

# CONNECTIONS

FALL 2003

## AGONIZING TRUTH TELLING

**T**he process of confronting someone usually costs me precious hours of sleep. I wake early thinking how to address the issue. I struggle with just how to phrase things. I ask God oodles of questions in my prayer journal. When the opportunity to

speak to that person presents itself, I often chicken out.

Then there are the painful times when I actually schedule a meeting with someone. The anxiety that precedes and accompanies those conversations

stretches me more than I think I can bear, and forces me to totally rely on God for the words. Overall, truth telling is tremendously time-consuming. And it had better be! Because this delicate arena of speaking the truth has potential to cause damage, it's necessary to carefully choose the words and to discern appropriate timing. Praying through the entire process is even more essential.

You've been there. You're familiar with the woman who dominates the group. Her tendencies threaten the welcoming atmosphere you hoped to create for the newcomer. Recall the leader who doesn't listen well. You can see the train wreck ahead for certain people. You've struggled with what to say, when to say, if to say. Some of those conversations began with phrasing such as, "I've noticed" or "I'm sensing," or "I have a concern for you/our group. May I share it?" Perhaps you restated the purpose of Coffee Break. You wanted God's best for them. You wanted them to succeed. Be sure to read in this issue, "Caring Too Much Not to Confront," by Betty Veldman Wieland.

**Rebukes are not said in anger, or over the phone, or off the top of your head. They are not sent in writing.**

Turn things around now. How many of us welcome criticism? How many of us really want to hear the truth about ourselves? But what if the truth was softly wrapped in love and concern? What if someone really did have our best interest in mind? What a gift this kind of truth

telling could be—what an opportunity for personal growth! You'll be able to identify with the article by Diana Klungel, "Ouch! Receiving Rebuke."

We encourage you to search for Gordon MacDonald's excellent article, "The Gift of Rebuke;

How I Learned to Take Correction—and Give It," (Leadership Journal, Fall, 2002) at [www.Leadership](http://www.Leadership)

Journal.net. "My life is paved with rebukes," he writes, "from my father, from teachers, friends, critics, and from the people in my four congregations. I like to think that each of the rebukes stuck and affected my character and my behavior. But no doubt some sailed right over my head and denied me their benefits." MacDonald also talks about what rebuke is NOT. Rebukes are not said in anger, or over the phone, or off the top of your head. They are not sent in writing.

As you look over the resources in Small Talk you'll see there is plenty to digest in this issue. So grab your coffee, fire up the computer to investigate web links, and be aware of the beam in your own eye as you consider the specks in others.

Marjo Jordan, Co-Editor

## PLAN A: SMALL GROUP COMMUNITY

**O**ne of the main sessions at the Willow Creek Small Group Conference (September, 2002) featured Henry Cloud, co-author of the *Boundaries* series and *How People Grow*. He shared how years ago, as a young Christian, he went through a period of depression when many of his life ideals weren't panning out. He prayed fervently to God that He would heal him—zap him and make him better. He thought that was *God's Plan A*—God's preferred way of working.

During his depression he joined a small group Bible study a fraternity brother invited him to, thinking, "What could it hurt?" Henry admits, "I learned things about myself and how I related to people. The members of this group taught me that I was emotionally detached and did not let people get close to me. They showed me I knew very little about love, and most of my life had been based on performance and accomplishment, not abiding intimacy. They challenged all of my relational patterns.

"When I was wrong, they confronted me. At first I felt bad and guilt ridden when confronted, but later I learned the freedom that comes with being confronted in love. I found out people could discipline me and at the same time be for me and not against me. Another thing happened in this same community. The leaders said

*continued*



Coffee Break



Small Groups



Story Hour  
Little Lambs

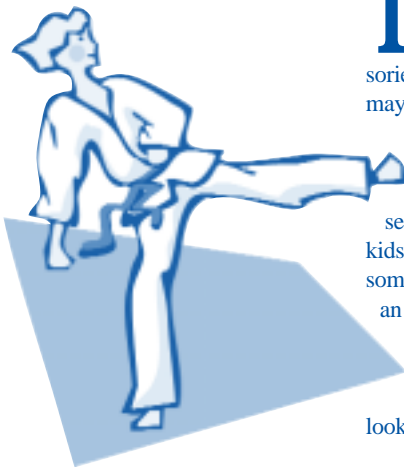
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that I had a particular gift for understanding the Bible as it relates to counseling issues and the gift of insight into those matters. For my part, I was feeling an increasing desire to study the Bible. The two paths, the external one and the internal one, merged, and before long I knew God was calling me to go into the field of Christian counseling. One day, sometime later, I realized my depression and feelings of emptiness were gone. I actually felt good about life, about me, and about how God could use me.”

Henry was disappointed God didn't zap him when he prayed for healing from the depression. He thought he got second rate treatment from God. Then he read Ephesians 4:16: *From Him (Jesus), the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.* It occurred to Henry that zapping people is not *God's Plan A*. For Christians, *God's Plan A* is God working through people in relationship with one another. People with a variety of gifts are all necessary to create health, spiritually speaking. It's not that God delegates the process to people; it's more like He wears people as uniforms! He basically heals people through us. That's why small groups are so critical to spiritual maturity.

There are many reasons for doing small group ministry: Bible knowledge, helping struggling folks, and keeping people from falling through cracks. **But the primary purpose of small groups is to be the body of Christ—the life of the church lived out in its most basic form.** This reality becomes much more than a personal testimony. It's the primary way God dispenses healing within the church. It's foundational to everything we do in ministry. We are *God's Plan A*.

Taken from *Small Group Dynamics*, November, 2002.  
Written by Dan Lentz, Director, SmallGroups.com,  
www.SmallGroups.com. Used by permission.



## FLAVORS OF COFFEE BREAK

The new ice cream flavor was called “Coffee Break.” Small Group Regional Rep Ruth Kelder got a chuckle out of that—Coffee Break ice cream served at a Coffee Break function she attended last fall. Like ice cream, women (and men) sample Coffee Break in a variety of flavors.

I'm thinking about the Mothers Of Preschoolers (MOPS) that chose to use Discover Your Bible materials one summer. In the Idea Share section of this newsletter, we've noted how Coffee Break could be an easy next step for mothers of now Kindergartners! Alpha and Coffee Break naturally partner. Can you think of a better place for a new believer to continue the journey toward God? Coffee Break even comes in a tea flavor! Rachele and Erin, serving in the military in Japan, don't let an ocean stop them.

Talking of international flavors, with just a few clicks I can track the visitors who checked out coffeebreakministries.org. This quarter, hits came from 22 countries including Australia, South Africa, Mexico, United Kingdom, Singapore, Netherlands, Indonesia, Chile and Egypt. Let's not forget our current international flavors. Korean Coffee Break and our Spanish counterpart, Sobremesa, are vital pieces of our overall small group strategy.

Then there's the venison flavor of a Coffee Break in a Kelloggsville, Michigan church, home of a ten-year-old sportspersons club ministry under Rev. Maury DeYoung, (www.kcrc.org/sportspersonsclub/). These women returned from the 2002 Small Group Evangelism Conference for Women with a renewed commitment for outreach. Focusing on November 15, opening day for firearm deer hunting, they sponsored an evening for the hunters' widows. Of the 33 women who attended this alternative event, 22 were not from their church. One unchurched woman said it was the best night of her life!

In July, 2003, Calvary Church in Holland, Michigan, expects as many as 700 children for Vacation Bible School. What do you suppose they plan to offer all those mothers? That's right, a VBS flavor of Coffee Break.

Think about how God is working in your corner of the world. How is your church different than the one down the block? How could Coffee Break or Story Hour follow an event in your church or community?

I wonder...what will be the next flavor?

Marjo Jordan, Co-Editor

## INTENTIONAL OUTREACH

They're dreamers at the North Casnovia Baptist Coffee Break in Michigan. They dream up ideas for meeting women in the community such as offering a self-defense class, jewelry making, or a “Tacky to Terrific” class on making accessories work for you. They giggle over maybe placing nail polish at each woman's lunch plate as a party favor. They consider bringing in a Christian physician for a general session. They wonder how to include the kids. They brainstorm about how to catch some free publicity on the radio—maybe an interview or at the very least a psa (public service announcement).

What motivates them? They want women in their neighborhood to look good, feel good, protect themselves,

AND hear a brief introduction about Coffee Break. Quite intentionally another season of Coffee Break Bible studies begins a couple weeks later.

Over this summer they'll determine the details of pre-registration, schedule the 11:30-2:30 timeframe, create a catchy title for the event such as *Health and Beauty Kick for Women*, solicit businesses for freebies (massage, manicure, hair style), stock Discover Your Bible study samples for a display table, and staff each luncheon table with a Coffee Break hostess. There will be cards at each place that say, “Be sure to ask your hostess what Coffee Break means to her!”

They're dreamers alright. And may all their dreams come true.

Marjo Jordan, Co-Editor



Coffee Break

COFFEE BREAK

## SPEAKING TRUTH IN LOVE

**H**ow do you suggest to a parent that her child may have learning, behavioral or social disabilities? How do you say this with love?

As leaders of preschool ministries, we often are the first to

observe children in a classroom or group situation. We often witness the first time a child separates from his or her mother. If there's a serious behavioral problem or social dysfunction, it will be quickly evident—often obvious to you, but not the parent. (This is different than a little extra energy or mild ADD.)

Approaching such situations with a caring attitude and a desire to help both parent and child, can become an opportunity for healing.

### Look for these basic signs:

- Delayed or no speech
- Little or no eye contact
- Negative reaction to physical touch
- Self-stimulating behavior such as twisting the wrist
- No interaction with others
- Inability to focus on a task

### Respond in these ways:

- Talk to the child, not just *about* him
- Praise all good behavior
- Use light touch, ask for a high five, or a thumbs up
- Start with an easy task and guide or help the child
- Try to create a successful moment
- Invite the child to help you and thank him afterward
- Find a helper who can guide the child through the session

This is not meant to be a comprehensive list. You will need to respond to each unique situation in a kind and loving way. Be sensitive to the fact that the parent may feel guilty or embarrassed. Never say, "Something is wrong with your child." Rather, begin a conversation with "I've noticed that...." Ask caring questions about the child's activity or behavior as the parent has observed it, and discuss how you can work together in assisting the child.

Just because a child has a disability, does not equal low intelligence or bad parenting. The earlier the intervention (testing and therapy), the better off the child will be. Between ages two and five is not too early. Your loving honesty and

encouragement may genuinely benefit this family.

### Professional resource suggestions for parents:

- Talk to their physician, pediatrician, or local health care clinic
- Check with the local school district about testing services
- Ask their medical insurance carrier about covered services
- Consult a community mental health agency
- Pray for this child and the family
- Remember when discouragement sets in that "Jesus loves the little children of the world," which includes those with special needs.

Jodi Lytle, Special Education Teacher and Story Hour helper, Kelloggsville Christian Reformed Church, Kentwood, MI



## THERE'S A CROSS IN THE GYM

Someone once said that learning happens one conversation at a time.

Well, listen to this one:

Jill, a young, energetic, twenty-something gymnastics coach, who also happens to be a Christian, has a cross tattooed on her big toe. On a warm, spring day when Jill wore sandals, her class of five-year-old girls noticed the tattoo almost immediately. They discussed the cross, and somewhere in that conversation, little Jordyn told her gymnastic friends that Jesus died on the cross to pay for all of our sins.

Hmmm....a cross, a conversation, and a five-year-old follower of Jesus. What can we learn from Jordyn?

## WATCH YOUR WORDS

**"She's a real piece of work" has a negative connotation, but "She's a work of art" points to the Creator.**

## FIRE WITHIN

**P**assion. The word sounds soft when spoken, but what a driving force when passion gets hold of someone. I experienced this kind of passion in a group setting—a meeting of children and youth workers who are passionate about ministering to the young. With all these folks in one room, a soft word took on intensity and strength.

Teacher Ray VanderLaan describes the passion of the early apostles—a fire burning in their chests for the mission of bringing Jesus' truth to a pagan world. Others have compared their passion for ministry to urgent rescue. It's recognizing someone in great need and risking your own welfare to help them. The world watched that kind of passion as police and fire fighters rushed up the burning twin towers in New York City. We witnessed similar determination as young men and women marched across the desert of Iraq to meet an uncertain enemy.

How do we maintain intensity in our calling to bring Jesus to children? I'm concerned that in our comfortable North American routines, with excellent resources and curriculum, adequate church buildings and classrooms, that we, as followers of Jesus, have lost our passion. I am just as guilty as anyone, pounding through my busy schedule simply to get things accomplished.

But then I bump into *real passion* that overflows in an individual or in a group, in a prayer warrior or a child. It's recognizable because it touches your heart. You feel it. You sense it.

So how does this relate to you and your involvement in children's ministry? Consider these thoughts as you begin a new season:

1. Be passionate for Jesus. Continue to seek, learn, and follow Him.
2. Ask "Why am I doing this?" Write down or verbalize your purpose.
3. View each child not as a project but a person, created, loved, and valuable.
4. Explore new ideas and methods. God's creativity is as endless as His love.
5. Be willing to take risks. Be willing to give up something for Jesus.
6. The most important thing to do is pray. Pray privately. Pray together. Pray that God stirs up the fire in us so that individually and collectively we participate in His continuing story, His revolution to rescue the world that He loves.

Diane Dykgraaf, Story Hour/Little Lambs Specialist



Story Hour  
Little Lambs

STORY HOUR

## BEST DEAL AROUND

Your small group regional rep is your greatest resource. They have knowledge, experience and newly-revised materials. At the low price of only \$40.00, now is the time to schedule a Coffee Break or Story Hour training. Listen to what a leader from Hanford, California says about the Coffee Break three-part format of Inductive Method, Small Group Principles and Evangelistic Purpose: "The training is a great refresher course for all leaders, even if they've been before. The materials are valuable tools to use with leaders who can't attend a training." Find your rep and training schedule on the enclosure and at the website, or call 1-888-644-0814.



## WRITE ON MIXER

As a warm up, in groups of three ask your Coffee Break women to share whether or not they are "list" people and what types of lists they make. Next, ask what they would be for the remaining years of their life if these were the choices—a pencil, a pen, or a marker. Group the women by categories and have them discuss with each other the reasons for their choice and why it's important to have pencils, pens and markers in this world. Ask each group to designate a spokeswoman to share a summary statement. In conclusion, read 1 Corinthians 12:27 how we are all part of the body of Christ. "Regardless of whether you are a pencil, a pen, or a marker, let's write on! Let's continue to make our marks for Christ as we live for Him."

Melissa Sutter, Coffee Break Director, North Casnovia Baptist Church, Michigan

## COFFEE BREAK SKIT

Easy to memorize for your opening fall welcome, Melissa Sutter shares the skit, "Are You Like Me?" at [coffeebreakministries.org](http://coffeebreakministries.org) under "Resources." In a light-hearted way Melissa shows how ineffective worrying is and gently challenges us to examine our prayer life.

## MOPS → CB

Mothers Of Preschoolers International (MOPS) helps moms be the best moms they can be. But you're only a mother of a preschooler for six years. Coffee Break could be a natural next step for some of these women, or perhaps a Coffee Break could coincide with MOPS, filling in with an optional Bible study on the off weeks. Talk to your area MOPS group about this possible partnership. If your church is interested in organizing a MOPS group, find more information at [www.mops.org](http://www.mops.org).

## NEW DIRECTORS

Let us know if you are a new director of Coffee Break or Story Hour. We appreciate having your address, phone, email and the church where Coffee Break meets. Also, please sign your leaders up for *Connections* if they are not on the mailing list. Contact [jordanm@crca.org](mailto:jordanm@crca.org).

## THANKFUL TREE

This idea could be a one-time event or a long-term theme for your class. You'll need a small pot filled with stones, marbles, or clay. Outdoors, find a medium-size tree branch with plenty of smaller branches to place in the pot. If the branch has leaves, talk the first week about the miracle of creation. If you're fortunate enough to have fall color, point out how God is the Creator of colors and beauty. Marvel with your class at the function of trees and then have a prayer time thanking God for all He created.

The next week, take off the leaves exposing just the branches. You can now hang anything on your Thankful Tree using string or ornament hangers. Cut out a leaf shape and write words or glue on a picture of the lesson theme, taking time at the end of the session to give thanks for what God has taught us today. During the Thanksgiving season you can ask the children what they are thankful for and hang those on the tree. At Christmas you can hang symbols of Jesus' birth and give thanks. At some point surprise the children and hang their

pictures from the tree, explaining that you give thanks for them, and we give thanks for each other.

A digital camera will be helpful for the pictures. Laminating will make them durable. You can hang small items or shapes cut from cardstock, construction paper or fun foam. Be creative, and have fun!

Whether you bring out the Thankful Tree occasionally or every week, save all the items in a box. At the end of the season, each child could decorate a smaller version of the Thankful Tree to take home, using the items you've saved over the year. Encourage them to put their Thankful Tree in a visible place in their home or bedroom as a reminder to thank God, the Giver of all good things.



Coffee Break



Story Hour  
Little Lambs

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[www.coffeebreakministries.org](http://www.coffeebreakministries.org)

### RESOURCE NOTES

- Note the enclosed 2003-2004 Small Group Order Form.
- Although the recent release *Discover the Joy of Sharing Jesus* (4 lessons) is not on the order form, it is available.
- Discover the God of Second Chances* is new. See "Resources" in Small Talk.
- Although *Discover Life* is primarily for men, notice the two Bible studies for women in that section of the order form.
- Discover Titus and Philemon* will be available in November.
- Quantities may be limited for some studies. Ask about the availability of *Jonah, Mark, Prayer, Angels, Matthew and Galatians*.

1-800-333-8300 or shop online at [www.FaithAliveResources.org](http://www.FaithAliveResources.org)

# SMALL TALK

## FOR SMALL GROUPS

FALL 2003

### OUCH!

#### Receiving Rebuke

**H**er words stunned me: “You need to be careful who you keep company with. Your friendships and relationships construct your character.”

No one had ever talked to me like that before—so honestly. It hurt. And it didn’t get better, because my response was painful too. I was applying to serve as a Resident Assistant for my sophomore year of college. In my mind, my friends were none of her business. Either the college wanted to hire me, or they didn’t. But don’t dictate who my friends are.

Years later my co-worker and small group leader said, “Diana, you have a great sense of humor, but because you are sarcastic so often, I’m not sure when to take you seriously. Your words can be cutting. I never know when you’re sincere.”

Again, and perhaps you can identify with me, I didn’t like what I heard. My defensive response was this: This is who I am. Let me be funny. Don’t challenge how much truth my words convey. Just enjoy and laugh.

These pivotal conversations and confrontations greatly impacted my life. I didn’t receive the words well, but as I opened my heart to God’s shaping, I was convicted. And because my friends believed in authentic community, they expressed truth. They also walked alongside to see God change me.

My learnings about receiving and responding to confrontation are:

**Time** — Allow emotional distance before responding. Swallow your first reaction to speak out of your defensiveness. You will be defensive. It’s natural. Choose to respond later. “*The heart of the righteous weighs its answers*” (Proverbs 15:28).

**Source** — Prayerfully consider the source and your relationship. The confrontations above came from people who loved and cared for me. They had nothing to gain in hurting me. They so desired to see Christ in me that they believed in God’s ability to change me. Their words were love to me! “*Wounds from a friend can be trusted*” (Proverbs 27:6).

**Discernment** — Perhaps the criticism hit the mark exactly, or it may contain

only a grain of truth. Prayerfully seek God about their words. He has the power to grant affirmation or rejection.

**Reality** — Recognize that their admonition doesn’t change their love for you. Your friendship and relationship are important enough to risk telling you truth.

**Revisit** — Ask for feedback on your progress. Because of our commitment to community, these friends journeyed with me. They didn’t hurl painful words and then abandon me. They prayed for me and loved me through the change. Although initially painful, the lack of change would be worse. “*A man who remains stiff-necked after many rebukes will suddenly be destroyed—without remedy*” (Proverbs 29:1). *He who listens to a life-giving rebuke will be at home among the wise*” (Proverbs 15:31).

Diana Klungel, Small Group Program Director

### CARING TOO MUCH NOT TO CONFRONT

**I** hate confrontation. I admit it. I live in denial about it, dance around the issue at hand, and avoid facing it as long as I can. I also beg and plead with God to intervene and make the situation go away. Sometimes He does that, but most often He asks *me* to be the instrument for addressing difficult situations.

It is the price of leadership, and it is crucial. I have also learned some very important lessons about how to do it.

**Do It Prayerfully** — Anything we say must follow concerted prayer, exploring other options available, and with respect for the individual being confronted. The trick is to take God’s call very seriously without taking ourselves seriously. Confrontation cannot be only about you

and me. It needs to be about what God is asking of us in community. We must nurture those relationships on our knees, knowing the cost of leadership is high. What we sometimes need to do will not be very popular.

**Do It Lovingly** — When we confront, do so with great care. Someone’s fragile spirit may be in our hands. Take very seriously your responsibility as a leader to help people be the best they can be, even if it is sometimes painful. When leaders take the time to build loving relationships with people and create an atmosphere of trust, they will find people more receptive to a word of rebuke when it is necessary. After one very difficult confrontation, the person

**“No healthy group is without conflict. If there is no conflict, there is no honesty.”**

#### MORE THAN SMALL TALK

**S**mall Talk is part of a larger newsletter, *Connections*, that includes pertinent topics for small groups. Read Dan Lentz’s article, “Plan A: Small Group Community” and Marjo Jordan’s article, “Agonizing Truth Telling” on the front page of this fall issue. Note the link to Gordon MacDonald’s article, “The Gift of Rebuke; How I Learned to Take Correction—and Give It,” (Leadership Journal, Fall, 2002).

View *Connections* at either website, [coffeebreakministries.org](http://coffeebreakministries.org) or [smallgroupministries.org](http://smallgroupministries.org).



Small Groups

SMALL GROUPS

continued

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thanked me for my honesty and insight. Then he said, "This must have been very difficult for you." It was; I admit it. But neither could I shirk my responsibility to obey what I believed God was asking of me.

**Do It in a Way the Person Understands** — I learned that lesson the hard way. On one memorable occasion, I faced a pretty strong personality and was so uncomfortable about confronting her that I hemmed and hawed and hesitated and spoke in such abstract terms that she had no idea what I was trying to say. But she was not intimidated by confrontation at all. She looked me in the eye and said, "Betty, what are you trying to say to me?" I was aghast! Did she really expect me to just blurt the problem right out? My horror must have shown on my face. She softened, reached over, touched my arm and said, "Please tell me. I need to hear what you have to say." I gulped and said it as honestly and straightforwardly as I could. We had a good discussion together. Her parting words were, "Thank you. Please keep me accountable. I can take this from you. I know you have my best interests at heart."

No healthy group is without conflict. If there is no conflict, there is no honesty, for not everyone sees things the same way. Handling differences and daring to confront in an atmosphere of love and respect is a way of celebrating our differences. It is also a wonderful way for groups—and their members—to grow.

Betty Veldman Wieland, Director of Established Church Development

### Small Group Evangelism Conference for Women



- Dynamic Worship
- Inspiring Keynotes
- Personal Growth & Nourishment
- Fellowship & Encouragement
- Leadership Training
- Cross-Denominational Sharing

*You will receive POWER when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and you will be my witnesses . . . to the ends of the earth. Acts 1:8*

July 23-25, 2004

Brock University, St. Catharines, Ontario

Hosted by Coffee Break, Story Hour, Little Lambs and Small Group Ministries  
[www.coffeebreakministries.org](http://www.coffeebreakministries.org)/[www.smallgroupministries.org](http://www.smallgroupministries.org)



Small Groups

## RESOURCES

### NEW TESTAMENT LESSONMAKER

Find four types of questions for any New Testament passage and tailor a Bible lesson in minutes. Nav Press, [www.nav-press.com](http://www.nav-press.com), ISBN 0891096884

### BEYOND CONFLICT RESOLUTION: THE MINISTRY OF ADMONITION

**Defining Moments Audio Cassette (Vol. 70)** by Bill Hybels and Nancy Beach with John Ortberg, [www.willowcreek.com](http://www.willowcreek.com)

### SPEAKING THE TRUTH IN LOVE How to Be an Assertive Christian

Kenneth C. Haug and Ruth Koch  
Stephen Ministries, 1992, ISBN 0963383116

### SPEAKING YOUR MIND WITHOUT STEPPING ON TOES

**A Christian Approach to Assertiveness, Guidelines for Group Leaders** by Henry A. Virkler  
Chariot Victor Books, 1991, ASIN 0896933997

### AN IDEAL HUSBAND

Watch this clever and charming comedy (based on Oscar Wilde's play) which reveals the consequences of truth telling and the beauty of confession and forgiveness. 1999 Miramax Film Rated PG-13. Starring: Cate Blanchett, Minnie Driver, Rupert Everett, Julianne Moore, Jeremy Northan.

### PRESIDENT BUSH EXPERIENCES SMALL GROUPS

Read the March 10, 2003 issue of *Newsweek*—"Bush & God; How Faith Changed His Life and Shapes His Presidency" by Howard Fineman and "Gospel on the Potomac" by Kenneth L. Woodward.

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NEW

Available through Faith Alive Resources, 1-800-333-8300, [www.FaithAliveResources.org](http://www.FaithAliveResources.org)

### SEVEN STEPS TO EFFECTIVE SMALL GROUP MINISTRY A Principle-Based Approach (2nd Edition)

by David Stark and Patrick Keifert  
Gain a new perspective on your overall small group ministry: the role of the management team, small group principles, assessing your congregation and community, recruiting and training leaders. \$19.50<sup>US</sup>/28.30<sup>CDN</sup> (#216420CT). To schedule a training, find your small group rep at [www.smallgroupministries.org](http://www.smallgroupministries.org) or call 1-888-644-0814.

### DISCOVER THE GOD OF SECOND CHANCES

**Based on the Prophet Hosea** by Brent and Diane Averill  
God loves, accepts, and forgives us beyond our wildest dreams. 5 sessions. Study Guide \$3.50<sup>US</sup>/5.10<sup>CDN</sup> (#152650CT); Leader's Guide \$4.75<sup>US</sup>/6.90<sup>CDN</sup> (#152655CT).