

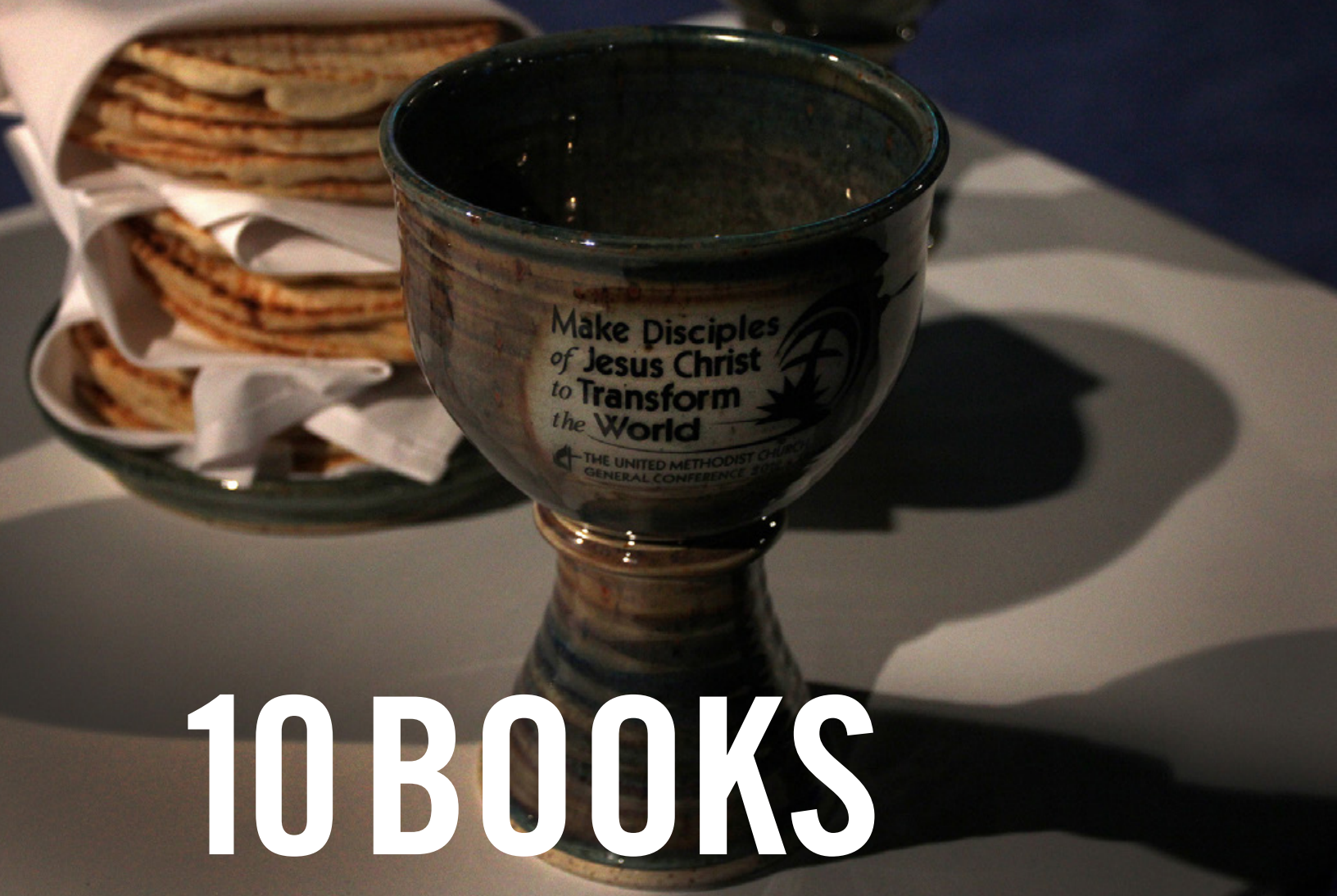
WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

READING LIST



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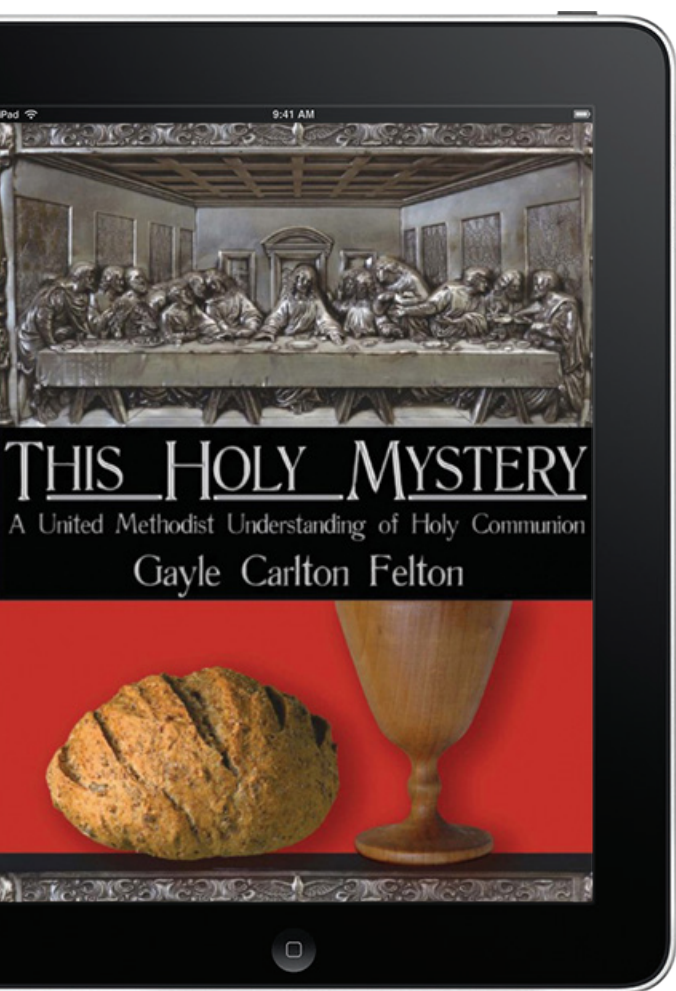


10 BOOKS

FOR WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

Expand your understanding about the practice of Holy Communion and our ecumenical global relationships. In preparation for World Communion Sunday, here are some suggested books to read on your own or as part of a small group.





THIS HOLY MYSTERY: A UNITED METHODIST UNDERSTANDING OF HOLY COMMUNION

By Gayle Carlton Felton

“This Holy Mystery” is a study guide for the official United Methodist position on Holy Communion adopted by the 2004 General Conference. The official document is included in the book in a running sidebar, with commentary study helps in a second column on each page. Each session includes a section of “Leader Helps” that provides a session plan. Available in paperback, Kindle and a PDF download.

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VULNERABLE COMMUNION

By Thomas E. Reynolds

As parents of a son with disabilities, Thomas E. Reynolds and his wife know what it's like to be misunderstood by a church community. In "Vulnerable Communion," Reynolds draws upon that personal experience and a diverse body of literature to empower churches and individuals to foster deeper hospitality toward persons with disabilities. Reynolds argues that the Christian story is one of strength coming from weakness, of wholeness emerging from brokenness and of power in vulnerability. He offers valuable biblical, theological and pastoral tools to understand and welcome those with disabilities. "Vulnerable Communion" will be a useful resource for any student, theologian, church leader or layperson seeking to discover the power of God revealed through weakness.

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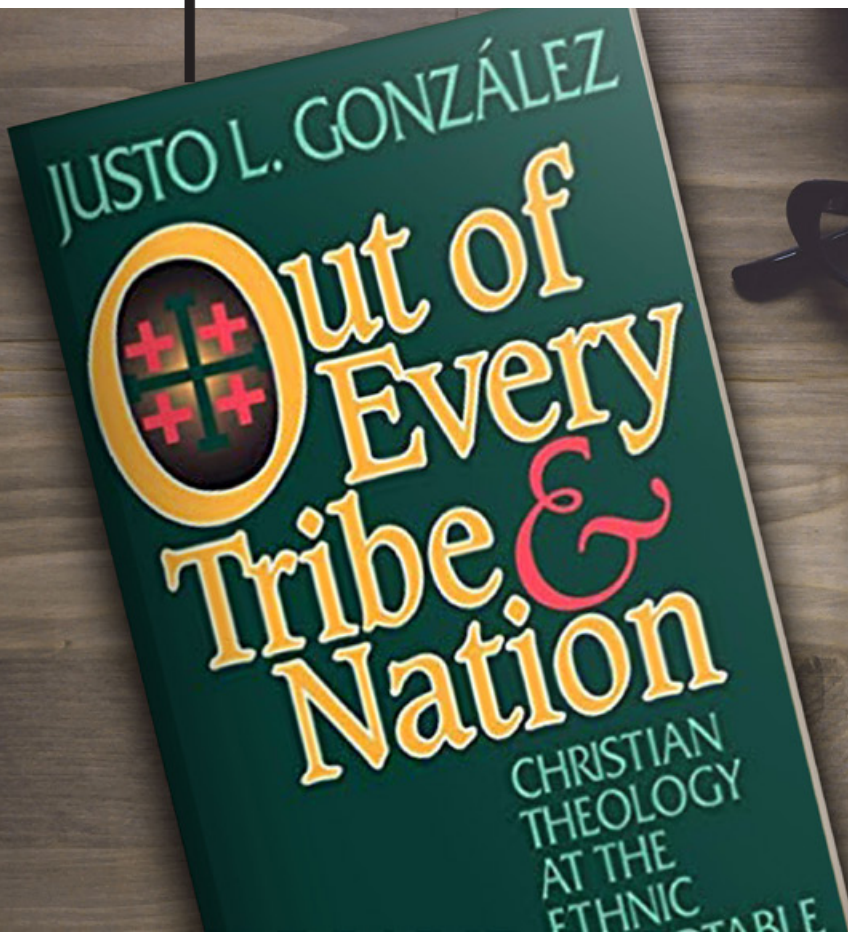


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OUT OF EVERY TRIBE AND NATION: CHRISTIAN THEOLOGY AT THE ETHNIC ROUNDTABLE

by Justo L. González



Justo L. González draws from a diversity of ethnic minority perspectives, developing a more complete understanding to traditional doctrines: creation, salvation, the Word, and the church in its relation to the world. In each case, Gonzalez draws from several ethnic minority viewpoints. Through these accounts, the reader can begin to recapture the richness of the divine-human encounter in Christ, and be part of reclaiming the church's standing as "the whole people of God."

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ROADMAP TO RECONCILIATION: MOVING COMMUNITIES INTO UNITY, WHOLENESS AND JUSTICE

by Brenda Salter McNeil

We can see the injustice and inequality in our lives and in the world. We are ready to rise up. But how, exactly, do we do this? How does one reconcile? What we need is a clear sense of direction. Based on her extensive consulting experience with churches, colleges and organizations, Rev. Dr. Brenda Salter McNeil has created a roadmap to show us the way. She guides us through the common topics of discussion and past the bumpy social terrain and political boundaries that will arise. In these pages she voices her call to all believers.

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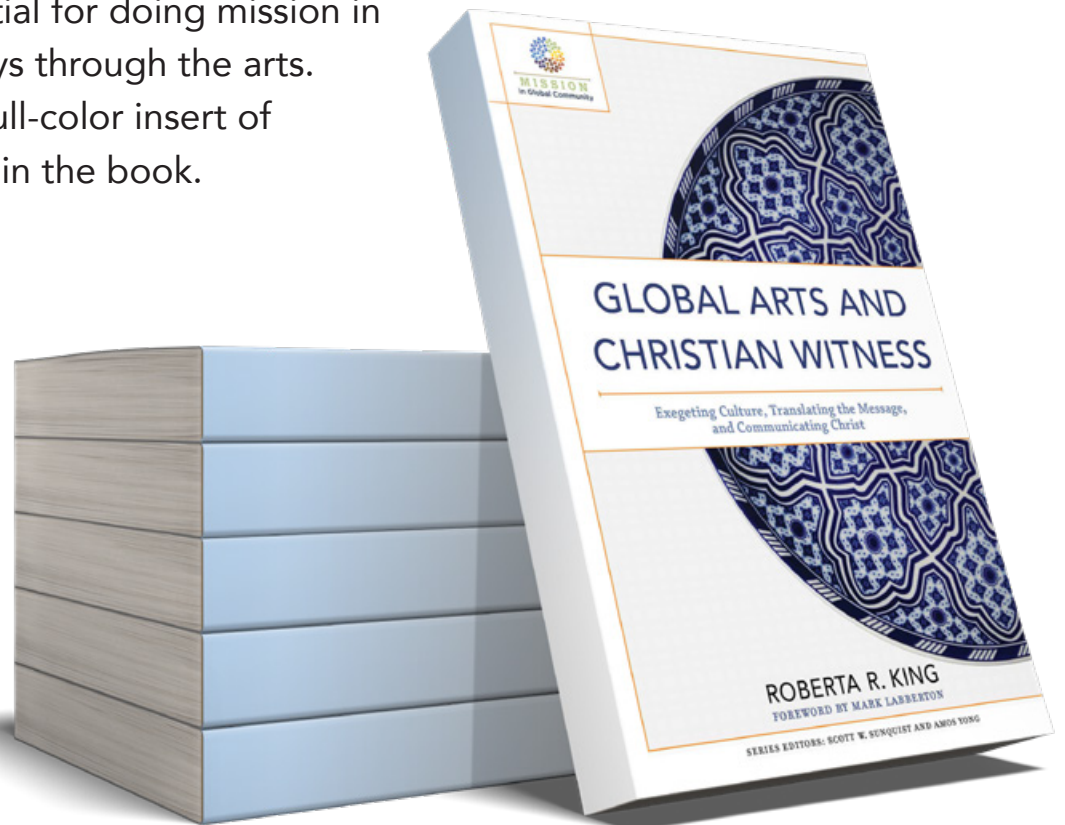
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GLOBAL ARTS AND CHRISTIAN WITNESS: EXEGETING CULTURE, TRANSLATING THE MESSAGE, AND COMMUNICATING CHRIST

By Roberta R. King

Veteran missionary-scholar Roberta King draws on a lifetime of study and firsthand mission experience to show how witness through contextualized global arts can dynamically reveal Christ to all peoples. King offers the global church biblical foundations, historical pathways, theoretical frameworks and effective practices for communicating Christ through the arts in diverse contexts. Supplemented with stories from the field, illustrations and discussion questions, this textbook offers innovative and dynamic approaches essential for doing mission in transformative ways through the arts. It also features a full-color insert of artwork discussed in the book.

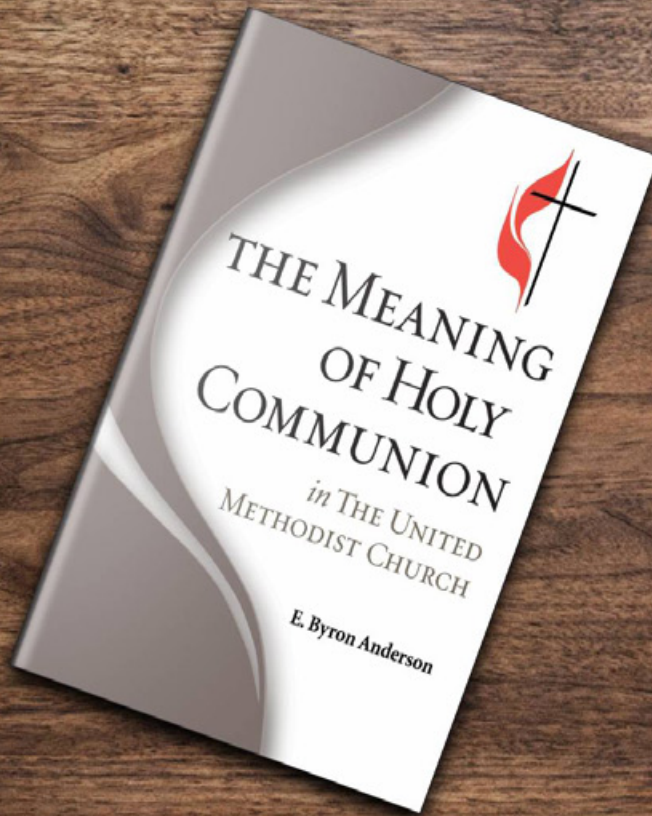


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THE MEANING OF HOLY COMMUNION IN THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

By E. Byron Anderson

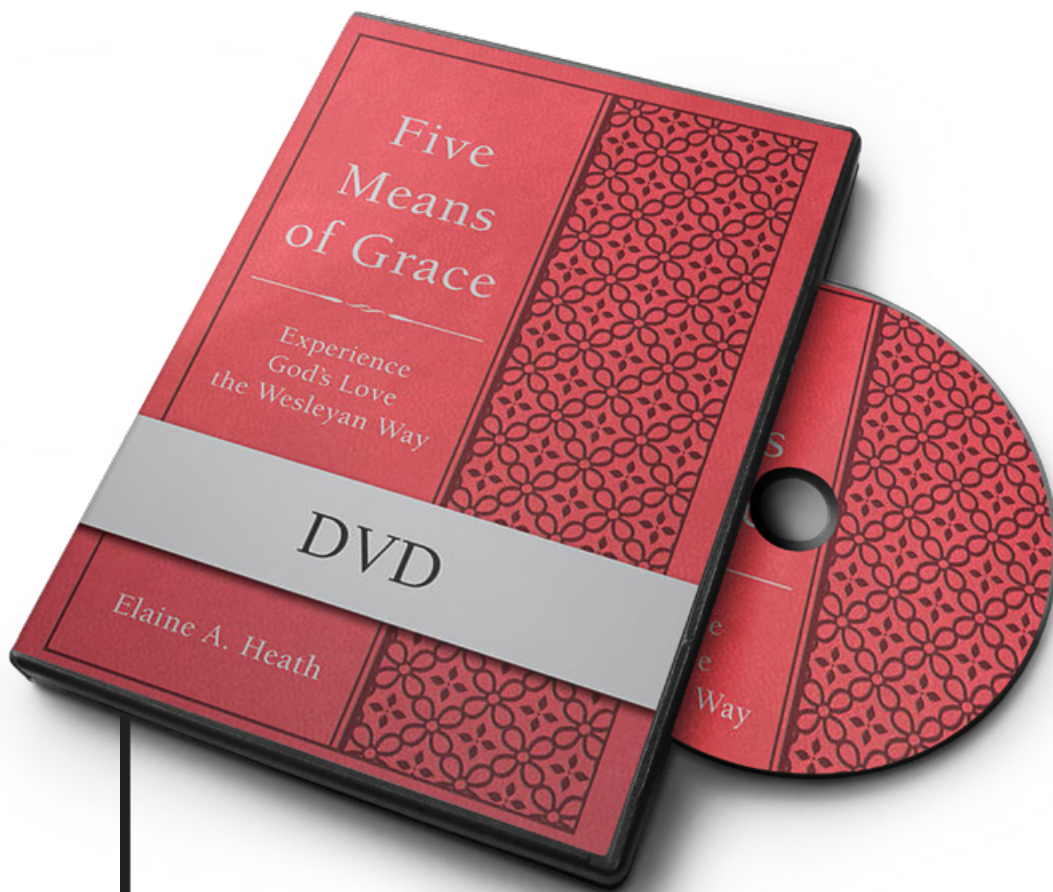
In this resource for newcomers and lifelong members of the church, E. Byron Anderson provides readers with a brief introduction to the meanings and practices of Holy Communion in The United Methodist Church. In addition, the booklet explores several basic and common questions about Holy Communion. A wonderful resource to keep on hand for inquirers.

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FIVE MEANS OF GRACE: EXPERIENCING GOD'S LOVE THE WESLEYAN WAY

By Elaine A. Heath

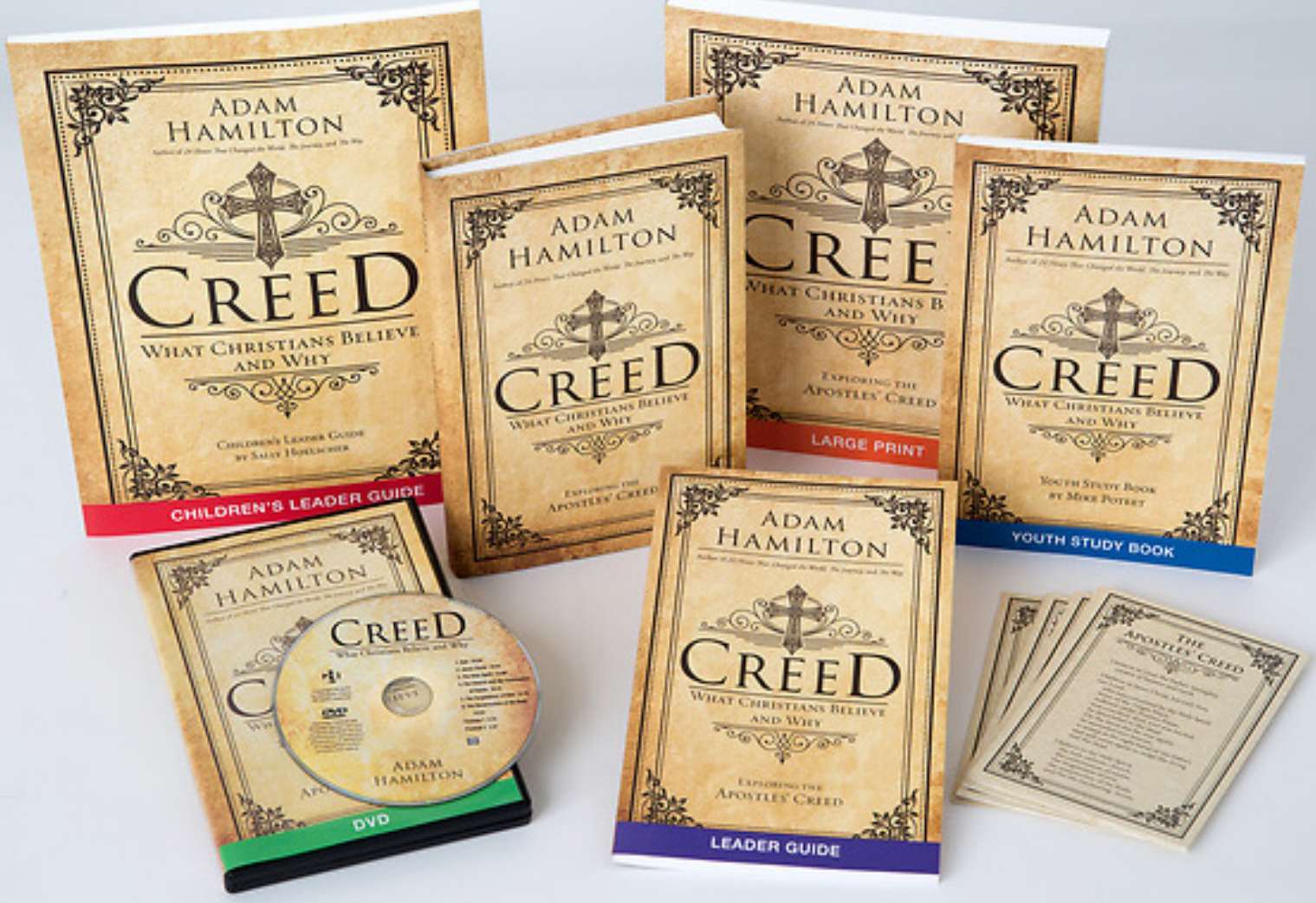
Wesley showed us ways to reorder our lives through the “means of grace.” Recharge. Reboot. Reorder. Whatever you want to call it, we need a process that helps us continuously renew our relationship with God so that we don’t drift away from our faith. Based on The Wesley Covenant for Renewal, “*Five Means of Grace*” is a six-week, video-based study that will show you how to reorder your life through prayer, searching Scripture, receiving the Lord’s Supper, fasting and conferencing (worshipping together). You’ll learn how to recognize and affirm the outward signs, words and actions of an invisible, divine grace, deepening your relationship with God and making your faith more complete.

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CREED: WHAT CHRISTIANS BELIEVE AND WHY

By Adam Hamilton

“Creed” explores what Christians believe, why they believe and why it matters through the Apostles Creed. We’re used to answers popping up on a screen right in front of us. But when the questions examine the truths that give meaning and purpose to life, finding the answers takes more than simply typing a few words and pushing a button. Adam Hamilton believes that powerful answers to many of our complicated questions are contained in the Apostles’ Creed, an early statement of foundational Christian beliefs. In “Creed,” he explores not only what Christians believe, but also why they believe, and why it matters, which, in turn, leads readers to confront and examine their own core beliefs and go beyond reciting the Creed’s familiar words.

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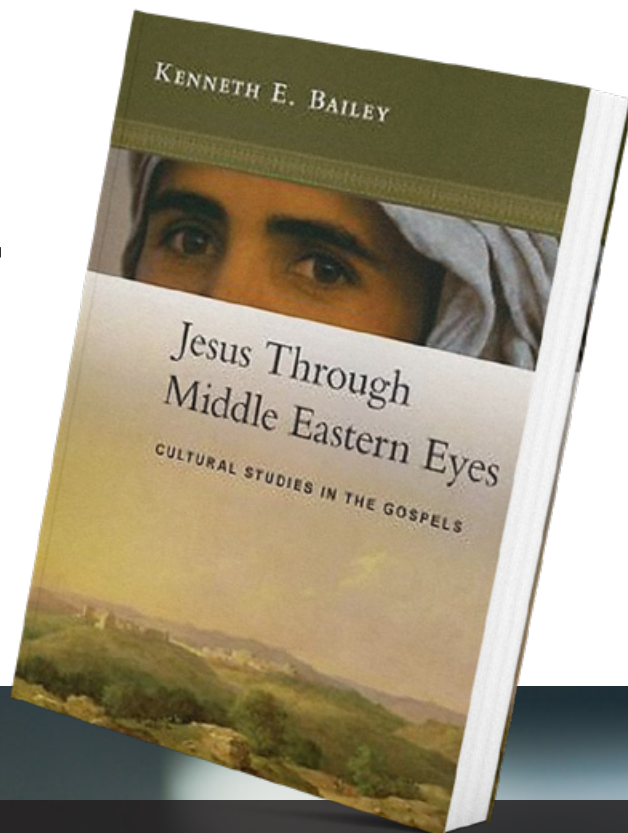


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JESUS THROUGH MIDDLE EASTERN EYES: CULTURAL STUDIES IN THE GOSPELS

by Kenneth E. Bailey



Beginning with Jesus' birth, Ken Bailey leads the reader on a kaleidoscopic study of Jesus throughout the four Gospels. Bailey examines the life and ministry of Jesus with attention to the Lord's Prayer, the Beatitudes, Jesus' relationship to women, and especially Jesus' parables. Through it all, Bailey employs his trademark expertise as a master of Middle Eastern culture, offering a deeper understanding of the person and significance of Jesus within his own cultural context. With a sure but gentle hand, Bailey lifts away the obscuring layers of modern Western interpretation to reveal Jesus in the light of his actual historical and cultural setting.



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MANY FACES, ONE CHURCH: A MANUAL FOR CROSS-RACIAL AND CROSS-CULTURAL MINISTRY

by Glory Dharmaraj, Jacob Dharmaraj, and Ernest S. Lyght

This manual is designed to help clergy and denominational personnel understand the context, theology, ministry, and mission of cross-racial and cross-cultural pastoral appointments in The United Methodist Church. The authors successfully served in cross-racial and cross-cultural appointments. They share what they wished they had known before they began serving in a ministry context that is different from their own racial and cultural experience. This book outlines what they believe the church leadership needs to understand in order to fulfill a theological mandate of inclusivity.

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