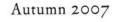
EXTENDING THE KINGDOM OF GOD...ONE PERSON AT A TIME Autumn 2007 **USC** Quarterback JOHN DAVID BOOTY ISION FOCUSED FORWAR





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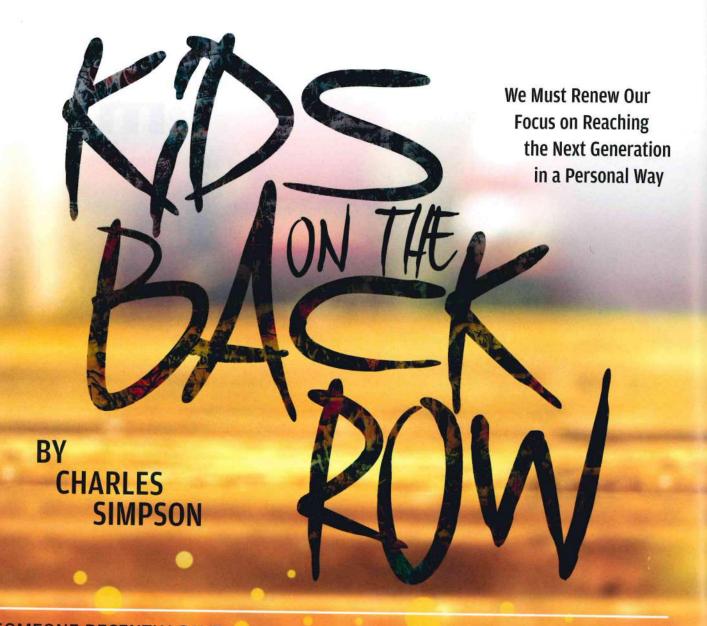
See you on the web! (121)

Stephen Simpson is the Editor of One-to-One and Pastoral Team Leader



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SOMEONE RECENTLY GAVE ME A NOTE WHICH CONTAINED WORDS TAKEN FROM a wall in a children's hospital. The note read: "Children are a message we send to a time we will not see." The note struck me as a profound statement and I wondered how we could send our best message to the future.

The subject of future generations grows in my mind as I grow older. My focus was sharpened even more by a new book written by my friend Mark Hoffman entitled, *The Joshua Principle*. It is the best book I have ever read on the importance of and means to reach children and youth. Mark and his brother David co-pastor Foothills Christian Church in El Cajon, California, near San Diego. That church reaches 5000 young people each month through its various ministries. (The book can be obtained by ordering from CSN, 833 Broadway, Suite #201, El Cajon, CA 90210.)

A SURPRISING SURVEY

As you know, we recently conducted a survey of our readers. I made a startling discovery: 80% of my readers are over 50 years of age. I deeply appreciate my readers and of course, I fall into that same category of age. But I became concerned about how I could better relate to younger people.

Carolyn and I have 8 grandchildren, including a brandnew baby granddaughter, Madison Genoa Mejia. We have a multicultural family and love each member. I believe that Carolyn and I have a good relationship with our grandchildren, but what about their peers? That is our deep concern.

This past summer, I was in Costa Rica ministering to a conference led by my long-time associate, Hugo Zelaya. Hugo is near my own age. At the close of the last service, we prayed for numerous people including many teenagers. Some of them face huge challenges, as do teens in our nation.

THE CULTURE

One of my challenges in relating to kids is the huge shift in culture. The language, media, family-life, and exposure to destructive forces is radically different from my own youth experience. Human life has been greatly devalued by abortion, drugs, divorce, and other influences. Perhaps the greatest impact upon youth has been the disconnect between generations and the resulting influence of non-parented peers.

Many adults have taken a "hands off" attitude toward children and given up their obligation to be a guiding influence. The resulting "freedom" for youth has far exceeded their maturity and responsibility. And, by removing the powerful influence of prayer and Bible study from schools, teenage suicides have exploded by 300% and teen pregnancy by 600%!

Teens are often given cell phones, TVs, ipods, cars, and computers without parental oversight. Facebook, Myspace, and YouTube have expanded their experiences into unknown and often dangerous territories. Drugs, alcohol, and sex have become a fatal cocktail for far too many, as they imitate the celebrity culture. In those cases, we are sending a sad message to the future.

CONNECTING

Jesus connected with children and youth. A prime example is found in Matthew 19:13-15, which says, "Then little children were brought to Him that He might put His hands on them and pray, but the disciples rebuked them. But Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven.' And He laid His

hands on them and departed from there." Sometimes it's Jesus' disciples who miss this purpose with regard to children and youth.

Jesus literally touched the lives of young people, and He personally prayed for them. Children need the touch of spiritual leaders, and leaders need to be in touch with children. The generational connection is required for an important exchange of life. We get the humility of child-likeness. They get whatever blessings that we have to offer.

Several years ago, Carl Sagan produced a movie called Contact. It was a fictitious account about connecting with extraterrestrial life. Governments have built the world's largest telescopes and spent billions of dollars in an effort to make a connection with extraterrestrial intelligence. Meanwhile we have failed to make adequate contact with the intelligence right in front of us.

How can we connect with the younger generations? Here are seven suggestions:

- Make it a priority—not an afterthought. This must be a matter of serious prayer.
- Give time, energy, and resources to children and youth.
- Study those who have been successful.
- Reach out to the friends of the children and youth that we do relate to.
- Get outside the church property and go to where they are.
- Listen to their issues.
- Let them ask questions without prejudgment.

Jesus' success was based on several issues: He was authentic and approachable; the Holy Spirit drew them to Him; He was out there where they were; and they sensed that He

really did love them. Jesus was not critical of sinners or the young people; He accepted and blessed them.

The Bible is full of teaching about children and their importance. Adam's failure to reach Cain, Noah's success with his children, or Abraham's teaching of

Isaac are all there to study. The books of Psalms, Proverbs, and Ecclesiastes tell us a lot about the importance of training our children. The genealogies remind us that God and His

people understand the vital nature of training children.

However, my purpose here is not primarily to do a Bible study, though I hope that you will. My purpose is to urge the issue upon us—make a connection and give what you have received. Make it a personal priority and not only a church priority.

THE BACK ROW

I am a privileged person. I have been

allowed by God's grace to speak to churches literally thousands of times. That experience has furthered my own education and helped me to see some things that have greatly benefitted me. One thing that I have

observed is that when children and teens are seated in the very front of the congregation, good things are happening. When they congregate primarily in the back rows, it is not a good sign.

One might think that the answer is to say, "Now we want all of our young people to come sit down front." No, that is **not** what I mean! It is when children and youth **want** to sit down front that good things are happening. It means that outside of the meeting someone has made a connection. It is the connection that is needed, not the demand.

I know this to be true because when I was young, and my spiritual life was messed up, I sat in the back. When I connected spiritually, I moved forward. Kids in the back row will move forward when real contact is made.

Kids on the back row are a symptom of where the Church has placed its priority. And the kids that are not there at all show us the problem the most. The percentage of non-attending children and youth in Western culture is overwhelming. These kids, our future, are at risk.

ONE AT A TIME

It is not my purpose to criticize what any of us may be doing—it just isn't enough. We may look at our church and say, "We have a fine group of young people; we have a good youth ministry," and so forth. And that may be true. But what I advocate with any focus is that we move involvement from the *institutional* level to the *personal* level.

We cannot afford to lump our kids into the "youth" category and measure results by numbers in church on a given Sunday.

The focus must become a matter of me and a particular young person that my life can touch personally. Impartation from group-togroup is hardly effective. But, from person-to-person, impartation will be life changing.

Our son-in-law, Enrique, works with underprivileged and often desperate children where he also spent his younger years. He is able to relate. In addition to the seven children that he and our daughter, Charlyn, have, he meets with others on a personal level. They come to his home and he goes to theirs.

I recently prayed with two of these boys, Nini and Javier, both early teens. I saw God touch them and heard them respond. They come from a very desperate environment—broken families and a drug-infested area. But because Enrique went to where they were, they are coming to where he is.

These and other kids like them have names and they have a story. They are not just part of a group we call "youth." They are individuals that need a deliverer and they live near you.

DARE

Here's what I dare you to do: get out of any rut that you may be in. Break out of your own culture. The adults that we fellowship day-in and dayout are yesterday's fruit. It is not as likely that great change will happen in their lives. But a child is yet unformed and they desperately need what you have.



The people that affected our lives the most probably did so when we were very young. And now our greatest affect will be upon the young—if we will reach out. Can I say this? I dare you!

In heart surgery they call this a "bypass." I had a quadruple bypass in 2000. The blood was not flowing properly in my heart. There was blockage. The Church needs a "bypass." The life needs to flow more freely to kids, but there is too much blockage. We must cut around the blockage and provide arteries that go directly to the area that will die if we do not take the action. We can go around any blockage in the Church by taking personal responsibility to give life to a child.

If you know a young person that would be interested in receiving any of my articles or letters, please, send me their name and address—then tell them that you did and why. I'll send you a CD of your choice, free. Let's work together to put kids in the "front row" of our lives and send the Gospel message to the future.

Charles Simpson is Editor-In-Chief of One-to-One Magazine. He ministers extensively throughout the United States and among the nations.



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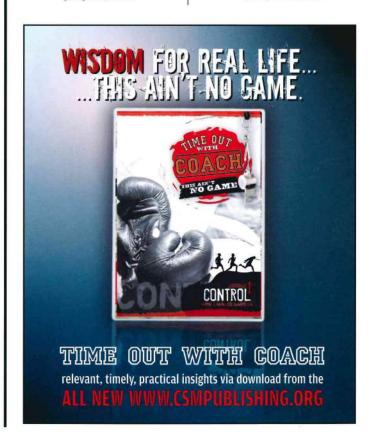
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VISION FOCUSED FORWARD

University of Southern California Quarterback JOHN DAVID BOOTY on the Value of Integrity, Hard Work, Faith, and Family By Stephen Simpson

> IN THE AUTUMN 1999 ISSUE OF **ONE-TO-ONE** MAGAZINE, WE FEATURED two brothers who were playing football together for Louisiana State University, Josh and Abram Booty. Josh, the team's quarterback, and Abram, one of the wide receivers, talked with us about life, family, faith, and football, and shared some inspiring principles for persevering and overcoming tests and trials. During my conversations with each of them back then, they each said to me, "Well, we're both pretty good, but you **really** need to keep an eye on our little brother John

David. He's going to do something special!"

They were being very modest about themselves, but Josh and Abram weren't kidding about JD.

Recent years have certainly proven them correct, as John David Booty today is one of the most celebrated and successful quarterbacks in all of college football. leading a great team with a rich tradition-the University of Southern California Trojans. Recently, he shared some thoughts with us that we wanted to pass along to our readers.

A RICH HERITAGE

John David is the son of John and Sonya Booty of Shreveport, LA, whose lives have literally blessed thousands of people and who have been instrumental in encouraging and discipling young people as followers of Jesus Christ. This selfless family has modeled commitment to the Lord through the decades, and John and Sonya have clearly passed on their dedication and determination to their four sons, including JD's younger brother Jake.

One of the unique aspects of JD's story is that after a stellar high school championship athletic career through his junior year, circumstances arose that necessitated him making a change in schools. After much prayer, counsel, and work, he made the bold step of graduating a year early in 2003 and enrolling at USC, which in this decade has won or shared three national championships in football, and has produced three Heisman Trophy winners: Carson Palmer, Matt Leinart, and Reggie Bush.

After Leinart won the 2004 Heisman in his junior season and USC won the national championship that same season, many experts predicted that Leinart would skip his senior year and enter the National Football League draft. John David Booty was the heir apparent at quarterback, and conventional wisdom was that he would be at the helm for the 2005 season. However, Leinart surprised everyone by returning for his senior year and quarterbacking the team all the way to another National Championship game, where USC lost in a thrilling duel with the Vince Young-led Texas Longhorn squad.

When the 2006 season kicked off, JD was the man behind center; he started every game, and he was one of the nation's leading passers as USC finished a very strong 11-2, defeating Michigan in the Rose Bowl on the wings of JD's 4 TD tosses. He was named first team QB on the All Pac-10 team. He entered 2007 with high team and personal expectations. (As of this writing, USC's record stands at 7-2, and JD has just resumed playing after missing three games with a broken finger.)

LOOKING FORWARD

While JD has had to overcome much adversity in order to achieve what he has done thus far, his faith has remained strong and his vision remains focused forward. I asked him what it was like to be raised in a home of high achievers and what role that played in keeping him motivated. "The biggest thing is what I've learned from my two brothers who have gone before me," John David said. "I've seen

how hard they have worked and things that they have gone through, and I've taken those to heart. When things they've dealt with have come up in my career, it's helped me handle them better."

Speaking of the strong way that his family has encouraged and stood with him through the years, JD says, "I couldn't imagine it any other way. They've been so supportive, especially with me going halfway across the country to go to college. It's not easy for them, me being so far away. For the first several years, they only made it to two or three games, which couldn't have been easy. But still, they've been



there, and their support made the transition a lot easier."

Whenever adversity and tests have come his way, JD says that he's persevered, "by knowing what my dream was and not letting anything get in the way of it. My faith has played a big part. Being raised in a Christian household, you grow up understanding the importance of what it is to have faith. And when things aren't going your way, or get tough, I know where to turn."

"WORK HARD"

Watching his parents and his brothers, JD understands the value of

heritage-the costs and sacrifices that are necessary for excellence and achievement. These lessons stood him in good stead when he stepped onto the USC Trojan football field, where some of the greatest players in college football history have stood. I asked JD what it means to him to be a part of that legacy. His humble response was telling: "It means everything to me. Since I was a little boy, playing at a major university was one of my dreams. I didn't know when I signed with USC that it would turn out quite the way it did, that I'd be playing with two Heisman Trophy winners in Matt and Reggie, it's been an almost unreal. I cherish every minute of it."

Not surprisingly, JD describes his personal mission statement as "Work hard, have integrity. I want to be the guy that people know they can come to." And, to other young people approaching college and career, he offers this advice: "Again, it's important to work hard and stay focused. Have big goals and keep striving toward them. College provides all kinds of opportunities, so students who are getting ready to start should be open to trying and learning as many things as possible."

In an age when athletes are under the microscope on and off the field, John David Booty has quietly but clearly provided leadership—not only as an elite quarterback, but as a man. His example and the principles he lives out will work for anybody, whether on the field, in the classroom, in the marketplace, in the family, or in the community.

(For more on JD's season, check out the CSM News and Discussion Forum at www.csmpublishing.org/discuss.) (2)

Stephen Simpson is the Editor of One-to-One

AUTUMN 2007 ONE-TO-ONE 11



Opportunities to extend Christ's Kingdom are all around us. Here are some ways that we can see them! By Angela Hough

MANY PEOPLE ON THE EARTH TODAY WANT AN

answer to their hearts' cry, "What do I have to offer?" Regardless of age, experience, education and cultural status, as Christians we want to be used in the Lord's incredible plan. Business people have so much to offer to further Christ's Kingdom.

As a Kingdom business consultant, I get to apply 14 years of business ownership experience to assist
Christians as they hone their business strategy and processes in order to become more profitable and recognized by their peers in the marketplace. My desire is to see godly

businesses grow into a force to be reckoned with, through a reputation for excellence and powerful influence, for the sake of advancing the kingdom of God.

We are still learning how to fulfill our roles in this fresh and revolutionary movement of the Holy Spirit. Fortunately, we are not alone in this walk of discovery. Ken Eldred writes in his book

God is at Work, "The businessperson's ministry is to serve others through useful goods and helpful services and to infuse each personal interaction with the fragrance of Christ. That is his high calling from God, and it was my calling."

WHAT CAN WE OFFER

CORPORATE IDENTITY

Can you imagine business people being so involved with outreach and discipleship that daily ministry becomes a part of their company's identity?

One company that has outreach woven into their corporate identity is **INTERSTATE BATTERY** in Dallas, Texas, After performing their due diligence, Interstate chose four charitable organizations to receive committed resources. One of these organizations is CHILDREN'S HOPE CHEST. While sponsoring orphans in Russia, Interstate also encourages employees who want to go on short term trips to minister directly to the children.

I spoke with one employee of Interstate Battery, Anita Bryan. Anita has taken part in four out of five trips to Children's Hope Chest in Russia, and agrees that she has had positive life-changing experiences as a result. "I value my family more, and get to share my mother's heart with the disadvantaged children who have been cast aside. These trips change your world view of the freedom we enjoy as Americans."

The employees who participate become much more aware of the effect that is being made in many young lives, and get to witness firsthand the hope and encouragement the children

receive. However, not all employees who take part in these short term trips are Christian. Some participating employees who are not believers are very active in these serving activities, and have been on all five of the Russian trips.

Anita goes on to say that as a result of the world perspective of Interstate, she views the executive leadership as people who are "interested in the quality of life and fulfillment of their employees. This is one of the benefits."

BUSINESS AS MISSION

Countries which remain closed to "traditional missionaries" readily invite those who are willing to teach free market principles and ideas. Thankfully, God's economic structure is the strong foundation of any flourishing society. We simply must trust and obey Him.

"If you will listen diligently to the voice of the Lord your God, being watchful to do all His commandments which I command you this day, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth. And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you if you heed the voice of the Lord your God. Blessed shall you be in

the city and blessed shall you be in the field. Blessed shall be the fruit of your body and the fruit of your ground and the fruit of your beasts, the increase of your cattle and the young of your flock. Blessed shall be your basket and your kneading trough. Blessed shall you be when you come in and blessed shall you be when you go out" (Deuteronomy 28:1-6, Amplified Bible).

The point in this outreach is **not** to make more American-style businesses, but to bring God's purpose to pass regardless of culture or differences, and to make Kingdom businesses that will shine and bring glory to God.

Whether in the US or other countries, we can reflect Jesus to those with whom we work on a daily basis. Most of us have this opportunity to minister His love 40 or more hours per week. The most effective way to do this is, of course, is by demonstration! Walk the talk by living out your personal core values.

On a recent trip to
Poland, I had the opportunity to meet with several
business people, all of
whom were facing unique
challenges in their businesses. One gentleman
who owned a clothing
manufacturing company
was having difficulty finding skilled labor from the
small pool of workers who

were legally available to hire. He was tempted to hire people who were not authorized to legally work in Poland, but he desired to operate his company as unto the Lord.

After some discussion, I found out he already employed tailors he considered to be masters in their trade. We then talked about a plan where this businessman could offer a group of single moms the opportunity to learn a new trade on the weekends. The highly skilled tailors would earn extra income as teachers, passing on their knowledge to these mothers in need. Normal production would not be interrupted, and the single moms who successfully completed their training would be hired, with proven skills in place.

Where this businessman previously saw a dead end, he was now excited about helping families, while growing his business! Also, a natural result of his decision will be his current employees watching their boss lead them with strong ethics.

"This is the kind of fast day I'm after: to break the chains of injustice, get rid of exploitation in the workplace, free the oppressed, cancel debts. What I'm interested in seeing you do is: sharing your food with the hungry, inviting the homeless poor into your

homes, putting clothes on the shivering ill-clad, being available to your own families. Do this and the lights will turn on, and your lives will turn around at once. Your righteousness will pave your way. The God of glory will secure your passage. Then when you pray, God will answer. You'll call out for help and I'll say, 'Here I am'" (Isaiah 58:6-9 The Message).

GOD AS CEO

In 2003, my husband, Chris, and I were going through a very difficult time. After eleven years, I had left the family manufacturing business, to begin to break ground in an unknown business service-Kingdom business consulting. Chris has an architectural degree, and had started his residential design business four years prior. It was during this time that everything "dried up." Suddenly, Chris had only one client and no houses to design. Chris came to me one day and said, "God told me not to bill my client the next time I complete a home design for them." That seemed like an easy decision, since there was no work to be had.

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You can see it coming, can't you?

Not long after this conversation with God, sure enough, Chris received a call from his client. It was a nice large home which

would bring in some much needed income for our struggling household. The design was finished quickly. and when it came time to deliver the plans to the homebuilder, my husband announced to the client that he would not receive an invoice for the design, because this was God's instruction. The builder was understandably shocked, and thought Chris was a little crazy. No, a LOT crazy! God taught Chris a valuable lesson through this. GOD is our provider, not the clients, and not the work of our hands.

"The fundamental fact of existence is that this trust in God, this faith, is the firm foundation under everything that makes life worth living. It's our handle on what we can't see. The act of faith is what distinguished our ancestors, set them above the crowd" (Hebrews 11:1-2 The Message).

He wants us to come to the end of our rope. When all of our efforts fail, God says, "Are you ready to try it my way?" He wants us to learn how to trust Him with EVERYTHING. Our businesses, family, health, finances, time...everything!

It's not always going to make sense, is it? You may have some difficult questions from your employees, your clients and your family. But we are laboring "as unto the Lord," who is our CEO.

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Here's something that can help us remember this principle: "...many of us find the security of the world system much more comfortable than the walk of faith. Our challenge is to walk into our Promised Land." – J. Gunnar Olson, Founder of International Christian Chamber of Commerce.

ASK HIM

When we finally let Jesus take the wheel, something amazing happens. Those issues that inevitably come up become an opportunity to see what God will do. You begin to think, "How will He handle this, and what will be my role?" Ask Him "How do You want to use me?"

We are to ask our CEO what He wants, what He is planning. "Pray without ceasing" (1 Thessalonians 5:17, New American Standard Bible).

My dad and I worked together in our metal stamping company for eleven years. Each time we would bid a new job opportunity, we would pray over the bid before sending it to the client. Dad taught me to pray, not that we would necessarily win the bid, but to pray that God's will be done, period. We did not want business that would become a loss to the company, and we did not want to work with clients who would cause the company harm. It may look like a

great opportunity for growth, or the job may look like a small opportunity not worth spending time on, but we are unable to see the whole picture.

"We don't yet see
things clearly. We're
squinting in a fog, peering through a mist. But it
won't be long before the
weather clears and the
sun shines bright! We'll
see it all then, see it all as
clearly as God sees us,
knowing him directly just
as he knows us!"
(1 Corinthians 13:12, The
Message).

In January of 2005, I was wrapping up my 2005 projected revenue report for our residential design firm, which would determine our budget for the year. After creating these projections for a \$4 million company, I was confident in my ability to whip up a projection for this two-person firm in no time. God must have had an angel hit me on the head, for as I was finishing up my spreadsheet and graphs, a thought popped up, "I should pray about this." So I prayed, "God, is this an accurate number for our revenue?" Immediately, the Holy Spirit gave me another number, a number that was twice the number on the graph in front of me. Yes, it was DOUBLE the projected annual revenue I had estimated.

It may not come as news to you, but it turns out that

God really knows what He's doing! The year of 2005, God granted us supernatural favor with a client, we hired another employee, and we met the projected amount that the Holy Spirit provided. The good news is, it was God's plan and He used us to carry it out.

He wants to use you, too. I pray that you will discover more ways to get God involved in your business.

Angela Hough is President of Hand in Hand International, a Dallas-Ft. Worth area organization which offers a bridge for companies to connect to worthwhile philanthropic organizations that reflect their company values. For more information: www.handinhandintl.com or call (817) 614-6747.



Angela Hough



Book Review Finding the Good and Seeing His Glory by Kenna Turner West LOOKING FOR GOD IN BOTH BLESSING AND TESTING

Over the Summer, my wife, Susanne, and I were privileged to read a wonderfully inspiring book that explores a deeply personal journey through life and Scripture. The book is *Finding the Good and Seeing His Glory* by Kenna Turner West, and we recommend it highly to everyone.

Kenna is an extraordinary woman with an amazing testimony, and she writes in a way that is highly relatable, deeply moving, and often very funny. Many **One-to-One** readers will know her as a talented vocalist and award-winning songwriter, who has ministered at our annual Gatlinburg Conferences. Along with her husband, Kerry, she has experienced God's grace and healing in the midst of tragedy and trials, including the death of Kerry's mother, beloved country music superstar Dottie West.

Kenna shares with a refreshing honesty and openness about her own life and struggles that will connect with readers. She writes with a spirit of revelation, offering powerfully practical insights into Scripture and into the lives of real biblical characters who encountered a real God who delivered them from real trouble and into real victory (*Review by Stephen Simpson*).

"Kenna Turner West writes like she sings—with all her heart! Her insights are like music to the soul." —Dr. Jerry Falwell

"This is such a great work. I was taken by its simplicity." —Ricky Skaggs

"It is not only the 'green pastures' and 'still waters' she captures, but the 'valley of the shadow.' Like David, she brings us to a rich table."

-Charles Simpson

FOR INFORMATION ON THE BOOK AND THE MINISTRY OF KENNA TURNER WEST: WestHouse Online Ministries • P.O. Box 1413 • Lebanon, TN 37088 • www.kennaturnerwest.com

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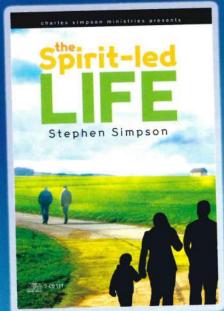
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