

## RESOURCES FOR EVANGELISM

Prepared by Martha Grace Reese and J. Kristina Tenny-Brittian  
to accompany *Unbinding the Gospel: Real Life Evangelism* (Reese) and the  
Mainline Evangelism Project (see [www.GraceNet.info](http://www.GraceNet.info) for full study report by Jacqueline E.  
Wenger, Reese and Tenny-Brittian)  
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The following are resources used in preparation of the evangelism study and the book grounded upon it (*Unbinding the Gospel*), or resources that were recommended by the evangelistic pastors studied in the Mainline Evangelism Project.

### **Contents:**

**Web Resources, p 1**

**Evangelistic Pastors' Recommendations — Faith Development, p 3**

**Evangelistic Pastors' Recommendations — Programs and Resources, p 8**

**Works Consulted by Reese for Mainline Evangelism Study and *Unbinding the Gospel*, p 10**

### **Websites**

Adherents.com is a growing collection of religious statistics and citations. [www.Adherents.com](http://www.Adherents.com).  
The Alban Institute offers a wide range of resources for congregations, pastors, and leaders.  
<http://www.alban.org>.

American Religion Data Archive offers statistical data and historical background on  
denominations and religious movements. <http://thearda.com>.

George Barna is a researcher and sociologist and prolific writer and presenter on trends in U.S.  
Christianity. <http://barna.org>.

Christianity Today's website offers both information and articles.  
<http://www.christianitytoday.com>.

Official denominational websites contain a wealth of information.

American Baptist Churches USA: <http://www.abc-usa.org>

Christian Church (Disciples of Christ): <http://www.disciples.org>

Evangelical Lutheran Churches of America: <http://www.elca.org>

Presbyterian Church (USA): <http://www.pcusa.org>

Reformed Church in America: <http://www.rca.org/index.html>

The United Church of Christ: <http://www.ucc.org>

The United Methodist Church: <http://www.umc.org>

Easum, Bandy Associates offer a wide-range of resources for guiding Christian leaders for ancient mission in a contemporary world. <http://easumbandy.com>.

The Faith Communities Today Study was the largest study of congregations when it was conducted in 2000. <http://fact.hartsem.edu>.

Gallup polls and reports are available at [www.poll.gallup.com](http://www.poll.gallup.com).

The General Social Surveys are enlightening and helpful for assessing the effectiveness of Protestantism in the U.S. today. <http://www.norc.uchicago.edu>.

The Leonard E. Greenberg Center for the Study of Religion in Public Life is housed at Trinity College. <http://www.trincoll.edu/Academics/AcademicResources/ReligionPublicLife.htm>.

Hartford Institute for Religion Research. <http://hrr.hartsem.edu>.

Religious Movements Homepage. <http://religiousmovements.lib.virginia.edu>.

The J.M. Ormond Center at Duke Divinity School focuses on studying and strengthening pastoral leadership. <http://www.divinity.duke.edu/programs/ormond>.

The Louisville Institute is a Lilly Endowment program for the study of American religion based at Louisville Presbyterian Seminary. <http://www.louisville-institute.org>.

National Center for Charitable Statistics. [www.nccs.urban.org](http://www.nccs.urban.org).

The National Congregations Study was conducted with the 1998 General Social Survey plus one-hour phone interviews with respondents. <http://s6.library.arizona.edu/natcong/about.html>.

Next-Wave Church and Culture is an e-zine is for pastors and leaders across denominations and cultures who want to reach out to Postmodern people. <http://www.the-next-wave-ezine.info>.

Precepts offers demographic information and helpful tools for interpreting it in relevant ways. <http://www.percept1.com/pacific/start.asp>.

The Presbyterian Panel is a sample of 5,000 PCUSA pastors and laypersons who respond to mailed questionnaires four times a year. <http://pcusa.org/research/panel/index.htm>.

Princeton's Center for the Study of Religion combines scholarly research, teaching, and discussion with the humanities and social sciences. <http://www.princeton.edu/~csrelig>.

The Pulpit and Pew Study on Pastoral Leadership at Duke University focuses on pastoral leadership, practical theology, and discipleship. <http://www.pulpitandpew.duke.edu>.

The Religion by Region Study looks at the influence of religion on politics, and politics on religion, across the U.S. different geographic regions. [http://www.religionatlas.org/default.asp?page=rel\\_region&ext=htm](http://www.religionatlas.org/default.asp?page=rel_region&ext=htm).

The Seabury Institute at Western Theological Seminary in Evanston, Illinois studies, and consults on, congregational leadership and innovation. <http://www.seabury.edu/seainst/si.htm>.

Leonard I. Sweet, professor and writer, is one of our leading thinkers and writers on effective postmodern evangelism. See [www.leonardsweet.com](http://www.leonardsweet.com).

## EVANGELISTIC PASTORS' RECOMMENDATIONS FOR "MOST USEFUL BOOK FOR YOUR FAITH DEVELOPMENT"

### Top Picks

(recommended by three or more pastors in evangelism study when asked in spring, 2005, to name the book that had influenced their faith development most)

Rick Warren's *The Purpose Driven Life*. [by 41 pastors]

The Bible [12 pastors]

Foster, Richard. *Celebration of Discipline*. [4 pastors]

Spong, John. *A New Christianity for a New World: Why Traditional Faith is Dying and How a New Faith is Being Born*. [4 pastors]

Eldridge, John. *Wild at Heart* [3 pastors]

Hybels, Bill. *Courageous Leadership*. [3 pastors]

McLaren, Brian D. *A New Kind of Christian*. [3 pastors]

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Abegg, Peter Flint, and Eugene Ulrich. *The Dead Sea Scrolls Bible: The Oldest Bible Translated for the First Time into English*.

Alcoholics Anonymous. *Alcoholics Anonymous* (also known as "The Big Book").

Barnes, M. Craig. *When God Interrupts*

Barron, Robert. *And Now I See*.

Beck, Martha. *Finding Your Own North Star: Claiming the Life You Were Meant to Live*.

Becton, Randy. *Everyday Evangelism: Making a Difference for Christ Where You Live*.

Bernhard, Fred and Steve Clapp. *Widening the Welcome of Your Church*.

Blackaby, Henry. *Created to be God's Friend*.

Blanchard, Ken and Phil Hodges. *The Servant Leader*.

Blanchard, Ken and S. Truett Cathy. *Generosity Factor*.

Boice, James Montgomery. *Foundations of the Christian Faith*.

Bonhoeffer, Dietrich. *The Cost of Discipleship*.

Borg, Marcus J. *The Heart of Christianity*

---. *Jesus: A New Vision: Spirit, Culture, and the Life of Discipleship*

---. *Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time: The Historical Jesus and the Heart of Contemporary Faith*.

Breslin, Jimmy. *The Short Sweet Dream of Eduardo Gutierrez*.

Brother Lawrence. *The Practice of the Presence of God.*

Brown, Dan. *Da Vinci Code.*

Bunyan, John. *Pilgrim's Progress.*

Cahill, Mark. *The One Thing You Can't Do in Heaven.*

Capon, Robert F. *Parables of Grace.*

Chittister, Joan. *The Story of Ruth.*

Clegg, Tom and Warren Bird. *Lost in America; How You and Your Church Can Impact the World Next Door.*

Clinton, J. Robert. *Having a Ministry that Lasts by Becoming a Bible-Centered Leader.*

Cloud, Henry and John Townsend. *God Will Make a Way.*

---. *Boundaries: How People Grow.*

Coffin, William Sloan. *Credo.*

Colson, Chuck. *How Now Shall We Live?*

Copenhaver, Martin B., Anthony Robinson, and William H. Willimon. *Good News in Exile: three pastors offer a hopeful vision for the church.*

Cymbala, Jim. *Breakthrough Prayer.*

---. *Fresh Wind Fresh Fire*

De La Torre, Miguel A. *Reading the Bible from the Margins.*

Deere, Jack S. *Surprised by the Voice of God.*

Drummond, Henry. *The Greatest Thing in the World.*

Eldridge, John. *The Journey of Desire.*

---. *Sacred Runner*

---. *Waking the Dead.*

Fay, Bill. *Sharing Christ Without Fear.*

Fisher, John. *Finding God.*

Foster, Richard and James Smith. *Devotional Classics.*

Frazer, Randy. *The Connecting Church.*

Graham, Franklin. *Rebel With a Cause.*

Guder, Darrell L. *The Continuing Conversion of the Church.*

Gumbel, Nicky. *Questions of Life.*

Haggard, Ted. *Simple Prayers for a Powerful Life.*

Hagmann, Ann. *Climbing the Sycamore Tree*

Hammond, Mary Tuomi. *The Church and the Dechurched: Mending a Damaged Faith.*

Hankins, Mark. *Taking Your Place in Christ*.

Hansen, David. *The Art of Pastoring*.

Harris, Jan. *Basking in His Presence*.

Heald, Cynthia. *Becoming a Woman of Prayer*.

Heitzig, Skip. *When God Prays*.

Henrichsen, Walter A. *Disciples are Made, Not Born*.

Henry, Patrick. *The Ironic Christian*.

Hewitt, Hugh. *The Embarrassed Believer: Reviving Christian Witness in an Age of Unbelief*.

Holladay, Tom and Kay Warren. *Foundations*.

Horsley, Richard A. and Neil Asher Silberman. *The Message and the Kingdom: how Jesus and Paul ignited a revolution and transformed the ancient world*.

Hughey, Billy and Janice. *A Rainbow of Hope*.

Hunter, George G., III. *How to Reach Secular People*.  
---. *Church for the Unchurched*.

Johnson, Gordon O.F. "The Market Economy and Profit Are Not the Problem," [article in *Religion & Liberty* (March and April, 2003)].

a Kempis, Thomas. *The Imitation of Christ*.

King, M.L., Jr. *Strength to Love*.

Krallman, Gunter. *Mentoring For Mission*.

Kushner, Harold. *The Lord is My Shepherd*.

Linn, Jan G. *Reclaiming Evangelism: A Practical guide for Mainline Churches*.

London, HB and Neil Wiseman. *The Heart of a Great Pastor*.

Lucado, Max. *Grip of Grace*.  
---. *He Still Moves Stones*.  
---. *It's Not About Me*.  
---. *Traveling Light: Releasing the Burdens You Were Never Intended to Bear*.

Luther, Martin and Barbara Owen, ed. *Jesus, Remember Me: Words of Assurance from Martin Luther*.

Maxwell, John. *Partners in Prayer*.

McLaren, Brian D. *More Ready Than You Realize*.

McManus, Erwin. *Unstoppable Force*.

Meyer, Joyce. *Battlefield of the Mind*.

Miles, Delos. *How Jesus Won Persons: Fifteen case studies from the Gospels* (Nashville, TN:

Broadman Press, 1982).

Miller, Donald E. *Reinventing American Protestantism: Christianity in the New Millennium.*

Moffatt, Betty Clare. *A Soulworkers Companion.*

Moore, Beth. *Praying God's Word.*

Moore, Gareth. *Believing in God.*

Morris, Linus J. *The High Impact Church: A Fresh Approach to Reaching the Unchurched.*

Mulholland, James. *Praying Like Jesus.*

Muller, Wayne. *Sabbath.*

Newbigin, Leslie. *The Gospel in a Pluralist Society.*

Nicholi, Armand M., Jr. *The Question of God.*

Norberg, Tilden, *Consenting to Grace.*

Norris, Kathleen. *Amazing Grace: A Vocabulary of Faith.*

Nouwen, Henri. *In the Name of Jesus.*

Nouwen, Henri. *Reaching Out.*

Omartian, Stormie. *The Power of a Praying Wife.*

Oswald, Roy M. and Speed Leas. *The Inviting Church: A Study of New Member Assimilation.*

Pattillo, Beth. *Faith Leader.*

Peterson, Eugene H. *The Message: The Bible in Contemporary Language* (Colorado Springs, CO:Navpress Publishing Group, 2002).

---. *Under the Unpredictable Plant.*

Pearce, Gordon. *From Skeptic to Christian.*

Piper, John. *Desiring God.*

---. *The Pleasures of God*

Rainer, Thom S. *The Unchurched Next Door: Understanding Faith Stages as Keys to Sharing Your Faith.*

Roberts, Mark. *Jesus Revealed.*

Robinson, Marilynne. *Gilead.*

Russell, Bob. *When God Answers Prayer.*

Rutland, Mark. *Nevertheless.*

Ryle, James. *Hippo in the Garden.*

---. *Holiness.*

Schmidt, Wayne. *Lead On: Why Churches Stall and How Leaders Get Them Going.*

Shelley, Bruce L. *Church History in Plain Language.*

Sine, Tom. *Mustard Seed vs. McWorld*.

Sittser, Jerry. *When God Doesn't Answer Your Prayer*.

Smedes, Lewis. *My God and I*.

Smith, Huston. *Why Religion Matters*.

Spurgeon, Charles. *Morning & Evening*.

Stanley, Andy; Lane Jones; and Reggie Joiner. *Seven Practices of Effective Ministry*.

Stanley, Charles. *Developing a Servants Heart*.

Steindl-Rast, David. *Gratefulness, the Heart of Prayer*.

Straub, Gary. *Your Calling as an Elder*.

Stringfellow, Alan B. *Great Truths of the Bible*.

Stringfellow, William. *An Ethic for Christian*.

Strobel, Lee. *The Case for Christ*.

---. *The Case for Faith*.

Swindoll, Charles. *Simple Faith*

Tenney, Tommy. *The God Chasers*.

Tenny-Brittian, Bill. *Prayer for People Who Can't Sit Still*.

Thomas, Gary. *Sacred Pathways*.

Tye, Karen. *Basics of Christian Education*.

*Upper Room Devotional*

Waltke, Bruce. *Proverbs*.

Ware, Corinne. *St. Benedict on the Freeway*.

Wilkinson, Bruce. *The Dream Giver*.

Willard, Dallas. *The Divine Conspiracy*.

Willard, Dallas. *Renovation of the Heart*.

Willis-Watkins, David; Michael Welker; and Matthias Gockel, eds. *Toward the Future of Reformed Theology: Tasks, Topics, Traditions*.

Willimon, Will. *The Intrusive Word*.

Yaconelli, Mike. *Messy Spirituality*.

Yancey, Philip. *Disappointment with God*.

## EVANGELISTIC PASTORS' RECOMMENDATIONS — CHURCH RESOURCES

Alban Institute	Crystal Cathedral Leadership Conference
“Welcome and The Inviting Church” (Alban)	DC/LA Evangelism Conference
Alpha	Bill Easum (workshops and books)
<i>The Urban Christians</i> by Ray Bakke	Evangelicals for Social Action
George Barna	Evangelism Explosion
Beeson Institute	Faith Sunday School
The Bible	Mike Foss
Billy Graham School of Evangelism	Four Spiritual Laws
Ken Blanchard	Friend Day (includes “Bring a Friend Sunday”)
Walter Brueggemann’s <i>Biblical Perspectives on Evangelism</i>	Friendship Evangelism
Books (unidentified)	Fuller Institute Programs
Ken Callahan	Fuller D.Min. Program
Ben Campbell Johnson	Granger UMC Workshop
Camino	George Hunter’s <i>Celtic Evangelism</i>
Campus Crusade for Christ	George Hunter’s <i>Church for the Unchurched</i>
Caring Evangelism (“Stephen Ministries”)	George Hunter – unspecified books
Cell Church Strategy – every member ministry	Leadership Network Conferences
Christian Community Development materials	Lighthouses of Prayer
Church Communication Network events	Max Lucado tracts
Church Growth Conferences	John Maxwell Leadership Principles/Injoy
Church Growth Institute	Herb Miller
Church of Resurrection (in Kansas City)	Jesus Film
Community Church of Joy (ECLA in Arizona)	Brian McLaren’s <i>More Ready Than You Realize</i>
Conference Staff (UCC)	National Evangelism Association (NEA)
Contagious Christianity	National Pastors Conventions
Create own	Natural Church Growth materials
	Navigator Training



Net Results	Small groups
NEW events	Southeast Christian Leadership Conference
Networking with other pastors and churches	Andy Stanley's <i>Seven Practices of Effective Ministry</i>
<i>Outreach</i> magazine	Lee Strobel books
Outreach Ministries	Turn to the Living God (GA 1991)
Passion of the Christ	UCC denominational materials
Rebecca Manley Pippert's <i>Out of the Salt Shaker</i>	UCC "God is Still Speaking" initiative
<i>Practicing the Presence of God</i> by Brother Lawrence	C. Peter Wagner books
Prayer	Rick Warren – unspecified
<i>Presbyterian 101</i> series	<i>Way of Life</i> (RCA resource)
Promise Keepers	Willow Creek Materials and Conferences
Purpose Driven Resources	John Wimber's Power Evangelism
Ronald Rand's <i>Evangelism Helper</i>	Albert Winseman
Risk	Witnessing Without Fear (Bill Bright)
Rose Garden Concerts	<i>Word and Witness</i> (100-training by ELCA)
Saddleback	Worship Evangelism
Lyle Schaller resources	Yokefellow's Institute
Seminars	Youth for Christ
Sharing Jesus Without Fear	Zondervan resources
Simple – witness by work and life	

**WORKS CONSULTED BY MARTHA GRACE REESE IN PREPARATION OF  
*UNBINDING THE GOSPEL***

Adherents.com at [www.Adherents.com](http://www.Adherents.com).

American Baptist Churches USA: <http://www.abc-usa.org>.

American Religion Data Archive at <http://www.thearda.com>.

Ammerman, Nancy T. *Pillars of Faith: American Congregations and their Partners, Building Faith, Building Community* (San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, forthcoming).

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- Benedict, Daniel. *Come to the Waters: Baptism and Our Ministry of Welcoming Seekers and Making Disciples (The Christian Initiation Series)* (Nashville, TN: Discipleship Resources, 1998).
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- Jim Collins' *Built to Last: Successful Habits of Visionary Companies* (HarperCollins Publishers, 2002).
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- Pulpit and Pew Research on Pastoral Leadersihp. *Survey of Clergy*.  
[www.pulpitandpew.duke.edu/research.html](http://www.pulpitandpew.duke.edu/research.html)
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