

The Church And Its Mission A Shattering Critique From The Third World

What Is the Mission of the Church?-Kevin DeYoung 2011-09-08 Social justice and mission are hot topics today: there's a wonderful resurgence of motivated Christians passionate about spreading the gospel and caring for the needs of others. But in our zeal to get sharing and serving, many are unclear on gospel and mission. Yes, we are called to spend ourselves for the sake of others, but what is the church's unique priority as it engages the world? DeYoung and Gilbert write to help Christians "articulate and live out their views on the mission of the church in ways that are theologically faithful, exegetically careful, and personally sustainable." Looking at the Bible's teaching on evangelism, social justice, and shalom, they explore the what, why, and how of the church's mission. From defining "mission", to examining key passages on social justice and their application, to setting our efforts in the context of God's rule, DeYoung and Gilbert bring a wise, studied perspective to the missional conversation. Readers in all spheres of ministry will grow in their understanding of the mission of the church and gain a renewed sense of urgency for Jesus' call to preach the Word and make disciples.

What Is the Mission of the Church?-Kevin DeYoung 2011 Describes how the church can build a theology of mission, examining the key concepts of kingdom, gospel, and social justice.

The Church and Its Mission-Orlando E. Costas 1974 The author answers a crying need for a fresh view of missiology -- a cogent, scholarly, pointed analysis of the stance of the Church today in

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relation to the execution of the Great Commission. Here is a piercing look at the varied and often conflicting missiological philosophies of the North Atlantic nations. Here is a balanced evaluation of the efforts of evangelicals and ecumenists to find a workable relationship to each other and to the non-Christian world. Here also is a warm Bible-based challenge to the whole Body of Christ and some practical suggestions for the future of world mission.

What People Ask about the Church-Dale A. Robbins 1995

The Mission of the Church-Craig Ott 2016-09-20 Leading Voices from across Christian Traditions

Discuss the Mission of the Church What is the mission of the church? Every seminarian and church leader must wrestle with that question. No matter what designation a church uses to describe itself, it must also think critically about why it exists and what it should be doing. In this book, five leading voices representing a range of Christian traditions engage in an enlightening conversation as they present and compare their perspectives on the mission of the church. Each contributor offers his or her view and responds to the other four views. Contributors include Stephen B. Bevans, Darrell L. Guder, Ruth Padilla DeBorst, Edward Rommen, and Ed Stetzer. The book's format is ideal for classroom use and will also benefit pastors and church leaders.

The Resistance-Zach Maddox 2015-06-13 We live in a world at war, an ongoing battle between light and darkness, good versus evil. Jesus came to destroy the works of the devil (1 John 3:8) and declared the gates of hell would not prevail against His advancing Kingdom (Matt. 16:18). The Church has been called to conflict. The purpose of the book is mobilizing the local church to the ends of the earth and advancing the Kingdom of God.

The Church on Mission-Craig Ott 2019-05-21 In this scripturally rich exploration, senior missiologist Craig Ott unpacks the mission statement of the church: to glorify God by multiplying

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transformational churches among all people. This concise yet robust biblical-theological treatment focuses on God's glory, a strong ecclesiology, the importance of Scripture, and practical implications for congregational and mission practice. Ideal for launching discussion and reflection, the book helps readers refocus their vision and reignite their commitment to fulfilling God's purposes for their church or mission.

Globalization and the Mission of the Church-Neil J. Ormerod 2011-10-27 Various social, political, economic and cultural commentators are presently arguing that human history is reaching a decisive stage in its development, a stage marked by increased interconnection between peoples, the compression of space and time, a sharing of ideas at unprecedented levels, global trade and finance, and so on. The shorthand word used to encompass these phenomena is "globalization". Some embrace it, others reject it, while still others dispute its existence. But with the abundance of literature and debate that it generates, the topic cannot be ignored. From its inception in the missionary mandate of Jesus (Matthew 28), Christianity has had a global dimension to its mission. Christianity is not a spectator to globalization but one of its agents, one of the forces at work which have extended interconnection between peoples, shared ideas and promoted social, political and cultural links. The purpose of the present work is not to provide a complete response to the question of the mission of the church in a globalizing world, but to establish a framework within which answers may be sought. Grounded in the writings of Bernard Lonergan and Robert Doran, it develops a theology of history and addresses the churches response to the impact of globalization on vital, social, cultural, personal and religious values. The project brings together the perspectives of Catholicism and Pentecostalism, the former providing a depth of wisdom and tradition, the latter drawing on the insight of a newly emerging movement that has taken root in every continent with

remarkable energy and enthusiasm.

Four Views on the Church's Mission-Zondervan, 2017-10-24 What is the Church's mission? What does it mean to participate in God's mission personally? How do "mission" and culture interact and conflict? This book articulates various evangelical views regarding the church's mission and provides a healthy, vigorous, and gracious debate on this controversial topic. In a helpful Counterpoints format, this volume demonstrates the unique theological frameworks, doctrinal convictions, and missiological conclusions that inform and distinguish the views: Soteriological Mission: Jonathan Leeman Participatory Mission: Christopher Wright Contextual Mission: John Franke Ecumenical-Political Mission: Peter Leithart Each contributor answers the same key questions based on their biblical interpretations and theological convictions: What is your biblical-theological framework for mission? How does your definition of mission inform your understanding of the church's mission? How does the Mission of God and Kingdom of God relate to the mission of the church? What is the gospel? How does your view on the gospel inform the mission of the church? How do verbal proclamation of the gospel, discipleship, corporate worship, caring for the poor, social justice, restoring shalom, developing culture, and international missions fit into the church's mission? The interactive format helps readers get a clearer picture of why different conclusions are drawn and provide a fresh starting point for discussion and debate of the church's mission. The Counterpoints series presents a comparison and critique of scholarly views on topics important to Christians that are both fair-minded and respectful of the biblical text. Each volume is a one-stop reference that allows readers to evaluate the different positions on a specific issue and form their own, educated opinion.

Theology and Practice of Mission-Bruce Riley Ashford 2011-09-01 Theology disconnected from

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mission is not Christian theology at all. The pastors, professors, and missionaries writing *Theology and Practice of Mission* provide a clear biblical-theological framework for understanding the church's mission to the nations. Toward that goal, the book holds three major sections: God's mission, the church's mission, and the church's mission to the nations. Part one explores the canon of Christian Scripture from narrative and systematic angles, explaining how the mission of God-to redeem a people who will be a kingdom of priests to the praise of his glory, bear witness to his gospel, advance his church, and dwell with him forever on a new heaven and earth-is communicated in the Bible's four movements: Creation, Fall, Redemption, and Restoration. Part two sees the mission of God's people in the light of God's mission, emphasizing not only preaching and church planting but also gospel witness in every dimension of human culture-glorifying God in family, church, work, community, through the arts, sciences, education, business, and the public square. The writers encourage us to live missionally, leaving all of our resources at God's disposal for the sake of his kingdom. Finally, part three contends that the North American church must come to terms with its missional calling-just as international missionaries do-and gives a starting point and parameters for conceiving the church's mission to all people groups and cultural contexts. Chapters here include ones on unreached people groups, Muslims, Hindus, Buddhists, and Postmoderns.

Christ Outside the Gate-Orlando E. Costas 2005-08-22 Solidly theological, amply historical, thoroughly ecumenical, and remarkably current, Orlando Costas' 'Christ Outside the Gate' is the most succinct, yet comprehensive analysis of the missiological issues facing the church and the churches that has appeared in many years." --Alan Neely, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest Learning and passion come together in *Christ Outside the Gate* to make it an outstanding contribution to missiology." --Gabriel Fackre, Abbot Professor of Christian Theology,

Andover Newton Theological School You have in your hands a new way of seeing missions--North America as a receiving country, the marginalized as the subject as well as object of missions, world evangelization with one foot in Melbourne and one foot in Pattaya. Few authors blend together so effectively so many worlds--evangelism and scholarship, northern hemisphere and southern hemisphere, sociology, and theology." --Harvie M. Conn, Westminster Theological Seminary, Philadelphia Costas may well be or is on his way to becoming the ablest missiologist alive." --Jorge Lara-Braud, Director, Council on Theology and Culture, Presbyterian Church in the U.S. Costas writes from the background of an Hispanic Evangelical, but goes far beyond the normal concerns of that tradition. In a series of far-ranging essays, he deals with virtually every aspect of the contemporary missiological debate in a manner that is usually balanced and always provocative. While some readers will violently question his views at certain points, all will be stimulated and challenged to think more deeply and participate more effectively in the total world mission to which God has called His Church." --Paul E. Pierson, Fuller Theological Seminary 'Christ Outside the Gate' offers us a perspective of missions that focuses on the transition from paternalism to the contextualization of the Gospel." --Oscar I. Romo, Director, Language Missions Division, Southern Baptist Convention Costas writes from the viewpoint of those who live on the periphery of society. He challenges Christians of all denominations to a renewed understanding of the Christ who 'suffered outside the gates.'" --John T. Boberg, Catholic Theological Union, Chicago Orlando E. Costas is also the author of 'Liberating News', 'The Integrity of Mission', and 'The Church and Its Mission'.

The Church and Its Vocation-Michael W. Goheen 2018-11-06 Lesslie Newbigin, one of the twentieth century's most important church leaders, offered insights on the church in a pluralistic world that

are arguably more relevant now than when first written. This volume presents his ecclesiology to a new generation. Michael Goheen clearly articulates Newbigin's missionary understanding of the church and places it in the context of Newbigin's core theological convictions. Suitable for students as well as church leaders, this book offers readers a better understanding of the mission of the church in the world today. Foreword by N. T. Wright.

The Church in India-F. Hrangkhuma 1996 The Book Examines The Context, The Church And The Challenges To Mission In 21St Century In India. Condition Good.

Sailboat Church-Joan S. Gray 2014 Is your church a rowboat church or a sailboat church? Rowboat churches depend largely on human effort. In a time of often shrinking budgets and membership, rowboat churches frantically row harder against a current, often frustrated and disappointed at their efforts. Sailboat churches, on the other hand, take up the oars, hoist sails, and rely on the Holy Spirit to guide them. Arguing that churches should be "sailboats," author Joan S. Gray encourages readers to shift concern from the many daily, practical concerns of their local church to consider how new directions might be found by allowing the Holy Spirit to provide fresh ideas. The book includes four days of sailing prayers, quotes from Scripture, brief reflection questions, and an extensive bibliography that is arranged by theme. Perfect for groups to read together, this book will help leaders reframe their church's mission and practice with the Holy Spirit as their guide.

The Church Jesus Built-United Church of God 2014-02-03 Jesus Christ said that He would build His Church and that it would never die out. Is today's Christianity, with its hundreds of denominations with widely differing beliefs and practices, the Church Jesus promised that He would build? -- Inside this Bible study aid booklet: -- A People Special to God -- The Historical Background of the Term Church -- 'Church' and 'Congregation' in the Scriptures -- A Spiritually Transformed People -- The

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Apostles: A Case Study in Conversion -- The Responsibility and Mission of the Church -- What is the True Gospel? -- Is Today the Only Day of Salvation? -- The Rise of a Counterfeit Christianity -- Changes in Christian Scholars' Perspective on God's Law -- Early Trends That Affected the Future of the Church -- The Church of God Today -- What Did the Early Church Believe and Practice? -- The Church as the Bride of Christ

The Challenge of Islam to the Church and Its Mission-Patrick Sookhdeo 2008 "The growing impact of Islam on Western societies raises many issues which pose an urgent challenge, directly or indirectly, to the Church. In this book, Dr. Sookhdeo tackles this challenge, covering areas such as a theological understanding of Islam, the impact of Islam on Western society and education, Christian-Muslim relations, comparing Islam with Christianity, building friendships, dialogue, reconciliation and mission, as well as practical and pastoral issues relating to Islam. This book is essential reading for Christians in the West as they seek to think through these issues and respond to the challenge in a way which is wise, loving, biblical, effective and Christ-like"--Jacket.

Missional Church-Daniel L. Guder 1998-02-09 What would a theology of the Church look like that took seriously the fact that North America is now itself a mission field? This question lies at the foundation of this volume written by an ecumenical team of six noted missiologists—Lois Barrett, Inagrace T. Dietterich, Darrell L. Guder, George R. Hunsberger, Alan J. Roxburgh, and Craig Van Gelder. The result of a three-year research project undertaken by The Gospel and Our Culture Network, this book issues a firm challenge for the church to recover its missional call right here in North America, while also offering the tools to help it do so. The authors examine North America's secular culture and the church's loss of dominance in today's society. They then present a biblically based theology that takes seriously the church's missional vocation and draw out the consequences

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of this theology for the structure and institutions of the church.

Paul's Understanding of the Church's Mission-Robert L. Plummer 2006 This book engages in a careful study of Paul's letters to determine if the apostle expected the communities to which he wrote to engage in missionary activity. It helpfully summarizes the discussion on this debated issue, judiciously handling contested texts and provides a way forward in addressing this critical question. While admitting that Paul rarely explicitly commands the communities he founded to evangelize, Plummer amasses significant incidental data to provide a convincing case that Paul did indeed expect his churches to engage in mission activity. Throughout the study, Plummer progressively builds a theological basis for the church's mission that is both distinctively Pauline and compelling. But What Is the Church For?-Neil Darragh 2021-11-19 What is the church really for? Some people are members of the church because it's part of their family tradition or their culture or their identity. Others have left the church because that's all it is in fact. Is it the best way to salvation or a way of coming closer to God? In any case, the church is not just for us or the benefits we get out of it. Very few of us would say that this is what the church is really for. There is surely something more here, something more generous, life-giving, outgoing, and gracious than what we personally get out of it. This book is about the church's outreach beyond itself—its purpose beyond any benefits for those already its members. This book is not about a church looking inwards and worrying about itself, but about a church looking outwards. The local Christian community that we belong to is part of that much bigger, much more exhilarating project of the evolving realm of God.

The Church Mission Society-Brian Stanley 2019-07-12 The Church Missionary Society (now renamed the Church Mission Society) has been for most of its 200-year history the largest and most influential of the British Protestant missionary agencies. Its bicentenary in 1999 is being marked by the

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publication of this collection of historical and theological essays by an international team of scholars, including Lamin Sanneh, Kenneth Cragg, and Geoffrey A. Oddie. The volume contains re-assessments of the classic centenary history of the CMS by Eugene Stock and of the strategic vision of Henry Venn, one of the two architects of the Three-Self theory of the indigenous church. There are chapters on the close links between the CMS and the Basel Mission, women missionaries, and regional studies of Samuel Crowther and the Niger mission, Iran, the Middle East, New Zealand, India, and Kikuyu Christianity. The volume makes a major contribution to the growing body of literature on the indigenization of missionary traditions, and will be of interest to historians of the missionary movement and non-western Christianity, as well as theologians concerned with religious pluralism, dialogue, and Christian mission.

A Theology of the Church and Its Mission-Melvin L. Hodges 1977

How to do Mission Action Planning-Mike Chew 2016-06-16 How to Do Mission Action Planning (SPCK, 2009) was the first book to appear on the MAP process, at a time when it was beginning to have a significant impact. In this fully revised and expanded edition, the authors offer further critical evaluation and theological reflection, by drawing on the experiences of people who have been using the MAP process in different contexts from their own: Fr Damian Feeney, parish priest and Catholic Missioner of Lichfield diocese Canon David Banbury, leader of Parish Mission Support, Blackburn diocese The Rt Revd Dr Alan Smith, Bishop of St Albans Dr Stephen Hance, Canon Missioner of Southwark diocese Linda Rayner, the United Reformed Church co-ordinator for Fresh Expressions 'This is a rare book - a refreshing meditation on planning for mission - and one that is rooted in spirituality. As the authors show, the church and its mission arise from our vision of God. And once that vision has been realised, churches are able to become more intentional about their mission. Our

vocation to share God's love is not an option or an afterthought. It is the heart and soul of our faith. Mission - and our planning of it - should not fill us with fear or foreboding. Rather, as the authors argue, the call to share God's love can be evermore meaningful, even as mission becomes more methodical.' The Very Revd Prof. Martyn Percy, Dean of Christ Church, Oxford 'This is a must-read for anyone using MAP. The rich theological reflection, the detailed unpacking of the 4 MAP phases and the learning offered by the 5 guest practitioners add up to an impressive offering. This book enables good questions to be asked, overflows with wise reflection and contains oodles of practical examples, ideas and resources. I commend it to all local church leaders who are seeking to discern how best to translate the prayer 'your kingdom come' into appropriate church and congregational action.' John Dunnett, General Director, CPAS 'This timely revision is honest, well researched and carefully put together - an important contribution to the necessary change of culture required in today's Church.' Julian Henderson, Bishop of Blackburn

The Church and Its Mission in the New Testament and Early Christianity-David Edward Aune
2018-06 The present volume consists of fifteen essays by colleagues and friends of the late Professor Hans Kvalbein focusing on various aspects of the theme of the church and mission in the New Testament and early Christianity. It also includes a survey of Hans Kvalbein's academic career and scholarship as well as a bibliography of his books and articles. Among the contributions are several related to the question of mission in Acts, while others focus on various texts and topics in the gospels, in Paul, in 1 Peter and Revelation. Some of these interact with Kvalbein's views on aspects of the mission of the early church, such as the understanding of mission in Matthew and the proclamation of the Kingdom of God. Contributors: Jostein Adna, David E. Aune, Ernst Baasland, Johannes Beutler SJ, Peder Borgen, Reinhard Feldmeier, Volker Gackle, Klaus Haacker, Reidar

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Hvalvik, Halvor Moxnes, Rainer Riesner, Karl Olav Sandnes, Torrey Seland, Oskar Skarsaune, Christoph Stenschke

Seven Practices for the Church on Mission-David E. Fitch 2018-03-06 Jesus gave his followers seven key practices. When we practice these disciplines, God becomes faithfully present to us, and we in turn become God's faithful presence to the world. Pastor and professor David Fitch shows how these seven practices can revolutionize the church's presence in our neighborhoods, transform our way of life in the world, and advance the kingdom.

The Church and the Slums-Alastair Wilcox 2014-05-02 Organised religion played such a central part in Victorian life that it is impossible to understand this era without some reference to it. Yet the question, which worried the Victorians, still remains, how religious was the mass of Victorian society? Recent scholarship has challenged the orthodoxy that the working classes, and the working classes of large urban centres in particular, were irreligious. Yet Liverpool, with its large migratory population, including Roman Catholics from Ireland and Nonconformists from Wales and Scotland, appeared to offer unpromising ground for the Anglican Church to sow its seed. Within the city, Liverpool's notorious slums seemed to offer the most barren ground of all. What strategies did the Anglican clergy employ to make their churches work at a grassroots level? How could they overcome the problems they faced, which ranged from the hostility of the local community to severe financial constraints? How helpful was the advice dispensed by Church handbooks in dealing with these challenges? More important, is it now possible to estimate the success in gaining not only worshippers, but a wider penumbra of working class adherents to church-based activities? Some of Liverpool's more aristocratic churches were overwhelmed by the encroaching city slums, and the reaction of at least one clergyman was to retreat within his vicarage, and 'shut up shop'. However,

other clergy set about energetically working the slums. Largely Oxbridge men, with a very different background in social and educational terms to their flock, they made surprising progress. By drawing upon a variety of local sources, including many hitherto unused, this book contends that it is possible to evaluate the success of the Anglican Church in the slums. The Church had successes not only to be judged solely by the number of working class worshippers, but also by the uses the local community made of rites of passage, philanthropic activities and the clubs and societies offered by the Anglican Church in Liverpool. This book is aimed at readers interested in researching family and local history as well as those following wider national trends in religious history.

Kingdom Conspiracy-Scot McKnight 2014-10-14 An Award-Winning Challenge to Popular Ideas of the Kingdom According to Scot McKnight, "kingdom" is the biblical term most misused by Christians today. It has taken on meanings that are completely at odds with what the Bible says and has become a buzzword for both social justice and redemption. In Kingdom Conspiracy, McKnight offers a sizzling biblical corrective and a fiercely radical vision for the role of the local church in the kingdom of God. Now in paper. Praise for Kingdom Conspiracy 2015 Outreach Resources of the Year Award Winner One of Leadership Journal's Best Books for Church Leaders in 2014 "This is a must-read for church leaders today."--Publishers Weekly "A timely resource for the missional church to reexamine some basic assumptions that impact church practice in the everyday."--Outreach Earthly Mission-Robert Calderisi 2013-10-08 A lively investigation of the Catholic Church and its controversial social mission in the developing world

The Nature and Mission of the Church-World Council of Churches 2005 What is the church, and what is it for? For all the remarkable advances in understanding and cooperation among the churches, such questions remain at the heart of the ecumenical movement today. And they are

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central to the work of Faith and Order, as perhaps the most inclusive and diverse church-based theological forum in the world. Building on the churches' and other reactions to earlier ecumenical work -- this Faith and Order study document is a substantial, new text offered for discussion and response. Reflecting what the churches can say together about the nature of the church; identifying honestly the issues which still divide the churches; offering a framework for the churches in their common confession, life and witness -- this book will be an important resource for all who care about the nature and mission of the church today.

The Church in History-John E. Booty 2003-01-03 This unique approach to understanding the history of the Anglican and Episcopal Churches was originally part of the 1979 Church's Teaching Series. Rather than writing a simple chronological history of the Church, John Booty, one of the premier experts in church history, explores the subject thematically. Booty addresses four major areas: ? the Church and its essential nature ? how a weak and faltering Church can be renewed and reformed ? how Christ, culture, church, and state relate to one another ? the Church's historical and current understanding of its mission Throughout, Booty concentrates not only on the history itself, but how that history relates to today's Church. Excellent for course work, or for lay study. John Booty taught Church History at Virginia Seminary and the Episcopal Theological School. He was also professor of Anglican Studies at The University of the South, where he served as Dean of the School of Theology. He currently resides in Center Sandwich, New Hampshire.

Mission from the Margins-David A. Shank 2019-05-14 David A. Shank has been reflecting on the mission of the church from an Anabaptist perspective for more than half a century. His writings represent among the best biblical, theological, and missiological study on the matter, shaped by two primary contexts—Europe and Africa—where his ministry took place. This collection will be of

particular interest to global church leaders wanting to know more about how to contextualize the gospel message; to mission and church historians interested in examining how missiological thought and practice evolves over time; and to pastors, students, and mission workers seeking insights from a wise elder as they serve the church through its mission efforts in the twenty-first century.

Mission after Pentecost (Mission in Global Community)-Amos Yong 2019-10-15 Bringing Pentecostal theology into the Bible and mission conversation, Amos Yong identifies the role of the divine spirit in God's mission to redeem the world. As he works through the Bible from Genesis to Revelation, Yong emphasizes the global missiological imperative: "People of all nations reaching out to people of all nations." Sidebars include voices from around the globe who help the author put the biblical text into conversation with twenty-first-century questions, offering the church a fresh understanding of its mission and how to pursue it in the decades to come.

Worship, Mission, and the Church Year-Nicholas W. Monsma 2019-02-07 How many ways can your church's worship equip the congregation for its mission? Worship changes through the seasons, from Christmas, through Lent and Easter, and beyond. The way worship relates to your church's mission should change, too. This book explores those seasonal changes by examining both worship and mission as aspects of union with Christ. Just as we are to follow Christ through the various stages of his life and work in worship during the church year, we can follow him in our mission through these same stages of his life and work.

Sacrificing the Church-Eugene R. Schlesinger 2019-09-15 This book articulates an ecclesiology in which the sacrifice of Christ forms the church's innermost reality, focusing on three areas of importance: the worship of God, the mission of the church, and the church's striving for unity of all people.

Paradigms of the Church in Mission-Augusto Rodriguez 2012-02-01 In this book Augusto Rodriguez provides a historical survey of the different paradigms of Christianity in order to understand how and why the church has changed her concept of being the church and of mission. This book will help in understanding how the different paradigms of Christianity, throughout history, have changed the church's self-understanding of being the church and of mission. Rodriguez's aim is to provide an opportunity for Christians to see the different paradigms the church has gone through and understand the present situation of the church in order to live out as fully as possible the New Testament understanding of its mission and better accomplish the task.

Jesus His Church And Its Mission-David L Tice 2020-04-05 I love God's Church. I grew up in Church. The earliest memories that I have are of events at church. I was saved at an early age and throughout my life I heard people say that they attended a New Testament Church. As I got older, I would wonder, "What does that mean? Aren't ALL Churches New Testament Churches since the Church did not exist before Jesus' death and resurrection?" In the Old Testament God showed Moses exactly what the Tabernacle and all of its parts was supposed to look like. Then God told Moses, "... see to it that you make them according to the pattern..." (Exodus 25:40). The clarity and specificity of the Old Testament pattern caused me to cry out to God, "Where is Your pattern for the New Testament Church?" When the New Testament Churches were founded the functioning of the Church was unprecedented; no one knew what it was supposed to be like or how it was supposed to operate. As I realized Jesus called for a completely new design, I turned to Jesus' words for more guidance. If you have a desire to find out what Jesus had to say about His Church and what it was going to be like, open this book. You have an exciting journey ahead of you. This book can be used: - By individuals in their personal quest for more of God. - In a small group (new believers, new

members, discipleship classes, etc.) Bible study. -As a guideline for leaders to help them inspire the Church to be all that God designed and purposed them to be.

The Notion of Mission in Karl Barth's Ecclesiology-Wessel Bentley 2009-12-14 As the church moves towards its 21st century of existence, it is confronted by challenges it has never known before. Globalization, the rise of different socio-political orders and a growing tendency towards a post-modern understanding of the world are but some of the issues. This changing world demands self-reflection from the church. It has to consider its place, identity and function, thereby giving rise to the exploration of its mission. In this book, the ecclesiology of Karl Barth is explored. By considering Barth's understanding of the church's relationship with different parties such as God, other religions, those outside the Christian faith, the State and its own inner dynamics, the church will be reminded of its missionary function in the world. The church's relationships are important for they direct the way in which it fits into the world. When it considers that it exists purely because of God's self-revelation, and that its own existence is an act of faith in response to this divine self-disclosure, it becomes aware of defined parameters within which the church can operate under the banner of mission.

Paul and the Mission of the Church-James P. Ware 2011-07-01 Did Paul urge Christians to engage in mission? What would that have meant in his setting? What should the church be doing now? This essential study examines Paul's letter to the Philippians in its ancient Jewish context, making a convincing case that Paul expected churches to continue the work of spreading the gospel.

Published in hardcover by Brill, it is now available as an affordable paperback.

The Laity as Participants in the Mission of the Church-Humphrey C. Anameje 2017-06-05 The church is made up of both the clergy and the laity. And for it to properly fulfill the mission for which it was

instituted by Christ, all its members, each according to his or her God-given gift, must contribute both to the upbuilding of the church and to its mission. On the part of the laity, their active participation in the general mission of the church ad intra and ad extra has been a great challenge in the life and practice of the church throughout its history. The Second Vatican Council, in its spirit of aggiornamento, makes some positive difference. This work critically examines the conciliar documents, some relevant postconciliar documents, and theological reflection of some theologians. And finally, it proffers solutions that will enhance the active participation of the laity in the mission of the church in general and the church in Southeast Nigeria in particular.

Endangered Gospel-John C. Nugent 2016-06-16 For centuries, Christians sought to rescue people from this world. Today, we're trying to fix it. While this shift is helpful in some ways, in other ways it can be quite dangerous. Endangered Gospel flips the script on this conversation by stressing the core gospel truth that rather than ushering in a new world through social activism, God's people already are the new world in Christ. It's not our job to make this world a better place, but to be the better place God has already made in this world. That's good news! If we let go of this truth, we become servants of the world and not God. We also lose the great joy and abundant life that God intended us to have in community. Jesus himself said that the world will know we are Christians by our love for one another--not the fervor of our activism. Social action makes us feel relevant and alive, but it can't be the center of our new life in Christ. Endangered Gospel explores how we might enthusiastically embrace the social dimensions of the gospel without divorcing them from the church or forcing them on the world. Read this book, hear the gospel story afresh, and embrace the good news of God's kingdom!

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Engaging Globalization (Mission in Global Community)-Bryant L. Myers 2017-06-20 Globalization is speeding up our world, extending our relationships globally and bringing us closer together in positive and not-so-positive ways. The church and many Christians, however, remain largely unaware of its seductive power, resulting in a failure of vision for mission in today's world. This up-to-date resource by a veteran leader in global development work with World Vision orients readers to the history of globalization and to a Christian theological perspective on it, explores concrete realities by focusing on global poverty, and helps readers reimagine Christian mission in ways that announce the truly good news of Christ and God's kingdom. Diagrams and sidebars that incorporate the voices of global partners are included. This is the second book in a new series that reframes missiological themes and studies for students using/featuring the common theme of mission as partnership with Christians.

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