

# Facts & Trends

## Arctic Edge

**Kiana, Alaska  
experiences VBS**

*article on page 10*

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2006

*News and information for ministry from LifeWay Christian  
Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention*

Holy  
Bible



**LifeWay**  
Biblical Solutions for Life

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*Cover photo: Jenna leads the day's procession for VBS in Kiana, Alaska. Photo by Kent Harville*



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## Coming in the November/December issue:

- Discipleship legends team up at Discipleship Week
- Sunday school and the Simple Church

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To support you in ministry by connecting you with LifeWay's "Biblical Solutions for Life." To help you carry out your calling more effectively as you read news and feature stories, information about trends that impact the church, ministry tips and an introduction to new LifeWay products. Whether you're a pastor, church staff member or lay leader, you'll find ways to enhance your ministry.

## Our format

*Facts & Trends* is published six times a year by LifeWay Christian Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention. *Facts & Trends* is a free publication.

## Our people

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# From my perspective



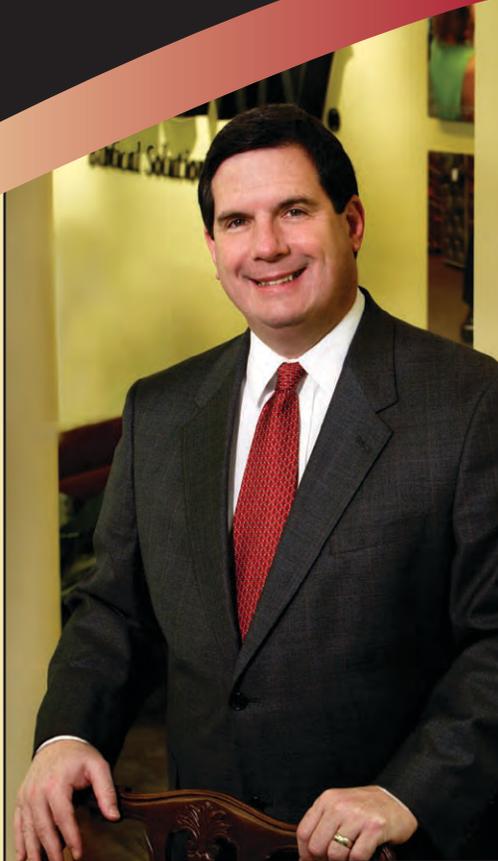
## Getting a right view of God and politics

**T**he T-shirt of a person turning away from the registration desk at the hotel immediately caught my eye. I've seen the ichthus (the "Christian fish") for a number of years on cars and T-shirts but I'd never seen one like this. It was red, white and blue with the letters JESUSAVES underneath.

Not far from the hotel was a roadside stand, kind of like a small fireworks stand, at a stop light. The people were wearing sandwich-board signs upon which were written Bible verses. If you were caught by the red light, you could roll your window down, grab a free Bible ... and an American flag!

I am unashamedly patriotic. Some of my relatives died fighting for our country. My father was the recipient of the Purple Heart for his heroics in World War II. But we need to have a higher view of Jesus, and it comes from having a right understanding of Jesus, our relationship to Him and our responsibility to our government.

Scripture says, "for kingship belongs to the Lord; He rules over the nations" (Psalm 22:28), and "A king's heart is a water channel in the LORD's hand: He directs it wherever He chooses" (Proverbs 21:1). Clearly the nations and their leaders are subordinate to God, and for believers ultimately "... our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ" (Philippians 3:20). Therefore, we are to live as subjects of God's Kingdom. However, Jesus and Paul both address our civic responsibility, recognizing that God established earthly kingdoms for our governance (Matthew 22:17-21; Luke 20:25; Romans 13:1-7; Titus



*Thom S. Rainer, president and CEO, LifeWay Christian Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention*

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3:1; 1 Peter 2:13-17). But neither Jesus nor Paul ever intended to blend the person of Christ with the patriotism of a nation. Nor did they intend for the sovereignty of a nation over its borders to be equal with the sovereignty of Jesus over His creation.

We hear that the two things you should never discuss are politics and religion. However, that is not only unavoidable – it would disqualify you from some of the most significant conversations of the day. The major issues facing our world revolve around these two topics and they clash more often than not. So with that in mind, the following pages of this issue of *Facts & Trends* wade into the mixing of politics and religion.

**“... our citizenship is in heaven,  
from which we also eagerly wait  
for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.”**

**— Philippians 3:20**

It is interesting to see where clergy and laity stand regarding the appropriate level of political involvement by the church. Even going beyond politics to issues such as gay marriage, abortion, war and other hot-button topics takes us

into uncertain territory. One thing that is certain, however, is God’s Word. He has the deciding perspective on all of it and it behooves us to set aside the opinions of man in favor of the mind of Christ. ■

In His service,

## We recommend

- *God and Caesar: Christian Faith and Political Action* by John Eidsmoe
- *Imagine! A God-Blessed America* by Richard Land
- *In God We Trust?* by Corwin E. Smidt
- *Politics & Public Policy: A Christian Response* by Gary P. Stewart and Timothy J. Demy
- *The Myth of a Christian Nation: How the Quest for Political Power is Destroying the Nation* by Gregory A. Boyd

These and other resources are available through customer service at [www.lifeway.com](http://www.lifeway.com) and (800) 458-2772 and from LifeWay Christian Stores at [www.lifewaystores.com](http://www.lifewaystores.com) and (800) 233-1123.



# No consensus among ministers, laity on appropriate political involvement

by Ron Sellers

**R**esearch conducted for *Facts & Trends* shows there is virtually no consensus among Protestant ministers or laity about what is appropriate political involvement for local churches. This is true within most denominational groups, including the Southern Baptist Convention.



Ellison Research (Phoenix, Ariz.) conducted two studies for *Facts & Trends*. One is a representative sample of 806 Protestant church ministers nationwide, and the other is a companion survey of 1,184 adults who attend Protestant churches at least once a month.

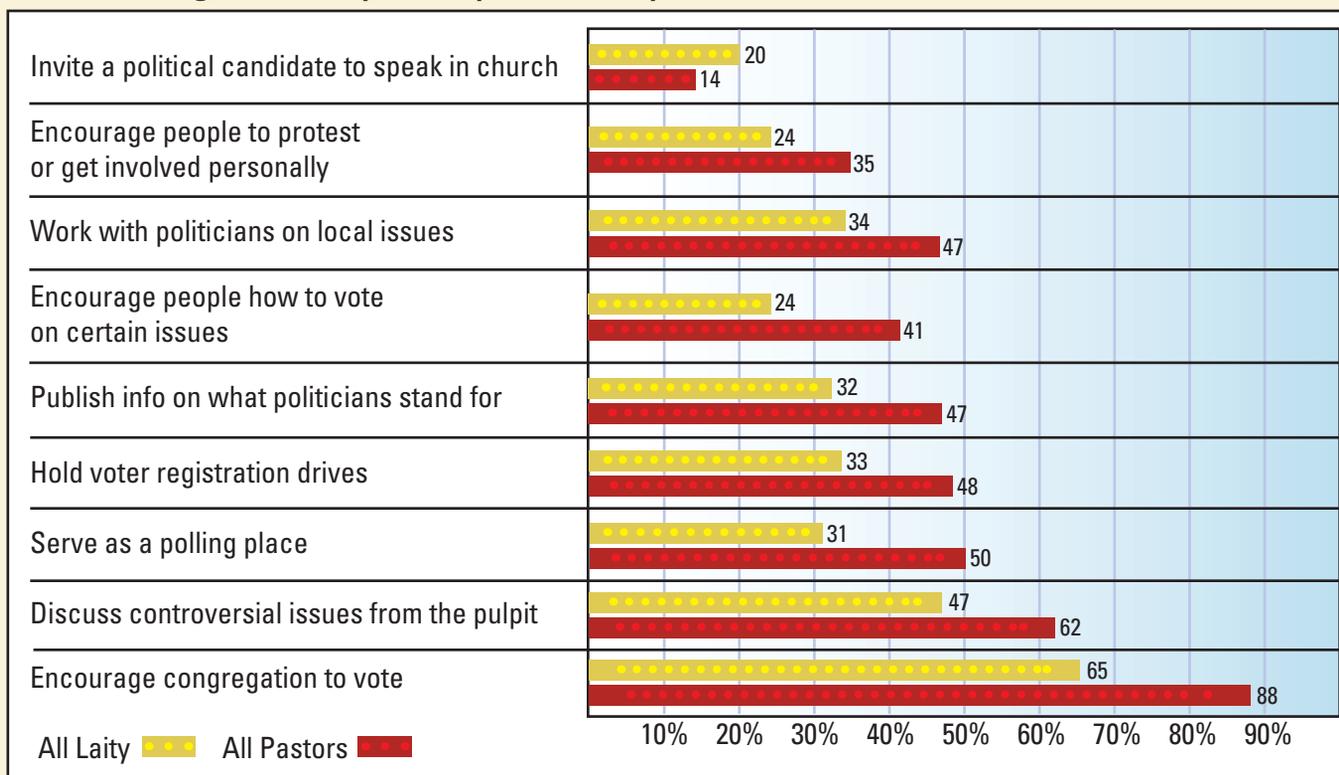
Only 6 percent of clergy, and 11 percent of laity, feel their own church is very involved in local politics or political issues; the numbers are nearly identical for involvement in national politics or political issues.

One reason for this lack of involvement in politics is likely that there is so little agreement as to what is an appropriate mixture of churches and politics. The studies asked respondents from both groups to rate how appropriate it is for local churches to be involved in a number of different ways, using a scale of 1 (not at all appropriate) to 5 (extremely appropriate).

The only type of political involvement deemed appropriate (a rating of 4 or 5) by a majority of ministers and laypeople is encouraging the congregation to vote (88 percent

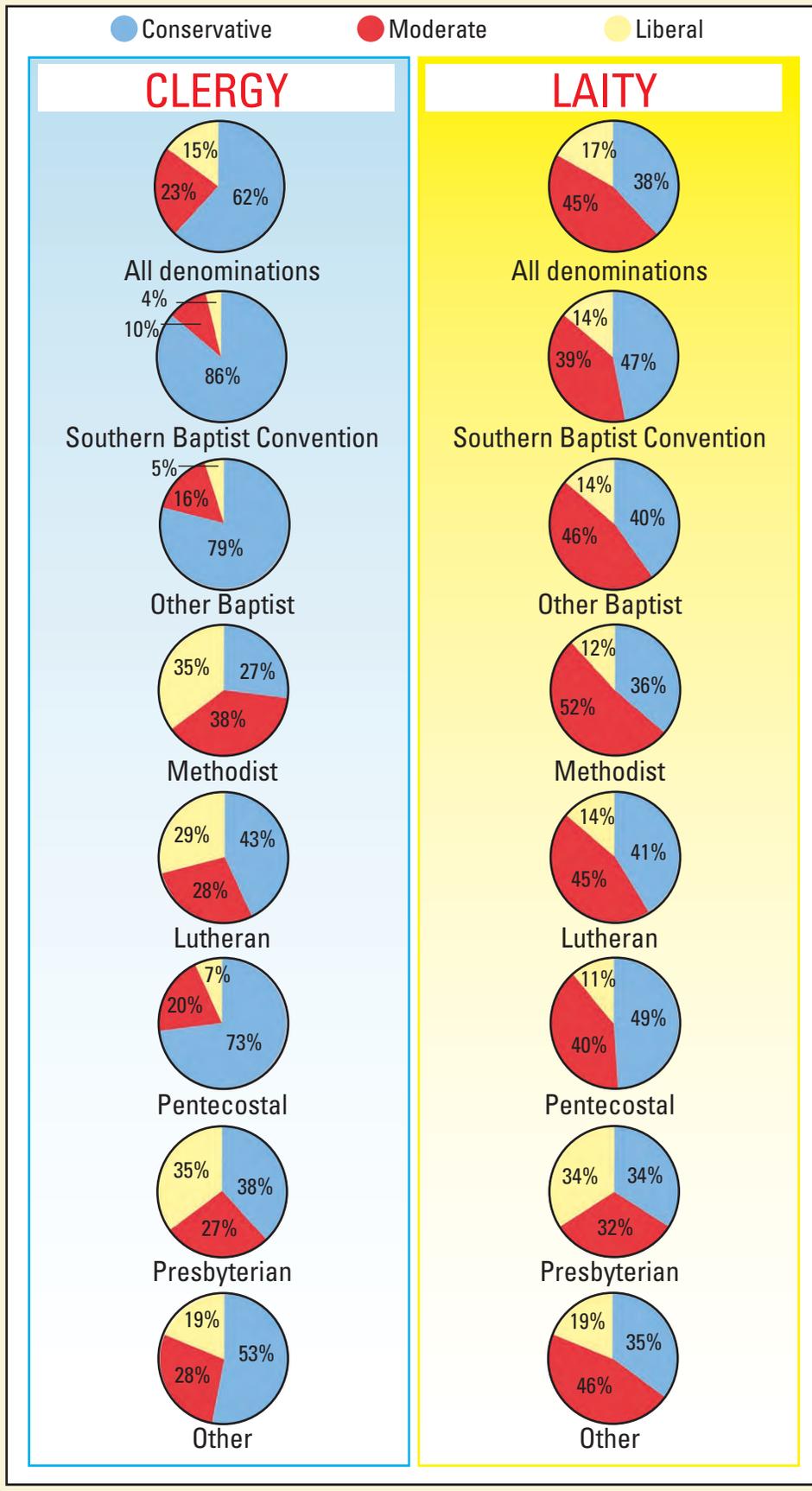
## What is appropriate for local churches?

Percentage of laity compared to pastors:



# Personal political views

How laity and pastors classify themselves, by denomination:



of ministers and 65 percent of laity). A majority of pastors also feel discussing controversial issues such as gay marriage, abortion or the war in Iraq from the pulpit is appropriate (65 percent), although only 47 percent of their laity agree with them.

As the graph shows, no more than half of all ministers feel any other type of political involvement is appropriate, and the numbers are even lower for laity. Southern Baptist pastors have opinions that are close to average, although they are somewhat more likely than average to feel it is appropriate to encourage people how to vote on certain issues (54 percent) and to publish information on what politicians stand for (56 percent).

Pastors who are politically conservative are more likely than others to believe it is appropriate to discuss controversial issues from the pulpit, to publish information on what politicians stand for, and to encourage people how to vote on certain issues – but even on this last point, only half think it is appropriate to do this. Politically liberal ministers are more likely than others to feel it is appropriate for local churches to serve as polling places.

Personally, 62 percent of all senior pastors in Protestant churches describe themselves as politically conservative, while 23 percent are moderate, and 15 percent are liberal.

This varies quite a bit by denominational group. Conservatives represent 86 percent of Southern Baptist ministers, 79 percent of ministers from other Baptist groups and 73 percent of Pentecostal pastors. Lutherans are divided but tend toward conservative. Almost equally divided into thirds are Presbyterians and Methodists.

The people in the pews are substantially more likely to consider themselves politically moderate than are the people in the pulpits. Among all adults who regularly attend Protestant churches, 38 percent describe themselves as politically conservative, 45 percent as moderate, and 17 percent as liberal.

The political gap between clergy and laity is particularly large in Baptist and Pentecostal churches. Among Southern Baptist laity, 47 percent are politically conservative, while 86 percent of Southern Baptist pastors are conservative. In other Baptist denominations, 40 percent of laity are conservative, compared to 79 percent of ministers. Similarly, in Pentecostal churches, 49 percent of laity are conservative, while 73 percent of ministers are.

**The people in the pews are substantially more likely to consider themselves politically moderate than are the people in the pulpits.**

— Ellison Research

Lutheran and Methodist churches also show a gap between clergy and laity, but in the other direction. While 29 percent of all Lutheran clergy are politically liberal, only 14 percent of laity describe themselves in this manner.

Among Methodist laity, just 12 percent are politically liberal, while the figure is 35 percent among Methodist clergy. Presbyterians are the only major denominational group in which the political positions of clergy and laity are much the same (about equally divided among conservative, moderate, and liberal).

The research exploded some common stereotypes, such as perceptions that mainline churches are liberal, evangelicals represent a politically active Religious Right, or conservative churches are raising Cain politically. In reality, mainline ministers are almost equally divided among political conservatives, moderates and liberals. Fewer than half of all evangelical pastors or conservative pastors believe it's appropriate to encourage people how to vote on specific issues, and even fewer feel it's appropriate to encourage their congregation to get involved personally with controversial issues. It's time to look beyond the stereotypes of churches and politics, and start dealing with the reality of what exists. ■



*Ron Sellers is president of Ellison Research (Phoenix, Ariz.), which conducts exclusive research for Facts & Trends on issues important to our readers.*

# Eskimo kids visit the Arctic Edge

*written by Polly House*

*photos by Kent Harville*



*Children in Kiana, Alaska,  
began Vacation Bible School  
in the snow.*



**Y**ou can't drive to Kiana, Alaska. There's no road. It's true. The only way in, the only way out, is by small charter plane, 4-wheeler, snowmobile or boat. It is definitely isolated. But for this one time, in the summer of 2006, more than a million people visited this small community above the Arctic Circle. Vacation Bible School put Kiana on the map.

In this year's LifeWay-sponsored VBS, *Arctic Edge: Where Adventure Meets Courage*, children hiked across the tundra, explored the seascape by kayak and skimmed the backcountry in a floatplane. Based on Joshua 1:9, Arctic Edge helped children find the courage required to follow Jesus in every day challenges as they learned that God is always with them.

Even Eskimo children who live above the Arctic Circle in Kiana had a great time with this year's Vacation Bible School theme.

"Bible School is sort of about us," said J.K., 11. "That is so cool!"

Mission Service Corps volunteers John and Kim Piepmeier, who lead the small mission church in Kiana, were featured on day three of the VBS missions video. They have ministered in the village of 375 people for seven years.

A team of eight adventurous souls from East Texas trekked north – about as far north



*Top: The little steeple peeks through the trees.*

*Above: Children arrive at VBS on foot, 4-wheelers and bikes.*





*Alexis joins in the motions with her "caribou antlers" during VBS music time.*

as anyone can go – to share God’s love with the children, youth and adults. They went at their own expense and took or shipped everything they’d need – food, supplies, even their beds.

### Snow flurries and 24-hour daylight

Unlike Vacation Bible School in Alabama, South Carolina or anywhere else, VBS in Kiana in the early days of June began in the snow. The children wore coats and hats, not to emphasize the Arctic Edge theme, but to stay warm.

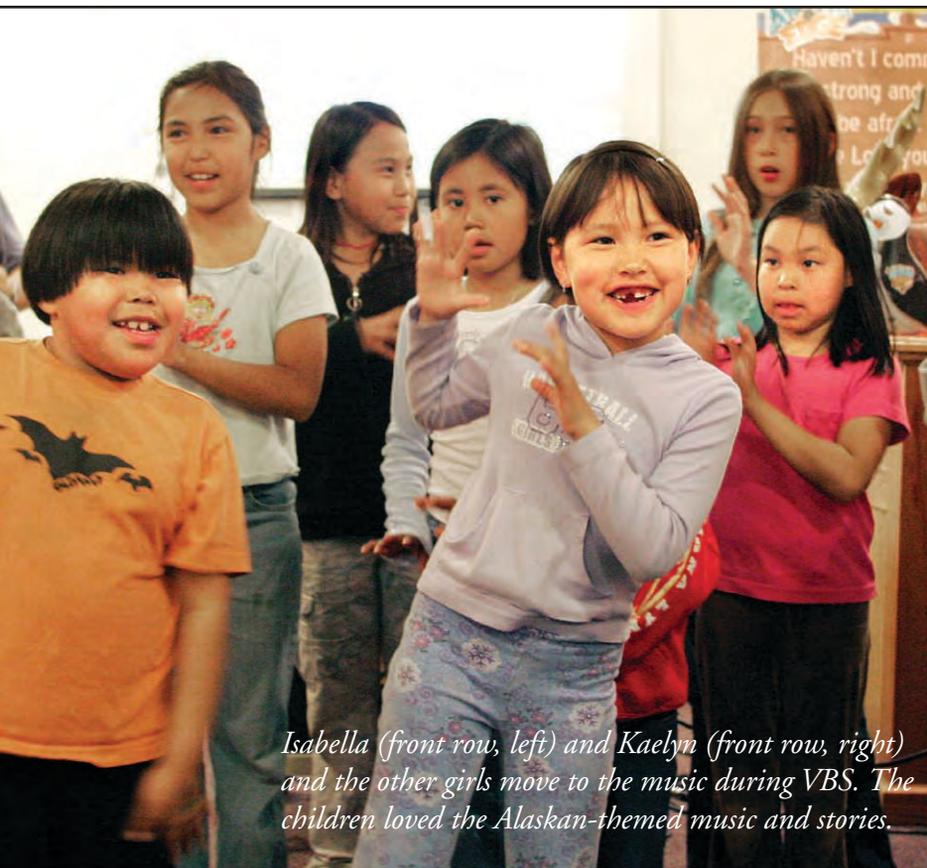
While team members came with years of VBS work under their belts, VBS in the cold and snow was a new experience for every one of them. But this was Alaska, so it never occurred to anyone that VBS would be cancelled. The children showed up right on time, coming on 4-wheelers, bikes and booted feet, happy to have something fun to do.

Two tents set up outside the church held classes and crafts. After two days of snow, however, it was not the cold that sent the children indoors, it was the mud.

One of the VBS posters showed a river of ice with the caption “Go with the Floe.” The team took the advice to heart, with a slight variation – “go with the flow.”

Shifting to plan B, some of the older children had Bible study around the table inside the Piepmeiers’ house. Some of the craft activities were changed to less messy projects since the children had to work on the carpeted church floor. “We’ll do whatever we need

*Below: Kim Piepmeier (in red shirt) passes out VBS snacks. Kim and her husband, John, have led the Kiana mission church for seven years.*



*Isabella (front row, left) and Kaelyn (front row, right) and the other girls move to the music during VBS. The children loved the Alaskan-themed music and stories.*



to do,” said volunteer Susan Smith. “Our saying is ‘be flexible.’”

After plans had changed for about the tenth time that day, volunteer Jan Ouzts laughed when she was caught talking to herself, “Go with the flow. Go with the flow.”

While many churches have their VBS in the morning, Kiana hosted theirs from 2-5 p.m. for the children, and from 8-11 p.m. for the youth and adults. That’s probably later than most churches, but when the sun never sets, midnight or noon is about the same.

Lee Moore, volunteer leader for youth VBS, took advantage of the never-ending day. Each evening after he taught VBS, he’d walk down to the village to visit and play ball with teenagers in town until about 3 a.m. Why not?

### Everyone sees Kiana

The children had been told something special was coming up on day three of VBS when the Piepmeiers were the featured missionaries on the missions video. When they saw Pastor John and Kim appear on the screen, they laughed and clapped. When they saw Kiana, their own village, they were doubly excited.

*(continued on page 16)*



*Top: Snow greeted VBSers at the church.*

*Middle: Texan Jan Ouzts leads craft time with her 3rd and 4th graders.*

*Left: “Brother John” Green taught missions in a tent until the muddy ground moved everyone inside.*



*The Texas volunteers:  
(L-R) John Green,  
Sarah Fair, Susan  
Smith, Mike Smith, Jan  
Ouzts, Lee Moore, Vicky  
Chapin, Don Chapin*

## Texans to the tundra

**T**exans are accustomed to a big sky and endless horizon, but the eight brave volunteers who ministered during Vacation Bible School in Kiana, Alaska, June 4-9 got more than they bargained for.

Not only was the sky wide, it was bright. All the time. Twenty-four hours a day.

Sleep schedules were no longer determined by body clocks. When the last youth would leave VBS around midnight, team members would drag air mattresses and sleeping bags out of the closets and begin setting up the church as their make-shift dormitory.

“Having 24 hours of daylight was very odd to me,” said Vicky Chapin. “My body wasn’t quite sure when to go to sleep.”

Her husband, Don, added, “You just do what you need to do and don’t worry about it.”

It was usually about 2 a.m. by the time the team discussed the day and got settled in. Getting the blinds closed as much as possible blocked much of the sunlight, but not all.

But, in the mission volunteer tradition of “making lemonade out of lemons,” Vicky said, “It’s really pretty good that we had the daylight. That way we didn’t need a flashlight when we had to get up to go to the outhouse!” ■

### Texas VBS volunteer team

**John Green, team leader and pastor of Lake Athens Baptist Church in Athens, Texas** – A veteran of mission time in Alaska, Green has been to the last frontier state 10 times, including a 3-week interim period at the Kiana church in 2001 when the Piepmeiers returned to the “lower 48.”

**Don and Vicky Chapin from Mabank, Texas** – He is interim pastor at Ash Baptist Church in Athens and she works for Hewlett-Packard. The Chapins went to Ash Baptist from Harbor Baptist Church in Payne Springs.

**Mike and Susan Smith, members at Tyler Street Baptist Church in Jacksonville, Texas** – He is director of missions and she is secretary for Dogwood Trails Baptist area, which includes three associations, based in Jacksonville.

**Jan Ouzts, a member at New York Baptist Church, New York, Texas** – She is a retired teacher and now works in her family’s farm equipment business.

**Sarah Fair, Green’s daughter and a former missionary** – She is a member at First Baptist Church, Lindale.

**Lee Moore, college student** – He is youth pastor at Cottonwood Baptist Church in Bryan, Texas.

*Susan Smith led craft time in a tent set up outside the church.*



When Irving, 11, heard that millions of people around the world would see this video segment about Kiana this summer, he said, “Are you kidding me? That’s cool!”

### Children love being loved

“Anywhere you go in the world, children are basically the same,” said Ouzts, who last year did VBS in the Ukraine and at her home church in Texas. “Some are well behaved, some aren’t. Some pay attention, others don’t. But they all love doing activities, having people love them and hearing that Jesus loves them.

“During the Bible study time, I thought the children weren’t paying attention. But when I reviewed the lesson with them, they knew everything we’d talked about. They repeated the stories to me almost word for word. They were so smart.”

Susan Smith added, “It is important that we show them love. They all need that. They need more, too. They need to know how they can ask Jesus into their hearts and become Christians. We have to do our part to let them know how to be saved. That’s why the Wednesday lesson is so crucial.”

Volunteer Sarah Fair said her little ones were literal thinkers. “I told one little girl in my class that Jesus loves her and has a wonderful plan for her life. Her eyes got real big and she said, ‘Oh! What is it?’ She caught me off guard with that one! I told her that she would discover that as she grew up.”

Fair’s class of 4-year-olds through 2nd grade averaged 24 children each day, by far the largest group. “Sometimes the stories are hard for the little ones to follow, but they loved to sing and they loved making their crafts,” she said. “They knew we loved them.”

Most of the children who came to VBS already had made professions of faith, but two 8-year-olds received Christ during the week. Michael and Christina both heard the “ABC’s” (Admit, Believe, Confess) on Wednesday, and then talked with team leader John Green.

**“They need to know how they can ask Jesus into their hearts and become Christians. We have to do our part to let them know how to be saved.”**

— Susan Smith

He had the privilege of leading both children in prayer to receive Christ as their Savior.

## Youth and adult VBS

Four of the young women attending the youth VBS in the evenings used the time to help prepare for their own three-week VBS mission trip to Urbancrest and Liberty Heights Baptist churches in Lebanon, Ohio, and White's Memorial Baptist Church in Franklinville, N.C., where they would be teaching children a first-person view of how life is on the edge of the Arctic.

Janelle, 17, said she, her sister, Jacklynne, 16, and friends Sylvia and Clara, both 20, were leaving June 21 with the Piepmeiers. "It will be our first mission trip and we are really excited to be going. None of us have been that far away before."

Village adults gathered around the Piepmeiers' table and in their den to study the Book of James. The concept of the security of the believer was foreign to some of the adults, and Don Chapin, who led the study wanted them to understand not only that, but also that all Christians can and should be assuming leadership in their churches. "They were so hungry for the Bible study and really took hold of the concepts," he said.

## Extended ministry

The Texas team's ministry didn't stop with the children, youth and adults. The Piepmeiers also benefited from the association.

John Piepmeier said, "It means so much to us not only to have the team come up here and do VBS, but just to give Kim and me the personal support. We miss that. I've enjoyed having the other men around to discuss theology with!"

## Team touched by ministry

Mike Smith, a director of missions from Jacksonville, Texas, said he is committed to missions. "I guess I've gone on at least one mission trip just about every year since I was an RA (Royal Ambassador). This week has been wonderful.



*Top: Adults who attended VBS studied the book of James.*

*Above: Don, an elder in Kiana, looks on with pride as the children perform during the VBS family night.*



*Like children everywhere, the kids in Kiana loved having their pictures taken. Kaelyn (in the pink striped sweater) insisted on including her dog.*

Some great things have happened with the children, the youth and the adults – especially with the two who accepted Christ.

“But, you know, on every mission trip, whether it’s VBS or something else, the team who goes always gets changed. When we formed this team, most of us didn’t know each other, but it has been life changing for every one of us.”

### Family night

During the Family Night celebration, the families and friends of the 94 people who attended VBS packed the small sanctuary to hear the children present their memory verses, sing and sign their songs and meet the leaders.

The crowd got to see the missions video highlighting the Piepmeiers and Kiana. They really laughed when mention was made of the “whale blubber sandwiches.” There is no such thing! “Oohs” and “ahhs” could be heard when they were told how many people across the country would be watching that same video throughout the summer.

The evening’s highlight was a beautiful and moving rendition of “How Great Thou Art” sung in the Inupiaq language by the adult VBS group, then everyone – Eskimos and Caucasians – joined together to sing a verse in English. Many eyes were moist by the last “... how great Thou art,” proving that even at the edge of the Arctic, the fellowship of Christ is strong. ■

For more information about Vacation Bible School, go to [www.lifeway.com/vbs](http://www.lifeway.com/vbs). To see more about the church, go to [www.kianabaptistmission.com](http://www.kianabaptistmission.com). The last names of all the children were omitted by request.

# 2007 Vacation Bible School themes: Game Day Central, Jungle Jaunt

by Brooklyn Noel

**G**ame Day Central: Where Heroes Are Made is the main 2007 VBS theme published by LifeWay.

This curriculum will allow students to “get into the game” with an all-access pass to the Worship Rally Arena and Crafts Fan Zone.

As participants prepare for the big game, they will learn the importance of following God’s plan for their lives and focusing on Jesus in order to become heroes both on and off the field.

The Scripture focus for the Game Day Central line is Hebrews 12:1-2, which says “...run with endurance the race that lies before us, keeping our eyes on Jesus, the source and perfecter of our faith...” (HCSB).

*Game Day Central: Where Heroes Are Made* is designed for all ages, from babies to adults, and follows a traditional VBS schedule with three-hour sessions throughout a week-long summer program.

For churches that need a little more flexibility with their VBS curriculum, LifeWay’s second line, *Club VBS: Jungle Jaunt*, is an option.

This program will take kids on a trek through the depths of the Amazon jungle as they discover the One True God with VBS teachers as their river guides. The curriculum focuses on Psalm 145:1-2 as its theme. “I exalt You, my God the King, and praise Your name forever and ever. I will praise You every day; I will honor Your name forever and ever” (HCSB).

Club VBS is designed to adapt to multiple schedules so it can be used during a summer week, school breaks, mission trips or day camps among other times. Churches purchase a pack of Club VBS materials that includes everything necessary to plan, promote and host the event.



“Whether you choose Game Day Central or Jungle Jaunt, the key is to emphasize the evangelistic aspect of VBS,” said Jerry Wooley, LifeWay’s VBS ministry specialist, pointing out that as much as 28 percent of all Southern Baptist baptisms come as a direct result of VBS. “What else would you do next summer that will have as much evangelistic potential as VBS?”

Messengers to this year’s Southern Baptist Convention, June 13-14 in Greensboro, N.C., enjoyed a first glimpse of LifeWay’s 2007 Vacation Bible School themes.

“We were thrilled to announce our VBS 2007 themes at the Southern Baptist Convention this year,” said childhood ministry director Mary Katharine Hunt. “For some this is a good way to close this year’s VBS – an invitation to next year’s.” ■

LifeWay’s VBS Web site, [www.lifeway.com/vbs](http://www.lifeway.com/vbs), offers additional information and resources related to both VBS lines. The complete curricula will go on sale Dec. 1. Selected Game Day Central promotional materials will be available Oct. 1.

# LifeWay Worship Conference encourages unity in diversity

by Jenny Rice



Peace descended upon the Spilman Auditorium at LifeWay Ridgecrest Conference Center as hundreds of worshippers from different church sizes, worship styles and backgrounds lifted their voices in perfect harmony singing a cappella, “Praise God from Whom all blessings flow ....”

*The Annie Moses Band performs during the evening worship service at LifeWay Worship Conference at LifeWay Ridgecrest Conference Center.*

Sponsored by LifeWay Worship Music Group, the June 19-23 meeting was an opportunity for worship leaders and lay participants to worship together as well as learn technical skills and the theology behind worship.

Steve Blanchard, director of worship with the State Baptist Convention of Indiana, has been attending LifeWay's Worship Conference since the 1970s. The conference has changed some over the decades, but Blanchard still believes the conference is beneficial for worship leaders.

"I travel all over Indiana visiting churches about worship ministry and I brought worship leaders with me here to learn more about both contemporary and traditional styles," Blanchard said. "It's a good mix."

Conflict over differing worship styles, sometimes referred to as "worship wars," was discussed throughout the week. A unified spirit of worship was encouraged, evidenced by the diverse offering of technical classes from "The Role of the Drum Set and Hand Percussion in the Worship Experience" to "Every Organist a Composer."

### Focus on theology

Featured speaker Jim Shaddix, pastor of Riverside Baptist Church in Denver, challenged conference attendees to not dwell as much on worship styles, but instead focus on the theology in the songs, whether traditional hymns or praise songs.

Using the analogy of a coffee filter straining out bitter coffee grounds, Shaddix referred to the abundance of worship songs released the past few years and the critical importance of worship leaders to filter out hymns and praise songs with incorrect theology.

"As Southern Baptists, we tend to be pragmatic, just looking for what works," Shaddix said. "Bigger is better, whatever draws a crowd. Some think a crowd is an indicator of success. But God didn't call you to be successful by those standards. He called you to be faithful to His Word."

"We end up setting the same standard for ministry that Wal-Mart and the Dallas Cowboys do – drawing a crowd or [providing] what people want. It's not that we shouldn't be fluid or moving, but we have to be intentional and make sure we are being faithful to the Word."

Shaddix told worship leaders that they cannot separate music from theology.

"It's not an option for you as worship leaders not to be theologians," Shaddix said. "You cannot lead worship if you don't know your theology. Theology is just the study of God. We can't lead worship if we don't know our God."

Mike Harland, director of LifeWay Worship Music Group, drew attention to Romans 14 in which the Apostle Paul tells believers not to argue about "disputable matters."



**"...we have to be intentional and make sure we are being faithful to the Word."**

— Jim Shaddix

According to Harland, many controversies over worship styles could be considered disputable matters. He raised concern over worship leaders and laymen who pass judgment on others because of worship styles.

“A red flag ought to go up in your spirit when you begin to question the motives of people with different worship styles,” Harland said. “Then you are crossing a line. The Lord our God is one God and He has proven His love for diversity.”

Harland told conference attendees, “If you aim at style, you’ll hit style, but that’s all you’ll get. Instead, aim at getting people to the feet of Jesus. That’s when you will see life change.”

### Unity encouraged

Shaddix and Harland acknowledged that everyone has his or her own preference in worship style. However, they encouraged an effort on behalf of worship leaders and worshippers to avoid “dividing ministries over things that don’t matter.”

“If your pastor is preaching heresy, that is worth church discipline or leaving the church,” Shaddix explained. “If it is a matter of worship style, it isn’t worth dividing the church.”

Harland asked worship leaders and lay church members to lay aside arguments on worship style and volume level and instead pursue spiritual momentum in the light of God’s Word in their churches.

“Spiritual momentum will eradicate criticism,” Harland explained. “Just as a pebble is neither felt nor heard when encountered by a speeding freight train, criticism is neither felt nor heard when you have great spiritual momentum.

“Preach and teach God’s Word and it will take care of any criticism.”

### LifeWay school of music

Conference attendee Jay Stephens from Oak Ridge, Tenn., said the radio is the only musical instrument he can play. He may not be able to sing or read music, but from the smile on his face as he gazed upon his bride, you can see he is proud of his wife, Bernice, who enjoys singing and leads her church’s senior adult choir.

Together, the Stephenses have spent a lifetime together building a large family and worshipping God through music. Longtime attendees of the worship conference, the couple was excited about the abundance of classes offered throughout the week.

“I feel like I am in school attending classes and seeing friends,” said Bernice. “There is a lot more offered this year.”

In addition to daily classes on songwriting, music ministry and instruments, the conference schedule included evening worship services led by Don Moen and Friends; the Annie Moses Band; LifeWay worship writers Jeremy and Maribeth Johnson, David Edwards and Paul Marino. Also on the program were the Everybody Worship conference choir and orchestra and contemporary worship leader Joel Engle.

New music materials debuted at the conference included the 2006 Children’s Music Series, “Here by Design.” Intentionally designed with age appropriate music, hand motions and lessons with updated art, the series is meant to teach children that God is the Master Designer of heaven and earth and He created each person with a special purpose. ■

## We recommend

- *How Shall We Worship? Biblical Guidelines for the Worship Wars* by Marva J. Dawn and Dan Taylor
- *Pleasing God in Our Worship* by James Montgomery Boice and Robert Godfrey

These and other resources are available through customer service at [www.lifeway.com](http://www.lifeway.com) and (800) 458-2772 and from LifeWay Christian Stores at [www.lifewaystores.com](http://www.lifewaystores.com) and (800) 233-1123.

# B&H Publishing Group named Independent Vendor of the Year

LifeWay's B&H Publishing Group (formerly Broadman & Holman Publishers) was named Independent Vendor of the Year by Hastings Entertainment, a leading United States retailer.

B&H vice president of general market sales Matt West said, "This is the first time a general market national account has given B&H a Vendor of the Year designation, and it is a great honor for every area of our organization."

B&H national accounts sales manager Chris Bauerle said, "It is a great honor to be recognized in a category filled with exceptional publishers. The opportunity to work with an innovative account like Hastings – a company that has created a unique model for meeting customer needs for selection and value – has been a tremendous experience. This award is a testimony to B&H's commitment to expanding its general market presence and to the hard work of our customer service and sales support staff."

Meeting the strict criteria for the award, B&H was selected because of "our general market sales area's desire to represent Christ well to some of the world's largest retailers," Bauerle said. "We have a unique opportunity to demonstrate the love of God to the culture and its leaders through professionalism, excellence and a humble spirit. It is my goal to present the most creative product in the most creative way possible and thereby associate the highest level of excellence in the publishing world with the name of Christ. This award is evidence of God's work in B&H as it seeks

to expand beyond the borders of Christian culture and to reach a world in need of hope."

Major summer 2006 books from B&H included best-selling author Vicki Courtney's *TeenVirtue 2*; longtime CoverGirl cosmetics spokesperson and actress Jennifer O'Neill's first novel, *A Fall Together*; and three releases from actor Stephen Baldwin, *Live It Testimonies*, *Live It: What It Is* and the *Spirit Warriors* graphic novel.

Hastings Entertainment, based in Amarillo, Texas, is a leading multimedia entertainment retailer combining the sale of

books, music, software, periodicals, new and used DVDs, videos and video games with the rental of videos, DVDs and video games in a superstore format. It currently operates about 150 superstores averaging 20,000 square feet, primarily in small to medium-sized markets in 20 states.

B&H Publishing Group includes several major divisions. Among those, B&H Books publishes titles by Beth Moore (*Praying God's Word*) and Henry Blackaby (*Experiencing God*), plus New York Times bestsellers *Payne Stewart: The Authorized Biography*; Oliver North's *Mission Compromised*, *The Jericho Sanction* and *The Assassins*; and the Chuck Norris autobiography, *Against All Odds*. Holman Bible Publishers, established in 1738, recently developed the best-selling new Holman Christian Standard Bible translation and is among the largest U.S. publishers of Spanish language Bibles. The company also features Broadman Church Supplies. ■



# Rainer, Geiger offer simple concept of discipleship in new B&H book

by Kelly Davis

Look at Apple's iPod or Google's Web site. Consider Southwest Airlines or Papa John's Pizza. What do these successful companies have in common?

## A commitment to simplicity

Simplicity is in. Complexity is out. So contend Thom S. Rainer and Eric Geiger in their new book, *Simple Church*, released June 1 by B&H Publishing Group.

A new revolution toward simplicity has impacted how individuals respond to information. And the movement toward simplicity also affects how churches minister

to their congregations, according to the authors.

Based on thorough research and 400 case studies, Rainer, LifeWay president and CEO, and Geiger, executive pastor of Christ Fellowship, a Southern Baptist congregation in Miami, provide evidence that church leaders who have designed a simple biblical process to make disciples are effectively advancing the movement of the

gospel. "Simple churches are making a big impact," they write.

"Ironically people are hungry for simple because the world has become much more complex," write Rainer and Geiger. "The amount of information accessible to us is continually increasing. The ability to interact with the entire world is now possible. Technology is consistently

advancing at a rapid pace."

The result is a complicated world where people live busy lives. And, in the midst of complexity, people want to find simplicity, the writers state. "They long for it, seek it, pay for it, even dream of it. Simple is in. Simple works. People respond to simple," they write.

Rainer and Geiger offer church leaders the ethos behind designing a simple process of discipleship.

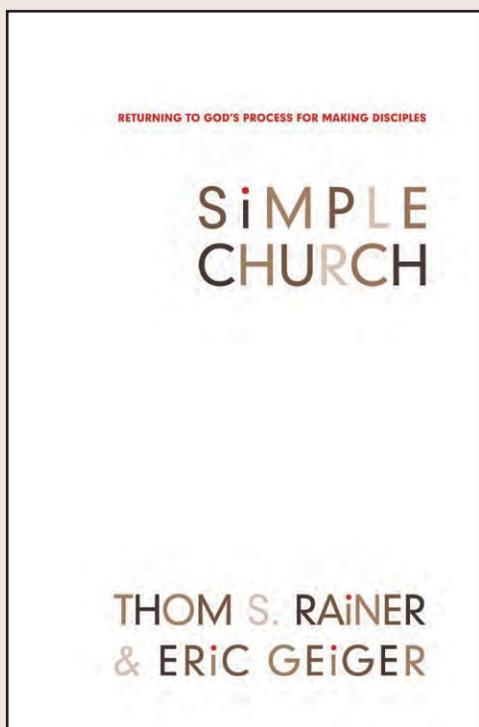
"The concept of simple church is not the latest fad or methodology," said Rainer. "It is a philosophy of ministry that causes churches to focus on those ministries that really matter."

## Straight-forward and strategic

As defined in the book, a simple church is a congregation designed around a straight-forward and strategic process that moves people through the stages of spiritual growth. Rainer and Geiger outline four steps to achieve simplicity: clarity, movement, alignment and focus.

Start with clarity, they advise. "Clarity is the ability of the process to be communicated and understood by the people," they write. "If you want your process to be clear, you must define it, illustrate it, discuss it and measure it. You must also constantly monitor the understanding of your people in regard to your process."

Movement is the next step in the simplicity process. "Movement is the sequential steps in the process that causes people to move to greater areas of commitment," they write. The book details five prescriptions for how to create movement in a church.



Alignment follows movement and involves maximizing the energy of all members. “Alignment is the arrangement of all ministries and staff around the same simple process.”

Focus is the commitment to abandon everything that falls outside the simple ministry process. Rainer and Geiger outline the importance of eliminating nonessential programs within the church.

“I hope readers will grasp the idea that those churches that do a few things well are more often than not the most effective churches,” Rainer said in a recent interview.

“Church life has become too complex and too cluttered in most congregations. The joy of simplicity is the ability to focus on a few aspects of ministry and do them well.”

### **Making goals simple**

Rainer and Geiger present examples of simple churches and outline the process the leaders took to unclutter their ministry.

“Some of the simple churches in our study were in very difficult situations before they embraced the simple church concept,” Rainer said. “Eric and I believe that it is possible for most churches of different sizes and locations to become more effective for the glory of God.”

Geiger said he hopes church leaders will gain enough understanding of how to create a simple church process after reading the book.

“The more simple a process, the more focus you have,” Geiger said. “You are able to accomplish more because your attention is focused. Your goals are clear and you are able to concentrate on excellence and discipleship.

“People understand the direction of the church when the calendar is not cluttered,” Geiger said, mentioning that streamlining and eliminating things that don’t fit into the church process create an environment where leaders can deliver ministries with more excellence.

“Ultimately we’re in ministry for the people in our church,” Geiger said in a recent

interview. “A church that has a simple process makes it easy for members to know what the next level of commitment is and grow in their faith.”

Geiger further warned pastors not to become simple too fast. “Leaders must go through the process of simplification. Don’t ax a lot of programs up front.” Determine what the church’s purpose is and organize accordingly, he advised.

“This book is not about how we as pastors make our lives easier,” Geiger said. “It’s about designing a process that moves people through the stages of spiritual growth so their lives are transformed.” ■

**“Church life has become too complex and too cluttered in most congregations. The joy of simplicity is the ability to focus on a few aspects of ministry and do them well.”**

**– Thom S. Rainer**

# Glorieta names new director, introduces new focus on camps

by Russ Rankin

**H**al Hill, director of LifeWay Camps, was named director of Glorieta Conference Center, located near Santa Fe, N.M., effective Aug. 1.

Hill, who has served as national camp manager for LifeWay since October 2004, will direct the day-to-day operations of the conference center in addition to guiding the expansion of camp-based programming at Glorieta.

“Hal is the perfect individual to help take Glorieta to another level in terms of its effectiveness and scope of ministry,” said Byron Hill, national director of LifeWay Conference Centers. “He has achieved tremendous results working with LifeWay’s other camp programs and is highly experienced in camp development.”

Byron Hill (no relation to Hal) said some of the signature programs to be developed include wilderness programs, youth camps and family retreats that accentuate Glorieta’s uniqueness.

“For decades people have come to Glorieta to meet with the Lord and experience spiritual growth through quality conferences and programming,” he said. “Glorieta is truly a God-placed campus with much potential.”

“We’ve seen a lot of success at the Ridgecrest boys and girls camps in North Carolina,” Hal Hill said. “What makes those camps unique is the focus on personalized, intentional discipleship. At



*Hal Hill*

Glorieta we will nurture this same idea and look for ways we can focus on individuals and groups while adding our own signature programs.”

In expanding the programming and developing new innovative camps at Glorieta, LifeWay will continue to place a major emphasis on Centrifuge, a youth camp that focuses on personal discipleship.

“Centrifuge has historically been the biggest and best offering for kids and young people, and we want to

build on that at Glorieta,” Hal Hill said. “The signature programs we develop through LifeWay Conference Centers will complement Centrifuge and utilize the strengths that are already in place.”

Hill replaces Steve Grassfield, who had served as general manager of Glorieta since January 2004. Hill worked in LifeWay’s church recreation department for five years before becoming director of SAMBICA Camp and Conference Center near Seattle. He returned to LifeWay in 2003 as national event planner before being named national camp manager for LifeWay Conference Centers. He serves as a board member of the Christian Adventure Association and is an author and trainer in adventure education. A graduate of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, he also worked for the Georgia Baptist Convention and the Brotherhood Commission and has served on staff at three churches. ■

# Bret Robbe joins LifeWay's leadership, adult publishing area

**B**ret Robbe, former pastor of ClearView Baptist Church in Franklin, Tenn., was named director of LifeWay's leadership and adult publishing area and started work at LifeWay on July 1.

The leadership and adult publishing area produces all materials for adults in Sunday school, discipleship, magazines, devotionals, and undated studies such as the Bible studies by Beth Moore and Henry Blackaby. This work also includes materials for leaders in churches.

"Bret Robbe comes from a wealth of church experience, education and background," said John Kramp, vice president of LifeWay's church resources division. "Bret has been a strong supporter

of LifeWay, with an impressive track record of leading and growing churches in different settings. As a pastor, author and conference leader, as well as a proven spiritual leader, Bret will help us take our work to the next level. I appreciate his strong focus on relationships and am thankful that God led him to this strategic ministry."

Robbe joined managing directors Ron Brown and Larry Dry and performance analyst Louann Dickson in leading this area of work.

Robbe received a doctorate in ministry from The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., and is currently working on an MBA degree. He and his wife, Judy, have two daughters. ■



*Bret Robbe*

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# Centri-Cruise to the Bahamas sends home ministry postcards

*written and photographed by Kelly Davis*



*(Clockwise from top) Students from FBC, Thomasville, Ga., ponder their week of ministry; Parachute toss was a favorite game of the children; the views most tourists see don't show the ministry needs in the Bahamas; Becky Cox, Pathways Community Church in Bel Air, Md., offers a cup of cool water.*

It's 100 degrees in the tropical heat as the American students stand in a courtyard scattered with tire-less tricycles and deflated soccer balls. Unsure of how the local orphans will accept them, the students do the only thing they know to do: inflate new soccer balls and spend the day showing the kids God's love.

A few blocks away, another group of students brave the intense heat and organize a Vacation Bible School outside an unfinished church

building. The volunteers gather under a tent and sing songs about Father Abraham and share stories about creation and redemption.

Meanwhile, down the street, other team members lead a sports camp, while another youth group paints dilapidated schoolrooms.

It's all in a day of mission work in the most unexpected location: the Bahamas.

On June 24, more than 160 high school and college students, along with sponsors, sailed to Nassau, the capital of the Bahamas. The inaugural LifeWay-sponsored Centri-Cruise event offered a unique opportunity for students to share their faith at a popular destination.

The week-long event featured two evenings on a day-cruiser, two beach outings and three ministry days in Nassau.

"Centri-Cruise offered a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for senior high and college-aged students to engage in international





ministry,” said Joe Hicks, LifeWay’s lead coordinator of Centrifuge in the student events department. “Sometimes we forget about places like the Bahamas for ministry because the first thing we think about is tourism. But a mile or two off the beach you’ll find poverty and Christian communities that can use Christians from the U.S. to partner with them in ministry.”

### Two sides to every island

Known for its white, sandy beaches and crystal clear water, the chain of islands in the Atlantic Ocean boasts a variety of diversions for vacation-seeking tourists. Yet Centri-Cruise missions volunteers ventured beyond the resort setting to work in areas most vacationers don’t see.

Maggie Burns, 17, and Nicole Cox, 18, both from Pathways Community Church in Bel Air, Md., spent three days ministering at the local children’s home and orphanage.

“Through this experience on Centri-Cruise I have grown closer to the Lord,” Burns said. “Ministering in the Bahamas reaffirms that all things are possible through God. After working in the orphanages, I feel more confident to share my faith and tell people about God.”

Cox said the experience at the orphanage made her count her blessings. “I am so thankful and rejoice in everything that I have. The kids we visited have so much less, yet they are so happy. In one orphanage there was only one bag of shoes for all the kids. It just reminded me of how many



*Top: Katelyn Barnette, a freshman at the University of Louisiana in Monroe, said Centri-Cruise gave her a new vision for international missions.*

*Left: Messiah Baptist Church was the site of Vacation Bible School. More than 85 children attended.*

shoes I own and that we are so blessed.”

Terry Barnes, youth pastor at Parkview Baptist Church in Monroe, La., accompanied a group of 19 students from his church, and said that he didn't want to miss the inaugural Centri-Cruise event because of the chance it gave students to share the gospel.

“Centrifuge is always a summer staple in the diet of our youth group,” said Barnes, whose team taught Vacation Bible School at Rehobeth Ministries in Nassau. “Since Centri-Cruise is a first-year event I wanted my senior high and college students to be involved because of the unique missions opportunity. I also knew the students would enjoy the trip itself because Fuge is behind it.”

Philip Rahming, pastor of Rehobeth Ministries, said the Centri-Cruise volunteers made a lasting impact on the children during VBS. “We have so enjoyed the grace of God through this team,” he said. “We are so excited to partner with this team in ministry. The children are already asking when the volunteers can return.”

“God knows how much of an impact this team had on the kids,” Rahming said. “During VBS, a member of the volunteer group simply held a small boy all day. Little did she know that the boy's mom is at home sick and unable to take care of him. That volunteer showed Christ's love to that little boy.”

### The focus on missions

Landon Dowden, pastor of Crosspoint Baptist Church in Baton Rouge, La., accompanied the students and delivered morning and evening sermons.

“We are called to be missional people,” Dowden said, referencing 1 Corinthians 9:19-27. “Missional people live in one big neighborhood called the world,” he said. “What's important is that you have a global mindset and understand that God wants us to reach lost souls.”

Hicks said the event was a “unanimous success” and emphasized the need for the younger generation to engage in the Great Commission, “even if a beach and resort are what it takes for students to become mission minded.” ■

## The Bahamas fast facts

*Location: The Bahamas are a chain of islands in the Atlantic Ocean*

*Population: more than 300,000*

*Capital: Nassau, on the island of New Providence*

*Reference point: Nassau is 185 miles east of Miami*

*Size: The island of New Providence is 21 miles long and seven miles wide.*

*Language: English*

*Currency: \$1 Bahamian = \$1 USD*

*Land mass: Approximately 700 islands and 2,000 cays (pronounced “keys”) make up the Bahamas. Cays are low banks of coral, rock or sand.*

*Climate: Tropical marine*





# X-Fuge

## campers embrace opportunity to serve

*written by Brooklyn Noel, photos by Blake Noel*

**S**an Diego locals don't seem inclined to relocate, and it's easy to see why.

The Southern California city boasts miles of exquisite cliff-lined Pacific Coast, elite shopping boutiques in open-air malls, trendy outdoor cafes and the relaxed atmosphere of an area content with its upper-class persona.

But drive 20 miles south down I-5 and the environment changes dramatically. You arrive in Tijuana, Mexico, a city the color of faded bricks where scrap metal and discarded tires form homes and the drinking water isn't safe.

More than half of the 750 students who attended LifeWay's X-Fuge camp in San Diego July 5-9, however, chose to spend the bulk of their camp day in Tijuana and other local areas in need instead of enjoying free time in comfort.

This summer marked X-Fuge's inaugural year on the West Coast and camp organizers at LifeWay implemented a mission track option in addition to regular free time and breakout sessions.

X-Fuge coordinator Jason Ellerbrook said LifeWay decided to offer the mission track after youth directors expressed an interest in attending a camp that allowed them to do missions as a church.

"I think there's a great need in California, particularly Southern California, for a camp that will offer missions," Ellerbrook

said. "These students are dying to go out and make a difference, to be revolutionary. We're fulfilling a need that's already there."

For three days, students and leaders headed to various locations in and around San Diego. Each group took the tools necessary for work at their assigned mission sites including everything from paintbrushes to colored sand and soccer balls to bits of candy.

Each group also took a willingness to serve.

### Down in the dumps

"Muy bonita," Sandra Ladd proclaimed as she coated tiny fingernails with glittering silver polish. Hundreds of fingers later, countless grinning girls waved hands that contributed a bit of sparkle to the otherwise dingy Tijuana dump they call home.

Ladd, youth director at First Christian Church, Stillwater, Okla., knew the students in her youth group wanted to experience something new and deeply touching at camp this summer.

Watching her 30 students exchange high-fives with more than 200 children they had never met, deliver food to hungry families and paint ramshackle shelters in impoverished Tijuana, she knew LifeWay's X-Fuge camp had met their needs.

"The kids were ecstatic from when they first heard [about the mission work in Tijuana]," Ladd said.

*Facing Page:  
Carman Murphy,  
youth group member  
from First Christian  
Church in Stillwa-  
ter, Okla., spends  
a loving moment  
with a young girl in  
Tijuana, Mexico.*



*Above: Sarah Elliott (left), from First Christian Church in Stillwater, Okla., helps Medina color a picture at Centro Shalom, a church in Tijuana. Facing page: Kerri Bruce, also from First Christian, helps another child with a craft activity.*

During three scorching days south of the border the youth helped children choose crayons for coloring pictures, blew bubbles that burst on eager fingertips and swung jump ropes through the sweltering air.

Rousing games of soccer erupted in the barren lot adjacent to Centro Shalom, the church that served as the mission site headquarters. Even the choking clouds of dust that rose with every kick of a royal blue ball couldn't hide the joy of children and youth alike enjoying one another's company.

"I knew that coming to Mexico would be a life-changing experience," said Katy Wilkinson, who will begin school at Baldwin Wallace College in Berea, Ohio, this fall. "I wanted to learn to be much more selfless and to not take so much for granted."

Ladd said the leaders and sponsors spent time prior to camp helping students understand the many aspects of mission work.

"We just had to help them understand that when you go out and minister to others it really benefits you," Ladd said. "This has given them a greater perspective. It's not about guilt – it's about an awareness of what's out there and being able to help."

Each evening, the First Christian youth group gathered to discuss their perceptions of the day. Sponsor Tanner Ladd, Sandra Ladd's son, said that time together ran the gamut from broken weeping to gleeful recollections.

"I think our kids were surprised by how happy the Tijuana kids are with what little they had," Tanner Ladd said, recalling the discussion during the meeting after the first day. "I just hope [the students] go home and appreciate what they have – not that they feel guilty, just blessed."

## Stateside conversions

Because of the language barrier, the work in Tijuana didn't provide many opportunities for traditional sharing of the gospel, but a youth group working at Set Free, a ministry to addicts, the homeless and hopeless just outside downtown San Diego, had the chance to sow some seeds and even reap a little of the harvest.

Foothills Church, a Southern Baptist congregation in Las Vegas, took 22 students to X-Fuge this summer. Parent volunteer Tracy Bogdanovich explained that each of the students spent time prior to camp preparing to teach, complete crafts and otherwise implement LifeWay's Arctic Edge VBS curriculum for the children at Set Free.



Before their final day of ministry even began, the students already had seen nine children and one adult receive Christ as Savior, an event Set Free attempts to accomplish every day.

For three days, X-Fuge campers from Foothills Church gathered near Set Free's sparkling swimming pool and in unused community rooms to offer the ministry's youngest

residents a little distraction from the everyday difficulties they often face.

Youth laughed and encouraged blindfolded preschoolers as they bumped into tables and chairs during an activity designed to illustrate the story of Paul and Ananias. Meanwhile, a poolside awning sheltered older children and youth as they completed crafts, performed dramas of Bible stories and otherwise spent time together.

"It's fun because we get to teach these kids about God," said youth group member Anna Lutschkin. "It's important to help people because sometimes they don't have very much."

## Bringing it home

X-Fuge speakers Bryan Currie and James Jackson spent the week focused on teaching campers about revolution, and pointed back to the impact X-Fuge's made at various mission sites.

"Folks, today you made history in someone's life," Jackson, a student events coordinator at LifeWay, told the crowd on closing night. "You've influenced people's history this week and what if, by influencing their history, you influenced their eternity?" ■

"You've influenced people's history this week and what if, by influencing their history, you influenced their eternity?"

— James Jackson

For more information about X-Fuge and other Centrifuge-related camps, go to [www.lifeway.com/fuge](http://www.lifeway.com/fuge).

# Reopened LifeWay Store is a gift of hope to New Orleans

by Keith Manuel



Photos by Kent Harville



*Top: Brantley Scott, manager of the newly reopened LifeWay Christian Store in New Orleans, speaks during the reopening ceremony.*

*Directly Above: Chuck Kelley, president of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, and city councilwoman Cynthia Hedge Morrell cut the ribbon at the May 12 campus LifeWay Christian Store reopening.*

Closed since suffering damage during Hurricane Katrina, the New Orleans LifeWay Christian Store, located on the campus of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, reopened May 12 during a celebration ceremony attended by seminary officials and students, local officials and pastors.

“What is the significance of opening a bookstore in New Orleans at time like this?” asked seminary president Chuck Kelley during the reopening ceremony. “This store is a reminder that Jesus is Lord and there is hope. One of the most important gifts Southern Baptists have given to New Orleans is hope.”

The LifeWay store, prominently located in the student union area of the seminary, was spared from the flooding during Katrina’s storms that caused heavy damage to most of the campus.

But because of the humidity in the building when the loss of power shut down the air conditioning system, the entire stock of merchandise was ruined.

LifeWay's home office sent a group of managers from other stores and visual specialists to restock the shelves and prepare the store for operation in about four days.

"We came in on a Monday to train three new employees," assistant store manager William Jackson Jr. said. "Typically, we have a staff of 20 to 25. We are down to a staff of five now. The team came in on Wednesday and got the store set up with merchandise, the systems up and running, computers, phones and Internet and had us open for Monday, May 1."

Staff and students of the New Orleans seminary worked hard to restore the campus to an environment that would sustain classes. "The campus police told me there has not been a day gone by in the past couple of months that someone didn't stop and ask them if LifeWay is open," new store manager Brantley Scott said.

New Orleans City Councilperson Cynthia Hedge-Morrell came to the reopening ceremony to thank Baptists for reopening the bookstore. "You are a beacon to this community. I don't think you even understand the emotional impact this store reopening is going to have on this community," she said. "When your neighbors see what you have been able to do, those who are struggling to rebuild their homes, they are going to know their community is coming back."

Bruce Munns, director of store operations for LifeWay, said that out of all the stories that will come from the New Orleans LifeWay store, the story of the ministry that will take place in it would be the most repeated.

"I suspect over the next few weeks, over the next few months, and even years we are going to be hearing stories about what is going on in this community and what is going on with the people coming in this store. They are going to be pretty powerful. It is exciting to be a part of this seminary," Munns said. ■



Photo by Jimmy Draper

*Within a few days of Katrina's devastation of New Orleans, National Guard troops were offered refuge in the LifeWay Christian Store on the New Orleans Seminary campus.*

# Women's enrichment events leader is no stranger to compassionate ministry

by Polly House

**I**magining big events is easy. Making them happen is tough. But Paige Greene is a woman with amazing energy who can make things happen.

Greene joined LifeWay in January as director of women's enrichment events. In that role, the North Carolina native is responsible for a staff of seven women and, believe it or not, one man.



Photo by Kent Harville

The women's enrichment events area facilitates and coordinates events such as Living Proof Live with Beth Moore, Mom Time Getaway with Lisa Whelchel, DayBreak with Priscilla Shirer and Angela Thomas and Your Girl with Vicki Courtney. The work this staff does is remarkable, not only because of its scope, but because of the number of women directly influenced through these events.

Before coming to LifeWay, Greene was community relations manager for Operation Christmas Child at Samaritan's Purse in Boone, N.C., the ministry led by evangelist Franklin Graham. "I loved what I did at Samaritan's Purse. It is an incredible ministry," she said. "I

never thought I would have a reason to go anywhere else."

But, when the opportunity to lead the women's enrichment events area at LifeWay was presented to her, she said she was intrigued.

"I knew that LifeWay sponsored these amazing events with all these godly women," she said. "I really didn't have a background in large event planning, but from my work at Samaritan's Purse, I knew a successful event looked easy only when a lot of hard work and detailed planning had been done behind the scenes. I walked into a very healthy ministry area here at LifeWay with an incredible team in place. I am still learning the process from them and absolutely love it."

Greene said one of the parts of her job she enjoys most is working with her team. "They are amazing," she said. "I have learned so much from watching how they can put together these events for thousands of women. Their skills and spiritual maturity humble me. I've also been amazed at the quality of the volunteers from the different cities where we go, just how much they do to prepare for our coming. They start with so much prayer."

LifeWay's women's enrichment events area is often singled out for the work they do and the people they touch. In 2005 alone, they had a direct impact on more than 150,000 women who attended 13 events and simulcasts across the country. And while Greene doesn't look at numbers as the litmus test for a successful ministry, "the greater the numbers, the more lives we are able to touch."

Events are designed to meet spiritual and emotional needs of women of all age groups,

**"I walked into a very healthy ministry area here at LifeWay with an incredible team in place. I am learning the process from them and absolutely love it."**

– Paige Greene

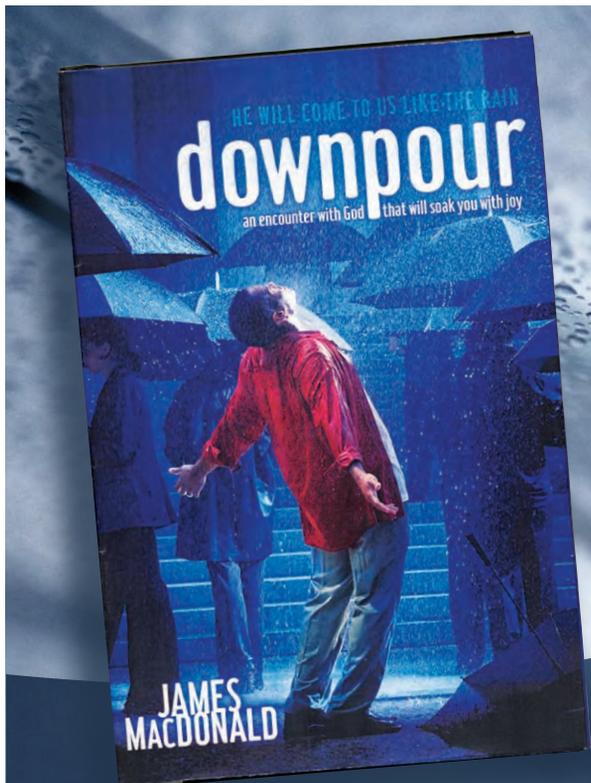
levels of spiritual maturity and stations in life. "We know that some women want depth, some need support and some just need a time to be refreshed and to have some fun. We want to meet all those needs," she said.

A special quality Greene brings to her work is compassion. "I went through a divorce a couple of years ago and it was devastating. What I learned through that difficult journey is that God is a God of deliverance and healing. I want women to know that whatever life hands them, God is big enough to hold them and walk with them through the time of darkness. I want our events to reach women from all walks of life to help them see that hope and fullness are on the other side of grief."

Not one to just look at the here and now, Green said she is looking forward to 2007, when they launch two new women's enrichment events that will take women even deeper into the Word and take them beyond their current level of spiritual growth.

The first new event is called Deeper Still, featuring the teaching of Beth Moore, Priscilla Shirer and Kay Arthur. There will also be another event with Shirer called Going Beyond. "Priscilla is an up and coming Bible teacher with enormous depth and potential," Greene said. "We want more women to benefit from her teaching. These events will stretch our ministry in new directions for 2007 and years to come." ■

For more info on LifeWay's women's enrichment events, visit [www.lifeway.com/women](http://www.lifeway.com/women).



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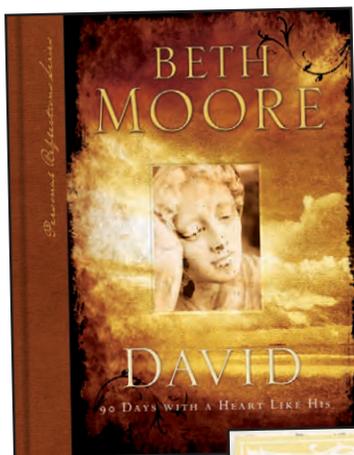
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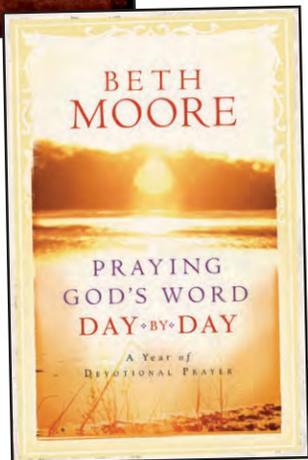
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## B&H Publishing Group



■ **David: 90 Days with A Heart Like His Personal Reflections Series**

by **Beth Moore**  
Best-selling author Beth Moore has an undeniable gift for insightful Bible character studies. Millions have been drawn to her inspired lessons, and the media have called her “America’s Bible teacher.” The Personal Reflections series reintroduces Moore’s most-loved books, expanding them into 90-day experiences that include the text of her original work, thoughtful questions, journal space



and an audio CD with Moore’s teaching to guide readers through this special time of study. *David* is a multifunctional new presentation of Moore’s classic *A Heart Like His*.

Releases Oct. 1.  
Hardcover, B&H product #0-8054-4427-0, \$24.99

■ **Praying God’s Word Day-By-Day**

by **Beth Moore**  
With half a million copies in print, *Praying God’s Word* is author Beth Moore’s best-selling

release to date. A landmark book among women and men, it continues to serve readers in “tearing down strongholds by captivating our minds

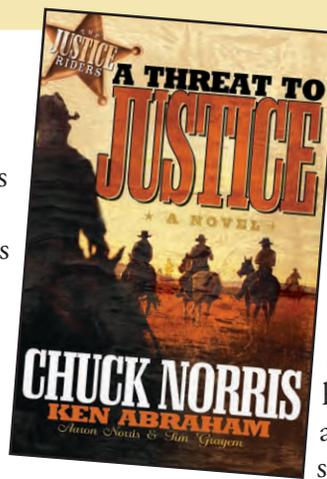
with the knowledge of God” (2 Corinthians 10:3-5). Now, the perennial favorite is available in a convenient day-by-day reading format.

Releases Oct. 1.  
Hardcover, B&H product #0-8054-4420-3, \$14.99

■ **A Threat to Justice**

by **Chuck Norris, Ken Abraham, Aaron Norris, Tim Grayem**

*A Threat to Justice*, book two in The Justice Riders series from Chuck Norris and friends, finds Ezra Justice and his elite group of special



operation soldiers having gone their separate ways just after the Civil War. But not for long. When General Sherman needs a team to combat the armed resistance against President Grant and his efforts to reconstruct America, Justice rides again.

Releases Sept. 1.  
Paperback, B&H product #0-8054-4033-X, \$15.99

■ **Against All Odds: My Story**

by **Chuck Norris with Ken Abraham**  
Millions of people worldwide know Chuck Norris as the star of more than 20 motion pictures, a martial arts expert, and the first man in the western hemisphere to hold an eighth degree Black Belt Grand Master in Tae Kwon Do. Others see him in syndicated television reruns as, “Walker, Texas Ranger.” What many don’t know is that Norris is a sincere Christian. *Against All Odds* is the inspirational

story of how Norris overcame childhood poverty, the effects of his father’s alcoholism and desertion, and his own shyness and lack of strength early in his life. Norris

writes candidly about the past and gives God full credit for where he is today.

Releases Sept. 1.  
Paperback, B&H product #0-8054-4421-1, \$14.99

■ **BeTween**

by **Vicki Courtney**  
An insightful book for preteen girls that looks and reads like an irresistibly fun magazine, *BeTween* offers a wealth of wisdom to a booming and most impressionable audience. Through colorful articles, quizzes, games and lists, girls age 8-12 are encouraged to grow spiritually and socially. Still, most admirably, the book



encourages girls to enjoy being their age rather than succumbing to modern culture's temptations to grow up too fast.

Releases Oct. 1.  
 Paperback, B&H product #0-8054-4193-X, \$14.99

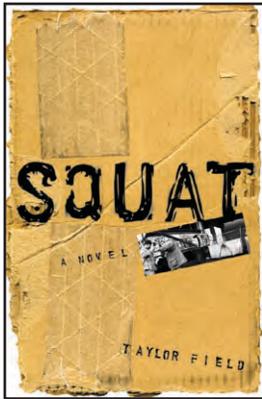
■ ***Santa Fe Woman***  
 by Gilbert Morris

Ever since her mother's death, 22-year-old Jori Hayden has lived safely under the shelter of her wealthy father. But when the severe economic depression of the 1800s destroys the family's fortune, the Haydens must venture west together along the Santa Fe Trail in search of a new livelihood. In a journey marked with danger at every turn, romance, faith and family prove to be the biggest fortunes of all.

Releases Sept. 1.  
 Paperback, B&H product #0-8054-3289-2, \$14.99

■ ***Squat***  
 by Taylor Field

"We live in a squat. We don't know squat. We don't have squat. We don't do squat. We don't give a squat. People say we're not worth squat." In the shadow of Wall Street's wealth, homeless people with names like



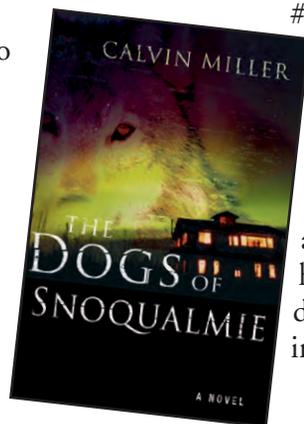
Squid, Saw and Bonehead live in abandoned buildings known as "squats" where life is hand to mouth, where fear and violence fester.

The light in Squid's obsessive-compulsive mind's eye is Rachel, a loving soup kitchen missionary who tells him about faith and finding identity in God. Soon, Squid begins to believe

that his life may actually amount to something. Releases Sept. 1.  
 Paperback, B&H product #0-8054-3292-2, \$14.99

■ ***The Dogs of Snoqualmie***  
 by Calvin Miller

Snoqualmie, a valley east of Seattle, is the fertile setting for a new fiction trilogy from esteemed storyteller Calvin Miller, who adds a daring dash of fantasy to magnify his view of Christian truth. In this book of the trilogy, a soon-to-be-divorced Jewish psychiatrist is counseling a murderer who has trained his German Shepherd to kill. His next target is a New Age feminist whose



environmental pull has pushed his hot buttons. Amidst the drama, a demented priest and his wolf companion emerge as Christlike symbols that take these characters to the edge of faith, bringing forth a peaceable kingdom.

Releases Sept. 1.  
 Paperback, B&H product #0-8054-4347-9, \$15.99

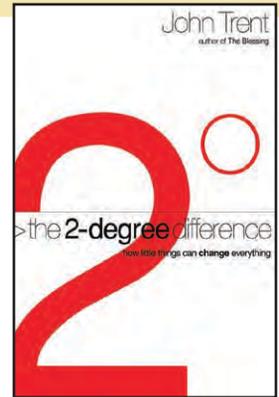
■ ***Recipe for Life***  
 by Graham Kerr & Treena Kerr

"Galloping Gourmet" Graham Kerr and his wife, Treena, have spent the past 20 years embracing a Christlike lifestyle they call "outdulgence." The Kerrs share the transforming recipe for life that trades constant consumption and self-serving for creative simplicity and healthy self-denial that's designed to benefit others. It's a deep and delightful approach to what Jesus described when He said, "I have come that they may have life and have it in abundance."

Releases Sept. 1.  
 Hardcover, B&H product #0-8054-4068-2, \$19.99

■ ***The 2-Degree Difference***

by John Trent  
 Best-selling author John Trent has realized that, despite the boom in spiritual books



pointing to the promise of a more meaningful life, the process of actually changing one's life is still too overwhelming to hundreds of thousands of readers. *The 2-Degree Difference* is his response to that reality. This dynamic book begins with the parable of a man who has tried every motivational resource available, but still keeps falling apart. That is until two men – a world apart – show him how to move from wanting to change to actually changing, two degrees at a time. Following the parable, Trent provides real-life insight along with a study guide that any person or small group can use to keep moving forward.

Releases Oct. 1.  
 Hardcover, B&H product #0-8054-3064-4, \$19.99

■ ***Prayers for the Moment***

by Jim and Kaye Johns  
 This conveniently sized prayer book helps us find discipline in praying for a wide variety of people and situations. Each concise

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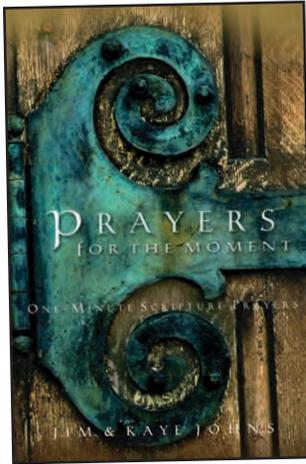


entry is derived from the Bible and falls into one of several easy-to-follow sections. There are prayers for our closest friends and family; for clergy, military officials, and missionaries; for those seeking salvation, enduring trials and more. An alphabetical listing of individual prayers by topic guarantees that a prayer for any given moment is always within reach.

Releases Sept. 1. Imitation leather with gift box, B&H product #0-8054-4400-9, \$12.99

■ **Advent: The Season of Promise**  
 by David M. Edwards

Every season brings a new reason to praise and worship God. The revelations of His magnificent creation are celebrated in *Through the Seasons*, a new book-and-music devotional series from award-winning songwriter David M.



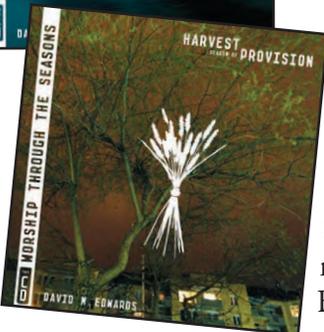
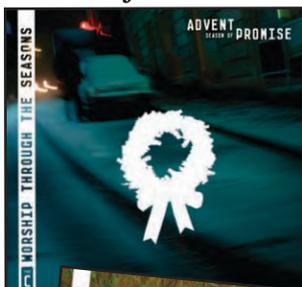
Edwards. Advent returns to the miracle of Christ's birth, focusing on the deep promises that are found in the greatest story ever told. A bonus CD of related worship songs complements

the colorfully written devotions. Releases Oct. 15. Hardcover with CD (15-minute run time), B&H product #0-8054-4324-X, \$12.99

■ **Harvest: The Season of Provision**  
 by David M. Edwards

Autumn marvels at God's faithful provision and brings new spiritual focus to the time of harvest season and Thanksgiving. A bonus CD of like-minded worship songs complements the colorfully

written devotions. Releases Oct. 15. Hardcover with CD (15-minute run time), B&H product #0-8054-4333-9, \$12.99



■ **The Christ of Christmas**  
 by Calvin Miller

More and more people are now looking for ways to celebrate the Advent season. This modern favorite from Calvin Miller, now in a cozy jacketed hardcover edition, features brief everyday

devotions for the entire month of December that bring readers back to the very first Christmas. Each devotion includes a full-page Scripture reading, main message, call-out quote and written prayer. It's also perfect for group study or family time. Releases Oct. 1.

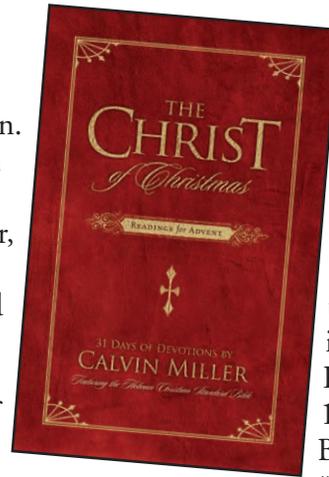
Hardcover, B&H product #0-8054-4419-X, \$9.99

■ **Home School Heroes: The Struggle & Triumph of Home Schooling in America**

by Christopher Klicka  
*Home School Heroes: The Struggle & Triumph of Home Schooling in America* covers the history of the modern homeschool movement, with many stories of God's faithfulness to homeschool families fighting in court for the right to educate their

children. It is a book that can be read by older kids and adults alike. *Home School Heroes* concludes

with a call to readers to remain vigilant and active in protecting our precious freedom to teach children in God's ways. Releases Sept. 1. Paperback, B&H product #0-8054-2600-0, \$14.99



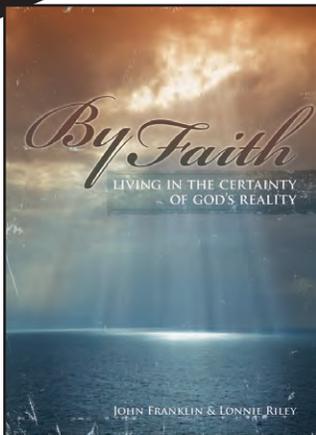
**LifeWay Church Resources**

■ **2007 Baptist Doctrine Study, By Faith: Living in the Certainty of God's Reality**

by John Franklin and Lonnie Riley  
 The *2007 Baptist Doctrine Study, By Faith: Living in the Certainty of God's Reality*, examines more closely the biblical meaning of faith and challenges participants to apply their faith daily. This practical, six-session study looks at how God wants us to grow in a faith relationship with Him. Join pastor John Franklin, author of *A House of Prayer*, and Lonnie Riley, the North American Mission Board's 2004 Missionary of the Year, for a remarkable lesson in

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discovering God's reality when we're willing to pray, have patience and, most importantly, live by faith.

Releases in October.  
LifeWay product #1-4158-2582-3, \$7.95

## ■ *Come to the Lord's Table: A Sacred Assembly for the Church* by Claude King

Just as Jesus sat down at the table with His disciples for the Last Supper, He is eager to have communion with His disciples today. Too often, however, we forget that the Lord's Table is a place where we are to renew our fellowship with Christ. *Come to the Lord's Table: A Sacred Assembly for the Church*, a powerful new resource created by the co-author of *Experiencing God*, will help you and your church prepare to meet Him there. You'll be guided

toward the cross, where Jesus most clearly showed His love for us. Featuring meditations by Andrew Murray, this four-session study will help individuals and families examine themselves so that they can partake of His Holy Supper and not just go through the motions. In addition to a built-in leader guide, the text also includes a section for pastors with suggestions for church-wide use of the study as well as preparation for observing the Lord's Supper.

Releases in September.  
LifeWay product #1-4158-3203-X, \$6.95

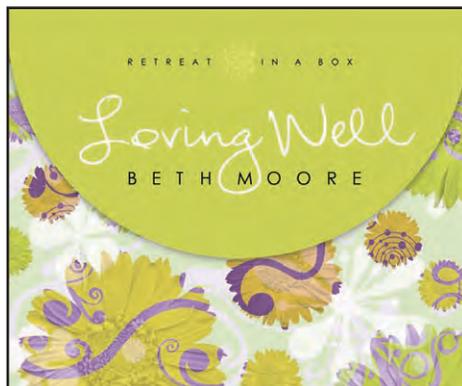
## ■ *Loving Well* by Beth Moore

So you're planning a women's retreat, and you're in charge of finding a guest speaker. Out of ideas? Running into scheduling conflicts? Limited time and resources? Whatever obstacles you're facing, *Loving Well* is a one-of-a-kind resource that will simplify planning this part of your next women's event – and features best-selling author Beth Moore as your guest speaker. At the heart of the *Loving Well*

*Leader Kit* are Moore's messages from one of her 2005 Living Proof Live events. Her compelling messages will help participants develop a better understanding of the biblical mandate to love. Included in the *Loving Well Leader Kit* are DVDs with the four-videotaped messages, a CD-ROM, lots of fun ideas and promotion materials. It also contains one copy of the *Loving Well Journal*, with 28 days of personal devotionals. In addition, the Leader Kit includes a bonus item/keepsake – the *Loving Well Tote Bag*, roomy enough to carry a Bible and *Loving Well Journal*.

Both the journal and tote are available separately, so order one for each participant. Not only is this unique resource a great “retreat-in-a-box,” it is also suitable for a month-long topical Bible study.

Releases in October.  
Leader Kit, LifeWay



product #1-4158-3215-3, \$99.95; Journal, LifeWay product #1-4158-2594-7, \$5.95; Tote bag, LifeWay product #1-4158-5206-5, \$4.95

## ■ *Bible Studies by Demand for Women DVDs, Vol. 2*

The second volume of women's drop-in, stand-alone Bible studies is now available. *Bible Studies by Demand for Women DVDs, Volume 2* features six popular authors' messages on DVDs. A separate CD-ROM contains the viewer guides for each session in a PDF for you to print as needed.

*Volume 2* video messages include: Session 1 from *Conversation Peace: The Power of Transformed Speech* by Mary Kassian; Session 4 from *Enjoy: A Thirst-Quenching Look at Philippians* by Tianne Moon; Session 8 from *Believing God: Experiencing a Fresh Explosion of Faith* by Beth Moore; Session 9 from *Jesus the One and Only* by Beth Moore; Session 1 from *Fingerprints of God: Recognizing God's Touch on Your Life* by Jennifer Rothschild; and Session 5 from *Creative Correction: The Bible Study* by Lisa Whelchel.

These popular authors bring inspiring lessons to women who hunger

for relevant Bible study and fellowship but have limited time to meet. Releases in October. LifeWay product #1-4158-3493-8, \$59.95

## LifeWay Worship Music Group

### ■ *Living Proof Live 3: The Lamb Has Overcome*

produced and arranged by Travis Cottrell

After several years of leading worship for Beth Moore's Living Proof Live events, Travis Cottrell has compiled a third recording of worship hits. Ideal for any size group, this music

will move everyone to extend the deeper level of worship.

*Living Proof Live 3: The Lamb Has Overcome* is available with new, economical products that allow you to better equip your praise team, rhythm band or entire choir. The singer's edition book, which contains vocal lines only, fits neatly in each member's choir folder and neatly in your budget. Listening CDs are now conveniently packaged in packs of 5 as a price saver and to provide more copies for those in your worship ministry. The CD Promo Pak is available for

you to hear every song and determine how your choir can present this project.

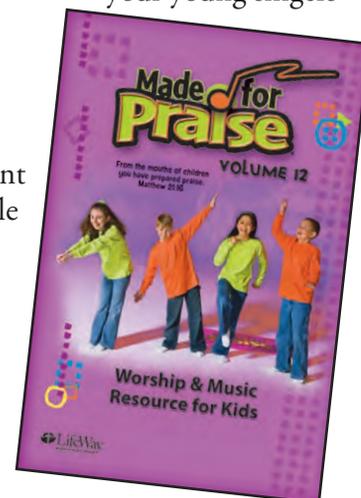
Titles include "He Reigns/Awesome God," "Holy," "I Give You Everything," "In the Sanctuary," "The Lamb Has Overcome," "Lord, You're Holy," "Made Me Glad," and others.

Songbook, Product #1-4158-3619-1, \$14.95; Enhanced accompaniment CD; Listening CD (single or pack of 5); Singer's edition and CD Promo Pak are also available.

■ *Made for Praise, Volume 12* arranged by Barney

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and prepare your leaders with everything they need. *Volume 12* includes mini-performance ideas, dramas, choral readings, energizer songs on DVD for children to learn choreography and more. *Made for Praise* songs can be used any time your children perform in a service, and you can pull out songs for use at any time while you also teach. Downloadable chord charts are now available from [www.lifeway.com/madeforpraise](http://www.lifeway.com/madeforpraise). Titles include “God of All,” “God Is,” “The Only God,” “You Are Good,” “I Could Sing of Your Love Forever,” “Blessed Be the Name of the Lord,” “Who Is Our God?” and others. Choral book, Product #1-4158-3316-8, \$6.95; Listening CD; Leader’s guide; Piano accompaniment; E-Chord charts (download only); and CD Promo Pak are also available.

## Non-Seasonal Anthems

■ ***Holy is the Lord*** words and music by **Louis Giglio and Chris Tomlin**, arranged and orchestrated by **Keith Christopher**

From beginning to end, this popular praise-and-worship anthem takes on new energy. Anthem, Product #1-4158-3409-1, \$1.50; CD anthem tracks, Product #1-4158-3389-3, \$24.95; Orchestration, Product #1-4158-3396-6, \$59.95

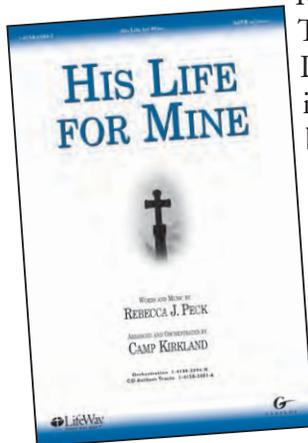
■ ***His Life for Mine*** words and music by **Rebecca J. Peck**, arranged and orchestrated by **Camp Kirkland**

Recorded by the Talley Trio, “His Life for Mine” is a gospel ballad with strong spiritual content.

Anthem, Product #1-4158-3384-2, \$1.50; CD anthem tracks, Product #1-4158-3401-6,

\$24.95; Orchestration, Product #1-4158-3394-X, \$59.95

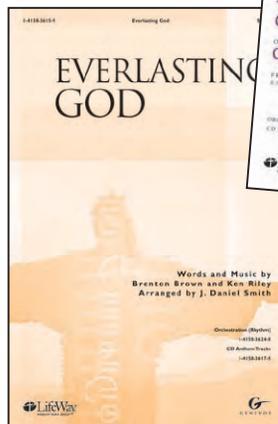
■ ***Glorious Impossible*** words and music by **Carl Cartee, Joe Beck, and Wendy Wills**; arranged and orchestrated by **Richard Kingsmore**



This lyrical anthem from the Gaither Vocal Band is accessible and fun to sing. Anthem, Product #1-4158-3385-0, \$1.50; CD anthem tracks, Product #1-4158-3402-4, \$24.95; Orchestration, Product #1-4158-3325-7, \$59.95

■ ***Everlasting God*** words and music by **Brenton Brown and Ken Riley**, arranged and orchestrated by **J. Daniel Smith**

This encouraging anthem from worship leader Brenton Brown is based on the title song of his newly released album from *Worship Together*. Anthem, Product #1-4158-3615-9, \$1.50; CD anthem tracks, Product #1-4158-3617-5, \$24.95; Rhythm charts, Product #1-4158-3624-8, \$24.95



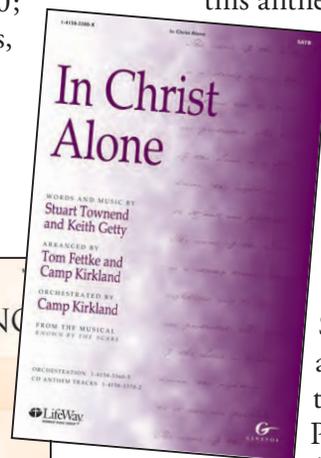
■ ***How Magnificent is Your Name*** words and music by **Margaret Becker and David M. Edwards**,

arranged and orchestrated by **Russell Mauldin**

Easy to sing, this worshipful song offers a soloist an expressive singing opportunity. Anthem, Product #1-4158-3411-3, \$1.50; CD anthem tracks, Product #1-4158-3404-0, \$24.95; Orchestration, Product #1-4158-3410-5, \$59.95

■ ***In Christ Alone*** words and music by **Stuart Townend and Keith Getty**, arranged by **Tom Fettke and Camp Kirkland**, orchestrated by **Camp Kirkland**

Solid arranging and vocal lines combined with a powerful text will make this anthem from

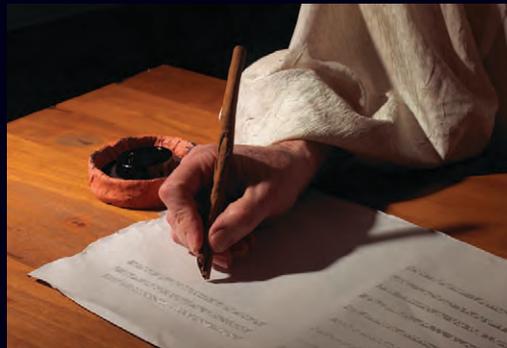


*Known by the Scars* a classic. Anthem, Product #1-4158-3380-X, \$1.50; CD anthem tracks, Product #1-4158-3370-

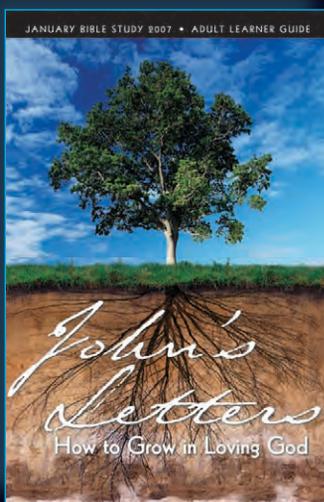
2, \$24.95; Orchestration, Product #1-4158-3360-5, \$59.95

■ ***Come, Glorify the Lord with Me*** words and music by **Dennis and Nan Allen**, arranged by **Dennis Allen** This original song with worshipful text from *Amazing God* is

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## John's Letters. How to Grow in Loving God



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Designed for **January Bible Study 2007**, *John's Letters: How to Grow in Loving God*, was written by Daniel Akin, president of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. Easy to read yet deep in content, *John's Letters* features interactive learning exercises throughout to challenge readers to make real life applications. With four sessions, each broken out into two lessons, this year's January Bible Study is versatile enough to adjust from the traditional four sessions up to eight.

**Adult Leader Guide** 1-4158-3220-X \$8.95

**Adult Learner Guide** 1-4158-3227-7 \$6.95

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transformed into an upbeat anthem of praise. Anthem, Product #1-4158-3400-8, \$1.50; CD anthem tracks, Product #1-4158-3365-6, \$24.95; Rhythm charts, Product #1-4158-3464-4, \$24.95

■ **We Speak to Nations words and music by Israel Houghton, arranged and orchestrated by Lari Goss**

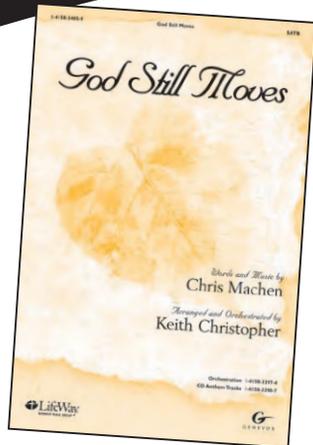
A powerful missions song from *Fill This Place* is amplified to create a high moment of praise.

Anthem, Product #1-4158-3381-8, \$1.50; CD anthem tracks, Product #1-4158-3366-4, \$24.95; Orchestration, Product #1-4158-3361-3, \$59.95

■ **With Thanksgiving and Praise (Package of Praise) arranged and orchestrated by Bruce Greer**

Blending popular worship songs with a hymn, this *Package of Praise* is appropriate for any time you want to sing thankfulness to the Lord. Titles include “How Great Is Our God,” “Great Is Thy Faithfulness” and “Give Thanks.”

Anthem, Product #1-4158-3377-X, \$3.50; CD anthem tracks, Product #1-4158-3367-2, \$35;



Orchestration, Product #1-4158-3326-5, \$75

■ **Glory Songs Anthems**

■ **God Still Moves words and music by Chris Machen, arranged and orchestrated by Keith Christopher**

This staple praise song is accessible, yet effective for SATB settings and congregational worship. Anthem, Product #1-4158-3405-9, \$1.50; CD anthem tracks, Product #1-4158-3390-7, \$24.95; Orchestration, Product #1-4158-3397-4, \$59.95

■ **I Sing the Mighty Power of God words and traditional English music by Isaac Watts, arranged and orchestrated by David Winkler**

With powerful lyrics, this classic hymn is set with contemporary flavor, creating a fresh anthem. Anthem, Product #1-4158-3406-7, \$1.50; CD anthem tracks, Product #1-4158-3391-5, \$24.95;

Orchestration, Product #1-4158-3398-2, \$59.95

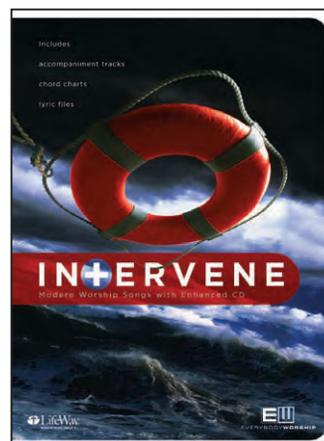
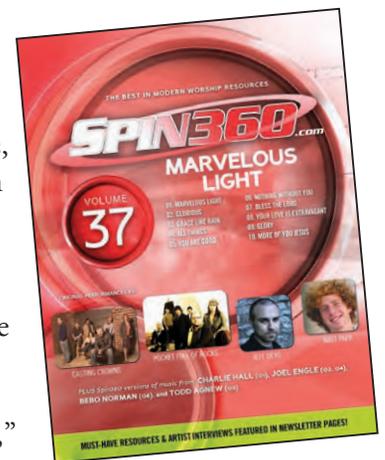
■ **Intervene compiled by various artists**

*Intervene*, the latest release from *Everybody Worship*, provides another opportunity to encourage every member of the body of Christ to enter into a common voice of praise. This one source includes everything a leader needs for the modern worshiper. You'll also find new worship songs from exclusive LifeWay songwriters Jeremy Johnson, Greg Nelson and Paul Marino. Songbook includes printed vocals and piano accompaniment, chord charts with lyrics, and enhanced CD with accompaniment tracks, chord charts, and lyric files for media display. Listen to samples online at [www.lifeway.com/everybodyworship](http://www.lifeway.com/everybodyworship). Titles include “Amazed,” “Everything About

You,” “Filled with Your Glory,” “I Am Alive,” “Intervene,” “Manna from Heaven” and others. *Songbook* (includes enhanced CD), Product #1-4158-3349-4, \$29.95; Listening CD, Product #1-4158-3350-8, \$16.98

■ **SPIN 360, Volume 37**

Developed with the worship leader and team in mind, each volume of *SPIN 360* includes 10 great contemporary worship songs and the tools you need to perform them. Using the most accessible and useful formats available, you'll



receive everything to lead worship with a complete worship band, a handful of skillful players or no musicians at all. From familiar favorites to the best new songs from around the world, each volume contains a listening CD, an enhanced CD, and a songbook with chord charts, full sheet music,

# Currently, about 600 million people make up the body of Christ.

## Which means more than 5 billion still don't.

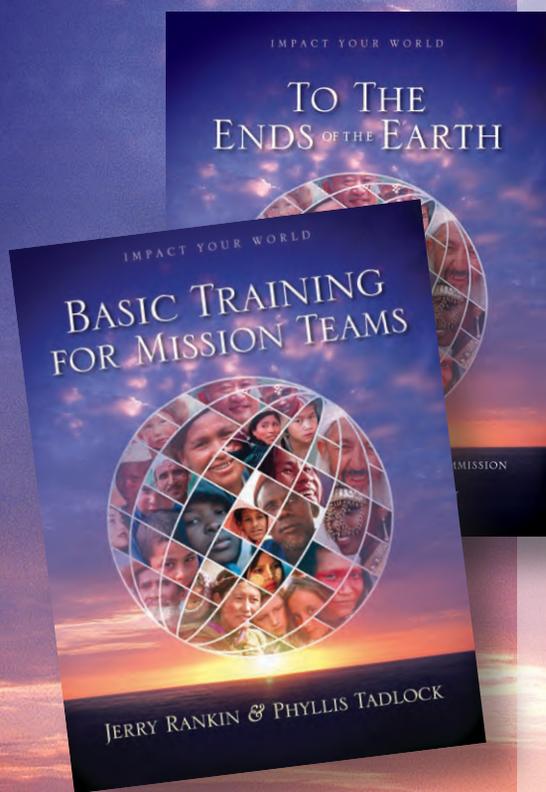
### Impact your world with two new resources from LifeWay and the International Mission Board.

Inspiring your church to fulfill the Great Commission just got easier. Take the first step with *To the Ends of the Earth*, a comprehensive look at missions from IMB president Jerry Rankin. He presents the crucial significance of Matthew 28:19 and offers insights and strategies on praying, partnering, and participating in missions work. The leader kit includes a trade book, workbook, and DVD with nine video segments.

If your church is already planning a trip, make the journey a more positive experience with *Basic Training for Mission Teams*. This thorough and practical guide covers everything from understanding the worldview and culture of your destination to packing wisely and traveling safely. The seven-session study includes timelines, checklists, and helpful tips that many missionaries learn the hard way. And you can learn it all *before* you leave.

For more information or to order, go to [www.LifeWay.com](http://www.LifeWay.com), call 1-800-458-2772, or visit the LifeWay Christian Store serving you.

Or order from the IMB at [www.resources.imb.org](http://www.resources.imb.org) or 1-800-999-3113.



**To the Ends of the Earth** | Leader Kit: 1-4158-2583-1 \$99.95 | Member Book: 1-4158-3532-2 \$12.95  
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# Resources

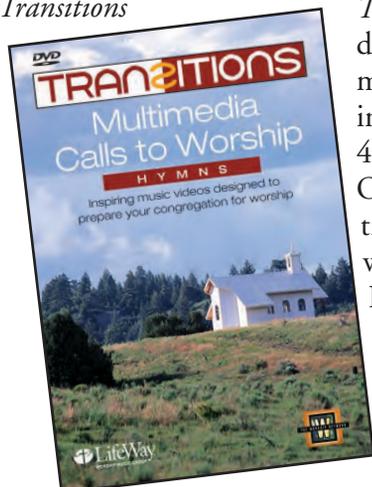
for you from LifeWay

printed lyrics, full vocal demonstrations, must-have resources, artist interviews and more in a variety of formats. *Volume 37* includes original tracks by artists such as Casting Crowns and Pocket Full of Rocks, plus *SPIN 360* versions of music from Charlie Hall, Joel Engle and Bebo Norman. Titles include “Marvelous Light,” “Glorious,” “Grace Like Rain,” “All Things,” “You Are Good,” “Nothing Without You” and others. *SPIN 360, Volume 37*, Product #1-4158-3607-8, \$34.95

Back issues also are available. Please call (800) 436-3869 for more information or visit [www.lifeway.com/spin360](http://www.lifeway.com/spin360).

## ■ Transitions

Two new titles from the *Transitions*



series are available to help your congregation experience worship before the service begins. Flexible for just about any time people gather to praise, this DVD resource features a variety of instrumental, solo voice and choral audio tracks combined with moving visual images that will help prepare hearts for worship. These versatile video images can be used with provided Scripture references or combined with MPEG-4 compatible presentation software to create your own texts. New features include quicker song access on the menu and onscreen information on each selection.

*Transitions (Non-Seasonal), Vol. 4*. Two discs, each including four, 15-minute videos for use in services any time of the year. Product #1-4158-3346-X, \$29.95

*Transitions (Hymns)*. One disc including four, 15-minute videos for use in services. Product #1-4158-3347-8, \$19.95

Order your free transitions promo DVD while supplies last.

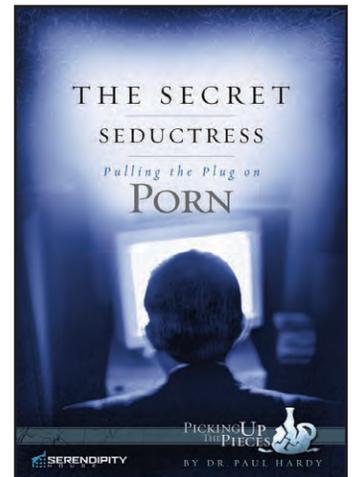
Product #0-9997-0425-7

## Serendipity

### ■ *Famine to Fairy Tale: Ruth's and Naomi's Path to Redemption* by Gene and Elaine Getz *Women of Purpose* series

Both incredible women, the intertwined stories of Ruth and Naomi teach us so much about how God can bring incredible joy out of tragic circumstances. From the opening scene in the book of Ruth, filled with famine and tragedy, to the almost fairy tale ending, we see the real-life struggles. Real life is messy, and these women are far from perfect. Yet, their faith and devotion through the pain and tragedy of life led each to experience unexpected joys, and the blessings that God was longing to give them. In the same way, God has unexpected joys for each of us today. Since the dawn of creation, women have played a vital role in human history, and the unfolding of God's plan of redemption. The Scriptures portray a wide variety of women courageous enough to make a difference. The *Women of Purpose* series highlights these women, who provide models for today's women who desire to live wholeheartedly for Jesus.

Product #1-5749-4230-1, \$7.99



### ■ *The Secret Seductress: Pulling the Plug on Porn*

#### *Picking up the Pieces* series

The news media frequently highlight concerns about pandemic outbreaks of disease, but the pandemic that's infecting millions, threatening to take out so many men and their families, is pornography. Issues with porn and sex addiction are at all-time highs in our society, even among Christian men. Coming to faith is Jesus does not remove the sexual issues, so men hide in shame and secrecy – those dark places the Enemy likes to work. Men need to join together to learn how to win this insidious, secret battle. Through the power of God and the support of

other men in the battle, we can pull the plug on porn and work toward lasting change and freedom. Product #1-5749-4229-8, \$7.99

■ ***Creating Mutual Funds: Financial Teamwork in Marriage*** by Tommy Nelson *Home ... Works* series

It's said that, "love makes the world go round." The Beatles used to sing, "Money can't buy me love." And the Bible proclaims that the "love of money is a root of all kinds of evil (HCSB)." Despite these sentiments, nobody – not even God – would disagree that money is vitally important in our world. What we would, and often do, disagree on is what to do with our money. It's no accident

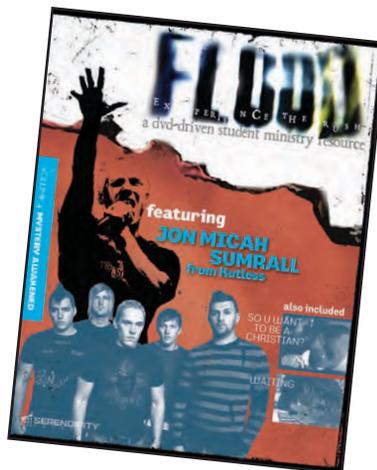
that there are more verses in the Bible related to finances than to any other subject.

Disagreement over finances consistently arises as one of the top issues in marriage. *Creating Mutual Funds* enables couples to learn from each other and from the Bible how to cooperate in marriage and manage money in a way that strengthens relationships and honors God.

Product #1-5749-4286-7, \$7.99

■ ***FLOOD Volume 4: Mystery Awakened*** **FLOOD** series

We want our lives and God to be nice, neat and comfortable. But the truth is that life is messy, our hearts are complex and God defies our



understanding. *Mystery Awakened* will stir within students a desire to accept God's call into the adventure, to submerge into the greater depth and to chart unknown areas within their hearts. Six powerful sessions and 12 original short films address key mysteries: the mysteries of truth, the gospel, our hearts, God, redemption and heaven.

If you're searching for a way to connect with your students in a powerful way and show them the redemptive story of the gospel in cutting-edge format, FLOOD is your answer. This DVD-driven resource combines the best of large-group energy with the best of small-group dynamics where students will learn to live a life of intimacy with Jesus, not simply another set of rules. FLOOD is all about going deeper.

Kit, Product #1-5749-4273-5, \$59.95

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