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This pack of two (identical) books will help couples learn more about themselves and their future spouse and address potential problem areas before, rather than after, the wedding. This official United Methodist resource includes worksheets to be completed by each person, Scripture references about marriage, and interactive exercises. Ideal for clergy to present to couples to use during pre-wedding counseling sessions. A separate Pastor's Manual includes guidelines for mentoring couples. For use with couples of all ages, whether they are entering their first marriage or remarrying.

Since forever altering the course of the youth ministry world with his best-selling, groundbreaking book, Purpose-Driven® Youth Ministry, Doug Fields' mind—but especially his heart—has been focused on the many unique needs of new youth workers. Doug

translated his passion, insight, and vision for his beloved “rookies” into what you’re now reading, Your First Two Years in Youth Ministry—hands-down the most comprehensive companion to not only surviving, but also thriving, during the most crucial phase of youth ministry. Employing his renowned wisdom and humor—as if you and Doug were chatting over a long, relaxing meal—the author disarmingly relates stories and principles from his own successes and failures over 20-plus years in youth ministry. In the end, he offers treasure troves of practical advice, all in the hope that new youth workers can travel a smoother path and achieve real longevity in a church culture that all too often chews them and spits them out. Doug covers all-important issues such as: Dealing with discouragement· Establishing a solid spiritual foundation· Building effective relationships with students· Resolving conflict· Ministering to parents and families· Trailblazing change· Working with volunteers· Defining a realistic job descrip-

tion. And many others! In addition, a chorus of insightful sidebar voices joins your conversation with Doug, among them ministry veterans Jim Burns, Steve Gerali, Mike Yaconelli, Helen Musick, Chap Clark, Marv Penner, Rick Warren, Jana L. Sundene, Bo Boshers, Duffy Robbins, Tony Campolo, and Richard Ross, all who've composed extensive, topical essays for each of the dozen chapters. *Your First Two Years of Youth Ministry* is a must-have tool for new youth workers, volunteers, seminary professors and students, senior pastors, elders, church boards—even veteran youth workers who've been ministering in unstructured environments and are now asking, "What did I miss? What can I still learn?" The first two years of youth ministry are never easy. But never fear. Doug fervently assures us: "Hang on. Hope's coming!"

Acolytes can be much more than just cute little kids who light and extinguish the candles on Sunday morning -- they have a very important role as congregational worship leaders. But acolytes can only fulfill that responsibility if they understand what worship is, why it is important, and how we do it. *Come, Follow Me* is an excellent teaching tool that helps prepare young people to become effective acolytes. It provides a thorough overview of worship -- its specifics, its history, and its significance. Students will grow in knowledge and faith as they learn about the meaning of worship, the sanctuary, ritual and liturgy, Christian symbols, and the sacraments. The teacher's guide of this completely revised and updated edition includes extensive aids, such as practical suggestions on how to organize an acolyte program, a brief service of consecration, and several quizzes and tests that can be used "as is" or adapted to individual needs. And the material for students is presented in clear, easy-to-understand language appropriate for ju-

nior high age youth. Each chapter also includes a brief "How Much Do You Remember?" summary that facilitates review. Ed Womack has written a highly informative and interesting manual to help young people understand the liturgical traditions of the church as they seek to serve in worship as acolytes. The manual will aid both novice and seasoned acolytes in understanding their responsibilities and sharpening their skills. I highly recommend it. Tim Weitkamp Pastor, First United Methodist Church Huntingdon, Pennsylvania At first glance, this book may look like just a training manual for acolytes. In actuality, it is a life-changing opportunity for young people. It not only teaches them a comprehensive understanding of worship, it will also deepen their spirituality and appreciation of all that we are when we "gather as God's people." - Mary M. Bullis Central West District Superintendent Desert Southwest Conference, United Methodist Church We use acolytes each week; but not until I used *Come, Follow Me* did I have acolytes that wanted to be carriers of Christ's light in worship. The enthusiasm during the teaching sessions was high, and after our learning sessions the momentum to serve was impressive. I have certainly appreciated this thoughtful, well-organized resource. Constance Sidebottom Pastor, First United Methodist Church Missoula, Montana Edwin B. Womack served as pastor of United Methodist congregations in Arizona, California, and Hawaii for over 40 years. Now retired, he resides in Cottonwood, Arizona.

A communications specialist discusses communication in the local church--advertising, talking with the media, communicating with members, and utilizing technology. Includes helpful forms, checklists, and examples from cutting-edge churches.

Following the 2009 Gospel Coalition conference John Piper and D. A. Carson presented two talks at Park Community Church in Chicago, IL, sponsored by the Henry Institute at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School. The topic of their presentation was on the relationship of scholarship and pastoral ministry. Piper centered on the importance of scholarship and academic pursuits in his role as pastor. Carson, conversely, focused on the importance of pastoral ministry in his career as scholar. The event was enthusiastically received and brought great insight and balance. Now their talks have been edited with additional content and put into book form. Weaving testimony and teaching, Piper and Carson challenge all those in ministry to think carefully and holistically about their calling. An introduction by Owen Strachan and a conclusion by David Mathis provide context and application to these unique messages. Pastors and scholars will want to take advantage of this valuable insider perspective from two men who have been acclaimed for their sharp thinking and pastoral hearts.

This giant resource gives an extensive look at the nine annual holidays: Passover, Unleavened Bread, Firstfruits, Pentecost, Trumpets, Day of Atonement, Tabernacles, Hanukkah, Purim, and the Sabbath.

In his journey from youth pastor in Idaho to missionary trekking through Nepal and India, Marty Meyer shares his epic failures as well as his triumphs. Expertly weaving a gripping story with powerful lessons, he delivers spiritual principles that will inspire you to reach for the dreams God has for you.

This Program Guide is a planning guide to assist churches in honoring and expressing appreciation to the pastor and his/her family. The Program Guide includes: a detailed description of the plan-

ning process for a successful Pastor Appreciation Service; A plan for promotion; an advertising plan; special activities and event ideas; a planning chart; plus lots more.

Memory loss can create problems in every aspect of a person's life. The challenge of communicating thoughts and feelings can be made even harder by other people's negative perceptions of dementia. This book provides practical guidance for coping with progressive memory loss, and includes examples of real people who have faced similar challenges. These stories highlight both good and bad ways to deal with the problems that arise, and are also useful for describing the experiences of memory loss to friends and family. The authors suggest ways of maintaining physical and mental health by staying active and engaged in society. They also offer techniques for improving communication, preserving self-esteem and overcoming the stigma associated with memory loss. *A Personal Guide to Living with Progressive Memory Loss* offers inspiration and advice for anyone in the early stages of dementia. It also provides useful insight for family and friends who wish to offer support for a loved one affected by progressive memory loss.

Based on anonymous and candid research interviews and surveys of a national cross-section of pastors, this book gives you a realistic glimpse into the inner world of today's pastors. Reading about their joys, hurts, and pressures can enable you to better understand and minister to your pastor and his family. Here's must reading for church members.

This definitive 14-volume set brings together for the first time all of Piper's published writings from 1970 to 2015, featuring the lat-

est editions of each of his fifty books along with his hundreds of articles and chapters, compiled in one beautifully designed resource.

The pastoral care-giver will want this authoritative source for developing a vital part of any church's ministry-the hospital visitation. Informative, concise, and practical.

'Walking Together: A Congregational Reflection on Biblical Church Discipline' is a study of the biblical concept of church discipline. It seeks to show that church discipline, rightly understood, is a ministry of mercy and grace that will bless churches that return to it. 'Walking Together' reveals that church discipline was a ministry that was very important to earlier believers, and that the modern church has abandoned it to her own detriment. It is a clarion call for individuals and churches to come back to this vital but long-neglected aspect of congregational and personal life. By doing so, churches can be healed and interpersonal relationships can be restored.

Religions come in predetermined packages. They come with an approved name for the creator of existence, the name of their superstar, their all-star team, their approved beliefs, songs, and, in some cases, dress codes and dietary requirements. In *A Guide for Spiritual Living*, author Rev. George L. McLaird presents a wide variety of alternatives if you are uncomfortable with or frustrated by your present religious experience or spiritual condition, or if you have no idea where to begin searching for your own personal spiritual path. *A Guide for Spiritual Living* offers a plethora of suggestions for living spiritually living as healthily as possible, every day and in every way. It includes ideas for activities, contemplation,

and self-nourishment, as well as advice for addicts to feed the spirit, mind, and body and exercises to help clarify your path. Advocating a holistic approach, McLaird teaches that spiritual living requires flexibility growing, morphing, and constantly being revised, refreshed and reinvented. He helps you structure a spiritual path that is uniquely yours by showing you how to listen to your own internal dialogue and how to use that information for your growth. George is a spiritual guru of the highest order. People want what he's got and this book provides a roadmap for how to get it - a more spiritual, fulfilling, balanced and happy life. I'll be recommending it to anyone and everyone who will listen! William Morrison, Founder, CEO, Alta Mira Recovery Center, Sausalito, CA. www.altamirarecovery.com Many people are served by religious belief/practice. Others are either indifferent or have felt harmed by religion. George's workbook transcends either experience, by creating a workbook for spiritual seeking that can deepen one's religious practice or blazes a new trail for spiritual awakening. Sonnee Weedn, PhD, President and Founder of the Sonnee Weedn Institute of Integrated Therapies, www.drsonneeweeden.com/

Church Staff Handbook provides a blueprint for developing a spiritually strong and effective team for ministry in the local church. Program Guide Includes: Positive Planning, Checklist, Ideas for special expressions, Complete details for Pastor Appreciation Sunday, Detailed Sunday morning sermon, Plus lots More!

A wealth of information on creative ministries that help women identify their spiritual gifts and use them to fulfill their lives and the ministry of the church.

Dr Gray aims to encourage in students beginning to read and

write about German poetry the skills which will help them to read and write with more insight. After outlining this aim in its introduction, this 1976 book takes the form of a selection of German poems from Luther to Brecht, carefully grouped for purposes of comparison, and with graded questions. Most of the poems are from the eighteenth, nineteenth and twentieth centuries, but there are also translations from and into German for comparison with the originals, groups of poems on common themes, and different versions of the same poem. It is possible to trace in outline some of the main historical trends of German poetry, and to acquire basic technical knowledge within the book, but its main aim is to guide the reader towards a closer feeling for the words on the page.

If you ask any pastor what keeps their church moving forward, they will likely point to the serving work of the deacon. These special men are the foundation of healthy churches because of their unique servant leadership role, no matter the church size. Typically, they visit the homebound and the sick as they care and pray for those in need. Seeing the actions of these servants assists aspiring deacons in understanding what a deacon does, but it does not equate to understanding what a deacon is. Through this book, Alan Witham, Steve Rice, and their teammates bring clarity to the role of deacon by providing a practical guide that serves as *The Deacon Ministry Handbook*. The authors bring decades of local church experience having served as deacons, pastors, and consultants.

Pastors are tasked with the incredibly demanding job of caring for the spiritual, emotional, and, at times, physical needs of their people. While seminary is helpful preparation for many of the challenges pastors face, there's far more to pastoral ministry than

what can be covered in the classroom. Designed as a reference guide for nearly every situation a pastor will face, this comprehensive book by seasoned pastors Kent Hughes and Doug O'Donnell is packed full of biblical wisdom and practical guidance related to the reality of pastoral ministry in the trenches. From officiating weddings to conducting funerals to visiting the sick, this book will equip pastors and church leaders with the knowledge they need to effectively minister to their flocks, both within the walls of the church and beyond.

The Kids in Your Youth Group Are Not Isolated Beingshellip; Ministry to Youth Means Ministry to the Families! Churches are hiring Youth and Family Pastors, finally, in an overdue ministry focus. A critical component of a family-based or family-friendly youth ministry is a conscious strategy for ministry to the parents of adolescents. Expectations and opportunities in the area of parent and family ministry have increased dramatically. *Youth Worker's Guide to Parent Ministry* develops a model of parent ministry based on the belief that for a youth worker to be truly effective, it is important to lay careful relational groundwork to ensure that the right to be heard has been earned. Dr. Marv Penner, respected adolescent researcher, youth pastor, and family counselor, presents nine evolving levels of parent ministryndash;each one strengthening the credibility of the youth worker and opening doors to deeper and more meaningful parent support. Each of the nine levels is supported with a number of practical ideas and strategies for implementation. *Youth Worker's Guide to Parent Ministry* provides both a theoretical framework and the tools for implementation in local-church or para-church settings. Marv con-

structs his effective plan in a "Paradigm Pyramid"-rationale and practical hands-on programming ideas at each of the nine evolving levels of parent ministry: Acknowledgement Affirmation Information Encouragement Connecting Equipping Involvement Educating Co-nurturing Bible-based, time-tested, innovative, experiential, adoptable! Youth Worker's Guide to Parent Ministry is a foundational text in this vital area of youth ministry! Featured are sessions, sidebars, Web links, application points, contests and games, sample newsletter ideas, funky cartoons, and many worksheets (all downloadable and adaptable)!

The Relationship Between You and Your Pastor According to Gods Design The Bible says God gave the gift of the pastor to the Church and this gift is indeed needed for the Body of Christ! Since this ministry gift is so important, it is vital that you understand what a pastor is. Is it possible that a pastor is much more than you know or that your view of the pastoral ministry is tainted by a traditional background? In this five-part series, Rick Renner examines Scripture from both the Old and New Testaments to reveal the heart of God for giving us pastors. You'll find out why you need a pastor, how to find your pastor if you don't have one, and how you and your pastor should relate according to the teaching of the Word. Rick will show you: How to recognize a true pastoral gift. How to know the voice of your pastor. How to work successfully with a pastor in the local church and to correctly honor him or her. And so much more!

For many Evangelical Christians, a trip to the Holy Land is an integral part of practicing their faith. Arriving in groups, most of these pilgrims are guided by Jewish Israeli tour guides. For more than three decades, Jackie Feldman—born into an Orthodox Jewish fam-

ily in New York, now an Israeli citizen, scholar, and licensed guide—has been leading tours, interpreting Biblical landscapes, and fielding questions about religion and current politics. In this book, he draws on pilgrimage and tourism studies, his own experiences, and interviews with other guides, Palestinian drivers and travel agents, and Christian pastors to examine the complex interactions through which guides and tourists "co-produce" the Bible Land. He uncovers the implicit politics of travel brochures and religious souvenirs. Feldman asks what it means when Jewish-Israeli guides get caught up in their own performances or participate in Christian rituals, and reflects on how his interactions with Christian tourists have changed his understanding of himself and his views of religion.

Can you imagine Jesus preaching to roughneck fishermen without ever climbing into one of their boats? Jesus' preaching was packed with references to everyday life. His words had immediate appeal and lasting effect. This book is intended to help the people of God, preachers and listeners alike, make vital connections between the altars in our churches and the lunchrooms at work, between the washing of one's car and the cleansing of one's soul. Preacher in a Hard Hat is an invitation for everyone involved in preaching—the speaking, listening, studying, and shaping of God's word—to coordinate their efforts and focus their energies. It explores the unique partnership between a pastor and the parishioners, one in which the parishioners invite the pastor into their daily lives. Preacher in a Hard Hat is a collection of wry observations, personal ruminations and copious notes on the challenge of making the Word of God arresting, current and compelling for today's believers. Each chapter includes a sample

homily/sermon that illustrates the insights and strategies discussed.

This book from Larry Richards relentlessly pursues defining the goals of Christian education and then offers a plan in keeping with those goals. It includes diagrams, chapter summaries, and probe sections.

ng approach to marriage. Sandra Bender believes that every marriage, like its partners, is in a state of continuous change, yet most fail to take control of that change. "Recreating Marriage with the Same Old Spouse" educates couples in the skills of being married and gives examples, discussion questions, and practice exercises.

The Shepherds Guide through the Valley of Debt and Financial Change is the most comprehensive manual for financial management, planning, counseling, and coaching available. This encyclopedic book (419 pages) contains the basic information and techniques with facts, references, illustrations, worksheets, and case studies. Besides the most crucial issues of today, unique features are 15 budgets/plans, addictions, divorce counseling, low-income resources, pre-marital education, adjustments to financial crises/downturns, funding for college, office politics, economic theology, pastoral care, and Scripture references. New concepts of financial freedom are presented. It is a practical resource management book for those who need the education themselves and equips them to assist others.

The #1 Bible Reference book celebrates its 10th anniversary with this 230-page edition that features more Bible maps, charts and illustrations than the original! This stunning, easy-to-understand

reference book still provides the same full-color, reproducible Bible charts and overviews that made the original a favorite--but in an easier-to-use, updated format! This 10th anniversary edition of the Rose Book of Bible Charts, Maps and Time Lines features over 200 Bible Charts, Maps, and Timelines--and includes more pages, 6 extra topics, updated information, and a bonus 24" fold-out on Jesus' Family Tree. Every church library and every home should have a copy of Rose Book of Bible Charts, Maps and Time Lines. This book contains thousands of facts that will enrich your understanding and study of the Bible, and will be a great resource as you teach others about the Word of God. "If I could give only two books to a new Christian, one would be the Bible and the other would be this book." --Dr. Ed Hindson, President of World Prophetic Ministry and pastor on the The King is Coming telecast Features more than 200 reproducible Bible charts, maps, and timelines, including: Foldout Posters: Bible Time Line and Jesus' Genealogy Overviews on Popular Old Testament Topics, including the Tabernacle, Ark of the Covenant, Names of God, Feasts & Holidays of the Bible, and much more Overviews on Popular New Testament Topics, including the 12 Disciples, Armor of God, Fruit of the Spirit, and much more Overviews of Jesus' Life and Teachings Bible Overview: Books of the Bible and Key Bible Stories Christian History, including "How We Got the Bible" and a Christian History Time Line Charts Comparing Christianity to Islam and 20 Other World Religions Overviews on Bible Prophecy, Revelation, and the End Times Bible Maps Bible Illustrations and Diagrams "It is awesome! Rose Publishing has produced one of the finest books I have ever seen. Every aspect of the charts, maps and time lines leaps off the page with spectacular color, in-

credible accuracy and intricate detail. . . . A must for every pastor and teacher who wants to clearly present the truths of the Bible." --Dr. Jerry Falwell, Founder of Liberty University "A compendium of charts, time lines, lists and illustrations to accompany study of the Bible. This visually appealing resource provides a wide array of illustrative and textually concise references, beginning with three sets of charts covering the Bible as a whole, the Old Testament and the New Testament. These charts cover such topics as biblical weights and measures, feasts and holidays and the 12 disciples. Most of the charts use a variety of illustrative techniques to convey lessons and provide visual interest. A worthwhile example is 'How We Got the Bible, ' which provides a time line of translation history, comparisons of canons among faiths and portraits of important figures in biblical translation, such as Jerome and John Wycliffe. The book then presents a section of maps, followed by diagrams to conceptualize such structures as Noah's Ark and Solomon's Temple. Finally, a section on Christianity, cults and other religions describes key aspects of history and doctrine for certain Christian sects and other faith traditions. Overall, the authors take a traditionalist, conservative approach. For instance, they list Moses as the author of the Pentateuch (the first five

books of the Hebrew Bible) without making mention of claims to the contrary. When comparing various Christian sects and world religions, the emphasis is on doctrine and orthodox theology. Some chapters, however, may not completely align with the needs of Catholic and Orthodox churches. But the author's leanings are muted enough and do not detract from the work's usefulness. As a resource, it's well organized, inviting and visually stimulating. Even the most seasoned reader will learn something while browsing. Worthwhile reference stuffed with facts and illustrations." --Kirkus Reviews

History of pastor's ministry in one place.

Although Christians minister in various ways, the authors of Unity in Mission contend that Christians may become more unified as they focus together on the mission of the church because their ministries provide rewarding opportunities to cooperate with one another for the sake of God and the gospel.

This newly revised and updated edition offers even more practical administrative guidelines, organizational hints, advice on personnel matters and much more. Together with the newly revised Christian Education Handbook, this volume provides complete basic church information and administrative guidelines.