeting at Noon (CST), and the one after that. We are eight years in and could use some fresh reinforcements. Find us at watchforawakening.com. As we like to say, prayer is not the only thing we do, but it is the first thing, and from this first thing come many things. We will see you on the field.

For the Awakening,

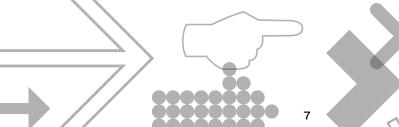
J. D. Walt and the Farm Team

The Door Is Open

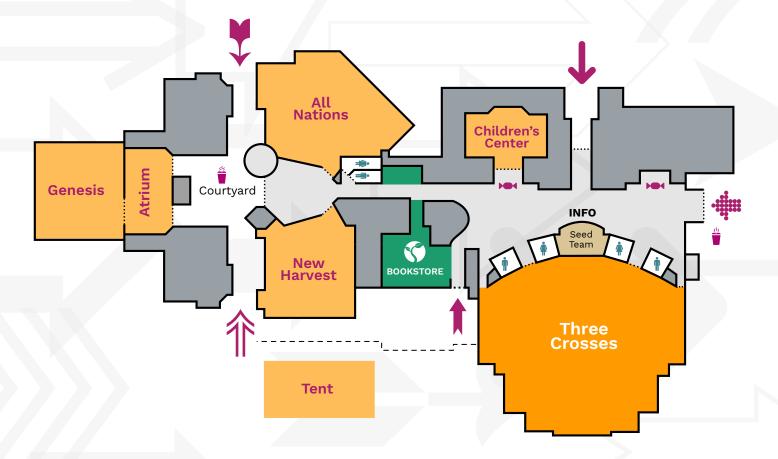
Every piece that hits floor

A door has been opened to you A door of opportunity Once shut, is now gaping wide Can you see it? Fading pews Making room for a people Who don't take gathering for granted The illusion of contentment vanishing like lesser stars in the presence of the morning Religious burnout stoking the fires of revival Can you feel it? Unprecedented times Everything's changed forever There's no going back to normal Nothing will ever be the same again But the same was no garden Was calloused hearts and normalized thistles Would hold no flame No burning for the spirit Church of broken candles More wax than wick The same was a comfortable veil Hiding our frailty and dependence Blockage disguised as blessing Distraction and facade We built walls and called it church They fell down and some wanted to call it guits What a wonder the empty tomb must have been To catch a glimpse of real hope through the cracks of our crumbling expectations Those expectations have been shattered again Sounds like Someone standing at a door and knocking A door has been opened up to you Endings become an entrance From closed, to cracked, to chasm wide A way has been made Gates swing open As King appears Doors fold inward, bowing the only way they know how They've unlearned the language of locks Access has been granted An invitation has been given A welcome mat sits where a warning sign once stood This is no blind optimism This is the budding of opportunity A time for sowers of seed, and laborers of harvest To speak words of empathy to a world fluent in grief To say we get it Our hope was once laid in a tomb also There's never been a better time to declare a gospel of resurrection Can you see it? A door has been opened To a new room and new season But an age old commission and communion Come sowers, the harvest is plentiful Come weary, there's an expanse of rest in the Father's presence Come awakening Come awake, oh sleeper Arise from the dead And Christ shall shine on you Through an open door

by Lo Alaman



MAP





SCHEDULE

Wednesday

9:00 AM
Preconferences

1:00 PM
Opening Worship

1:30 PM Session 1

David Thomas with J. D. Walt

2:15 PM Session 2

Carolyn Moore with Steve Seamands

 $\leftarrow BREAK \rightarrow$

4:00 PM Session 3

Allen Jackson

5:00 PM ← DINNER BREAK →

7:30 PM Session 4 Rich Villodas

Thursday

8:45 AM Worship

9:00 AM Session 5

Kevin Watson

10:00 AM Session 6

Jo Saxton

 \leftarrow BREAK \rightarrow

11:15 AM
BREAKOUT SESSION 1

12:30 PM $\leftarrow LUNCH\ BREAK \rightarrow$

1:30 PM

BREAKOUT SESSION 2

 \leftarrow BREAK \rightarrow

3:00 PM Worship

3:20 PM Session 7 - Panel:

"How Can We Steward Our Moment for Awakening?"

5:00 PM \leftarrow DINNER BREAK \rightarrow

7:30 PM
Session 8
Allen Hood

Friday

8:45 AM Worship

9:00 AM Session 9

Tara Beth Leach

10:15 AM
Session 10
J. D. Walt

11:30 PM
Dismissal



David Thomas

David Thomas is executive director of New Room. David is an ordained elder in the United Methodist Church. Recently he completed a PhD focused on patterns of prayer that have preceded awakening movements in history. David is board vice-chair of Alpha USA and enjoys outdoor pursuits, Celtic Christian traditions, and anything with his wife, Karen, and their kids, Luke, John Paul, and Mary Esther.

Topic:

DOORS WIDE OPEN

"What troubles have we seen, what conflicts have we passed, fightings without, and fears within, since we assembled last." Charles Wesley's words in 1749 from *And Are We Yet Alive* have never sounded more valid or current than today as the New Room family reconvenes. This opening hour is an invitation for all—for every one of us—to come as we are to the Lord's Table and find the seat saved for us by Jesus. He is waiting inside this door for your healing and refreshment.

Follow-Up Discussion Questions

- 1. In what ways have the challenges of the last year or two changed you?
- 2. What do you need Jesus to do for you or in you at this year's New Room Conference?
- 3. What door of opportunity can you see right now in your heart, your home, your church, or your city?

Further Reading on This Topic



David Thomas

D E E P P E A C E
TODO MUNTER
Deep Peace Todd Hunter

Session Notes
SESSION NOTES



Carolyn Moore

Carolyn Moore is an ordained elder in the United Methodist Church who has spent her ministry developing new congregations in Athens and Evans, Georgia. She is the author of four Bible studies (*Encounter Jesus*, *Encounter the Spirit*, *Encounter the Father*, and *Supernatural*) and one book (*The 19: Questions to Kindle a Wesleyan Spirit*). Carolyn and her son-in-law co-host a podcast called The Art of Holiness, which focuses on conversations about supernatural ministry, practical holiness, and intergenerational encouragement. Carolyn has been actively involved in the Wesleyan Covenant Association since its inception and has a passion for mobilizing people to positions of ministry leadership. She is happily married to Steve Moore, a high school history teacher. Their daughter lives in Tennessee with her family.

Topic:

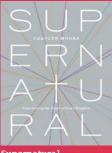
HOW DO WE GET WELL?

In Peter's experience of being miraculously delivered from a prison (not of his own making), his story exposes us to some spiritual realizations about how things work in the realm of the supernatural. We learn the tactics of the enemy of our souls, how we respond when we feel out of control, and how we can find our way back toward freedom. This one is for those who are ready to be well again.

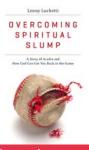
Follow-Up Discussion Questions

Further Reading on This Topic

- 1. What does this scene in Peter's life teach you about the enemy of your soul?
- 2. What does it reveal to you about your own response?
- 3. What vision does it give you for finding your way back to freedom?



Supernatural Carolyn Moore



Overcoming Spiritual Slump Lenny Luchetti

Session Notes



Allen Jackson

Allen Jackson has served World Outreach Church since 1981, becoming senior pastor in 1989. Under his leadership, WOC has grown to a congregation of more than 15,000 through outreach and community activities and worship services designed to share the gospel, with his messages broadcast on multiple national media outlets. With degrees from Oral Roberts University and Vanderbilt University, and additional studies at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary and Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Pastor Jackson is uniquely equipped to help people develop a love and understanding of God's Word.

Topic:

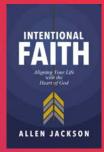
ALIGNING YOUR LIFE WITH THE HEART OF GOD

In this session you will get to hear from the senior pastor of our host venue at World Outreach Church. Over the past couple of years, the Seedbed team has gotten to know Allen and the more we knew him, the more we wanted our New Room family to hear from him. With humility and eagerness to see God's kingdom move upon the earth, Allen's ministry and teachings have seen significant global impact. The interview topics will include the incredible story that gave birth to World Outreach and the major role that prayer has played in the life of this church. After the interview we have invited Allen to open the Word and encourage us in our faith.

Follow-Up Discussion Questions

Further Reading on This Topic

- 1. What story most stood out to you from the interview and why?
- 2. Where did you feel challenged or encouraged?
- 3. What action, change, or decision did you find yourself moving toward?



Intentional Faith Allen Jackson

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Right Here, Right Now Jesus J. D. Walt

ession Notes	
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Rich Villodas

Rich Villodas is the Brooklyn-born lead pastor of New Life Fellowship, a large, multiracial church with more than seventy-five countries represented in Elmhurst, Queens. He is also a key speaker for Emotionally Healthy Discipleship—a movement that has touched hundreds of thousands of people. Rich graduated with a BA in pastoral ministry and theology from Nyack College. He went on to complete his master of divinity from Alliance Theological Seminary. His award-winning book, The Deeply Formed Life, was released in September 2020. He and his wife, Rosie, have two beautiful children and reside in Queens.

Topic:

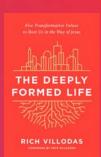
LEARNING TO ABIDE IN A WORLD **TEARING ITSELF APART**

This talk will offer a vision, out of John 15, to deeply abide in God and with others in a world marked by increasing fragmentation.

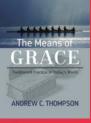
Follow-Up Discussion Questions

- 1. What resonated with you most from this talk?
- 2. What are your current rhythms of abiding in God?
- 3. Who is the Lord calling you to abide better with in this season of leadership?

Further Reading on This Topic



The Deeply-Formed Life The Means of Grace Rich Villodas



Andrew Thompson

ession Notes



Kevin Watson

Kevin M. Watson has been in the academy for the past thirteen years. In that context, he has studied, taught, and written six books. After earning tenure at Emory University, Candler School of Theology, Kevin has recently returned to the local church to practice what he has preached. He serves as associate pastor of discipleship at First Methodist Church, Waco, TX. Watson writes at kevinmwatson.com.

Topic:

PERFECT LOVE: RECEIVING GOD'S GREATEST GIFT

Too often Christians are intimidated by or afraid of holiness and sanctification. You are invited to reconsider the promise of perfect love as found in Scripture. It is God's will that you be sanctified!

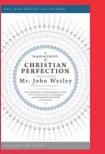
Follow-Up Discussion Questions

Further Reading on This Topic

- 1. What was most surprising to you about perfect love?
- 2. When did you feel most encouraged or stirred by the Spirit?
- 3. What would it look like for your community to pursue God's perfect love together?



Perfect Love Kevin Watson



A Plain Account of Christian Perfection John Wesley

ession Notes
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Jo Saxton

Jo Saxton is an author, speaker, podcast host, and leadership coach. She has dedicated her career to growing leadership teams around the world and empowering women to find their purpose in their personal lives and in leadership. Born in London to parents who immigrated from Nigeria, Jo credits her family's unrelenting work ethic and the grace of God for the bold, tenacious approach she takes to sharing her wisdom on identity, influence, and living an authentic life. She is characterized by her effervescent honesty and warm approachability, leaving audiences with practical next steps in areas that are usually a bit ambiguous. In addition to her work as an author, Jo has also spearheaded an initiative aimed to help women grow their leadership skills. Jo lives in Minneapolis with her husband, Chris, and their two daughters.

Topic:

RESET: RENEW, REPAIR, REBUILD

The last 18+ months have redefined the global landscape, caused unfathomable loss, and exposed deep fault lines in our culture that seem too deep to repair. This session looks at Isaiah 61 to explore how we live and lead through uncertain times.

Follow-Up Discussion Questions

- 1. How has the last 18+ months impacted you as a leader?
- 2. Which R is your greatest challenge and why?
- 3. What's God saying to you and what might be your next step in response?

Further Reading on This Topic



Ready to Rise Jo Saxton



Revival Rising Mark Nysewander

Session Notes

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Healing Prayer Mini-Course

Genesis

This mini-course will provide a look at some of the training for the prayer ministry team including hearing God, praying for others, and teaching on the healing ministry of Jesus.



Breakout Notes

Steve Seamands
Professor Emeritus of
Christian Doctrine at ATS



Janine Plum
Pastor at Trinity UMC
Chesaning, MI)



New Room Prayer Team Coordinator



Mark Nysewander Pastor at Wesleyan Fellowship (Marietta, G



Chris Dunagan
Ordinary disciple
of Jesus

Follow-Up Discussion Questions

- 1. What two or three things helped you understand healing prayer better?
- 2. Were the prayer activities helpful?
- 3. How do you feel better equipped to pray for others?

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Awakening Mini Course The Hidden Places of Awakening Origins

New Harvest Sanctuary

We long to see a renewed church. We are desperate for the transformation of society. But Scripture and history teach how God does not awaken broadly where he has not first moved deeply. He begins with our inner lives and our most intimate circles of concern and love. This mini-course brings focus to the crucial yet often concealed contexts of the Spirit's renewing work in our hearts and homes. With so much pressing upon our hearts recently, and all that has been required of our households, we seek a deep drink from the wells of God's grace for our souls and families.



David Thomas Senior Advisor to New Room



Allen Hood Speaker and Ministry Consultant

Follow-Up Discussion Questions

- 1. How is your marriage and/or family weaker or stronger at this point from what you have journeyed through these last couple of years?
- 2. What has sustained you? What still burdens you?
- 3. What kind of personal renewal do you need in order to love well those nearest to you?

Formation, Justice, and Deep Peace

Three Crosses

Justice cannot be consistently and righteously pursued without the transformation of our souls. And real, lasting peace cannot be achieved without justice. This breakout examines the connections between spiritual formation, justice, and peace.



Bishop of Diocese of C4S0, Founder of Telos Network

DEEP

Follow-Up Discussion Questions

- 1. What in the world hurts you so bad you weep over it?
- 2. Do you have the desire to do something about it?
- 3. What change might be needed to activate justice and peace-making in your life?

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Breakout	Notes	 	 	 		
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The Surprising Power of the Dinner Church

All Nations

For the first three hundred years the church met around Jesus Tables. They were motivated to do so after Jesus birthed the New Passover during the Last Supper. The church grew from a movement of hundreds to a movement of tens-of-millions while practicing that New Passover sociology of "doing church." To watch it being birthed again in our day is both theologically intriguing and missiologically inspiring.



Verlon Fosner
Pastor and Founder
of Dinner Church Collective

We're pleased to be able to provide the following offers to New Room attendees:

- 20% discount on scheduling any FX or Dinner Church training, coaching, or consulting. Email info@freshexpressionsus.org and mention New Room in the subject line.
- 20% discount on any online course or training through 2021. Use code NewRoom20.

Breakout	Notes	 	 	

THE MANUEL
DINNER,
CHURCH Verlon Fosner

Welcome to Dinner, Church Verlon Fosner

Developing a Supernatural Lifestyle

Children's Center

Carolyn will be presenting her approach to supernatural ministry as described in her book *Supernatural*, sharing stories of supernatural encounter and healing, and talking practically about how to shift our worldview toward serving and enjoying a supernatural God.



Carolyn Moore Pastor at Mosaic Church (Evans, GA) Author, Supernatural, Encounter the Spirit

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Band Together

How a Discipleship Band Is an Essential Need for Every Christian

Tent

More than perhaps ever before, we are learning that the church is not the building, the programs, or even our ability to gather in mass. The church in its most fundamental form is where two or three gather in Jesus' name. How we gather and what we practice when we gather makes all the difference in terms of transformation and discipleship. Discipleship bands are groups of three to five people who read together, meet together, and pray together to become the love of God for one another and the world. Bands are all about creating a safe and honest relational context where we can grow as disciples of Jesus. Come join the original discipleship band with J. D. Walt, Mark Benjamin, and Omar Rikabi to learn more about this model and how to begin to implement this in your church or ministry. Topics will include: why we band, what is a band, how to get started, the seven commitments of a discipleship band, and sustaining growth as a band.



J. D. Walt Seedbed Founder and Sower-in-Chief



Mark Benjamin
Seedbed Executive
Director of Connections



Omar Rikabi
Pastor at First UMC

Breakout Notes	
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	 discipleship bands a practical field guide
	 by mark benjamin and j. d. walt
	 Discipleship Bands:
	 A Practical Field Guide Mark Benjamin & J. D. Wal

Awakening and the Emerging Adult Generation

Atrium

It's estimated that 42 million young people could leave the church by 2050. If awakening were to come among emerging generations, what could it look like? In this breakout, we'll explore the emerging adult stage of life and current cultural trends, to highlight the unique opportunity that the church has to reach and form the Millennial and GenZ generations. Our panel will share from decades of campus ministry, as well as from their work with the Awakening Project—a national initiative of students and pastors contending for the college campus.



Austin Wofford
Pastor at Arise Church
(Lexington, KY)



Maddie Wofford
Pastor at Arise Church
(Lexington, KY)



Jessica Avery
Director of the
Awakening Project

Follow-Up Discussion Questions

- 1. What are some unique challenges of the emerging adulthood life stage?
- 2. What resources/relationships could your church offer to meet those needs?
- 3. How do current cultural values align with and oppose the values of the kingdom?

Breakout	Notes	SHAPING THEIR FUTURE
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Ready to Rise?

Three Crosses

How do we equip and empower a generation of women leaders broken by #MeToo (& #ChurchToo), and rocked by a global pandemic that has upended women's lives in distinct ways? This session explores what it could look like to identify and celebrate the God given callings of the women in our communities and invest in their leadership in church and wider society.



Jo Saxton
Author, Speaker, Podcast
Host, and Leadership Coach

Follow-Up Discussion Questions

- 1. What gifts have you left unwrapped?
- 2. What's your plan for catalyzing women leaders—and is your plan working?
- 3. What's your next step?

Breakout	Notes	 	 	
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Ready to Rise Jo Saxton

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Perfect Love

All Nations

This breakout continues the conversation on the audacious optimism of what is possible through faith in Jesus Christ. This is a doctrine we are intended to not only believe, but also experience!



Kevin Watson

Pastor at First UMC (Waco, TX) Author, Perfect Love, The Class Meeting

Follow-Up Discussion Questions

- 1. What are the next steps for reclaiming perfect love in your congregation?
- 2. Where do you think there might be challenges to offering this to people in your community?
- 3. How can those challenges be addressed so that people can experience the full promises of the gospel?

Breakout	Notes	the Meximinal Massemann
• • • • • • • • • • • •		KEVIN M. WATSON Author of the Class Meeting
•••••		Perfect Love Kevin Watson
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Livestream

Children's Center

This breakout session includes a time of impartation and an opportunity to pray for one another to practice what we have learned.



President of Greenvil University (2013-202

Follow-Up Discussion Questions

- 1. What was the best gift your earthly dad ever gave to you? In light of this, reflect on Jesus saying, "If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!" (Luke 11:13).
- 2. Write down the names of family members and friends on a piece of paper. Pray over each name slowly each day and ask the Lord to give you a word of encouragement.
- 3. Can you remember times when a person's name or face came to your mind during a time of prayer? What did you do? Did you ignore the thought, pray for the person, or reach out to contact them if that was possible? If you made contact, how did they respond?



Livestream Ivan Filby

Breakout Notes

From Chaos to Creativity

Tent

In an increasingly chaotic world we seem to live with constant disorder. What if chaos is more than the check-engine-light of lost causes? What if it can actually be harnessed as a tool for innovation, conversion, and originality? Creativity flourishes on the edge of chaos. Inspired by the powerful picture of creation in Genesis 1:2 where the formless, dark void is transformed in God's mighty hands, we can learn to harness the creative power of chaos and disruption. Learn practical tools for increasing creativity and productivity in life and ministry often marked by the uncontrolled and unexpected. Where you and I may experience confusion and disorder, God sees an opportunity for something new—for rebirth and renewal. God did this in the beginning, he did it again at the cross, and with renewed vision for our disordered world today, we look to God to do it again.

* Look for Jessica's upcoming book Cultivating Chaos in 2022!



Jessica LaGrone
Dean of the Chapel at
Asbury Theological Seminary

Follow-Up Discussion Questions

December Made

- 1. Where do you see God hovering over the chaotic waters in this season?
- 2. What are some elements or systems in your life that could use a little disruption/renovation?
- 3. Where can you utilize chaos as an opportunity for innovation?

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Reclaiming Evangelism

Moving Beyond Attractional Church to Mobilizing Everyday Missionaries

Atrium

For some in the church, evangelism has become something of a dirty word. But scripture shows us simple person-to-person evangelism, empowered by the Holy Spirit, was how the gospel spread and transformed the world. Church growth fads and attractional gimmicks do not produce lasting fruit and will not work in an increasingly post-Christian culture. In the West we have to start thinking like missionaries again. In this breakout session we will discuss practical ways to help churchgoers listen to and follow the leading of the Holy Spirit, to share their faith right where they live, work, and play. This session is all about mobilizing the church to live as everyday missionaries.



Matt Reynolds

President and Founder
of Spirit & Truth

Follow-Up Discussion Questions

- 1. What's one practical step you could take this week to share your faith in a new and bold way?
- 2. Who at my church do I need to evangelize about evangelism?
- 3. What shifts are needed in my congregation to move beyond an attractional model rooted in Christendom thinking and toward a missionary mentality?

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PANEL DISCUSSION

How Can We Steward Our Moment for Awakening?

Panelists:

Lo Alaman

Jessica Avery

Allen Hood

POET AND AUTHOR

COLLEGE MINISTRY LEADER

Tim Johnson Jo Anne Lyon

SENIOR PASTOR. PFRIMMER'S CHAPEL UMC

WESLEYAN CHURCH

So many questions have flooded our thinking and praying these past couple of years, and we've needed a trusted forum for talking them out. What has happened to us? What do we know now that we didn't know before? Perhaps most importantly, how does God see this moment, and what does he wait for in our response? This year's panel will help us frame current reality with discernment and courage, seeking the kind of candid, rugged faith our day requires.

Follow-Up Discussion Questions

Further Reading on This Topic

- 1. What do you now understand differently than you did eighteen months ago? What shifts can you observe in your understanding of God? of church? of yourself?
- 2. Where is your greatest opportunity for growth: resilience? repentance? prayer?
- 3. What practical steps can you take to participate in what God is wanting to do?





Mark Nysewander

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Allen Hood

Allen Hood served as the associate director of the International House of Prayer in Kansas City for more than twenty years. In January 2019, Allen founded the Excellencies of Christ Ministries, which exists to proclaim the excellencies of Christ to the ends of the earth and to disciple the body of Christ through prayer, preaching, creative resources, and the building up of the local church.

Allen lives with his wife, Rachel, in Colorado Springs. He regularly travels, ministers, and consults with various ministries, local churches, and houses of prayer around the world.

Topic:

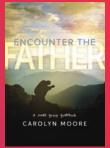
THE HEART OF THE FATHER IN THE HEARTS OF HIS PEOPLE

The awakening was only three years old when Wesley distilled its defining mark, in "The Character of a Methodist," down to Romans 5:5: "A Methodist is one who has 'the love of God shed abroad in his heart by the Holy Ghost given unto him." All we've been through and what we've shared today adds force to our recognition of how deeply we need this love in every level of life. Tonight we open our hearts again to the gift of the Father's heart, offered in abundance by his Spirit.

Follow-Up Discussion Questions

Further Reading on This Topic

- 1. What stands out—from all you have heard this day, particularly tonight as an invitation from the Father?
- 2. Is there anything causing resistance to receiving? Could you bring that to him?
- 3. How would assurance in your standing as daughter or son of the Father change the way you sow for awakening?



Encounter the Father Carolyn Moore

THE CHARACTER OF A METHODIST JOHN WESLEY	
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"The Medicalist's whole self in travel to God's will— of all Disea and in all revenuablescen."	

The Character of a Methodist John Wesley

Session Notes	
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Tara Beth Leach

Tara Beth Leach is a pastor at Christ Church of Oak Brook in the western suburbs of Chicago. She previously served as senior pastor of First Church of the Nazarene of Pasadena ("PazNaz") in Southern California and has pastored in Illinois and New York. She is a graduate of Olivet Nazarene University and Northern Theological Seminary. Tara Beth is a regular writer for Missio Alliance and writes and speaks widely about women in ministry and church leadership. She is the author of *Emboldened, Radiant Church*, and *Forty Days on Being a Six*. She has two beautiful and rambunctious sons and has been married to the love of her life, Jeff, since 2006. You can find her at tarabethleach.com.

Topic:

LIGHT THE CANDLE: THE PRACTICE OF ACTIVE WAITING AND HOPING

Lamentations 3 drips with grief, pain, and, of course, lament. But the writer is not without hope. The believers are encouraged to not abandon the covenant, but instead to wait on the Lord. But waiting isn't a passive ascent; rather, waiting is active, it's anticipatory, it's hope-filled. Many of us church leaders feel as though we are standing in the rubble of "what was." Now what? Following the lead of Lamentations 3, let us "light our candles" and actively wait.

Follow-Up Discussion Questions

Further Reading on This Topic

- 1. What is the rubble of "what was" that you are actively lamenting?
- 2. What are practices of active waiting that Christians could do more of?
- 3. How can we light the candle in our own contexts?



Radiant Church Tara Beth Leach

	GOD
	HEDE
	HERE
Advent	
CASEY PAGE CULBRETH	
God Is Hero Casey Page	

Session Notes	.
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J.D. Walt

John David (J. D.) Walt is the founder and sower-in-chief of Seedbed. For the past seventeen years he has served as a vice president and dean at Asbury Theological Seminary. A sought after speaker and conference leader, author of a growing collection of books, and a songwriter, J. D. writes daily for the Seedbed Daily Text. He lives in Franklin, Tennessee, with his four children, David, Mary Kathryn, Lily, and Samuel.

Topic:

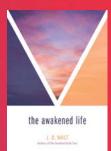
AS LONG AS IT IS CALLED **TODAY**

To sow for a great awakening is to play the long game. While we stand at the precipice of opportunity, we must simultaneously embrace the possibilities and count the costs. We have reaped where we have not sown. For many of us, it is a sobering moment to contemplate sowing where we may not (ourselves) reap. We will take the long view of our children's children and bring all the energy of the Spirit working within us to sowing for awakening today, as long as it is called TODAY.

Follow-Up Discussion Questions

Further Reading on This Topic

- 1. What is Jesus revealing to you through the Word and Spirit?
- 2. Are you realizing the glorious possibilities of the rest of your life?
- 3. Are you waking up to the gravity of the long game of great awakening and its multigenerational impacts?



The Awakened Life J. D. Walt

The Seedbed Daily Text		
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14) IS H	ow.
WE	KNOW	
1 john J. D. WALT		
This Is	How We	Know

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Session Notes



Brenna Bullock

WORSHIP LEADER

Brenna Bullock is the worship leader of The Harvest, a contemporary worship expression, at The Woodlands Methodist Church. Brenna has a heart to see all people encounter the presence of God and be transformed. Brenna and her husband, Ben, are passionate about writing and releasing songs that will align every heart with the power and truth of the gospel.



Bryce Moore
WORSHIP LEADER

Bryce Moore is a worship pastor serving at WoodsEdge Community Church in The Woodlands, TX. He began leading worship in his high school youth group and subsequently attended The Bethel School of Supernatural Ministry (BSSM) with a focus on worship. He and his fiancé are excited to tie the knot this fall in Austin. TX.



Mark Swayze
WORSHIP LEADER / GUITAR

Mark Swayze is the pastor of students and Bristol House Pastor at The Woodlands Methodist Church. Swayze has a heart for raising up the next generation of church leaders and equipping them through student leadership, residency, and internship programs at his home church. Mark is married to Missie Swayze and has two kids, Lauren and Caleb.



Zahriya Zachary

Zahriya Zachary lives in Lubbock, Texas. She's a Bethel Music Artist and is a worship leader at Chruch on the Rock Lubbock. I love the local church and being a part of bringing people together through worship.

Michael Rafferty

WORSHIP LEADER / KEYS

Michael Rafferty is the worship leader of the Woodforest campus of The Woodlands Methodist Church, and the director of the church's worship residency—a program for college-aged students to grow in their gifting and heart for worship. He lives in The Woodlands, TX with his wife and two young children

Matthew Kerley

WORSHIP LEADER / GUITAR

Matthew Kerley is a singer-songwriter, multiinstrumentalist, and producer. He lives with his wife in The Woodlands, TX and is the worship leader at Loft Church, a worship expression at The Woodlands Methodist Church. His life's desire is to create an atmosphere where people can experience the presence of God.

Nathan Guerry

WORSHIP LEADER

Nathan Guerry is the worship leader of Rebel Base, the student ministry at The Woodlands Methodist Church. He has a passion to raise up young worship leaders and musicians. Nathan loves to write songs for the global church and has a heart to see people meet Jesus.

Beji George DRUMS

Jacob Lisenbe BASS

Ben Bullock
ELECTRIC GUITAR

Drew Story ELECTRIC GUITAR

Steven Rector
FRONT OF HOUSE SOUND



Lo Alaman SPOKEN WORD

Lo Alaman could be considered an artist, speaker, minister, and Lakers fan most days of the week. But there isn't a day he doesn't consider himself a husband, a father, and a son of the Most High God. Whether preaching, spitting poetry, or just chilling with new best friends, Lo seeks to create moments to minister the love of Jesus in every space he enters. Lo lives in Texas with his wife, Erika, and daughter, Emersyn.



Seedbed is thrilled to release this collection of poems, laments, and prayers from the "Poet Laureate of New Room," Lo Alaman.

"We Sang A Dirge shows Lo's deep love for his community, and God's deep love for the oppressed in poems that not only sound beautiful, but also carry the hope of a more beautiful future." — Bob Goff

What Is Seedbed?

Seedbed is a not-for-profit ministry organization that provides resources, training, and tools to help believers wake up to the love of Jesus, and sow that love into hearts, homes, churches, and cities.

To these ends, Seedbed focuses on gathering a global fellowship of sowers, connecting this fellowship in banded discipleship, and crafting discipleship resources to facilitate extravagant sowing.

On the next page you can meet the people who work hard to achieve this vision. On the following pages, we'd like to tell you about just a few of the exciting things we've been working on.



Who Is Seedbed?



Andrew Dragos Senior Editor



Holly Jones
Director of Production
(Publishing)



Mark Benjamin Executive Director of New Room Conference



Andy MillerExecutive Director of Publishing



Jenna Miller Executive Director of Finance



Matt Cheatham Warehouse Manager



Dan WiltDirector of Learning
Communities



J. D. WaltPresident and
Sower-in-Chief



Matthew Hulbert Volunteer Coordinator



Darry Chaney Office Manager



Justin Meeker Chief Operating Officer



Micah SmithExecutive Director of Operations



David Reed
Donor Relations



Kevin Henson Donor Relations



Nick Perreault Creative Director



Lo Alaman Poet-In-Residence



Taylor Gindlesberger Director of Events and New Room Conference

Each year Seedbed creates and gives away more than a million dollars' worth of resources. This is only possible thanks to the generous financial support of nearly 5,000 sowers on what we call The Seed Team. Those partners share our sense of the Holy Spirit's readiness to move like never before in our lifetimes. This is a moment of great opportunity, urgency, and courage. We must invest our lives and resources into the kind of change that will bear fruit in our communities today and for generations to come.

Join the Seed Team

Since 2012, Seedbed has been continually developing new ways of helping people wake up to the profound love of Jesus.

As we look forward toward 2022, we invite you to partner with us financially as we focus on a few key initiatives:

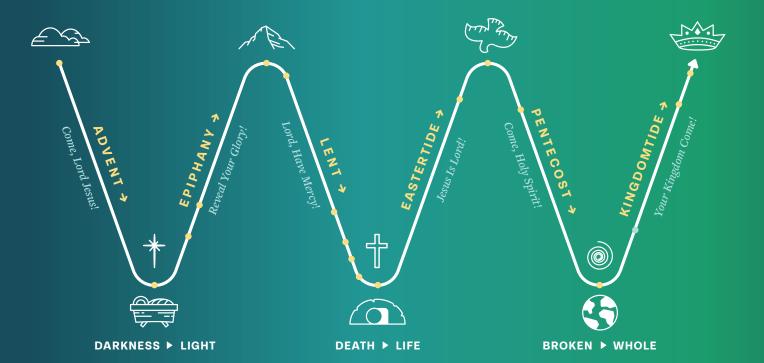
- Providing encouragement and support to local pastors and church leaders
- Greatly expanding the reach of The Seedbed Daily Text into new channels and audiences
- Building a robust learning community led by world-class teachers and movement leaders.

We need the support of those who share our belief in the power of God's love to awaken and transform this world.

If you're interested in joining the Seed Team and supporting us in this work, visit the Seed Team hospitality room so we can connect.

Please consider joining us on this mission to sow the love of Jesus in hearts, homes, churches and cities across our country and throughout the world.

The Awakening Calendar



The Word of God (a.k.a. the Bible) by which we know the Word (a.k.a. Jesus) is the single most important time-telling device in the history of history and in the future of eternity. The map represents the life of Jesus Christ laid out in a linear movemental fashion. It coheres around three epic journeys: Advent through Epiphany (darkness to light); Lent through Eastertide (death to life); and Pentecost through Kingdomtide: (brokenness to wholeness).

It begins at the highest summit where we gaze upon the horizon and behold the second Advent (coming) of Jesus. From there we embark on a descent, leading us to shepherds, angels, and a baby in a manger—Christmas. After twelve days we enter Epiphany, and ascend until we reach the Mount of Transfiguration. Journey two is the descent of all descents as we follow Jesus through forty days of Lent all the way down to the cross and the surprise of all surprises: the resurrection of Jesus Christ on Easter Sunday. Here begins an ascent called Eastertide. On the fortieth day Jesus ascends to the right hand of God, and ten days later we gather on Pentecost to receive the Holy Spirit.

The third journey leads down into the valley of vision where we follow Jesus into his kingdom of "on earth as it is in heaven," and then leads to the movement we call Kingdomtide, back up to the summit where we again gaze upon the far Advent horizon to behold his coming again.

This map sketch is meant to convey the reality that time is not a neverending cyclical process but the movement of God with us. Though there be a beginning, middle, and end, this is the world without end.

2021-2022

The Christian New Year (First Sunday of Advent	November 27, 2021
A Night with New Room – Advent	December 2, 2021
Christmas Day	December 25, 2021
Day of Epiphany	January 6, 2022
Baptism of Jesus	January 10, 2022
The Transfiguration	February 14, 2022
Ash Wednesday	March 2, 2022
A Night with New Room - Lent	February 24, 2022
Palm Sunday	April 10, 2022
Maundy Thursday	April 21, 2022
Good Friday	April 22, 2022
Holy Saturday	April 23, 2022
Easter Sunday	April 24, 2022
Day of Ascension	May 26, 2022
A Night with New Room - Ascension	May 26, 2022
Day of Pentecost	June 5, 2022
Trinity Sunday	June 12, 2022
Kingdomtide begins	September 5, 2022
2022 New Room Conference	September 21-23, 2022
All Saints' Day	November 1, 2022
Christ the King	November 20, 2022
	A Night with New Room - Advent Christmas Day Day of Epiphany Baptism of Jesus The Transfiguration Ash Wednesday A Night with New Room - Lent Palm Sunday Maundy Thursday Good Friday Holy Saturday Easter Sunday Day of Ascension A Night with New Room - Ascension Day of Pentecost Trinity Sunday Kingdomtide begins 2022 New Room Conference All Saints' Day



discipleship bands

John Wesley once famously said, "There is no holiness apart from social holiness." Over the years, many have mistakenly asserted that he was talking about social justice.

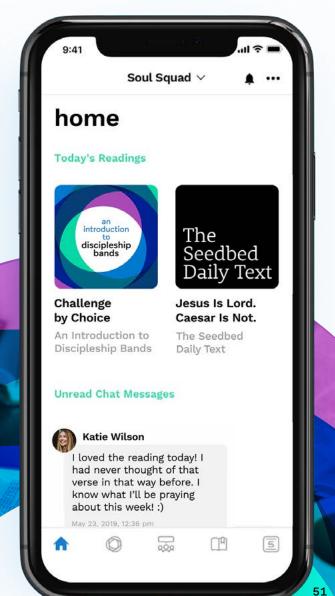
In reality, he was talking about doing discipleship in the context of real relationships. In essence, you can't become a real Christian alone. The way forward is as close as a few other people who are willing to band together.

A discipleship band is a group of three to five people who read together, pray together, and meet together to become the love of God for one another and the world.

We're not talking about a traditional small group or a typical accountability group. The primary curriculum is the lives of the bandmates, joined together in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit.

time + trust = transformation

download the discipleship bands app and get connected!



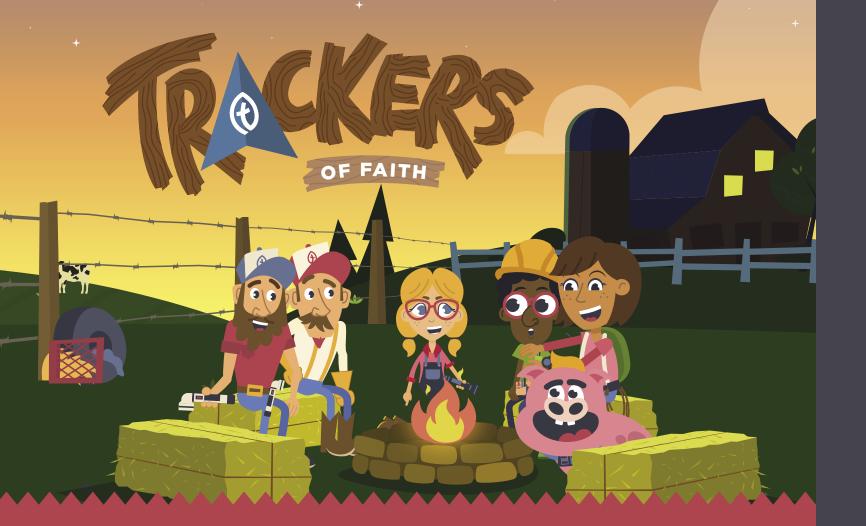
The Discipleship Bands app facilitates deep, meaningful band relationships in two ways. First, it delivers discipleship content to you every day, and, second, it brings your band together into a private online group to interact around that content. It's that simple.

Download the Discipleship Bands app from your app store today!

Visit discipleshipbands.com/app -or-

Use the camera on your Android or Apple device to scan the QR code.





"Trackers is not just a Sunday lesson but a weekly partnering tool for the whole family . . . it helps kids get a full understanding of the Bible and how it all whispers the name of Jesus.

It is simply one of the best ways to train up the next generation in following Jesus and living it out."

JON BAILES, LIVING HOPE FELLOWSHIP

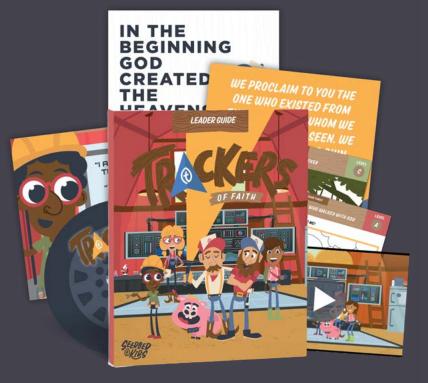
Bible lessons your kids will love!

We believe that children are capable of extraordinary, faithful discipleship when given the right tools. They understand how Scripture can apply to their lives—often with more conviction and authenticity than adults.

Using a mixed agriculture and time-travel theme, the Trackers curriculum brings kids through the Old and New Testament over two years in chronological order. They learn that in the Old Testament, Jesus was present but concealed, whereas in the New Testament, Jesus was revealed.

In Year 3, students dive depper into the faith, exploring the creeds, sacraments, and other important theological themes.

For a complete lesson list, visit seedbedkids.com.



Lessons are available in print or digital form.
Resources include posters, take-home cards, activity sheets, videos, worship music, and more!

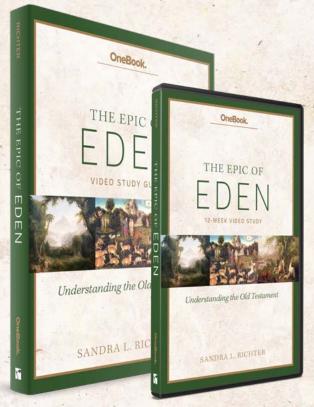
"Trackers has given the children at my church the Big Picture view of the Bible.

Now they see that the Bible isn't many stories, it is one big story of God's covenant of redemption."

KARLA GARRETT, FUMC TUPELO

OneBook.

THE EPIC OF EDEN



The Old Testament is more than an unfortunate preface to the part of the Bible that really counts. It's your story.

Does your knowledge of the Old Testament feel like a grab bag of people, books, events, and ideas? How many times have you resolved to really understand the Old Testament? To finally make sense of it? In The Epic of Eden Video Study Guide: Understanding the Old Testament, Dr. Sandra Richter clearly and powerfully communicates a history of God's redeeming grace, weaving together a story that runs from the garden of Eden to the garden of the New Jerusalem.

Through text and video teaching, Dr. Richter uses this twelve-week study to bring a new dimension to the history of the ancient Near East, orienting any study group in time, geography, culture, redemption, and relevance to today—all without diminishing her reader's faith or dumbing down the scripture.

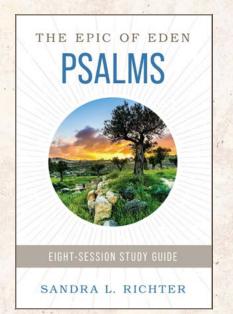
In these pages you'll:

- Gain a rich understanding of the context in which the Old Testament was written
- Make sense of the Old Testament parts, pieces, and stories
- Discover how the the big story of Scripture has serious implications for our present

Perfect for:

- Small groups
- Churchwide studies
- Anyone that struggles to see the Old Testament's relevance to the big story of Scripture

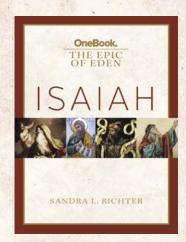
After completing *The Epic of Eden Video Study*, join Dr. Richter as she focuses specifically on these Old Testament books:



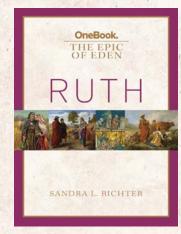
What makes the Psalms so special?

The book of Psalms is well-known and well-worn. It is the Old Testament book most often quoted in the New Testament, and its quotations can be found everywhere from John Milton to Star Trek to congressional speeches. Why so much attention? The Church Father Athanasius said it best-most of Scripture speaks to us, but the Book of Psalms speaks for us.

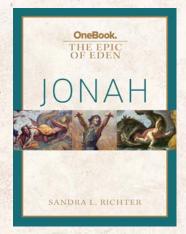
Experience fresh connections to contemporary worship and devotional practices in this eight-session video-based study with well-known scholar Sandy Richter. Indulge in the biblical study of the Psalms, letting Sandy do the heavy lifting of research and translation, which in turn allows you to engage the Bible in a deeply sensitive way.



The Epic of Eden: Isaiah 10-week study w/DVD



The Epic of Eden: Ruth 6-week study w/DVD



The Epic of Eden: Jonah 8-week study w/DVD



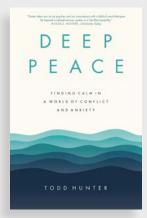






Since 2018, Seedbed has partnered with Zondervan to help bring Wesleyan voices to the broader Christian market.

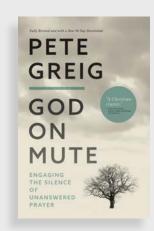
Check out these recent titles today in the Seedbed bookstore and look for new titles coming in 2022 including: Converting Chaos by Jessica LaGrone, Love Goes First by Andrew Forrest, When Women Lead by Carolyn Moore, and The Second Half of the Gospel by J. D. Walt.



Deep Peace

Todd Hunter

In Deep Peace, Todd Hunter analyzes the anxiety and desperation of our current moment and leads readers to receive the peace of Jesus and experience the deep wholeness that comes from the peace of God. He articulates a biblical framework for peace and provides practices to help Christians value and seek peace, becoming people of peace in ordinary life.

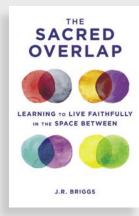


God on Mute

Pete Greig

In this heart-searching, honest, and deeply profound book, Pete Greig looks at the hard side of prayer, how to respond when there seem to be no answers, and how to cope with those who seek to interpret our experience for us. Here is a story of faith, hope, and love beyond all understanding.

"A Christian classic." —Justin Welby, archbishop of Canterbury



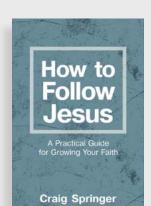
The Sacred Overlap

J.R. Briggs

J.R. Briggs offers a fresh understanding of evangelism and discipleship, showing how we need to be engaged in both at the same time. The Sacred Overlap helps readers see that Christians are called to live with their feet firmly planted in two different worlds-in both heaven and earth—living naturally with grace and truth. Only then can a Christian be a faithful witness in the way of Jesus.

These titles are available at the Seedbed bookstore and online at my.seedbed.com. Earlier Zondervan + Seedbed titles include Unfailing by Rob Renfroe and Marks of a Movement by Winfield Bevins.

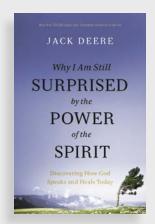
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How to **Follow Iesus**

Craig Springer

Millions of people want to follow Jesus, but don't know how. Sharing personal stories from his own journey to a mature faith, Craig Springer sets readers at ease and offers them practical, easy-toimplement advice for following Jesus. Destined to become a timeless classic, How to Follow Jesus is a must read for new and returning Christians.

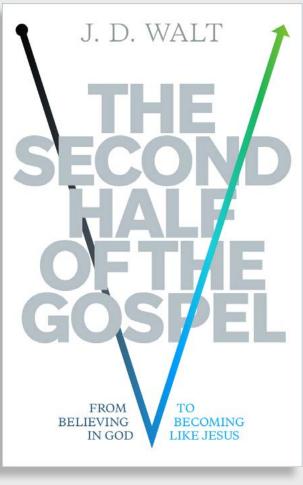


Why I Am Still Surprised by the Power of the **Spirit**

Jack Deere

In this modern classic, now nearly completely rewritten, Jack Deere demonstrates that the Scriptures teach that God is healing and speaking today just as he did 2000 years ago. He explains the nature of spiritual gifts, offers sound advice on discovering and using the gifts in church today, and shows how all of this is part of how God's deepens our friendship with him.

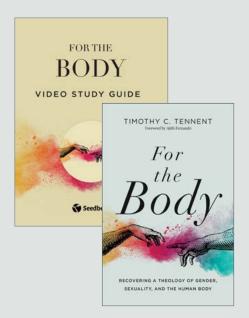
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COMING IN 2022!

For fifty years, Christians have focused on the first half of the gospel—persuading people to make decisions for Jesus so they would go to heaven when they died. Yet we've missed an essential part of Jesus' mission. People also need the second half of the gospel—what it means to become a disciple of Jesus. In this long-awaited book, J. D. Walt offers a practical process for growing past simply believing and behaving to truly beholding and becoming.

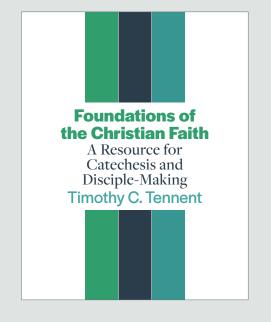
New from Timothy Tennent



For The Body and For The Body Video Study

There is a lot of cultural confusion surrounding the significance of our bodies. How can the church carve a meaningful space that embraces our bodies as gifts from God while charitably modeling a lifestyle committed to holistically honoring his vision? In *For the Body*, Timothy Tennent offers a welcomed, integrated theology of the body based on our sacramental presence in the world.

Check out the video resource and study guide that will help groups come around this urgent conversation.

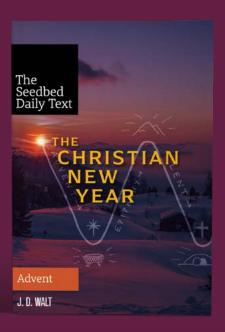


Foundations of the Christian Faith

This collection of indispensable writings by Timothy Tennent works its way through doctrinal affirmations like the Apostles' Creed, the Ten Commandments, the Lord's Prayer, and other foundational content on the means of grace. This single volume work contains core material essential for leaders and laypeople alike who recognize that Christian discipleship can only be embarked upon with a sure foundation under foot. As part of a larger, forthcoming catechism initiative by Seedbed, this work seeks to anchor future resources recapturing basic Christian instruction.

*Advance softcover copies are available exclusively at this year's New Room Conference. Hardcover copies available for pre-order at seedbed.com.

Seasonal Studies from Seedbed!

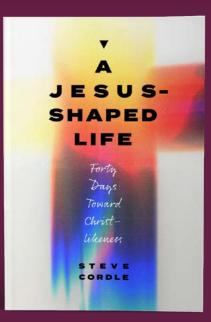


for Advent...

The Christian New Year

For the followers of Jesus, the new year begins with Advent. And what a beginning it is as we start by looking to the end of the age and the second coming of Christ. Advent issues a clarion call to wake from our slumber, realign life, and get in step with the Holy Spirit. *The Christian New Year* unfolds a journey from the second coming all the way to Bethlehem and the first coming, setting the stage for the year ahead. Gather with family, friends, and neighbors and take the journey together. *The Christian New Year* will help us understand our calendar like never before and live into our times with the fullness of life.

Perfect for Sunday school classes, church-wide studies, and small groups, this study includes four supplementary video sessions from J. D. Walt.



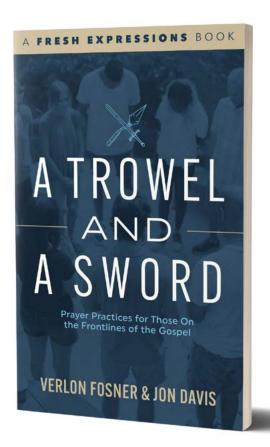
for Lent...

A Jesus-Shaped Life

What if you could . . .

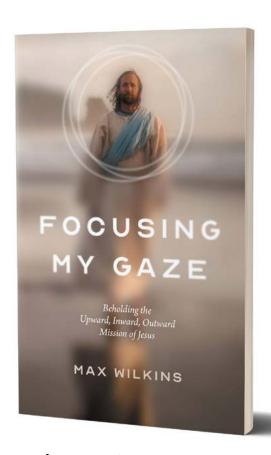
- ... break free from self-destructive sins?
- ... see and love people like Jesus does?
- ... reflect Jesus' compassion, joy, and peace to others?

We are constantly being influenced by our families, the media, and even our cell phones. Yet God promises to shape us in to the image of Jesus. *A Jesus-Shaped Life* invites you to invest forty days in learning how to cooperate with the Holy Spirit as he transforms you from the inside-out. Over six weeks, you will explore selected aspects of Jesus' character and learn how God's grace can reproduce it in you. Spiritual exercises and discussion questions combine with daily meditations to create a valuable tool for becoming the person God created you to be.



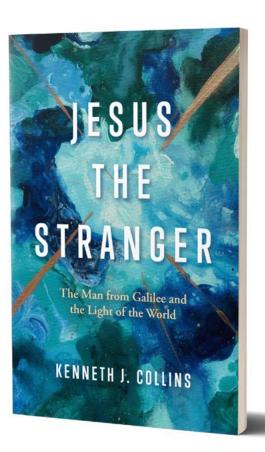
A Trowel and a Sword

Christians are in the business of kicking in the front door of the strongman and plundering his house—removing people he has worked hard to oppress. Accordingly, prayer must take on a declarative, bold, and authoritative tone. This book is for anyone on the frontlines of the gospel, whether it be at work redeeming neighborhoods, working with the most vulnerable, or leading prayer and evangelism efforts. [Companion DVD/streaming video also available]



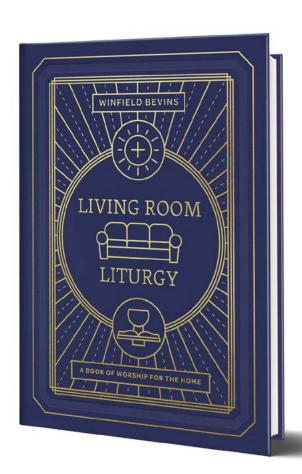
Focusing My Gaze

The prophet Isaiah was allowed to see the Lord in all his glory. As Max Wilkins shows us, Isaiah focused his gaze in four different directions and discovered more about the Lord, himself, and his purpose in life in the process. This perspective is essential in the life of anyone who wants to experience the abundant life that can only be found in Jesus.



Jesus the Stranger

Ken Collins invites us to see Jesus in a new way—one that focuses on his humanity, especially in terms of his suffering and rejection by everyone from hometown folk to family members, from religious leaders to those who will ultimately seek his death. What emerges from this new vista is a more humane and approachable Jesus, one who can commiserate with the pain and sorrow of our own lives and one who can offer rich and abundant healing, the healing of holy love.



Living Room Liturgy

61

Worship doesn't just happen within a church building; it can—and must—also happen in our homes. *Living Room Liturgy* is designed to help you worship in the everyday moments of life. Containing liturgies and short prayers, this book can be used alongside a morning coffee, with your loved ones in your living room, or at your children's bedsides before they fall asleep. Establishing rhythms of liturgical prayer and worship outside of the sanctuary is a refreshing and grounding practice, sure to transform your home and those who live in it.

Seedbed Group Studies



Pure Hearted

Maintaining purity of heart in a sex-saturated world is a challenge for all believers. A glance becomes a gaze, a gaze can become an obsession, and obsession unchecked can bring the chains of addiction. Getting free can be maddening. In *Pure Hearted*, Mark Ongley shows us that freedom is possible, and banding together with a few trusted friends is a key to liberation! Are you ready for a journey to purity of heart?

PERFECT FOR:

- Anyone struggling with sexual bondage
- College groups
- Men's groups
- Discipleship bands



Overcoming Spiritual Slump

Spiritual depression is real! And it's okay to tell somebody, or to reach out with a small ember of faith to get some help. Let's not let the stigma around spiritual slump keep us from breaking through. In *Overcoming Spiritual Slump*, Lenny Luchetti gets personal about his own experience and offers a mix of encouragement and urgency. It may be just what the Spirit uses to help you get unstuck, or to give you language you need to help others. [Companion DVD/streaming video also available]

PERFECT FOR:

- Christians embarrassed or ashamed of being in a spiritual slump
- Church leaders needing a guide to lead congregants through spiritual depression
- Anyone who yearns to be awakened to God's love for them

The Experience

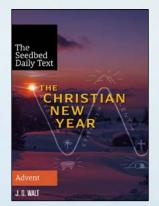
Jesus said, "I came that they may have life and have it abundantly" (John 10:10). Does your life resemble that abundant living that Jesus promised? So many people in our churches have not regularly experienced good news, comfort, wholeness, freedom, joy, or beauty. Perhaps you, those you love, or those you lead feel this way. *The Experience* provides a clear map of the abundant living journey, the obstacles that prevent progress, and offers fresh fuel for moving forward once again.

PERFECT FOR:

- · Sunday school classes
- Small groups
- Discipleship bands

The Seedbed Daily Text

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Advent: The Christian New Year



Philippians: First Love



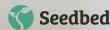
1 Corinthians: What Happens In Corinth...



John: Behold the Man

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the awakened life

The greatest impediment to our own awakening is that we are pretty sure we are already awake. We don't know what we do not know. There is so much more of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, waiting to be discovered, delighted in and demonstrated in and through our lives. Awakening must begin and deepen in our own hearts. As goes our hearts so go our homes. As go our homes, so goes our churches. As go our churches, so goes our towns and cities.

The Awakened Life Course is a four week journey of Scripture, prayer, conversation, and transformation; all centered around the awakening and disciple-making mission of Jesus Christ. Expect to be challenged, encouraged, equipped and empowered for the important season of faith ahead.

The course will unfold over four weeks with the following subjects:

NEEK 1 October 4 Waking up to the Word of God

WEEK 2 October 11 Waking up to the Spirit of God

Waking up to the Body of Christ

EK 4 October 25 Waking up to the Kingdom of God

seedbed.com/theawakenedlife

