



NEWSLETTER

Tanglewood Bible Fellowship

EIC: Wendy Powers

The Mission of TBF is to glorify God (Psalm 86:11-13; 115:1 and 1 Peter 2:12; 4:16) by actively participating in the ongoing fulfillment of the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20) as a body of believers (1 Cor 12:13; 1 John 5:1-5) who collectively/individually (Phil 1:27) serve our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ (Rom 12:1-2) and one another (Phil 2:3-4) functioning as a spiritual Greenhouse (Eph 4:11-16) such that by our interactions together we are catalyzed to grow (Acts 2:42) and to reproduce (Acts 2:47) spiritually

Crown of Thorns

After Jesus’ sham trials and subsequent flogging, and before He was crucified, the Roman soldiers “twisted together a crown of thorns and set it on His head. They put a staff in His right hand and knelt in front of Him and mocked Him. ‘Hail, king of the Jews!’ they said” (Matthew 27:29; see also John 19:2-5). While a crown of thorns would be exceedingly painful, the crown of thorns was more about mockery than it was about pain. Here was the “King of the Jews” being beaten, spit upon, and insulted by presumably low-level Roman soldiers. The crown of thorns was the finalizing of their mockery, taking a symbol of royalty and majesty, a crown, and turning it into something painful and degrading.

For Christians, the crown of thorns is a reminder of two things: (1) Jesus was, and is, indeed a king. One day, the entire universe will bow to Jesus as the “King of kings and Lord of lords” (Revelation 19:16). What the Roman soldiers meant as a mockery, was in fact a picture of Christ’s two roles, first of suffering servant (Isaiah 53), and second of conquering Messiah-King (Revelation 19). (2) Jesus was willing to endure the pain, the insults, and the shame, all on our account. The crown of thorns, and the suffering that went with it, are long gone, and Jesus has now received the crown of which He is worthy. “But we see Him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God He might taste death for everyone” (Hebrews 2:9, emphasis added).

There is further symbolism embodied in the crown of thorns. When Adam and Eve sinned, bringing evil and a curse upon the world, part of the curse upon humanity was “...cursed is the ground because of you; in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life; thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you...” (Genesis 3:17-18, emphasis added). The Roman soldiers unknowingly took an object of the curse and fashioned it into a crown for the one who would deliver us from that curse. “Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, ‘Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree’” (Galatians 3:13). Christ, in His perfect atoning sacrifice, has delivered us from the curse of sin, of which a thorn is a symbol. While intended to be a mockery, the crown of thorns was, in fact, an excellent symbol of who Jesus is and what He came to accomplish.

gotquestions.org

Sunday Worship Service: 9:30 AM

Adult Services AND Children’s (0-12 years) Programs

Youth (6th -12 grade) meet Sunday Nights at 6 PM.

Wednesday P.M. Service: 7:00-8:00 PM

A Word from Pastor David Shields

TBF Family,

What I love about the Lenten season is that it helps me prepare for Easter. Before my rediscovery and love of the church calendar developed Easter always caught me off guard. It would show up on my mind the week before, or maybe even two weeks before if I was lucky. It felt like a special Sunday but seemed unconnected from the rest of my life.

What I appreciate about Lent is the long preparation and season of looking forward to the coming of Easter. It has personally helped me see Easter and the resurrection of Jesus as an event worth anticipating. It reminds me that the resurrection of Christ should change not just one day, but my entire calendar.

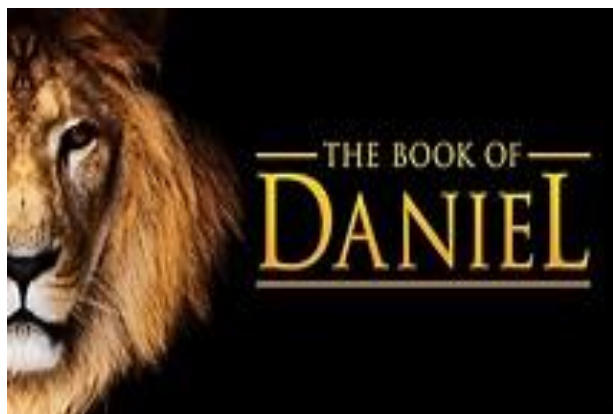
The resurrection of Christ on Easter Sunday is the very foundation of our faith. If Christ was not raised from the dead, then we would be without hope a people to be pitied (1 Corinthians 15). But Christ is alive. And this fact is what gets us out of bed in the morning. It is what helps us through the imaginable pain of life's troubles. It is what gives us hope when we see the suffering and sin in the world. The resurrection is everything.

I want to invite you this month to anticipate and think about Easter and the resurrection. Do not just wait until Easter Sunday. Christians can disagree about the finer details of the Christian calendar and the usefulness of lent as a liturgical season. We cannot disagree about the centrality of the resurrection of Christ. Therefore, let us look forward to celebrating and remembering the resurrection of our Savior from the dead. Personally, I cannot wait.

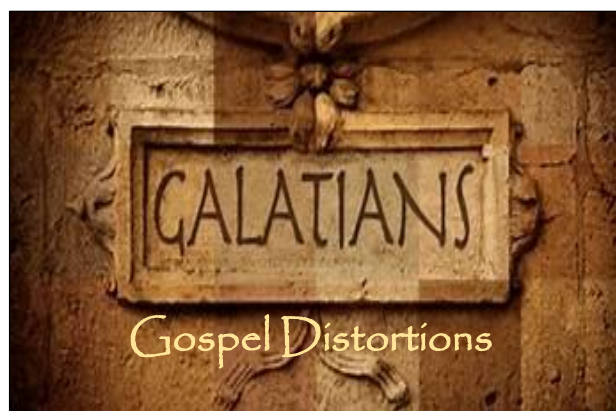
After Easter, we are going to start a brand-new series in the book of Galatians. I am tentatively calling this series Gospel Distortions. Paul wrote this letter to the church in Galatia because they are started to distort the gospel. They were falling for this distortion and as a result falling away from Christ.

We still have gospel distortions today, don't we? Not just in our culture but in our churches all through the world and even in our own hearts we start to distort the gospel. I hope that our study over the next 10 weeks in Galatians will help us confront the distortions of the gospel in our own lives and hold tighter on Christ.

In Christ,
Pastor David



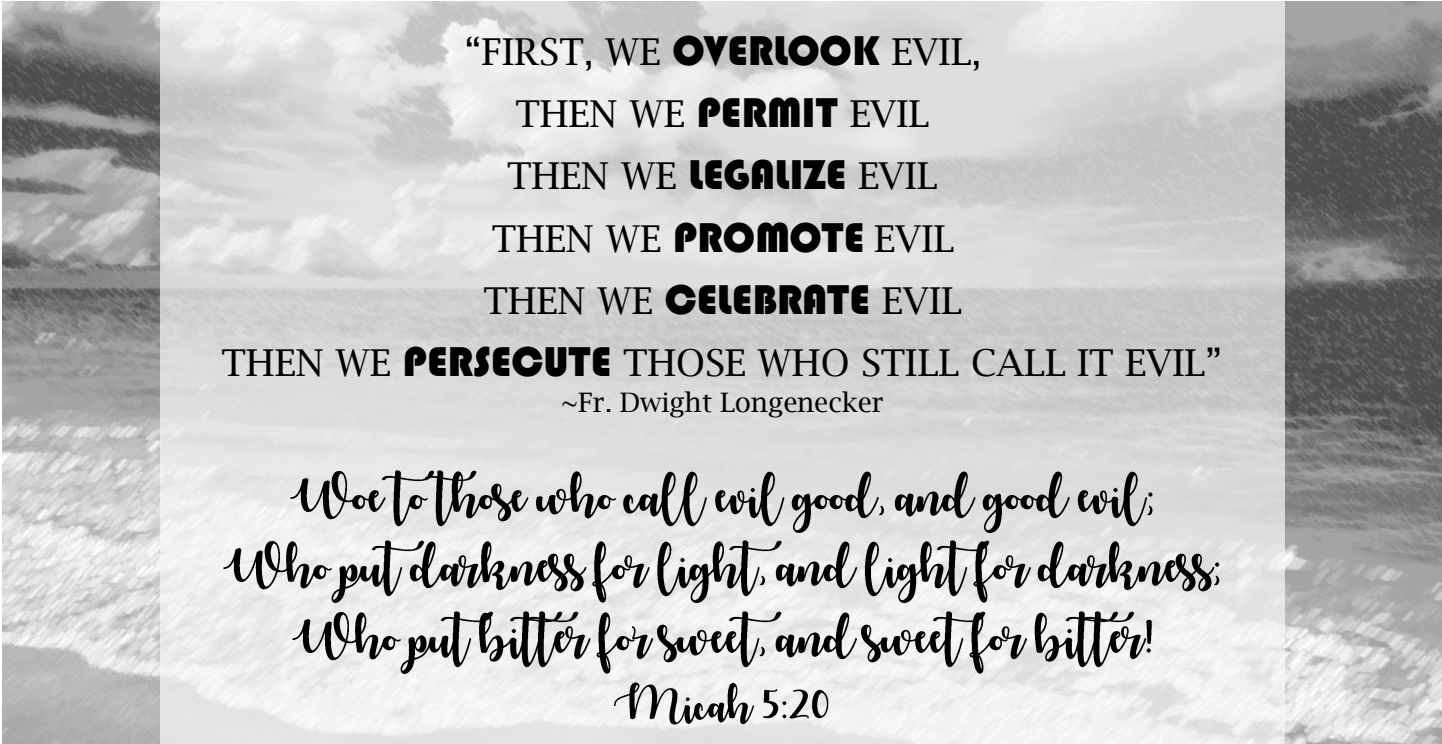
Finishing this month



Starting late April

What's Happening at TBF

- ✚ JOIN OUR WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEETING AT TBF. EVERY WEDNESDAY AT 7 PM. Hear a lesson from Pastor David and join us for a time of prayer and praise.
- ✚ TBF WORSHIP TEAM MUSIC PRACTICE. JOIN US! See Dale Corbin or Lana Sleeper for details.
- ✚ DAILY DEVOS WITH PASTOR DAVID - TBF Facebook Page
- ✚ MISS A SUNDAY? Check out the sermons on the TBF Facebook page or tbfduncan.org
- ✚ WOMEN OF TANGLEWOOD BIBLE FELLOWSHIP - Facebook page
- ✚ TBF YOUTH - Meets Sunday Nights at 6 PM
- ✚ COMMUNION - Sunday, April 17th
- ✚ MEN'S BIBLE STUDY - April 14th TBF Youth Room 6 PM
- ✚ WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY - April (see dates under Women's Ministry)
- ✚ BABY SHOWER - April 2nd for Hannah Girvin
- ✚ KINGS KALEIDOSCOPE CONCERT - May 21st (TBF Youth)



“FIRST, WE **OVERLOOK** EVIL,
THEN WE **PERMIT** EVIL
THEN WE **LEGALIZE** EVIL
THEN WE **PROMOTE** EVIL
THEN WE **CELEBRATE** EVIL
THEN WE **PERSECUTE** THOSE WHO STILL CALL IT EVIL”
~Fr. Dwight Longenecker

*Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil;
Who put darkness for light, and light for darkness;
Who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!*
Micah 5:20

TBF Family Ministries

Happy Spring Church Family!

The other week a few townships in Massachusetts, such as Cambridge, recognized polygamy as legal domestic partnerships. They claim that it is a win for social justice, but is it really? I am not one for hot takes on the culture, but we are in a series about marriage in the newsletter. The topic of polygamy and the larger theme of the sanctity of marriage has been on my radar for a while now ever since I heard about the reality show "Sister Wives" which follows a man and his four wives as they attempt to live a 'normal' life, except they can't, which causes the drama that draws people in.

Different religions and even some Christians believe that not only is polygamy socially acceptable but even Biblical to have more than one spouse. After all Abraham, Jacob, Daniel, and Solomon all had multiple wives. I wish I had space to go through each of their stories but alas I do not. Each of these examples are men attempting to usurp control from God and each of these stories ends sour because of it. The Bible continuously highlights Marriage as between a man and a woman from Genesis to Revelation. There is even Song of Songs which is an entire book about the relationship between a man and woman from courtship to marriage.

But Marriage does involve 3 people: the man, the woman, and God. There is a trap that Christians tend to fall into. We think that God is the referee making sure that we follow the rules, but this is not the case. Humans are worshipers, and whatever we find worth in, we will worship. If that is our spouse, then we will place them on a pedestal and as an equally fallen creature they will fail us. When they do, we become jaded and search for something else to worship or to put it secularly "to cope". It may be nefarious like alcohol or adultery or socially acceptable like work or Facebook. If the true God sits on His rightful throne of our lives, then when our spouse fails us, because they will, we can show grace and love even though it hurts. This is because while we were still enemies of God, He sent His son to make atonement for our sins. This does not excuse our spouse's sins against us. We should never be simply a doormat to be walked on, but we should always display the love of Jesus.

So, in closing, I simply want to ask you two questions: the first is that to my knowledge no one in our church family is a polygamist, are you practicing spiritual polygamy placing work, money, or hobbies on the same level above your spouse? Second, are you placing God above your spouse as your focus of worship?

With love in Christ,
Pastor Rob

Kings Kaleidoscope Concert
MAY 21, 2022
DALLAS, TX

Tickets are \$20, See Rob Girvin for more info
(Youth Group)



KINGS KALEIDOSCOPE





TBF Men's Ministries



The Parables- Matthew 13

Do you think of Jesus as a storyteller?

Some of history's most famous stories sprang from the lips of Jesus. Bible Study Fellowship's 2-week study of the parables in Matthew 13 will explore a few of Jesus' parables and why He used storytelling to teach deep spiritual truth. The Matthew 13 parables are the parable of the Sower (or the soils), the Weeds, the Mustard Seed, the Yeast, the Hidden Treasure and the Pearl, and of the Net. Through daily Bible reading and questions, weekly podcasts, group discussion and study notes, God's Word comes to life in new and unexpected ways. Material supplied by Bible Study Fellowship and led by Wolfgang Deeg.

6:30 pm
TBF Youth Room

April 14th



HANNA'S BABY SHOWER

Saturday April 2nd 11 AM
TBF YOUTH ROOM

TBF *Women's Ministries*

CHASE

By Jennie Allen

Women's Bible Study continues throughout April:

Session 6 - Tuesday, April 12th, 6:30-8pm, at the home of Jean Crow

Session 6 - Wednesday, April 13th, 9:30-11am, at TBF

Session 7 - Tuesday, April 26th, 6:30-8pm, at the home of Jean Crow

Session 7 - Wednesday, April 27th, 9:30-11am, at TBF

Kindred Community

New Hope West in Duncan

Thursday, April 21st 6:00 – 8:00 PM

Widows are encouraged to bring a picture of themselves as a teenager and listen to Summer Breeze as they play “the oldies”.

If you are a TBF woman with a heavenly husband or know of a woman you would like to invite to this event, please RSVP on the official RSVP invitation!

Sister-to-Sister

Card Ministry

Lifting One Another Up Through Words of Encouragement

Join me in encouraging our sisters-in-Christ by sending cards of encouragement to our fellow sisters each month.

TBF Chasing Jesus.....

Kindred Community March 22, 2022





Thanks TBF for all you support!!

Good Shepherd India

<https://gsi.org/>

In Review

Wednesday, March 9th at TBF



Speaker Deering Dyer
Ministry Representative

LOVING GOD AND NEIGHBOR

Good Shepherd India firmly believes that God uses communities of Indians who love Jesus to share His love across the world. They are a movement based on this principle: reaching out to the needy — with no discrimination on the basis of caste, gender, occupation, or ethnicity — offering real relationship with God, spiritual freedom, and full empowerment as members of God’s global family.

GSI communities of Indians who love Jesus are led by strong leaders well equipped to share the love of God, help in practical ways those in need, and support others in their personal relationship with Jesus.

GSI doesn’t believe geography, culture, or illiteracy should prevent people from learning about how Jesus loves them. In response, Good Shepherd teams share The Good Shepherd Movie, a production featuring Indian actors, available in 14 major Indian languages. The film is central to all they do: Hundreds of these teams work all throughout India, presenting the film in villages, hospitals, and homes.

GSI is one of the largest distributors of God’s Word in Asia and have been for more than five decades. Providing and engaging with the Scriptures is among their core values.

RELIEF

After a flood, a cyclone, an earthquake, a drought, or some other catastrophe, affected communities may not be able to meet their basic needs. Already living in poverty, they are more susceptible to diseases from water contamination, dehydration, and malnutrition in the aftermath of disasters. Good Shepherd’s network is committed to responding in emergencies like these — providing food, water, blankets, and other aid, and deploying community health workers — to ease suffering, preserve lives, and help people move toward recovery.

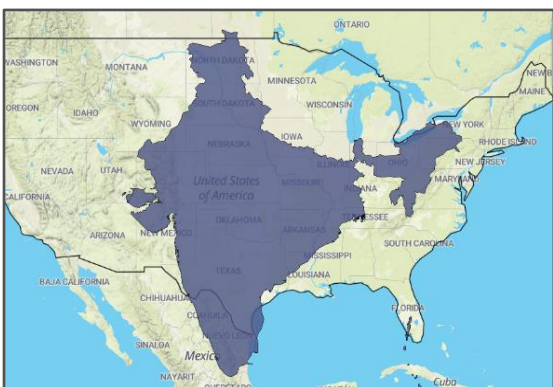


EDUCATION

GSI is committed to giving children from the most needy backgrounds equal access to a quality education in English. An English education has become the most powerful tool for opportunities in life. They see God’s potential in each and every child. Priority is always given to the most vulnerable and those from the economically weakest sections of society who would otherwise be unable to go to school. Boys and girls are treated equally within the classroom, and they directly challenge any discrimination.

Through education, villages once divided by social barriers and broken by extreme-poverty are seeing people from different social, economic, and religious backgrounds come together. Infrastructure is developing, and there is a real sense of hope.

- 1.3 billion people live in India— almost 1 billion more people than those living in the US
- Land mass of India is 5 times the size of Texas or 1/3 the size of the US
- Christian population in India (2021): 2.4%



ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING

GSI works extensively with those from economically weaker sections of the community, notably with girls and women forced into ritualized sex work, especially in southern India. Many are dedicated into the practice at a young age, being forced to offer sexual favors once they reach puberty. They live in poverty, earning paltry amounts, often begging to supplement their income.

Their key strategies include training community workers (many of whom have been victims of trafficking themselves) to raise awareness of the problem so families don't fall prey to the tricks of the traffickers.

They also provide care for victims on a long-term basis: shelter, counseling, job skills training, and more. Their medical clinics offer healthcare for women and girls impacted by the ritualized sex work system — including monthly medical camps designed to identify medical problems early. Community health workers are specially trained to work with these women and their communities.

Government bodies in India have recognized and applauded their efforts to rescue vulnerable women and girls and oppose human trafficking.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Cleaning toilets. Picking rags. Scraping the carcasses of dead animals off the roads. These are the jobs of the completely impoverished daily wage earners of India. Robbed of their dignity, they are forced to labor for less than a dollar a day. This is not right. This has to stop. GSI believes in the dignity of all humankind and in the dignity of all labor. Our economic stability programs promise independence and marketable skills. They guarantee a life free from poverty and exploitation. Their robust tailoring projects for women were just the start. Livestock rearing, handicraft manufacturing and agriculture processing have all brought remarkable transformation to hundreds of thousands of lives. They're looking to bring down the systems that create systemic poverty. And they're going to do it. GSI wants to reunite families and ensure lasting financial security for those in the greatest need.

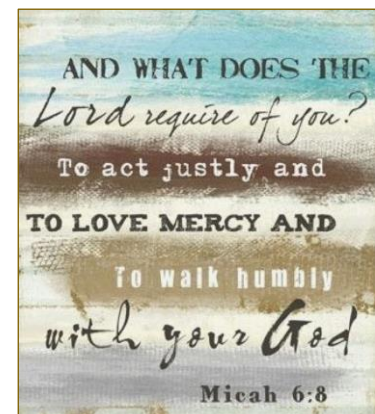


HEALTHCARE

GSI community health workers provide basic healthcare and education for individuals across the country. They go to the neediest areas in India, establishing regional medical clinics to help all in need overcome the barriers of accessibility: they welcome all those who need our help, regardless of their religion, caste, ethnic background, or ability to pay. Each year, using the latest in medical technology, they impact the lives of hundreds of thousands of people through their healthcare services, and offer education and preventative care to entire villages. Individuals who need specific treatment or health testing are helped through our dozens of clinics and medical camps.

GOOD SHEPHERD INDIA PRAYER GUIDE

- Pray for the safety and security of all GSI's workers against persecution from religious radicals.
- Pray for the nation of India as it continues to battle Covid-19 virus and its variants.⁴
- Pray for the Good Shepherd schools
- Pray for GSI's 50 health clinics.
- Praise God that He is working in the lives of hundreds of thousands of people all across the nation as they seek hope in time of tribulation.

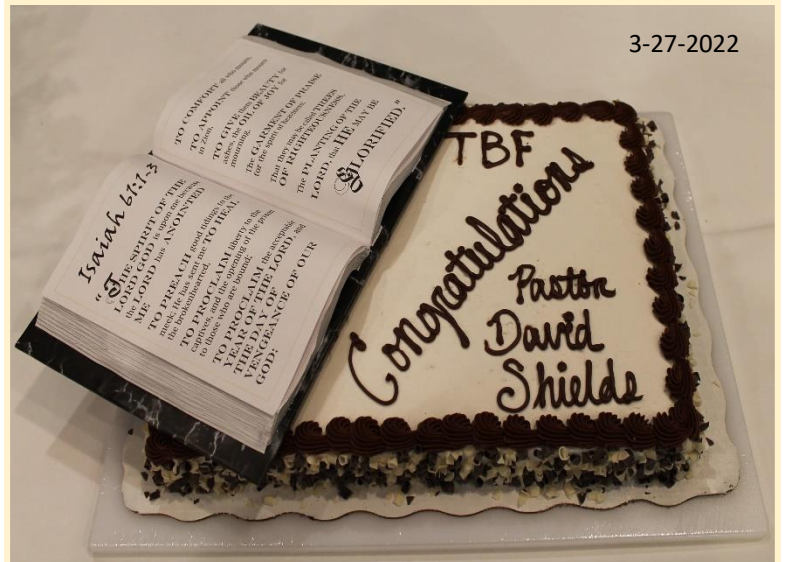


Ordination

March 27th, 2022



I Timothy 4:14



WOW WEDNESDAY
MARCH 30TH 2022

J T Hilyer

International Commission

WOW Wednesday Highlights:

I.C.'S STAGES OF A PROJECT:

45% Prayer and Preparation – by the Local Church
10% Evangelistic Visitation – by Outside Participants
45% Ongoing Discipleship -- by the Local Church



Operation Andrew:

1. Write down the names of your friends and pray for them daily.
2. Tell your friends you are praying for them.
3. Ask them if they have any specific need for which you can be praying.
4. Invite the person to your home or any activity so you can build a bridge of friendship.
5. Invite them to an evangelistic service or special event at your church.
6. Set up a visit at their home or somewhere comfortable to talk and pray. You may bring a Christian brother/sister with you to assist you in presenting the Gospel to them.
7. Assist new believers in their discipleship; give them an O.A. card to reach out to their non-believer friends and family members.

Please dedicate 12 minutes daily in prayer:

One minute: for your own spiritual life.

One minute: for the leaders of your church and the leaders of this evangelistic project.

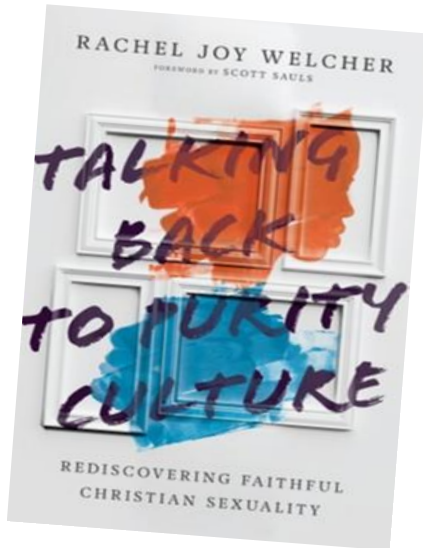
One minute: for each of the ten people you have added to your list.

JT Trivia:

He has visited 27 countries, his favorite being Brazil where he has visited four times.

David's Book Recommendations

Like many pastors I am a big fan of books. The following books are all books you can find on my bookshelf, and I would be more than happy to lend them to anyone who would like to read them

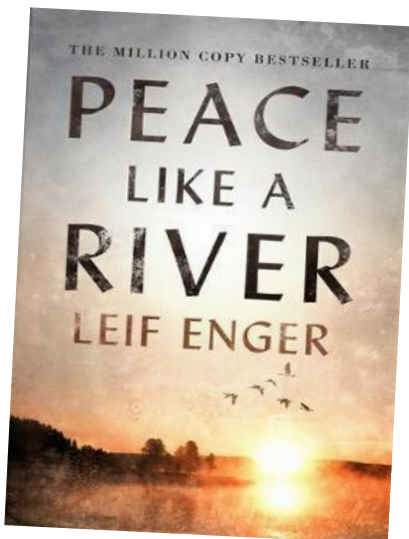
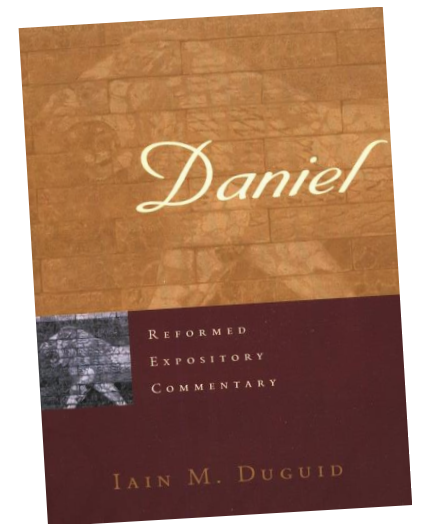


Talking Back to Purity Culture by Rachel Joy Welcher

Purity culture arose in evangelical churches in the 90s to 2000s as an overreaction to the sexualization in the larger culture. Churches began to teach a kind of sexual prosperity gospel where as long as chastity was maintained, then marriage and an incredible sex life was a reward. This book critiques the legalism and false teaching of the purity movement all the while holding onto the historical biblical ethic. I cannot recommend this book enough if you were impacted by purity culture or are studying the church's teaching on sex. The book is thoroughly biblical, compassionate, and focused on Christ.

Daniel by Iain Duguid

This was my favorite commentary that I used in my study of the book of Daniel. It is adapted from sermons, so it remains readable and helpful. You do not need any academic or original language knowledge in order to benefit or understand this book. He does have a reformed and a millennial understanding of the book, which may or may not impact your enjoyment of it. I disagreed with Iain here and there, but I always was encouraged by his perspective. If I could only recommend one book to aid your further study in Daniel, it would be this one.



Peace Like a River by Leif Enger

This novel follows an 11-year-old boy named Rueben as his family tries to track down their fugitive older brother who is wanted for murder. It is a Christian novel filled with a miracle-working father and discussions on faith. I am normally wary of Christian novels because they so often feel like a poorly told sermon. Instead, this novel is a wonderful story that makes you think about Jesus.