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New for congregational study: See page 7.

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In Tune with God

The Art of Congregational Discernment

Sally Weaver Glick

# Adult Education, Leadership & Worship

## 2004-2005



**Faith & Life  
Resources**

*A Division of Mennonite  
Publishing Network*

# GOOD GROUND

*Letting the Word take root*

"I love using these studies. We've appreciated the Bible focus, and the ideas for group participation."

— Claude  
Pandora, Ohio

## Featured for Fall 2004

**Come Again?** Exploring the Hard Sayings of Jesus  
Come Again? introduces us to some of the hardest sayings of Jesus and greatly enlarges what we understand about him.

**For Better, For Worse:** God's Relentless Love in Amos and Hosea  
These sessions explore what Amos and Hosea say on such contemporary issues as the relationship between spirituality and justice, the role of prophetic voice, and the meaning of fidelity.

## Featured for Winter 2004-2005

**In the Flesh:** The Identity of Jesus on John's Gospel  
John gives an account of Jesus' effort in his own day to reveal the identity of God, not to the intellect but to the heart. Through signs and wonders, he makes the unknowable knowable.

**Curse God and Die:** Struggling with Faith in the Book of Job  
Why keep the faith under difficult circumstances? Like the book of Job, this study will challenge you to hang onto integrity, stay honest with God, and be open to growth in the face of life's mysteries.

## Featured for Spring 2005

**Heart Smart:** Studies on Wisdom in the Bible  
Heart Smart looks at the Bible's perspectives on true wisdom and the good life it offers.

**Turning up the Heat:** Studies on the Passion of Jesus  
In these sessions, you will discover how the story of Jesus' journey to the cross reveals not only God's passionate love for humanity, but also Jesus' invitation to a life of servanthood and nonviolence.

## Featured for Summer 2005

**Banking on God:** Exploring Salvation in the Bible  
This study examines the term of "salvation" in both the Old and New Testaments, challenging us toward new insights on God's liberating activity in our lives.

**Of Brats and Brothers:** Joseph's Coming of Age in Genesis  
Contemplate the contemporary issues that emerge from key moments in Joseph's spiritual growth, such as leadership, integrity and reconciliation.

All units: \$5.99 US, \$8.49 CAN

Good Ground: Letting the Word Take Root is an interactive Bible study series for Sunday school or other adult groups. Each unit includes six easy-to-use sessions and provides opportunities to apply biblical wisdom to real-life challenges and problems. All participants use the same book and leader's tips are included following each session. Studies are not dated and can be used at any time.



Free sample session available  
at [www.goodground.org](http://www.goodground.org)

### Other Good Ground titles available:

**All Heaven Breaks Loose: Studies in the Gospel of Mark**  
Mark shows us a Messiah who goes against the status quo at every turn.

**An Odd Body: Church, Witness, and Culture**  
Paul counseled Christians in Corinth to live fully in this world but also according to a new way.

**Banking on God: Exploring Salvation in the Bible**  
This study examines the term of "salvation" in both the Old and New Testaments, challenging us toward new insights on God's liberating activity in our lives.

**Bursting the Wineskins: Five Radical Sermons of Jesus in Matthew**  
The sermons in Matthew's Gospel challenged the early church and us today to sit up and take notice of the Kingdom of Heaven.

**Choosing Sides: Faithfulness in the Book of Joshua**  
After living in the wilderness for 40 years, how will the Israelites revive their parents' and grandparents' faith in the promises of God?

**Cracking the Code: Making Sense of Daniel and Ezekiel for Today**  
A look at Apocalyptic literature from the Old Testament with an exploration of what it means for us today.

**Diamond in the Rough: The Spiritual Apprenticeship of David**  
Nowhere else in scripture do we encounter the range of emotions and experiences of a human being through his dealings with God.

**Down to Earth: The Parables of Jesus**  
God's kingdom is breaking into our lives in dynamic and unexpected ways—but we need eyes and ears that are flexible, creative, and responsive.

*"It seems like we have more discussion with Good Ground than we've had with other curriculums."*  
— Betty, Pea Ridge, Arkansas



**Enter the Kin-dom: Studies in Luke and Acts**

This study explores our rich inheritance of grace and salvation in Luke's twin narratives.

**Fierce, Flawed, and Favored: God's Unlikely Helpers in the Book of Judges**

Profiles six leaders from the Book of Judges who, by their very weakness, reveal the strength and redeeming nature of God among us.

**First Love: Community and Faith in 1, 2, 3 John**

In an age that values individual freedom and tolerance, Christians struggle with how to be an accountable community.

**For Crying Out Loud: Studies in Exodus**

Stories of the Hebrews' release from slavery and their encounter with God in the desert point to God's redemption.

**For the Love of Earth**

Provides solid ground for faith-based approaches to caring for the earth.

**Going on a Promise: Stories of Abraham**

Wrestle with the heroic and the human, the meaning of faith and faithfulness, and the challenging choices God offers to Abraham.

**Hanging on to Hope: Studies in Revelation**

Is God still in control of the world? Will evil ever be defeated? In this study, some of the mystery of Revelation is unlocked.

**Inside Out: God's Radical Love in Jonah and Ruth**

God breaks some of our most cherished stereotypes in these two books.

**Into the Deep: Exploring Prayer**

How can prayer be transformed from drudgery to true nurture for the soul?

**No Small Wonder: Stories of Hope from the Nativity**

Go behind the nativity stories and discover the radical nature of God's coming to earth in Jesus.

**Of Brats and Brothers: Joseph's Coming of Age in Genesis**

Contemplate the contemporary issues that emerge from key moments in Joseph's spiritual growth, such as leadership, integrity and reconciliation.

**Partners in Peace: God's Vision of Shalom in the Book of Romans**

Paul's central message is that God's greatest desire is to bring peace to all of creation.

**Playing God: Rebellion and Grace in 1 and 2 Kings**

The rulers of ancient Israel and Judah form a fascinating mosaic of human frailty.

**Preach It! Great Messages of the Bible**

Explore key speeches of Joshua, Amos, Ezra, Jesus, Peter, and Paul.

**Rhythms of the Soul: The Psalms as Public Worship**

Meet the psalmists who spoke to God with bare honesty, speaking from the full range of human emotions.

**Second Wind: Re-energizing Faith in the Book of Hebrews**

Hebrews calls us to examine the ancient and modern understandings that we have of Jesus, and revives their importance in our faith today.

**Such a Time As This: Faith and Risk-taking in the Book of Esther**

We can learn how to live as people of the promise by asking ourselves the questions that arise from Esther's story.

**Voice from the Fringe: Studies in Isaiah**

When we study this unusual collection of speeches from Isaiah, we discover that wholeness doesn't come cheap in our lives.

**Spanish titles:**

**Sus lamentos llegaron al cielo: Estudios en Exodo**

**El Poder del Cielo se Manifiesta: Estudios en el Evangelio de Marcos**

**Hacia lo profundo: ¿Qué es orar?**

**Abrazando una esperanza: Estudios en Apocalipsis**

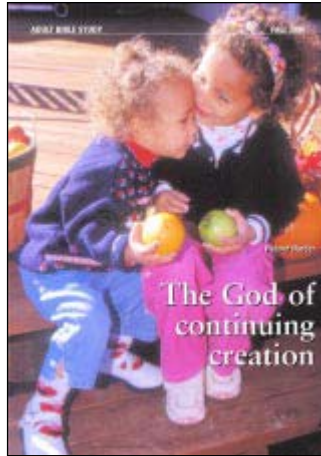
**Spanish units: \$2.95 US/\$4.29 CAN each**



TO ORDER, CALL 1-800-245-7894

Fall 2004 • September–November  
**THE GOD OF CONTINUING CREATION**

This quarter surveys the theme of creation throughout the Bible. Its three units celebrate God's creation of a people set apart for a purpose, God's ongoing acts of re-creation within the community of faith, and the new creation God offers in Jesus Christ.



**UNIT I**  
 Created for a purpose

September 5, 2004  
 Genesis 2:4b-7, 15-24  
**Discovering our value in God's creation**

September 12, 2004  
 Genesis 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 17, 23; 8:14-16; 9:1  
**Beginning again**

September 19, 2004  
 Exodus 3:1-12  
**Power for deliverance**

September 26, 2004  
 Deuteronomy 29:2-15  
**Becoming God's people**

**UNIT II**  
 God's creativity continues

October 3, 2004  
 2 Samuel 7:18-29  
**Leaving a legacy**

October 10, 2004  
 Isaiah 43:1-2, 10-13, 18-19  
**Recreating community**

October 17, 2004  
 Jeremiah 29:10-14; 31:31-34  
**Creating a new covenant**

October 24, 2004  
 Ezekiel 37:1-14  
**Looking for hope**

October 31, 2004  
 Psalm 73:1-3, 12-13, 16-18, 21-26  
**Creating a renewed trust**

**UNIT III**  
 A new creation

November 7, 2004  
 Matthew 5:17-18, 21-22, 27-28, 31-35, 38-39, 43-44  
**Living by new rules**

November 14, 2004  
 1 Corinthians 15:42-57  
**Counting on resurrection**

November 21, 2004  
 2 Corinthians 5:11-21  
**New beginnings**

November 28, 2004  
 Ephesians 2:11-21  
**Becoming one family**

Winter 2004-2005 • December–February

**CALLED TO BE GOD'S PEOPLE**

Called to Be God's People complements last quarter's study of creation. The sessions look at the various ways God calls the community of faith to live out the purpose for which we were created.

**UNIT I**  
 God calls a people

December 5, 2004  
 Genesis 11:27—12:9  
**The call to follow God**

December 12, 2004  
 1 Samuel 16:1-4b, 6-13  
**Leadership qualities**

December 19, 2004  
 Matthew 1:17-25  
**When the unexpected happens**

December 26, 2004  
 Luke 2:22-38  
**Searching for hope in the right places**

**UNIT II**  
 The call of Jesus and his followers

January 2, 2005  
 Mark 1:14-28  
**Spreading the good news**

January 9, 2005  
 Mark 2:13-17  
**Sharing God's hospitality**

January 16, 2005  
 Mark 3:13-19; 6:6b-13  
**Preparing for the job**

January 23, 2005  
 Mark 8:27-38  
**Giving your all**

January 30, 2005  
 Mark 10:32-45  
**Moving toward greatness**

**UNIT III**  
 Whosoever will—come!

February 6, 2005  
 Ruth 1:3-8, 14-18  
**Overcoming grief**

February 13, 2005  
 2 Kings 5:1-5, 9-15a  
**Overcoming pride**

February 20, 2005  
 John 3:1-16  
**Overcoming uncertainty**

February 27, 2005  
 John 4:7-10, 19-26  
**Overcoming prejudice**

Spring 2005 • March–May

**GOD'S PROJECT: EFFECTIVE CHRISTIANS**

This quarter includes three units that explore the beginning and meaning of the Christian life as Paul understood it. The first two units focus on writings from Romans, while the third unit explores selections from Galatians. The overall guiding theme is covenant.

**UNIT I**  
 Saved by God

March 6, 2005  
 Romans 1:16-20; 3:9-20  
**None is righteous**

March 13, 2005  
 Romans 2:1-16  
**God judges all people**

March 20, 2005  
 Romans 5:1-11, 18-21  
**Justified by faith**

March 27, 2005  
 John 20:1-10;  
 Romans 6:1-11, 13  
**Victory over death**

**UNIT II**  
 The Christian life

April 3, 2005  
 Romans 8:1-16  
**Power for living**

April 10, 2005  
 Romans 10:5-17  
**Affirming Christ as Lord**

April 17, 2005  
 Romans 12:1-2, 9-21  
**Living the Christian life**

April 24, 2005  
 Romans 14:1-13; 15:5-6  
**Living in harmony**

**UNIT III**  
 Set free

May 1, 2005  
 Galatians 1:1-12  
**Hanging on to God's good news**

May 8, 2005  
 Galatians 2:15-3:5  
**Living on faith**

May 15, 2005  
 Galatians 3:19-29; 4:4-7  
**From slave to heir**

May 22, 2005  
 Galatians 5:1-15  
**Free to serve**

May 29, 2005  
 Galatians 5:22-6:10  
**Life together**

Summer 2005 • June–August

**JESUS' LIFE, TEACHINGS, AND MINISTRY**

This quarter focuses on the theme of Christ. The study uses the three Synoptic Gospels as the guides for exploring Jesus' life (Mark), ministry of teaching (Matthew), and ministry of compassion (Luke).

**UNIT I**  
 Jesus' life (Gospel of Mark)

June 5, 2005  
 Mark 1:4-13  
**Preparing for leadership**

June 12, 2005  
 Mark 2:1-12  
**Healed to wholeness**

June 19, 2005  
 Mark 14:53-65; 15:1-5  
**The prevailing good**

June 26, 2005  
 Mark 16:1-8, 12-15  
**Hope in the midst of despair**

**UNIT II**  
 Jesus' ministry of teaching (Gospel of Matthew)

July 3, 2005  
 Matthew 5:1-16  
**Experiencing true happiness**

July 10, 2005  
 Matthew 6:1-14  
**Practicing genuine piety**

July 17, 2005  
 Matthew 13:9-17  
**Learning to listen**

July 24, 2005  
 Matthew 18:21-35  
**Free to forgive**

July 31, 2005  
 Matthew 25:31-46  
**Meeting human needs**

**UNIT III**  
 Jesus' Ministry of Compassion (Gospel of Luke)

August 7, 2005  
 Luke 4:16-24, 28-30  
**What is my calling?**

August 14, 2005  
 Luke 8:40-56  
**Hope for healing**

August 21, 2005  
 Luke 10:25-37  
**Stretching our love**

August 28, 2005  
 Luke 14:7-11, 15-24  
**Building community**



Adult Bible Study Online offers timely updates to each week's lesson. Find it at [www.mph.org/abs](http://www.mph.org/abs).



Faith & Life Resources



*"Second Mile has generated good discussion, new ideas, and valuable storytelling around the theme of what it means to be a peacemaker in all areas of life."*

*— Nancy, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania*

**Second Mile:  
A Peace Journey for Congregations**

What does it mean to follow Jesus' way of peace today? Second Mile invites congregations and small groups to enter a journey of worship, study, action and reflection to become active signs of Christ's peace in a broken world.

Pathways currently available are  
**The Land That I Will Show You**  
**Heading for the Promised Land**  
**The Road to Emmaus**

Student guide: **New Lower Price**  
**\$14.99 US, \$20.99 CAN**  
**\$9.99 US, \$13.99 CAN**  
 Leader's guide:  
**\$6.99 US, \$9.79 CAN**

**Closer Than a Brother: Men's Series**

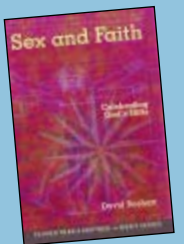
Today's Christian men long to be spiritually grounded and have a meaningful relationship with God, as well as to understand their roles in family, church, and society. This series helps men's groups enter together into reflection and growth, and guides them to become communities of disciples. Each study of five sessions, designed for ages 40–60, contains biblical reflections on the topic with an emphasis on personal sharing in the context of Christian community. Sessions include ideas for reflection, discussion, and response, with leader's tips at the end of each booklet.

Titles available

**What Really Matters: Conversation Starters for Men**  
**The Meaning of Tough: Using Power and Wealth**  
**Sex and Faith: Celebrating God's Gifts**

**Relatively Speaking: Strengthening Family Ties**  
**Closer than a Brother: Building Deeper Friendships**

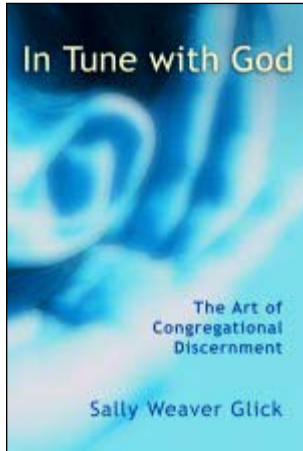
All units: \$5.99 US and CAN



Free sample session available at [www.mph.org/mennonitemen](http://www.mph.org/mennonitemen)

Free sample session and leader's guide available at [www.gosecondmile.org](http://www.gosecondmile.org)

**TO ORDER, CALL 1-800-245-7894**



## In Tune with God:

### The Art of Congregational Discernment

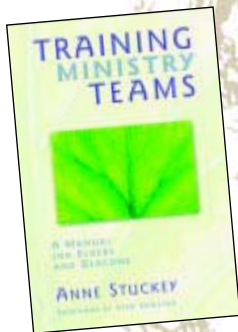
Is God calling us to start a day care in our neighborhood? Who shall we call as our next pastor? Sally Weaver Glick approaches congregational discernment as a process of hearing and entering God's "song." Included are stories of real congregations dealing with real issues; a wealth of practical tips for conducting healthy discernment; a leader's guide; an outline for a one-day retreat; and creative dialogues that introduce the themes of each chapter.

0-8361-9284-2: \$12.99 US, \$18.29 CAN

For congregational study

"When true discernment happens, creativity is released, energy is freed for tackling problems together, and relationships with God and one another are strengthened."

—Sally Weaver Glick,  
in the introduction



## Training Ministry Teams:

### A Manual for Elders and Deacons

Elders or deacons have a vital calling and function in building strong congregations. But they need clear guidelines and training to be effective. Anne Stuckey's manual provides practical instruction to help pastors and congregational leaders bring clarity to this key role and teach elders and deacons what they need to know to minister. Each of the nine sessions reflects on Jesus' method of training leaders and works toward a specific outcome.

0-8361-9273-7: \$8.99 US, \$12.79 CAN

For individual or group study

## Leader:

### Equipping the Missional Congregation

Contains practical tools to inspire and equip all church leaders.

Annual individual subscription:

\$29.95 US, \$41.95 CAN

Annual bulk subscription (5 or more to one address):

\$24.80 US, \$34.80 CAN each



We are impressed with the excellent resources offered for both the Advent and Lenten seasons. Thank you!

—Judy, New Holland, Pennsylvania



Faith & Life Resources  
Herald Press

## Recommended reading for...

...adult members: **Mission-Focused Congregations**  
**\$7.99 US, \$11.29 CAN**



...parents: **Growing Together: Understanding and Nurturing Your Child's Faith Journey**  
**\$11.99 US, \$16.79 CAN**



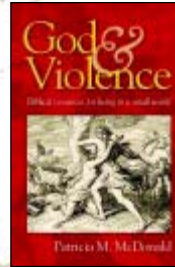
...church leaders: **A Mennonite Polity for Ministerial Leadership**  
**\$8.99 US, \$12.79 CAN**



...members and friends: **Making Peace with Enemies: Ten Truths Christians Need to Know** (brochure)  
**\$.35 US, \$.55 CAN**



...those considering baptism & membership: **God's Story, Our Story: Exploring Christian Faith & Life**  
**\$11.99 US, \$16.79 CAN**



### God and Violence:

Biblical Resources for Living in a Small World  
 Patricia McDonald argues that many biblical stories, from Genesis to Revelation, contain resources for turning violence into service of God and humanity. These narratives can prompt us to move beyond narrow defensiveness and self-interest.

**0-8361-9269-9:**  
**\$16.99 US, \$23.79 CAN**

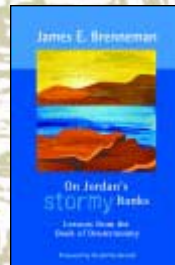


### Romans:

from the Believers Church Bible Commentary Series

John E. Toews explores Paul's writings to the Roman churches, in which he reminds them of God's purpose for both Jew and Gentile.

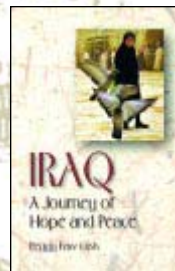
**0-8361-9277-X:**  
**\$24.99 US, \$34.99 CAN**



### On Jordan's Stormy Banks

Lessons from the Book of Deuteronomy  
 No other book addresses human longing as Deuteronomy. James E. Brenneman guides readers across the spiritually barren, dangerous, silent void of life's desert-wanderings.

**\$9.99 US, \$13.99 CAN**



### Iraq

A Journey of Hope and Peace  
 Peggy Gish went to Iraq in an attempt to prevent war. But on March 20, 2003, the bombs began falling on Baghdad. Here is Gish's personal account of the Christian Peacemaker Teams' work in Iraq.

**\$17.99 US, \$25.29 CAN**

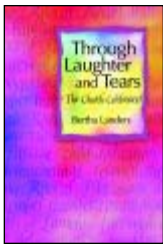


Find study guides, leadership helps, and order Sunday school materials at [www.mph.org](http://www.mph.org)

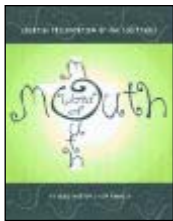
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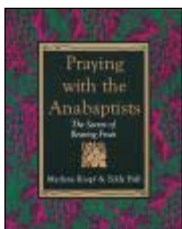
**Soul Care: How to Plan and Guide Inspirational Retreats**  
God uses spiritual retreat to transform lives. This guide offers 40 retreats to inspire and renew church leaders, Sunday school or small groups, families, and individuals.  
**\$19.99 US,  
\$27.99 CAN**



**Through Laughter and Tears: The Church Celebrates**  
Nineteen complete worship services provide new ways to draw together the whole church family in acknowledging significant life events.  
**\$17.99 US,  
\$25.29 CAN**



**Word of Mouth: Creative Ways to Present Scripture**  
Twenty-nine readers' theater scripts help bring the Bible to life in worship services and other gatherings of the church.  
**\$14.99 US,  
\$20.99 CAN**



**Praying with the Anabaptists: The Secret of Bearing Fruit**  
Fifteen devotionals—each with a Scripture passage, a quote from an early Anabaptist, a prayer exercise, and hymn—nurture spiritual growth for individuals or groups.  
**\$12.99 US,  
\$18.29 CAN**

"Through the years, our congregation has used many resources from Mennonite Publishing. I greatly appreciate all the work that goes into preparing publications that help build God's Kingdom."

—Jean, Luray, Virginia



### Purpose

Inspirational short stories and verse by Christian writers for older youth and all adults.  
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\$20.95 US, \$29.35 CAN individuals**

### Rejoice!

A daily devotional guide, offering encouragement for adults and families.  
**Published quarterly  
\$25.95 US, \$36.35 CAN individuals**



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—Melinda, Hillsboro, Kansas

**Mennonite Bulletin Series** features biblical themes and passages following the Revised Common Lectionary. Bulletins may be ordered with a blank back page or with printed worship resources relating to the work of Mennonite Church Canada and Mennonite Church.



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\$7.35 CAN**  
per hundred, plus shipping and handling



Find full-color images at [www.mph.org](http://www.mph.org)

"I have often admired the beautiful pictures and the worship resources that are part of our bulletins. They are appreciated."

—Margaret Ewen Peters,  
pastor,  
Hanley Mennonite Church,  
Hanley Saskatchewan

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