

Sermon Matthew 22 34 46 Stephen Smith

In this day and age of "bigger and better" or "bigger is better," even our churches are starting to follow suit. The alarming trend that is occurring now in America is the assumption that if a group is big, it must be right; if a church is bigger than others, it must be even "more" right. This assumption is not correct. This nation was built and became what it is today one small church at a time. Many of those small churches are still there today, right where they were first necessary. And they are still necessary today. They are still occupied by Christians who meet on every first day of the week. They gather to give the first of their week to worship He who is to be first in Spirit and in truth. With this book—a compilation of readings, sermons, observations, and an invitation—the Reverend Dr. C. Joseph Fifer (Pastor Joe), who serves a small country church in rural western Ohio, seeks to give voice to the message that millions are now missing. This 12-volume series covers all of the Sundays in the three-year lectionary cycle, along with moveable occasions. For each lectionary text, preachers will find brief essays—one each on the exegetical, theological, pastoral, and homiletical challenges of the text. Each volume also contains an index of biblical passages so that nonlectionary preachers may make use of it.

Lessons include: - The Great Picnic (Matthew 14:13-21)- You Are Jesus' Magnifying Glass (John 17:20-26)- How To Settle An Argument (Acts 15:22)- The Key Ring That

Unites Us (Romans 6:2b-11)- Do The Dishes? (1 Peter 4:13-19)- Counting Sand (Revelation 5:11-14)...and many more!

Emphasizing the historical distance between the New Testament and our contemporary culture, The Sermon on the Mount by Scot McKnight, part of the new The Story of God Bible Commentary series, offers helpful contextual insights for those seeking to discern how to live out the Bible in today's world. Perfect for pastors, students, Sunday school teachers, and lay people alike, this highly anticipated series provides a clear and compelling exposition of the text in the context of the Bible's overarching story. The authors move away from "application" language, which has been criticized as being too simplistic, encouraging instead a wider perspective and discussion of how the biblical story can be lived today. Offering a new type of application commentary for today's context, the Story of God Bible Commentary series explains and illuminates Scripture as God's Story, with each New Testament text examined as embedded in its canonical and historical setting, in order to foster discernment in living the story faithfully and creatively with and for the Church in the 21st Century.

In this book Wes Allen draws together the strengths of these two approaches into a new genre of homiletical and teaching resource with a focus on the Gospel according to Matthew. Matthew will not only be an essential classroom resource to help students learn to link text and sermon, it will also help congregational leaders develop exegetically informed cumulative preaching and educational experiences focused on

but not limited to the lections in Matthew. With liturgical sensitivity and exegetical skill, Allen provides a unique preaching resource that will build biblical literacy by assisting both preachers and listeners in understanding Matthew's Gospel as a whole, not just as a collection of vaguely related stories.

Learning a new art requires a knowledge of the fundamentals, and the art of preaching is no exception. In *Essentials for Biblical Preaching* veteran homiletician Al Fasol covers every aspect the aspiring preacher needs to know. "This volume introduces the preacher to the whole field of biblical preaching," writes the author. "It takes the novitiate pulpiter through an understanding of the nature of the preacher, to a grasp of the proclamation task, and on into the mystery of basic sermon preparation." It can be used effectively on either the graduate or the undergraduate level. After surveying the history of preaching, Fasol offers practical guidelines, peppered with examples, for preparing and delivering effective sermons. Topics include collecting sermon ideas, interpreting the biblical text, organizing the sermon, using illustrations, making applications, varying sermon methods, and employing communication principles.

Johann Sebastian Bach is one of the most unfathomable composers in the history of music. How can such sublime work have been produced by a man who (when we can discern his personality at all) seems so ordinary, so opaque - and occasionally so intemperate? John Eliot Gardiner grew up passing one of the only two authentic portraits of Bach every morning and evening on the stairs of his parents' house, where

it hung for safety during the Second World War. He has been studying and performing Bach ever since, and is now regarded as one of the composer's greatest living interpreters. The fruits of this lifetime's immersion are distilled in this remarkable book, grounded in the most recent Bach scholarship but moving far beyond it, which explains in wonderful detail the ideas on which Bach drew, how he worked, how his music is constructed, how it achieves its effects - and what it can tell us about Bach the man. Gardiner's background as a historian has encouraged him to search for ways in which scholarship and performance can cooperate and fruitfully coalesce. This has entailed piecing together the few biographical shards, scrutinising the music, and watching for those instances when Bach's personality seems to penetrate the fabric of his notation. Gardiner's aim is 'to give the reader a sense of inhabiting the same experiences and sensations that Bach might have had in the act of music-making. This, I try to show, can help us arrive at a more human likeness discernible in the closely related processes of composing and performing his music.' It is very rare that such an accomplished performer of music should also be a considerable writer and thinker about it. John Eliot Gardiner takes us as deeply into Bach's works and mind as perhaps words can. The result is a unique book about one of the greatest of all creative artists. SIR JOHN ELIOT GARDINER is one of the world's leading conductors, not only of Baroque music but across the whole repertoire. He founded the Monteverdi Choir and Orchestra, the Orchestre de l'Opéra de Lyon, the English Baroque Soloists, and the

Orchestre Revolutionnaire et Romantique. He has conducted most of the world's great orchestras and in many of the leading opera houses. He lives and farms in Dorset. This resource shows how to create meaningful worship experiences for everyone who comes to your church--children, youth, and adults. A three-volume series based on the Revised Common Lectionary, *Forbid Them Not* offers specific suggestions for prayers, hymns, litanies, sermon illustrations, and ways to present Scripture so that children--as well as older worshipers--can really hear the message. (Even if your church does not follow the lectionary, you can find suggestions related to any Scripture passage by using the index.) *Forbid Them Not, Year A* includes 58 full-page, reproducible activity worksheets related to each Sunday's worship theme. With these ideas and resources at hand, you can create worship services that minister to adults and to children. *Forbid Them Not, Year B* #9781426739026 *Forbid Them Not, Year C* #9781426730719 In this work, Joshua Leim attempts to bring greater clarity to the articulation of Jesus' identity in Matthew by attending more precisely to two linguistic patterns woven deeply into the entire narrative's presentation of Jesus: Matthew's christological use of "worship/obedience" language (*proskyneō*) and his paternal-filial idiom. Along with exploring the role these linguistic patterns play in the narrative, the author attempts to hear such language in relation to early Judaism and its articulation of the identity of the God of Israel. The study of these various

elements yields the conclusion that the identity of God and Jesus Christ are inseparably related in Matthew's Gospel. Matthew articulates the identity of Israel's God around the Father-Son relation.

Martin argues that Jesus' relationship to the law is not described in terms of keeping (terein), doing (poiein), establishing (histemi), making firm (bebaioun), interpreting (hermeneuein), adding (prostithemi), completing, or making perfect (telein or teleioun), but of fulfilling (pleroun). Jesus' eschatological mission is not in any way to take away from the law, or add a foreign mixture to the law, but to fill the law full, to bring all of it into eschatological fullness. This he does in the events of his coming, his earthly life, death, resurrection, and return, but he also does it with his teaching.

Filosofische essays over de kern van de religieuze beleving.

Rose Bible Basics: The Bible at a Glance - What You Need To Know About The Bible
Rose Bible Basics: The Bible at a Glance contains the basics everyone should know about the Bible. This full-color ebook contains:

- A Bible Overview - summarizes each book of the Bible in 100 words or less
- A Bible Time Line - compares Bible history and world history side by side
- A handy guide on how to study the Bible inductively
- Then & Now Bible Maps - shows where biblical events took place and where they are in relation to modern day sites

Rose Bible

Basics: The Bible at a Glance also contains a handy list of favorite Bible verses, Bible promises, the basics of following Jesus (forgiveness, love, prayer, tithing, salvation, serving, dealing with doubt and fear, trusting in God, and more), and an easy to understand introduction to Bible translations with a comparison chart showing the top 20 english translations. Includes color diagrams, maps, charts, illustrations, and photos throughout and discussion questions to use personally, or in small groups, new members classes, church groups, new believer classes, and homeschools. Rose Bible Basics: The Bible at a Glance combines eight of the most popular Rose pamphlets: Bible Overview, Bible Time Line, How to Study the Bible, Then and Now Bible Maps, Where to Find Favorite Bible Verses, Bible Promises, Following Jesus, and Bible Translations Comparison chart. (A \$32 value for only \$14.99.)

A translation of the Holy Scriptures, prepared specifically for teenagers, includes maps and a dictionary/concordance.

This is the final volume in a unique new commentary series that helps the preacher identify and reflect on the social implications of the biblical readings in the Revised Common Lectionary. The essays concentrate on the themes of social justice in the weekly texts and how those themes can be teachable moments for preaching social justice in the church. In addition to the lectionary

days, there are essays for twenty-two "Holy Days of Justice," including Martin Luther King Day, Earth Day, World AIDS Day, and Children's Sabbath. These days are intended to enlarge the church's awareness of God's call for justice and of the many ways that call comes to the church and world today.

"Full-color Bible charts, illustrations and time lines on the history and reliability of the Bible, Old and New Testament topics, and comparisons of cults and religions with Christianity"--Provided by publisher.

In their zeal to tell the true story of sixteenth-century radicalism, some sympathizers of the Anabaptist movement have portrayed the once maligned individuals and groups as innocent, pious people who suffered cruel persecution at the hands of the wicked state-churchmen. Their side of the story is thus often as one-sided as was the story of the enemies of Anabaptism. This book, written by a Mennonite scholar, seeks to understand the reasons for the clash between Luther and the radicals, a point often neglected when one or the other side is emphasized. The study keeps Luther, however, in a central position, exploring the issues which led to the Reformer's attitude toward the radicals and analyzing the principles that were at stake in his struggle with the dissident groups.

Bigger, stronger, better! This newly revised edition of Anderson's best-seller retains all of the great features that have made it an indispensable tool for busy

pastors. Combining concise but insightful textual notes with a wide range of creative preaching ideas, each chapter provides plenty of starting points for developing stimulating sermons that make the scriptures come alive for the people in the pews. In addition to a convenient sermon planning template plus overviews of Matthew (the featured Gospel narrator in Cycle A) and each liturgical season, every week's material includes: a listing of applicable Revised Common, Roman Catholic, and Episcopal lectionary texts; a theme for the day; brief commentary on the Old Testament, New Testament, and Gospel lessons; a prayer for the day; theological reflections exploring relationships between the texts; possible preaching approaches with suggested titles and sermon angles; additional illustrations to flesh out the message.

In this latest collection of Cycle A gospel sermons for Pentecost (last third), Albert Butzer shows that we Christians live our lives with one leg in the ancient and sacred world of the Bible and the other leg in our modern, scientific world. The job of the preacher is to make holy sense of the intersection of these two worlds. It is a great honor and a sacred responsibility to do this, as well as a weekly lesson in humility. Preaching is risky business. And good preachers quake every time they step into the preaching moment. Al Butzer understands this privilege, this power, this promise of preaching, he has been at it a long time, and his

quaking is as fresh today as it was 35 years ago. His sermons crawl inside our lives, because his life is much like ours. He does not pontificate; he persuades. He does not prescribe; he wonders. He does not scold; he inspires. Through story and metaphor and creative twists of theology, he widens the lens of our lives and helps us see in new ways. Susan Andrews Moderator of the 215th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, USA These sermons do precisely what the author intends: They help the reader live at the intersection of holy scripture and daily life. They never stray from that complex and often ambiguous intersection where all faithful people must live. Read these sermons to hear a word of God's wide grace proclaimed with courage and deep faith in the living God who is still at work in our lives. Al Butzer is a seasoned preacher whose gifts are displayed in this collection. Roy Howard Book Editor for The Presbyterian Outlook Sermon titles included: All Are Invited, But... (Matthew 22:1-14) Stamped With God's Own Image (Matthew 22:15-22) The Rule of Love (Matthew 22:34-46) The Word Above All Earthly Powers (John 8:31-36) Blessed to Be Among the Company of Mourners (Matthew 5:1-12) Albert G. Butzer, III has served as pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Virginia Beach, Virginia since 2007. A graduate of Tufts University and Princeton Theological Seminary, he previously served congregations in Short Hills, New Jersey; Oak Park, Illinois; and Fairfax,

Virginia. He was elected moderator of Chicago Presbytery in 1992 and three times served as a commissioner to meetings of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, USA. He is the author of *Tears of Sadness; Tears of Gladness* also published by CSS Publishing. In 2011 he received an Award of Merit (Second Place) from the Associated Church Press for his essay, "Making Sense of Difficult Texts," originally published in *The Presbyterian Outlook*. Anyone who has done children's sermons will sooner or later hear from someone that I learn more from the children's sermon than I do from the real sermon. And indeed, the truths of scripture are so simple that even a child can understand them. So it's no accident that children's sermons have become a central part of the worship service in many churches. Brett Blair and Tim Carpenter offer a year's worth of object lessons that engage children and impart profound lessons for all ages. Two sermons are provided for each Sunday in Cycle A of the Revised Common Lectionary, one based on the Second Lesson and one based on the Gospel. The messages are structured in two parts: the lesson uses an object to draw out active responses from children, then the application connects that object to the assigned scripture reading. Each message includes a clear statement of its exegetical aim.

A working pastor is always looking for fresh preaching perspectives. This hands-

on resource from the author of a long-standing column in the journal *Lectionary Homiletics* covers the entire three-year lectionary cycle with brief reflections designed to generate fresh and timely sermon ideas. Each reflection is limited to two pages and provides an interpretation of one or more lections for every month of the year. While some focus on a single lection, others draw forth a theological/pastoral theme that stretches across several lections, suggesting how to approach an entire month homiletically.

Celebrating Sundays provides readings from the Christian tradition that offer commentary on every Sunday Gospel reading in the three year lectionary. In the middle of the sixth century, St Benedict wrote 'Let the inspired books of both the Old and the New Testaments be read at Vigils, as also commentaries on them by the most eminent orthodox and catholic fathers' (Rule of Benedict, IX) and this set the pattern for worship and preaching which prevails today. All the great patristic names are included here: Augustine, Bede, Ambrose, Gregory the Great, Aelred, John Scotus Erigena, Origen, Cyril of Alexandria and dozens besides. An invaluable companion for preachers and for personal reflection on the Sunday lections, this makes an ideal gift for confirmation, ordination and anniversaries of priesthood.

In 1928, when Riverside Church (NYC) pastor Harry Emerson Fosdick asked the

question in Harpers Magazine, "What's the Matter with Preaching Today?" he did not know that one response to that question had just entered the world in Humboldt, Tennessee. Fred B. Craddock revolutionized preaching theory and practice by flipping pulpit logic from deductive to inductive--often called the preaching-as-storytelling revolution--and in so doing brought renewed interest and impact to the practice of preaching, effectively rescuing it from an often tedious and moralizing fate. With Fred, preaching was anything but boring. Rather, it was an exciting and enlightening ride that led to the renewal of faith. To honor Craddock's legacy, Mike Graves and Andre Resner invited ten leading voices in homiletics to identify something that is right about preaching today. In addition, they issued a call to a wide variety of people to contribute stories about Fred's impact on their lives and ministries. Twenty-seven remembrances of Fred are included here throughout the book. If you appreciate effective and engaging preaching--as either a preacher or listener--the essays and remembrances here will speak to you and provide encouragement about preaching's present and future. With contributions from: Ronald J. Allen Barbara K. Lundblad Alyce McKenzie Debra J. Mumford Luke Powery Andre Resner Richard Ward Dawn Ottoni-Wilhelm Paul Scott Wilson

Social Trinitarians have not been shy about positing community as the chief

ontological category for Trinitarian discourse. As beneficial as this is, social Trinitarians have typically been less helpful in advocating the sort of human community for the Trinitarian analogy that most people would probably find desirable. To use the example of a marriage, one has often been forced to choose between a fully egalitarian view, where the spouses supposedly have no differences from each other, and a hierarchical view where a husband exercises a unilateral and oppressive power over his wife. This book advocates a third alternative for the sort of community present in the Trinity. Just as genuine teamwork is generally desirable in various human communities, the divine persons have a mutual hierarchy relationship with each other. Here each divine person has a unique hierarchy over the others, and yet each uses this hierarchy to serve the others in a dignified way. Recognizing this mutual hierarchy of the divine persons fosters a view of the Trinity that is maximally social, in keeping with the name "social Trinitarianism." In proceeding thus, the book attempts to, in a unique way, show the harmony between systematic theology, exegesis, and practice.

Sixteen sermons preached to those who are in need of hope. Each sermon directs the reader toward Jesus Christ who is "Christ in you, the hope of glory." Drawing on great church teachers through the centuries and on the classical Christian creeds

and confessions, this book asks both what Matthew's Gospel said to its first hearers and what it says to readers today. It shows how the focus of Matthew shifts, from Jesus teaching about who he is to teaching mainly about what his church is.

Everyone wants to think of themselves as good. But what does a good life look like? And how do people become good? Are there multiple, competing possibilities for what counts as a good life, all equally worthy? Or, is there a unified idea of the good that should guide our judgment of the possibilities? This book answers these questions.

No other life has had such an amazing impact upon the human race as did our Savior, Jesus Christ. From His birth in a humble stable until His death upon the cross of Golgotha, He left all of us simple teachings, direct commandments and profound doctrines which have altered the history of the world. He performed astounding miracles that left His disciples and other onlookers stunned and speechless. He condemned the hypocrisy of the religious leaders of the day, who would eventually conspire and arrange His death at the hands of the Romans. The culminating act of His ministry was the priceless gift of His eternal Atonement, which opened the floodgates of the resurrection, ending the final and icy grip of death upon all mankind. One day we too will participate in the glorious experience of the resurrection, when all tears will be dried and fears will cease. In a matter of just three years, His brief ministry changed the course of history. Gone was the harsh and rigid Mosaic law, replaced by the higher law of love for friends and enemies alike. His life is an example to all. All of these magnificent scriptural accounts and doctrines can be found within the pages of Days of the Living Christ.

Preachers have long been able to turn to The Abingdon Preaching Annual for concise, thoughtful help on worship and planning. The 2005 Edition of the Annual continues and builds

of this tradition with solid biblical scholarship and creative sermon materials. Compiled with the preacher's need for high-quality, accessible resources for the preaching task in mind, The Abingdon Preaching Annual, 2005 Edition: - draws from a breadth of writers with a variety of denominational backgrounds- provides both thorough exegesis of lectionary texts for the year and insightful sermon starters and outlines- presents brief, biblically grounded worship aids- invites preachers to a deeper appreciation of their calling by providing devotional materials written with the needs of pastors in mind

A chance discovery of a log book of sermons by grand-uncle and Evangelical Mennonite Mission Conference minister Cornelius G. Stoesz led Donald Stoesz on a fifteen-year odyssey in which he identified four hundred and fifty-seven Scripture texts used by seventeen Mennonite ministers in Canada over the course of one hundred years (1874-1977). The extensive, yet selective, use of the Lutheran lectionary by these ministers illuminates an aspect of Mennonite church life that has seldom been recognized. Known as the Anweisung der Lieder and located at the front of the German-language hymnbook (Gesangbuch), this lectionary was in use by Mennonite congregations in the 18th and 19th centuries in Prussia and Russia. Stoesz details Scripture usage and arranges sermon texts according to method of selection and topic. Included in this analysis are biographies of three pastors and several translated sermons from 1 Peter.

Neither ascent nor decline. Except for the point, the still point, here would be no dance and there is only the dance. (T. S. Eliot. Four Quartets) The metaphor of the dance is one I have chosen to describe the movement of the Spirit in my life as pastor in a small Protestant congregation in northern California during 1978-88. I dance a light and joyful dance when I

remember that God in Christ is the still point of the dance around which the various parts of myself arrange themselves. As the people of God and I dance together we become a healing energy field in which the Holy Spirit powerfully moves . I have written this book in gratitude for the gift of the presence of the Christ as the creator of our dance together with all creation. It is a book for pastors and for students in training for church ministry, but it is for lovers, parents, business executives, and teachers as well. I invite you, my brothers and sisters, to dance with me. From a colleague: Your book is very good; very readable, very insightful and sometimes profound. I appreciate your open (and courageous) description of your personal spiritual journey, also your description of Psychosynthesis and its possible manner of application to ones self and to the activity of the Church. . . . I think . . . that your work could be particularly helpful as a teaching tool for ministers and Seminarians. THE PASTOR WHO LEARNED TO DANCE: HOW I LEARNED TO BE MYSELF IN THE CHURCH by Howard S. Fuller

Where to Find Favorite Bible Verses - Hundreds of Verses Organized by Topic Where to Find Favorite Bible Verses has hundreds of Bible verses organized by topics so you can find the Scripture reference you want quickly and easily. Some of the topics include: God, Holy Spirit, Jesus, Words of Comfort and Strength, Old Testament events, the Life of Jesus, Book of Acts/The Early Church, Money, Prayer, and much more. You will refer to Where to Find Favorite Bible Verses again and again as you look through the Bible for the important "nuggets" of wisdom that can only be found in the Scriptures. Depending on the topic, Where to Find Favorite Bible Verses provides a short portion of Scripture along with the location in the Bible. For example: •Topic: Words of Comfort and Strength •Subtopic: Angry •A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger. Proverbs 15:1 •Do not let the sun

go down while you are still angry. Ephesians 4:26 •Be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry. James 1:19 •Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. 1 Peter 3:9 •Subtopic: Lonely •[The Lord] satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things. Psalm 107:9 •O Lord, you have searched me and know me. Psalm 139:1-10 •I am with you always, to the very end of the age. Matthew 28:20 •You will leave me all alone. Yet I am not alone, for my Father is with me. John 16:32 •Topic: Commitment to God •[Choose] this day whom you will serve...As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord. Joshua 24:15 •Your people will be my people and your God will be my God. Ruth 1:16 •See first his kingdom and his righteousness. Matthew 6:33 Other topical lists, such as Old Testament Events and the Teachings and Parables of Jesus, have a short description and the scripture reference. For example: •Joseph and his brothers - Genesis 37, 39-47 •Moses and the Burning Bush - Exodus 3:1-10 •Fall of Jericho - Joshua 6:1-25 •Daniel in the Lion's Den - Daniel 6 •and many more Where to Find Favorite Bible Verses is designed to fit inside most Bibles, so you can have this important resource available when you need it. You will want to buy extra copies of Where to Find Favorite Bible Verses so you can give them out as gifts, stick them in different Bibles around the house or give one to a friend who could use some comfort from God's Word. These lessons help kids learn to trust God's Word, trust that God will provide for their needs, and trust God in all circumstances. A 52-Week Bible Journey—Just for Kids!Route 52™ is a Bible-based journey that will take kids through the Bible every year from age 8 to 12. Every lesson features: Scripturally sound themes Culturally relevant, hands-on activities Age-appropriate Bible-learning challenges Reproducible life-application activity pages Route 52™ Bible lessons will help kids learn the Bible and how to apply it to their lives at their own level of

spiritual development. These reproducible Bible lessons are appropriate for Bible school, children's church, youth group, kids club, and midweek Bible study programs.

Soulful Aging is about cultivating an informed conversation about some of the most important religious realities of life. There are six chapters, each tied to one of the six stages of aging: Extended Middle Age, Ready or Not, The New Me, Like It or Not, The Rest of Living, and Dying. Each chapter looks at the pathways to personal and communal spiritual growth - community, prayer, teaching, proclamation, service, and witness.

Getting to Know Jesus student activity workbook contains fourteen worksheets that explore the life of Jesus and his teachings. Each worksheet contains a creative learning activity on one side that requires reading from the Gospels to complete. The worksheet's other side contains additional background information, reading suggestions, and reflection questions.

Sunday gospel readings are normally "enforced" by hymns selected by the organist, according to suggestions made by a choirmaster's handbook. Often the choice is rather limited, both in number and intellectual or theological content. Preaching the gospel can be seriously undermined by a gospel hymn which reflects thinking not exactly suited to the 21st century or, for that matter, the first century. Too much dogmatic baggage is packed into hymns which pretend to explain and express the official version. Preachers who wish to look at different angles find themselves at odds with some hymns, finding it even necessary to contradict their slant from the pulpit. This book attempts to put Jesus and His gospel into song, providing an alternative, more modern, more traditional, more to the core of the actual message of Jesus. The preachers' words are meant to connect, to resonate with and influence hearers. Too often, sermons fall short. Preaching in Pictures: Using Images for Sermons that Connect

shows how to choose, use, and illustrate a controlling image in every sermon. Readers learn how one effective image can cause the proclaimed word to sink in and transform the listener. Peter Jonker helps readers to build skill and confidence, with practical instruction, examples, and straightforward teaching. “Good preaching isn’t just the dissemination of information; it is a conduit of Spirit-empowered formation. Such formative preaching doesn’t convince the intellect; it captures the imagination. A controlling image has the power to do just this—to capture the imagination. Peter Jonker invites preachers to understand and to effectively use controlling images for formation of the hearer. This great book is erudite and accessible, theoretically grounded and yet intensely practical, complete with exercises. I’ll be pointing preachers to it from now on.” --James K.A. Smith, author of *Desiring the Kingdom: Worship, Worldview, and Cultural Formation* “Preaching in Pictures opened eyes of my imagination. I can’t wait to write my next sermon.” --Heidi DeJonge Pastor, Westside Fellowship Christian Reformed Church, Kingston, Ontario “Peter Jonker offers preachers practical ways to connect the gospel in the hearts of listeners, with a wealth of helpful examples. This is a fresh and welcome perspective, just the book for preachers whose sermons have reached their shelf life and are in need of new energy.” --John Michael Rottman, Professor of Preaching Calvin Theological Seminary “Sane, balanced, assured--but also strikingly insightful--Peter Jonker’s writing is a sheer gift to anyone interested in eventful preaching. Every page is worth pondering. Jonker writes with great verve and authority.” --Cornelius Plantinga, Jr., Author of *Reading for Preaching: The Preacher in Conversation with Storytellers, Biographers, Poets, and Journalists*

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