

## Evangelism In The Early Church Michael Green

**David Servant has been ministering to Christian leaders in conferences around the world for over three decades. From his experience of speaking to tens of thousands of pastors in over forty countries, he has compiled biblical teaching in this book that addresses the most important issues that Christian leaders are facing today. Servant covers topics such as church growth, spiritual warfare, divorce and remarriage, biblical interpretation, house churches, women in ministry, church government, spiritual gifts, evangelism and many more. He often questions the prevailing opinion, always considering what Scripture says. His conclusions may sometimes surprise you. Servant's foundational condition is that every Christian leader should be making disciples who obey all of Christ's commandments. Translated into many languages, The Disciple-Making Minister is helping Christian leader around the world be more effective in fulfilling the Great Commission.**

**Why is the church a mile wide but only an inch deep? The remedy lies in translating wisdom from the past into the future.**

**Renew your evangelistic vision with this fully revised edition of Michael Green's comprehensive evaluation of evangelism in the early church. He concentrates mainly on the New Testament period but also provides a topical treatment of evangelism up until t**

**This is a print on demand book and is therefore non- returnable. Prompting readers to reacquaint themselves with forgotten aspects of Christian tradition, this collection of essays points out the importance of remembering the enduring truths of the faith. Robert Wilken touches on a host of topics that are still pertinent today: the role of commitment in the study of religion, religious pluralism, Christian apologetics, the biblical roots of the doctrine of the Trinity, the spiritual interpretation of the Bible, the importance of examples for living a virtuous life, and the place of the passions in our relation to God.**

**How to Make the Unbelievable News about Jesus More Believable**

**Evangelicals and Tradition**

**Mission in the Early Church**

**The Gospel of the Lord**

**Luke's Account of God's Unfolding Plan**

**Jesus Is Risen**

**Themes and Reflections**

*A Trusted Introduction to the Church Fathers This concise introduction to the church fathers connects evangelical students and readers to twelve key figures from the early church. Bryan Litfin engages readers with actual people, not just abstract doctrines or impersonal events, to help them understand the fathers as spiritual ancestors in the faith. The first edition has been well received and widely used. This updated and revised edition adds chapters on Ephrem of Syria and Patrick of Ireland. The book requires no previous knowledge of the patristic period and includes original, easy-to-read translations that give a brief taste of each writer's thought.*

*Evangelism doesn't have to be frustrating or intimidating. Bill Hybels and Mark Mittelberg believe that effectively communicating our faith in Christ should be the most natural thing in the world. We just need encouragement and direction. In Becoming a Contagious Christian, Hybels and Mittelberg articulate the central principles that have helped the believers at Willow Creek Community Church become a church known around the world for its outstanding outreach to unchurched people. Based on the words of Jesus and flowing from the firsthand experiences of the authors, Becoming a Contagious Christian is a groundbreaking, personalized approach to relational evangelism. You will discover your own natural evangelism style, how to develop a contagious Christian character, to build spiritually strategic relationships, to direct conversations toward matters of faith, and to share biblical truths in everyday language. This landmark book presents a blueprint for starting a spiritual epidemic of hope and enthusiasm for spreading the Gospel.*

*Green opens up the gripping story of the Book of Acts, highlighting the astonishing, volcanic eruption of faith found there and comparing it to the often halfhearted Christianity of the modern Western world.*

*Balanced, comprehensive survey of the critical questions involved in studying the four Gospels In this book, through a distinctive evangelical and critical approach, Michael Bird explores the historical development of the four canonical Gospels. He shows how the memories and faith of the earliest believers formed the Gospel accounts of Jesus that got written and, in turn, how these accounts further shaped the early church. Bird's study clarifies the often confusing debates over the origins of the canonical Gospels. Bird navigates recent concerns and research as he builds an informed case for how the early Christ followers wrote and spread the story of Jesus -- the story by which they believed they were called to live. The Gospel of the Lord is ideal for students or anyone who wants to know the story behind the four Gospels. Watch an interview with Michael Bird from our Eerdmans Author Interview Series:*

*Becoming a Contagious Christian*

*How the Early Church Wrote the Story of Jesus*

*Did the Apostle Paul Expect the Early Christian Communities to Evangelize?*

*The Formation of the Early Church*

*The Bible in the Early Church*

*The Disciple Making Minister*

*An Evangelical Introduction*

**Mark Husbands and Jeffrey P. Greenman bring together select essays from the 2007 Wheaton Theology Conference, *Ancient Faith for the Church's Future* demonstrates the vitality and significance of the early church for contemporary Christian witness and practice. These fourteen essays provide for a significant evangelical ressourcement by considering the importance of the thought and practice of the patristic church especially for our (1) interpreting Scripture, (2) engaging in missional witness through hospitality, social justice and evangelism, (3) renewing our worship and prayer, (4) grasping afresh our salvation through Jesus Christ, and (5) authentically engaging our surrounding culture. Fresh and forward-looking, this book leads the way toward a deeply rooted church that points beyond contemporary evangelical accommodation to civil religion, privatism and enlightenment methodologies toward its true vocation to bear vital witness to God's present and coming kingdom. Contributors include Christopher A. Hall Brian E. Daley, S.J. D. H. Williams Michael Graves Peter J. Leithart Nicholas Perrin Christine Pohl George Kalantzis Alan Kreider John Witvliet Paul I. Kim D. Stephen Long Jason Byassee**

***Acts is the sequel to Luke's gospel and tells the story of Jesus's followers during the 30 years after his death. It describes how the 12 apostles, formerly Jesus's disciples, spread the message of Christianity throughout the Mediterranean against a background of persecution. With an introduction by P.D. James***

***A New York Times Notable Book, winner of the Jerwood Award from the Royal Society of Literature, a New York Times Book Review Editors' Choice, and named a Book of the Year by the Telegraph, Spectator, Observer, and BBC History Magazine, this bold new history of the rise of Christianity shows how its radical followers helped to annihilate Greek and Roman civilizations. *The Darkening Age* is the largely unknown story of how a militant religion deliberately attacked and suppressed the teachings of the Classical world, ushering in centuries of unquestioning adherence to "one true faith." Despite the long-held notion that the early Christians were meek and mild, going to their martyrs' deaths singing hymns of love and praise, the truth, as Catherine Nixey reveals, is very different. Far from being meek and mild, they were violent, ruthless, and fundamentally intolerant. Unlike the polytheistic world, in which the addition of one new religion made no fundamental difference to the old ones, this new ideology stated not only that it was the way, the truth, and the light but that, by extension, every single other way was wrong and had to be destroyed. From the first century to the sixth, those who didn't fall into step with its beliefs were pursued in every possible way: social, legal, financial, and physical. Their altars were upturned and their temples demolished, their statues hacked to pieces, and their priests killed. It was an annihilation. Authoritative, vividly written, and utterly compelling, this is a remarkable debut from a brilliant young historian.***

***A concise history of the Bible: its creation, use, and interpretation What is the Bible? To answer this question we must understand the Bible's origins in the early church. In this book, celebrated church historian Justo González introduces the reader to some important features of the earliest Bibles--for instance, the Bible's original languages, its division into chapters and verses, and even its physical appearance in its first forms. González also explores the use of the Bible in the early church (such as in worship or in private reading) and the interpretation of the Bible throughout the ensuing centuries, giving readers a holistic sense of the Bible's emergence as the keystone of Christian life, from its beginnings to present times.***

***The Darkening Age***

***Catechetical Evangelism in the Early Church and Its Recovery for Today***

***Gospel Witness Through the Ages: A History of Evangelism***

***Evangelism in a Skeptical World***

***Word Pictures in the New Testament - Titus***

***From Jesus to Christ***

***How to Share Jesus with Passion and Confidence***

"Magisterial. . . . A learned, brilliant and enjoyable study."—Géza Vermès, *Times Literary Supplement* In this exciting book, Paula Fredriksen explains the variety of New Testament images of Jesus by exploring the ways that the new Christian communities interpreted his mission and message in light of the delay of the Kingdom he had preached. This edition includes an introduction reviews the most recent scholarship on Jesus and its implications for both history and theology. "Brilliant and lucidly written, full of original and fascinating insights."—Reginald H. Fuller, *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* "This is a first-rate work of a first-rate historian."—James D. Tabor, *Journal of Religion* "Fredriksen confronts her documents—principally the writings of the New Testament—as an archaeologist would an especially rich complex site. With great care she distinguishes the literary images from historical fact. As she does so, she explains the images of Jesus in terms of the strategies and purposes of the writers Paul, Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John."—Thomas D ' Evelyn, *Christian Science Monitor*

For the Church Fathers, friendship was at the heart of the Gospel. It was the way to salvation and the most effective means of evangelization. God had taken flesh in order to befriend mankind. Jesus had called his Apostles friends. The first Christians, in turn, spread salvation through friendships of their own. Evangelizing the world was done through one friend bringing another into the Church—where both could be friends with God. Friendship and the Fathers brings together, for the first time, the Fathers '

doctrine and stories of friendship—mostly in their own words. You ' ll meet many giants of the early Church, including Minucius Felix, and walk with him as he brings a pagan friend to faith. Basil and Gregory, best friends from school whose friendship was shattered and then restored. Ambrose, who encouraged his clergy to cultivate strong friendships. Augustine, whose grief for a lost friend led him to profound insights—and whose friendship with St. Jerome was fraught with emotional baggage. Rabanus Maurus, the great biblical commentator and writer of hymns, whose counsels on friendship have never before appeared in English. How did Christian missions happen in the early church from AD 100 to 750? Beginning with a brief look at the social, political, cultural, and religious contexts, *Mission in the Early Church* tells the story of early Christian missionaries, their methods, and their missiology. This book explores some of the most prominent themes of mission in early Christianity, including suffering, evangelism, Bible translation, contextualization, ministry in Word and deed, and the church. Based on this survey, modern readers are invited to a conversation that considers how early Christian mission might inform global mission thought and practice today. In the winter of 1996, Steve Forbes--publisher, heir, and presidential candidate--captured the American imagination with his proposal for a flat tax. But while Mr. Forbes claimed that such a tax would level the economic playing field by eliminating countless loopholes and miles of red tape, his actual proposal betrayed such claims to fairness by overtaxing workers and undertaxing financial capital. In the face of recent proposals for dramatic and far-reaching tax reform, *Taxing America* takes a critical look at the way the federal government collects its revenue and exposes the bias at the heart of a system which claims to be objective and fair. Contrary to traditional tax scholarship, these writers argue that an awareness of disability discrimination, economic exploitation, heterosexism, sexism and racism is crucial to any analysis of tax policy. Gathering together essays whose topics range from federal housing policy to environmental clean-up costs to tax treaty policy making, Karen B. Brown and Mary Louise Fellows present a philosophy that is as simple as it is radical: economic arrangements contribute significantly to the creation of social hierarchies and the perpetuation of discrimination. Given this reality, Brown and Fellows maintain that the goal of the federal tax law should be social justice and the disruption of discriminatory and exploitative practices.

Life and Practice in the Early Church

Evangelism Is--

Ancient Faith for the Church's Future

Cold-Case Christianity

The Improbable Rise of Christianity in the Roman Empire

Ancient-Future Evangelism

The Importance of Peter in Early Christianity

***A comprehensive evaluation and reappraisal of the main aspects of evangelism in the early church - concentrating on the New Testament period.***

***This book has been considered by academicians and scholars of great significance and value to literature. This forms a part of the knowledge base for future generations. We have represented this book in the same form as it was first published. Hence any marks seen are left intentionally to preserve its true nature.***

***The Study of Evangelism collects thirty groundbreaking essays on the practice of evangelism into a single volume in order to enhance serious theological and contextual engagement with this aspect of the church's mission in the world. The book lays a solid, scholarly foundation for future discourse, speaking to all who practice and study evangelism from many different Christian perspectives. By offering these thoughtful essays, Paul W. Chilcote and Lacey C. Warner aim to encourage reflective and open dialogue about the practice of evangelism within the community of faith. Contributors: William J. Abraham, Mortimer Arias, David J. Bosch, Carl E. Braaten, Walter Brueggemann, Paul W. Chilcote, Orlando E. Costas, Darrell L. Guder, Stanley Hauerwas, George Hunsberger, Bill J. Leonard, Walter L. Liefeld, Samuel Palma Manriquez, Jesse N. K. Mugambi, Lesslie Newbigin, Mercy Amba Oduyoye, Jerry Persha, Stephen K. Pickard, Dana L. Robert, Letty M. Russell, Ronald J. Sider, John Stott, J. Patrick Vaughn, Alexander Veronis, John H. Westerhoff, Hwa Yung.***

***This fascinating new book by Paul Barnett, an expert in the New Testament, traces Peter's life chronologically from his beginnings in Bethsaida to his martyrdom in Rome c. 64. It demonstrates the importance of the apostle Peter to earliest Christianity and to our own day through the biblical narratives and his letters. The record of his leadership between the resurrection of Jesus and Peter's own death secured the vocation Jesus commissioned him to have as the 'rock'. From failure to success, from denying Jesus to leading his Church in Jerusalem and beyond, Peter's is a remarkable and inspiring narrative; his contribution to early Christianity was unique and irreplaceable. Paul Barnett is not only a sure guide to the subject, but a pastorally sensitive writer and communicator.***

***Paul and the Early Church***

***Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God***

***Evangelism Through the Local Church***

***Making Your Church a Faith-Forming Community***

***Thirty Years That Changed the World***

***The Formative Influence of the Early Church***

***The Christian Destruction of the Classical World***

Written by an L. A. County homicide detective and former atheist, *Cold-Case Christianity* examines the claims of the Testament using the skills and strategies of a hard-to-convince criminal investigator. Christianity could be defined a "cold case": it makes a claim about an event from the distant past for which there is little forensic evidence. In *Cold-Case Christianity*, J. Warner Wallace uses his nationally recognized skills as a homicide detective to look at the evidence and eyewitnesses behind Christian beliefs. Including gripping stories from his career and the visual techniques he developed in the courtroom, Wallace uses illustration to examine the powerful evidence that validates the claims of Christianity. A unique apologetic that speaks to readers' intense interest in detective stories, *Cold-Case Christianity* inspires readers to have confidence in Christ as it prepares them to articulate the case for Christianity.

In the name of the Father, the Son, and ... the Holy Spirit. We pray in the name of all three, but how often do we live with awareness of only the first two? As Jesus ascended into heaven, He promised to send the Holy Spirit—the Helper—

could be true and living witnesses for Christ. Unfortunately, today's church has admired the gift but neglected to use it. Breakthrough author Francis Chan rips away paper and bows to get at the true source of the church's power—the Holy Spirit. Chan contends that we've ignored the Spirit for far too long, and we are reaping the disastrous results. Through a powerful support and compelling narrative from Chan's invitation to stop and remember the One we've forgotten, the Spirit of the living God.

Bringing to a new generation a resource that has been used in theology & church history courses for more than 30 years, this volume features translations of the most important primary documents, introductions to the context of each text & supplementary materials.

Essays presented are adapted papers read at the 7th Nordic New Testament Conference in Stavanger, Norway, June 2003.

The Patient Ferment of the Early Church

Persecution in the Early Church

Apostolic Exhortation Evangelii Nuntiandi, December 8, 1975

Friendship and the Fathers: How the Early Church Evangelized

A Homicide Detective Investigates the Claims of the Gospels

The Christological Controversy

Exploring a Missional Practice of the Church

**Did Paul expect his churches to engage in evangelistic activity which mirrored his own? Or have modern readers of the Bible wrongly projected Paul's apostolic passion upon the communities that he founded? Such is the charge of several recent authors, and if their thesis is correct nothing could have larger implications for how the modern church engages in mission. In this book, Robert L. Plummer engages in a careful study of Paul's letters to determine if the apostle expected the communities to which he wrote to engage in outward-directed missionary activity. Plummer helpfully summarizes the discussion to date on the debated issue, judiciously handles 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 outward-directed missionary activity. Throughout the study, Plummer progressively builds a theological basis for the church's mission that is both compelling and distinctively Pauline.**

**Provides a comprehensive look at the ways the first Christians -- from the New Testament period up until the middle of the third century -- worked to spread the good news to the rest of the world. This book will both show contemporary readers what can be learned from the past and help renew their own evangelistic vision.**

**If God is in control of everything, can Christians sit back and not bother to evangelize? Or does active evangelism imply that God is not really sovereign at all? J. I. Packer shows in this classic study how both of these attitudes are false.**

**Michael Green draws from a lifetime's experience in this seminal work on the theory and practice of evangelism. The best means of communicating effectively the good news of Christ is through the local church, he contends. He seeks here to stimulate vision and remove the hang-ups which so often accompany the very mention of evangelism. "Here is down-to-earth, tested wisdom, set forth with mature expertise and British brilliance, on the strategically vital theme of turning every Christian congregation into an active evangelistic unit. I do not know any manual on congregational evangelism that is half as good as this one." -J. I. Packer "Out of his rich experience as pastor, evangelist, and theologian, Michael Green has given us a magnificent book packed full of nuggets of truth and practical advice. This should be must reading for all those concerned for evangelism in the local church." -Leighton Ford Michael Green is the highly respected author of more than fifty books. He has been Principal of St. John's College, Nottingham, Rector to St. Aldate's Church Oxford, and Professor of Evangelism and New Testament at Regent College, Vancouver. He now serves as Senior Research Fellow at Wycliffe Hall, Oxford University.**

**Paul's Understanding of the Church's Mission**

**The Acts of the Apostles**

**Evangelical Hospitality**

**Remembering the Christian Past**

**How Working for King Jesus Gives Purpose and Meaning to Our Jobs**

**The Book Acts for Today**

**On Evangelization in the Modern World**

Most Christians already know that they should be telling their friends about Jesus. But they have been poorly equipped with methods that are no longer effective in today's post-Christian world. As a result, many people become frustrated, blame themselves, and simply give up. *Evangelism in a Skeptical World* is a textbook on evangelism that is ideal for the church or the classroom to equip Christians with the principles and skills they need to tell the unbelievable news about Jesus to friends in a skeptical world. Many of the older principles and methods of evangelism in the twentieth century no longer work effectively today. In a post-Christian, post-churched, post-reached world we need new methods to communicate the timeless message of the gospel in culturally relevant ways. Dr. Chan combines the theological and biblical insights of classic evangelistic training with the latest insights from missiology on contextualization, cultural hermeneutics, and storytelling. Every chapter is illustrated with real-world examples drawn from over fifteen years of evangelistic ministry. These are methods that really work - with university students, urban workers, and high school

students - getting past the defensive posture that people have toward Christianity so they can seriously consider the claims of Jesus Christ. Field-tested and filled with unique, fresh, and creative insights, this book will equip you to share the gospel in today's world and help as many people as possible hear the good news about Jesus.

Alan Thompson's aim is to offer a biblical-theological framework for interpreting the book of Acts, so that Luke's major themes may be identified and related to the book as a whole. He especially highlights Acts as an account of the 'continuing story' of God's saving purposes: Luke intends his work to read in the light of Old Testament promises and the continuing reign of Christ in the inaugurated kingdom of God.

"Evangelical Hospitality: Catechetical Evangelism in the Early Church and Its Recovery for Today describes a church that has lost touch with its deep memory of evangelization, the recovery of that memory in catechetical ministry, and the practices this recovery spawns in the Church. After describing the social construction of faith communities, the book examines four core practices that are entailed in creating cultures of faith - places where believing in Christ becomes plausible and possible. Evangelical Hospitality concludes with perennial principles from Christian communities that learn to construct faith cultures."--BOOK JACKET.

Christians have been sharing the good news of Jesus Christ with nonbelievers for two thousand years. Within this deep history is wisdom for today--including numerous models for understanding what evangelism is and how it should be done. In *Gospel Witness through the Ages*, David Gustafson introduces readers to evangelism's noteworthy persons, movements, and methods from the entire scope of church history--including both examples to emulate and examples to avoid. With this thorough historical approach, Gustafson expands the reader's conception of the evangelistic task and suggests new ways to shape our identity as gospel witnesses today through the influence of these earlier generations of Christians. With discussion questions for further reflection and primary sources from major evangelistic figures of the past, *Gospel Witness through the Ages* is the most definitive history of evangelism available--essential for understanding how Christians today can continue proclaiming the gospel to the whole world, as Christians have in every century past.

Evangelism in the Early Church

How to Reach the West Again

Reversing Our Tragic Neglect of the Holy Spirit

The Study of Evangelism

Six Essential Elements of a Missionary Encounter

Getting to Know the Church Fathers

Forgotten God

**Two veteran missionaries write forty creative and empowering chapters on what it truly means to share Jesus with passion and confidence both locally and worldwide.**

**Originally confined to a small circle of believers centered in Jerusalem, Christianity's stunning transformation into the world's most popular faith is one of history's greatest, most miraculous stories. In *Jesus Is Risen*, #1 bestselling author David Limbaugh provides a riveting account of the birth of Christianity. Using the Book of Acts and six New Testament epistles as his guide, Limbaugh takes readers on an exhilarating journey through the sorrow and suffering, as well as the joys and triumphs, of the apostles and other key figures as Christianity bursts through the borders of Judea following the death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus Christ. Limbaugh particularly focuses on the crucial role that the Apostle Paul played in these historic events. Facing incredible adversities, from arrests to shipwrecks to violent mobs and murder plots, Paul overcomes countless obstacles as he travels far and wide to spread the Gospel. Limbaugh's passion for the Bible is unmistakable and infectious as he recounts these stories. Replete with deep insights into the actions, arguments, and challenges of the world's first Christian communities, *Jesus Is Risen* is a faith-affirming book for Christians at all stages of their faith walk.**

**Helps church leaders recover ancient understandings of Christian belief and practice from the early church fathers and apply them to ministry in the twenty-first century.**

**Find God's vision for your job. Reclaim God's vision for your life. Many Christians fall victim to one of two main problems when it comes to work: either they are idle in their work, or they have made an idol of it. Both of these mindsets are deadly misunderstandings of how God intends for us to think about our employment. In *The Gospel at Work*, Sebastian Traeger and Greg Gilbert unpack the powerful ways in which the gospel can transform how we do what we do, releasing us from the cultural pressures of both an all-consuming devotion and a punch-in, punch-out mentality--in order to find the freedom of a work ethic rooted in serving Christ. You'll find answers to some of the tough questions that Christians in the workplace often ask: What factors should matter most in choosing a job? What gospel principles should shape my thinking about how to treat my boss, my co-workers, and my employees? Is full-time Christian work more valuable than my job? Is it okay to be motivated by money? How do you prioritize--or balance--work, family and church responsibilities? Solidly grounded in the gospel, *The Gospel at Work* confronts both our idleness at work and our idolatry of work with a challenge of its own--to remember that whom we work for is infinitely more important than what we do.**

**A Chapter in the History of Renunciation**

**The Origins of the New Testament Images of Jesus (Second Edition)**

**The Gospel at Work**

**A Documentary Reader**

**The Acts of the Risen Lord Jesus**

*How and why did the early church grow in the first four hundred years despite disincentives, harassment, and occasional persecution? In this unique historical study, veteran scholar Alan Kreider delivers the fruit of a lifetime of study as he tells the amazing story of the spread of Christianity in the Roman Empire. Challenging traditional understandings, Kreider contends the church grew because the virtue of patience was of central importance in the life and witness of the early Christians. They wrote about patience, not evangelism, and reflected on prayer, catechesis, and worship, yet the church grew--not by*

*specific strategies but by patient ferment.*

*Christianity is declining in the West. Churches in the United States, Canada, Australia, and Europe are closing their doors at an accelerating rate. How will the church respond? In this short but sweeping manifesto, New York Times bestselling author and pastor Timothy Keller argues that this decline should prompt us to rethink evangelism from the ground up. Using the early church as our guide, churches and individual Christians must examine ourselves, our culture, and Scripture to work toward a new missionary encounter with Western culture that will make the gospel both attractive and credible to a new generation.*