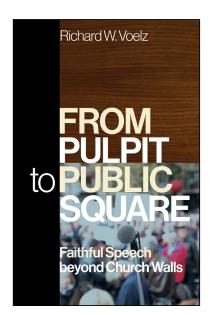
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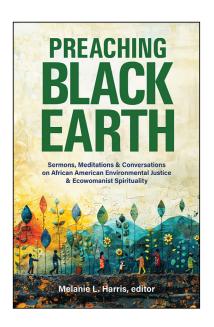
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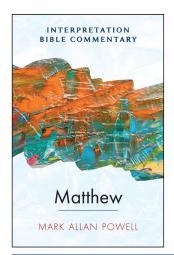
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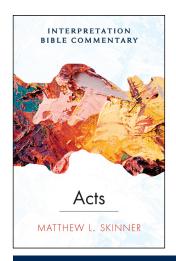
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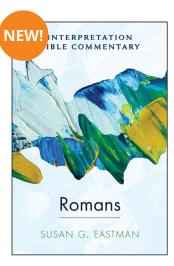
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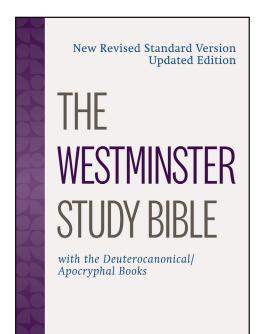
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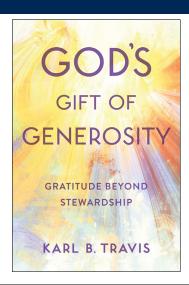
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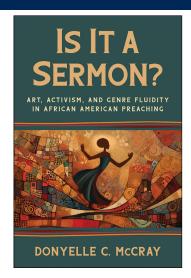
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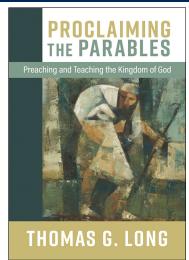


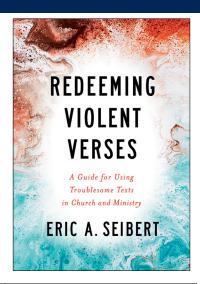


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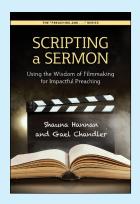




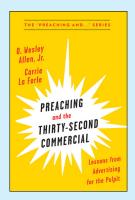




God's Gift of Generosity Gratitude beyond Stewardship	Is It a Sermon? Art, Activism, and Genre Fluidity in African American Preaching	Proclaiming the Parables Preaching and Teaching the Kingdom of God	Redeeming Violent Verses A Guide for Using Troublesome Texts in Church and Ministry
Karl B. Travis	Donyelle C. McCray	Thomas G. Long	Eric A. Seibert
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Tailored specifically for pastors and lay leaders navigating the delicate task of stewardship, this insightful book transcends the mundane "how" of giving to explore the profound "why" behind our acts of generosity. With a blend of scholarly insight, heartfelt conviction, and practical advice, this book serves as a beacon of wisdom and encouragement for those seeking to cultivate a spirit of generosity in their congregations, encouraging all to celebrate the timeless nature of God's generosity and translate its profound truths into transformative actions. Access a comprehensive group discussion and planning guide at www.wjkbooks.com/Generosity .	Donyelle McCray explores how preaching merges with prayer, song, performance, and activism – the gospel dancing in and out of the forms we create for it. By seeing the possibilities that emerge when we play at the shoreline, McCray seeks to discover what we might learn from these shoreline preachers about bearing witness, enacting Scripture, and listening to life. Key figures like Mahalia Jackson, Harriet Powers, Rosie Lee Tomkins, Thea Bowman, Howard Thurman, and Toni Morrison are examined as artists, activists, and proclaimers. She shines a new light on their work and points out how they reform preacherly identities and refuse traditional patterns of holding authority.	In Proclaiming the Parables, Thomas G. Long moves away from past treatment of the parables primarily as literary devices and toward an emphasis on their theological impact as pointers to the kingdom of God. This book offers two chapters on each Synoptic Gospel — one exploring the Gospel's overall message and the role of its parables, and the other providing detailed exegetical and homiletical commentary on each major parable. Preachers who consult this volume will be informed about each major parable, guided through the controversies regarding interpretation, and stimulated to preach on the parable in fresh, faithful, and creative ways.	In Redeeming Violent Verses, Eric Seibert focuses on a wide range of practical ways to use violent biblical texts responsibly in the church and beyond. With chapters devoted to using violent verses when preaching sermons, teaching Sunday school, and leading worship, this book is filled with guidelines and specific practices designed to help ministers use violent verses responsibly. Additional digital resources for use with adult groups and young children are available for free.
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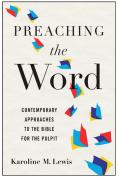
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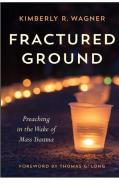
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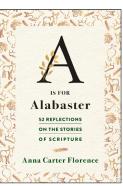
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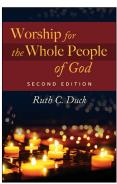


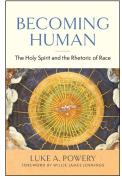
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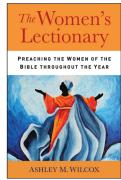








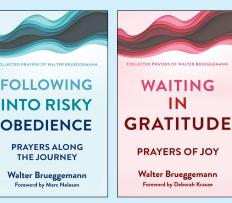




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Karoline M. Lewis	Kimberly R. Wagner	Anna Carter Florence	Ruth C. Duck	Luke A. Powery	Ashley M. Wilcox
\$28.00 \$18.20	\$28.00 \$18.20	\$20.00 \$13.00	\$50.00 \$32.50	\$22.00 \$14.30	\$47.00 \$30.55
The average pastor doesn't have time to keep up with the changes in biblical studies and, as a result, often defaults to interpretive methods learned in seminary years. Preaching the Word addresses those needs by surveying recent developments in biblical studies with an eye to applying them in preaching the Gospel of John. Karoline Lewis lays out these recent interpretive tools and methods, demonstrating their application to preaching using specific passages in the Fourth Gospel.	Trauma from violence, natural disasters, and disease has become all too familiar in the American experience, inevitably raising questions about where God is to be found in the midst of such tragedies. Drawing from trauma studies, eschatological theologies, Scripture, and lament, Wagner encourages narratively fractured sermons that affirm God's enduring presence and promise even in the face of immense brokenness.	From courageous Abigail to Zelophehad's daughters, and from an alabaster jar of ointment to Zacchaeus in the sycamore tree, beloved preacher and writer Anna Carter Florence takes readers on an enchanting tour of the Old and New Testaments with reflections that reveal ancient wisdom and spark imagination anew. In addition to group discussion guides available in the book, you can also download a free book club guide and a reading guide for preachers.	Providing theological foundations for worship, this book explores the ways Christians have adapted worship to various cultures to help them communicate the gospel to others. This new edition updates and expands the recommended resources and worship trends, enhances the section on multicultural worship, and revises marriage information based on cultural and denominational changes.	Luke Powery tells us that the church's story says that the diversity of human bodies is one of the gifts of the Spirit. That story's decisive chapter comes at Pentecost, when the Spirit embraces all bodies, all flesh, all tongues. In this book, Powery urges the church to embrace the inclusive story of Pentecost, celebrating the diversity of human bodies as gifts of the Spirit. He explores how preaching can better exemplify the various gifts God bestows on the church, fostering a worship and ministry that embodies this inclusive narrative.	Focusing on passages about women in the Bible and feminine imagery of God, The Women's Lectionary reimagines the liturgical calendar of preaching for one year. These women are daughters and mothers, strong leaders and evil queens, disciples and troublemakers. Discover this must-have lectionary, which features more than one hundred commentary essays with an Old and New Testament passage for each Sunday of the year and special holy days.
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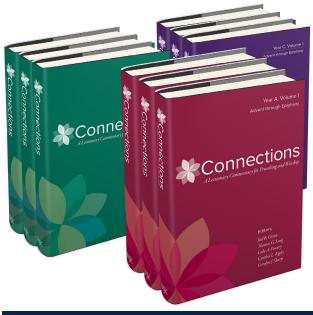
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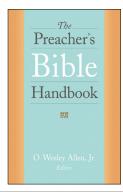
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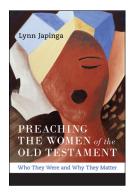
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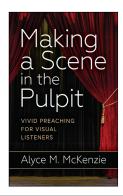


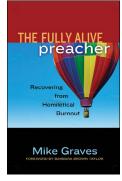
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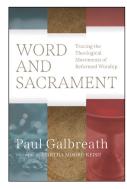




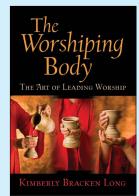








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The Art of Leading Worship Kimberly Bracken Long

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William H. Willimon

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A Guide to Preaching and Leading Worship

William H. Willimon

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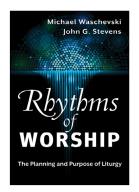
William Willimon, one of the world's most admired preachers, offers his practical and sage advice for some of the most basic tasks of ministry: preparing, delivering, and evaluating sermons; planning, leading, and evaluating worship services; offering public prayers; and celebrating baptism and the Lord's Supper. In addition, Willimon provides creative suggestions for involving laity in worship.

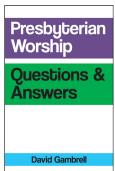
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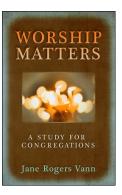
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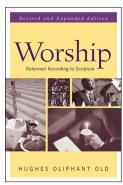


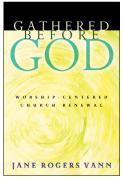
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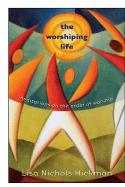








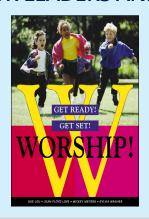


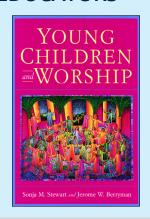


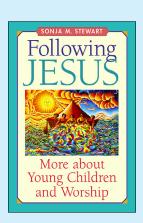
Rhythms of Worship The Planning and Purpose of Liturgy	Presbyterian Worship Questions and Answers	Worship Matters A Study for Congregations	Worship, Revised and Expanded Edition Reformed according to Scripture	Gathered before God Worship-Centered Church Renewal	The Worshiping Life Meditations on the Order of Worship
John G. Stevens & Michael Waschevski	David Gambrell	Jane Rogers Vann	Hughes Oliphant Old	Jane Rogers Vann	Lisa Nichols Hickman
\$18.00 \$11.70	\$18.00 \$11.70	\$26.00 \$16.90	\$35.00 \$22.75	\$26.00 \$16.90	\$25.00 \$16.25
In clear, everyday language, Waschevski and Stevens describe why Protestants worship. The authors explore the different elements of the worship service, the feasts and festivals of the liturgical year, and music and arts in worship. Discussion questions at the end of each chapter invite discussion in local congregations. This book will be a valuable resource for pastors, worship committees, members, and all others who engage in worship planning and leadership.	This book draws on the author's decade of experience in the PC(USA)'s Office of Theology and Worship to provide accessible answers to the questions frequently asked about Presbyterian worship, along with a few we ought to ask more frequently. From the philosophical – What is worship and what does it have to do with real life? – to the practical – Why is there a pink candle and when do we light it? – readers will appreciate the meaning and mystery of worship in the Reformed tradition.	Sunday worship is the central act of the Christian faith, yet few people truly understand what is happening during the service, and why, and how. Jane Rogers Vann examines how we can eliminate the barrier between the preacher and the people in the pew, and offers practical advice directed not just toward church leaders but to worship committees and church membersall who are yearning to be fully engaged in worship.	Hughes Oliphant Old masterfully summarizes the worship of Israel and the early church and traces the development of worship through the period of the Reformation. He provides a sterling historical study that will be highly useful for pastors and church study groups as well as for scholars and students interested in Reformed worship. An extensive bibliography of resources for the study of Reformed worship adds to the value of this book.	In Gathered before God, Jane Rogers Vann studies ten vibrant small, medium, and large churches. Her findings, she argues, show that worship is the most important thing churches do and is crucial to the renewal of congregational life. This book offers resources for pastors, worship leaders, and Christian educators to reflect on their worship, leading to an openness to change and processes to help church leaders support each other during the periods of reform and renewal.	In this unique and engaging book of meditations, pastor Lisa Nichols Hickman delves into the life of worship, seeking to reveal its rhythms and order. There are twenty chapters, each a meditation on an element of worship, reflecting on how that particular element plays out not only in a service of worship but, more importantly, in everyday life.
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Children & Worship FOR LEADERS AND EDUCATORS

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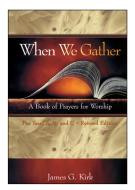


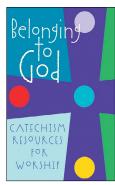


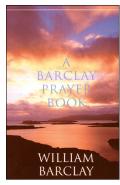


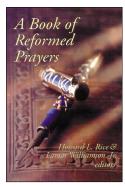


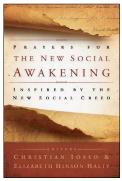
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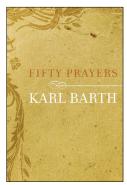








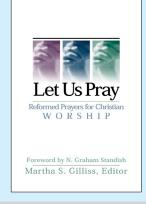


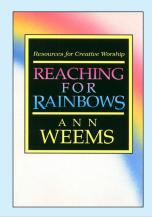


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For every Sunday in the church year, James Kirk provides contemporary, theologically solid prayers and other elements for use in worship. Included are prayers of praise and adoration, confession and pardon, dedication, thanksgiving and petition, as well as concise comments on the lectionary Scripture readings for each Sunday. Now expanded and updated to conform to the Revised Common Lectionary, this revised edition covers all of the Sundays in lectionary cycles A, B, and C.	Using the language of the catechisms in worship makes explicit the faith commitments of the church. Belonging to God: Catechism Resources for Worship is designed to bring the language, and thus the teaching of the church, into the worship of God's people. It provides prayers, calls to worship, baptismal and confirmation resources, and more, as well as suggestions for how to incorporate the catechisms.	Some of William Barclay's most beloved prayers and meditations have been brought together in this collection. Fresh and meaningful as ever, these prayers invite us to experience the wellspring of spirituality that nourished this timeless theologian's creativity. Arranged both topically and chronologically through the church year, A Barclay Prayer Book is perfect for personal devotional study and a useful resource for worship leaders.	Prayer has undergirded the achievements, sacrifices, and faithfulness of the Reformed tradition since its beginning. Howard Rice and Lamar Williamson have gathered more than 200 prayers from the Reformed tradition, organizing the prayers chronologically by century. They provide historical information and biographies of each author to enhance readers' understanding of each prayer within its own context.	In honor of the one- hundredth anniversary of the 1908 Social Creed and the development of a Social Creed for the twenty-first century, Chris Iosso and Elizabeth Hinson-Hasty have compiled new prayers from well-known church and community leaders. This seminal volume includes the words from the new Social Creed and prayers reflecting social justice themes referenced in the creed, including poverty, economic justice, and care for the environment.	This collection for the first time makes Karl Barth's pastoral prayers available to an English-speaking audience, offering a fresh perspective on how the great Swiss theologian understood this central practice of Christian life. The prayers are organized according to seasons of the liturgical year, making them ideal for both group use and individual reflection.
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When We Gather, Revised Edition A Book of Prayers for Worship	Belonging to God Catechism Resources for Worship	A Barclay Prayer Book	A Book of Reformed Prayers	Prayers for the New Social Awakening Inspired by the New Social Creed	Fifty Prayers

Additional Prayer Resources

These classic books provide additional options for incorporating poetry and prayer into your worship services. Click on each cover to learn more and find Google previews on most product pages.

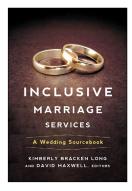


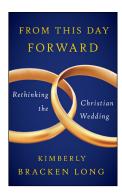


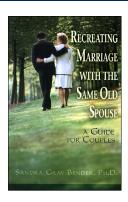


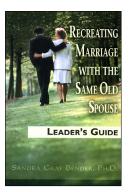


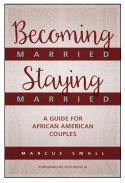
WEDDINGS AND MARRIAGE

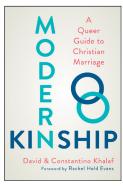












Inclusive Marriage Services A Wedding Sourcebook	From This Day Forward— Rethinking the Christian Wedding	Recreating Marriage with the Same Old Spouse A Guide for Couples	Recreating Marriage with the Same Old Spouse Leader's Guide	Becoming Married, Staying Married A Guide for African American Couples	Modern Kinship A Queer Guide to Christian Marriage
Edited by Kimberly Bracken Long & David Maxwell	Kimberly Bracken Long	Sandra Gray Bender	Sandra Gray Bender	Marcus Small	David Khalaf & Constantino Khalaf
\$38.00 \$24.70	\$28.00 \$18.20	\$24.00 \$15.60	\$24.00 \$15.60	\$20.00 \$13.00	\$22.00 \$14.30
The liturgies in Inclusive Marriage Services echo historic wedding rites yet offer language that can be used by all couples. This sourcebook provides marriage liturgies with updated and gender-neutral language that are adaptable for a variety of couples and situations. Also included are prayers for events related to weddings such as rehearsal dinners, receptions, and anniversaries, as well as guidance for both couples and clergy involved in planning services. Also available in paperback.	This book offers a foundational understanding of marriage for today's North American church. Kimberly Bracken Long suggests that the church consider its involvement in weddings and offers a distinctively Christian understanding of marriage. She provides practical suggestions for music and Scripture during wedding services as well as guidance on how to respond faithfully to those who are divorced or divorcing.	Drawing on years of experience counseling couples and groups, Sandra Bender contends that married people need intentional, focused direction to create the marriage they want. Recreating Marriage with the Same Old Spouse educates couples in the skills of being married. Beginning with a discussion of the Myers-Briggs personality framework, Bender covers topics like identity, intimacy, insecurity, and reflective listening.	Drawing on years of experience counseling couples and groups, Sandra Bender contends that married people need intentional, focused direction to create the marriage they want. In this companion to the Couple's Guide, Bender provides clear advice for group leaders on helping married couples improve their marriage skills. Bender advises leaders on how to prepare for each session, present the material to couples, and answer questions.	In this book, couples will reflect on current realities particular to African American couples. They will discover nine key principles required for healthy marriages, including self-awareness, flexibility, and forgiveness. Questions for discussion and reflection are included for each chapter. This insightful resource can be used at various stages of their relationship, but it is especially helpful to engaged and newly married couples. Pastors may also choose to use this book as a discussion starter for premarital or postmarital counseling.	Part personal reflection, part commentary, and full of practical advice, Modern Kinship explores the biblical concept of kinship from a twenty-first-century perspective. This important resource tackles subjects such as dating outside of smartphone apps, overcoming church and family issues, meeting your partner's parents, deciding when and how to have children, and finding your mission as a couple. Modern Kinship encourages queer Christian couples to build God-centered partnerships of trust and mutuality.
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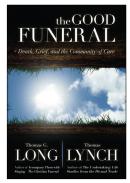
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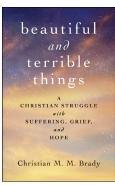
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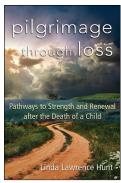


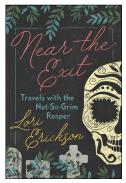
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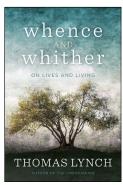








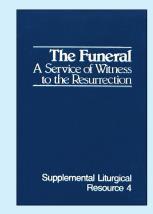


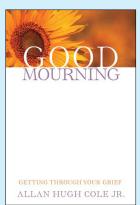


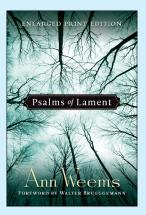
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The Good Funeral Death, Grief, and the Community of Care	Accompany Them with Singing—The Christian Funeral	Beautiful and Terrible Things A Christian Struggle with Suffering, Grief, and Hope	Pilgrimage through Loss Pathways to Strength and Renewal after the Death of a Child	Near the Exit Travels with the Not-So- Grim Reaper	Whence and Whither On Lives and Living
Thomas G. Long & Thomas Lynch	Thomas G. Long	Christian M. M. Brady	Linda Lawrence Hunt	Lori Erickson	Thomas Lynch
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Through their different lenses – one as a preacher and one as a funeral director – Thomas G. Long and Thomas Lynch alternately discuss several challenges facing "the good funeral," including the commercial aspects that have led many to be suspicious of funeral directors, the sometimes tense relationship between pastors and funeral directors, the tendency of modern funerals to exclude the body from the service, and the rapid growth in cremation.	This book begins by describing how the Christian funeral developed historically, theologically, and liturgically, and then discusses recent cultural trends in funeral practices, including the rise in both cremations and memorial services. He describes the basic pattern for a funeral service, details options in funeral planning, identifies characteristics of a "good funeral," and provides thoughtful guidance for preaching at a funeral.	With deep faith, knowledge of Scripture, and the wisdom of experience, Brady guides readers grieving losses in voicing their lament to God, reflecting on the nature of human existence, and persevering in hope. Brady finds that rather than an image of God managing every event in our lives, the biblical account describes the world in which we all live, full of hardship that often comes unbidden and unmerited. Yet, it also is a world into which God lovingly intrudes to bring comfort, peace, and grace. Download the reader guide.	Pilgrimage through Loss tells the story of one family's journey, along with interviews from thirty other mothers and fathers who have experienced the death of a child. Hunt illuminates the varied pathways parents eventually discover that open their lives to strength and healing. Rather than prescribing a path, Hunt encourages parents to find the pathways that work for them as they seek to engage life again with meaning and hope. Each chapter includes questions for reflection and discussion, plus recent research on grief and loss.	After her brother died unexpectedly and her mother moved into a dementiacare facility, spiritual travel writer and Episcopal deacon Lori Erickson felt called to a new quest: to face death head on, with the eye of a tourist and the heart of a pastor. Blending memoir, spirituality, and travel, Near the Exit examines how cultures confront and have confronted death. Erickson reflects on mortality — the ways we avoid it, the ways we cope with it, and the ways life is made more precious by accepting it. Download the reader guide.	From one of our most gifted writers and thinkers about death and the meaning of living comes a collection of writings about "what comes next." Thomas Lynch, funeral director, poet, and author, has an uncanny knack for writing about death in ways that are never morbid, always thoughtful, often humorous, and quite moving. From his recounting of the funeral for a young child in the 1800s to his compelling essay about his own mortality, Lynch always finds ways to make sense of senseless things, as he ponders what will come next.
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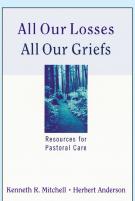
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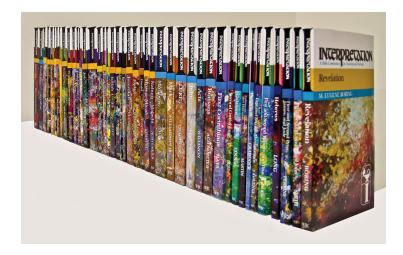








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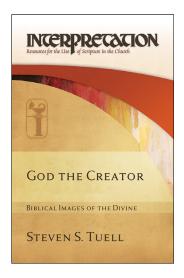
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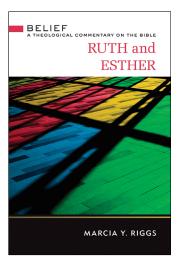
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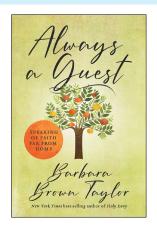
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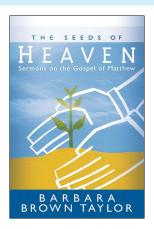
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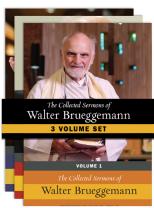
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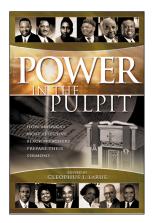
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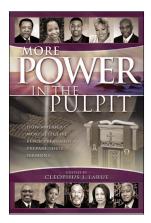
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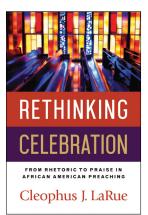
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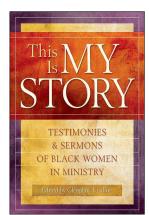
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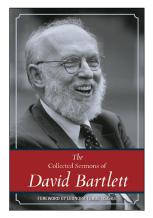
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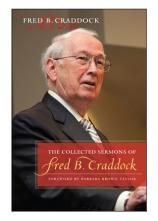


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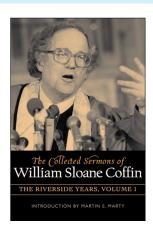
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