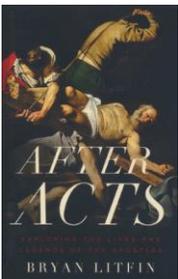


I am excited about this year's Pastor Book Club choices. Some of the books I have already read but most I will read for the first time right alongside you. Each month we will meet in the gathering area for an opportunity to discuss the book. Take special note of the March book, "Mingling of Souls" and the parenting book "14 Gospel Principles" in May. I am hoping many people and parents will want to join us for those months. The discussion will always be in the next month after the reading month. For instance, "Mingling of Souls" is the March book but will be discussed in April. There are a couple of months where I'll be looking for ideas. If you have read a good book lately, please let me know.

**February: After Acts by Bryan Litfin**

**Discussion Group: March 12 @ 5:30 pm**

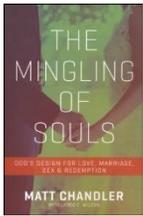


What happened to all those biblical figures once the Bible was finished? We've all heard it said: "According to early church tradition Peter was crucified upside down," or "Paul went to Spain." Did Thomas found the Indian church? Or did Mary live in Ephesus? Were the twelve disciples all eventually martyred?

Where do these ancient traditions come from, and how historically reliable are they? What is meant by the term "early church tradition?" *After Acts* opens up the world of the Bible-right after it was written. Follow along with New Testament scholar, Dr. Bryan Litfin as he explores the facts, myths, legends, archaeology, and questions of what happened in those earliest days of Christianity.

## **March: Mingling of the Souls by Matt Chandler**

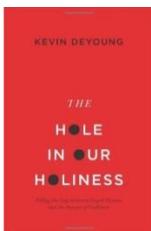
**Discussion Group: April 9 @ 6:30 pm**



In today's world, we're inundated with songs, movies, and advice that contradict and cheapen God's design for love and intimacy. Helping married couples and singles navigate these concerns, Chandler offers an eternal, counterintuitive perspective from the Song of Solomon. Discover the process that this biblical role model followed - from attraction and courtship to marriage and arguing.

## **April: Hole in Our Holiness by Kevin DeYoung**

**Discussion Group: May 21 @ 6:30 pm**



What does it mean to be holy? Why should we care? And how can we change?

The hole in our holiness is that we don't care much about holiness. Or, at the very least, we don't understand it. This is a book for those of us who are ready to take holiness seriously, ready to be more like Jesus, ready to live in light of the grace that produces godliness. This is a book about God's power to help us grow in personal holiness and to enjoy the process of transformation.

## **May: Parenting: 14 Gospel Principles That Can Radically Change Your Family by Paul David Tripp**

**Discussion Group: June 4 @ 6:30 pm**

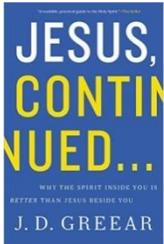


In *Parenting: 14 Gospel Principles That Can Radically Change Your Family*, author Paul David Tripp explores 14 practical and gospel-centered principles that will help parents see their role through

the lens of God's Word and change the way they interact with their children. Principles include grace, identity, lies, authority, foolishness, and character.

**June: Jesus Continued by J.D. Greear**

**Discussion Group: July 9 @ 6:30 pm**



Why does God often feel more like a doctrine we know *about* than a Person we *know*? Why do so many of us think of Christianity as a lifestyle to which we conform, rather than a God with whom we commune?

Jesus gave his disciples the audacious promise that it was to their advantage he go back to heaven because the Holy Spirit could then come to live inside of them. How many of us consider our connection to the Holy Spirit so strong and so real that we would call his presence *in* us better than Jesus *beside* us?

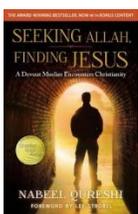
Author J.D. Greear asks those questions because throughout his Christian life he felt disconnected to God and unsure about how to interact with him. Although he had learned a lot of truths about God, he sensed very little relationship with him—at least, not the dynamic, two-way relationship he really wanted. He tried to have such a relationship, but all of God’s work seemed stockpiled in the past: he created the world, died on a cross, and left a Bible. God seemed like a busy teacher who had given an assignment and then stepped out of the room, leaving students to get the work done on their own.

But Greear discovered it doesn’t have to be like that. Not at all. In clear and practical language, he explains how any follower of Jesus can have a satisfying, powerful relationship with God through the Holy Spirit.

**July: Reader’s Choice**

**August: Seeking Allah, Finding Jesus by Nabeel Qureshi**

**Discussion Group: September 10 @ 5:30 pm**

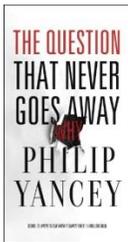


In *Seeking Allah, Finding Jesus*, now expanded with bonus content, Nabeel Qureshi describes his dramatic journey from Islam to Christianity, complete with friendships, investigations, and supernatural dreams along the way.

Providing an intimate window into a loving Muslim home, Qureshi shares how he developed a passion for Islam before discovering, almost against his will, evidence that Jesus rose from the dead and claimed to be God. Unable to deny the arguments but not wanting to deny his family, Qureshi struggled with an inner turmoil that will challenge Christians, Muslims, and all those who are interested in the world's greatest religions.

**September The Question That Never Goes Away: WHY by Philip Yancey**

**Discussion Group: October 8 @ 6:30 pm**



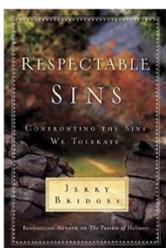
In his classic book *Where Is God When It Hurts*, Philip Yancey gave us permission to doubt, reasons not to abandon faith, and practical ways to reach out to hurting people.

And now, thirty years after writing his first book, Yancey revisits our cry of “Why, God” in three places stunned into silence by the calamities that have devastated them. At some point all of us will face the challenges to faith Yancey writes about and look for the comfort and hope he describes.

There are reasons to ask, once again, the question that never goes away: Where is God when we suffer? And Yancey, once again, leads us to find faith when it is most severely put to the test.

**October: Respectable Sins by Jerry Bridges**

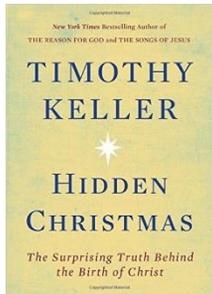
**Discussion Group: November 12 @6:30 pm**



Have Christians become so preoccupied with “major” sins that we have lost sight of our need to deal with more subtle sins? Navigator author Jerry Bridges addresses the “acceptable” sins that we tend to tolerate in ourselves, including pride and anger. He goes to the heart of the matter, exploring our feelings of shame and grief and opening a new door to God’s forgiveness and grace. Travel down the road of spiritual formation with Jerry and discover your true identity as a loved child of God. A discussion guide is available separately.

**November: Hidden Christmas by Timothy Keller**

**Discussion Group: December 5:30 pm**



Even people who are not practicing Christians think they are familiar with the story of the nativity. Every Christmas displays of Baby Jesus resting in a manger decorate lawns and churchyards, and songs about shepherds and angels fill the air. Yet despite the abundance of these Christian references in popular culture, how many of us have examined the hard edges of this biblical story?

In his new book, Timothy Keller takes readers on an illuminating journey into the surprising background of the nativity. By understanding the message of hope and salvation within the Bible’s account of Jesus’ birth, readers will experience the redeeming power of God’s grace in a deeper and more meaningful way.

**December: People’s Choice**