

How To Change Your Church Without Killing It

The Church Stimulus Package An Essay on the Church ... A new edition, etc The Life and Trial of Guiteau the Assassin The Battle of Totopotomoy Creek: Polegreen Church and the Prelude to Cold Harbor A course of Sunday school lessons on the Church catechism A Treatise on the Church Chiefly with Respect to Its Government A treatise on the government of the Church Evangelism Where You Live Down to Earth The Life and Public Services of James A. Garfield ... The Primitive Church (or Baptist) Magazine Reclaiming Religion from the Church A Treatise on the Church, chiefly with respect to its government ... Second edition, considerably enlarged and improved Rethinking the Church Deep Church An Essay on the Church.. The Church as Counterculture The Goodness of God A Collection of the Laws and Canons of the Church of England Enduring Church Growth Rev. Dr. John Edward Washington William Jones John Clark Ridpath Robert Bluford Jr. John Watson Edward Barwick Gene Wilkes Robert Brown E. E. Brown Frank Canatella Edward BARWICK James Emery White Jim Belcher William Jones Michael L. Budde D. Stephen Long John Johnson Philip Huan

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whether you are a pastor seminary student minister christian education specialist or lay person this book is a complete source for assisting and guiding you through the steps of creating the church stimulus package that will jump start your ministry and revitalize your church numerable physically and financially this book gives you all the tools you need to revitalize a stagnant declining ministry offering proven methods the author

shows you how to create conduct and implement a congregational assessment tailored to your church particular problem or problems covering everything from analyzing your congregation's resources to overcoming obstacles and problems this realistic hands on guide will definitely jump start your declining ministry and revitalize your church the economy of the united states was in shamble then on january 13 2008 president barack obama unveiled a plan to revitalize the united states economy in the short term with a stimulus package that he said will immediately inject billions into the economy this book is a practical step by step resource based upon 38 years of experience sound biblical foundation and academic research this book contains the prescription is a must read and will be useful for pastors sincerely interested in strengthening and revitalizing a church in decline numerable financially and or physically

in early summer 1864 the entire region of central virginia was engulfed in the flames of war as grant's federal army pushed ever south trading battles and bodies with lee's army of northern virginia forces came to a head at the battle of topotomoy creek though overshadowed by the proceeding battle of cold harbor topotomoy creek exemplified the bloody skirmishes of the entire overland campaign polegreen church and its eighteenth century hero samuel davies offer an example of the destruction the war brought to central virginia join author robert bluford as he incorporates diaries regimental histories and other primary sources to detail the heroism of famed civil war participants winfield hancock jubal early ulysses s grant robert e lee and many more

down to earth is a story about a group in the spirit world motivated to help mankind live good and purposeful lives who develop the technology to show people what spirit world is like with live interactive views we follow this group from the first break through to full stadiums streaming to a live television audience seeing heaven for the first time the earth is introduced to the awe inspiring higher realms and also the dark ugly and hideous lower realms the outreach from heaven and the response creates a dramatic and heart inspiring story forward by david and takeko hose authors of every day god edited by joy pople

the first rule of life is survive and since we are necessarily social we must add the corollary together all oughts derive from this two part rule most of us understand this intuitively if not explicitly the only issue to be resolved is how inclusive is our togetherness is it just our tribe our nation the northern hemisphere or must we include the whole human family these are the moral issues we must answer and they are empirical questions behavior has consequences we have to ask ourselves will such and such behaviors promote survival the answer can only come from the experience of the community present demographics will not allow us to elude the question much longer church rules can be faulted on a number of counts not the least of which is that god gave us the rules so they can't change even when experience indicates that they should also the church leaders think the purpose of the rules is to save our souls and so our life here has been seriously neglected in many respects especially for the poor and the underclass

because everything is supposed to be made right in the hereafter this i regard as backward it affirms those who oppress the poor scientists make inferences from empirical data and the results are always subject to revision church officials make inferences from myths and they are set in stone a good example is the doctrine of original sin that is presented as an occult event that causes all our problems and about which we can do nothing the church approved of slavery for the better part of two millennia because it was in place when the church was created and st augustine justified it as one of the punishments resulting from original sin clearly our problem is ignorance the kind we are born with and the kind we acquire through learning falsely i call this ignorance ii after gregory bateson s learning ii learning how to learn ignorance ii is a learning dead end learning how not to learn we very obviously do not always know how to act in our own best interests our best chance of breaking out of this mold is through sharing the best of our communal experience to discover how to act in our own best inerests in the long run this is how to develop a proper morality one we can all live with with a superior organization in place the church is positioned to unite us in the task of developing a proper morality however the church as presently structured can only evolve by backing into the future it claims to already know everything that is necessary to know so it has difficulty learning thus denying it s human origin and makeup to change the church requires a spin on history that demonstrates a development and continuity with the past instead of just saying we have been wrong the people of god the true church show signs of reclaiming religion through various dissident groups these groups do not yet recognize the intimate connection between morality and survival my hope is that this book will guide them toward that recognition

why is it important to rethink the church today many leaders focus on how their ministries can be run more efficiently but the foundational question according to james emery white should be why do we have this ministry and then why do we do this ministry the way we do is it effective rethinking the church helps pastors and lay leaders work through questions that must be answered if a church is to rethink evangelism discipleship ministry worship community and the structure of the church break old molds check assumptions and be sensitive says white he uses the language and aims of seeker targeted churches but urges readers not to tie themselves to any model without understanding the individual purpose of their church now thoroughly revised and expanded rethinking the church contains more emphasis and key material on how to move from rethinking to transition white blends biblical reflection and hands on experience and uses the early church as described in the book of acts as the ultimate example

if you feel caught between the traditional church and the emerging church read jim belcher he paints a picture of an alternate deep church a missional church committed to both tradition and contemporary culture valuing innovation in worship arts and community but also adhering to creeds and confessions

the question what does it mean to be the church has always been among the most controversial and of vital concern to political economic and

ecclesial leaders alike how it is answered influences whether christianity will be a force for legitimating or subverting existing secular relations of power influence and privilege the church as counterculture enters the debates on christian identity purpose and organization by calling for the churches to reclaim their roles as communities of disciples distinct and distinctive groups formed by the priorities and practices of jesus to constitute a countercultural reality and challenge to secular society and existing power relations the notion of the church as a countercultural community of disciples confounds many conventional divides within the christian family liberal and conservative church and sect while forcing redefinition of commonplace categories like religion and politics sacred and secular the contributors to this book theologians social theorists philosophers historians catholics and protestants of various backgrounds reflect this shifting of categories and divisions the book provides thought provoking christian perspectives on war and genocide racism and nationalism the legitimacy of liberalism and capitalism and more contributors include michael j baxter robert w brimlow walter brueggemann michael l budde curt cadorette rodney clapp roberto s goizueta stanley hauerwas marianne sawicki and michael warren

stephen long opens his erudite discussion of theology and ethics with the insistence that moral critique must emerge from a particular location rather than from the fluid values of any neutral observer long sets out to put theology and ethics as well as the church in proper relation to one another ethics must be based in theology not the other way around our finite participation in the infinite make possible participation in a goodness beyond us that goodness comes to us in the flesh of jesus christ and the church is indispensable in drawing all people toward god s goodness the church a social ethic in itself gives purpose and order to other social institutions including family government and the market the goodness of god such a simple phrase such a profound and maybe even disruptive concept if we dare explore its implications not only does steve long lead us skilfully and smoothly through potentially difficult matters of theology and philosophy he also brings home how our lives might be different if we really took the goodness of god to heart from matters of violence and economics to sexuality and family long takes his readers through a thicket of competing ideas and leads them out the other side into greater clarity of vision unity of purpose and passion for god s good kingdom seminaries and sunday schools alike will benefit from this scholarly but accessible volume michael budde depaul university d stephen long is assistant professor of theology at garrett evangelical theological seminary and codirector of the center for ethics and values he is the author of divine economy a volume in routledge s radical orthodoxy series

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