

2011
Civitas Press Catalogue

Civitas Press

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From the Publisher

Greeting from Civitas Press, and thank you for taking the time to look through our catalogue. I want to invite you to discover the wonderful titles we've developed this year. We're publishing some great books in theology, ministry, Christian life, denominations, and prayer by some accomplished and best-selling authors. This catalogue will provide you with the information you need to make a good purchasing decision.

Civitas is a boutique publishing company specializing in inspiring and redemptive ideas. We believe people are always looking for books that foster faith, hope and love. That is why we focus on publishing books that challenge, encourage, and transform the reader.

We offer a generous 40% discount on titles to bookstores, and FREE shipping on orders over \$50.00. If you have any questions about our titles, don't hesitate to ask. You can reach us by email or phone. Our contact information is listed to the right.

Much love

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Jonathan Brink

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Civitas Press

Down We Go

Living Into the Wild Ways of Jesus

Kathy Escobar

Down We Go: Living Into The Wild Ways Of Jesus is a practitioner's guide for creating and cultivating missional community. It's based on the idea of living into the Beatitudes, and explores what it means to follow Jesus into the hard places of suffering, inequality, and injustice in order to cultivate, hope, beauty, justice, equality, generosity and healing.

Kathy states, "The dream of living out the upside-down ways of Jesus is in our hearts, but many don't know how to make "what could be" really be. We need practical, tangible ideas to make dreams reality. We need to hear how it can work, from people on the margins and practitioners living in the trenches. We need real stories of practice that will fan our hopes and dreams for justice, mercy, equality, and healing in the kingdom of God into flame. *Down We Go* fleshes out practicing the ways of Jesus in action, personally and through life in community."

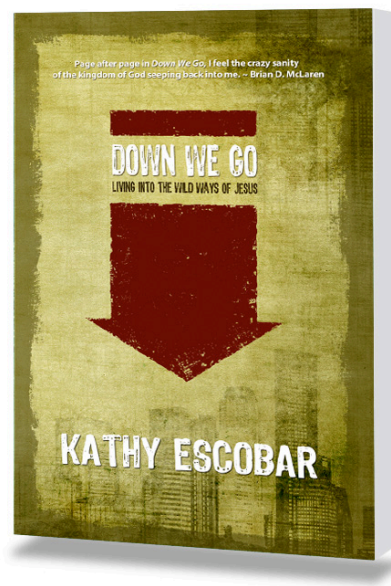
What People Are Saying?

"Page after page in *Down We Go*, I feel the crazy sanity of the kingdom of God seeping back into me." - Brian McLaren, *Naked Spirituality*

"She is one of my favorite leaders. I hope to continue to learn from her example for years to come." - Jim Henderson, *Jim And Casper Go To Church*

About Kathy

Kathy Escobar co-pastors the Refuge, an eclectic faith community in North Denver dedicated to those on the margins of life and faith. She is a nationally recognized speaker, the author of two other books and is on the leadership team of Transform, a missional community formation network.



ISBN: 978-0615467900

Price: \$15.99 Soft-Cover

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Page Count: 276

Publication: June 2011

BISAC: Religion/Christian Life

Down We Go hit #2 on Amazon's best-seller list for new releases in the ministry category.

The Practice of Love

Real Stories of Living in the Kingdom of God

Edited by Jonathan Brink, author of *Discovering the God Imagination*

What happens when people begin to practice love?

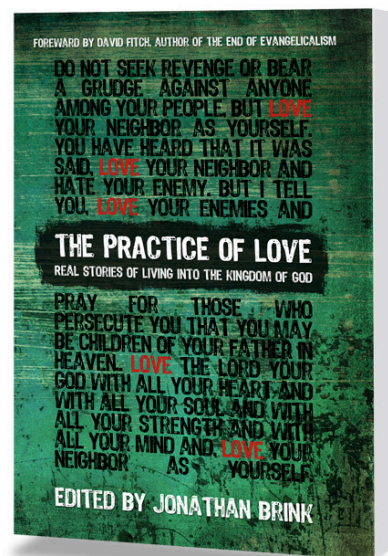
This collection of stories explores a remarkably simple idea. What would it look like to practice love? What would happen if we actively chose to engage a deep sense of love even in hard places? The possibilities include a love for God, a love for the self, a love for a neighbor, and even a love for an enemy. What emerges will inspire and challenge the reader to reconsider what it means to live out the practice of love in our lives.

Jesus invited people to engage love as a way of living. It was the defining act of what it meant to live. And in doing so, he opened up a world that revealed something extraordinary: the Kingdom of God. To live a life based on the practice of love requires courage and conviction. It often means facing fears that are not easily overcome. But in the end, the practice of love invites us to discover something deeper about what it means to be human.

What People Are Saying?

“These stories can open our imaginations to understand more fully the call of God to share His love.” - David Fitch, *The End of Evangelicalism?*

“This wonderful book is like a guidebook to soulful living. Every reader will find some connection within the wealth of stories searching for love in this empty loveless world.” - Kim, Amazon Reviewer



ISBN: 978-0615450193

Price: \$15.99 Soft-Cover

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Page Count: 280

Publication: May 2011

BISAC: Religion/Christian Life

Discovering The God Imagination

Reconstructing A Whole New Christianity

Jonathan Brink

In this re-examination of the story of Christianity, author Jonathan Brink offers a compelling look into the remarkable dissonance between our historical understanding of Gospel, and what the story in Scripture actually reveals. It offers a compelling possibility for those looking to reconstruct their faith in a whole new way.

Discovering The God Imagination examines the details of the story that shapes our understanding of the Gospel, in light of our emerging understanding of cognitive development. It suggests a profoundly simple but provocative assessment of why we misunderstand God, ourselves and each other. Listening to the story once again allows us to unravel the mystery of suffering, justice, and reconciliation, and actually participate with God in our own restoration.

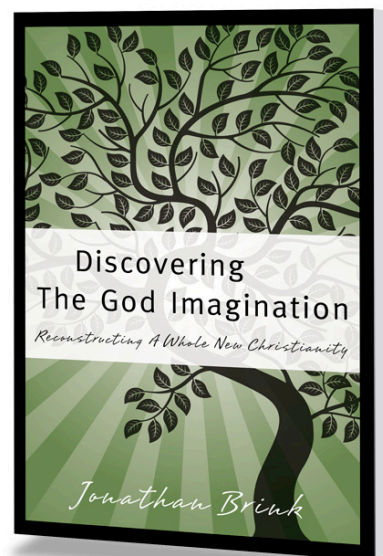
What People Are Saying?

Brink asks the hard questions about sin and atonement with not only humility, but also with candor, honesty, forthrightness, and clarity. — Phyllis Tickle, founding editor of the Religion Department of *Publishers Weekly*

He walks us back into the story of God and what we discover is both revolutionary and at the same time obvious. — Doug Pagitt, *Church in the Inventive Age*

About Jonathan

Jonathan Brink is an author, spiritual formation coach, speaker and consultant. He is the Senior Editor and Publisher of Civitas Press and Managing Director of Thrive, a process for engaging the Way of Jesus.



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Price: \$17.99 Soft-Cover

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Page Count: 294

Publication: August 2011

BISAC: Religion/Theology

Re-Released

Uncensored Prayer

The Spiritual Practice of Wrestling With God

Joy Wilson

Are you searching for something deeper in your prayer life? What would it look like to engage God in a wrestling match, and live to tell about it? In this bold and beautiful account of *Uncensored Prayer*, author Joy Wilson shares her insights and experiences of taking a radical risk of wrestling with God in prayer.

Uncensored Prayer is not about practicing a new religion, but instead taking the leap of faith that God wants to engage each of us in a loving, trusting, and ongoing dialog of restoration, unhindered by traditional structures. When we get real with God, the door opens wide enough for us to hear God's suggestions, wisdom, and understanding.

Joy's experience will both shock you and invite you into a radically deeper experience of spiritual communion with God, one that revolutionizes your practice of prayer.

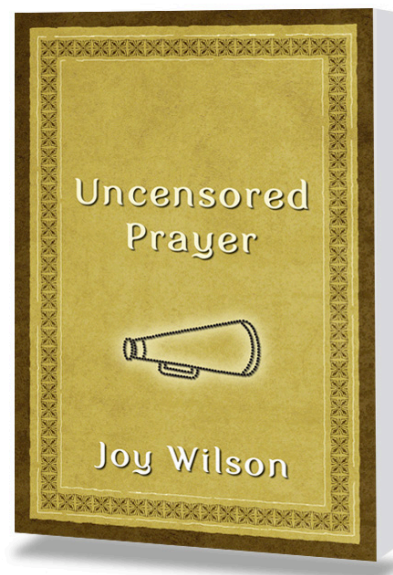
What People Are Saying?

"Sublime and profane! How dare she say such things to God? How dare she not?" - Dr. Steve Stone, Senior Pastor, Heartsong Church

"A beautiful mix of raw, authentic prayers, personal reflections, and scripture, *Uncensored Prayer* is an invitation to engage with God in a deep, meaningful, and sometimes unfamiliar way." - Kathy Escobar, author of *Down We Go: Living Into the Wild Ways of Jesus*

About Joy

Joy Wilson is an Outlaw Preacher and an active participant in Kairos Prison Ministry. She is a contributing author to *Not Alone*. (Civitas Press, 2011)



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Publication: July 2011

BISAC: Religion / Christian Life /
Prayer

Coming Soon

Broken By Religion, Healed By God

The Spiritual Practice of Wrestling With God

Joy Wilson

Broken By Religion, Healed By God: Restoring the Evangelical, Sacramental, Pentecostal, Social Justice Church is the newest release from best-selling author Gordon Dalbey. Gordon's new book explores the much needed healing in the church. In the Bible, Jesus reveals Himself in four major ways, each of which has been claimed by a larger Christian faction: the born-again experience, by Evangelicals; eucharist/communion, by Sacramentalists; the baptism of the Holy Spirit, by Pentecostals, and social justice ministry, by Oldline Reformers. Instead of celebrating each other's vision to know Jesus more fully, each of the four have discounted the others and thereby, crippled the Church.

This book will stir you to a faith both passionate about its truth and compassionate in its grace. You'll discover here freedom from universal tolerance on the one hand and narrow condemnation on the other. But to walk it out, you'll need to give Jesus your shame.

What People Are Saying?

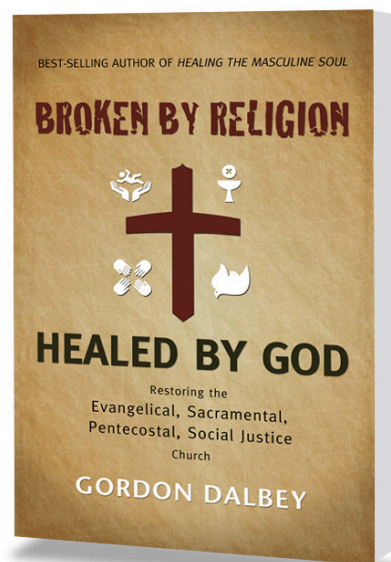
Magnificent. Humility, insight, and dogged determination after a genuine relationship with Jesus. (Rev. Rich Redman, United Church of Christ)

"Amen! Let's lay down our doctrinal differences, our smug judgments, our self-satisfied pronouncements and learn from each other." (Rev. Doug Gregg, Presbyterian Church USA)

About Gordon

Gordon is the best-selling author of the groundbreaking book, *Healing the Masculine Soul: God's Restoration of Men to Real Manhood*

(Thomas Nelson, 2003, 2nd Edition), widely considered one of the most significant works in spiritual formation for men.



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BISAC: Religion / Christianity /
Denominations

Coming Soon

Thrive Leadership Manual

Engaging God's Mission in the Way of Jesus

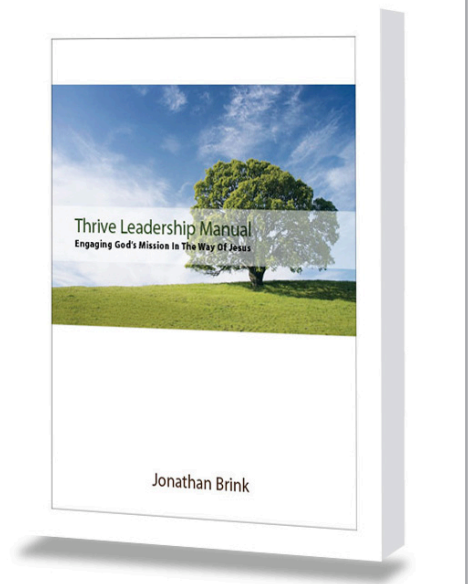
by Jonathan Brink

The *Thrive Leadership Manual* is an emerging process for planting churches and missional communities that engages God's mission in the Way of Jesus. Based on the Jesus Model, Thrive provides a three year structured process for gathering together as a tribe for the sake of restoration and discovering what it means to be human. It's a simple means for participating in what God is already doing.

The Jesus Model invites us to begin with a tribe of twelve intentional participants gathered together to create a space where intentional grace is true. It creates a context for creating a wholistic structure for restoration, spiritual formation, and growth.

The Leadership Manual provides the basic understanding for creating and leading a tribe. The first part of this manual will explore the Thrive process, how to create a tribe, the specific protocols and support elements, and frequently asked questions.

It also includes the six elements, or conversations that support the development of mission, the process and the tribe. These elements include: cultivate a tribe, engage the mission, follow the way, seek the kingdom, explore the story, and go and make disciples.



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BISAC: Religion/Christian Ministry

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Returns

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Fulfillment

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Ordering Books