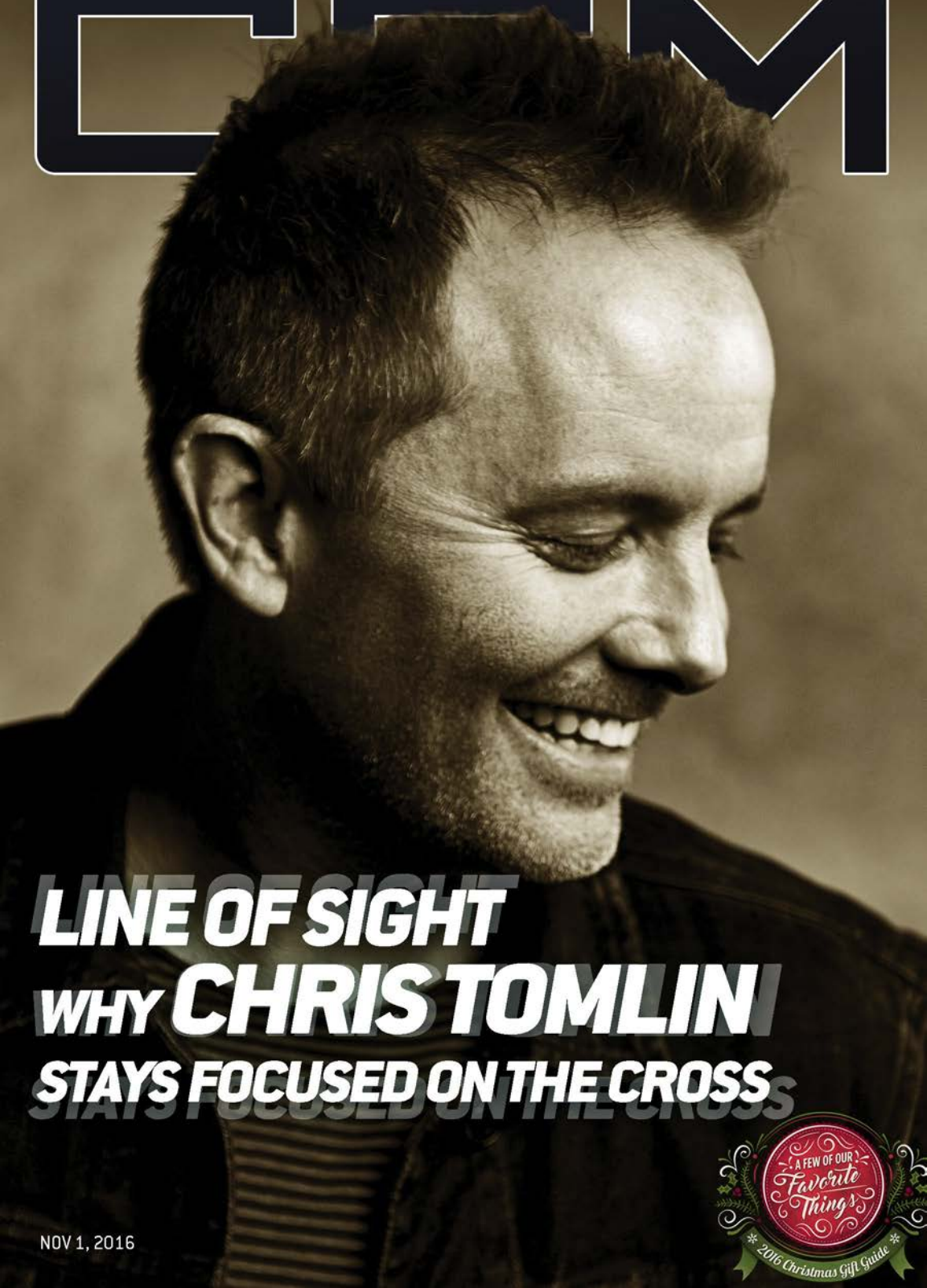


NATALIE GRANT | JOURNEY'S JONATHAN CAIN | CHRISTMAS MUSIC IN REVIEW

CELEBRITY



# LINE OF SIGHT WHY CHRIS TOMLIN STAYS FOCUSED ON THE CROSS

NOV 1, 2016



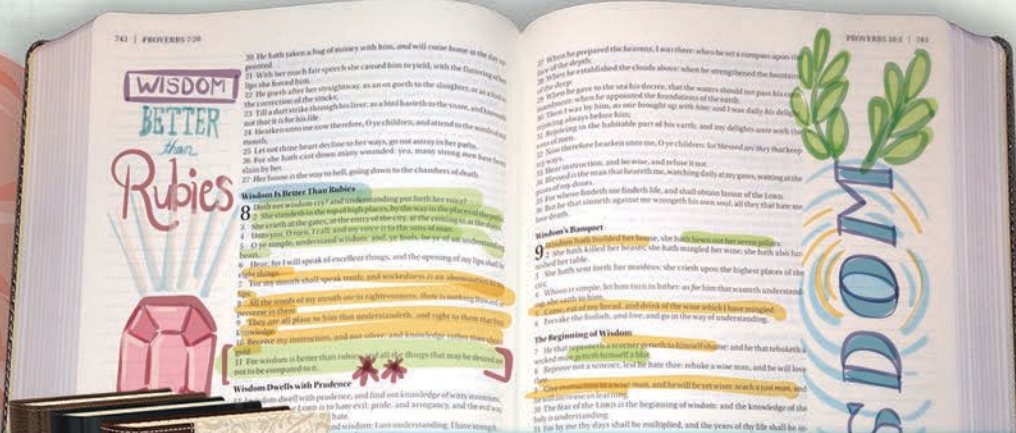
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## From the Editor

### Out & About

Exclusive pics of your favorite artists!

**In this issue:** Newsboys, All Sons & Daughters, Mark Lowry, Matthew West, MARI + more!



### Chris Tomlin

When you've created so many successful worship soundtracks sung the globe over, Chris Tomlin knows to keep his eyes firmly on his foundation—the cross.



(photo: Cameron Fowler)

### Jonathan Cain

Don't stop believin'—and despite a life of twists and turns, Jonathan Cain didn't, and look what God is doing now.



### Natalie Grant

Almost two decades, dozens of albums and books published, several millions of them sold—Natalie Grant has finally found her real voice.



### Reviews

New music from Chris Tomlin, Lauren Daigle, Amy Grant, Jody McBrayer + much more!



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## From the Editor

As we enter winter and soon turn the corner into a brand new year, I wanted to make you aware of some special content we are featuring on **CCMmagazine.com**. It's been one year since we have upgraded our web home, and we couldn't be more excited about rolling out new content and features to all of you!

First, we had an incredible time at the **47th Annual GMA Dove Awards** this year! We were able to spend some real quality time with so many of our favorite artists both on the red carpet and in the media room. We have provided that special content for you on our website under the "DOVE AWARDS" main navigation tab from both our Home Page and the Menu activator for mobile devices (just browse to CCMmagazine.com and select the "three lines" icon next to our scrolling "BREAKING" news line).

Go and watch our special interviews with **Sadie Robertson, Lecrae, Lauren Daigle, Jordan Feliz, TobyMac, The Isaacs, Ryan Stevenson, Hollyn, Jonathan McReynolds** and many more! This category will now be accessible from the mobile version of the site throughout the year, which leads me to introduce our next new feature...

Beginning Nov. 1, we will feature a "CHRISTMAS" section, available as a main navigation option from the Home Page (and mobile Menu). In this section, we will feature our reviews of new Christmas music (there's a LOT coming out this year!) in addition to holiday stories from your favorite artists, a special Christmas Gift Guide, and more fun and exciting Christmas content to keep you in the spirit all season long!

As always, we are thankful to all of you for regularly staying connected to *CCM Magazine* and CCMmagazine.com, we love you and anticipate a great close to 2016 and a 2017 filled with bringing you the best in-depth stories and info from the world of Christian music and faith-based entertainment!

Blessings,

A stylized, handwritten signature of Kevin Sparkman in black ink.

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Explore the world of Aethasia™, and join the Resistance in their fight against the tyrannical emperor and his army of mechanical men!

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# OUT & ABOUT

nov 1, 2016



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*—Ariel and Yaditza*



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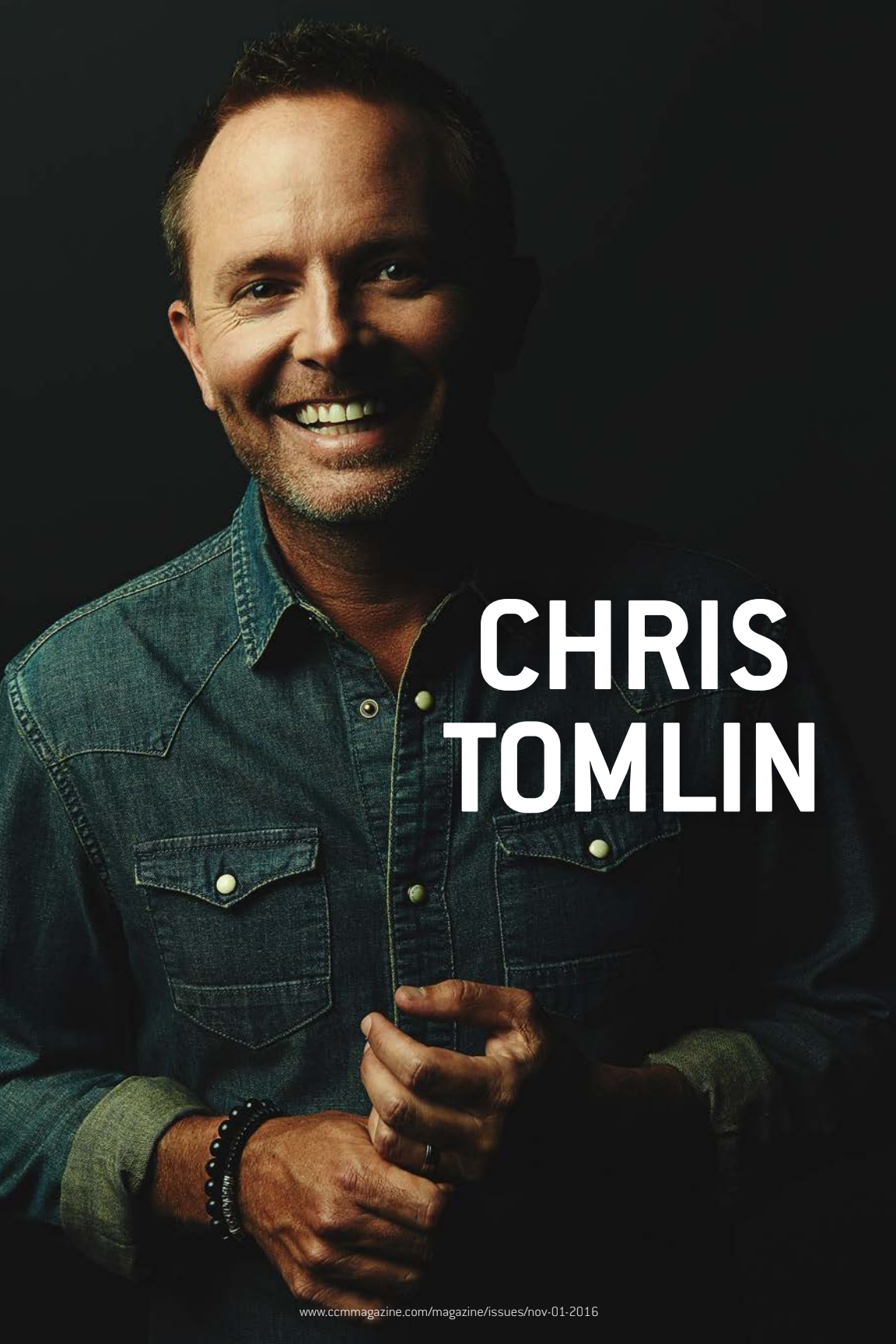


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A portrait of Chris Tomlin, a man with short brown hair and a light beard, smiling warmly at the camera. He is wearing a dark blue denim button-down shirt with two chest pockets. His hands are clasped in front of him, and he is wearing a black beaded bracelet on his left wrist. The background is dark and out of focus.

# CHRIS TOMLIN

# Chris Tomlin — Sight Not Unseen

When you've created so many successful worship soundtracks sung the globe over, Chris Tomlin knows to keep his eyes firmly on his foundation—the cross

By Caroline Lusk

At the beginning of each of us, God places within our hearts the capacity to believe in what is unseen.

We call this faith.

At the same time, He blesses us with the ability to see beauty, love and grace in ways that are tangible—our children, the kindness of others...a song. Some call this grace—God's provision realized.

Among the many visceral elements that point to the great-unseen God of love, the most poignant and life altering is the cross.

When we cast our eyes to that terrible tree, we see the unimaginable, incomprehensible love and mercy that is our redemption, our freedom and, as **Chris Tomlin** says, our foundation.

"The idea of never losing sight of the cross has become so central to my life and all that I'm doing," says Tomlin. "The cross is the reason there is a church...it's the reason that there's anything. I hope to never lose sight of that and hope to remind people that even in the hardest of days, never lose sight because all things are possible."

He doesn't have to search very hard in his own life for evidence of a limitless God. From the streets of tiny Grand Saline, Texas (pop. 3000—give or take), to the biggest arenas in the world, Tomlin's life is a case study in possibility. Touted as one of the most-sung songwriters in the world, he has topped nearly every musical chart there is, including *Billboard* 200 chart, making him only the fourth Christian artist to ever do so. He has won countless Dove Awards, Billboard Music Awards and a GRAMMY. He has also played an integral role in the cultural phenomenon **Passion**, which regularly sees over 60,000 college students come together for worship, discipleship and ministry.

But even more than the awards, the charts and the fans, Tomlin is seeing his God of the impossible at work fervently in his own home, namely in the blossoming lives of his daughters who are, in a word, strong.

"They're five and two now and they are both spitfires," Tomlin says with a knowing kind-of laugh every parent in the world can relate to. "They are beautiful little blond-hair girls and they are both so strong. You'd think you'll end up with one that is particularly strong, but they are both pretty strong girls. They can be sweet too," he adds in quickly, as if turning over a memory in his mind.

Not that there's a shortage of good times to pull from. Today, Tomlin's daily life revolves around a little royalty, a lot of glitter, all washed down with some chocolate milk.

"If I'm home, we'll do breakfast together. Eggs, bacon, cereal—usually cereal. And chocolate milk, of course," Tomlin says, as if detailing an imaginary menu. "We'll go through about four or five princess outfits a day, with Dorothy usually in the mix as well. Whatever we play, that's who they are at the moment and that's what we call them."



Be it Belle, Snow White or Dorothy, it is crystal clear that fatherhood has changed him in many ways. For one, there's new warmth in his laugh. There's also a new sense of unknown as he joins a league of parents wading with their kids through childhood, striving to make the right decisions, stumbling over humanity on the way—staying afloat on the words and promises of their own Heavenly Father, a name which has morphed into a new significance for Tomlin as of late. And it all started at bedtime...

"We love reading books to them," says Tomlin, referring also to his wife. "Putting them to bed is just the best. I've found the most peaceful thing in the world is when the kids are napping." With parents around the globe nodding their heads in agreement, he goes on. "Reading to the kids every day is really what started this whole good, good father thing," he says.

This whole "good, good father thing" is in reference, of course, to Tomlin's massive radio hit (which took away Song Of The Year at this year's Dove Awards), but also to the children's book he recently wrote alongside friend and colleague, **Pat Barrett**. That's right, as if he needed another item on his resume, Chris Tomlin is now a children's book author.

"The opening line of the song really started this idea in my head," he says. "It says, 'I've heard a thousand stories of what they think You're like.' This character began to form in my head of a little girl asking different people about what God is like. Eventually, that little girl became Tucker the bear, who sets out on a journey to see the King. Along the way, he hears that he's a doctor, a builder, all of these things. And when he arrives, of course, he realizes he is all those things, but above all, he is a good, good father."

While most artists decide to write books on years in which they are not releasing an album, Tomlin goes to prove, once more, he is not most artists. The book came out just a few weeks apart from his latest project, ***Never Lose Sight***, which released just weeks apart from a nation-wide movement Tomlin dreamed of and put together, called ***Worship Night In America***. And wouldn't you know, after all of his albums and all of his conferences and events, his latest may be his most distinct and greatest ones yet.

Tomlin raises his own musical standard on his latest offering, partnering with a new producer, **Jeremy Edwardson**.

"So far, I've heard from lots of people that this album is so different from the others," Tomlin says. "At the end of the day, it's about one thing. The filter—is this accessible to the church? Most every song I write and produce, I want it to be so that anyone at any church could play it."

Once again, he's done just that. Before even hearing the songs a full-time through, listeners are already singing along, as if they've known them for years. Despite the accessibility, *Never Lose Sight* does showcase a different side and sound from Chris. His voice sounds fuller, warmer, as if mellowed a bit by life and all its happy challenges. Moreover, the lyrics, while easy to learn and grab onto, aren't necessarily obvious. Even after all these years and all these songs, Tomlin is still finding new ways to present the love and reality of God in a language that's as fresh as it is accessible.

Many of those songs took center stage at Chris's main-stage event, which brought the concept of corporate worship to a new level. On October 25, 2016 audiences in churches and theaters around the country came together to watch Chris and a bevy of the finest musicians and worship leaders in the world—

**Phil Wickham, Tasha Cobbs, Kim Walker-Smith, Matt Maher, Matt Redman**, among others—joined forces with pastors and authors **Max Lucado** and **Louie Giglio**, for *Worship Night In America*. With every seat filled in **Madison Square Garden**, Tomlin and his team approached a nation that has been wracked by a tumultuous political environment and a season of divisiveness with a simple message.

“The goal is to pray for the nation,” Tomlin simply states. “Prayer is greater than politics. In the midst of this time when things are so charged and there is so much uncertainty and unrest, it’s time for the church to stand together and seek God, turn to Him and confess. It starts with us. It starts with our people.”

Waving only the white flag of surrender to an almighty God, Chris Tomlin did on October 25, 2016 what he has been doing his entire career—humbling himself, turning to God and inviting the church to join him. Beyond that, this most decorated of artists generously took a backseat, sharing the stage, honoring the art of his colleagues.

His demeanor is not of the “most sung songwriter of all time,” but continues to be that of many humbled by an awesome God; a father in love with his little girls and trying to figure out this thing called parenting; a husband committed to his home and family first; a sinner saved by grace.

His demeanor reflects his line of sight. He has removed distractions and set his eyes to rest daily upon the cross and upon the God who sacrificed His own Son. As Tomlin daily surrenders and commits to maintaining that view, he exemplifies for the rest of us how we can do the same and the kind of life—full, abundant, forgiven—we can all experience when, we too, never lose sight. **CCM**



# JONATHAN CAIN



Jonathan Cain (top-left) with his Journey  
band mates in the early 80s

# Don't Stop Believin'

## The faith journey of Jonathan Cain

By Andy Argyrakis

As a 35-year member of **Journey**, **Jonathan Cain** could easily sit back and track the legendary band's nearly 90 million album sales and collect royalties from writing or co-writing "Don't Stop Believin'," "Faithfully," "Who's Crying Now" and "Open Arms" (to name a mere four of his many international hits). However the piano player, rhythm guitarist and sometimes singer (who also logged time in acclaimed power pop band **The Baby's** and hard rock super group **Bad English**) always stays relatively active as a solo artist, though when it comes to his brand new ***What God Wants To Hear*** (Identity Records), longtime listeners may be surprised to learn of a reignited spiritual quest.

While the Hollywood Walk Of Fame'r has always had faith in his life, he went through various seasons of doubt and uncertainty that originally stemmed from a childhood trauma, but were eventually ironed out by a seemingly chance meeting with **Pastor Paula White** on a flight. Not only did what he deemed to be a God-ordained conversation give the rock star enough divine fuel to refill his tank, but the pair became friends, eventually started dating and wound up getting married. Here's a closer look at the fascinating and inspirational turn of events, along with a deeper glimpse into the worshipful new album from an edited phone conversation between *CCM Magazine* and Cain.

**CCM Magazine:** *Absolutely no pun intended here, but tell us about your faith journey throughout the years.*

**Jonathan Cain:** I started out with a true love for Jesus when I was very young. My father was a very devout spiritual man who loved to pray and he was my mentor, really. He brought me into the Catholic church, kneeled me down and said, “I want you to pray to Jesus.” “Who’s Jesus?” “Well He’s your savior.” It was very matter-of-fact for him and I would watch him pray and I would be mesmerized by just how devout he was. He would go into this trance and these tears would come down and I would say, “Dad, are you crying?” “No, those are tears for Jesus.” “Well I want those!” “You’re not praying hard enough” (laughter). He said, “You’ve just gotta keep calling Him. He’ll come.” I went to Catholic school and I sang Gregorian chants in Latin in one of the most elite choirs we had in school. My first look at music was the Lord’s music.

Then we had this terrible fire that hit our parish in 1958, Our Lady Of The Angels in Chicago, 100 children died and I just went distant with the Lord. When you’re only eight-years old, you don’t really understand the enemy very well, so I had a little numbing. But my dad gave me music and he said, “You were saved that day because the Lord has music in you and you’re going to have some supernatural things happen in your life with music.” He shipped me off to music lessons and was so certain that his son was going to be a star. I’ll never forget it, that’s truly a vision keeper right there! I was so blessed to have my dad. Even when I was a little angry of what happened with the fire, he kept covering over me and kept me in touch with the idea that God has saved me and I received that.



***CCM: How did those mixed feelings land once adulthood hit?***

**JC:** I sort-of had a breakthrough in an altar call in a Baptist church when I was about eighteen. So, some ten years later, I melted and had a breakthrough again. A pastor laid hands on me and that brought me back to the way of the Lord, so when my children were born, I was so thankful and wanted nothing more than to give them baptism and confirmation and some sort of structure with God. It was a Lutheran church, but my faith was still there.

[As the years went on], I was just kind of in and out of it, like a part-time Christian. My mind just wasn't there. I still had so many questions about what had really happened. It goes back to that fire, right back to that day. I was so shaken as a young boy that certainly God could've done something that day and He didn't. And I realized now that He was probably just as sad as we all were and I'm sure He cried with us that day.

Enter Paula [White]. I meet her on an airplane. We're on Southwest Airlines—you wouldn't think of Paula White and Journey on Southwest—but it was a random flight that we needed to get on to San Antonio, TX. We spoke together for two-and-a-half hours and she spoke into my heart like no woman had done before.

***CCM: Did you know who each other were? It's probably not everyday where a famous rock star and a prominent pastor land next to each other on a plane!***

**JC:** No, no, no! I just knew she was special. I didn't know what she did so I had to ask her. She said, "I wasn't going to tell you, but I'm a preacher." I said, "No way, hush up, you're a preacher?!" We shared our lives together on that flight. I was working on this memoir [right around then], so it was fresh on my mind



and I shared the story of the fire. She prophesied over me that the Lord wanted me. “Boy, that’s funny you say that because I sure want my faith back. I want to feel like I did when I was seven-years old when I had that glow in my heart.” She said, “He sure loves you,” and that was it. She left that message and I didn’t see her for a while, but then she came to a Journey show and prayed over me and we stayed friends. I’m an amateur photographer that takes nature shots and I’d send her pictures that I took to help her with some scripture for Facebook.

And then I got out of a bad marriage I was in. I was tied up in this marriage for too long, but I had three beautiful kids and my son had a little bout with drugs and rehab and her son had also been through it. I needed some direction as to how to turn with that, so I took immediate action and she helped me through that.

***CCM: How did this meeting eventually evolve to dating and marriage?***

**JC:** I asked her if she wanted a date [after my divorce]. You can’t date a pastor too long, you know (laughter)? It doesn’t always play good with the congregation, but we dated for a while and then she took me to Ghana and that’s what shifted everything for me. The prayers in Ghana and **Archbishop [Nicholas] Duncan-Williams**, who is her spiritual father, had a profound effect on what I needed to do as a follower of Christ. “We’ve got work to do with you,” he said, and I replied, “I know,” and he gave me his prayer book and he showed me the prayers to pray.

They had these big prayer armies that were praying over Paula and I and it was like something out of a movie. Then I asked them to baptize me, so I went back for baptism, and I knew the next question was going to be, “Would you marry us?” So he did both. Archbishop was there and he married us and he bap-

tized me and something shifted in me in a profound way. My big question was, “Am I good enough to be Paula White’s husband?” I knew in my heart I was taking on a huge responsibility of being with a woman of God, of faith, who accepts His calling and he assured me that God had me. I said, “You let me know if you see any cracks in the armor.” “Well there are some shaky things in there, but we’re gonna pray them away.” So he gave me the confidence to move forward, not only with my faith, and also with my marriage to Paula.

It’s a story of restoration. I always loved Jesus so much. I just didn’t know how to get back with Him. I wanted it, but when I moved here to Nashville, there were all these churches and I didn’t know which one to go to. I didn’t want to go to the wrong one and you always feel funny when you’ve been out of it for a while. It’s hard going to a new church and attempting to fit in. But God wanted me to first meet Paula. It’s funny because I never saw her preach for at least six months, and then I finally came to Orlando and her congregation welcomed me with open arms. I told them I was going to marry their pastor—they were thrilled and off we went. We had the little private wedding on a prayer mountain in Ghana with the Archbishop, then we came back and got married a year-and-a-half ago in April for the rest of the people, then I got married again back in church. For a guy that said he was never getting married again, I married Paula about three times!

***CCM: The results of this remarkable rededication can be found all throughout What God Wants To Hear. What do you hope this album is going to do for folks who share your faith and also for those who have different beliefs?***

**JC:** Here’s my thing. [I hope] I can make their walk with God a little bit closer and maybe attract somebody back to the Lord

or who hasn't thought about God in a while. I had some people come over every now and then when I was recording the album and some were saying, "Man, that moved me, I haven't actually had a song make me think of God that way." Ah-ha! If I have one person that happens to, then I've done my job. That's my hope that it can minister to people and bring them closer to God, to the Word, and to the Kingdom.

***CCM: How familiar have you been with contemporary Christian music? Are there any artists that you've especially come to like over the years, or is this sort-of a new entrance for you?***

**JC:** It's kind-of a new entrance. People always would compare me to **Michael W. Smith** over the years, and when I put out my [mainstream solo albums], they said I sounded like him. So I looked him up and said, "Wait a minute, he sounds like me!" The piano sounded like Journey and there are a lot of similarities in our style. Also, I was always a huge fan of **Andraé Crouch**. I thought he had an amazing career, but other than that, not a lot. I also realized that a lot of the '60s soul music and rock n' roll came out of church. A lot of the great singers of the soul era were trained in church and you can hear it.

***CCM: What were your musical and lyrical goals with this new project?***

**JC:** I wanted to just have an intimate encounter with God musically and not get a bunch of co-writers and ideas and bang them around and do all of that because this is just my walk with God. I wanted to keep it on an intimate level, pure with only the words that He gave me. And it was a different kind of album for me because it came with the lyrics first. I'm used to writing the music and finding a lyric that fits. In this case, it was all dictation that I was just taking down, and it was coming weekly



[faster than ever]. Soon, I had enough to start doing a praise and worship album, so Paula gave me a Sunday or two to perform them. I called [former Journey drummer] **Deen Castronovo**, who's out of rehab and finding the Lord again, and we started singing in church.

I wanted to keep my style in it, but I also wanted to be true to the Word and not water it down with any fluffy stuff like, "Let's be vague and write a love song, but we don't know who it's to—the word 'God' is no where to be found, but it's about God, trust us!" Okay, what is that? I'm old school, so I don't quite get that. I understand it's probably a millennial thing, maybe that's what they're going for, but that's not what I'm about. The Bible's just full of such great stuff. There's even a song called "Sanctify," and most Christians won't even say the word "sanctification." That's like, almost taboo—why? It shouldn't be. Through justification, we are sanctified. I like the word, I thought it sounded cool, and I made a rock song for Jesus out of it. There it is, sue me (laughter)! If people want to come out and judge me because of my love for the Lord and my sowing into the Kingdom, then they've only got one Person to answer to. I ain't going away, and this is the first of many. I hope to maybe have some of these songs get sung in church by other bands and I hope to leave this music to be a lasting legacy as my love for God.

***CCM: What do the rest of the Journey guys think of your current musical and personal direction?***

**JC:** Um, I don't know. I think they pretty much stay in their lane with that. They know I had a profound shift in my life. I needed to change. I wasn't happy. They see me smile and they see me a different guy out there on stage. They know that much and they respect it. They respect what I'm doing.

***CCM: Would you ever incorporate spirituality into your song-writing with the band?***

**JC:** No, no. Journey's Journey. It will always be. It always has an identity. This music also has its identity and it has its truth. My job as a steward of the music is to keep the truth and identity pure, so no, I would not co-mingle. But I certainly would like to get back into production and hopefully my studio [**Addiction Sound** in Nashville] can be a new beacon on the hill for Christian music, and maybe this label [Identity Records] that I'm starting can make some waves. I've been inspired by what the **Jesus Culture** people have done. **Kim Walker-Smith** is a friend of ours and what she's been able to accomplish is just amazing. If the Lord's opening doors like that, then I'm gonna keep knockin. CCM

A full-body portrait of Natalie Grant against a teal background. She is smiling, wearing a white V-neck t-shirt, dark jeans, and multiple necklaces and bracelets. Her hands are in her pockets.

# NATALIE GRANT

# Natalie Grant — Her Real Voice

Almost two decades, dozens of albums and books published, several millions of them sold—Natalie Grant has finally found her real voice

By Kevin Sparkman

Toward the end of last year, the Dec. 1, 2015 *CCM Magazine* cover artist **Natalie Grant** had just released the album ***Be One***, and was happy to share with us the shifts in her life that have paved the way to newfound freedoms.

Nearly one year later, the iconic vocalist is not only still talking, she's writing about them, too. With the release of her new book, ***Finding Your Voice: What Every Woman Needs To Live Her God-Given Passions Out Loud*** (Zondervan, Sep. 13, 2016), Grant is furthering her message to help people discover what she herself is discovering—their own unique God-given gifts and the confidence to rise above deceitful fears for living their calling, as she emphatically states it, “out loud!”

Despite her foray into adding the “author” tag to her well-accomplished resume (which touts an impressive lineup of titles through the years, even incorporating her three kids to contribute to ***Glimmer Girls***, a themed series of children's/pre-teen books for girls), Grant will be the first to tell you that she's nowhere close to having “arrived.” What she will tell—in addition to God's truths—is that you indeed have a voice, and now that she's living into hers (singing, writing, or just being a mom) from a God-breathed perspective, she's leading the cheer for the launch or rebirth of our own voices.

It seems a little strange to say it at first, but multiple awards-won and millions of albums sold later, Grant has truly, and finally, found her voice. We got the chance to talk with her a little more in-depth about the real meaning behind all of this in our latest interview.

***CCM Magazine: Take us back to the beginning, if you can, of the things brought on, to use on of your quotes, “suffocating inadequacy.” As you were going through all of that, where did you go to find God’s strength? In what ways did He reveal His abundance to you that you may/or perhaps may not have expected?***

**Natalie Grant:** Through the years it manifested itself in different ways—to having an eating disorder which stemmed from a feeling of inadequacy, to postpartum depression which stemmed from a feeling of inadequacy as a mother...so many... But there’s an underlying theme to every one of those, and that’s that feeling of, “I just don’t measure up,” or, that somehow, and especially for me, that feeling of needing to keep up with my appearance. But, I actually *did* have it all together, when, in fact, underneath I felt like I was crumbling from the pressure of it all.

I can easily say, “Oh, I found my strength in God’s Word...” At different times throughout that process, yes, that was true. But I think it was specifically at a time where the Word of God became real to me in a way like it never had before. I began to see myself in [biblical] characters that I had read about my entire life. From people who doubted and had insecurities... In fact, it seems like the ones that God used the most powerfully were those who had similar struggles to mine.

When you discover that’s actually the way that God does His best work is through our inadequacies, it proves that, “in our



weakness His strength is made perfect.” It’s one thing to read that, it’s another thing to begin to experience, “Okay, instead of fighting this weakness—instead of fighting that feeling of inadequacy—embracing it ... I’m going to dive in and allow that, just immerse my self in it, knowing that in that I’m going to find the strength of God and it’s going to be greater than my own feeling of inadequacy.”

I think that we have to allow those things to become real to us. I think so often we ask God to do something for us. Like, “God, please help me. God, please do ‘this.’ God, please do ‘that.’” What I’m really discovering is that we have more responsibility [on us] than we want to take—not like a “works-salvation,” I don’t mean that—what I mean is that He’s already done everything He needs to do in order to get us out of the pit. He is still extending His hand, but we have to take hold of it. We have to take hold of the hand that’s extended and by faith, believe that what He says is true. I think that was the turning point for me.

***CCM: We recently talked to former By The Tree front man Chuck Denny...***

**NG:** Oh, yeah! He was my campus pastor for a while...

***CCM: He went through some very similar struggles and processes. It made me wonder if this kind of “inadequacy” is more prevalent today because we are so bombarded with always having to measure up to looking perfect on social media, etc. Do you think that plays a part of it?***

**NG:** I think it’s a huge part of it, and I think, also, for those of us that are really struggling that are in a full time “ministry capacity,” whether it’s in music or pastoral ministry or those of us who are on a stage where Jesus is our platform, I think it’s a deeper

conversation. It wasn't intentional, but from my own experience, human nature and our flesh can still become a part of it—that desire to succeed and to be good at what we're doing. Then, you mix that together with ministry—which will never exist together—and eventually that flesh side is going to come crashing down and we are going to realize that we are inadequate because, even though we said, “We are putting our strength and focus in the Lord,” it's really hard to finally come to the place where you can truthfully admit that.

Even in ministry, we measure our own success not by what God deems as successful, but we measure it against what other people are doing in ministry. The devil is sneaky, I'm telling you! He's sneaky and even in our best intentions, even in those intentions to do those things that are absolutely full of God, he sneaks in—even in the smallest of ways—and uses that comparison trap in every area of life and it's so destructive.

I was putting a lot of eggs in the basket of talent, the basket of my influence...eggs in the basket of my “whatever.” You have to come to grips with that, and I think you often see that because in ministry you have to come to the end of yourself. If you don't, eventually you are just going to crash and burn a little bit harder. I only know that from personal experience! Even those who are not in ministry, with the growth of social media, etc. ... I think about the struggles of inadequacy I had when I was growing up, yet I wasn't bombarded every single day like today's culture.

***CCM: One of the things that Dennie said that I thought was kind-of profound was, “I know God and He knows me, and He's perfecting me everyday.”***

NG: That's incredible, right?

***CCM: As you were going through this discovery, what were some of the things that were going on inside of you that you have eventually given a voice to? Maybe it's one of the topics in your new book, or something that that sticks out in particular?***

NG: I think for me, one of the things I've really come to terms with over the last couple of years—and I do write about it in the book, because it's where so many of my struggles stem from—and that's fear. I really struggle with fear. Everybody knows that I'm afraid to fly because I post about it on social media all the time, because it's a real tangible struggle. The truth is, I struggle with fear in just about every aspect of my life.

I can't necessarily speak to men because I am not one, but ... well, I think men [also struggle] but it just manifests itself in different ways—like throwing yourself into your work [for example]. So many men are workaholics because of that underlying fear of failing.

I can trace almost every struggle back to a fear of failure, or a fear of [whatever] ... The fear of wondering if my kids are going to be screwed up, or if I just take one step to the right or one step to the left, I'm going to screw everything up. Most of it actually still stems from this idea that we can control our lives—with “this” and with “that,” we can control the outcome. I think that letting go of the idea that I'm actually in control and, instead, embracing [our inadequacies] is just what it means to trust and to have faith. I talk about that many times throughout the book.

***CCM: Specifically, how do you encourage other women who don't have the type of platform that you have into using their strengths, their voices for God's glory?***

NG: First, every single one of us has a voice. [We must] break the cycle of that “comparison trap,” that, “But, I won't do—but, I

won't be." I think it's really about discovering the God given passion that He has put into your heart and life and realizing that if it is from God, all the things that we think disqualify us or sideline us or will never come to pass...those are just the things that the Father of Lies uses to keep us silent.

I was talking about this just last night. So often we want to point to a circumstance or a situation that has silenced us, right? Like, "Oh, it was a bad marriage...it was this, that, or the other. It's my own mistake, my shame, my childhood, my 'something' that has silenced me." But the truth is that the only one who can silence the song that God has put into every single one of our souls is ourselves.

When we can realize, "Okay, these things were done to me, but I actually I have the power because of Christ living in me—I actually do have the strength and the power to rise above that and to let my voice rise above the brokenness." I think that when we begin to take responsibility, it begins to actually break down the hurt and the wrong—the holds that can have. When you realize, "Okay, I'm not looking to raise my voice because I need a platform. I'm looking to raise my voice because when I do, my life will begin to soar on God's melody. It's the thing that will help me rise above the broken pieces of my life." I think that whatever comes along with that, is an incredible benefit, but it's God's glory. It's Him receiving glory through us rising above the brokenness, that's [why I believe in] brokenness He does his best work. That's where He likes to shine the brightest.

***CCM: You, in particular, are a singer and the book title does have the word "voice" in it, so how has going through this spiritual process seeped into your music?***

NG: It has definitely influenced it. But first and foremost, what I have really realized over the last few years is that singing is



what I do, it's not who I am. I think that so often, whatever it is that we do—whatever it is that we are gifted at, whatever it is that comes easy to us—it becomes our identity. Through this process I've really discovered more power in discovering *whose* I am, daughter of the King, chosen, beloved, cherished, valued [by Him]. I kind-of foolishly thought singing made me those things. It doesn't. It's just a way to tell the truth with a gift that I did nothing for but that He gave me. Discovering that has drastically changed my songwriting, the things that I sing, and the way I go about it all.

When you come to see me in a show, you realize that I'm not going out to be an entertainer—and I don't think there's anything wrong with that, I really don't. I think it's amazing if [entertaining is] your gifting, but it's not mine. My gifting is to be a truth-teller and I think that one of the greatest gifts that He has given me is an ability to connect with people. My music is what brings them to the table, but I think honesty, genuine transparency, and an openness about my insecurities, fears and struggles is what keeps them there.

I also think it's where they begin to discover who Christ is—through my life, not just through my music. I know that's not exactly answering what you asked, but it is in the sense that it's playing itself out in my music and my art because the development of who I am as an artist has become so much more than the music. Does that make sense?

***CCM: Absolutely. ...and, you are one of the few artists that truly and honestly opens up the door, even to your own home.***

NG: Right.

***CCM: If anyone reading follows you on social media, that is very obvious right away.***

NG: [*chuckles*]

***CCM: Which leads me to my last question: We've heard and seen how your kids have been involved in the recording process of your music, but what have they taught you in the process of writing this book? How has being a mom influenced you as an author?***

NG: They're throughout the book because so much of my struggle and fear comes from thoughts of failing them. I have two incredible parents that have done so much for me, but it was a different generation, you know? One of the things I didn't see a lot was my parents embracing their weaknesses. [On one hand] we don't want to, because we want to believe our dad is Superman, but I think one of the things that I've really been intentional about is actually being weak in front of my kids. When I fail them, when I lose my temper with them—which is way too often than I want to admit—I apologize. I go to them and say, “I am wrong. I made a mistake. I shouldn't have done that.” I think that what a child has is that immediate ability to receive you in your weakness, to love you anyway and look past it.

We lose that the older we get. We become jaded. We might say, “we forgive,” but we carry it. We tuck it away somewhere on the inside and don't forget. Kids still have that ability to just be like, “It's okay, Mom. Of course you make mistakes. Of course you're going to do that. That's okay. That's okay.” I think we lose that. It does take courage to let your weaknesses show, but if you start by actually letting your kids in on them, the amount of conversation and the amount of trust that is built (and what you will receive from them) will just be immeasurable, honestly. I can

Natalie Grant

tell you, that so much strength comes to me through being weak in front of my kids, and what they give me as a result of that is really truly beautiful. [CCM](#)



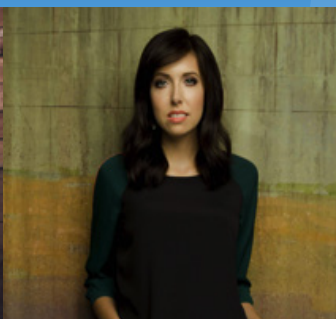


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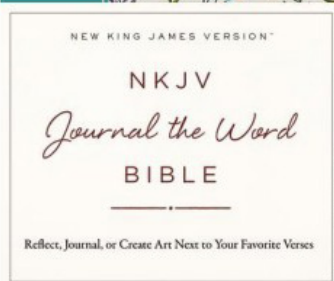
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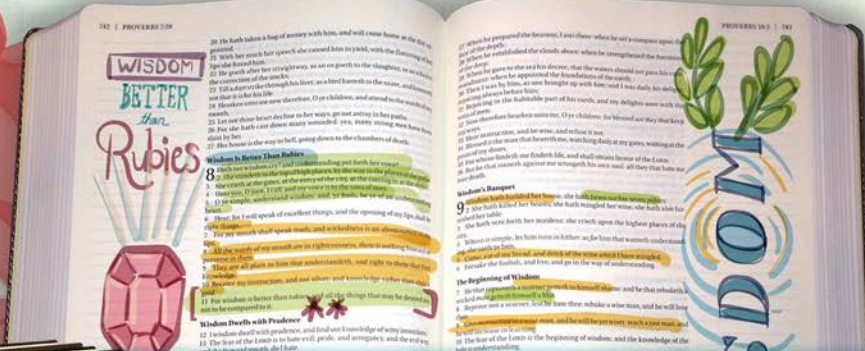
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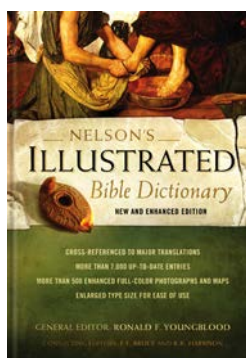
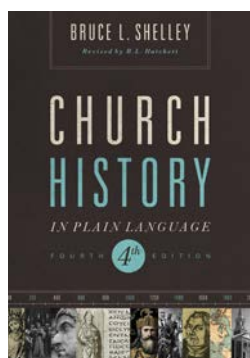


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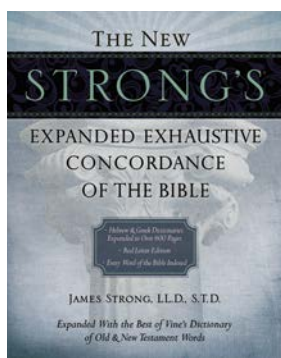
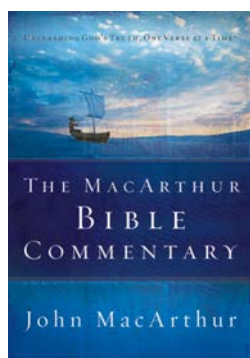
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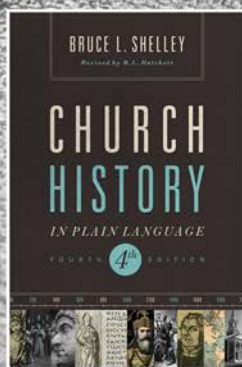
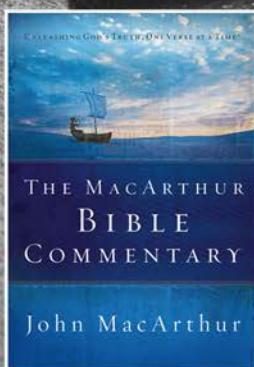
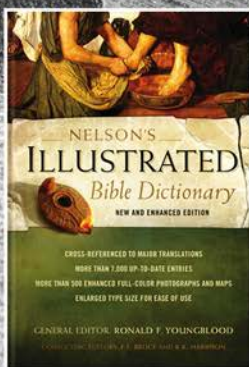
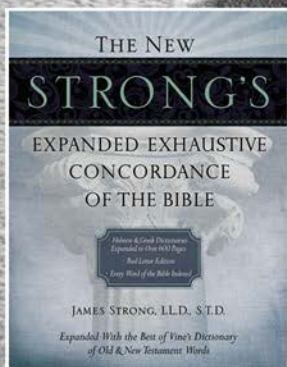
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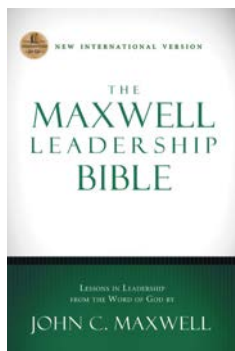
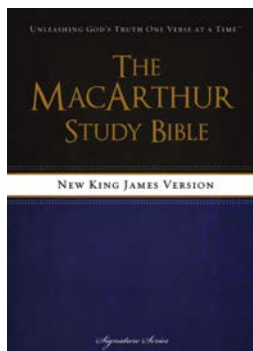
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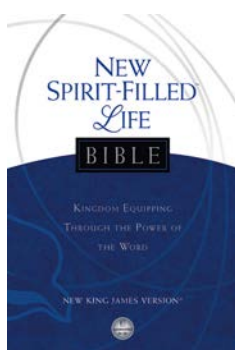
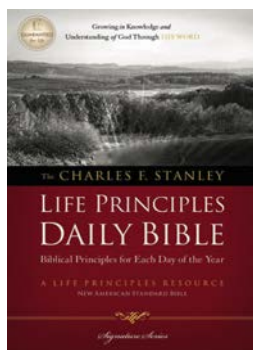
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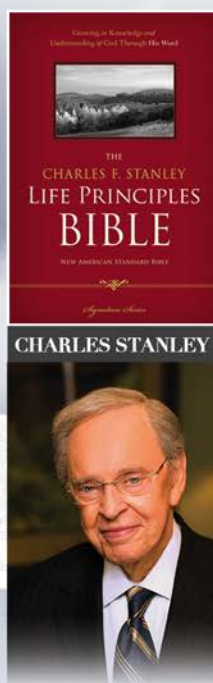
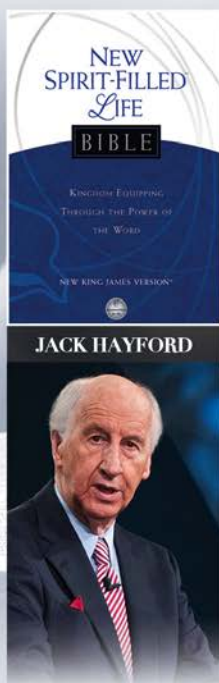
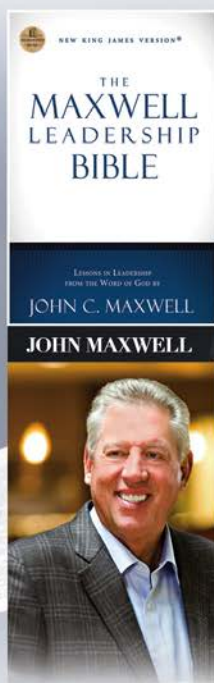
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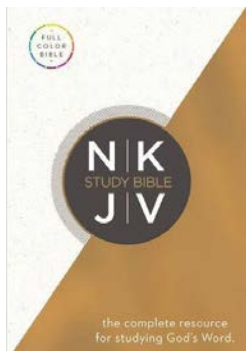
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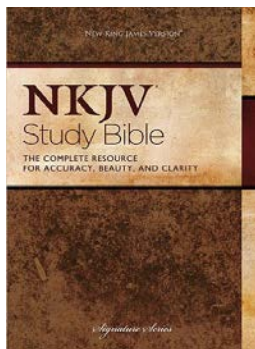
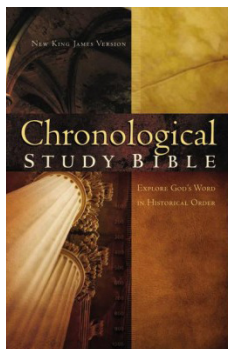




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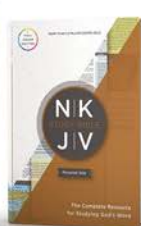
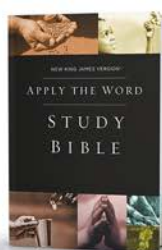
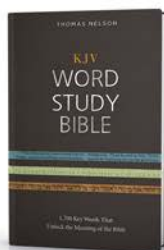
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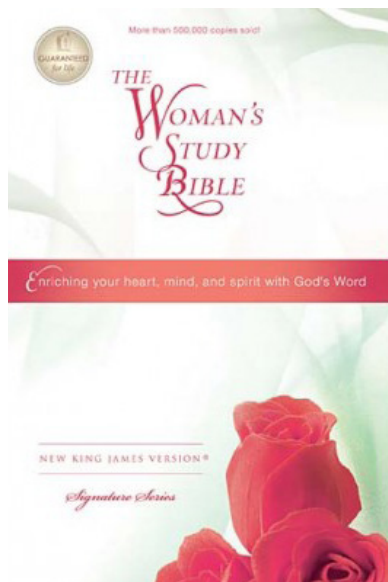
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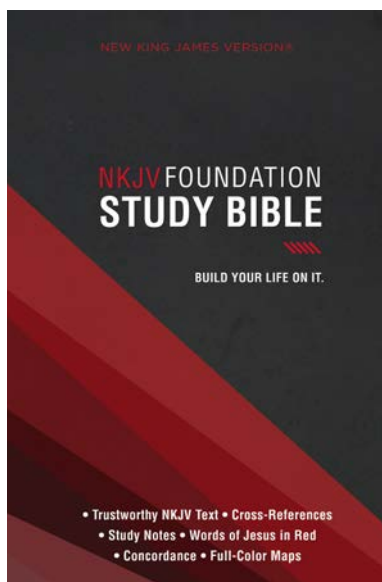


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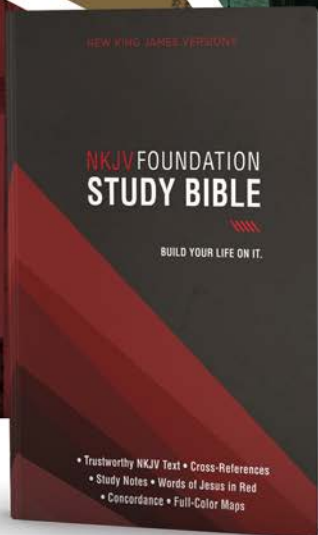
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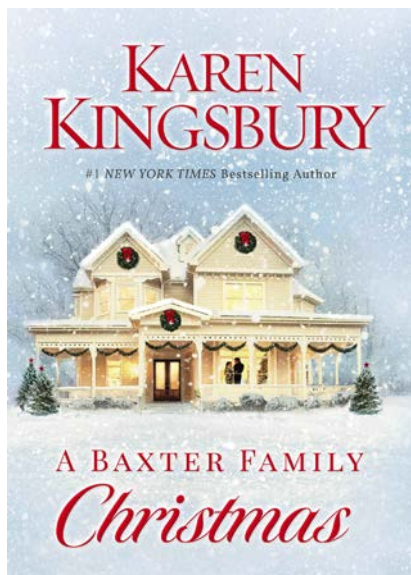
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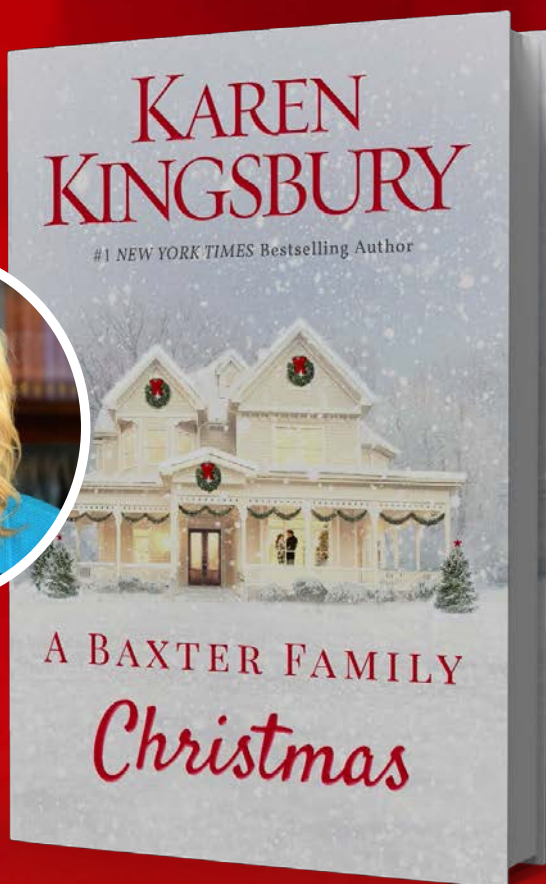
John is determined and believes meeting this woman is something his deceased daughter would want.

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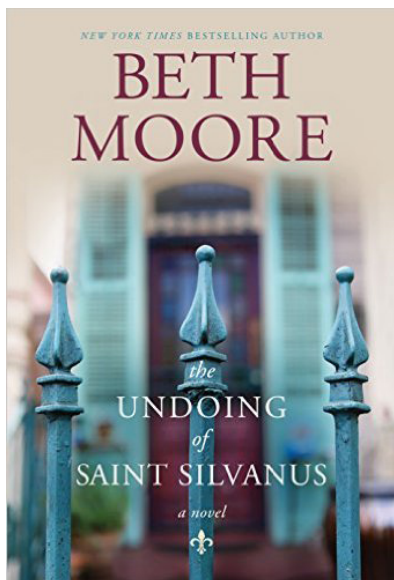
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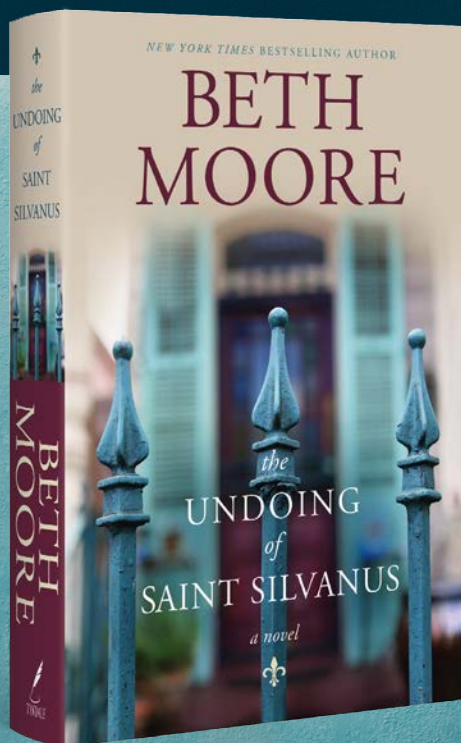
Booklist says this... "In her fiction debut, beloved Christian speaker and author Moore dives into uncharted territory with gusto. Simultaneously heartwarming and chilling, this tale has wide appeal with its mix of mystery, evangelism, history, suspense and love. Moore brings Southern culture to life, and thoughtfully poses questions of belonging, sin and self-worth. From its gritty start to its redemptive finish, Moore's ambitious first novel spotlights her gifts for humanizing the biblical experience and the search for faith."

Everyone can act now and register for a FREE webcast with Moore: Beth's Big Book Club Live from The Big Easy, happening on January 20th, 2017. This FREE live webstream event is a great way for a church, a book club, a book store, a library or a group of neighbors to talk about the book, learn from Beth, and invite those who may not be acquainted with the hope found in Christ. Register for the FREE January web stream.

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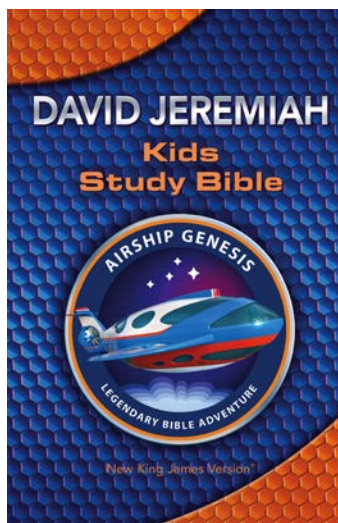
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## **Airship Genesis Kids Study Bible**

The *Airship Genesis Kids Study Bible* is an exciting adventure through God's Word in the trustworthy New King James Version®. Designed for children ages 7–11, it brings Bible stories to life and helps kids discover vital truths from Scripture, finding real-life applications for children living in today's world. Study features for this resource are based on the characteristics of the Airship Genesis brand from Dr. David Jeremiah. In the *Airship Genesis: Legendary Bible Adventure*, the Genesis Exploration Squad is commissioned to embark on a series of adventures that takes them throughout

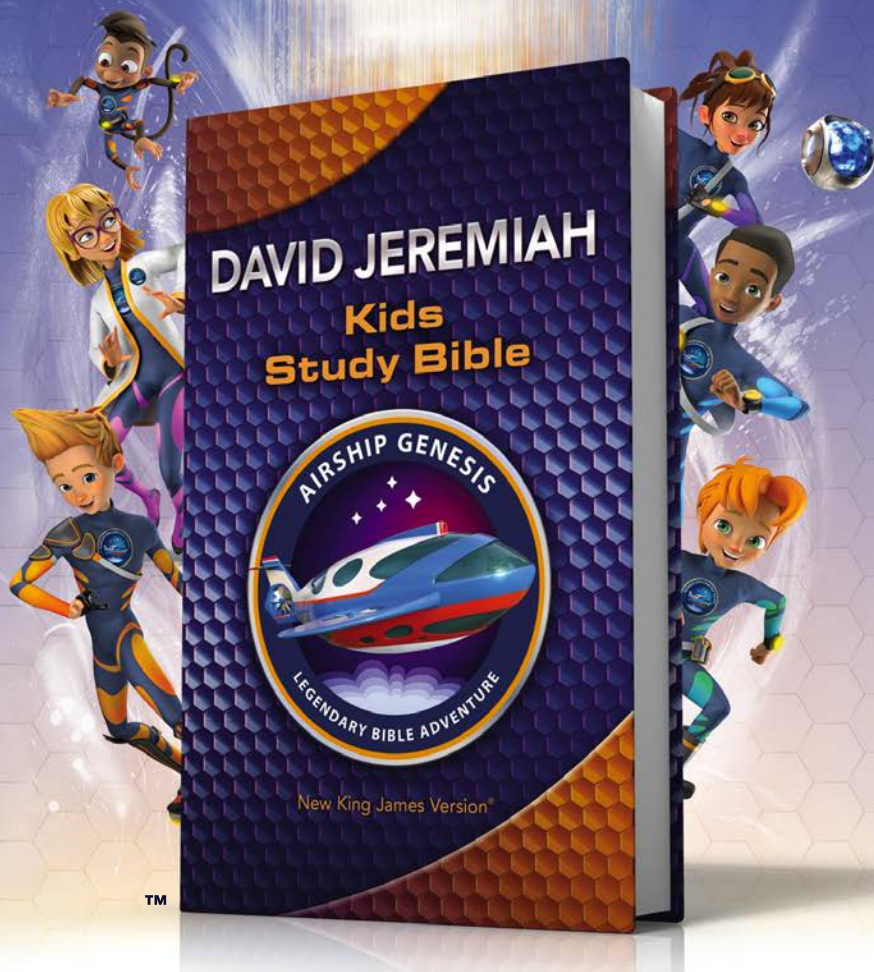
the Bible. Each mission is a learning experience, both in biblical understanding as well as character building.

Special features include:

- Foreword to Airship Genesis from Dr. Jeremiah
- Introduction to the Bible
- 66 Mission Overviews exploring the main theme and purpose of each book in the Bible
- "What Is the Bible All About?" article
- 100 Rupert Reports noting interesting Bible story facts
- 75 Power Force sidebars that help kids learn and apply Bible truths
- 50 Bible Heroes examining important Bible characters
- 60 Logos Discovery articles to help kids see the main themes of Scripture
- 100 Bible Blasts highlighting Scripture memory passages
- Full-color maps
- Concordance
- The trustworthy New King James Version®
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- 32 vibrant, full-page Bible character illustrations

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# LAUNCHING THE NEXT GREAT CHILDREN'S ADVENTURE!



Author of the best-selling *JEREMIAH STUDY BIBLE*  
with a 4.5 star rating on goodreads.

Embark upon the adventure of a lifetime with David Jeremiah's NKJV *Airship Genesis Kids Study Bible*—an exciting study Bible with hundreds of notes, articles, maps, and more! Join your child or grandchild as they read and learn about God's Word and engage through a monthly audio drama series available on [AirshipGenesis.com](http://AirshipGenesis.com)!

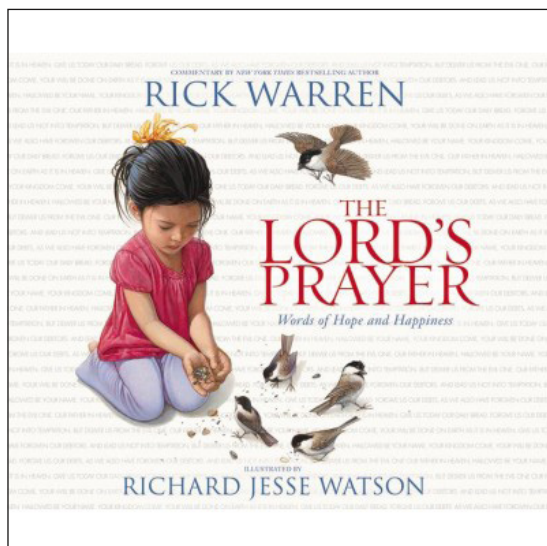
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## The Lord's Prayer

New from Zondervan is *The Lord's Prayer: Words of Hope and Happiness*, a fresh adaptation of the familiar prayer created especially for young readers. The poetic verses from the King James Version are paired with gorgeous illustrations by award-winning artist Richard Jesse Watson and thoughtful insights from bestselling author Rick Warren.

The unique format and style of *The Lord's Prayer: Words of Hope and Happiness* will help to familiarize children with biblical texts, while making the Lord's Prayer come alive in a new way for them. Whether it finds a home on a child's bookshelf or it is kept at Grandma's house to be read during visits, this beautiful book is sure to be treasured by readers young and old.

***"Prayer is just talking to God. Even though we cannot see God, he is always near, and God loves to hear our prayers. We can talk to God anywhere, and we can talk to him about anything! Whenever we feel sad or scared or upset, we should talk to God and tell him how we feel. God always understands."***

—Rick Warren

[WWW.ZONDERVAN.COM/THE-LORD-S-PRAYER-9](http://WWW.ZONDERVAN.COM/THE-LORD-S-PRAYER-9)

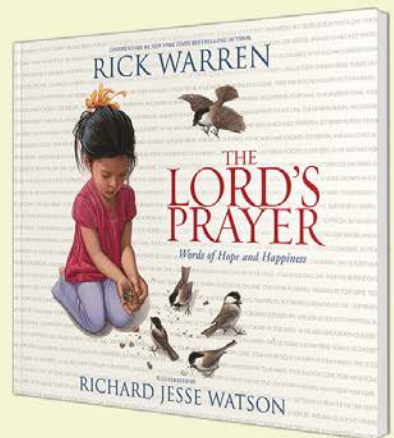




From *New York Times* Bestselling  
Author Rick Warren

# THE LORD'S PRAYER

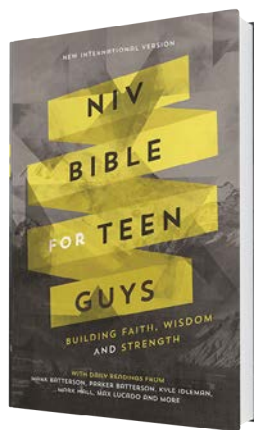
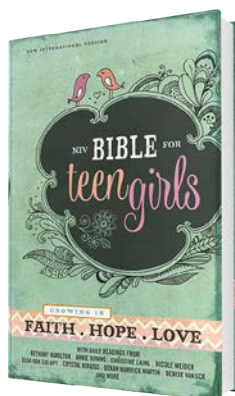
*The Lord's Prayer* pulses with new life through the exquisite illustration of award-winning artist Richard Jesse Watson, and simple, yet insightful commentary by bestselling author Rick Warren.



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## NIV Bibles for Teens

Being a teenager is tough! But with all the pressures of school, friends, social media and just plain growing up, there's still one place to turn for help—God's Word.

Encourage teens with these NIV Bibles designed especially for them. The *NIV Bible for Teen Guys* and the *NIV Bible for Teen Girls* are

packed with daily readings and advice from top male and female authors they trust. Teens can explore how the timeless truths of God's Word relate to their lives, their decisions, and the things they care about most. Help them get serious about their faith as they discover God's will for all areas of their lives, including relating to family, dealing with friends, work, dating and so much more.

Special features include:

- Daily readings for teen guys by popular Christian male authors like Mark Batterson, Max Lucado and Mark Hall, and for teen girls by popular Christian female authors like Annie Downs, Bethany Hamilton and Christine Caine
- Book introductions for each book of the Bible
- Character profiles of men in the *NIV Bible for Teen Guys* and women in the *NIV Bible for Teen Girls*
- Highlighted promises of God: verses worth remembering
- A concordance for help in finding verses
- The complete text of the bestselling New International Version of the Bible

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# THERE IS A BIBLE MADE JUST FOR TEENAGERS, LIVING IN TODAY'S WORLD.

THE NIV BIBLE FOR TEEN GUYS AND THE NIV BIBLE FOR  
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ADVICE FROM TOP MALE AND FEMALE AUTHORS THEY TRUST.

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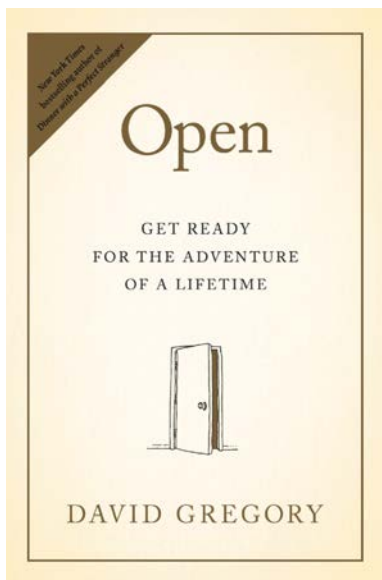


ZONDERVAN®



The Bibles explore how the timeless truths of the Bible relate to their life, their decisions, and the things they care about most. Encourage teens to become what God wants them to be.

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## Open

You've accepted the invitation. Are you ready to take the next step?

From the *New York Times* bestselling author of *Dinner with a Perfect Stranger*, *Open* will forever change the way you think about faith.

It wasn't the end of the world. It was just the end of Emma Jameson's world. Fresh off the heels of a devastating breakup and floundering in her career, Emma is struggling to come to grips with why God allows so much pain in our lives, why He seems so absent when she needs Him most, and why the Gospel accounts—

our supposed guide for how to lead a contented Christian life—feel so completely irrelevant. Then one day, a mysterious envelope arrives in Emma's mailbox with the word "Open" written on the outside. Inside the envelope is a card bearing the following message: "For a real adventure with Jesus, go through the nearest open door."

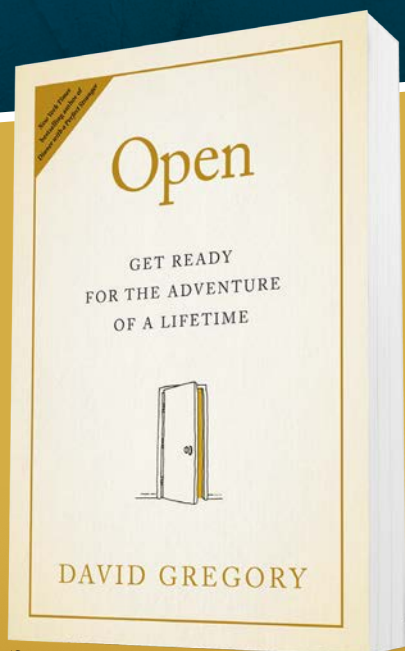
Skeptical, but having absolutely nothing to lose, Emma steps through the pantry door, only to find herself instantly transported back to the first century, where she is taken on a personal tour of various Gospel accounts by none other than Jesus himself—an experience that radically challenges Emma's perception of the Gospels and what it really means to be a Christian.

Get ready to Open the most spectacular Christmas gift of the season!

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# THE MOST SPECTACULAR GIFT YOU'LL OPEN THIS CHRISTMAS.



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**YOU'VE ACCEPTED THE INVITATION.  
ARE YOU READY TO TAKE THE NEXT STEP?**

From the *New York Times* bestselling author of *Dinner with a Perfect Stranger*, *Open* will forever change the way you think about faith. Join the main character, Emma, as she is taken on a personal tour of various Gospel events by none other than Jesus himself.

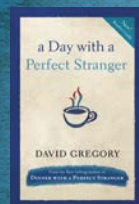
**LEARN MORE AT [TYNDALE.COM/OPEN](http://TYNDALE.COM/OPEN)**



*New York Times* bestselling author **David Gregory** has enthralled readers with “what-if” stories involving unexpected life-changing encounters in six novels, including *Dinner with a Perfect Stranger*, *A Day with a Perfect Stranger*, and *The Last Christian*. He has also coauthored two nonfiction books on Christian living.

The holder of master's degrees from the University of North Texas and Dallas Theological Seminary, David worked in business for ten years before devoting himself full-time to writing. He is a native of Texas.

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### **A Family Secret May Destroy a Couple's Hope for Marriage**

Elizabeth Canning discovers an awful secret in her deceased mother's diary. Believing her chances for a happy marriage are spoiled, she leaves her fiancé a letter and flees town. In hopes that distance will heal her broken heart, she takes refuge in her grandparents' Pennsylvania home.

Anticipating a Christmas Eve wedding with Elizabeth, David Stinner is confused by her letter and desperate to find her. Can David root out the truth about the past and bring back his bride? Or is the truth destined to bring an ultimate end to their romance?

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A Christmas Story from  
*NY Times* Bestselling Author  
**WANDA E. BRUNSTETTER**



*A Family Secret  
May Destroy  
a Couple's Hope  
for Marriage*

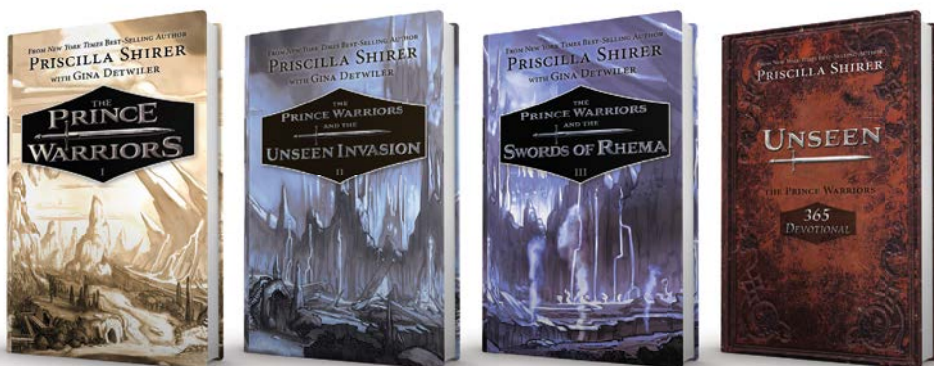
Beloved, bestselling author of Amish fiction, Wanda E. Brunstetter tells a heartrending story from 1880 Pennsylvania. Elizabeth and David are planning a Christmas Eve wedding when Elizabeth discovers a long-buried family secret. Leaving only a letter behind, she flees town thinking all hope of a marriage to David is lost.



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## Prince Warriors

The battle is real.

As brothers, Xavier and Evan are used to battling each other. But now they're discovering that there is a much bigger battle going on all around them. And it's their turn to fight. Based on Ephesians 6:10–18, *The Prince Warriors* is the first book in Priscilla Shirer's epic new children's series that brings to life the invisible struggle ensuing in the spiritual realm. Xavier, Evan and their friends have typical lives until they enter a mysterious land called Ahoratos. There they meet their guide, Ruwach, who offers wisdom and direction as the kids' initial adventure begins—an adventure filled with armor and danger and a very real enemy.

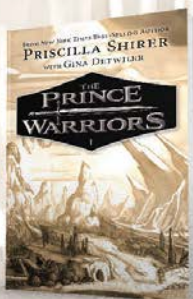
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*“Mom, will I ever be in a battle?”*

This question from my son inspired me to write a new series for kids—teaching them about the importance of the armor of God and of the reality of the spiritual world. We are in a battle—a daily battle—and it’s time for our young people to learn how to suit up, too. The characters in these stories will draw tweens in with relevant and relatable experiences and then show them how to achieve spiritual victory in their own lives.



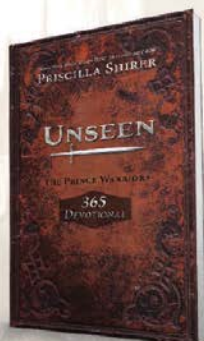
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I can’t wait for kids everywhere to be inspired through

## ***The Prince Warriors Series***

— Priscilla Shirer

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for more information!



## **Bibleman**

The new animated Bibleman franchise features multiple products including animated DVDs, comics, books, building block sets, mini-figures and Bibleman's sword. Children will learn biblical values as well as Scripture. The Bibleman brand began in 1995 from Pamplin Entertainment and was primarily a series comprised of live-action videos with other branded books and toys. B&H is partnering with P23 Entertainment Inc. to produce 26 episodes of Bibleman: The Animated Adventures. Learn more at [Bibleman.com](http://Bibleman.com).

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# BIBLEMAN

## THE ANIMATED ADVENTURES

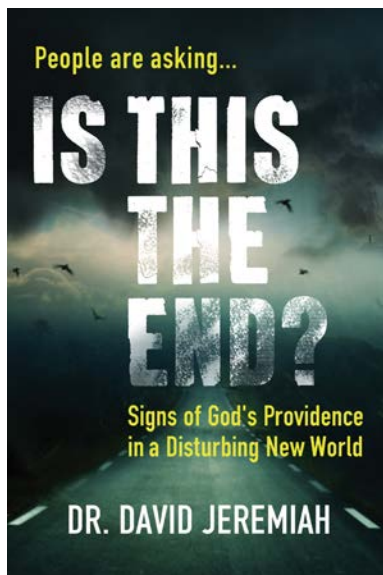


## BIBLEMAN IS BACK!

This time, he and the Bibleteam are not only fighting villains and evil, but also teaching kids Scripture and biblical principles in an all new animated series!



Look for Bibleman in stores NOW! Learn more at [Bibleman.com](http://Bibleman.com)



## Is This The End?

Could the headlines be any more jarring, the cultural changes more rapid, or the moral decay more pronounced? More and more people are asking, "Is this the end?"

Over the last few decades, Dr. David Jeremiah has become one of the world's most sought-after Christian leaders on topics that deal with biblical application and modern culture. And few would dispute that the pace at which things are currently changing is unprecedented.

"In my conversations with people of all ages, races, and professions, I find deepening anxiety and even fear that things cannot go

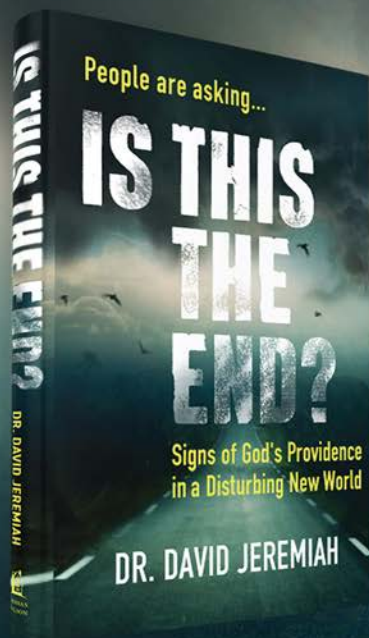
on as they are for long," writes Dr. Jeremiah. "It is clear to many people that ominous clouds are darkening our future, and events are coming to a head.

"Christians wonder whether the end times prophesied in the book of Revelation are upon us. Is the rising disorder we are experiencing a precursor of the approaching Rapture of the church and the final return of Christ? Secularists wonder whether the nation is on the verge of collapse into economic, racial and political anarchy; or whether a hostile nation such as Russia, China or Iran might unleash its atomic fury on our cities; or whether militant Islamic terrorists flooding through our porous borders might inflict enough damage to bring us to our knees."

The time has come to accept this new normal, Dr. Jeremiah says, and understand how God's hand is still at work on His eternal plan for mankind.

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# CAN YOU AFFORD TO... IGNORE THE WARNINGS?

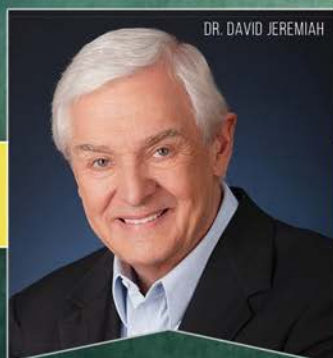
**NO, BUT ALL CAN BETTER UNDERSTAND GOD'S GREATER STORY**

AND THE ROLE WE EACH PLAY IN THIS CHANGING WORLD

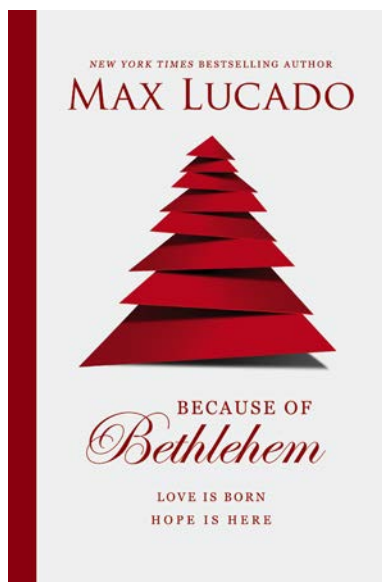
FROM *NEW YORK TIMES* BESTSELLING AUTHOR AND

BIBLICAL SCHOLAR, **DR. DAVID JEREMIAH.**

**ISTHISTHEEND.COM**



**#GODISWITHUS**



### **Because of Bethlehem**

Max Lucado loves Christmas. Let the sleigh bells ring. Let the carolers sing. The more Santas the merrier. The more trees the better. He loves it because somewhere someone will ask the ultimate Christmas questions: What's the big deal about the baby in the manger? Who was He? What does His birth have to do with me? And the answers he's found are filled with hope, love . . . and even joy.

In his compelling new book *Because of Bethlehem: Love Is Born, Hope Is Here*, Lucado takes familiar elements of the year's most popular holiday and sheds brilliant light on how each aspect of the Christmas story reveals another expression of God's unbelievable, personal love.

Lucado looks into the Bethlehem story, with all its fumbles, awkwardness and longing, and details how the birth of Jesus is orchestrated to show us that God is with us in ways we could never imagine. "Christmas tells us that God knows what it is like to be a human," Lucado explains. "When I talk to him about deadlines or long lines or tough times, he understands. He's been there. He's been here. Because of Bethlehem, I have a friend in heaven."

According to Lucado: "Because of Bethlehem we are given the honor to interact with God, hear His thoughts and witness the magnificence of His Glory in both the good and bad parts of life. Jesus brought the Message to us in order that we would know truth and be truth in a dark world."

[WWW.THOMASNELSON.COM/BECAUSE-OF-BETHLEHEM](http://WWW.THOMASNELSON.COM/BECAUSE-OF-BETHLEHEM)

# Christmas.

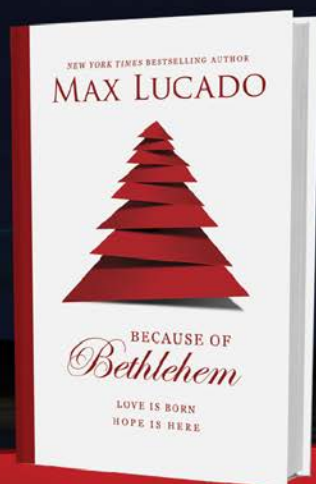
It brings sleigh bells ringing and carolers singing. And sometimes it brings heartache and hurt feelings. If you could use some true Christmas this Christmas, join Max Lucado as

he unpacks the enduring promises of Christmas and reveals a lifetime of hope

*because of one baby born in Bethlehem.*



## BECAUSE OF *Bethlehem*



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AT YOUR FAVORITE BOOKSTORE





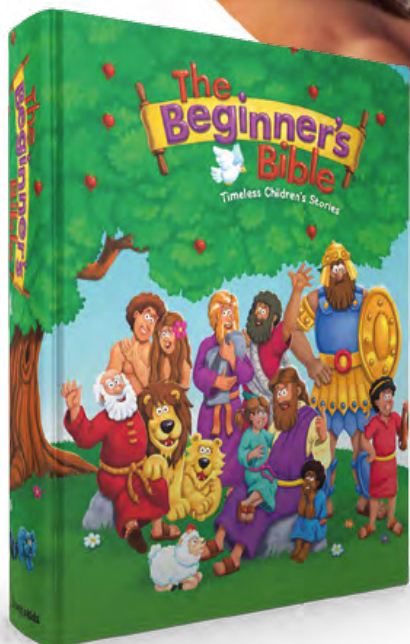
## **The Beginner's Bible**

*The Beginner's Bible*® has been a favorite with young children and their parents since its release in 1989 with over 25 million products sold. Now it's redesigned with fresh new art that will excite children for many more years to come.

Full of faith and fun, *The Beginner's Bible* is a wonderful gift for any child. The easy-to-read text and bright, full-color illustrations on every page make it a perfect way to introduce young children to the stories and characters of the Bible. With new vibrant

three-dimensional art and compelling text, more than 90 Bible stories come to life. Kids ages 6 and under will enjoy the fun illustrations of Noah helping the elephant onto the ark, Jonah praying inside the fish, and more, as they discover *The Beginner's Bible* just like millions of children before. *The Beginner's Bible* was named the 2006 Retailers Choice Award winner in Children's Nonfiction. The Beginner's Bible family of products offers something for each child in your classroom, home or daycare. Join the conversation on Facebook and Twitter, and visit *The Beginner's Bible* website to learn more and take advantage of free resources!

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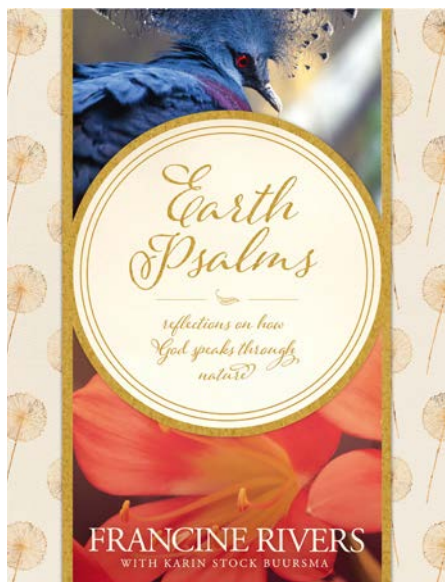


## A WHOLE NEW WAY FOR KIDS TO EXPERIENCE THE BIBLE!

For over 25 years, *The Beginner's Bible* has captured imaginations and guided young hearts to the Word of God. Now updated with all-new, vibrant, three-dimensional illustrations, this is one Bible experience your kids will turn to again and again. Available wherever books are sold.

The fun begins at [TheBeginnersBible.com](http://TheBeginnersBible.com).





## **Earth Psalms**

Reflections on How God Speaks through Nature

Millions of readers have been transformed and inspired by her bestselling novels *Redeeming Love* and *A Voice in the Wind*. Now, in this weekly devotional, beloved author Francine Rivers invites you to join her in seeking the Creator through the marvelous natural world we live in. Francine shares observations she's gathered over a lifetime of exploring—abroad and in her own backyard—and reflects on how they might apply to your daily life. What do the majestic

redwoods, the persistent woodpecker, or a glorious sunrise reveal about our artistic and generous God? How could that change your outlook or the way you handle adversity?

Stunning photography, Scripture excerpts, applications and prayers accompany Francine's reflections, inspiring you to be encouraged. Be challenged. Be comforted. God's power is immense; His attention to detail is precise; His love for you is vast and unfailing. The proof is all around you.

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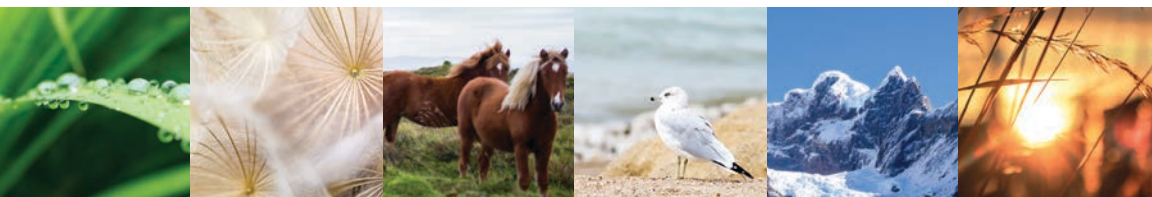
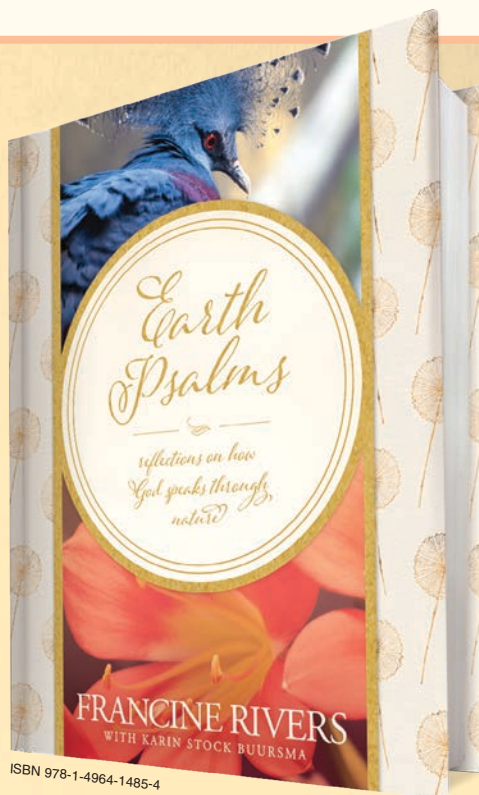
*New* DEVOTIONAL FROM *NEW YORK TIMES*  
BESTSELLING AUTHOR **FRANCINE RIVERS**

EVERYTHING GOD CREATED  
IS A WONDER TO BEHOLD!

In this weekly devotional, beloved author Francine Rivers invites you to join her in seeking the Creator through the marvelous natural world we live in. Stunning photography, Scripture excerpts, applications, and prayers will inspire, encourage, challenge, and comfort you.

*"Earth Psalms is a gorgeous book. It's the writing, insightful, fragrant and personal, that breathes this beauty to life and transports us in our imaginations to each scene."*

*New York Times* bestselling author Beth Moore



*New York Times* bestselling author FRANCINE RIVERS has continued to win both industry acclaim and reader loyalty around the globe. Her numerous bestsellers include *A Voice in the Wind*, *Redeeming Love*, and *Bridge to Haven*. Visit her website at [www.francinerivers.com](http://www.francinerivers.com).

KARIN STOCK BUURSMA has worked in the publishing industry for more than fifteen years, first at a publishing house and now as a freelance editor and writer.



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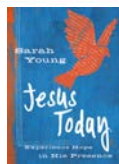


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### **A Very Merry Christmas Prayer**

Join the adorable woodland animals as they celebrate Christmas! The pages of this book will walk you through beloved holiday traditions. This book will make readers more thankful for Christmas, and most important, Jesus.

### **God Bless Our Christmas**

This sweet rhyming story will help your little ones focus on all the blessings of Christmas with family, including decorating cookies and trees, singing favorite carols, giving gifts, and celebrating Jesus!

### **One Small Donkey for Little Ones/One Small Donkey**

Bestselling author Dandi Daley Mackall tells the story of Jesus' birth from an unlikely perspective: a donkey carrying Mary to Bethlehem. The donkey is not the fastest or strongest animal, but he had an important job all the same.

### **Itsy Bitsy Christmas**

When two small mice find out that a king is coming to Bethlehem, they are so excited! They search high and low for him, but cannot find him anywhere. Just when they begin to believe that they really aren't important enough for a king to visit, they learn that Christ the King has indeed come for everyone!

### **Good Good Father**

This beautiful picture book by Grammy award-winning Christian music artist Chris Tomlin and Pat Barrett leaves children with a greater understanding of who God is and of who they are because they are loved by Him.

### **Jesus Today Teen Cover**

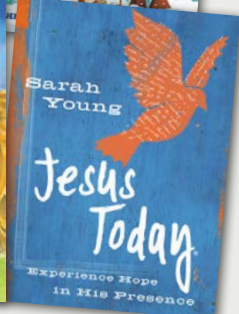
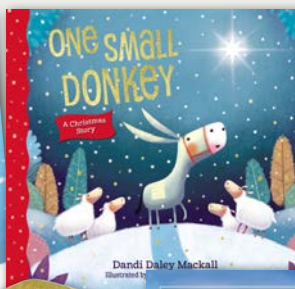
Filled with the familiar content you know and trust, this updated cover of *Jesus Today* makes an excellent gift for the teenagers and young adults in your life.

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# Share the WONDER OF Christmas

Give the gift of Jesus this Christmas with books that nurture the faith of children while pointing them toward a relationship with God.

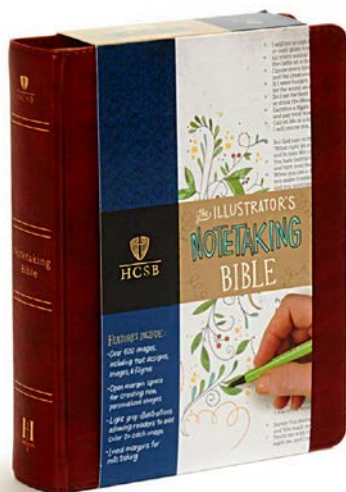


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## **The Illustrator's Notetaking Bible**

Offering the perfect gift for that creative person in your life, *The Illustrator's Notetaking Bible* combines both the opportunity to journal your thoughts in the conveniently lined margins as well as over 600 images to engage the artist in everyone. With these unique illustrations included on every page spread, readers, illustrators and notetakers alike learn to engage the biblical text in a new way. Each image is in light grey outline and there are open margin spaces for creating new, personalized creations as well.

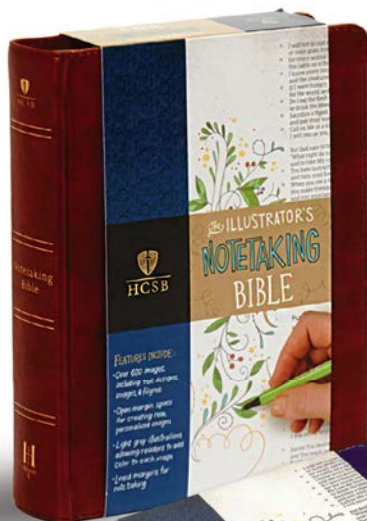
The exceptional design offers a wonderful balance for everyone from seasoned artists to the creatively challenged, allowing for guided creativity and meaningful personalization of the Bible reading experience. Featuring filigree, Scripture quotes and unique images, these line-drawn illustrations are waiting to be brought to life. Several cover options are available, but shown here is our British Tan, bonded leather over board edition that offers a classic feel as well as a durable construction that will last for generations to come.

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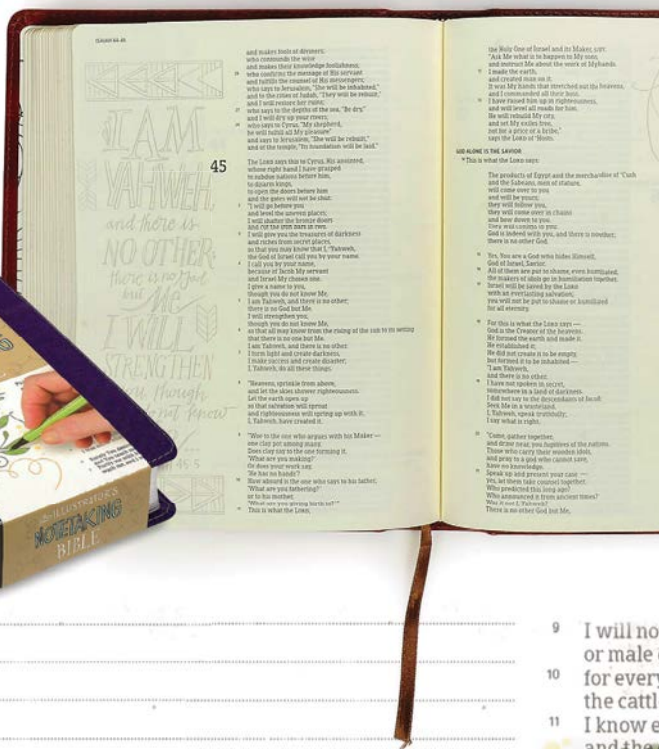
# The ILLUSTRATOR'S NOTETAKING BIBLE

OVER 600 ILLUSTRATIONS  
TO HELP YOU BRING YOUR  
BIBLE TO LIFE



FEATURES INSIDE:

- Over 600 images, including illustrations, maps, & figures
- Open margins, perfect for writing notes
- Light gray illustrations, including pictures to aid in understanding
- Large margins for writing

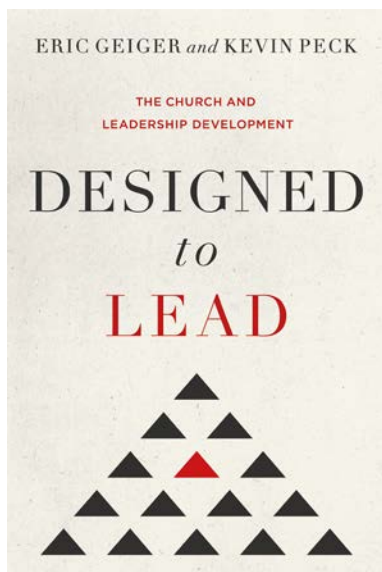


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for the w  
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or drink





## **Designed to Lead**

Most churches merely exist.

Many churches do not develop leaders intentionally and consistently. When leaders emerge from some churches, it is often by accident.

Something is missing; something is off.

From the first recordings of history, God has made it clear that He has designed creation to be led by His covenant people. More than that, He has decided what His people are to do with that leadership. Whether you are called to lead in your home, in the marketplace, in God's church, or in your community, if you are called by God you are called to lead others to worship the glory of God in Jesus Christ.

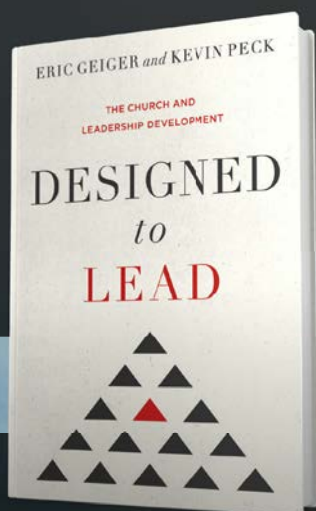
God has designed his people to lead.

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Authors Eric Geiger (author of bestselling *Simple Church* and *Creature of the Word*) and Kevin Peck argue that churches that consistently produce leaders have a strong conviction to develop leaders, a healthy culture for leadership development, and helpful constructs to systematically and intentionally build leaders. All three are essential for leaders to be formed through the ministry of a local church.

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RELEASING SEPTEMBER 1



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### **She Reads Truth**

She wants to know what is true—not partly true, or sometimes true, or almost true. She wants to see Truth itself, face-to-face. But here, now, these things are all cloudy. Hope is tinged with hurt. Faith is shaded by doubt. Lesser, broken things masquerade as love. How does she find something permanent when the world around her is always changing, when not even she can stay the same? And if she finds it, how does she hold on?

*She Reads Truth* tells the stories of two women who discovered, through very different lives and circumstances, that only God and His Word remain unchanged as the world around them shifted and slipped away.

Infused with biblical application and Scripture, this book is not just about two characters in two stories, but about one Hero and one Story.

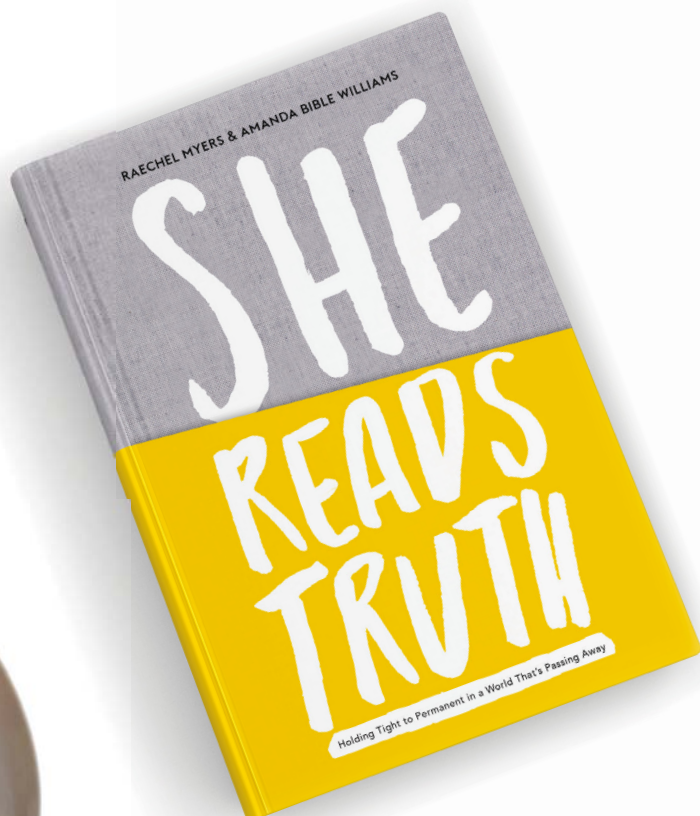
Every image points to the bigger picture—that God and His Word are true. Not because of anything we do, but because of who He is. Not once, not occasionally, but right now and all the time. Sometimes it takes everything moving to notice the thing that doesn't move. Sometimes it takes telling two very different stories to notice how the Truth was exactly the same in both of them.

For anyone searching for a solid foundation to cling to, *She Reads Truth* is a rich and honest Bible-filled journey to finally find permanence in a world that's passing away.

[WWW.SHEREADSTRUTHBOOK.COM](http://WWW.SHEREADSTRUTHBOOK.COM)

SHE WANTS TO KNOW WHAT IS TRUE—  
NOT PARTLY TRUE, OR SOMETIMES TRUE, OR ALMOST TRUE.

SHE WANTS TRUTH ITSELF.



*She Reads Truth* tells the stories of two women who discovered that only God and His Word remain unchanged as the world around them shifted and slipped away.

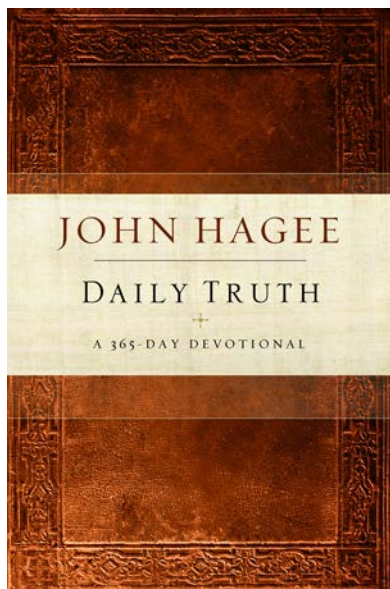
Sometimes it takes everything moving to notice the thing that doesn't move. Sometimes it takes telling two very different stories to notice how the Truth was exactly the same in both of them.



Every WORD Matters™  
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### Daily Truth

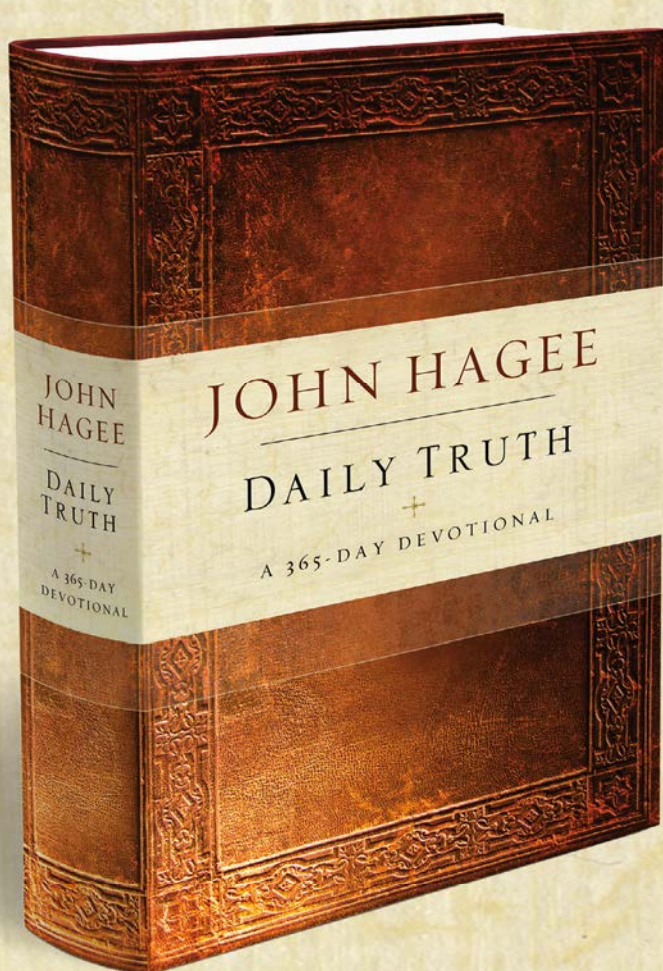
Our world is full of brokenness—in families, careers, marriages and finances. In the midst of the daily anxieties Pastor John Hagee reminds us to call out to God in prayer and claim His promises for provision and grace. Our year can be successful if we turn to God, seek His truth, and ask for help. In *Daily Truth* Pastor Hagee demonstrates God's past faithfulness in Scripture and challenges readers to trust in God's unfailing support in their daily lives. God has blessings in store for you; believe it!

In this 365-day devotional, bestselling author and pastor John Hagee walks you through the Scripture with words of strength and hope for every day. As only he can, Pastor Hagee draws from his decades of Bible study and ministry to bring authoritative yet inspirational meditations that will center you in the truth of the Word of God. At the end of each week, you will be especially encouraged by a powerful and meaningful Pastor's Blessing.

This elegant, jacketed hardcover volume features a beautiful full-color interior and a ribbon marker, making it perfect for daily devotional reading.

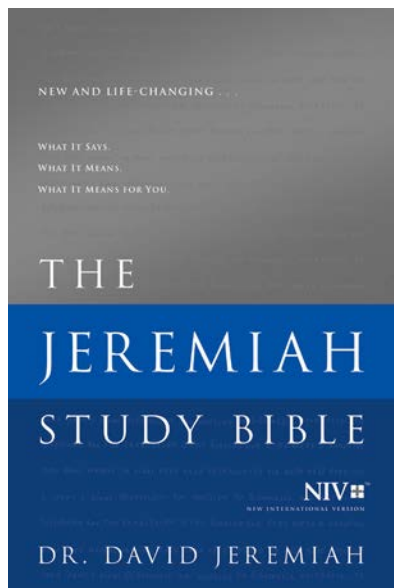
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# Words of Strength and Hope for Each Day of the Year



“I am praying that God brings you to a new destiny,  
a new spiritual high—a new destination with your  
Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.”  
—PASTOR JOHN HAGEE





### **The Jeremiah Study Bible**

This extraordinary and popular Bible is the result of 40 years of study by one of the most widely viewed and respected Bible teachers in the world today. This legacy resource will be the standard for decades to come. Packed within the pages of *The Jeremiah Study Bible* are a lifetime of teaching and preaching insights God has given Dr. Jeremiah. He has often said that *The Jeremiah Study Bible* is the most important thing he has ever done because it brings everything back to what matters most in his life and ministry. “The Bible has the greatest potential of anything I know to permanently transform someone’s life.

I can’t think of anything better than extending its reach to even more people through *The Jeremiah Study Bible*.”

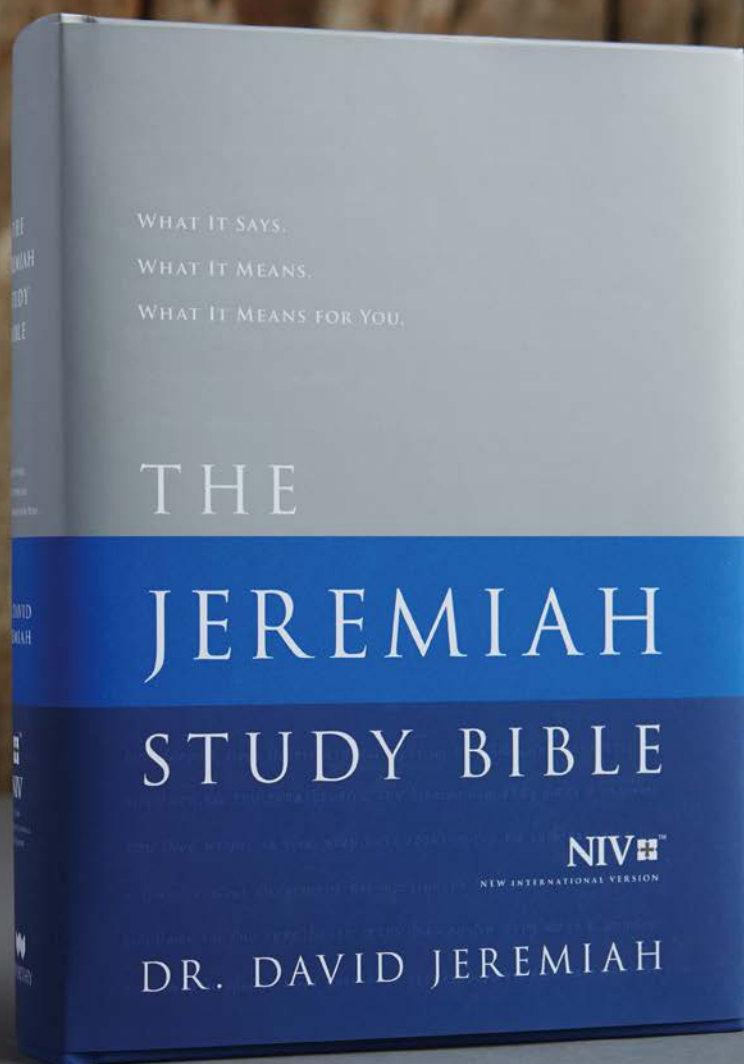
Almost 50 years after the vision was cast—and more than 450 million copies later—the New International Version is the most widely read Bible translation in contemporary English. The NIV delivers the very best combination of accuracy and readability. It’s true to God’s Word and true to the reader.

The NIV, combined with more than 8,000 notes and sidebars from years of Dr. Jeremiah’s teaching, helps you more clearly know what the Bible says, what it means, and what it means for you. It is available in jacketed hardcover, genuine leather, and LeatherLuxe bindings.

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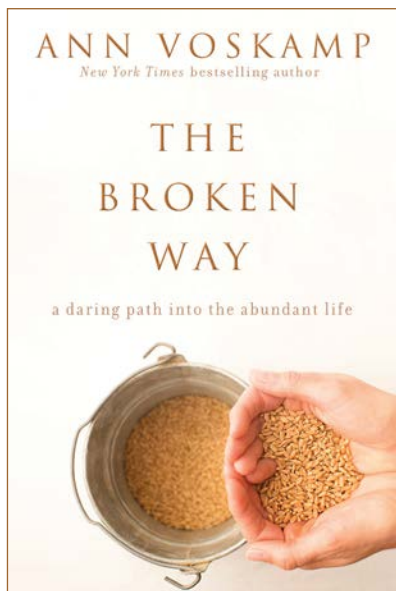


# ***The best-selling study Bible from David Jeremiah***



## ***Now available in NIV***

***Learn more: [JeremiahStudyBible.com](http://JeremiahStudyBible.com)***



## **The Broken Way**

*New York Times* bestselling author Ann Voskamp sits at the edge of her life and all of her own unspoken brokenness and asks: What if you really want to live abundantly before it's too late? What do you do if you really want to know abundant wholeness? This is the one begging question that's behind every single aspect of our lives—and one that *The Broken Way* rises up to explore in the most unexpected ways.

This one's for the lovers and the sufferers. For those whose hopes and dreams and love grew so large it broke their willing hearts. This one's for the busted ones who are ready to bust free, the ones ready to break molds, break chains, break

measuring sticks, and break all this bad brokenness with an unlikely good brokenness. You could be one of the Beloved who is broken—and still lets yourself be loved.

You could be one of them, one who believes freedom can be found not only beyond the fear and pain, but actually *within* it.

You could discover and trust this broken way—the way to not be afraid of broken things.

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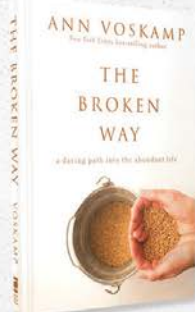


PAIN. HEARTACHE. BROKENNESS.  
**THEY'RE THE BEGINNING, NOT THE END.**

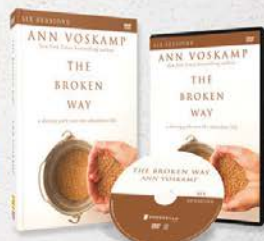
What do you do with the brokenness in your life?

What's the answer to suffering in the world?

What do you really do if you want to know  
abundant wholeness in your day to day?

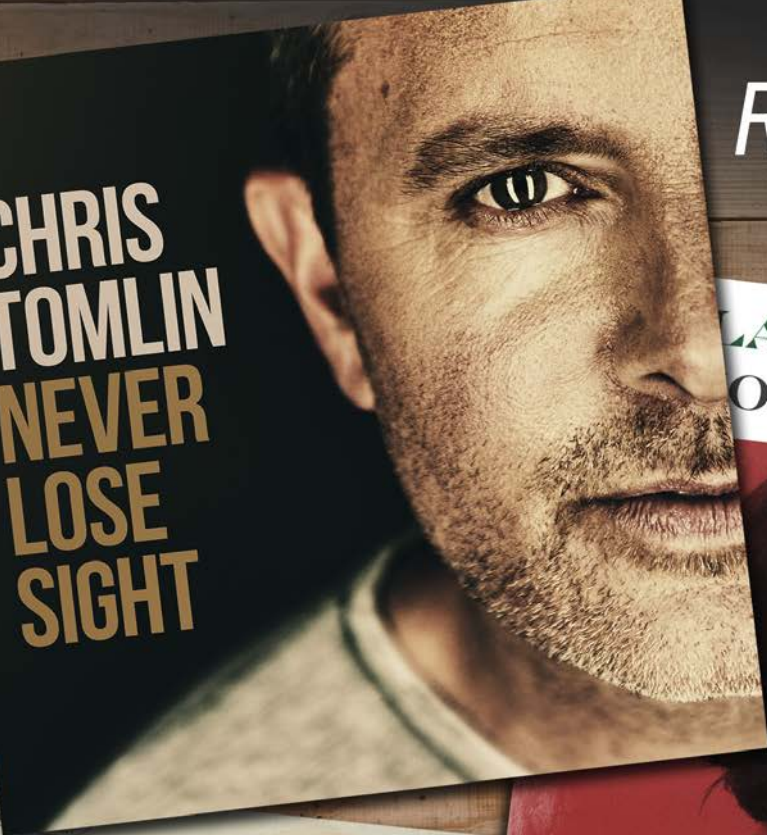


Video Study Available  
November 29



Bestselling author Ann Voskamp takes those who carry their own unspoken broken on a journey into *The Broken Way* — a fresh, authentic way into more time, more meaning, more abundant wholeness — a literal way to shape one's days into the abundant life. Live a life that is fearless of brokenness. Book on sale October 25th. To find a retailer and more information, visit [TheBrokenWay.com](http://TheBrokenWay.com). **ZONDERVAN**.com





**CHRIS  
TOMLIN**  
**NEVER  
LOSE  
SIGHT**

# REVIEWS

nov 1, 2016

**LAUREN DAIG**  
**OLD** A CHRISTMAS COLLECTOR



**MY  
GRANT**  
Tennessee  
Christmas



— **JODY McBRAYER** —  
**CHRISTMASTIME**

**Chris Tomlin**

***Never Lose Sight***

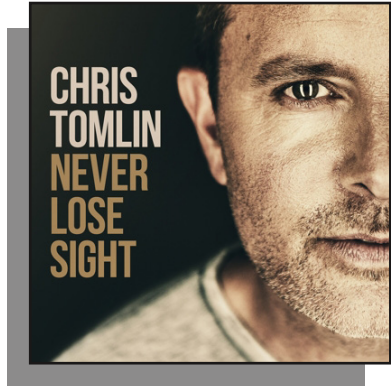
(*sixstepsrecords*)

**FOR FANS OF:**

*Matt Redman*

**WE LIKE:** "Jesus"

★★★★☆



**Chris Tomlin's** new album, ***Never Lose Sight***, lives up to its title, keeping the focus squarely on the person and work of Jesus in the life of the believer. Whether singing with **Danny Gokey** about the "Impossible Things" God is able to do or focusing on the good news on "Jesus," *Never Lose Sight* keeps the listener focused on the core of the gospel.

Obvious highlights are here like the opening hit "Good Good Father," but make sure to tune into meaningful deeper cuts like "God And God Alone" and "First Love" with **Kim Walker-Smith**. Both songs are slower songs well suited for corporate worship gatherings and show there's plenty to appreciate front to back on Tomlin's latest.

—Matt Conner

**Lauren Daigle**

***Behold***

*(Centricity)*

**FOR FANS OF:**

*Adele, Mandisa*

**WE LIKE:** "O Holy Night"

★★★★★☆



We first got a holiday taste of **Lauren Daigle** from her appearance on **Chris Tomlin's *Adore*** album on the song "Noel." Since then, we've wanted to unwrap a pairing of Christmas classics with one of the greatest vocal talents around. ***Behold*** is Daigle's first Yuletide entry, a light, jazzy take on several holiday classics (and one new song, "Light Of The World").

Given the overall timbre of this album, something reminiscent of what you'd hear walking throughout her hometown's French Quarter, could this be a glimpse of the real Lauren Daigle (and direction of future releases, perhaps)? Although Daigle doesn't offer many new titles, it is the time of year where you want to wrap yourself in familiar favorites, and this is an experience that goes beyond the audible. It's hard to find a more-welcome messenger for tunes like "O Holy Night" than the reigning Dove Award winner for New Artist Of The Year.

–Staff



**Amy Grant**

***Tennessee Christmas***

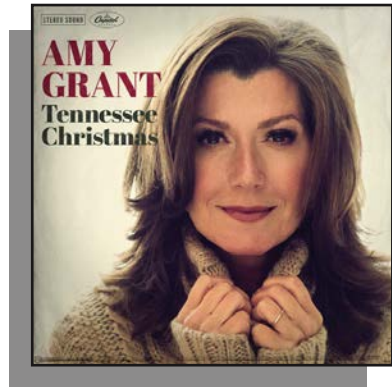
(Capitol)

**FOR FANS OF:**

*Carole King, Sheryl Crow, Vince Gill*

**WE LIKE:** "To Be Together"

★★★★★



The queen of contemporary Christian and pop Christmas returns with her first entirely fresh Yuletide release in 17 years, and though **Amy Grant** already has a deeply beloved seasonal treasure trove, ***Tennessee Christmas*** ranks right up there amongst her finest work. In addition to a mature and earthy re-working of the title track, this installment actually favors originals to covers that continue in the organic and unvarnished tradition of her last few regular studio albums. As far as new tunes go, "To Be Together," "December" and "Another Merry Christmas" are surely standards in the making, while "Melancholy Christmas" may initially paint the more somber side of the season, but ultimately discovers hope.

Already familiar highlights include a jazzy trip through "White Christmas," a cute and cuddly duet with hubby **Vince Gill** on "Baby, It's Cold Outside," plus the homespun beauty of the acoustic guitar and choir-adorned "O Come All Ye Faithful" to wrap up this warm and stellar stocking stuffer.

—Andy Argyrakis

**Jody McBrayer**  
***Christmastime***

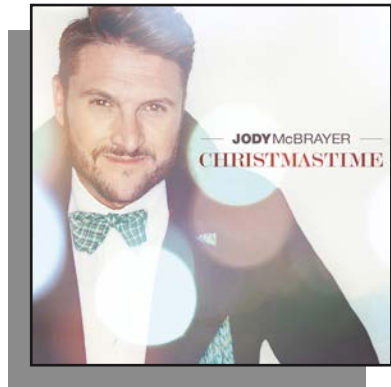
*(StowTown)*

**FOR FANS OF:**

*Avalon, Cana's Voice, Michael English*

**WE LIKE:** "Count Your Blessings  
Instead of Sheep/Silent Night"

★★★★★



Between the re-ignition of his solo career and starting the new supergroup **Cana's Voice**, former **Avalon** vocalist **Jody McBrayer** is really on a roll. ***Christmastime*** not only fully cements the practically flawless tenor's comeback, but is also one of the strongest seasonal releases in recent memory thanks to its split between moving originals, a few tried and trues, plus some more than welcome rarities.

No matter if it's his own "Imagine This Christmas," a clever merger of **Irving Berlin's** "Count Your Blessings Instead Of Sheep" with "Silent Night" or **George Michael & Wham!'s** "Last Christmas," McBrayer turns in a classy, cozy, jazzy and all around reflective ode to the most wonderful time of the year.

—Andy Argyrakis

**The Brilliance**

**All Is Not Lost**

*(Integrity)*

**FOR FANS OF:**

*Gungor, John Mark McMillan*

**WE LIKE:** "All Is Not Lost"

★★★★☆



If you're already a fan of **The Brilliance**, then you're likely also a fan of imaginative and even challenging worship music. **David Gungor** and **John Arndt** are the duo behind The Brilliance, with David as the brother for, you might have guessed, **Michael Gungor**. It's hard not to draw lines (and comparisons), but The Brilliance shine brightly on their own for their hopeful, poetic lyrics and beautiful melodies.

More than anything, The Brilliance encourage the world to come, as illustrated on the lovely title track ("May the seeds of peace be scattered/Birthing trees whose shade gives us rest"). Each song better positions the listener to understand and bring forth the kingdom of God.

—Matt Conner



**About A Mile**

***Trust You All The Way***

(Radiate Music)

**FOR FANS OF:**

*The Afters, All Star United, Abandon*

**WE LIKE:** "Taking Back"

★★★★☆



Bouncing back from a season of behind the scenes uncertainty and intense spiritual wrestling, **About A Mile** sounds revved up and ready to go on this deeply revealing sophomore offering. Musically, the band exudes a super-charged electricity when it comes to guitar and synth-centered expressions under the direction of super producer and long time **All Star United** leader **Ian Eskelin**.

But ***Trust You All The Way*** truly soars in the lyrical department, thanks to its raw and sincere pursuit of redemption and the assurance that even a season of drug addiction and lust from front man **Adam Klutinoty** can transform into a relatable testimony.

–Andy Argyrakis

**Satellites & Sirens**

**TANKS**

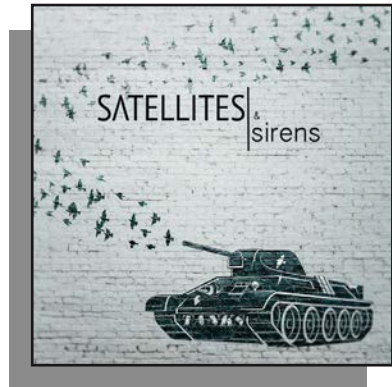
(DREAM)

**FOR FANS OF:**

*Love & The Outcome, The Killers,  
Jimmy Eat World*

**WE LIKE:** "Who We Are"

★★★★☆



You won't find a more relevant-sounding album that's been released in the Christian market recently than **TANKS** by Nashville pop-rock outfit **Satellites & Sirens**. Boldly staking the claim that synth-anthems are here to stay, the fellas lead this charge with all the right feels on this one.

With the emotional strains of **Jimmy Eat World** throughout, the album is riddled with memorable melody lines and expert vocal work by front man **Geoff Hunker**, as it stacks up to anything that's currently coming from your dial. "Old Souls [feat. **Ronnie Petkovich**]" and "Control" are standouts on an album that's solid track-by-track.

—Staff



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