

HERE  
2stay.

Welcome

RETHINKING DISCIPLESHIP





MAKE  
DISCIPLES

"This book is a must read for those that love the church and are heartbroken over the loss of this generation."

Steve Wills, Ed.D., Deputy Executive Director  
Seminar's Pulse and City Station Evangelical Association Canada

# GOODBYE GENERATION

A Conversation About Why Youth And Young Adults Leave The Church

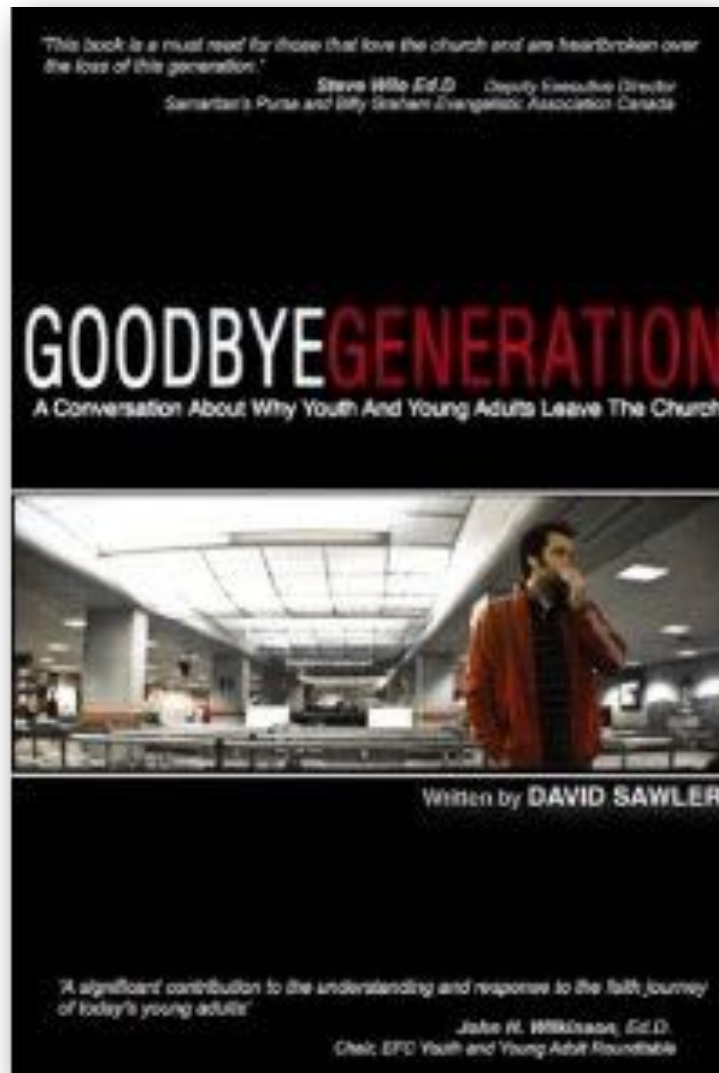


Written by **DAVID SAWLER**

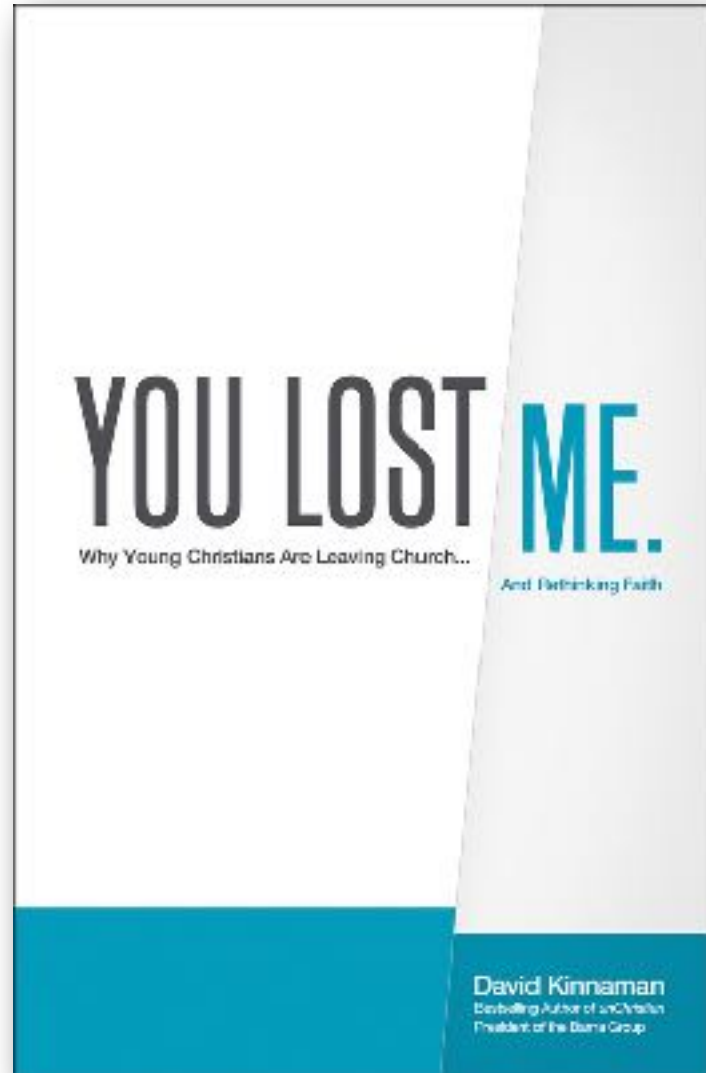
"A significant contribution to the understanding and response to the faith journey of today's young adults."

Jake R. Wilkinson, Ed.D.  
Chair, EPC Youth and Young Adult Roundtable

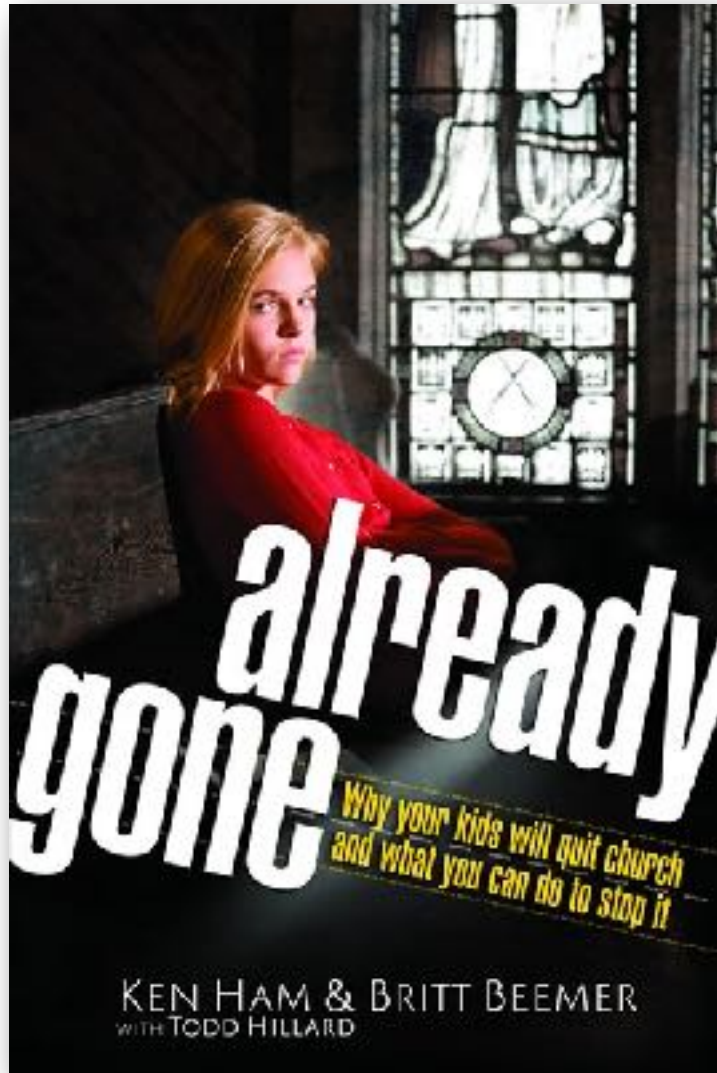
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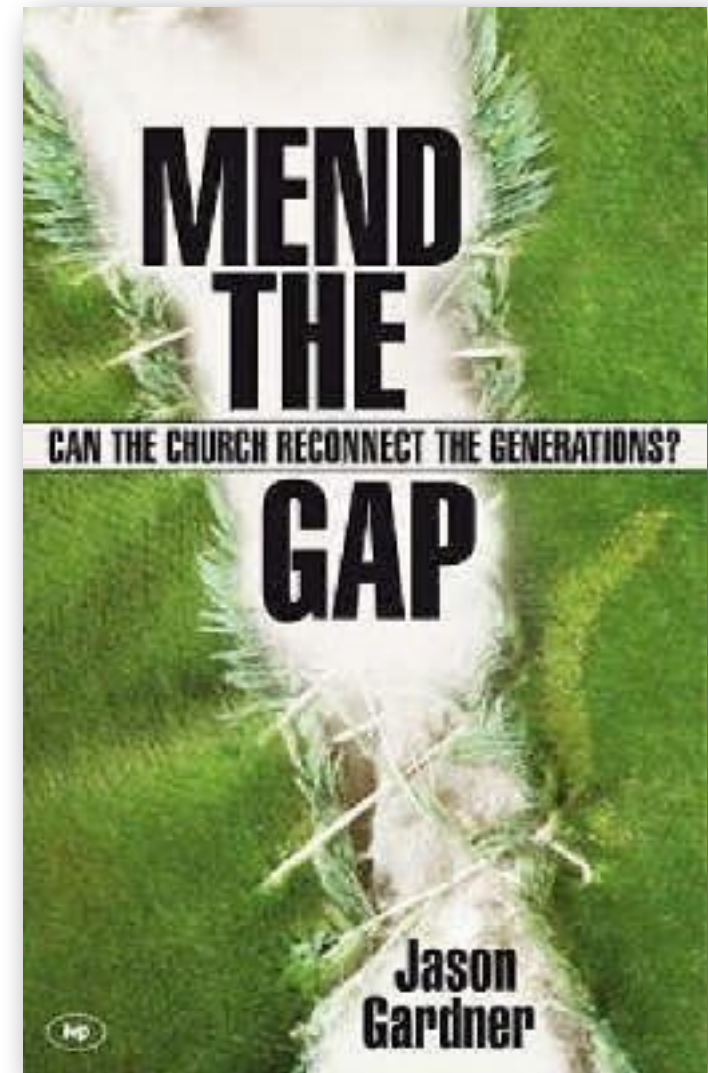
Written by DAVID SAWLER  
A significant contribution to the understanding and response to the faith journey of today's young adults  
John R. Williamson, Ed.D.  
Chair, EPC Youth and Young Adult Ministries



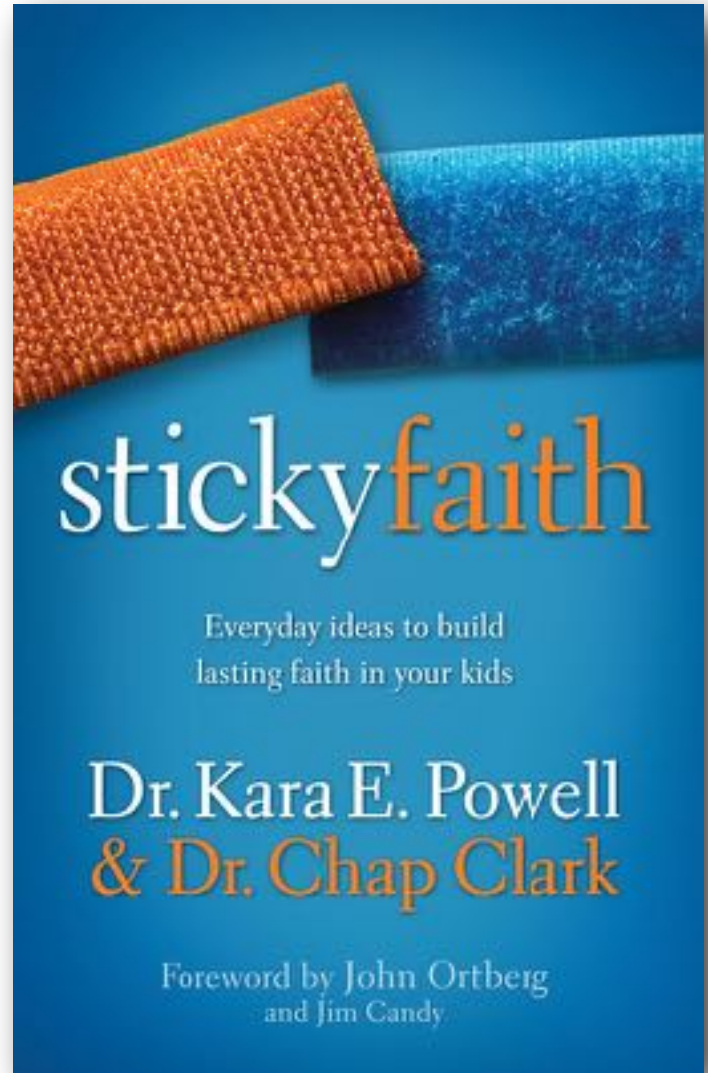
David Kinnaman  
Executive Director of the Barna Group  
President of the Barna Group



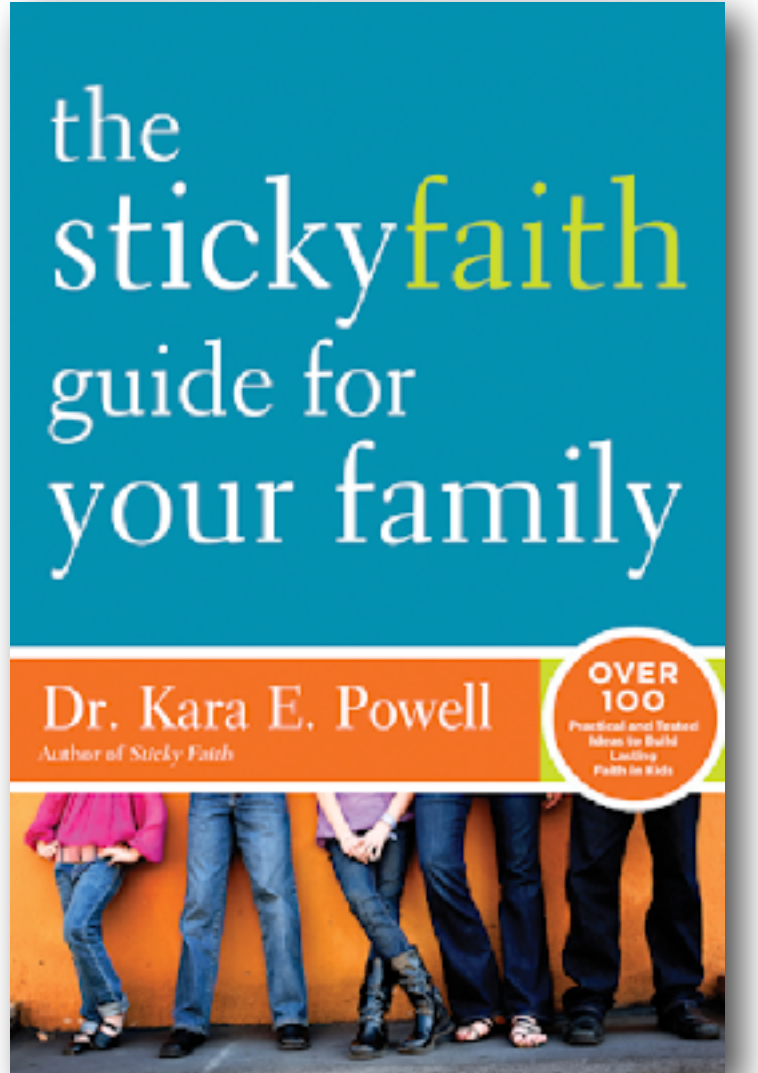
KEN HAM & BRITT BEEMER  
with TODD HILLARD  
With Todd Hillard  
KEN HAM & BRITT BEEMER



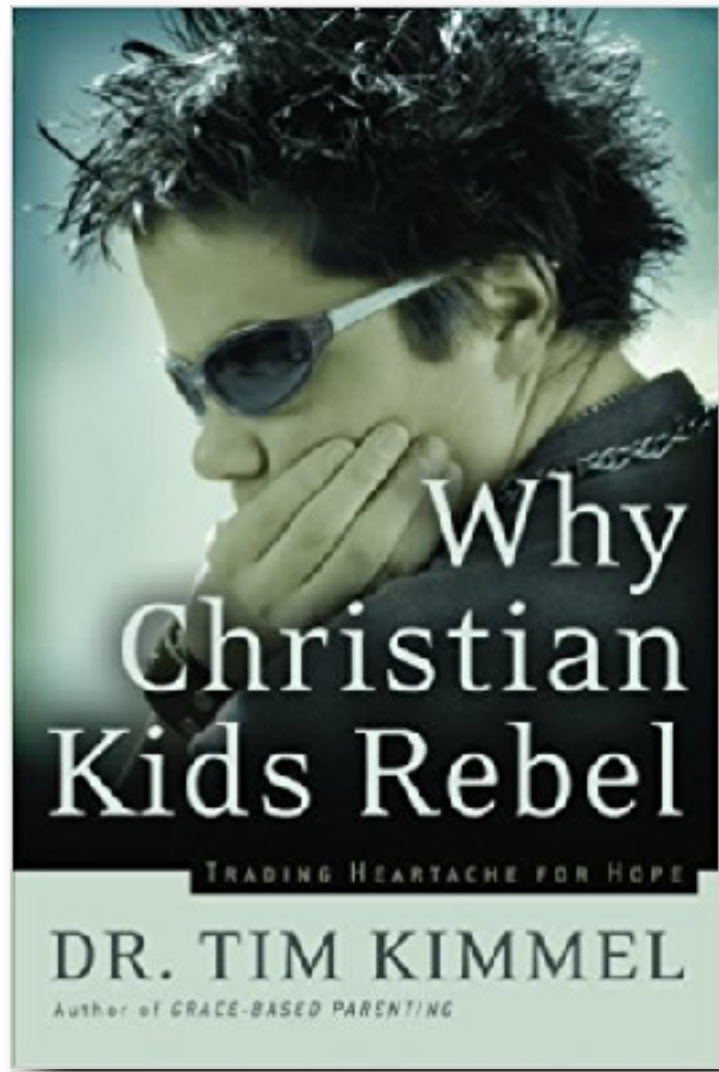
Jason Gardner



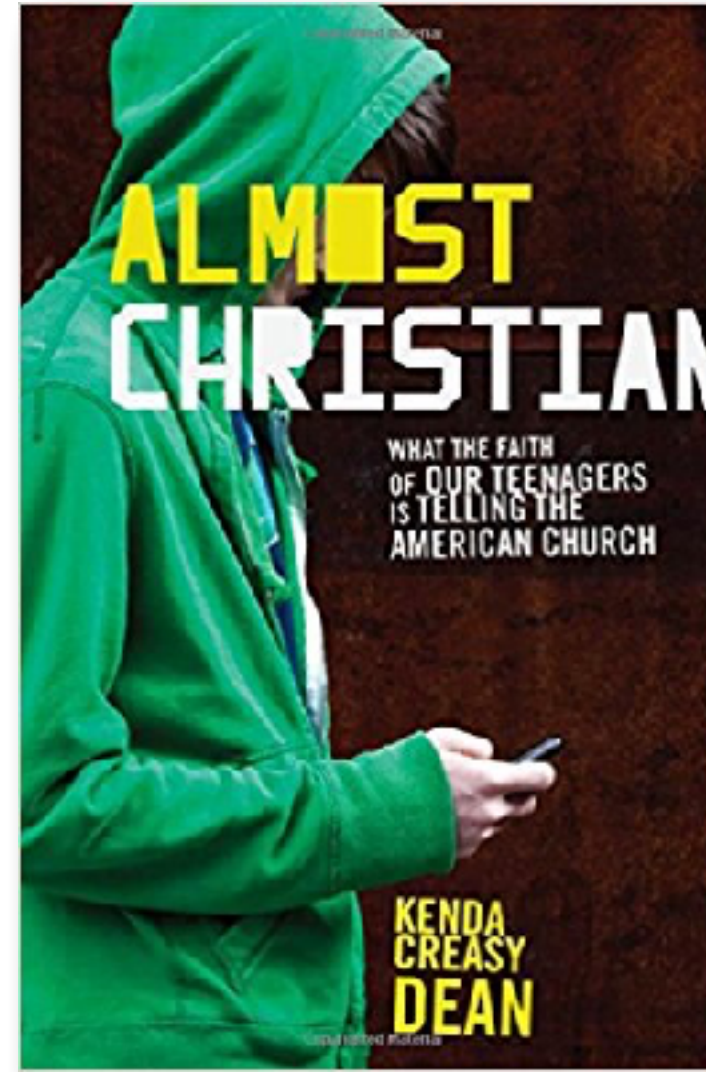
Everyday ideas to build lasting faith in your kids  
Dr. Kara E. Powell & Dr. Chap Clark  
Foreword by John Ortberg and Jim Candy



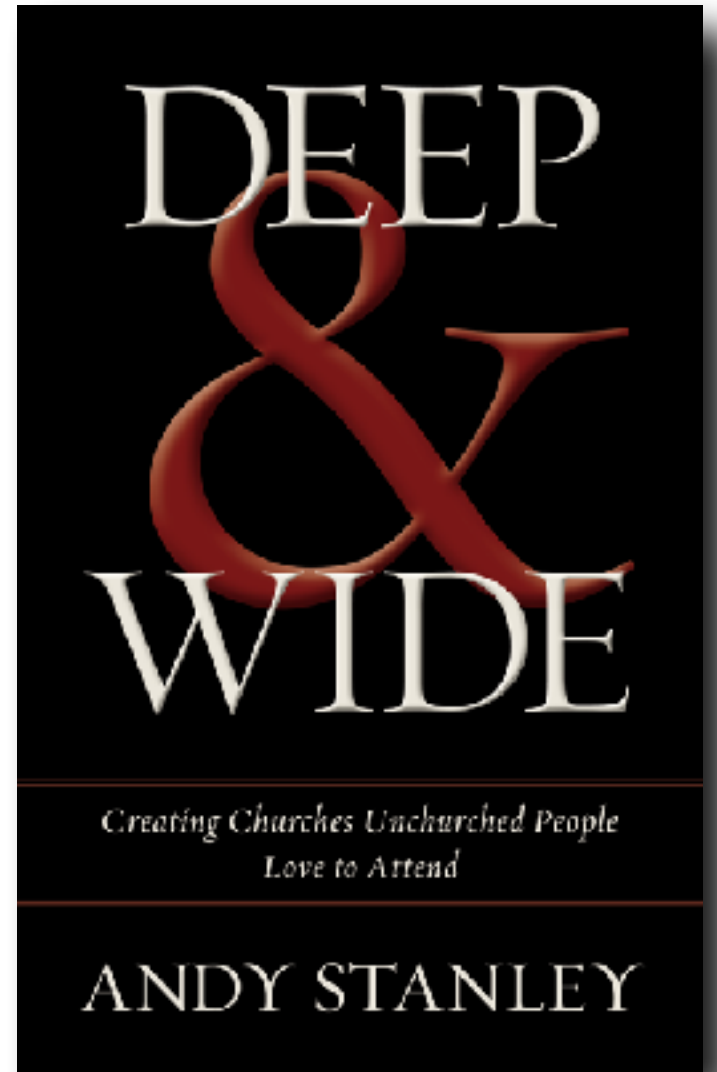
Dr. Kara E. Powell  
Author of Sticky Faith  
OVER 100 Practical and Tested Ideas to Build Lasting Faith in Kids



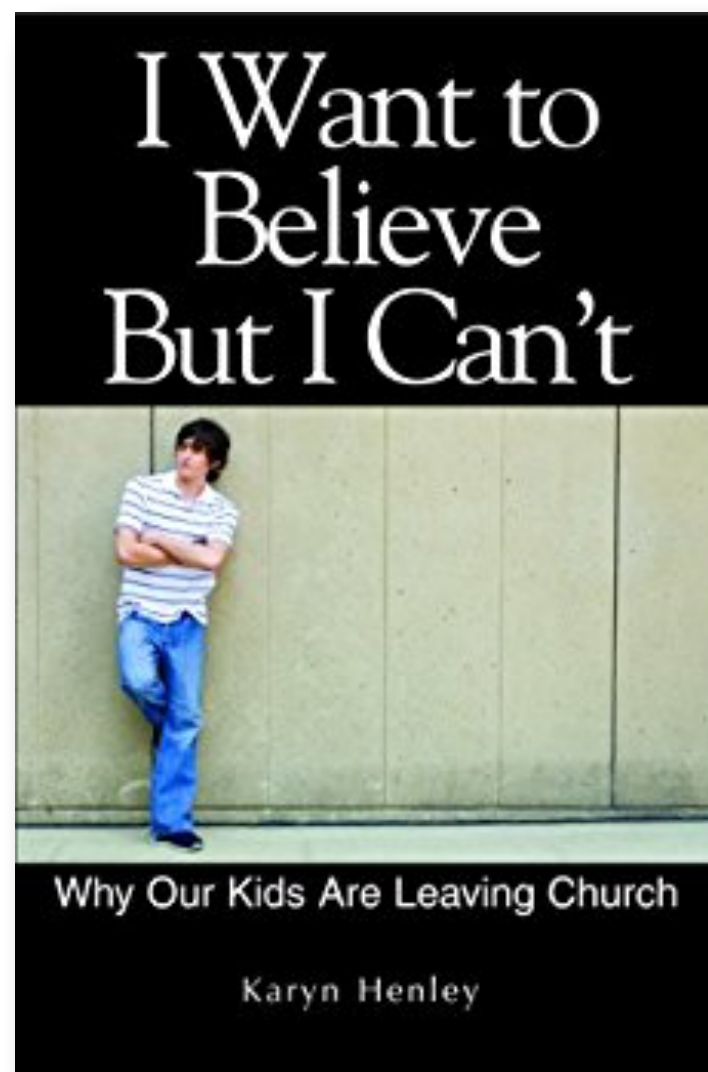
Why Christian Kids Rebel  
TRADING HEARTACHE FOR HOPE  
DR. TIM KIMMEL  
Author of GRACE-BASED PARENTING



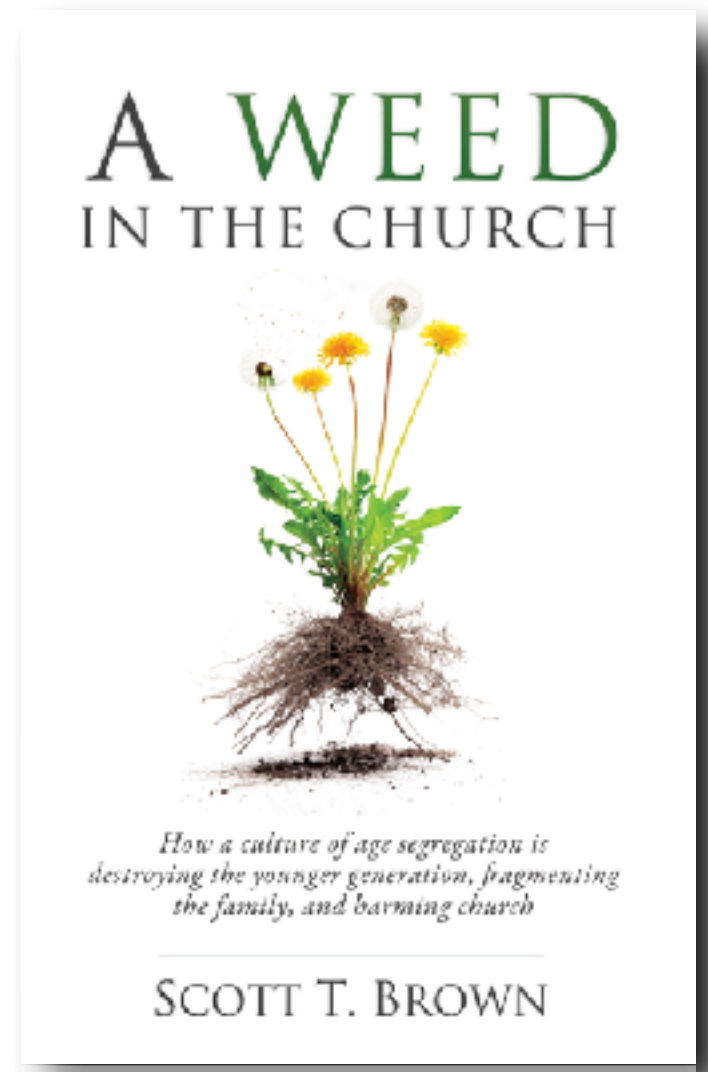
ALMOST CHRISTIAN  
WHAT THE FAITH OF OUR TEENAGERS IS TELLING THE AMERICAN CHURCH  
KENDA CREASY DEAN



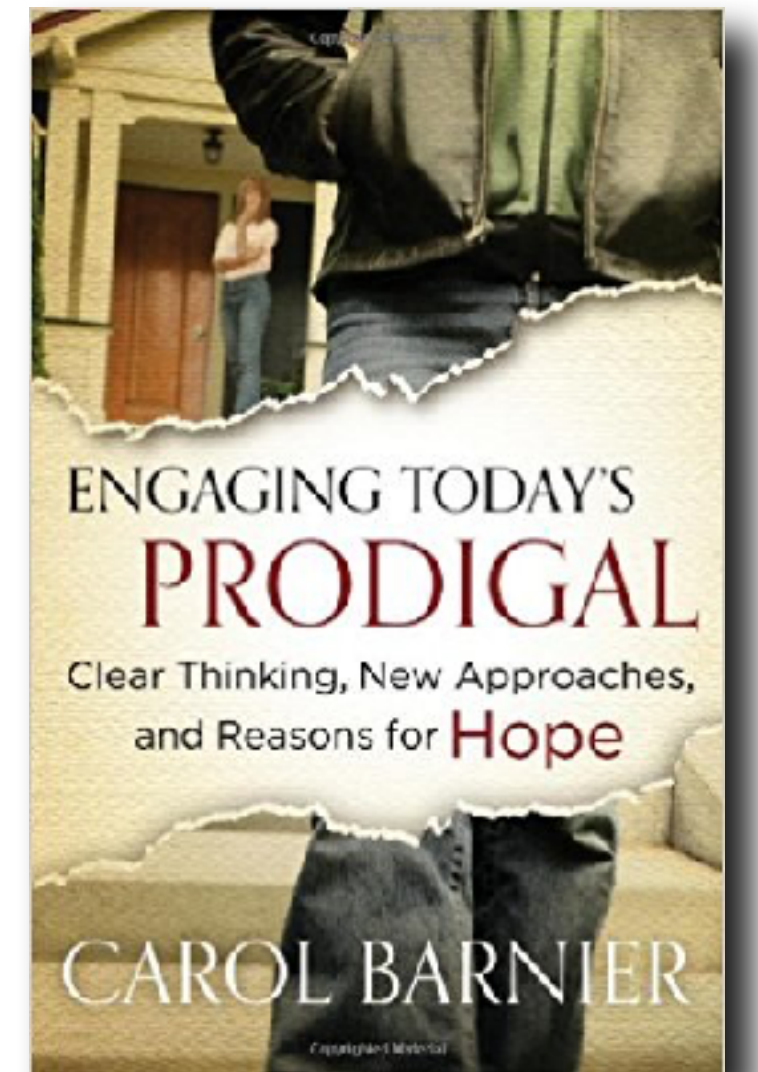
Creating Churches Unchurched People Love to Attend  
ANDY STANLEY



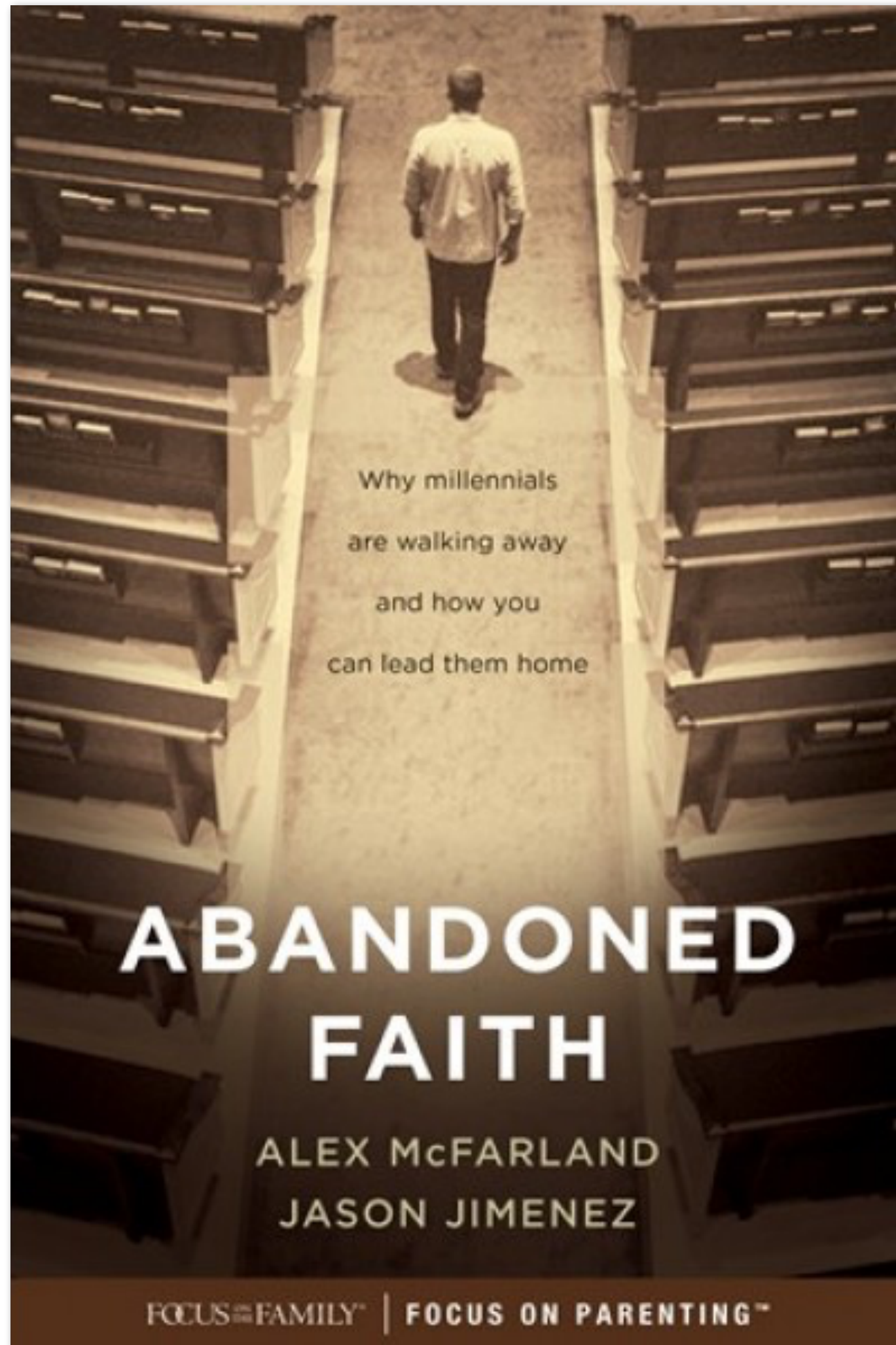
I Want to Believe But I Can't  
Why Our Kids Are Leaving Church  
Karyn Henley



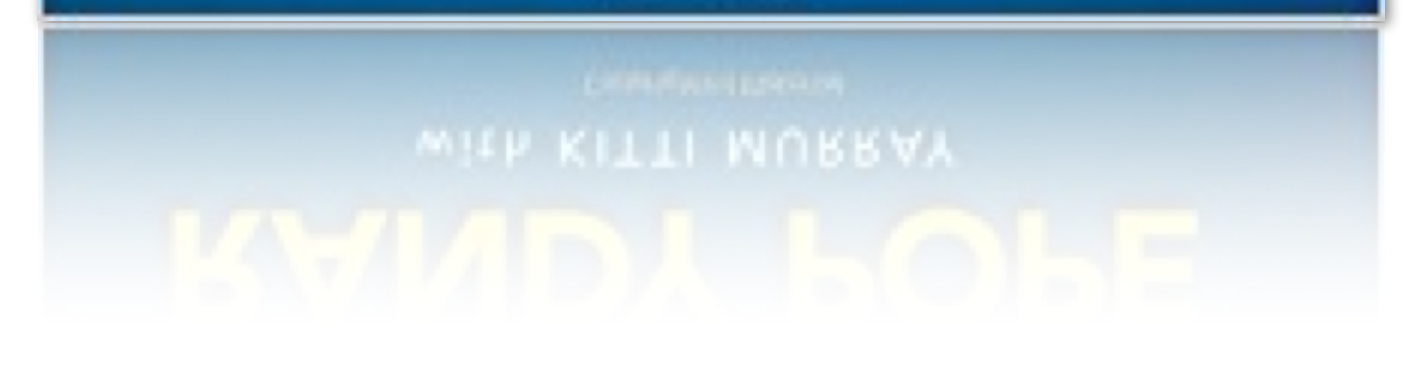
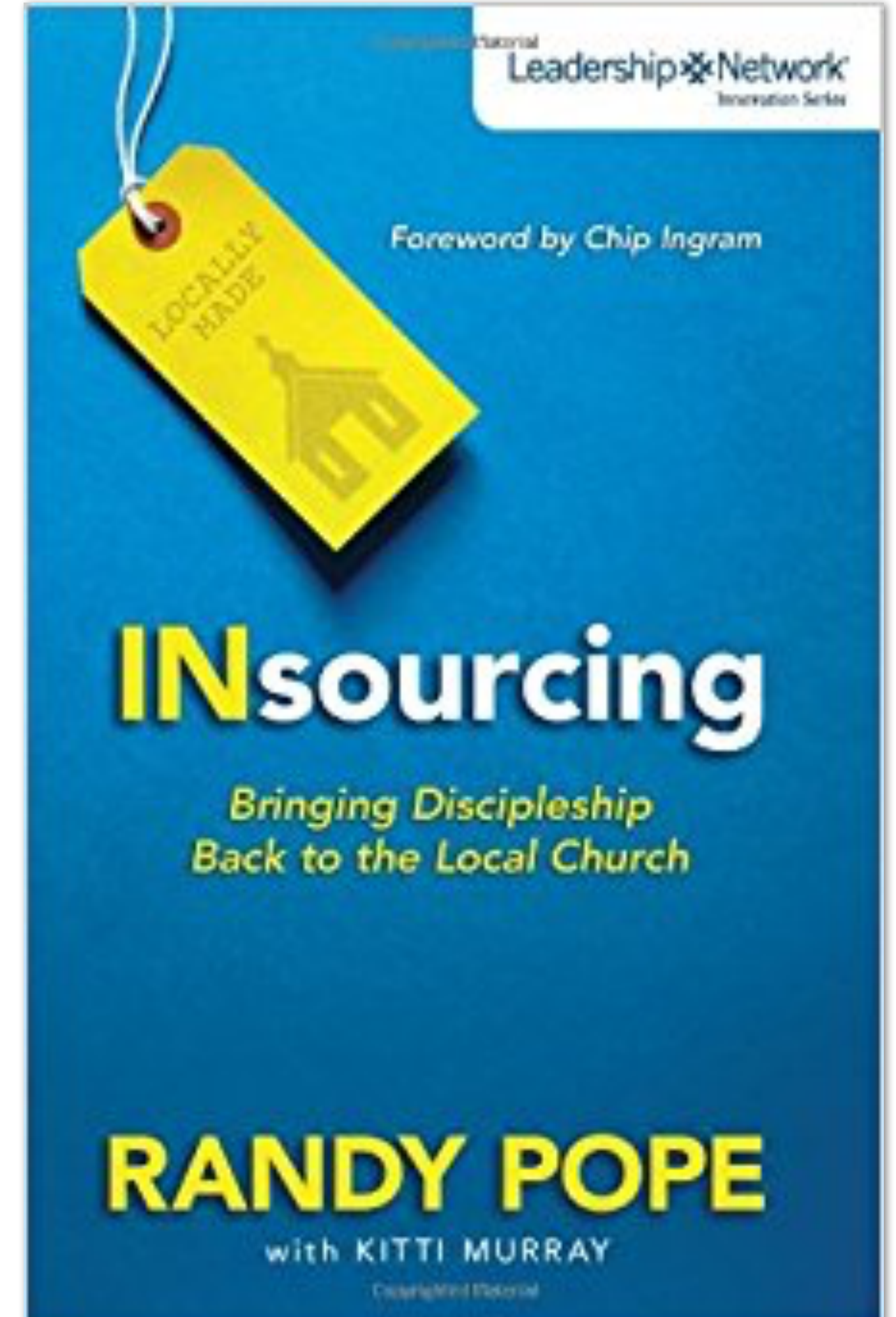
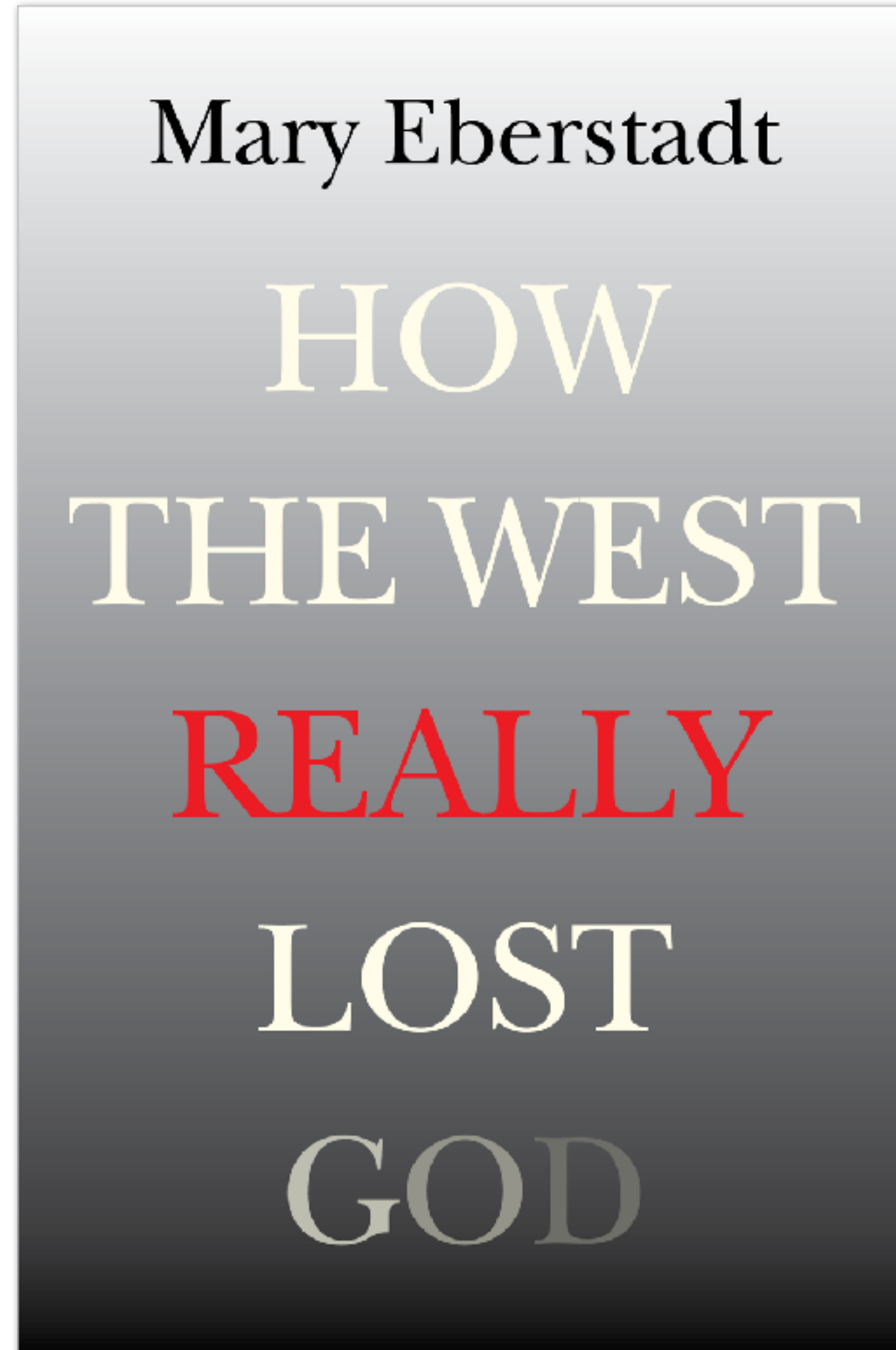
A WEED IN THE CHURCH  
How a culture of age segregation is destroying the younger generation, fragmenting the family, and harming church  
SCOTT T. BROWN



ENGAGING TODAY'S PRODIGAL  
Clear Thinking, New Approaches, and Reasons for Hope  
CAROL BARNIER



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## Ten reasons millennials are backing away from God and Christianity

*College-aged millennials today are far more likely than the general population to be religiously unaffiliated.*

1. Mindset of “digital natives” is very much separate from other generations.
2. Breakdown of the family.
3. Militant secularism:
4. Lack of spiritual authenticity among adults.
5. The church’s cultural influence has diminished.
6. Pervasive cultural abandonment of morality.
7. Intellectual skepticism.
8. The rise of a fad called “atheism.”
9. Our new God: Tolerance be Thy name.
10. The commonly defiant posture of young adulthood.



## New Research on the State of Discipleship

Research Releases in Leaders & Pastors

- **1%** of church leaders say *“Today’s churches are doing very well at discipling new and young believers.”*
- **60%** of church leaders feel that churches are discipling *“not too well”*.
- **8%** say their own church is doing *“very well”*
- **56%** say their own church is doing *“somewhat well at discipling new and young believers.”*
- **20%** of Christian adults are involved in some sort of discipleship activity

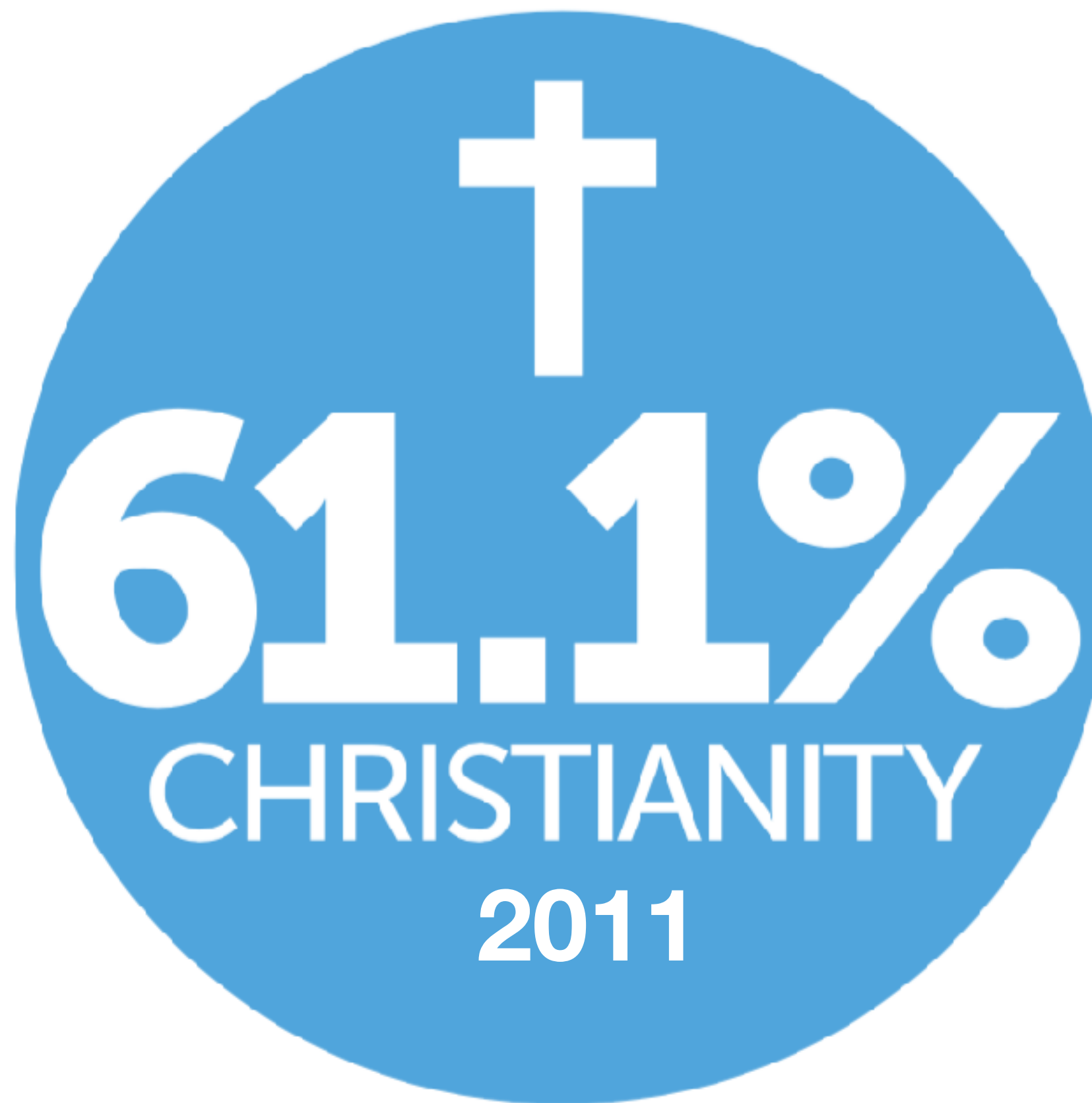




One of the implications of the research is for churches to **rethink** what is working in connecting with today's younger Christians, particularly when it comes to **relational** and **mentoring** forms of spiritual development.



**Christianity:  
Australia's  
dominant  
religion**

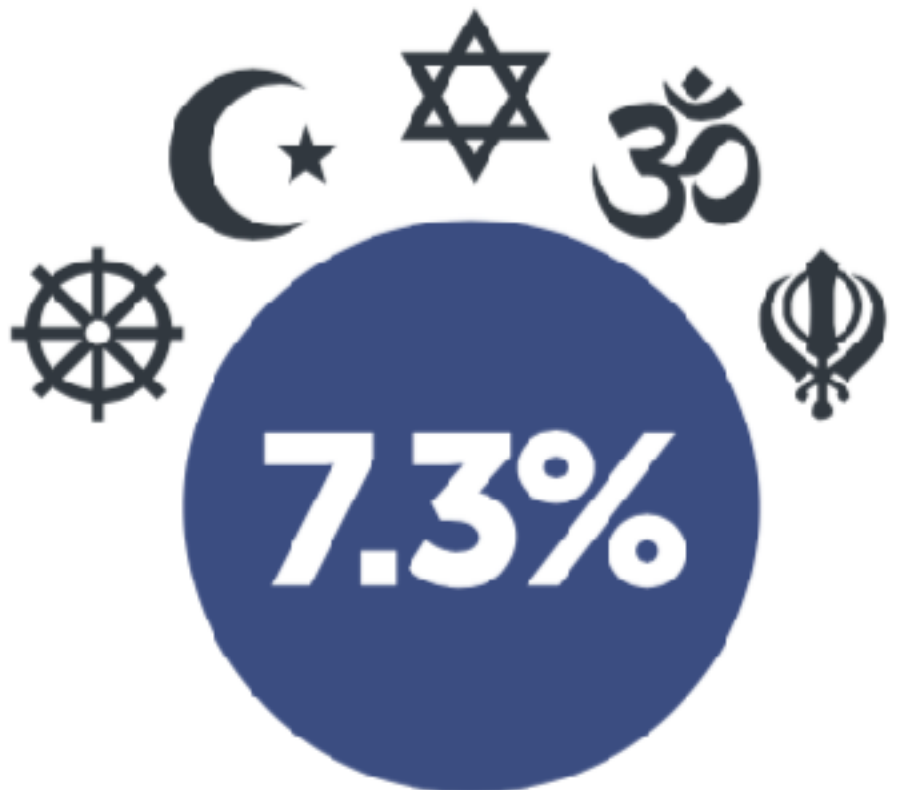
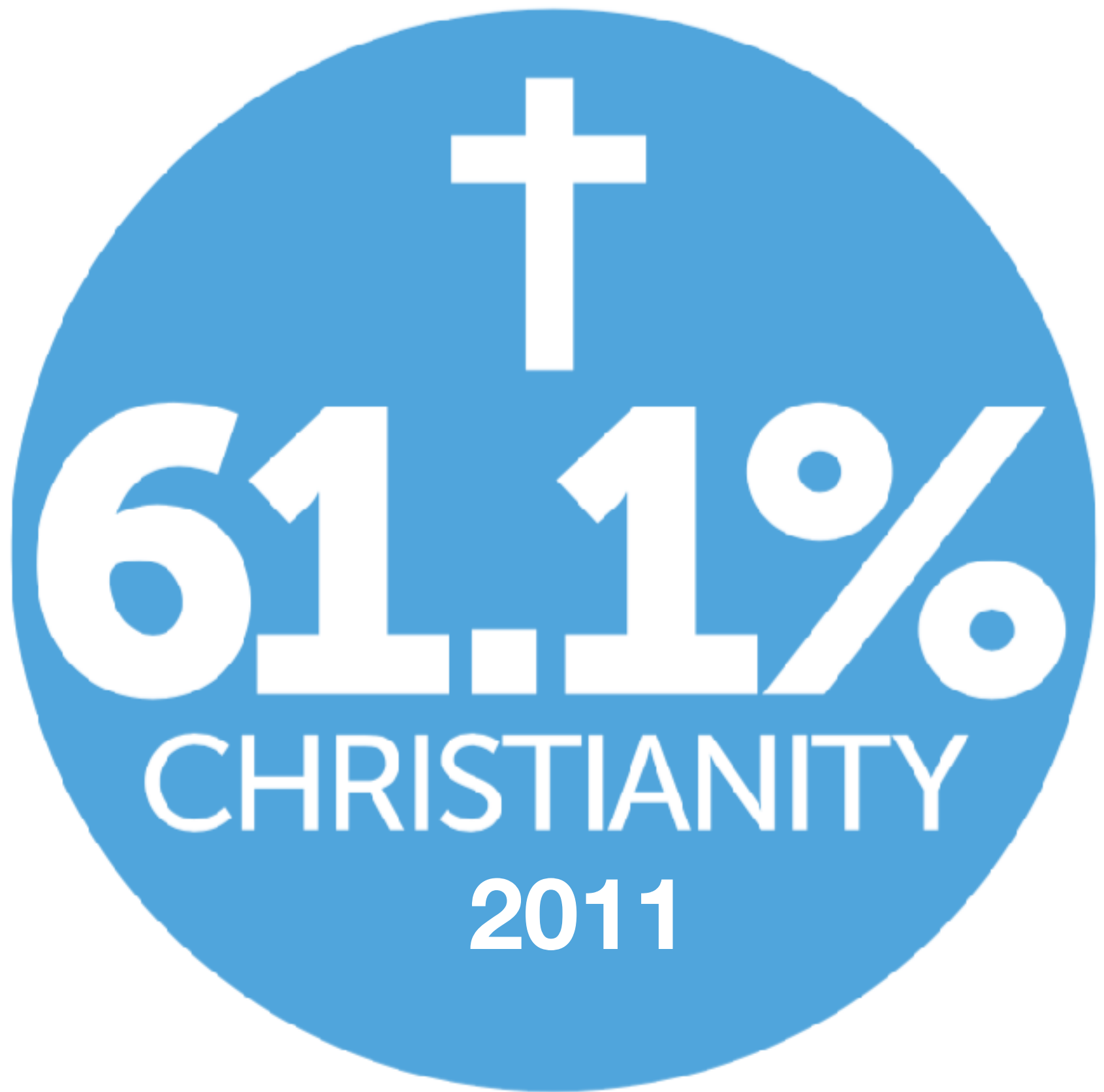


**ALL OTHER  
RELIGIONS  
COMBINED**

**Christianity:  
Australia's  
dominant  
religion**

**96%** in 1911

**68%** in 2001



**ALL OTHER  
RELIGIONS  
COMBINED**

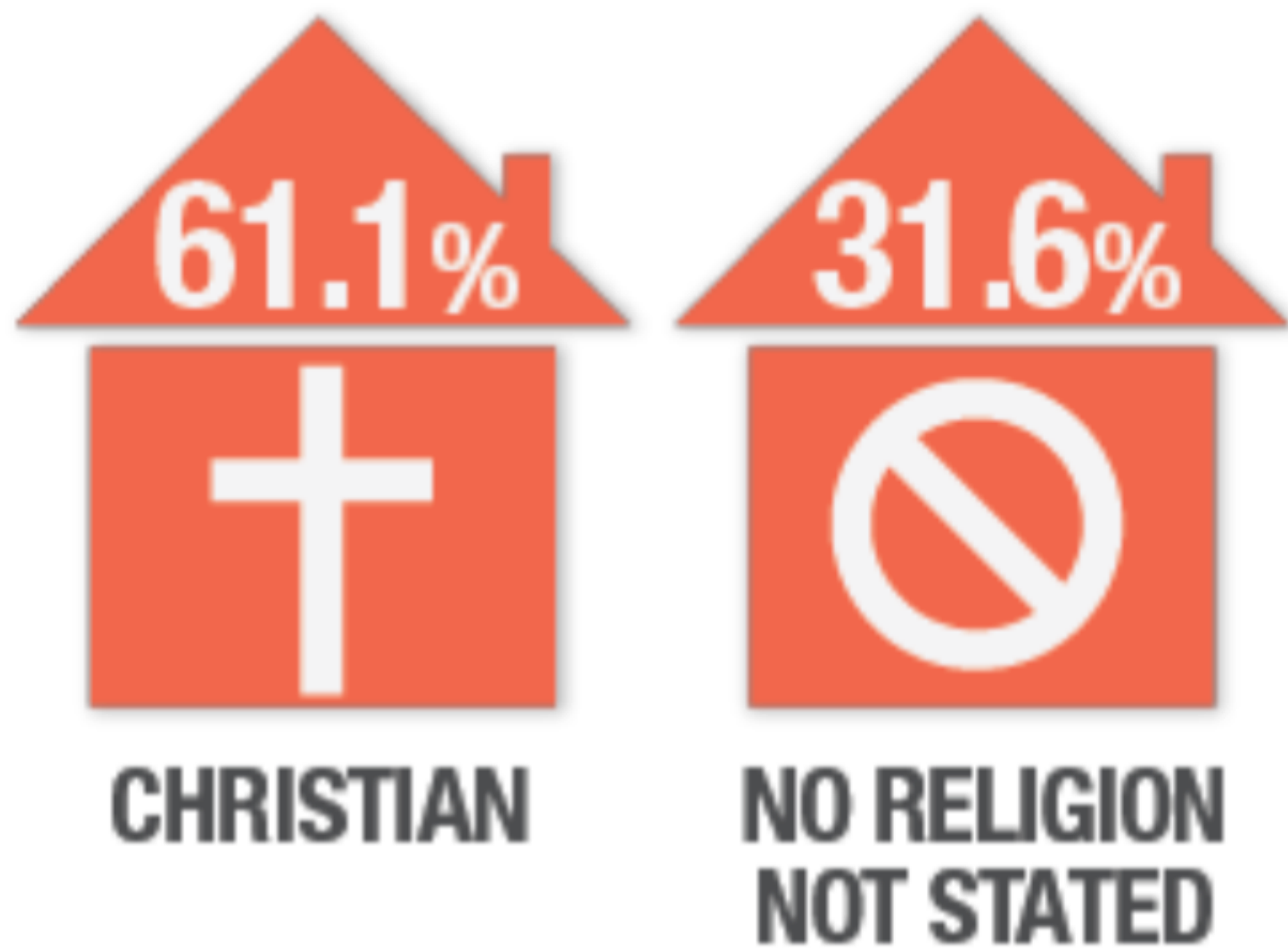
**??%** in 2016



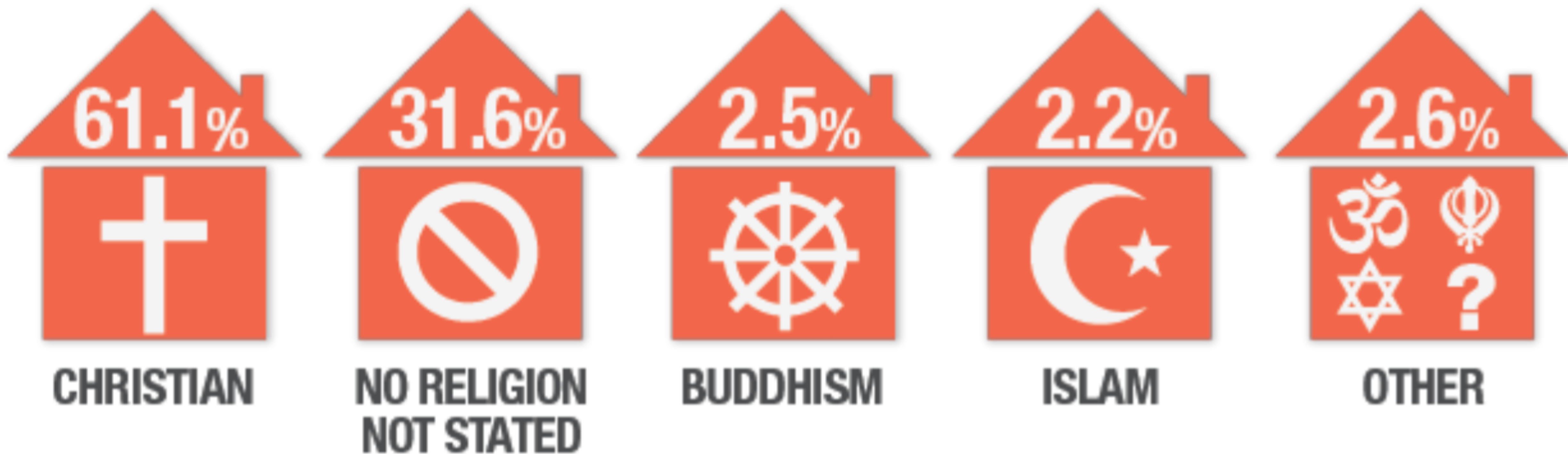
## % POPULATION BY RELIGION



## % POPULATION BY RELIGION



## % POPULATION BY RELIGION



# A trendline of declining adherence

Religious change: 1976 - today



Christianity

↓ 22%



Church attendance

↓ 48%



No religion

↑ 269%

Older Generations Strongly Represented in the Church



"Style of service doesn't connect with me"

"Outdated"

"Irrelevant"

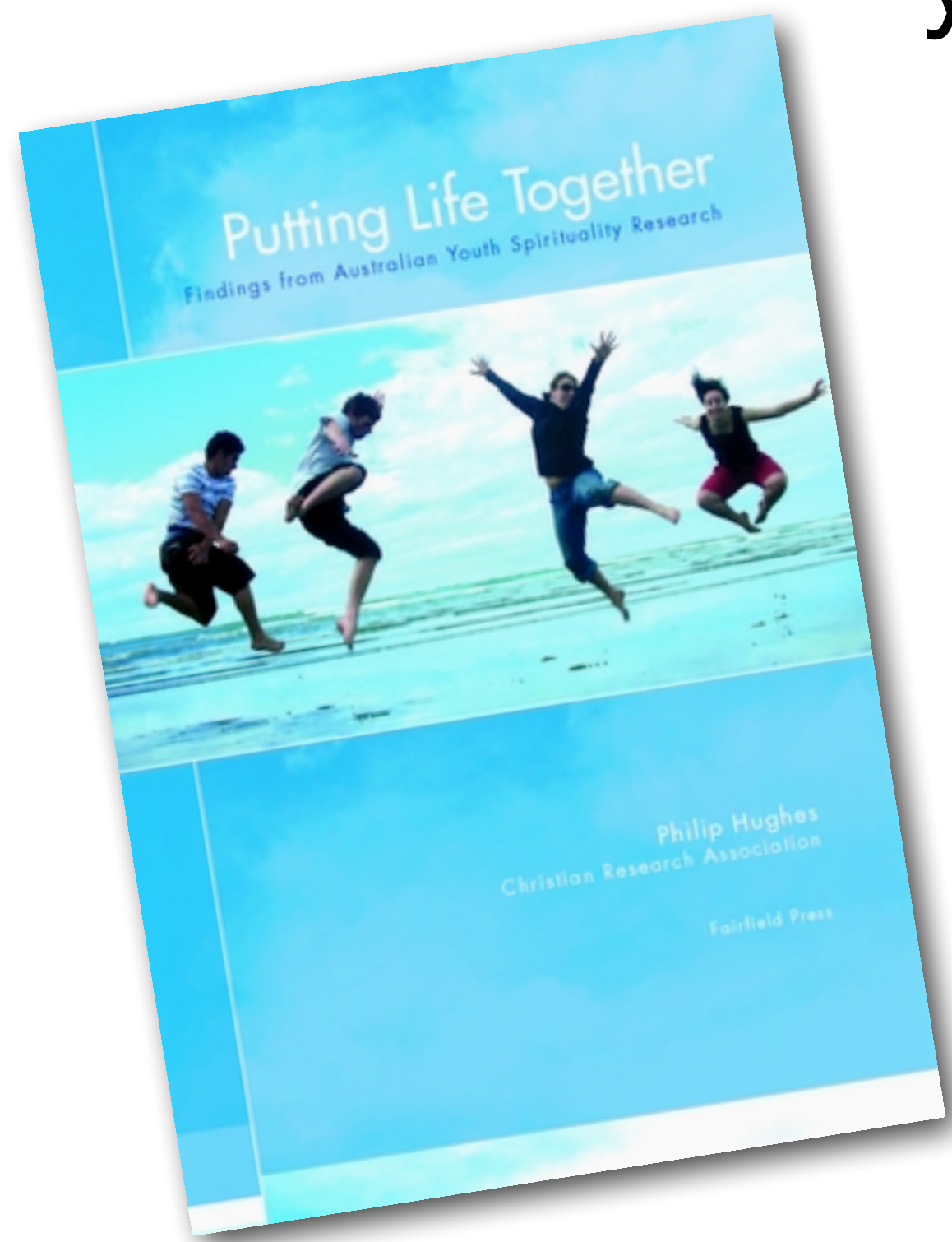
"Teaching not helpful for life"

"More transparency, please!"

"Needs to be more modern"



More than  
**50,000**  
young people a  
year are leaving  
the Christian  
faith and  
deciding that  
they have 'no  
religion'.



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Phillip Hughes





*What*

*What*

*How*

*What*

*How*

*Why*

*What*

*How*

*Why*





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Why

HERE  
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How

Why

*What*

*How*

*Why*

*What*

*How*

*Why*



*What*

*How*



Australia  
**FOCUS**<sup>®</sup>  
ON THE FAMILY

*Helping Families Thrive*



**BIBLE  
SOCIETY**

Live light

**World Vision**



**willow** 

**Willow Creek Australia**

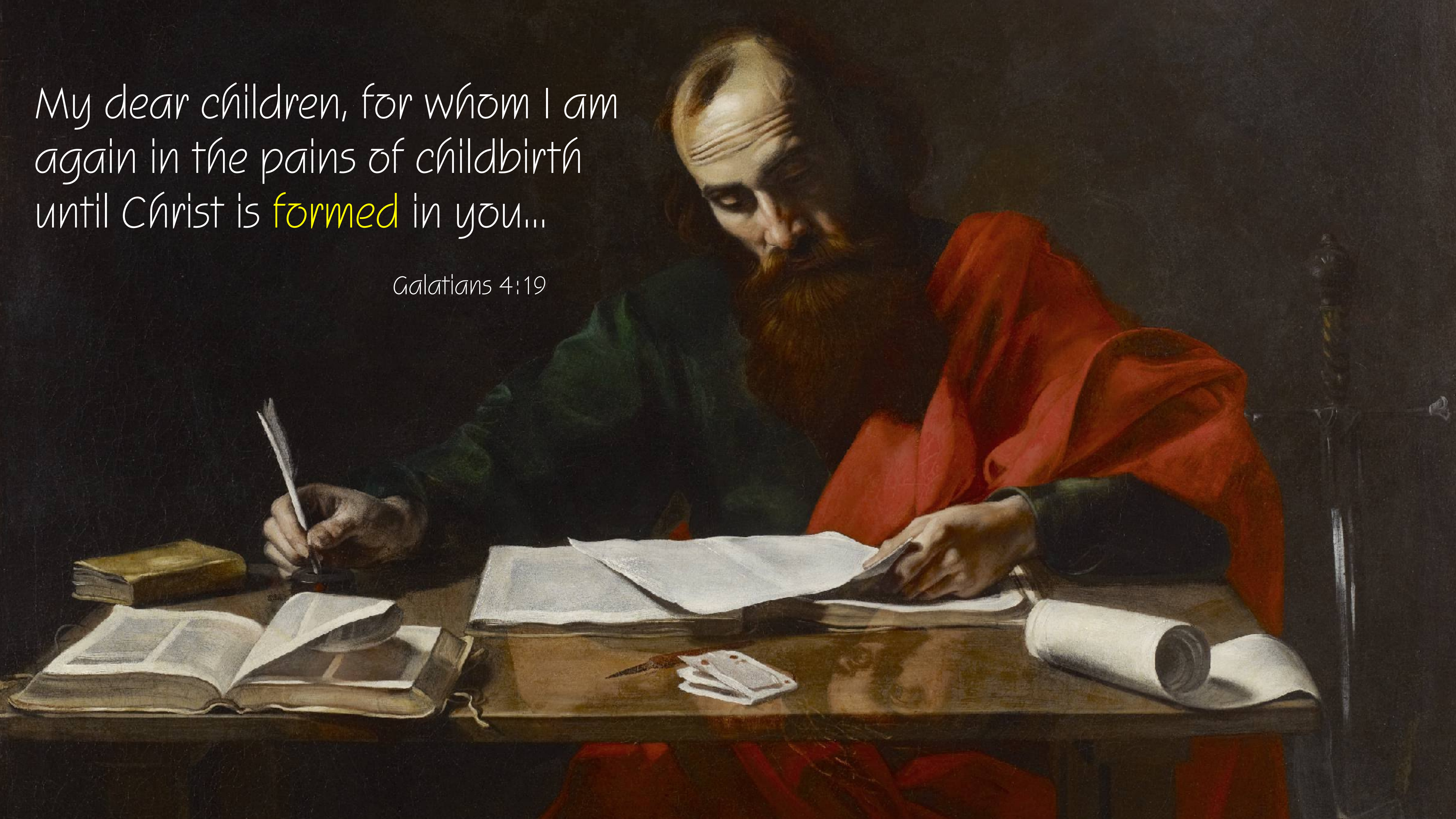
Growing Leaders. Transforming Lives.

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Releasing children from poverty  
**Compassion**<sup>®</sup>  
in Jesus' name

My dear children, for whom I am again in the pains of childbirth until Christ is **formed** in you...

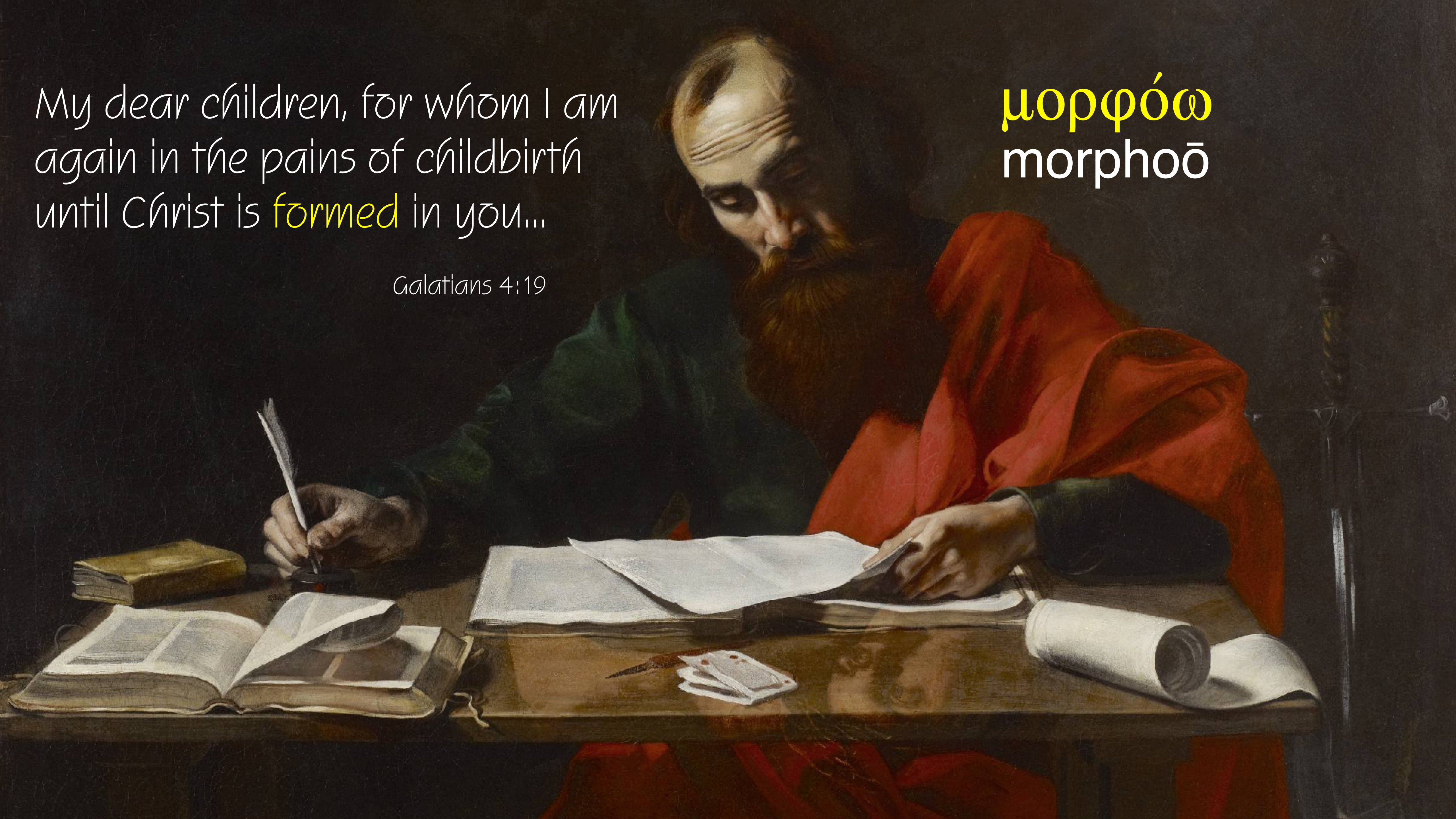
Galatians 4:19



My dear children, for whom I am  
again in the pains of childbirth  
until Christ is **formed** in you...

Galatians 4:19

**μορφόω**  
morphoō







# SPIRITUAL FORMATION



FAMILY FOCUSSED

# SPIRITUAL FORMATION



Bayith

**FAMILY FOCUSSED**

# SPIRITUAL FORMATION



Mishpachah

## FAMILY FOCUSSED

# SPIRITUAL FORMATION

Oikos

Para Autos



**FAMILY FOCUSSED**

# SPIRITUAL FORMATION



**FAMILY FOCUSSED**

# SPIRITUAL FORMATION

“Time was when the whole of life went forward in the family, in a circle of loved, familiar faces ....That time has gone forever. It makes us very different from our ancestors.”

*“The World We Have Lost: England before the Industrial Age”*  
Peter Laslett, 1965 study



# FAMILY FOCUSSED

# SPIRITUAL FORMATION



*Robert Raikes*

**FAMILY FOCUSSED**

# SPIRITUAL FORMATION



**FAMILY FOCUSSED**



**CHILD FOCUSSED**



**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

**CHILD FOCUSSED**

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

**CHILD FOCUSSED**



**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

CHILD FOCUSSED



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

# SPIRITUAL FORMATION



FAMILY FOCUSSED



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I + F = T

HERE  
2stay.

$$I + F = T$$

**I**NFORMATION

HERE  
2stay.



**I + F = T**

**I**NFORMATION

+

**F**ORMATION

HERE  
2stay.

**I + F = T**

**I**NFORMATION

+

**F**ORMATION

=

**T**RANSFORMATION

HERE  
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HERE  
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FOUNDATIONAL  
PRINCIPLE #1

# FAMILY

1. God's design is Family
2. God's command is Family
3. God's strategy is Family



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FOUNDATIONAL  
PRINCIPLE #1

# FAMILY

The upcoming generation confronts an obstacle to belief that goes beyond worship style, teaching relevance, or church program excellence, because it's not about what is happening at church.  
**It's about what's missing at home.**

...generational faith transference is in serious decline.

*BILL HYBELS, Willow Creek*

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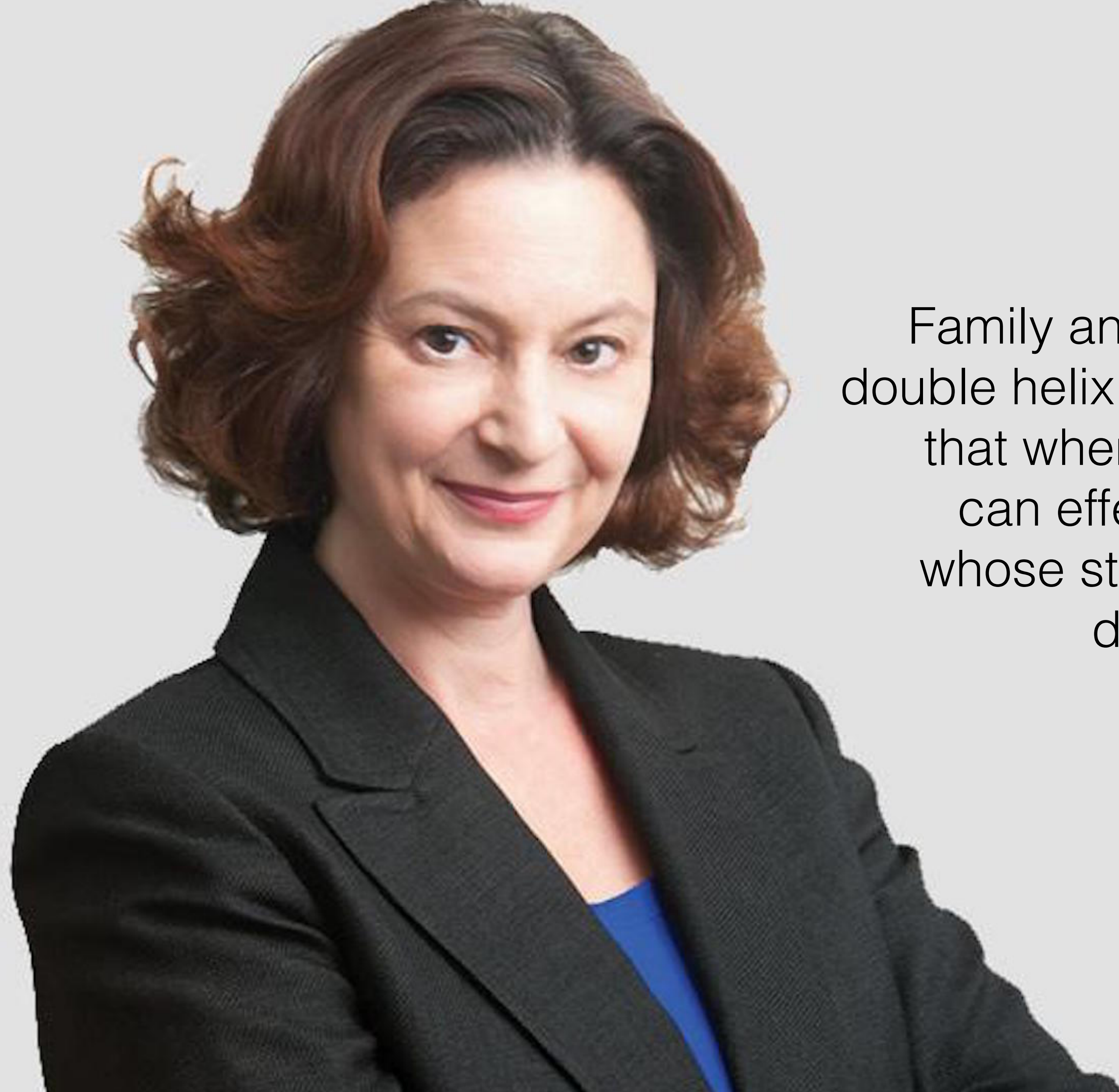




It has long been recognized that experience with an earthly father deeply informs the perspective about the heavenly father. The fortunes of religion rise or fall with the state of the family.

*“How the West Really Lost God”  
Mary Eberstadt, Sociologist*

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Family and faith are the invisible double helix of society - two spirals that when linked to one another can effectively reproduce, but whose strength and momentum depend on one another.

*Mary Eberstadt*



*“The home is the domestic church”*

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“Most certainly father  
and mother are  
apostles, bishops, and  
priests to their children,  
for it is they who make  
them acquainted with  
the Gospel.”

*Martin Luther*



# GENERATIONAL CONNECTIONS

FOUNDATIONAL PRINCIPLE #2



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HERE

# GENERATIONAL CONNECTIONS

FOUNDATIONAL PRINCIPLE #2

1. We are not meant to live in isolated silos
2. No tolerance for differences breaks down society
3. Intergenerational households are on the increase

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“Too many times churches try to **do** intergenerational rather than **become** intergenerational.”

***Fuller Youth Institute***

“Somehow, being with a group of diverse people week after week caused a bond to be formed – a family was created and community happened. The mystery of community became a reality. Community isn’t complicated. It’s just a group of people who grow old together. They stick with each other through the early years, marriage, children, getting old, sick, and family dying – all the while teaching each other how to follow Christ through the rugged terrain of life.”

***Mike Yaconelli***



# RESPOND WITH COMPASSION

FORMATIONAL PILLAR

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# RESPOND WITH COMPASSION

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1. Sitting with the heart of Jesus
2. Seeing with the eyes of Jesus
3. Serving with the hands of Jesus

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HERE  
2stay.

FORMATIONAL PILLAR

**SERVE ON MISSION**

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1. Jesus commands us to serve as we are going
2. We learn best by doing
3. Shared experiences bond and deepen relationship

FORMATIONAL PILLAR

**SERVE ON MISSION**





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FORMATIONAL PILLAR

# ENCOUNTERS WITH JESUS



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- 1. A Jesus who is real
- 2. A Jesus who wants to communicate with me
- 3. A Jesus who transforms lives

FORMATIONAL PILLAR

# ENCOUNTERS WITH JESUS

# BIG BIBLE STORY

FORMATIONAL PILLAR



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# BIG BIBLE STORY

FORMATIONAL PILLAR

1. One continuing story
2. One inclusive story
3. One compelling story

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# MENTORS AND COACHES

FORMATIONAL PILLAR



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# MENTORS AND COACHES

FORMATIONAL PILLAR

1. ONE significant person in a child's life makes a difference
2. Unanswered questions driving departure from church
3. If we don't walk with them – someone else will

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HERE  
2stay.



FORMATIONAL PILLAR

# POSITIVE PEER GROUP

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1. “Three strands together are strong” - Eccles. 4:12
2. Reduction in negative behaviour & increase in well-being
3. As humans we gravitate to people of like-minded passion



FORMATIONAL PILLAR

**POSITIVE PEER GROUP**





FORMATIONAL PILLAR

# PEAK EXPERIENCES

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1. Mountain Tops
2. Memories
3. Shared Experiences



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# PEAK EXPERIENCES

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# rites of passage

FORMATIONAL PILLAR

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# rites of passage

## FORMATIONAL PILLAR

1. Anchor points throughout the Bible for memory & understanding
2. They anchor us in our culture - who we are and where we belong
3. Many young men and women are making up their own rites of passage.

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A young boy with short dark hair, wearing a grey t-shirt and blue jeans, is sitting on a concrete floor against a light-colored wall. He is looking off to the left with a thoughtful expression. His right arm is resting on his knee, and his left hand is on the floor. The lighting is soft, creating a shadow of his head and arm on the wall behind him.

# **FAMILY GENERATIONAL CONNECTIONS**

**Responding with Compassion**

**Serving on Mission**

**Encounters with Jesus**

**BIG Story of the Bible**

**Mentors and Coaches**

**Positive Peer Group**

**Peak Experiences**

**Rites of Passage**

**HERE  
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**MAKE  
DISCIPLES**

**THE  
HOME**

**THE  
CHURCH**

**MAKE  
DISCIPLES**

**THE  
HOME**

**THE  
CHURCH**

**LEADERSHIP**





# MISSION ENGAGEMENT



**MAKE  
DISCIPLES**

**THE  
HOME**

**THE  
CHURCH**

**LEADERSHIP**



# MISSION ENGAGEMENT



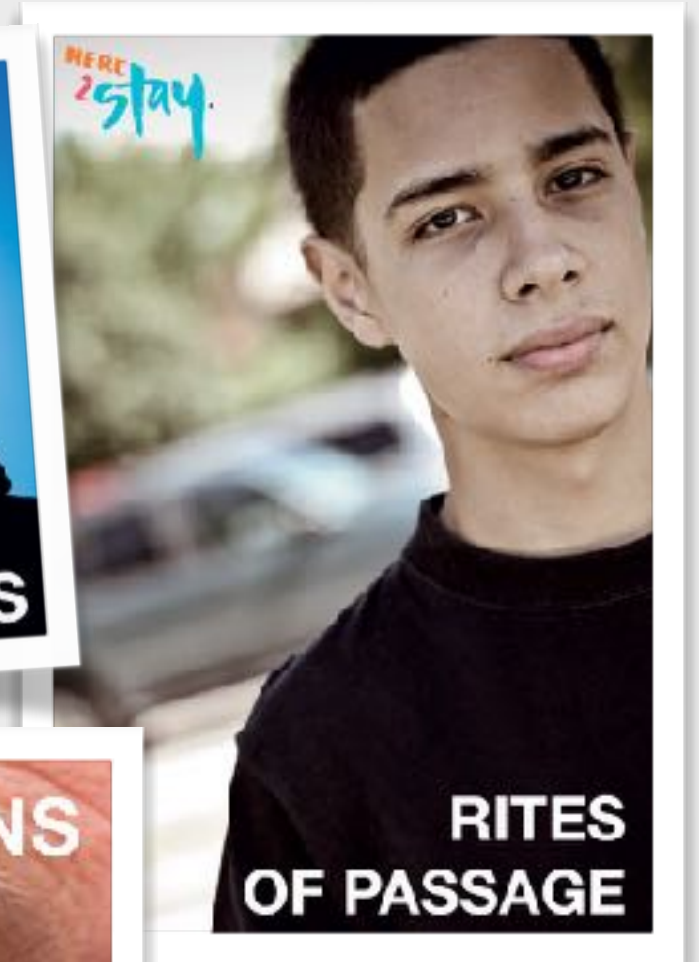
MAKE  
DISCIPLES

THE  
HOME

THE  
CHURCH

LEADERSHIP

# MEMORABLE EXPERIENCES



# MISSION ENGAGEMENT



# DIVINE ENCOUNTERS

**MAKE  
DISCIPLES**

**THE  
HOME**

**THE  
CHURCH**

**LEADERSHIP**

# MEMORABLE EXPERIENCES



# MISSION ENGAGEMENT



# DIVINE ENCOUNTERS

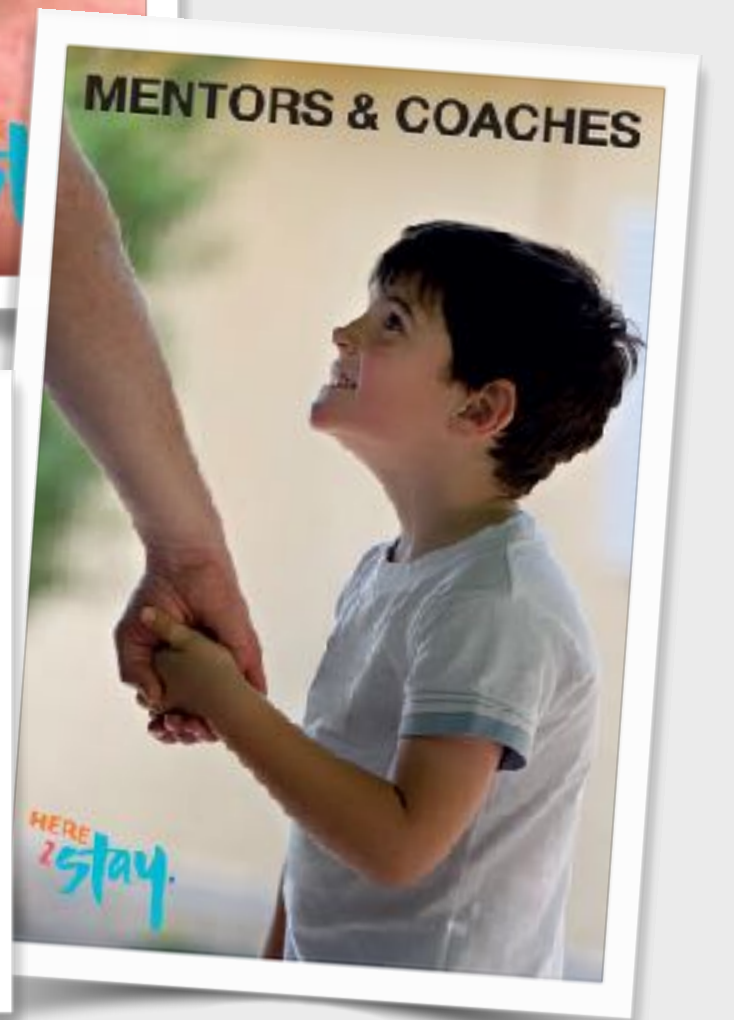
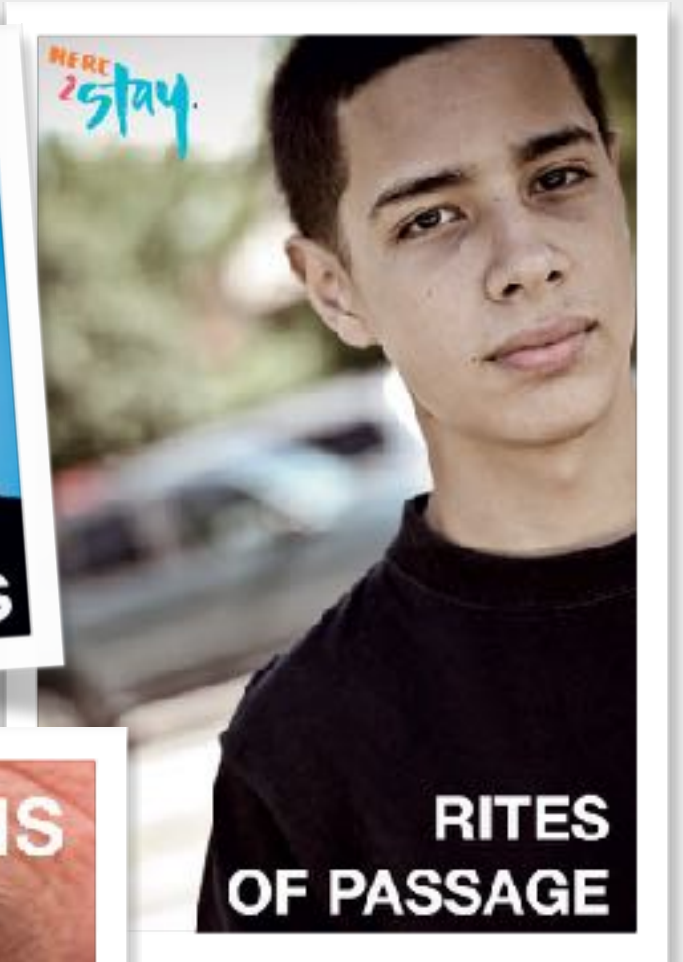
MAKE  
DISCIPLES

THE  
HOME

THE  
CHURCH

LEADERSHIP

# MEMORABLE EXPERIENCES



# LIFE ENCOURAGERS

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**JUST DO IT.**