

# COMMUNICATOR

NAZARENE PUBLISHING HOUSE

## Farewell

With this issue of *Communicator* it is my somewhat sad duty to bid you farewell from our conversation on this page each month. For nearly eight years I've had the privilege of attempting to give voice to some of the particular challenges and joys of pastoral ministry. It's been a wonderful journey for me and I am deeply grateful for the many conversations that have emerged from this venue.

Wherever I've gone in the Church, many of you have been kind to mention this piece, although most can't seem to remember the name of it! I've heard it called everything from the "Chronicle" to the "Confabulator." Some have had criticism and I have learned good lessons from your insights. Many others have had words of affirmation or appreciation for a timely thought that seemed to help along the way. I wouldn't ask for more than that.

I've been thinking a lot recently about change. Maybe it's because my life seems to be undergoing some major changes. Ever since my little girl announced her engagement to a young man who will soon become my only son-in-law, things just haven't been the same. Some of you know exactly what I mean. Life rushes forward and we sometimes find ourselves breathlessly asking, "What just happened? How did I get here?" Some company, can't remember which one, advertises that they do their work "at the speed of life." From what I can see, that must be pretty fast.

I can hardly believe I've been doing this for almost eight years. All things being equal, I'd probably keep doing it, but I just sense that it's time to move

on and allow other voices to rise from this page. I want to express my sincere appreciation to Dr. Hardy Weathers and the good people at Nazarene Publishing House who work so hard behind the scenes to provide helpful resources for us. I am also grateful to former NPH president, Dr. Bob Brower, and Kelly Gallagher who originally gave me this opportunity.

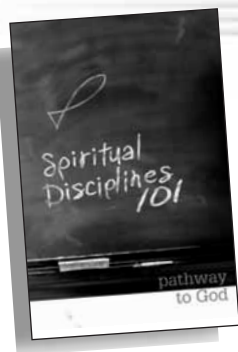
And to you, dear reader and pastor-friend, thank you for your kindness and for allowing me to enter your study each month and talk a little about things that matter to us all. May the grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

-Jeren Rowell

Nazarene Publishing House is grateful for Pastor Jeren Rowell's contribution to the spiritual formation of pastors in the Church of the Nazarene. His words each month are thoughtful, authentic, and relevant. Wherever our place in ministry, Jeren challenges us to become more than we are. Thanks again.

Dr. Hardy Weathers  
President  
Nazarene Publishing House





**S**piritual disciplines are important elements in our spiritual growth. We often struggle to find ways to remain consistent in our spiritual walk and keep our focus on Christ. This book addresses in simple, straightforward ways specific means of grace—channels through which God nurtures His people—and examines how these practices will enrich, strengthen, and cultivate your Spirit-filled life.

*Spiritual Disciplines 101* is made up of a collection of articles from ministers, scholars, and spiritual leaders who provide motivation and insight for disciplines such as fasting, spiritual journaling, prayer, faith, reading scripture, and outreach. Together they teach that living a life that embraces these spiritual disciplines results in the ability to truly experience the joy of living in God's presence everyday.

Contributing authors are: Steve Harper, Rebecca Laird, James Earl Massey, Jeanette Gardner Littleton, Janine Tartaglia-Metcalf, Jerry Porter, Dana Pruesch, Edwin de Jon, and Henry Spaulding.

(Beacon Hill Press of Kansas City, 2005, 144pp., \$12.99, paper, COZZ083-412-2146)

Workshops brought to you from Beacon Hill Press

Thursday, June 23, 2005

**10:45 AM: Ball Room C of the Marriott**  
**Creating a Safe Environment for Today's Church!**

This workshop is designed to assist in a full integration of safe guards to protect your church while maintaining an "open" environment that is warm and inviting to your community. From philosophy to national background screening for volunteer staff to crisis management implementation, this workshop provides "handles" for this necessary ministry component.

**Troy Snyder** has been conducting Purity Retreats for the last six years. An accomplished speaker, Troy travels throughout the country conducting workshops, camps, retreats, seminars, and workshops on various topics. Troy will become an Ordained Elder this summer and has been serving at Olathe College Church since 1998. He has been married for 12 years and has four children.

**2:00 PM: Ball Room C of the Marriott**  
**I LIKE YOUR CHURCH. NOW WHAT?**

Welcome, assimilation, and now what? A well prepared orientation class can initiate visitors into the next steps of assimilation and membership. Learn methods for teaching newcomers who you are, what you believe, and how to be incorporated into your fellowship and ministries—techniques that work in every size church.

**Gay Leonard** is founder, president, and creative consultant of SUNDAY FIRST IMPRESSIONS, a church consulting firm specializing in hospitality ministries to first-time guests, and SAND SCRIPT, an editorial consulting firm. She is author/compiler of the newly released *Articles of Faith: What Nazarenes Believe and Why* and co-author of *The Winning Welcome*.

**3:30 PM: Ball Room C of the Marriott**  
**FROM WINNING WELCOME TO FAMILY TIES**

Turn your church's newcomers into family members with a winning 1-2 punch: Winning Welcome and Family Assimilation. Learn techniques that take newcomers from the parking lot to membership—methods that work in every size church.

**Gay Leonard** is founder, president, and creative consultant of SUNDAY FIRST IMPRESSIONS, a church consulting firm specializing in hospitality ministries to first-time guests, and SAND SCRIPT, an editorial consulting firm. She is co-author of *The Winning Welcome* and author/compiler of the newly released *Articles of Faith: What Nazarenes Believe and Why*.

**Stan Toler** is a gifted leader, administrator and inspirational speaker currently serving as Senior Pastor at Trinity Church of the Nazarene in Oklahoma City. Toler is a prolific writer of more than 30 books.

Saturday, June 25, 2005

**9:00 AM: Mt Rushmore room of the Hyatt**  
**Recruiting and Honoring Volunteers**

How do you recruit teachers and keep them feeling appreciated? Discover these and other secrets from the new LifeStream book, *Instant Children's Ministries: A Year of Events, Activities, and Ideas*.

**Bill Rolfe** has served as a full-time children's curriculum editor for the past 25 years at the International Headquarters for the Church of the Nazarene. He has also ministered as a part-time children's pastor in churches in Ohio and Missouri for nearly 30 years.

**10:00 AM: Mt Rushmore room of the Hyatt**  
**The Vital Role of the Smaller Church in a Mega Church World**

Capitalize the competitive advantages of the smaller church and be encouraged in the role God has for your size church.

**Gene Williams** is a sought after speaker who served as pastor for 47 years before starting Shepherds' Fold Ministries with his wife Joyce. He has served in special assignments with the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association.

**1:30 PM: Mt Rushmore room of the Hyatt**  
**Keeping What We Reap**

This practical assimilation strategy is designed to lead guests into becoming a committed member in their local church by creating a non-threatening atmosphere by which they can enter into the friendship and ministry structure of the church family.

**Dan Walters** is senior pastor at Tri-County Church of the Nazarene in Hamilton Ohio. He serves as the SW Ohio District Sunday School chairman.

**2:30pm: Mt Rushmore room of the Hyatt**  
**When God Bursts In: Revival Then and Now**

Our church had a glorious start in the Holiness Movement. Find out how our future can be even more glorious and how you can be a part of it.

**Elaine Pettit** is an ordained Nazarene elder and tenured evangelist. Accompanied by her husband, Rick, she carries a full slate of revivals, camp meetings, Prayer Awakenings, etc.

**Peter Lundell** is a former missionary to Japan, pastor of the Walnut Church of the Nazarene, and author of *Armed for Battle: A Balanced Approach to Spiritual Warfare*.

**3:30pm: Mt Rushmore room of the Hyatt**  
**A New Kind of Christian: A Discussion on the Changing Needs of Our Culture**

This will be a focus group to develop new book ideas that will intrigue the Gen-Xer, postmodern Christian, or anyone interested in the current trends of today's Christian culture.

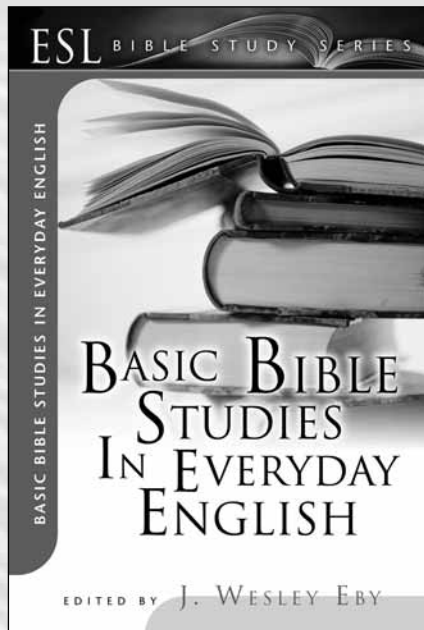
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# Start an ESL ministry at your church!

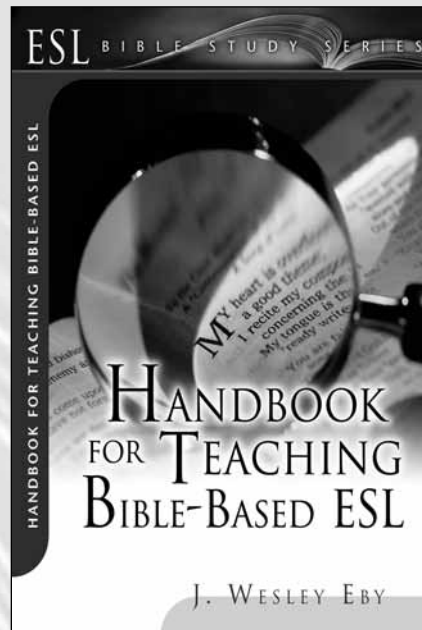
Teach your students the basics of English and the basics of faith at the same time by using English as a Second Language (ESL) Bible Studies!



COZZ083-412-0585

\$5.99

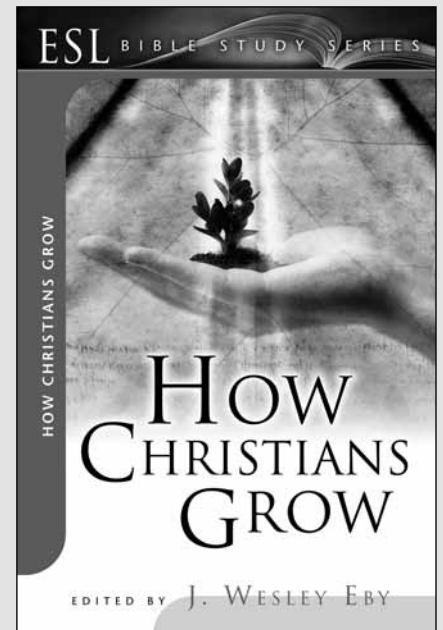
A Bible study to introduce basic Christian beliefs and the plan of salvation. Topics covered include sin, salvation, Bible study, prayer, and much more.



COZZ083-412-0704

\$14.99

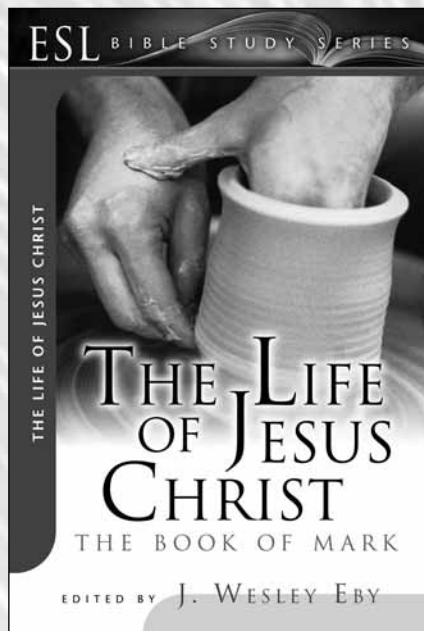
A practical, hands-on approach for teaching an ESL class. Includes communication tips, sample lesson plans, teaching resources, a pronunciation guide, and much more.



COZZ083-412-0593

\$5.99

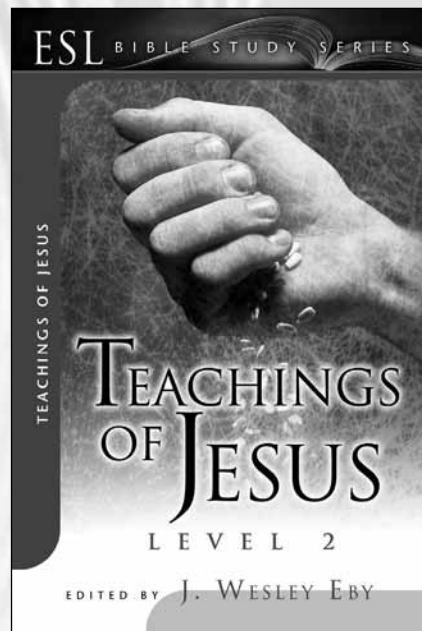
A basic discipleship text. Topics include baptism, tithing, obedience, witnessing, service, fellowship, worship, and much more.



COZZ083-412-0607

\$6.99

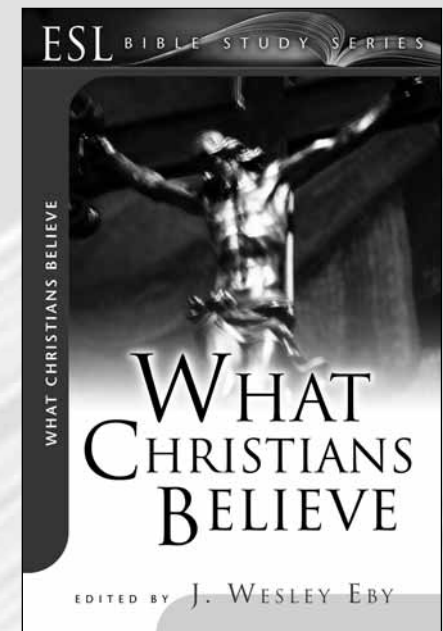
Lessons from Jesus' important teachings and lessons from the events in his life. The final lesson is an invitation to salvation.



COZZ083-412-1514

\$6.99

A book on the parables of Jesus for the intermediate ESL student. Readers will learn about God's love, listening, money, prayer, and much more.



COZZ083-412-0615

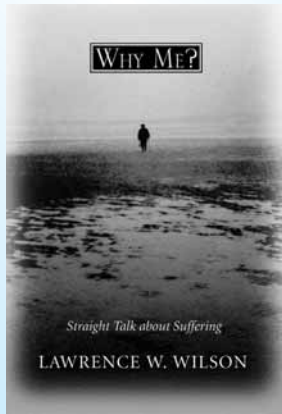
\$5.99

A book of basic Christian doctrines. It teaches readers about God, the Bible, Jesus Christ, sin, and the plan of salvation.

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# A GREAT RESOURCE FOR A SERMON ON SUFFERING



***“If God had created a world in which there were no possibilities, what would that world be like? What would our lives be like if there were no potential for pain? Would there be any joy? Achievement? Satisfaction? Love?”***

Lawrence W. Wilson

COZZ083-412-2014 \$12.99

Suffering of any kind is a painful, lonely process. When Christians suffer their first response is to question God and seek understanding for their pain. In *Why Me?*, Lawrence Wilson explains that it is not always possible to find easy answers to life's most difficult questions, but it is possible to find good and God in every circumstance, to experience joy alongside pain, and to live a good life in spite of the nagging question, “Why Me?”

**WE WANT TO  
HEAR FROM  
YOU!**

How can we improve the *Communicator* to better meet your pastoral needs. Please email your comments, ideas, and suggestions to [bhinqury@nph.com](mailto:bhinqury@nph.com).

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CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp

THERE ARE SOME TEEN-AGERS  
HERE TO TALK TO YOU, AND THEY  
BROUGHT A YOUNG-ADULT  
TO INTERPRET FOR THEM.

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