

2020

## Discipleship and Christian Education Guide

Christian Discipleship: *The Journey of a Lifetime*

**Includes Judson Press  
Curriculum Catalog**

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Executive Director  
Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Haggray

National Director for Discipleship Ministries  
Rev. Cassandra D. Williams, EdD

Publisher, Judson Press  
Laura Alden

Associate Executive Director, Communications  
Susan Gottshall

Creative Designer  
Danny Ellison

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American Baptist Churches USA  
1075 First Avenue  
King of Prussia PA 19406

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## About This Resource

*The Discipleship and Christian Education Guide* is published annually by the American Baptist Home Mission Societies (ABHMS). Print copies are mailed to all American Baptist regions and churches and to individuals by request. A PDF may be downloaded at [abhms.org/Mission/Discipleship](http://abhms.org/Mission/Discipleship), and additional print copies can be requested through customer service at 800-458-3766.

The *Revised Common Lectionary* is found on pages 8–9. A photocopiable litany for Christian Education Sunday (September 27) is provided in English, Traditional Chinese, French, and Spanish on pages 38–39. A version of the litany formatted for easy photocopying can be downloaded from [abhms.org/Mission/Discipleship](http://abhms.org/Mission/Discipleship). Be sure to check out the list of select resources available from ABHMS on page 11 as well as the additional resource suggestions that are included in the Month-by-Month Planning Calendar (pages 13–24) as you plan your ministries of discipleship and Christian education.



## Reflections on the Theme

*As he was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: ‘You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.’” He said to him, “Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth.” Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, “You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.” When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.*

—Mark 10:17-22 RSV

This year’s theme, “Christian Discipleship: The Journey of a Lifetime,” reflects ABHMS’s goal of supporting faith formation throughout the human life cycle. Our work is guided by two understandings: (1) Christian discipleship is a new identity made possible through relationship with Jesus, and (2) Christian education refers to all the ways that identity-forming relationship is initiated and nurtured.

When Jesus was asked by a wealthy man how to inherit eternal life (a synonym for the kingdom of God in the Gospels), he told the man to sell his possessions, give to the poor, and only then come follow him. While some Christians have taken this directive at face value, many others have used a variety of approaches to minimize it, for example, suggesting that the mandate was exclusive to the man in the story. In the fifth century, Cyril, patriarch of Alexandria, asserted that Jesus’ explanation to his disciples, “It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God” (Mark 10:25) included a typo and should actually read “rope” (*kamilos*) instead of “camel” (*kamêlos*). The ninth century saw the introduction of the historically unattested notion of a mythical “Jerusalem Gate,” which required camels to kneel to pass through. The earliest Christian community in Jerusalem, however, seems to have taken the command quite literally (Acts 2:45).

The true challenge of this text lies in the larger question it begs: If participation in the kingdom of God is a free gift, how then can entrance have such prerequisites? Perhaps rather than being a prerequisite, the mandate reflects the nature of the



kingdom. As a realm of equity, a realm without regard for status (Mark 9:35), the kingdom is a context within which a man defined by his wealth could not be comfortable. Being wealthy was part of the man's identity, a part he was unwilling to surrender, and so he went away sad.

Our self-definitions hinder our participation in the kingdom. When we define ourselves as rich, poor, professional, blue collar, retiree, Democrat, Republican, Libertarian, American . . . there isn't space for a new identity that transcends human devices. The call stories in the Gospels, whether to a rich man, fishermen (Matthew 4:19-22), tax collectors (Matthew 9:9; Luke 19:1-10), an adulteress (John 8:10), a busy homemaker (Luke 10:41-42), or a champion of true religion (Acts 9:5-6), have one thing in common—summons to a new identity. To follow Jesus, some left homes, vocations, and families while others gave up social or political status. All took on new identities.

Christian discipleship is about opening ourselves up to a relationship that gives us new life, which means a new identity. As Rachel Held Evans stated it in *Faith Unraveled*, "Being a Christian isn't about agreeing to a certain way; it is about embodying a certain way." Christian education, therefore, is about nurturing identity-changing relationship with Jesus by practicing the presence of Jesus. The earliest Christian communities practiced the presence of Jesus in five primary ways: celebration, love, service, traveling light, and trusting the Spirit.

**Celebration.** Early Christian worship had one focus—celebration of what God had done in Jesus. Early Christians believed that Jesus was made present in their midst when they retold the stories and sayings of Jesus through hymns, prayers, proclamations, and rituals.

**Love.** The early communities were known by the unique quality of their internal relationships, loving one another as Jesus had loved them (John 13:34-35; 1 Corinthians 13:4-7).

**Service.** Jesus demonstrated God's love *for the world* (John 3:16), so the love shared within communities was not reserved for believers. It necessarily flowed outward in acts of service to those in need—among whom Jesus was found present (Matthew 25:31-46).

**Traveling light.** Early in the fourth century the Christian church became focused on power and property, leaving later generations encumbered by status, buildings, programs, and complex dogma. We, like the rich man, need to be freed from the things that possess us so we can be defined by the kingdom.

**Trusting the Spirit.** The Spirit, the very presence of Jesus, sustained the early communities and empowered their mission. We need to trust that same Spirit to enliven our celebrations, "enloven" our relationships, and empower our mission.

Effective initiation and formation of Christian discipleship depends largely on the Christian community's capacity to experience Jesus' presence in its internal life and to be the presence of Jesus in the world. That is our *raison d'être*. Without it, the church need not exist.

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*Please address comments to*

*Cassandra Carkuff Williams, EdD*

*Director, Discipleship Ministries*

*at [cassandra.williams@abhms.org](mailto:cassandra.williams@abhms.org) or call 888-792-2467.*

# discipleSHIFT

Most congregations want to go back in time to what they perceive to be their church's glory days. What they need to do is go back to the days when "the glory of the Lord" was touching countless lives, back to the time when the first followers were disciplined in response to the call of Jesus.

We live in a world today that resembles much of the context of the earliest Christian faith communities. Both contexts are characterized by spiritual pluralism, huge unreached/un-churched people groups, Christianity as a minority faith, the West as a mission field, international (im)migration, economic globalization, extensive poverty, urbanization, oral learners, multiculturalism, and a majority of the population under age thirty. The problems they faced were the same as the problems we face: a rising divorce rate, a falling birth rate, a slow-moving and at times unjust justice system, politicians who pilfered the public treasury, deforestation to satisfy the demand for timber; and the "cementification" of green space (a phrase coined by Alberto Angela). Additionally, there were military and geopolitical issues in the same places we see them today—Iran (Persia), Iraq (Babylonia), and Israel (Palestine).

It is clear overall that what we have been doing to make fully committed followers of Christ just isn't working. Our efforts have not been successful in creating authentic Christian disciples—followers of Jesus who have the capacity to turn this world upside down, as was said of those first-century disciples



It is clear we need to make a shift in both the mentality of disciple making (why we do it) and in the modality of disciple making (how we do it).

of Christ (Acts 17:6). It is no longer possible to effectively present the gospel or to nurture believers using the same basic methods of modernity that have been employed throughout the second half of the last century. The days of program-driven discipleship / spiritual formation are over—or ought to be. It is clear we need to make a shift in both the mentality of disciple making (why we do it) and in the modality of disciple making (how we do it).

What we need in discipleship is a shift—a "disciple-SHIFT"—back to the way things were done not in the twentieth century but twenty centuries ago. We must shift from the linear to the dynamic model, from the academic to the experiential, from the institution-focused to the individual-focused, from the scripted to the spontaneous. We need to move from monologue to dialogue, from talking to listening, from engaged heads to engaged hands, from program to personal, from content to contextual, and especially from just *learning* the Book to truly living the Book.

The following four basic elements of first-century disciple making / faith formation can serve us well in the twenty-first century.

■ **The relational.** When people spent both quality and quantitative time together, they not only got to know one another better, but together they got to know the Lord better. Acts shows Paul spending a year and a half in the city of Corinth and then later two years in the city of Ephesus. Paul's ministry was not a weeklong, onetime crusade designed to bring people to faith. Rather, it was about coming into relationship with people and growing together in relationship with Christ. It was about getting to know people and people getting to know Jesus better, recognizing that there is much to be learned over the long haul—a process that cannot be rushed or pushed. Extended time together allows for finding common ground and maturing faith, as well as developing connectedness with one another and together connecting to something larger than ourselves.

■ **The conversational.** As in modern times, in the days of the early church a worldview of no absolute truth prevailed. People didn't accept things at face value. They took time to discuss and then decide. We see this phenomenon in Acts 17 when Paul spoke in Athens, and after hearing him out, the people responded by saying they needed to think through what he had to say by talking about it. A few said yes, most said no, but many said they were interested but not immediately invested. Twentieth-century discipleship, especially in the



latter half of the last century, focused on an academic model of information download, the expectation being that by Christians simply imparting and implanting truth, recipients would grow. Now we know that those on the receiving end need to interact with those sharing God's truth. There needs to be a give-and-take, a back-and-forth, so that individuals can work out the dynamics of their salvation in real-life situations.

■ **The biographical.** In keeping with the first century's emphasis on the narrative, with the understanding that everyone had a story to live and therefore a story to tell, Paul frequently, and eventually almost exclusively, told the story of his own life. The tale of his encounter with Christ and the narrative of his new life since that encounter became the foundation of his message (Acts 22–26). Discipleship formation takes place through a learn-by-living model—Christ living in us, yes, but equally as important, us living for Christ by living out our lives for the sake of others.

■ **The incarnational.** “Faith without deeds is dead,” James would write of first-century discipleship (James 2:26). People may not remember what we say, but they definitely will not forget what we do. The adage “Actions speak louder than words” is indeed true. Acts 9:36-39 does not mention anything that

Dorcas said but records what she did for the marginalized and disenfranchised in the first century. Acts 19 shows Paul using his God-given tent-making skills to connect with other believers and nonbelievers in the marketplace—not in the church. Paul and Dorcas each used their talents and abilities to mature their own faith as well as to nurture the authentic faith of others. This is hands-on, life-relevant, and experiential discipleship formation.

An intentional shift is needed today to a multifaceted, contextual, inclusive model of discipleship that has greater potential to result in converted seekers, connected believers, and committed disciples. We need to change our ways so that others can change theirs. If the early church could make disciples in the first century with fewer resources and greater marginalization than we have today, we can do it today—through our shared Advocate, the ultimate disciple maker, the Holy Spirit.

*Dr. Jeffrey Johnson serves American Baptist Home Mission Societies as national director of Evangelism and New Church Planting and a member of the ABHMS Discipleship Team.*

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**Image: Paul Preaching in Athens, Raphael, 1515**

# The Power of Practicing Presence

## Young Children and Faith Formation



Thousands of books, blogs, Facebook pages, and other internet resources on child development clamor for a parent's attention. These resources provide advice on the whole realm of parenting—from breast-feeding, sleep training, and making organic baby food to choosing the best toys and books to cultivate a baby's intelligence.

But when it comes to a child's spiritual growth, parents often feel ill-equipped. Most parents or other primary caregivers yearn for their children to experience home as spiritually formative, but they may be uncertain about exactly what that means. The idea that they might be their children's first spiritual teachers can be daunting for adults who have doubts about their own understanding of faith. They may equate the role of spiritual teacher with the kinds of intentional, systematic learning they experienced in Sunday school.

As important as the context of formal Christian education is, Marjorie J. Thompson urges us to embrace a foundational vision for faith formation that is profound yet at the same time simple. In her book *Family: The Forming Center* (Nashville: Upper Room Books, 1996), Thompson characterizes the family as “a sacred shelter for the sake of the world God loves.” She further suggests that we can reflect God's love in our families by focusing on basic spiritual practices grounded in relationship—practices that are built into the very fabric and structure of family life.

How do parents begin to expand the ways in which they nurture their young children's faith formation through relationships? Thompson suggests that one way is through presence. An adult can nurture a baby's growing sense of connectedness simply by making time to be fully present.

Attending fully has always been challenging for adults exhausted by the responsibility of caring for a tiny human, coupled with the need to meet the normal demands of daily living. These days, however, being present to one's child is complicated by the reality that digital media is as ubiquitous as the air we breathe. Media at one's fingertips 24/7 presents serious competition to the demands of 24/7 parenting. Adults whose attention is focused on a tiny glowing screen need to understand the power of attending just as fully to their young children.

How does one practice presence? In the midst of attending to the small tasks of child care, a parent can look for moments when deep connections are possible. A mother can notice the intensity of a nursing baby's loving gaze as he locks eyes with her in the wee hours of the morning. A father can slow down and pay attention when his infant daughter reaches for his finger while he is diapering her. Later a parent might make himself fully present to his toddler as she stops on a walk to examine a leaf, experiencing wonder at its intricacy and beauty. An adult can listen closely to a child's comments, taking cues from

what he says and noticing how he focuses completely and with wonder on the created world.

Will a parent be fully present every time these possibilities present themselves? Of course not! Young parents need the good news that being fully present to their children is not feasible, let alone possible, all the time. But spiritual formation is a partnership in which the Holy Spirit is at work in and through parents, as well as in and through their children. The more times a parent does attend, the more often the Spirit may work to enhance presence in the lives of parent and child. The more a parent is able to experience presence as a holy moment, the less he or she may be tempted to stray to a smart-phone screen.

For adults who feel less than conversant with the Bible or whose prayer life may be limited or even nonexistent, parenting a young child offers the opportunity to enrich the life of the entire family as they engage in simple, intentional spiritual practices—encountering God in the Bible and connecting with God through prayer. These intentional practices also offer opportunities for enhancing the Spirit’s powerful shaping by practicing presence.

Here are just a few suggestions that may spark other ideas:

- Reading stories from a good Bible storybook, such as *Growing in God’s Love: A Story Bible* by Elizabeth F. Caldwell and Carol B. Wehrheim (Westminster John Knox Press, 2018), allows those who are less familiar with the Bible to encounter God alongside their young child as they experience the stories together. Adults can listen to the child’s questions and comments with the understanding that an honest “I don’t know—let’s find out” or “What do you think?” is always okay. This practice can encourage adults to find the foundational stories in the Bible and enhance their knowledge of the Scriptures.

- Adults and children alike can practice their prayer life, learning naturally through simple table graces. If the practice of saying grace is begun when the child is still an infant, it will grow to be a part of a family’s life together as the child grows. They may choose to use a blessing they remember from childhood or locate one from a book such as J. Bradley Wigger’s *Together We Pray: A Prayer Book for Families* (Chalice, 2005).

- Another simple prayer practice that primary caregivers can initiate when a child is still very young is called examen. After lighting a candle on the table, each adult mentions moments from the day that were life giving and those that were life draining. As children learn to talk, these moments can be referred to as “glads” and “sads.”

The formation that takes place in and through the life of the family truly is the foundation for a child’s spiritual growth. Parents can take heart in the good news that while no one can be fully present all the time to a young child, there is One whose presence is abiding in and through the mundane events of our lives, both good and bad. All who care about families, and about children, can give thanks for that presence, seeking to be ever more attuned to the Spirit’s work.

*Martha Bettis Gee, a certified Christian educator, is recently retired as Associate for Child Advocacy and Networking for the Presbyterian Church (USA). She continues to work as a writer, editor, and educational consultant.*

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For more on faith formation and children, see workshop 304, **Young Children and Faith Formation**, at [abhms.org/Mission/Discipleship](http://abhms.org/Mission/Discipleship).



Most parents or other primary caregivers yearn for their children to experience home as spiritually formative, but they may be uncertain about exactly what that means.

# Revised Common Lectionary 2020

## Year A

### January 1: New Year's Day

Ecclesiastes 3:1-13  
Psalm 8  
Revelation 21:1-6a  
Matthew 25:31-46

### January 5

Jeremiah 31:7-14  
Psalm 147:12-20  
Ephesians 1:3-14  
John 1:(1-9), 10-18

### January 6: Epiphany

Isaiah 60:1-16  
Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14  
Ephesians 3:1-12  
Matthew 2:1-12

### January 12: Baptism of the Lord

Isaiah 42:1-9  
Psalm 29  
Acts 10:34-43  
Matthew 3:13-17

### January 19

Isaiah 49:1-7  
Psalm 40:1-11  
1 Corinthians 1:1-9  
John 1:29-42

### January 26

Isaiah 9:1-4  
Psalm 27:1, 4-9  
1 Corinthians 1:10-18  
Matthew 4:12-23

### February 2

Micah 6:1-8  
Psalm 15  
1 Corinthians 1:18-31  
Matthew 5:1-12

### February 9

Isaiah 58:1-9a, (9b-12)  
Psalm 112:1-9, (10)  
1 Corinthians 2:1-12, (13-16)  
Matthew 5:13-20

### February 16

Deuteronomy 30:15-20  
Psalm 119:1-8  
1 Corinthians 3:1-9  
Matthew 5:21-37

### February 23: Transfiguration Sunday

Exodus 24:12-18  
Psalm 2 or Psalm 99  
2 Peter 1:16-21  
Matthew 17:1-9

### February 26: Ash Wednesday

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 or Isaiah 58:1-12  
Psalm 51:1-17  
2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10  
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

### March 1: First Sunday in Lent

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7  
Psalm 32  
Romans 5:12-19  
Matthew 4:1-11

### March 8: Second Sunday in Lent

Genesis 12:1-4a  
Psalm 121  
Romans 4:1-5, 13-17  
John 3:1-17 or Matthew 17:1-9

### March 15: Third Sunday in Lent

Exodus 17:1-7  
Psalm 95  
Romans 5:1-11  
John 4:5-42

### March 22: Fourth Sunday in Lent

1 Samuel 16:1-13  
Psalm 23  
Ephesians 5:8-14  
John 9:1-41

### March 25: Annunciation of the Lord

Isaiah 7:10-14  
Psalm 45 or Psalm 40:5-10  
Hebrews 10:4-10  
Luke 1:26-38

### March 29: Fifth Sunday in Lent

Ezekiel 37:1-14  
Psalm 130  
Romans 8:6-11  
John 11:1-45

### April 5: Palm or Passion Sunday

Liturgy of the Palms: Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29;  
Matthew 21:1-11  
Liturgy of the Passion: Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm  
31:9-16; Philippians 2:5-11; Matthew 26:14-27:66  
or Matthew 27:11-54

### Holy Week: April 6–April 11

Monday: Isaiah 42:1-9; Psalm 36:5-11; Hebrews  
9:11-15; John 12:1-11  
Tuesday: Isaiah 49:1-7; Psalm 71:1-14; 1 Corinthians  
1:18-31; John 12:20-36  
Wednesday: Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 70; Hebrews  
12:1-3; John 13:21-32  
Maundy Thursday: Exodus 12:1-4, (5-10), 11-14;  
Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26;  
John 13:1-17, 31b-35  
Good Friday: Isaiah 52:13-53:12; Psalm 22;  
Hebrews 10:16-25 or 4:14-16; 5:7-9; John  
18:1-19:42  
Holy Saturday: Job 14:1-14 or Lamentations 3:1-9,  
19-24; Psalm 31:1-4, 15-16; 1 Peter 4:1-8;  
Matthew 27:57-66 or John 19:38-42

### April 12: Easter Sunday

Acts 10:34-43 or Jeremiah 31:1-6  
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24  
Colossians 3:1-4 or Acts 10:34-43  
John 20:1-18 or Matthew 28:1-10

### April 19: Second Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14a, 22-32  
Psalm 16  
1 Peter 1:3-9  
John 20:19-31

### April 26: Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14a, 36-41  
Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19  
1 Peter 1:17-23  
Luke 24:13-35

### May 3: Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:42-47  
Psalm 23  
1 Peter 2:19-25  
John 10:1-10

### May 10: Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 7:55-60  
Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16  
1 Peter 2:2-10  
John 14:1-14

### May 17: Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 17:22-31  
Psalm 66:8-20  
1 Peter 3:13-22  
John 14:15-21

### May 21: Ascension Day

Acts 1:1-11  
Psalm 47 or Psalm 93  
Ephesians 1:15-23  
Luke 24:44-53

### May 24: Seventh Sunday of Easter

(If Ascension not celebrated here)  
Acts 1:6-14  
Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35  
1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11  
John 17:1-11

### May 31: Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21 or Numbers 11:24-30  
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b  
1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 or Acts 2:1-21  
John 20:19-23 or John 7:37-39

### June 7: Trinity Sunday

Genesis 1:1-2:4a and Psalm 8  
2 Corinthians 13:11-13  
Matthew 28:16-20

### June 14

Genesis 18:1-15; (21:1-7); and Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19  
Exodus 19:2-8a and Psalm 100  
Romans 5:1-8  
Matthew 9:35-10:8, (9-23)

### June 21

Genesis 21:8-21 and Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17  
Jeremiah 20:7-13 and Psalm 69:7-10, (11-15), 16-18  
Romans 6:1b-11  
Matthew 10:24-39

### June 28

Genesis 22:1-14 and Psalm 13  
Jeremiah 28:5-9 and Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18  
Romans 6:12-23  
Matthew 10:40-42

### July 5

Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67 and Psalm 45:10-17  
Zechariah 9:9-12 and Psalm 145:8-14  
Romans 7:15-25a  
Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

### July 12

Genesis 25:19-34 and Psalm 119:105-112  
Isaiah 55:10-13 and Psalm 65:(1-8), 9-13  
Romans 8:1-11  
Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

### July 19

Genesis 28:10-19a and Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24  
Isaiah 44:6-8 and Psalm 86:11-17  
Romans 8:12-25  
Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

### July 26

Genesis 29:15-28 and Psalm 105:1-11, 45b or  
Psalm 128  
1 Kings 3:5-12 and Psalm 119:129-136  
Romans 8:26-39  
Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

### August 2

Genesis 32:22-31 and Psalm 17:1-7, 15  
Isaiah 55:1-5 and Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21  
Romans 9:1-5  
Matthew 14:13-21

### August 9

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28 and Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b  
1 Kings 19:9-18 and Psalm 85:8-13  
Romans 10:5-15  
Matthew 14:22-33

### August 16

Genesis 45:1-15 and Psalm 133  
Isaiah 56:1, 6-8 and Psalm 67  
Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32  
Matthew 15:(10-20), 21-28

### August 23

Exodus 1:8-2:10 and Psalm 124  
Isaiah 51:1-6 and Psalm 138  
Romans 12:1-8  
Matthew 16:13-20

### August 30

Exodus 3:1-15 and Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b  
Jeremiah 15:15-21 and Psalm 26:1-8  
Romans 12:9-21  
Matthew 16:21-28

### September 6

Exodus 12:1-14 and Psalm 149  
Ezekiel 33:7-11 and Psalm 119:33-40  
Romans 13:8-14  
Matthew 18:15-20

### September 13

Exodus 14:19-31 and Psalm 114 or  
Exodus 15:1b-11, 20-21  
Genesis 50:15-21 and Psalm 103:(1-7), 8-13  
Romans 14:1-12  
Matthew 18:21-35

### September 20

Exodus 16:2-15 and Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45  
Jonah 3:10-4:11 and Psalm 145:1-8  
Philippians 1:21-30  
Matthew 20:1-16

### September 27

Exodus 17:1-7 and Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16  
Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32 and Psalm 25:1-9  
Philippians 2:1-13  
Matthew 21:23-32

### October 4

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20 and Psalm 19  
Isaiah 5:1-7 and Psalm 80:7-15  
Philippians 3:4b-14  
Matthew 21:33-46

### October 11

Exodus 32:1-14 and Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23  
Isaiah 25:1-9 and Psalm 23  
Philippians 4:1-9  
Matthew 22:1-14

### October 18

Exodus 33:12-23 and Psalm 99  
Isaiah 45:1-7 and Psalm 96:1-9, (10-13)  
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10  
Matthew 22:15-22

### October 25

Deuteronomy 34:1-12 and Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17  
Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18 and Psalm 1  
1 Thessalonians 2:1-8  
Matthew 22:34-46

### November 1

Joshua 3:7-17 and Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37  
Micah 3:5-12 and Psalm 43  
1 Thessalonians 2:9-13  
Matthew 23:1-12

### November 1: All Saint's Day

Revelation 7:9-17 and Psalm 34:1-10, 22  
1 John 3:1-3  
Matthew 5:1-12

### November 8

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25 and Psalm 78:1-7  
Amos 5:18-24 and Psalm 70  
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18  
Matthew 25:1-13

### November 15

Judges 4:1-7 and Psalm 123  
Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18 and Psalm 90:1-8, (9-11), 12  
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11  
Matthew 25:14-30

### November 22: Christ the King

(End of Church Year)  
Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 and Psalm 100  
Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 and Psalm 95:1-7a  
Ephesians 1:15-23  
Matthew 25:31-46

### Year B Begins

#### November 29: First Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 64:1-9  
Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19  
1 Corinthians 1:3-9  
Mark 13:24-37

#### December 6: Second Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 40:1-11  
Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13  
2 Peter 3:8-15a  
Mark 1:1-8

#### December 13: Third Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11  
Psalm 126 or Luke 1:46b-55  
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24  
John 1:6-8, 19-28

#### December 20: Fourth Sunday of Advent

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16  
Luke 1:46b-55 or Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26  
Romans 16:25-27  
Luke 1:26-38

#### December 24 & 25: Christmas Eve & Day

Isaiah 9:2-7  
Psalm 96  
Titus 2:11-14  
Luke 2:1-14, (15-20)  
Or  
Isaiah 62:6-12  
Psalm 97  
Titus 3:4-7  
Luke 2:(1-7), 8-20  
Or  
Isaiah 52:7-10  
Psalm 98  
Hebrews 1:1-4, (5-12)  
John 1:1-14

#### December 27

Isaiah 61:10-62:3  
Psalm 148  
Galatians 4:4-7  
Luke 2:22-40

*The Christian Liturgical Calendar:  
A Guide to Seasons of the Church Year  
can be downloaded at [abhms.org/](http://abhms.org/)  
Mission/Discipleship.*



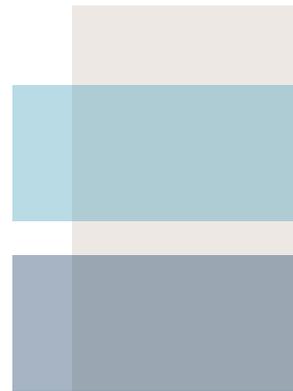
### Online and Residential Courses

- Pastoral Excellence Program
- Certificate in Spiritual Formation
- Certificate in Spiritual Direction
- Older Adult Ministry Program
- Leadership in Ministry Workshops
- The Coaching Institute at CTS

**For additional courses and information, visit <https://www.ctsnet.edu/events/>**



# LIFELONG LEARNING



# Select Resources

## from American Baptist Home Mission Societies

Unless otherwise noted, resources are available for download at [abhms.org/Mission/Discipleship](http://abhms.org/Mission/Discipleship) and in the “Equip” section of [ministrElife.org](http://ministrElife.org). For print resources, contact Leda Carter at [leda.carter@abhms.org](mailto:leda.carter@abhms.org) or 888-792-2467.

### Activities and Tools

*Advent Wreath Dedication:* A brief service to use the Sunday preceding Advent that presents the background of the tradition and sets the stage to celebrate the season using the Advent wreath

*Advent Readings:* two sets of weekly readings for personal or corporate use

*Advent and Christmas Activity Sheets for Children*

*Age-Appropriate Discipleship Formation Development Chart*

*The Christian Liturgical Calendar*

*Palm Sunday Children’s Page*

*Selecting Curriculum Materials:* a process for church leaders

*Teaching Approaches:* chart with practical guidelines

*A Tenebrae Service for Children*

*Workshops for Church Life and Leadership:* downloadable workshops English, French, Spanish, and Karen



### Articles and Publications

*Celebrating Holy Week with Young Children*

*The Christian Citizen:* First published in 1996 as a print magazine focused on lifting voices for biblical justice, *The Christian Citizen* is now a digital first publication addressing issues of justice, mercy, and faith. We continue to publish two print issues per year, featuring some of the online publication’s best content. We have also added a weekly e-newsletter and podcast—*Justice. Mercy. Faith.*—featuring spoken-word essays from *Christian Citizen* contributors, author interviews, and conversations on issues pertaining to justice, mercy, and faith. Get connected today at [christiancitizen.us](http://christiancitizen.us).

*Discipleship and Christian Education Guide:* annual planning guide with *Judson Press Christian Education Catalog* (additional print copies available from Judson Press (800-458-3766)

*Discipleship Matters* topical bulletin inserts

*Marks of the Transformational Leader in a Disciple-Making Church*

*Teaching Does Not Equal Talking: Learning Styles and Christian Education*

### Bible Studies

*Children, Poverty, and the Bible:* a five-part Bible study (also available in print)

*A Matter of Stewardship: Eco-justice in Biblical Perspective:* C920 of Workshops for Church Life and Leadership (also available in print)

*Race and Poverty: Five-Session Study Guide:* developed in response to Hurricanes Rita and Katrina; addresses the disproportionate impact of environmental destruction on impoverished communities

*Rizpah’s Children:* an inspirational examination of 2 Samuel 21:3-10 that forms the basis of a call to action around the issue of children in poverty.

# Year-At-A-Glance Calendar

## JANUARY 2020

*America for Christ promotional window begins.*

- 1 New Year's Day
- 6 Epiphany
- 12 Baptism of the Lord
- 18-25 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
- 19 Christian Unity Sunday
- 20 Dr. Martin Luther King Day
- 26 Green Lake Sunday
- 27 Holocaust Remembrance Day (International)

## FEBRUARY 2020

*Black History Month*

- 1 Anniversary of the founding of the Women's American Baptist Home Mission Society (1877)
- 2 Baptist World Alliance Sunday
- 2 Boy Scout Sunday
- 9 Church Vocations Sunday
- 16 Christian Legacy Sunday
- 17 President's Day
- 23 Transfiguration Sunday
- 23 Single Adult Awareness Sunday
- 23-29 Brotherhood/Sisterhood Week
- 26 Ash Wednesday/Lent Begins
- 27 Anniversary of the founding of the Baptist General Tract Society (1824)
- 29 American Baptist Men's Prayer Breakfast

## MARCH 2020

*America for Christ Offering Month and Women's History Month*

- 1 America for Christ Sunday
- 1 1st Sunday in Lent
- 6 World Day of Prayer
- 8 International Women's Day
- 8 Girl Scout Sunday
- 8 Daylight Savings Time Begins
- 8 American Baptist Seminary Sunday
- 8 2nd Sunday in Lent
- 15 Women in Ministry Sunday
- 15 3rd Sunday in Lent
- 22 4th Sunday in Lent
- 25 Annunciation of the Lord
- 29 5th Sunday in Lent

## APRIL 2020

*Prevention of Child Abuse Month and Autism Awareness Month*

*One Great Hour of Sharing promotional window begins.*

- 5 Palm or Passion Sunday
- 7 World Health Day
- 9 Maundy Thursday
- 10 Good Friday
- 11 Holy Saturday
- 12 Easter
- 19 American Baptist Volunteer Sunday

- 19-25 National Volunteer Appreciation Week
- 20 Holocaust Remembrance Day (US)
- 22 Earth Day
- 26 American Baptist Camps and Conferences Sunday
- 27 Anniversary of establishment of American Baptist Home Mission Society (1832)

## MAY 2020

*Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month and Older US Americans Month*

- 1 May Fellowship Day
- 3 Peace Sunday
- 4-11 Family Week
- 7 National Day of Prayer
- 10 Mother's Day
- 10 Rural Life Sunday
- 16 Armed Forces Day
- 17 Baptist Heritage Day
- 21 Ascension Day
- 25 Memorial Day
- 31 Pentecost

## JUNE 2020

*One Great Hour of Sharing Month, Torture Awareness Month, and Immigration Heritage Month*

- 7 One Great Hour of Sharing Sunday
- 7 Religious Liberty Sunday
- 7 International Environmental Sabbath
- 7 Trinity Sunday
- 14 Children's Day
- 14 Baptist Youth Day of Prayer
- 19 Juneteenth
- 20 World Refugee Day
- 21 Father's Day
- 28 American Baptist Homes and Caring Ministries Sunday

## JULY 2020

- 4 Independence Day
- 13 Anniversary of the arrival of Adoniram and Ann Hasseltine Judson in Burma
- 26 Parent's Day

## AUGUST 2020

*World Mission Offering promotion begins.*

- 2 Friendship Day
- 6 Transfiguration

## SEPTEMBER 2020

*Hispanic Heritage Month (September 15–October 15)*

- 7 Labor Day
- 20 American Baptist Women's Sunday
- 20 National Back to Church Sunday
- 21 International Day of Prayer for Peace
- 25 Native American / First Nations Day
- 27 Christian Education Sunday

## OCTOBER 2020

*Pastor Appreciation Month; World Mission Offering Month; National Disability Employment Awareness Month, and Domestic Violence Awareness Month*

- 4 World Mission Offering Sunday
- 4 World Communion Sunday
- 11 American Baptist Laity Sunday
- 12 Columbus Day
- 16 World Food Day
- 17-19 National Observance of Children's Sabbath
- 24 United Nations Day
- 25 Campus Ministry Sunday
- 25 Reformation Sunday
- 25-31 National Pastoral Care Week
- 31 Reformation Day

## NOVEMBER 2020

- 1 Daylight Savings Time Ends
- 1 All Saints' Day
- 1 American Baptist College Sunday
- 2 Baptist Women's Day of Prayer
- 3 Election Day
- 6 World Community Day
- 8 Stewardship Sunday
- 11 Veterans Day
- 14 Anniversary of the founding of the Woman's American Baptist Home Mission Society (1877)
- 15 Bible Sunday
- 22 Asian American Baptist Sunday
- 22 Christ the King Sunday—The Church Year Ends
- 26 Thanksgiving
- 29 1st Sunday in Advent—The Church Year Begins

## DECEMBER 2020

*Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering Month*

- 6 Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering Sunday
- 6 2nd Sunday in Advent
- 10 Human Rights Day
- 13 3rd Sunday in Advent
- 20 4th Sunday in Advent
- 24 Christmas Eve
- 24 (sundown)-Jan. 6 Christmastide
- 25 Christmas
- 26-1 Kwanzaa
- 27 Student Recognition Sunday
- 31 New Year's Eve (Watch Night)

# 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 New Year's Day	2	3	4
5	6 Epiphany	7	8	9	10	11
12 Baptism of the Lord	13	14	15	16	17	18 18-25 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
19	20 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day	21	22	23	24	25
26 Green Lake Sunday	27	28	29	30	31	February is Black History Month ►

## Resources

- ABHMS's Workshops for Church Life and Leadership ([abhms.org/Mission/Discipleship](http://abhms.org/Mission/Discipleship)) include the following:
  - 702 Teaching with Respect for Diverse Learning Styles
  - 702E Enseñando con Respeto para Diversos Estilos de Aprendizaje
  - 703 Teaching Approaches for Discipleship Formation
- For more information on the America for Christ offering, visit [www.abhms.org](http://www.abhms.org) or contact Vincent Dent, Chief Development Officer, at [vincent.dent@abhms.org](mailto:vincent.dent@abhms.org).
- *Discipleship Matters*, free monthly topical bulletin inserts that address Christian education, parenting, and church life, can be downloaded from [abhms.org/Mission/Discipleship](http://abhms.org/Mission/Discipleship).
- ABHMS is committed to supporting educational opportunities for American Baptist students and ministerial leaders. For more information, visit [abhms.org/Scholarships](http://abhms.org/Scholarships) or contact Rev. Sarah Strosahl-Kagi ([sarah.strosahl-kagi@abhms.org](mailto:sarah.strosahl-kagi@abhms.org)).



- Materials for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity are available at [www.oikoumene.org/en/resources/week-of-prayer](http://www.oikoumene.org/en/resources/week-of-prayer).

## From Judson Press

([www.judsonpress.com](http://www.judsonpress.com) or 800-458-3766):

- *The Changing Church: Finding Your Way to God's New Thing* by Dan Cash and Bill Griffith
- *Search for the Beloved Community: The Thinking of Martin Luther King Jr.* by Kenneth L. Smith and Ira G. Zepp Jr.
- Orders for the Spring 2020 quarter of *Judson Bible Journeys* curriculum for adults, "Justice and the Prophets," are due by January 30. Student book (regular size): \$6.49; student book (large print): \$7.49; leader's guide (print): \$9.99; leader's guide (PDF or EPUB): \$6.99.

## Notes

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Anniversary of the founding of the Women's American Baptist Home Mission Society (1877)
2 Baptist World Alliance Sunday	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 Church Vocations Sunday	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 Christian Legacy Sunday	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 Transfiguration Sunday	24	25	26 Ash Wednesday/ Lent Begins	27 Anniversary of the founding of the Baptist General Tract Society (1824)	28	29 American Baptist Men's Prayer Breakfast

## Resources

- *Spiritual Disciplines Made Easy*, Workshops for Church Life and Leadership C902, is the perfect resource for Lent ([abhms.org/Mission/Discipleship](http://abhms.org/Mission/Discipleship)).
- *The Co-Creators Incubator*, an eight-month program for missional entrepreneurs, helps grow ministry ideas into viable ventures with a Christ-centered mission. The incubator fosters a spirit of collegiality and collaboration among a cohort of co-creators while providing resources to enhance their ministries. In pursuit of partnership and sustainability, the Co-Creators Incubator engages both missional entrepreneurs and creative partners who may invest in the work of co-creators via financial or other means. For more information, visit [cocreatorsincubator.com](http://cocreatorsincubator.com).
- *The Promise of Freedom*, a video about the founding of industrial institutes, academies, colleges, and seminaries for freed people following the Civil War by the American Baptist Home Mission Society CDs are available free of charge by contacting Sue Peterman at [susan.peterman@abhms.org](mailto:susan.peterman@abhms.org).
- *Race and Poverty: A Five-Session Study Guide* can be downloaded at [abhms.org/Mission/Discipleship](http://abhms.org/Mission/Discipleship).
- The American Baptist Historical Society has a downloadable bulletin insert for Black History Month ([ABHSarchives.org](http://ABHSarchives.org) > For Churches).
- For information on the American Baptist Men's prayer breakfast, visit [ABMen.org](http://ABMen.org).



## From Judson Press

([www.judsonpress.com](http://www.judsonpress.com) or 800-458-3766):

- *Journey with Jesus through Lent* by Glenn E. Porter Sr.
- *Looking Back, Moving Forward: Wisdom from the Sankofa Institute for African American Pastoral Leadership*, edited by Dwight N. Hopkins
- *My Beloved, My Friend: Song of Songs for Couples* by Brent D. Christianson



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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5 Palm or Passion Sunday	6	7	8	9 Maundy Thursday	10 Good Friday	11 Holy Saturday
12 Easter	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 19-25 National Volunteer Appreciation Week	20	21	22 Earth Day	23	24	25
26 American Baptist Camps and Conferences Sunday	27 Anniversary of establishment of American Baptist Home Mission Society (1832)	28	29	30		

## Resources

- ABHMS’s Workshops for Church Life and Leadership ([abhms.org/Mission/Discipleship](http://abhms.org/Mission/Discipleship)) include the following:
  - 301 Child Abuse Prevention in Churches (also in Karen)
  - 301E Prevención del Abuso de Niños y Niñas en las Iglesias
  - 602 Ministries with Families of Children with Disabilities
  - 603 Gracious Parenting
  - C905 God, Animals, and Us
  - C920 A Matter of Stewardship: Eco-justice in Biblical Perspective
- The child-friendly faith project is dedicated to ending child abuse and neglect enabled by religious belief, doctrine, and practice. To learn more, visit [childfriendlyfaith.org](http://childfriendlyfaith.org).
- Find resources on the history of ABHMS at [abhms.org/History](http://abhms.org/History).
- For information on ABHMS volunteer ministries, contact Rev. Kadia Edwards, National Coordinator for Volunteer Mobilization and Disaster Response at [kadia.edwards@abhms.org](mailto:kadia.edwards@abhms.org).

## From Judson Press

([www.judsonpress.com](http://www.judsonpress.com) or 800-458-3766):

- *Baptists, Jews, and the Holocaust: The Hand of Sincere Friendship* by Lee B. Spitzer
- *River of Life, Feast of Grace: Baptism, Communion, and Discipleship* by Jennifer Davidson
- Orders for the Summer 2020 quarter of *Judson Bible Journeys* curriculum for adults, “Many Faces of Wisdom,” are due by April 30, 2020. Student book (regular size): \$6.49; student book (large print): \$7.49; leader’s guide (print): \$9.99; leader’s guide (PDF or EPUB): \$6.99.

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 One Great Hour of Sharing Sunday Religious Liberty Sunday	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 Children's Day Baptist Youth Day of Prayer	15	16	17	18	19 Juneteenth	20 World Refugee Day
21 Father's Day	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 American Baptist Homes and Caring Ministries Sunday	29	30				

## Resources

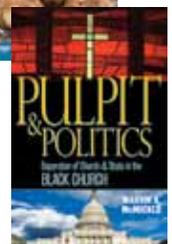
- ABHMS's Workshops for Church Life and Leadership ([abhms.org/Mission/Discipleship](http://abhms.org/Mission/Discipleship)) include the following:
  - 302 Basics of Teaching and Relating with Children (also in Karen)
  - 303 Teaching the Bible to Children (also in Karen)
  - 304 Young Children and Faith Formation
  - 401 Evangelism and Discipleship in Youth Ministry (also in Karen)
  - 401E Evangelismo y Discipulado en el Ministerio de Jóvenes
  - 401F Évangélisation et Formation de Disciples dans le Ministère des Jeunes
  - 403 Basics for Teaching Youth (also in Karen)
- ABHMS's Intercultural Ministries provides education opportunities and safe spaces for intercultural engagement. For more information, contact Rev. F. Salvador Orellana, Director, Intercultural Ministries ([salvador.orellana@abhms.org](mailto:salvador.orellana@abhms.org)).
- Juneteenth commemorates June 19, 1865, when African Americans in Texas first learned of their freedom from slavery under the January 1, 1863, Emancipation Proclamation. Multiple resources, including worship resources, can be found online at [www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/juneteenth-day-worship-resources](http://www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/juneteenth-day-worship-resources).
- Religious Liberty Sunday information can be found at [www.BJConline.org](http://www.BJConline.org).



## From Judson Press

([www.judsonpress.com](http://www.judsonpress.com) or 800-458-3766):

- *Justice for Rizpah's Children: Radical Responses to Childhood Poverty* by Marilyn Turner-Triplett
- *Listen to the Children: Conversations with Immigrant Families / Escuchemos a los niños: Conversaciones con familias Inmigrantes* by Elizabeth Conde-Frazier
- *Pulpit and Politics: Separation of Church and State in the Black Church* by Marvin A. McMickle



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# July 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4 Independence Day
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13 Anniversary of the arrival of Adoniram and Ann Hasseltine Judson in Burma	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 Parent's Day	27	28	29	30	31	World Mission Offering promotion begins in August ▶

## Resources

- ABHMS's Workshops for Church Life and Leadership ([abhms.org/Mission/Discipleship](http://abhms.org/Mission/Discipleship)) include the following:
  - 101 Identifying and Using Spiritual Gifts in the Church's Mission
  - 101E Identificando y Usando los Dones en la Iglesia y en su Misión
  - 101F L'Identification et L'Emploi des dons Spirituels dans L'Eglise Orientee à Faire des Disciples
  - 107 American Baptist Heritage
  - 107E La Herencia de los Bautistas Americanos
  - 603 Gracious Parenting
- *Discipleship Matters* topical bulletin inserts ([abhms.org/Mission/Discipleship](http://abhms.org/Mission/Discipleship)) cover a range of topics, including faith formation, spiritual practice, children and nature, child-abuse prevention, youth and technology, school stress, self-esteem and bullying, stewardship, and celebrating the holidays with children.



## From Judson Press

- ([www.judsonpress.com](http://www.judsonpress.com) or 800-458-3766):
- *Bless God and Take Courage: The Judson History and Legacy* by Rosalie Hall Hunt
  - *The Extraordinary Story of Ann Hasseltine Judson: A Life beyond Boundaries* by Rosalie Hall Hunt
  - *To Live in God: Daily Reflections with Walter Rauschenbusch* by Dennis L. Johnson
  - Orders for the Fall 2020 quarter of *Judson Bible Journeys* curriculum for adults, "Love for One Another," are due by July 30. Student book (regular size): \$6.49; student book (large print): \$7.49; leader's guide (print): \$9.99; leader's guide (PDF or EPUB): \$6.99.

## Notes

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# October 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 World Communion Sunday World Mission Offering Sunday	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 American Baptist Laity Sunday	12	13	14	15	16 World Food Day	17 17-19 National Observance of Children's Sabbath
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 Reformation Sun. Campus Ministry Sun. 25-31 Nat'l. Pastoral Care Week	26	27	28	29	30 November 8 is Stewardship Sunday ▶	31 Reformation Day

## Resources

- ABHMS endorses American Baptist–ordained clergy as chaplains and pastoral counselors. For additional information, visit [abhms.org/Chaplaincy](http://abhms.org/Chaplaincy), or send an email to [endorsement@abhms.org](mailto:endorsement@abhms.org).
- View a list of American Baptist–related colleges and universities at [abhms.org/Scholarships](http://abhms.org/Scholarships).
- *Children, Poverty, and the Bible* can be downloaded at [abhms.org/Mission/Discipleship](http://abhms.org/Mission/Discipleship) or contact Leda Carter ([leda.carter@abhms.org](mailto:leda.carter@abhms.org); 888-792-2467) for print copies.
- Children's Sabbath materials are available at [www.childrensdefense.org](http://www.childrensdefense.org).
- Got Style?, ABHMS's personality-based strategy for evangelism, has impacted hundreds of congregations across the United States and Puerto Rico. Contact Dr. Jeffrey Johnson at [jeffrey.johnson@abhms.org](mailto:jeffrey.johnson@abhms.org) for information. Workshops for Church Life and Leadership C904, Naturally Creating Community ([abhms.org/Mission/Discipleship](http://abhms.org/Mission/Discipleship)), introduces the Got Style? approach.
- World Food Day information can be found at [fao.org/world-food-day](http://fao.org/world-food-day).

## From Judson Press

([www.judsonpress.com](http://www.judsonpress.com) or 800-458-3766):

- *From Fragmentation to Wholeness: Race, Ethnicity, and Communion* by Neville Callam
- *Health, Holiness, and Wholeness for Ministry Leaders* by John R. Matthews with Kristina R. Gutierrez and Ross D. Peterson
- *Spiritual Practices for Effective Leadership: 7Rs of Sanctuary for Pastors* by Debora Jackson
- Orders for the Winter 2020 quarter of *Judson Bible Journeys* curriculum for adults, "Call in the New Testament," are due by October 30, 2020, from Judson Press. Student book (regular size): \$6.49; student book (large print): \$7.49; leader's guide (print): \$9.99; leader's guide (PDF or EPUB): \$6.99.



## Notes

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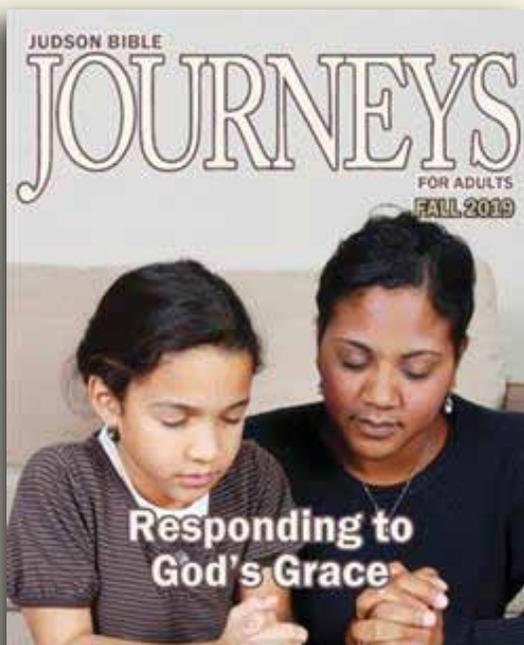






# Judson Bible Journeys for Adults

## *The adult curriculum for American Baptists*



SESSION 1 • SEPTEMBER 1, 2019

### Faith and Doubt

**SCRIPTURE:** Genesis 19:1, 15-26, 29  
**KEYVERSE:** So it was that, when God destroyed the cities of the Plain, God remembered Abraham, and sent Lot out of the midst of the overthrow, when he overthrew the cities in which Lot had settled. —Genesis 19:29

- SESSION OBJECTIVES:**
- to appreciate the fortitude it takes to make a new beginning;
  - to consider those for whom our faith may make a difference in the future; and
  - to recognize and admit to doubts, and how doubt can exist on a continuum with faith.

#### Introducing the Scripture

The destruction of the cities of the plain comes in a larger narrative about how God is calling a people into relationship with the Eternal. The first book of the Bible, whose name, Genesis, means "to begin," scholars tell us is not chronologically the oldest of our Scriptures, yet it serves as a grand introduction to God and God's people and the covenantal relationship between them. Without taking a longer view of the Scripture, it is easy to get sidetracked into questions of the nature of the sin and the fearful destruction that happened in Sodom and Gomorrah, and not to see the Scripture's main points: which is that God seeks a loving, committed relationship with humankind. Though we frequently fall short of God's standard of righteousness, we are offered forgiveness and a new beginning.

In Genesis 19 specifically, Lot is called to a new beginning. Indeed, it is a mark of the great work of God to recreate and to begin anew. Such moments lend themselves to theological reflection. God's relationship with Abraham, taken together with Lot's efforts to live faithfully wherever he found himself, worked to call Lot to a new life.

Genesis serves as a grand introduction to God and God's people and the covenantal relationship between them.

The juxtaposition of the previous blocks of Scripture helps to illuminate the larger meaning of this text. In Genesis 13 we read that Abram and Lot divide companies; Abram settled in the land of Canaan, "while Lot settled among the cities of the Plain and moved his tent as far as Sodom" (13:12). The "cities of the Plain" were five cities that lay on the Jordan River plain in the southern part of Canaan: Admah, Zeboim, Zoar, Sodom, and Gomorrah. Genesis 18:22-33 gives an account of Abraham's negotiation with God about how many righteous people there would need to be for God to spare Sodom, which was susceptible to destruction due to its "very grave" sin (18:20). Abraham's questions, searching into the extent of God's mercy, stand in contrast to the vision of retributive justice that unfolds for the people of Sodom. Note these theological questions that the Scripture implies: What kind of a God is this? How are mercy and judgment balanced? What are the roles of faith and doubt in our decisions?

The story of Sodom and Gomorrah, two disordered communities, was an important turning point in the story of God and God's people. The particular sins that were happening in Sodom and Gomorrah are not recorded in this session's Scripture. Genesis 13:13 says that "the people of Sodom were wicked, great sinners against the Lord." Thus, Genesis 19 gives us a statement of the city's sinfulness, not a full account of it. In Jeremiah 23:14 a variety of sinful acts are named, and Ezekiel 16:49 identifies the sins as pride, excess of food (gluttony), and indifference to the poor and needy.

According to the Scripture, Lot is set apart in Sodom by the hospitality he offers to strangers and by the faith of his uncle, Abraham.

FALL 2019 • JOURNEYS LEADER'S GUIDE 3

*Journeys* draws adults of all ages into an exciting and challenging learning experience that is sure to enrich their relationship with Jesus Christ. Through a systematic study of Scripture, students learn about Jesus Christ and his importance in the lives of individuals and the church today. Participants are encouraged to share their personal pilgrimages and find strength for the journey through thought-provoking exercises and discussion.

Both the leader's guide and student books are written by American Baptists, using the NRSV and balanced with Old Testament and New Testament courses.

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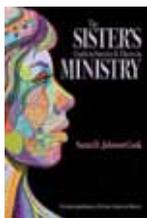
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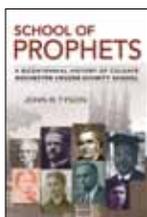
## New Resources



### **The Sister's Guide to Survive and Thrive in Ministry**

*Suzan D. Johnson Cook*

From the best-selling author of *Sister to Sister*. Previously published as *The Sister's Rules for Ministry*, this newly revised and expanded book offers ten practical guidelines for women called to ministry. From the pragmatic to the devotional, these rules provide female pastors and women called to other ministries with practical wisdom for succeeding with grace, integrity, and style in a male-dominated vocation. Compact, conversational, and compelling, this little volume is indispensable for any woman who wants to serve God faithfully—and with flair! ISBN 978-0-8170-1803-0 \$14.99



### **School of Prophets: A Bicentennial History of Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School**

*John R. Tyson*

In commemoration of the 200th anniversary of Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School's beginnings—with thirteen men and thirteen dollars—this significant work unfolds the organizational history of a great theological seminary, as well as the dramatic story of the notable women and men who contributed to the school's rich legacy. While this is a bicentennial history of an institution, it is fundamentally the history of the people who have epitomized, shaped, and advanced its expanding heritage. The narrative includes chapters about institutional growth and development, as well as chapters that serve as cameo biographies of key people who exemplified the spirit of that same period:

- William Newton Clark
- Walter Rauschenbusch
- Howard Thurman
- Joanna P. Moore
- Martin Luther King Jr.

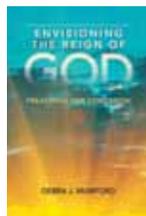
In the final analysis, founding president Augustus Strong was correct to call this a story of “bricks, brains, and books,” but in the larger sense it is an account of the galvanizing prophetic Christian vision evolved from its American Baptist roots to the ecumenical enterprise known as Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School. ISBN 978-0-8170-1804-7 \$29.99



### **River of Life, Feast of Grace: Baptism, Communion, and Discipleship**

*Jennifer W. Davidson*

This lively volume from professor and pastor Jennifer Davidson considers the historic theology of the Christian rites of baptism and communion from a Baptist perspective. She further explores the practical implications of these rituals for a life of radical discipleship. The author has also gathered a variety of classical liturgies and original worship resources from an array of voices, diverse in culture, gender, and ethnicity, offering today's congregations a rich collection of worship resources for contemporary baptismal and communion services. An online leader's guide is available for small-group study. ISBN 978-0-8170-1805-4 \$17.99



### **Envisioning the Reign of God: Preaching for Tomorrow**

*Debra J. Mumford*

What we believe about the kingdom of God deeply affects how we relate to the world we inhabit here and now. Professor and scholar Debra Mumford takes the Christian study of “last things” (eschatology) and makes it practical for pastors and church leaders today. “Eschatology is not just about how humanity will be judged on the last day,” she argues, “but how we live our lives every day. . . . Eschatology is not simply about our ultimate destruction but rather how we construct and conduct our human existence daily. Eschatology is an existential endeavor that every pastor and preacher who wrestles with the will of God for all of creation must take up with earnest intentionality.” Each chapter considers the eschatological beliefs of a different preacher and how those beliefs shape the style and content of that leader's ministry. ISBN 978-0-8170-1806-1 \$21.99



### **MBA Quick Book for Ministers**

*Vincent Wyatt Howell and Vincent Wyatt Howell Jr.*

In a cultural context where the church is struggling to survive amid other competing organizations and commitments, what do pastoral leaders need to change the tide? A new leadership paradigm that equips ministers to serve as chief executives for making disciples for Christ.

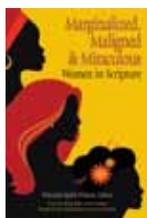
This quick-book styled resource is designed to introduce ministers to “Pastoral MBA Competencies”—the practical knowledge of leadership and management skills that will

## New Resources *(cont.)*

benefit those serving today's congregations and other ministry settings. Highlighting topics that are addressed in a master's level program in business administration, this accessible resource also provides wisdom from clergy who have already completed the MBA. Chapters include:

- Decision Analysis
- Human Resource Management
- Finance
- Operations Management
- Information Technology
- Project Management
- Strategic Planning
- And more!

ISBN 978-0-8170-1807-8 \$15.99



### **Marginalized, Maligned, and Miraculous Women in Scripture**

*Deborah Spink Winters, editor*

From the editor of the award-winning volume *Through Her Eyes: Bible Studies on Women in Scripture* comes a new collection of small-group studies about more women of the Bible. From the beloved matriarchs Sarah and Rebekah to the little-known Rizpah and Sheerah, from the maligned figures of Jezebel and Michal to the unnamed women known only by their foreign nationalities, these women reveal insights about God and human nature, offering opportunities for readers to connect their stories with the biblical women's stories. Each chapter features questions for individual reflection and group discussion. ISBN 978-0-8170-1797-2 \$14.99



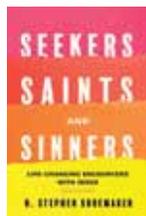
### **Devotions from HERstory: 31 Days with Women of Faith**

*Lynn Domina*

Women have often remained hidden in history, including religious history. Yet even nameless women can be honored, and their faith and actions can inspire us even when we don't know exactly who they were. And when we do know the names and biographic details of women who have lived more recently, we can commit ourselves to keeping their memories alive. This book attempts to honor many women who have come before us by connecting their stories across time as a resource for our own devotional lives.

Originally intended for the 31 days of *Women's History Month* in March, these illustrated, undated entries permit readers to begin these devotions at any time of the year.

ISBN 978-0-8170-1800-9 \$12.99

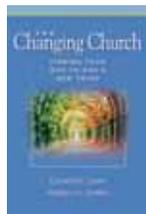


### **Seekers, Saints, and Sinners: Life-Changing Encounters with Jesus**

*H. Stephen Shoemaker*

From the author of the critically acclaimed *Godstories* comes a new study for those who crave a life-changing experience with God. This book examines eleven personal encounters between Jesus and other people in the Gospels to help deepen our understanding and expand our experience of Jesus in our lives.

Delve into the detail and significance of the conversations, environments, and responses—of both Jesus and the other individual—and meet Jesus anew in the life of each character and in your own life today. Great for personal study or small-group discipleship. ISBN 978-0-8170-1801-6 \$14.99



### **The Changing Church: Finding Your Way to God's New Thing**

*Daniel Cash and William H. Griffith*

We've often heard that change is the only constant. This reality, along with a rapidly shifting culture, is often a major challenge for the Christian church. In *The Changing Church*, you'll discover eight key shifts in the New Testament that were used to connect, call forth, and reach God's people, alongside change-related elements we encounter in our day-to-day lives that will provide insight into new ways of being the body of Christ in our fast-paced world. These shifts of faith include:

- New Wineskins—Bell curve of change
- Incarnation—Types of change
- Born Again—Obstacles to change
- Kingdom Manifesto—Process for leading change
- Old & New Covenants—Different approaches to change
- Resurrection—No quitting in the face of change
- Pentecost—Triggers of change
- Everybody Welcome—Rate or pace of change

This resource will help you to better understand God's approach to change. It presents a healthy way forward for thinking and reacting to change both in our churches and in life. Perfect for an eight-week study in small groups or Bible studies. ISBN 978-0-8170-1802-3 \$16.99

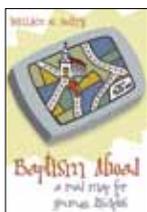
# Baptist Membership Resources



## The Unofficial Baptist Handbook

Lora-Ellen McKinney

With a sense of humor and a deep respect for the diverse expressions of Baptist faith and life, *The Unofficial Baptist Handbook* explores matters related to Scripture, to church life, and to Baptist identity. Author Lora-Ellen McKinney writes as one who has grown up in the Baptist church and loves it, with all of its quirks and charms. Perfect for those who are new to the Baptist tradition—and educational and entertaining for those who aren't so new but still have much to remember and learn. \$14.99



## Baptism Ahead: A Roadmap for Young Disciples

Wallace R. Smith

Baptismal preparation and a basic orientation to Christian discipleship and church membership for children ages 8–12. \$15.00;

Downloadable Leader's Guide e-book available online at [www.judsonpress.com](http://www.judsonpress.com). \$7.00.



## The New Life: Six Studies for New Baptists, 3rd rev. ed.

Allan R. Knight and Gordon H. Schroeder;  
Foreword by Joe Kutter

A manual for those who are just beginning the Christian walk, *The New Life* describes basic beliefs of our faith and the distinctive features of the Baptist family. \$7.99; 10-copy set—\$60.00



## Down by the Riverside: A Brief History of Baptist Faith

Everett C. Goodwin

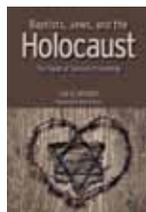
Provides a basic orientation to the historical and theological origins of the Baptist faith. Book, \$13.00; Study Guide, \$7.00



## We Are Baptists

Jeffrey D. Jones and Debra L. Sutton

Each volume offers 14 flexible, Scripture-based sessions addressing a single theme related to Baptist identity and beliefs. \$10.00 each; separate books for Older Elementary Children and Younger Elementary Children. PDFs available for the adults and the youth.

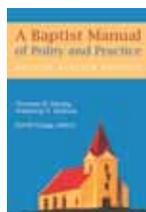


## Baptists, Jews, and the Holocaust: The Hand of Sincere Friendship

Lee B. Spitzer

A thorough narrative history that explores the previously unknown work of Baptists in the United States during the Second World War.

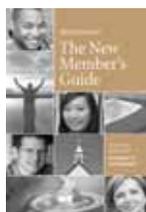
Rich with primary source material and covering the history of Northern (American) Baptists, Southern Baptists, and African American Baptists alike, this groundbreaking volume is a must-read for church historians, Holocaust scholars, Baptist history buffs, and anyone interested in interfaith relations. \$38.99



## A Baptist Manual of Polity & Practice, 2nd rev. ed.

Norman H. Maring and Winthrop S. Hudson;  
edited by David Gregg

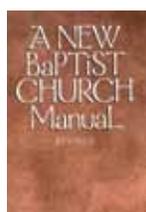
This classic reflects on profound shifts in Baptist polity since 1991 and new challenges, especially that of an increasingly fragmentary and secularistic culture. \$32.99



## The New Member's Guide, rev. ed.

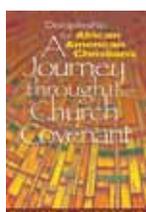
Gordon H. Schroeder

This booklet for new members offers a practical guide to church practices, Bible reading, and prayer, as well as an outline of basic Baptist beliefs, a church membership card, and more. \$5.99



## A New Baptist Church Manual, rev. ed.

This classic manual explains some distinguishing characteristics of Baptists and sets forth the principles and practices of the Baptist denomination. The book includes: sample church covenant, ordinances of baptism and communion, Baptist church government, a brief history of the Baptists, and more. \$6.00

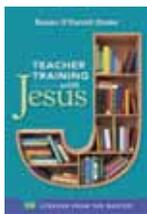


## Discipleship for African American Christians: A Journey through the Church Covenant

William C. Turner, Jr.

An ideal resource for new church members or others who want to better understand their faith. \$15.00

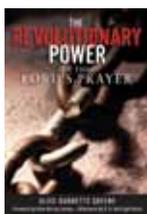
# Christian Education Teaching & Learning



## Teacher Training with Jesus: 10 Lessons from the Master

*Susan O'Carroll Drake*

What habits, attitudes, or techniques can you learn from the world's Master Teacher? This book highlights 10 short lessons based on Jesus' model of teaching. Each lesson includes a Bible study, inspirational vignette, and practical suggestions to help you become more effective in teaching. Ideal for Christian educators, Sunday school teachers, and Bible study leaders. \$14.99



## The Revolutionary Power of the Lord's Prayer

*Alice Burnette Greene*

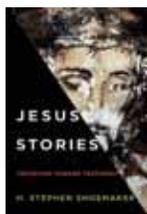
Offers today's Christian disciples new understanding of the potency and power this significant prayer delivers and the transformative effect it can have for sharing God's love in the world. \$15.99



## 8 Questions Jesus Asked: Discipleship for Leaders

*Dan M. Cash and William H. Griffith*

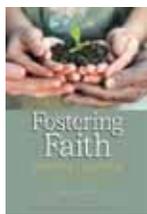
Focusing on eight powerful questions Jesus asked in the Gospels, explore each biblical situation with depth and analysis, and experience practical insights that you can use to improve leadership skills and engage the constant change you face in the world around you. Read independently for devotion or in a small-group study. \$13.99



## Jesus Stories: Traveling toward Testimony

*H. Stephen Shoemaker*

*Jesus Stories* brings the critical research of "historical Jesus" scholars, the four Gospels, and the Spirit of Jesus alive and present with us together to usher you on a journey that moves from history into testimony. Get to know the "real" Jesus at work in your life and faith. Join the quest for the Jesus who is searching for us. Walk with Jesus toward God, with God, into God. \$17.99



## Fostering Faith: Teaching and Learning in the Christian Church

*Denise Janssen with Diane Janssen Hemmen  
and Sallie Verner*

*Fostering Faith* proposes a shift from education as "schooling" to a holistic model of education

as transformation, which equips and empowers Christian disciples for ministry. Valuable for clergy, lay leaders, and education ministry members, this resource seeks to strengthen the vital role teachers play in the church and in the world as learners and disciples themselves. \$14.99



## Millennials in Ministry

*Jolene Cassellius Erlacher*

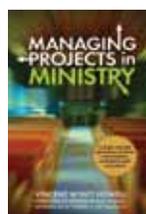
Based on a qualitative study of young adults (ages 18–35) from diverse denominations and countries serving in various ministry positions, *Millennials in Ministry* unveils the heart and vision of young leaders for the Christian church today. Highlighting the generational traits, values, and needs of millennials in ministry, this book offers helpful insights for churches and organizations working with this new generation of leaders. \$16.99



## Reclaimed: Faith in an Emerging Generation

*Denise Janssen*

Pastor and professor Denise Janssen offers insights into why many young adults leave the church of their childhood—and why some of them eventually return. Based on in-depth interviews with young adults who, as teenagers, were highly active in church-based youth ministries and camps, this book traces their return to active congregational life as emerging and young adults. \$15.99



## Managing Projects in Ministry

*Vincent Wyatt Howell*

Planning, development, and execution of ministry projects, from small annual events to large transition plans often cause church leaders anxiety and stress. *Managing Projects in Ministry* provides the fundamentals of project management, grounded with a biblical foundation, to foster effective leadership, maximize the talents of the congregation, increase efficiency, and enhance the chances of success. \$15.99

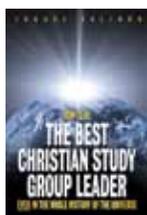


## Signs of Love: A Guide for Deaf Ministry

*Lori Buck*

In this unique resource, author Lori Buck offers a thorough introduction to deaf culture and practical guidelines for developing a deaf ministry that goes beyond learning American Sign Language and interpreting Sunday morning worship. \$17.99

# Christian Education Teaching & Learning *(cont.)*



## How to Be the Best Christian Study Group Leader Ever in the Whole History of the Universe

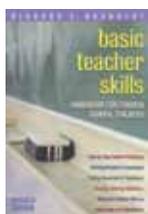
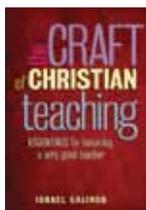
Israel Galindo

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## The Craft of Christian Teaching: Essentials for Becoming a Very Good Teacher

Israel Galindo

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## Basic Teacher Skills: A Handbook for Church School Teachers, rev. ed.

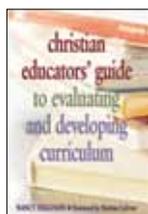
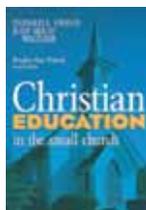
Richard E. Rusbult

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## Christian Education in the Small Church

Donald L. Griggs and Judy McKay Walther

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## Christian Educators' Guide to Evaluating and Developing Curriculum

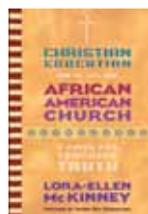
Nancy Ferguson

\$17.00

## Christian Education in the African American Church: A Guide for Teaching Truth

Lora-Ellen McKinney

Providing both a theological and a practical guide, the author's inclusive approach offers recommendations, tips, guide questions, and references for educators working with a wide range of learners, including those with special needs. \$14.00



## Church Activities & Programming from Rachel Gilmore

### Church Programs & Celebrations for All Generations

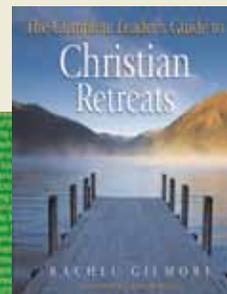
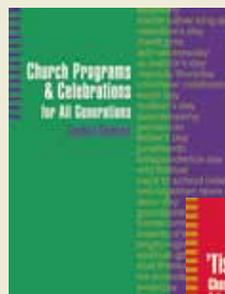
The 30 activities in this practical program book include everything from seasonal worship services to holiday-centered celebrations. \$18.00

### 'Tis the Season: Church Celebrations for Advent & Christmas

These 18 intergenerational programs and services engage participants in hands-on, experiential learning. \$14.99

### The Complete Leader's Guide to Christian Retreats

Offers step-by-step guidelines for planning faith-based retreats and includes 11 complete sample retreats centered on a group-appropriate theme. \$17.00



# Children & Youth Ministry



## Baptism Ahead: A Roadmap for Young Disciples

Wallace R. Smith

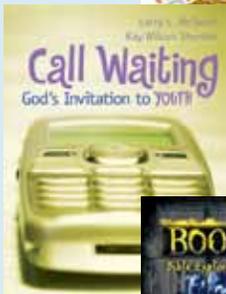
This innovative volume, designed as a six-week/six-chapter course, leads children ages 8–12 through baptismal preparation and a basic orientation to Christian discipleship and membership in the local church. \$15.00; downloadable leader's guide available at [www.judsonpress.com](http://www.judsonpress.com), \$7.00



## S'more Time with God

Nancy Ferguson

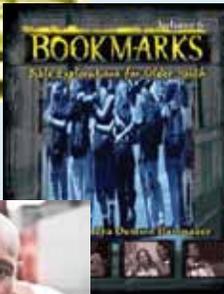
This interactive devotional for use with children includes weeklong themes. Each theme includes a song or Bible verse, questions or discussion ideas, an activity, Bible story, and closing prayer. \$12.99



## Call Waiting: God's Invitation to Youth

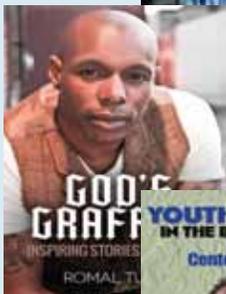
Larry L. McSwain and Kay Wilson Shurden

Helps older youth understand the nature of call, explore personal giftedness, and identify ways to walk in faithfulness to a unique and unfolding calling. \$10.00



## Bookmarks: Bible Explorations for Older Youth

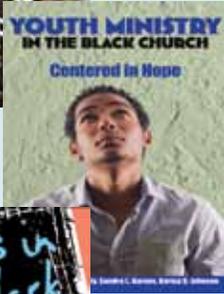
Each volume consists of 16 sessions grouped into four elective units—covenant, salvation, liberation and justice, and incarnation. In addition, each volume includes a story that runs throughout the course. Volumes 1–6, \$10.00 each.



## God's Graffiti: Inspiring Stories for Teens

Romal J. Tune

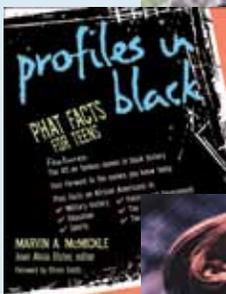
Motivational speaker and author Romal Tune interweaves the stories of at-risk youth in the Bible with his own story, offering powerful inspiration for teens to overcome real-life obstacles and fulfill God's purpose as great leaders. Includes the biblical stories of Joseph, Moses, Rahab, Esther, and more. \$13.99



## Youth Ministry in the Black Church: Centered in Hope

Anne E. Streaty Wimberly, Sandra L. Barnes, Karma D. Johnson

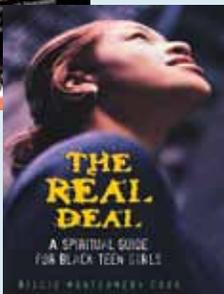
Using Scripture, anecdotes, best practices, and reflection points, this practical book invites youth leaders, pastors, and parents to participate in exploring hope-filled strategies for ministry to African American youth. \$16.99



## Profiles in Black: Phat Facts for Teens

Marvin McMickle

This youthful history of black America is a vital resource for educators, parents, and students alike. \$22.00



## The Real Deal: A Spiritual Guide for Black Teen Girls

Billie Montgomery Cook

In a conversational, teen-appropriate language and style, the author addresses a wide range of topics, including body image, self-esteem, sexuality, fear, and friendship. \$14.00

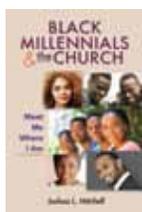
# Young Adult Ministry

## Urban Ministries, Inc.

### Urban Faith (Ages 18-34)

Includes 13 lessons based on the International Uniform Lesson Series in a contemporary magazine-style format. Each lesson is carefully written to address real-life issues while leading to a higher level of spiritual development. Each issue also includes 6 to 10 feature articles that cover a variety of real topics that are relevant to today's young, African American adults.

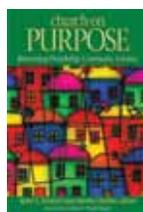
Teaching Success Kit	\$18.99
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### Black Millennials and the Church: Meet Me Where I Am

*Joshua L. Mitchell*

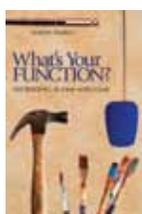
This practical resource equips church leaders with key insights to effectively attract and make disciples of this emerging generation of black millennials. Drawing on the biblical narrative of Matthew 14, where Jesus invites Peter to come meet him on the water and supported by the research results from a nationwide study of young black adults and real-life examples, Mitchell reveals specific principles, programming, and portraits of Black Millennials that will help churches to engage, connect, and spiritually grow and develop them. \$16.99



### Church on Purpose: Reinventing Discipleship, Community, & Justice

*Adam L. Bond & Laura Mariko Cheifetz, editors*

This collection offers “one big idea” from each of an array of emerging Christian leaders who are invested in addressing some of the concerns of today's church. The contributors share insights from their generational and vocational perspectives, critically engage in dialogue, and debate the traditional models of ministry and leadership. While appreciating what they have inherited, the authors display their faith in congregations' ability to change and adapt. \$15.99



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*Aaron Basko*

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*Kathryn Mary Lohre, editor*

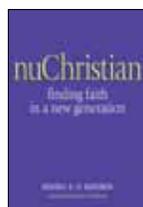
Discover an invigorating, new, and timely word from Christian young adults on issues such as eco-justice, immigration, interfaith relations, peace and justice, and inclusion. Designed for intergenerational study and discussion. \$15.99



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*Russell E. D. Rathbun*

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# Adult Ministry

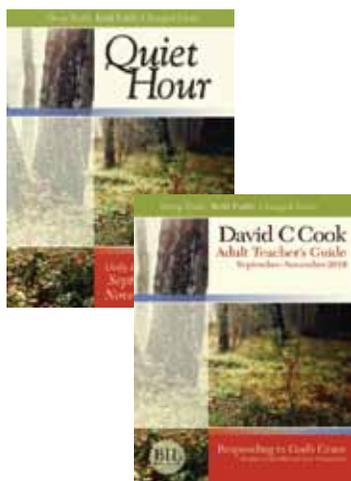


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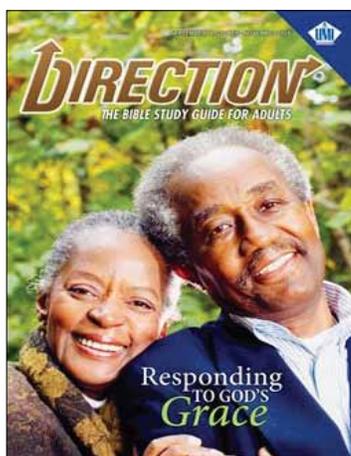


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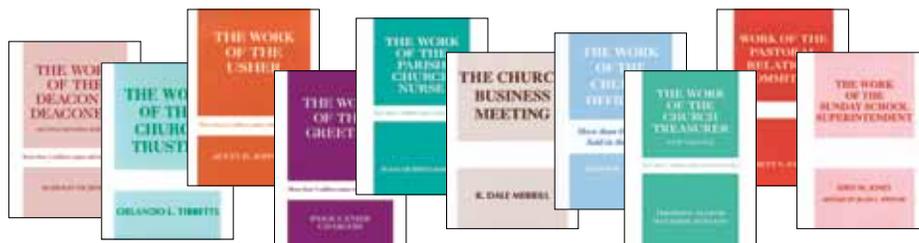
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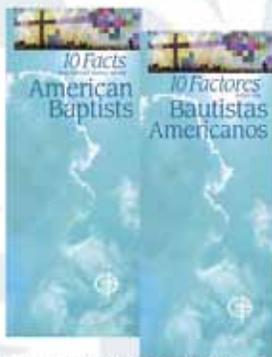


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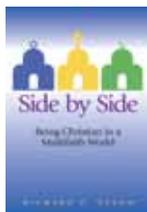


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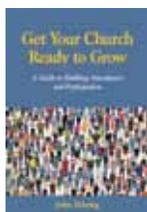


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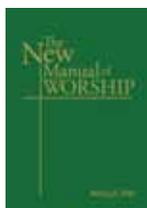


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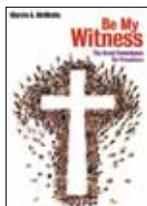


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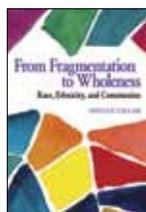


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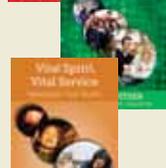
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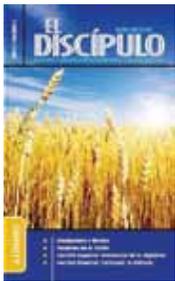
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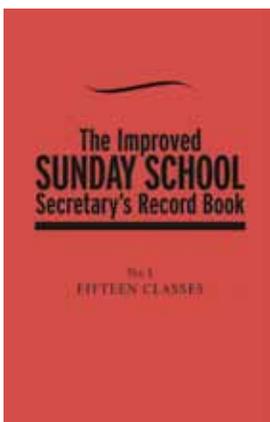
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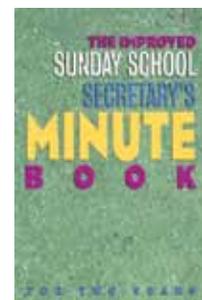
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## 來跟從我……但首先

(可 10:17-22, 太 4:19-21, 約 8:10, 路 10:41-42, 徒 9:5-6)

領：耶穌呼召「來跟從我」

眾：但首先放棄你的產業。

領：耶穌呼召「來跟從我」

眾：但首先捨了你的網。

領：耶穌呼召「來跟從我」

眾：但首先放下你的罪。

領：耶穌呼召「來跟從我」

眾：但首先放棄你的思慮煩擾。

領：耶穌呼召「來跟從我」

眾：但首先放棄你的自以為是。

領：耶穌呼召「來跟從我」

眾：我們將放棄自我的身份—我們的家庭、教會、學校、文化、世界告訴我們的身  
份  
成為孩子，我們將進入神的國度，並了解我們真正的自  
己。

全體：讓我成長，成為那個我，成為祢模造我時種下的種

子；讓我成為君王的孩子。



American Baptist Home Mission Societies

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Written by Cassandra Williams, National Director, Discipleship Ministries, ABHMS.  
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## Come Follow Me . . . but First

(Mark 10:17-22, Matthew 4:19-22; John 8:10; Luke 10:41-42; Acts 9:5-6)

*Leader:* Jesus called, “Come follow me.”

**Congregation:** “But first leave your possessions behind.”

*Leader:* Jesus called, “Come follow me.”

**Congregation:** “But first leave your nets behind.”

*Leader:* Jesus called, “Come follow me.”

**Congregation:** “But first leave your sin behind.”

*Leader:* Jesus called, “Come follow me.”

**Congregation:** “But first leave your preoccupations behind.”

*Leader:* Jesus called, “Come follow me.”

**Congregation:** “But first leave your self-righteousness behind.”

*Leader:* Jesus called, “Come follow me.”

**Congregation:** We will leave behind who we think we are—who our families, our churches, our schools, our culture, our world has told us we are.

*Leader:* And becoming as children, we will enter the kingdom of God and learn who we truly are.

**All:** Free me to grow, to become that self, the seed of which you planted in me at my making; free me to become a child of the King.



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## Ven, sígueme... Pero primero

(Mr. 10:17-22; Mt. 4:19-21; Jn. 8:10; Lc. 10:41-42; Hch. 9:5-6)

*Líder:* Jesús dice “Ven, sígueme”.

**Cong:** Pero primero deja atrás tus posesiones.

*Líder:* Jesús dice “Ven, sígueme”.

**Cong:** Pero primero deja atrás tu red.

*Líder:* Jesús dice “Ven, sígueme”.

**Cong:** Pero primero deja atrás tu pecado.

*Líder:* Jesús dice “Ven, sígueme”.

**Cong:** Pero primero deja atrás tus preocupaciones.

*Líder:* Jesús dice “Ven, sígueme”.

**Cong:** Pero primero deja atrás tu justicia propia.

*Líder:* Jesús dice “Ven, sígueme”.

**Cong:** Vamos a dejar atrás lo que pensamos ser: lo que nuestras familias, nuestras iglesias, nuestras escuelas, nuestra cultura, nuestro mundo nos ha dicho que somos.

*Líder:* Y convirtiéndonos en niños y niñas, entremos en el Reino de Dios y aprenderemos quiénes somos realmente

**Todos/as:** Libérame para crecer, para convertirme en ese ser, esa semilla que plantaste al crearme. Libérame para convertirme en un hijo/hija del Rey.



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## Suis-moi ... mais d'abord

(Marc 10:17-22; Matthieu 4:19-22; Jean 8:10; Luc 10:41-42; Actes 9:5-6)

*Leader:* Jésus a appelé, “Viens et suis-moi.”

**Congrégation:** “Mais laissez d’abord vos biens en arrière.”

*Leader:* Jésus a appelé, “Viens et suis-moi.”

**Congrégation:** “Mais laissez d’abord vos barrières derrière vous.”

*Leader:* Jésus a appelé, “Viens et suis-moi.”

**Congrégation:** “Mais laissez d’abord vos péchés derrière vous.”

*Leader:* Jésus a appelé, “Viens et suis-moi.”

**Congrégation:** “Mais laissez d’abord vos préoccupations derrière vous.”

*Leader:* Jésus a appelé, “Viens et suis-moi.”

**Congrégation:** “Mais laissez d’abord votre complaisance derrière vous.”

*Leader:* Jésus a appelé, “Viens et suis-moi.”

**Congrégation:** Nous laisserons derrière nous ceux que nous croyons être—ceux que nos familles, nos églises, nos écoles, notre culture, notre monde nous ont dit que nous étions.

*Leader:* Et en devenant des enfants, nous entrerons dans le royaume de Dieu et apprendrons qui nous sommes vraiment.

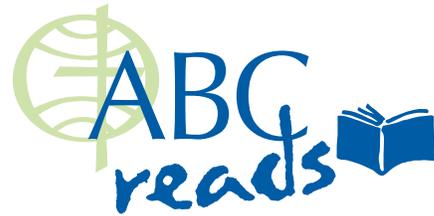
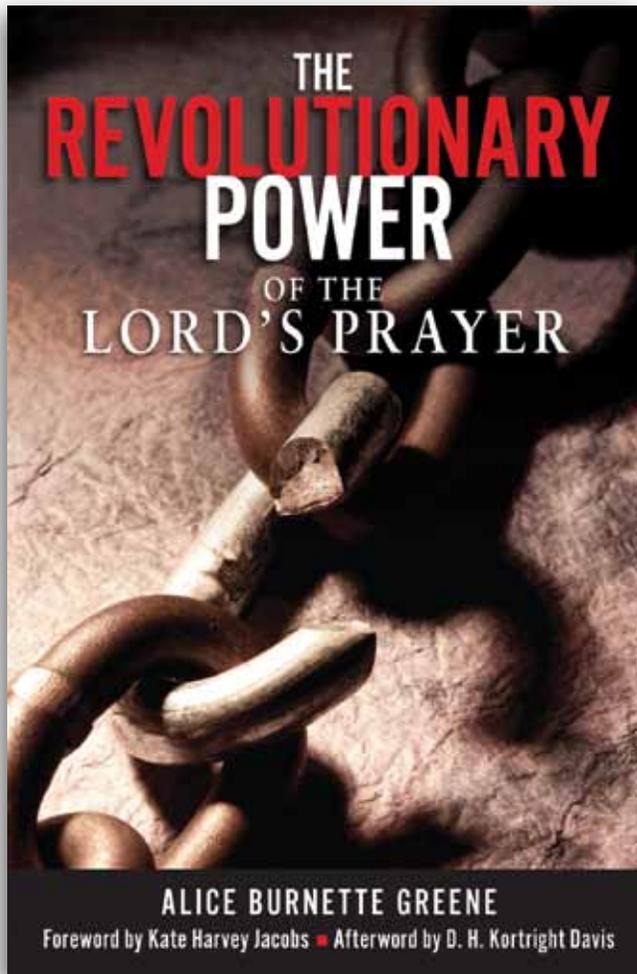
**Tous:** Libère-moi de grandir, pour devenir cette unique graine que tu m’as semée lors de ma création. Libère-moi pour devenir un enfant du Roi.



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