

Messy Spirituality

What does it take to have a spiritually vibrant household? Looking at everyday households of faith, original research from the Barna Group and Lutheran Hour Ministries shows that some of the healthiest, most vibrant homes extend beyond the nuclear family. Don Everts shows how these households practice spirituality, hospitality, and community that make them delightful places for living and thriving.

Years after his death, Christians across the world turn to the words of Yaconelli to uncover the divine mischief, the shameless truth-telling, the love of kids, and the passion for Jesus that make youth ministry an irresistible calling.

"As a mom, wife, and social media entrepreneur, Mallika Chopra frequently wondered how she could possibly do one more thing. Like so many, she was taking lousy care of herself and having a difficult time finding richer meaning and purpose in each day, even though that was her business's mission. Living with Intent is a practical yet deeply personal look at her year-long journey to discover some workable answers. Along the way, she sat down with Andrew Weil, Eckhart Tolle, Gretchen Rubin, Marianne Williamson, Daniel Siegel, and others, who shared their valuable input and insight"--

When you hear the word disciple, you may envision people who spend all day praying and converting the masses. Or individuals who have a natural holiness deep inside. The truth is, being a follower of Jesus isn't a job for the perfect or the

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Christian elite—it's something anyone can and should be. (And even the original twelve disciples were far from perfect!) This thirty-day devotional looks at the traits real, very human disciples have, using Scripture, first-person comments from teens, and questions that help you think about your own disciple experiences. When you think of Peter, John, Matthew, and even Paul, they seem to be heroes for Jesus—the ones we're supposed to emulate and be more like. After all, Jesus handpicked them to be his followers and ambassadors on earth, and trusted them with everything when he left, so they must have been really holy men, right? But if you read the Gospels and Acts closely, you'll notice the men Jesus called into his ministry were often clueless, selfish, afraid, and brash, and made a lot of mistakes during their time as disciples. In other words, they were very human. Just like you. This 30-day devotional peels back the holy veneer and explores the character traits that mark all disciples—things like fear, boldness, doubt, laziness, weakness, sensitivity, brokenness, alienation, hunger, immaturity, strength, and preparedness—and uses Scripture, real-world examples, and questions with space to journal to help you see these “negative” qualities actually qualify you to follow Jesus. Because discipleship isn't something from the first century, and Jesus is calling you to follow him today. *You Don't Have to Be Perfect to Follow Jesus*: can be used for personal study or in a group setting is ideal for teens and young adults contains short readings, with full Scripture passages included, that you can take with you anywhere breaks down the real truth behind Scripture to show how it applies to your life today *Awakening to God's Presence in His Messy, Abundant World*

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The Book of Soul

Naked Conversations About Sexuality and Spirituality

A Bigger Table, Expanded Edition with Study Guide

Messy Church

All Shall Be Well

Messy Spirituality

The Messy Middle

Society teaches us to have everything under control, and we tend to think that this can be true even of our spiritual lives. Master storyteller and spiritual director Mark Yaconelli offers a narrative journey through ways in which disappointments have turned into gifts. In these pages are a wealth of spiritual practices that will help us find grace in unexpected places.

The author of *Messy Grace*, a former pastor raised by LGBTQ parents, who as a child experienced the bitterness of some Christians, shows you how to lead an organization to create a sense of belonging for all individuals. People find and follow Jesus better in community than in isolation. But shifts in societal norms, conflicting opinions, inaccurate scriptural interpretations, and personal emotions have made leaders uncertain of how to welcome those who relate in some way as LGBTQ. In *Messy Truth*, Caleb Kaltenbach shows how leaders of churches, ministries, and organizations can create belonging without sacrificing theological convictions. You'll learn how to design involvement systems, increase empathy, engage in pivotal truth conversations, and develop intentional plans and policies as they relate to LGBTQ. Best of all, this messy process has a vital outcome for those it helps: a growing relationship with Jesus.

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Messy Spirituality God's Annoying Love for Imperfect People Zondervan

Nothing has exposed the gap between the church and the broader society quite like the volatile topics of sexuality, relationships, identities, orientations and even gender. With a pastor's heart and a missiologist's mind, Debra Hirsch helps us discover a holistic, biblical vision of sex and gender that honors God and offers good news to the world.

A Modern Guide to Faith and Parenting in a Chaotic World

Looking for God in Messy Places

God's Annoying Love for Imperfect People

Yearnings

Messy

Moving from Shallow Christianity to Deep Transformation

The Adventure of Childlike Faith

Wrangling Delight Out of This Wild and Glorious Life

Dennis Jacobsen brings his many years of experience doing congregation-based organizing for justice into conversation with unique spiritual reflections. Jacobsen has learned along the way that deeper reflection must precede organizing action. He says, "As I age, I have respect for those who faithfully enter the inner room of their soul to meet and love God. Social action is messy and disruptive and noisy." Jacobsen turns to his work creating and meditating on icons to connect biblical themes and Christian personalities to guide those who are preparing for congregation-organizing and faith-based social action. His unique perspectives help anyone engaged in such work go deeper in prayer and devotion before diving

into the messy work of organizing. This book follows his first volume, Doing Justice: Congregations and Community Organizing, in which Jacobsen explored biblical and theological reasons congregation-based organizing offers a faithful way of living out the teachings of Jesus. In this new volume, he seeks to integrate spiritual practices (reflections on iconography, in particular) that he claims are foundational to congregation-based community organizing. The book includes introductory chapters to describe his own spiritual practice around icons, several chapters on different figures and what can be learned or gleaned from them as one prepares for justice work. The final section provides a month-long daily office for doing justice, which participants may adopt in their life of prayer and faithful reflection.

' "Spirituality" may be possible for a single, old, financially stable contemplative who has nothing to do but pray,' says Mike Yaconelli, 'But for people like you and me, with kids and mortgages and jobs and car payments, probably not.' There are many obstacles to the kind of spirituality we feel we ought to have: not enough time, feelings of inadequacy, lethargy, over-expectation, fear ... But we will be surprised to discover that true, Godly spirituality is not quite as inaccessible as we once thought. Mike Yaconelli writes from the heart, with humour and humanity, and bears favourable comparison with Philip Yancey and Richard Foster. Messy Spirituality is his first major book to be actively marketed in the UK.

Gordon Atkinson is the pastor of a small church in San Antonio, Texas. But he is

more widely known to a large online readership simply as "The Preacher," having posted many reflections on the weblog called RealLivePreacher.com. This book gathers the finest of Atkinson's electronic essays (reworked for print publication), together with nine new writings never posted online. As veteran blog readers already know, Atkinson's mind skews here and there, commenting on the stars, children, and tamales as often as he considers the foibles of life and faith. "This is beautiful and brilliant stuff, profound and plain, incredibly human, wise and charming. I trusted and enjoyed every word." –Anne Lamott, New York Times bestselling author about Looking for God in Messy Places For any who feel frustrated and world-weary, and who want more than just wishful thinking or superficial spirituality, this book is for you! In these pages, my friend Jake Owensby poignantly shows how LOVE is what can truly give us hope to carry on: real love, God's love for us, our love for each other, right here, right now in all the struggles of this messy life. And God knows, we need this book NOW! —Bishop Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop of The Episcopal Church and author of Love is the Way: Holding on to Hope in Troubling Times Life is messy. We can get discouraged by setbacks, overwhelmed by busyness, and shaken by worry. Hope is the power that gets us out of bed in the morning and gives us the courage to face adversity. Looking for God in Messy Places by Jake Owensby is a book about how love gives us an inextinguishable hope. This book is for anyone who has ever been frozen in place by loss or regret, anyone who has endured suffering, cruelty, or rejection. From word to word and page to page, readers will experience

themselves as God's beloved—so that they can be hopeful. From the introduction [This book is] For those whose struggles have been long and for those who are growing weary from heavy burdens. For those facing an unforeseen crisis or for those enduring a slow personal train wreck. For those whose throats have grown raw from crying for justice and for those whose wounds have gone unhealed. This is a book about hope, and I have written it especially for those who refuse to yield to discouragement and despair. Topics include: - The power of love to give us hope - The ways that God shows up in our daily lives - Recognizing God's call in our lives - Becoming your true self - Having a sense of belonging - Forming a friendship with Christ - Contemplative faith

Of Mess and Moxie

A Celebration of Earthy Spirituality

Building Messy, Authentic, and Hopeful Spiritual Community

You Don't Have to Be Perfect to Follow Jesus

The Way of the Artist

How to Foster Community Without Sacrificing Conviction

Children's Spirituality

Reflections for Congregation-Based Organizers

An introduction to the increasingly popular topic of children's spirituality, showing how choices made in churches and homes can stimulate or stifle a child's spiritual development. Suitable for anyone who works with children.

Fr. Spitzer, President of Gonzaga University and a highly regarded spiritual teacher and

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writer, presents a practical, yet rich guide for helping busy people develop a regular and deeper prayer life. Based on many successful retreats and seminars he has given to much acclaim over the years, this brilliant Jesuit priest presents five essential means through which the contemplative and active aspects of our lives can be fused together for a stronger spiritual life.

Recapture the joy of being a child and apply it to your relationship with God. Ask the difficult questions about faith, then just take Jesus at His word. Includes discussion guide.

A deeply affecting, funny, insightful meditation that challenges readers to find the spiritual meaning of parenting. Every day, parents are bombarded by demands. The pressures of work and life are relentless; our children ' s needs are often impossible to meet; and we rarely, if ever, allow ourselves the time and attention necessary to satisfy our own inner longings. Parenthood is difficult, demanding, and draining. And yet, argues Rabbi Danya Ruttenberg, if we can approach it from a different mindset, perhaps the work of parenting itself can offer the solace we seek. Rooted in Judaism but incorporating a wide-range of religious and literary traditions, *Nurture the Wow* asks, Can ancient ideas about relationships, drudgery, pain, devotion, and purpose help make the hard parts of a parent ' s job easier and the magical stuff even more so? Ruttenberg shows how parenting can be considered a spiritual practice—and how seeing it that way can lead to transformation. This is a parenthood book, not a parenting book; it shows how the experiences we have as parents can change us for the better. Enlightening, uplifting, and laugh-out-loud funny, *Nurture the Wow* reveals how parenthood—in all its crazy-making, rage-inducing, awe and joy-filled moments—can actually be the path to living fully, authentically, and soulfully.

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Nurture the Wow

A 30-Day Devotional Journal

Christianity for the Rest of Us

A Spirituality for Doing Justice

Finding Grace in Unexpected Places

Creative Spirituality

Reallivepreacher.com

Five Pillars of the Spiritual Life

"Irwin Kula shows us how to live our humanness -- the pleasures and the challenges, the messiness and the triumphs -- with a profound acceptance of our desires and foibles and a joy that can only come from understanding." --Deepak Chopra "Yearning. After twenty-three years as a rabbi, I can think of no more defining human experience." Life can be messy and imperfect. We're all looking for answers. And yet, as renowned rabbi Irwin Kula points out, the yearning for answers is no different now than it was in the times that gave rise to Moses, Buddha, and Jesus. Far from being a burden, however, these yearnings can themselves become a path to blessing, prompting questions and insights, resulting in new ways of being and believing. In this, his first book, Rabbi Kula takes us on an excursion into the depths of our desires, applying ancient Jewish tradition to seven of our most wonderful yearnings. Merging ancient wisdom with contemporary insights, Rabbi Kula shows how traditional practices can inform and enrich our own search for meaning. More importantly, he invites us to embrace the messiness and complexities of the human experience in order to fully embrace the endless and glorious project of life.

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Homer's *Odyssey* holds a timeless allure. It is an ancient story for every generation: the struggle of a man on a long and difficult voyage longing to return to love and family. Odysseus's strivings to overcome both divine and earthly obstacles and to control his own impulsive nature hold valuable lessons for us as we confront the challenges of daily life. *Sailing Home* breathes fresh air into a classic we thought we knew, revealing its profound guidance for the modern seeker. Dividing the book into three parts—"Setting Forth," "Disaster," and "Return"—Fischer charts the course of Odysseus's familiar wanderings. Readers come to see this ancient hero as a flawed human being who shares their own struggles and temptations, such as yielding to desire or fear or greed, and making peace with family. Featuring thoughtful meditations, illuminating anecdotes from Fischer's and his students' lives, and stories from many wisdom traditions including Buddhist, Judaic, and Christian, *Sailing Home* shows the way to greater purpose in our own lives. The book's literary dimension expands its appeal beyond the Buddhist market to a wider spiritual audience and to anyone interested in the teachings of myth and story.

Named One of the 50 Best Spiritual Books of 2020 by *Spirituality & Practice* What is materiality? Jesus practiced materiality when he healed the bodies of the sick, proclaimed Jubilee to the poor, and fed the five thousand. He practiced materiality over materialism. In *Materiality as Resistance*, Walter Brueggemann defines materiality as the use of the material aspects of the Christian faith, as opposed to materialism, which places possessions and physical comfort over spiritual values. In this concise volume, Brueggemann lays out how we as Christians may reengage our materiality for the common good. How does materiality inform our faith when it comes to food, money, the body, time, and place? How does it force us to

Access Free Messy Spirituality

act? Likewise, how is the church obligated to use its time, money, abundance of food, the care and use of our bodies, observance of Sabbath, and stewardship of our world and those with whom we share it? With a foreword from Jim Wallis, *Materiality as Resistance* serves as a manifesto of Walter Brueggemann's most important work and as an engaging call to action. It is suited for group or individual study.

No one likes to eat alone; to approach a table filled with people, only to be told that despite the open chairs there isn't room for you. The rejection stings. It leaves a mark. Yet this is exactly what the church has been saying to far too many people for far too long: "You're not welcome here. Find someplace else to sit. € How can we extend unconditional welcome and acceptance in a world increasingly marked by bigotry, fear, and exclusion? Pastor John Pavlovitz invites readers to join him on the journey to find "or build "a church that is big enough for everyone. He speaks clearly into the heart of the issues the Christian community has been earnestly wrestling with: LGBT inclusion, gender equality, racial tensions, and global concerns. *A Bigger Table: Building Messy, Authentic, Hopeful Spiritual Community* asks if organized Christianity can find a new way of faithfully continuing the work Jesus began two thousand years ago, where everyone gets a seat. Pavlovitz shares moving personal stories and his careful observations as a pastor to set the table for a new, more loving conversation on these and other important matters of faith. He invites us to build the bigger table Jesus imagined, practicing radical hospitality, total authenticity, messy diversity, and agenda-free community.

Prayers, Psalms and Laments of the Rising Culture
Five Elements for Moral Action in the Real World

The Power of Ugly
Everyday Sacrament
Life Is Messy
Beyond the Messy Truth
Redeeming Sex

In *Everyday Sacrament: The Messy Grace of Parenting* Laura Kelly Fanucci sees the Catholic sacraments through the smudged and sticky lens of life with little ones. From dinnertime chaos to bath-time giggles to never-ending loads of laundry, Laura stumbles into the surprising truth of what the seven sacraments really mean: that God is present always, even in the messes of motherhood. A spiritual memoir of parenting's early years and a sacramental theology rooted in family life, *Everyday Sacrament* offers an honest, humorous, and hopeful look at ordinary moments as full of grace.

In this beautiful and broken world, God is here. The heavens declare the glory of God . . . but are we listening? Yes, God created this world, but sometimes we forget that he hasn't left—that his redemptive, creative work happens still today, right here under our feet. So when we seek for God and study his

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truth, how much are we missing if we don't awaken to all he has placed in the soil and sky? God made this world of light and darkness, summer and winter, life and death. What does he intend to teach us in these ever-repeating cycles and seasons?

Seamlessly weaving biblical truths into everyday life, Catherine McNiell will help you discover an unbelievable reality: God meets and transforms you in the mess and abundance of every mundane moment.

Christianity is messy. Unanswered prayers. Painful choices. Unresolved regrets. We're called to have faith, and yet we doubt. We try to be perfect, but we fall short. This is the chaos. It's all around us. There's no limit to it. And there's no quick fix for it. Both annoyingly honest and refreshingly humorous, *Messy* reassures Christians that God can reveal Himself in their clutter. Author and pastor A.J. Swoboda offers biblical insight and vivid, personal stories to redefine faith from something that must be perfect to something that is imperfect, but can still give beauty, meaning, and purpose to a messy life. As entertaining as it is challenging, this book teaches Christians what it means to trust in each other, in grace, in

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hope, and in a Savior who defied the rules of death. Here's to finding joy in your chaos!

Life is messy. It isn't a color-within-the-lines exercise. It's a wild and outrageous invitation full of uncertain outcomes. The mess of life is both inevitable and unexpected. It is filled with delightful mysteries and frustrating predicaments. In our disposable culture, we throw broken things away. So, what will we do with broken people, broken relationships, broken institutions, broken families, and of course, our very own broken selves? We are all broken and wounded. This book is about putting our lives back together, and allowing ourselves to be put back together, when life doesn't turn out as we expected it to. Based on his own heart-wrenching personal journals, Matthew Kelly shares how the worst three years of his life affected him, by exploring this question: Can someone who has been broken be healed and become more beautiful and more lovable than ever before? The answer will fill you with hope. There has never been a more urgent need for us to attend to what is happening within us. This is quite simply the right book at the right time.

God Likes It That Way

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A Multigenerational Mission for God's Family

Finding Spirituality in the Frustration, Boredom, Tears, Poop, Desperation, Wonder, and Radical Amazement of Parenting

A Bigger Table

How We Came Apart, How We Come Together

The Gift of Hard Things

Getting Fired for the Glory of God

Using the Wisdom of Homer's Odyssey to Navigate Life's Perils and Pitfalls

Find freedom from legalism's should's and discover the deep spirituality of being loved by the God who meets and transforms you in the midst of a messy and unpredictable life. Do you ever feel like you don't pray enough, read your Bible enough, share your faith enough, love God enough . . . and ultimately that you're not a very good Christian? Welcome to the club. *Messy Spirituality* was written for the silent majority of us who are convinced we just don't do Christianity right. Mike Yaconelli dares to suggest that imperfection, unfinishedness, and messiness are, in fact, the earmarks of true Christianity; that real Christianity is messy, erratic, lopsided . . . and gloriously liberating. In these pages, he challenges you to let go of the legalism that holds you back and embrace the grace freedom that God offers. He opens your eyes to the one-size-fits-all spirituality churches often want us to embrace and shares what it truly means to walk with God in a deep, intimate, life-changing way. Full of innovative ideas and concepts, *Messy Spirituality* is a classic that offers timeless wisdom for anyone ready to be free from the bonds of perfectionism. Spanish edition also available.

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NATIONAL BESTSELLER NAMED ONE OF THE MOST INSPIRING BOOKS OF 2018 BY INC. NAMED ONE OF THE BEST STARTUP BOOKS OF ALL TIME BY BOOKAUTHORITY The Messy Middle is the indispensable guide to navigating the volatility of new ventures and leading bold creative projects by Scott Belsky, bestselling author, entrepreneur, Chief Product Officer at Adobe, and product advisor to many of today's top start-ups. Creating something from nothing is an unpredictable journey. The first mile births a new idea into existence, and the final mile is all about letting go. We love talking about starts and finishes, even though the middle stretch is the most important and often the most ignored and misunderstood. Broken into three sections with 100+ lessons, this no-nonsense book will help you:

- Endure the roller coaster of successes and failures by strengthening your resolve, embracing the long-game, and short-circuiting your reward system to get to the finish line.
- Optimize what's working so you can improve the way you hire, better manage your team, and meet your customers' needs.
- Finish strong and avoid the pitfalls many entrepreneurs make, so you can overcome resistance, exit gracefully, and continue onto your next creative endeavor with ease.

With insightful interviews from today's leading entrepreneurs, artists, writers, and executives, as well as Belsky's own experience working with companies like Airbnb, Pinterest, Uber, and sweetgreen, The Messy Middle will outfit you to find your way through the hardest parts of any bold project or new venture.

"It's easy in these times to allow ourselves to slip into resignation, isolation, or despair. The Book of Soul is an antidote." —Arianna Huffington, Founder & CEO, Thrive Global and Founder, Huffington Post "I recommend The Book of Soul for all of us wanting to stay connected to a deeper purpose." —Melinda Gates, New York Times Bestselling Author of The Moment of Lift "There is much to explore and savor in this [new] book [by] this incredibly talented writer, storyteller, poet, and teacher. The spiritual practitioner will rejoice in Nepo's uncanny ability to consistently stretch our minds and souls with fresh

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musings." —Frederic and Mary Ann Brussat, *Spirituality & Practice* "I love all Mark's books because of his deep insights and his amazing way with words, but there's something truly special about this one. It feels like a compilation of the best and most profound ideas from his work. I want to savor each and every chapter." —Katy Koontz, Editor, *Unity Magazine* A powerful new book of spiritual awakening from #1 New York Times bestselling author Mark Nepo *In The Book of Soul*, Mark Nepo, the bestselling author of *The Book of Awakening*, offers a powerful guide to inhabiting an authentic and wholehearted life. After we are physically born, we must be spiritually born a second time, a process that takes place through the labor of a lifetime as we develop into more fully realized beings. *The Book of Soul* delves into the spiritual alchemy of that transformation in all its mystery, difficulty, and inevitability. The book is divided into four sections that mark the passages we all face: enduring our Walk in the World, until we discover Our True Inheritance, which allows us to live in the open by Widening Our Circle, as we Help Each Other Stay Awake. *The Book of Soul* is a piercing guide, replete with beautiful truths and startling insight, that leads us deeply into the process of transformation.

"Pairing modern psychology with liberal Christian spirituality, Dr. Ellen O'Donnell and Rev. Molly Baskette deliver a clear and compelling modus operandi for making family life work--one rooted in research on parenting and Christian values, peppered with personal stories and a heavy dose of humor. When authors Ellen O'Donnell and Molly Baskette became parents, they read lots of books on parenting--many of them great. But when it came to practical suggestions that would help their family spiritually and psychologically, they came up short. Together, they sought out brainstorming actionable steps to help their families in ways that weren't being discussed in parenting books. This book is the fruit of their brainstorming and discussions. In *Bless This Mess*, readers will gain tools as they learn how to talk to kids about money, bodies, God, ethics, disability, and difference; how to stress less (really); how to

Access Free Messy Spirituality

embody an ethic of service to others; how to live a practice of deep generosity and gratitude; and, most of all, how to stop being so afraid all the damn time, as we raise our kids in an increasingly chaotic and often scary world. Both Christian spirituality and modern science can help us parent more fearlessly in an age of anxiety. With real-life examples and strategies to address the challenges of raising a toddler, preteen, or teenager, *Bless This Mess* guides parents of children at all stages of their development. Readers will shed stress with this resource they can turn to again and again for practical guidance as their children grow and the family encounters new challenges. Most important, readers will not feel alone, as they peruse relatable stories and are reminded of the companionship of God in their parenting journey"--

Materiality as Resistance

Redeemed

Dark Horse

52 Paths to Living What Matters

Collected Words of Mike Yaconelli for Youth Workers

Writing on the Wall

Living with Intent

Bless This Mess

Life is messy for each of us. But Jen Hatmaker reminds us that it's okay to admit that we're all in the same boat. Join New York Times bestselling author and honorary big sister Jen as she shares hilarious tales, shameless honesty, and unconditional hope for the woman who's forgotten her moxie. We will endure discouragement, heartbreak, failure, and suffering. All of us. And more than once. But we are the very same folks who can experience triumph, perseverance, joy,

and rebirth. More than once. And in more than one category. And in more than one season. And that? That's moxie. Moxie reaches for laughter, for courage, for the deep and important truth that women are capable of weathering the storm. We are not victims, we are not weak, we are not a sad, defeated group of sob sisters. Yes, life is hard, but we are incredibly resilient. Of Mess and Moxie shines a light on Jen's own triumphs and tragedies into a sigh of relief for all normal, fierce women everywhere. Whether it's the time she drove to the wrong city for a fourth-grade field trip or the way she learned to truly forgive, she offers a reminder to those of us who sometimes hide in the car eating crackers that we do actually have the moxie to get back up and face our messes head-on. After all, this race is not a contest--there's enough abundance to go around. This book will give you the encouragement you need to remember that: Your mess is normal You are not in competition with your peers--your seat at the table is secure You have incredible gifts to offer Come alongside Jen as she teaches us that we can all choose to live undaunted and in the moment, no matter what the moments hold, and we really can lead vibrant, courageous, grace-filled lives.

In John Fischer's multi-layered story, white horses are pampered, celebrated, and trained to pose in ways that hide any of their darker markings. The herd is consumed with appearances and addicted to a comfortable lifestyle of food, shelter, and praise. When one white horse bravely risks all he's ever known to follow a dark horse who promises adventure, he begins a journey that will lead to unparalleled freedom. The journey, however, will not be easy. Dark Horse

explores what it means to live in authentic faith and break out of complacency. It calls readers to ponder the meaning of leadership and the importance of discarding the masks we wear to hide our imperfections. Back in print by popular demand, Fischer's first-ever book is now available in this beautifully packaged gift edition for a new generation of readers.

These are the meditations of a messy spirituality, the life-affirming ramblings of ordinary people who never intended their thoughts to be published and widely read. These anonymous prayers come from the meek, the poor in spirit, those who hunger and thirst for righteousness. Some of the authors might not even call themselves Christians, but they still believe in prayer and have dared to post their heart cries on the Internet, on university walls, on church walls and, even, on the walls of a brewery. Readers will appreciate these raw, honest non-religious psalms and lamentations. Full of life, the big and the small things, they address such issues as AIDS, a slice of pizza and rainbows. Or a teenager crying out for help with her compulsion to self abuse, an ex-con meditating on the meaning of freedom and a person contemplating the deep spiritual significance of a cereal package.

In Dangerous Wonder, Michael Yaconelli invites you to recapture the joy of being a child and apply it to your relationship with God. He encourages you to take Jesus at his word when told his hearers they must become as little children to enter his kingdom.

A Book About Hope

Dangerous Wonder

Finding Your Way Through the Hardest and Most Crucial Part of Any Bold Venture

Messy Truth

A Practical Guide to Prayer for Active People

What it is and Why it Matters

Stumbling Toward God, Sanity, and the Peace That Passes All Understanding

Emotionally Healthy Discipleship

Discovering The Power of Ugly will cost you your pride. You will learn to take off your religious masks and stand naked before God. Ugly will liberate you from a false spirituality which pretends that being spiritual means that you stop being a real, flawed human being. Ugly is a celebration of the beauty of God's grace reflected through our weaknesses, not our strengths.

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • A passionate manifesto that exposes hypocrisy on both sides of the political divide and points a way out of the tribalism that is tearing America apart—from the CNN host hailed as “a star of the 2016 campaign” (The New York Times), now seen on The Van Jones Show Van Jones burst into the American consciousness during the 2016 presidential campaign with an unscripted, truth-telling style and an already established history of bridge-building across party lines. His

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election night commentary, during which he coined the term "whitelash," became a viral sensation. A longtime progressive activist with deep roots in the conservative South, Jones has made it his mission to challenge voters and viewers to stand in one another's shoes and disagree constructively. In *Beyond the Messy Truth*, he offers a blueprint for transforming our collective anxiety into meaningful change. Jones urges both parties to abandon the politics of accusation. He issues a stirring call for a new "bipartisanship from below," pointing us toward practical answers to problems that affect us all regardless of region or ideology. He wants to tackle rural and inner-city poverty, unemployment, addiction, unfair incarceration, and the devastating effects of the pollution-based economy on both coal country and our urban centers. Along the way, Jones shares memories from his decades of activism on behalf of working people, inspiring stories of ordinary citizens who became champions of their communities, and little-known examples of cooperation in the midst of partisan conflict. In his quest for positive solutions, Van Jones encourages us to set fire to our old ways of thinking about politics and come

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together to help those most in need. Includes an invaluable resource of contacts, books, media, and organizations for bipartisan bridge-building and problem solving. "Van Jones is a light in the darkness when we need it most. In the tradition of the great bridge builders of our past, Van's love for this country and all its people shines through."—Cory Booker, U.S. senator, New Jersey "Van Jones's voice has become an integral part of our national political debate. He is one of the most provocative and interesting political figures in the country."—Bernie Sanders, U.S. senator, Vermont

The global church is facing a discipleship crisis. Here is how we move forward. Pastors and church leaders want to see lives changed by the gospel. They work tirelessly to care for people, initiate new ministries, preach creatively, and keep up with trends. Sadly, much of this effort does not result in deeply changed disciples. Traditional discipleship strategies fail because they do not: Slow down people's lives so they can cultivate a deep, personal relationship with Jesus. Challenge the values of Western culture that have compromised the radical call to follow the crucified Jesus. Integrate sadness, loss, and

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vulnerability, leaving people defensive and easily triggered. Measure our spiritual maturity by how we are growing in our ability to love others. In *Emotionally Healthy Discipleship*, bestselling author Pete Scazzero lays out how to create an emotionally healthy culture and multiply deeply-changed people in every aspect of church life—including leadership and team development, marriage and single ministry, small groups, preaching, worship, youth and children's ministry, administration, and outreach. Complete with assessments and practical strategies, *Emotionally Healthy Discipleship* will help you move people to the beneath-the-surface discipleship that actually has the power to change the world.

Exploring the relationship between the spiritual and the sacred, the author of *Growing Up Religious* reveals the spiritual insights of Broadway performers, gospel singers, jazz musicians, poets, painters, weavers, and dancers.

The Spiritually Vibrant Home

Embracing the Sacred Messiness of Life

The Power of Messy Prayers, Loud Tables, and Open Doors

The Messy Grace of Parenting

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My Somewhat Messy Journey to Purpose, Peace, and Joy

Messy Vintage

How to Run Your Messy Vintage Session, and Materials to Help You Do It

Sailing Home

After decades of living on the edge, Heather King settled into sobriety, marriage, and a financially lucrative but unfulfilling career as an upwardly mobile lawyer. A someone who had reached middle age "never believing in much of anything," she found herself in the last place she thought she'd end up: the Catholic Church. A unforgettable, fervent, darkly funny tale of an ongoing, stumbling conversion, Redeemed will appeal to fans of Lauren Winner's *Girl Meets God* and Anne Lamott's writing. King's refreshing sense of humor, mesmerizing voice, and piercing honesty will touch readers whatever their beliefs.

When you look at the church today, what do you see? A corporation with a CEO at the helm? A social organization that does good things for the community? Pastor Ross Parsley believes that neither of those pictures is God's desire. Instead, God wants His church to function as a family—a group of real people who love each other and care for one another's needs, no matter how messy. Our culture is dying for a kind of community that only the church can provide—if we are living as God

Access Free Messy Spirituality

intended: as a family, protecting one another, extending grace, and loving unconditionally. We are not called to be consumers who ask what the church can offer us. We are called to love deeply, fight fairly, and bring hope to a generation of people starving to belong to something greater than themselves. Welcome to the family. You belong here.

A Bigger Table invites readers to envision a church that is big enough for everyone by holding up a mirror to the modern church and speaking clearly on issues at the heart of the Christian community: LGBT inclusion, gender equality, racial tension, and global concerns, and theological shifts. John Pavlovitz shares moving personal stories, his careful observations as a pastor, and his understanding of the ancient stories of Jesus to set the table for a new, positive, more loving conversation and other important matters of faith. Though there are many who would remove chairs and whittle down the guest list, we can build the bigger table Jesus imagined by practicing radical hospitality, total authenticity, messy diversity, and agenda-free community. This new edition includes a small-group study guide complete with ideas for exploring A Bigger Table in a congregation-wide sermon series and program along with a new foreword by Jacqui Lewis and new afterword by the author to explore the challenges of living out the bigger table when voices of hate and exclusion seem stronger and louder than ever.