



Future Faith:

10 Challenges Reshaping Christianity in the 21st Century

September 15 – November 24, 2019

Facilitator: Dr. Greg Smith

Greg@SoWhatFaith.com

Session 1: Agenda

- Welcome, Attendance, & Prayer
- Our Experiences of Change in the Church
- Meet Your Facilitator
- Meet The Author
- 10 Challenges Facing American Christianity
- Class Schedule, Expectations, & Questions

Looking Back

How has the American church changed during your lifetime?

How has FPC changed since you became a member (or regular participant)?





Who is Greg Smith?



Education



Congregational Ministry



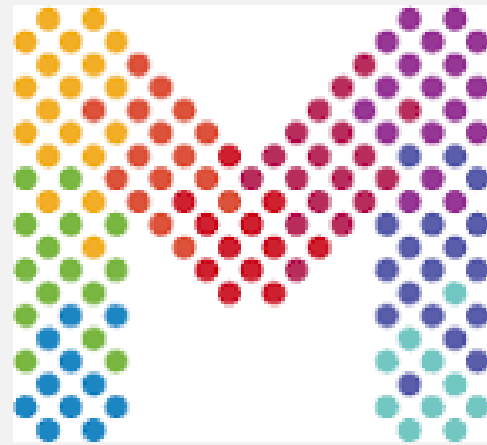
Denominational Background



Current Affiliations



So What Faith
GREG SMITH

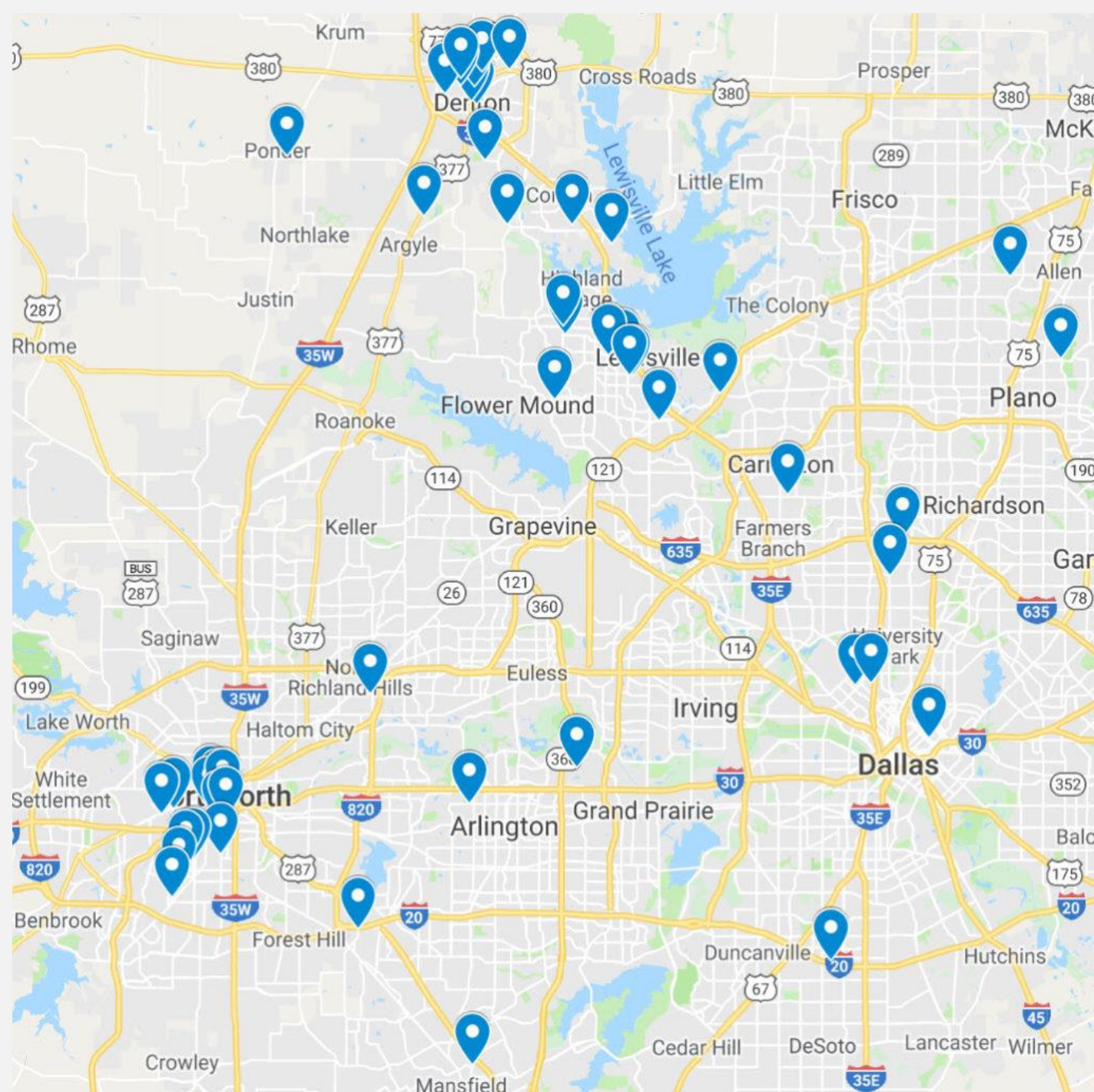


MANSFIELD
MISSION
CENTER

Greg's Experience: Visiting 50+ Churches in DFW

- Assemblies of God – 1
- Baptist – 2
- Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) – 8
- Episcopal – 4
- Evangelical Lutheran Church in America – 3
- Non-denominational – 1
- Presbyterian Church (USA) – 9
- United Church of Christ – 5
- United Methodist – 16
- Unitarian Universalist – 3

<http://sowhatfaith.com/2019/02/18/visiting-50-churches-in-dallas-fort-worth/>



Greg's Thoughts: Future Church



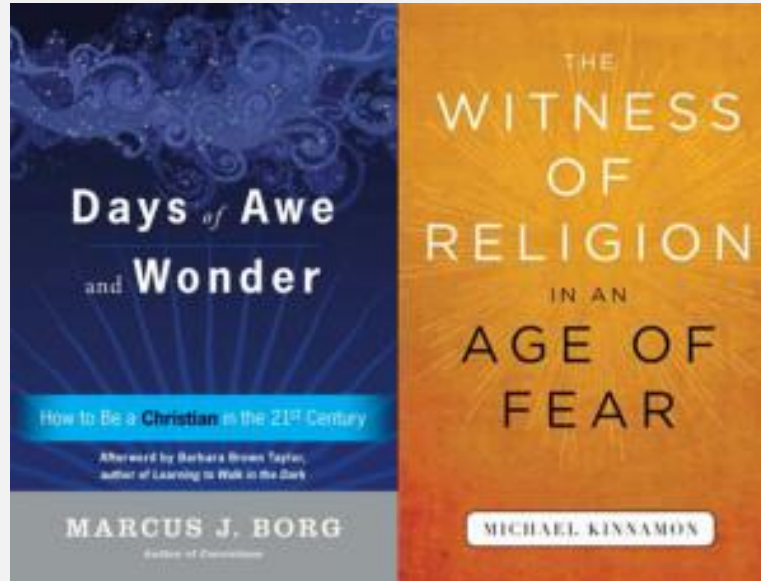
10. [More Collaboration – Less Competition](#)
9. [More Scalable – Less Fixed Costs](#)
8. [More About Following – Less About Membership](#)
7. [More About Questions – Less About Answers](#)
6. [More Jesus-Centered – Less Focused on Tradition](#)
5. [More Begin by Belonging – Less Begin by Believing](#)
4. [More Connected – Less Geographically Dependent](#)
3. [More Innovative – Less Predictable](#)
2. [More Egalitarian – Less Hierarchical](#)
1. [More About Deeds – Less About Creeds](#)

<http://sowhatfaith.com/2012/04/23/the-future-church-v-2020-10-shifts/>

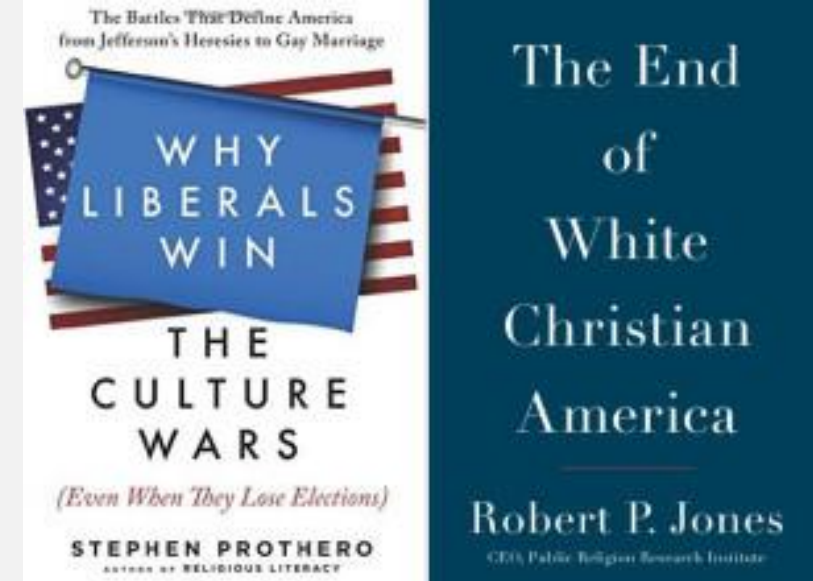
So What Faith – Annual Top Books Lists



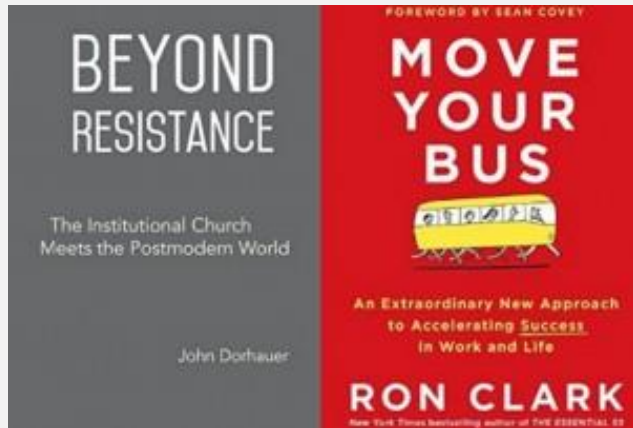
2018



2017



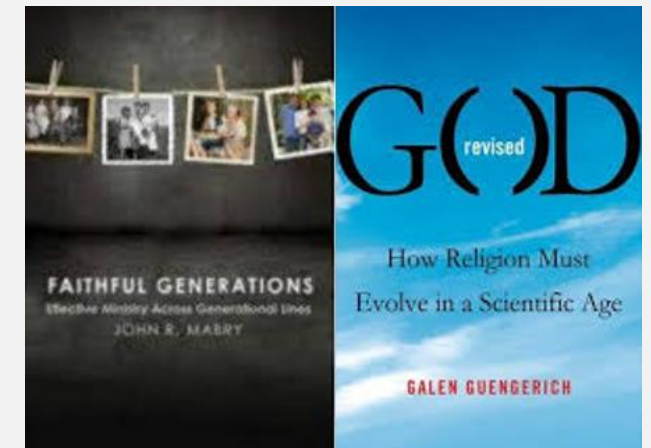
2016



2015



2014



2013

Meet the Author



The Rev. Wesley "Wes" Granberg-Michaelson

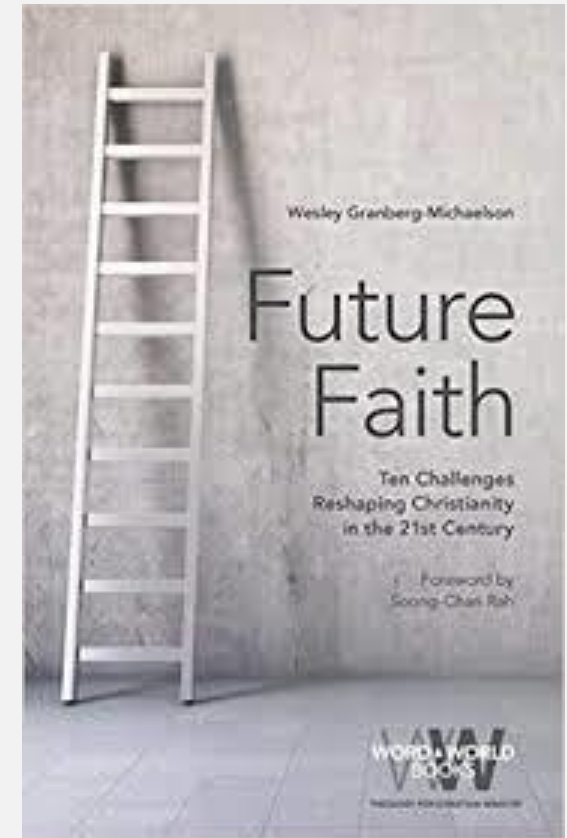
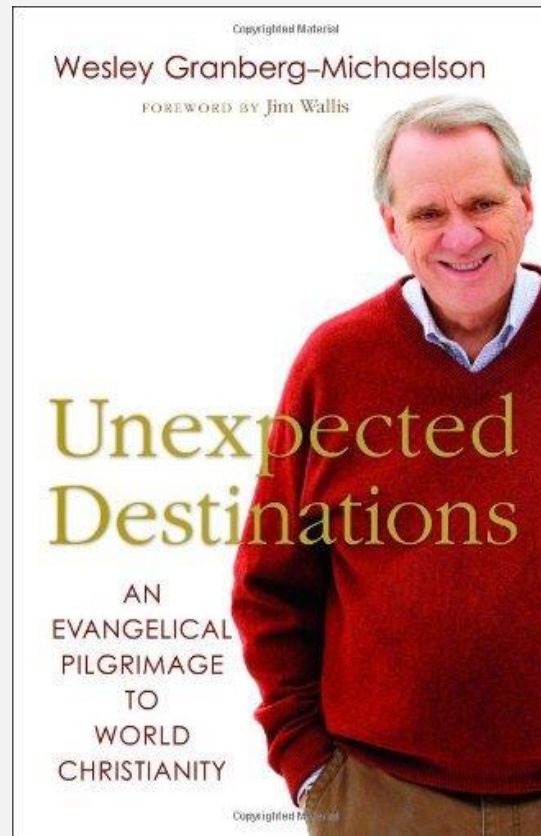
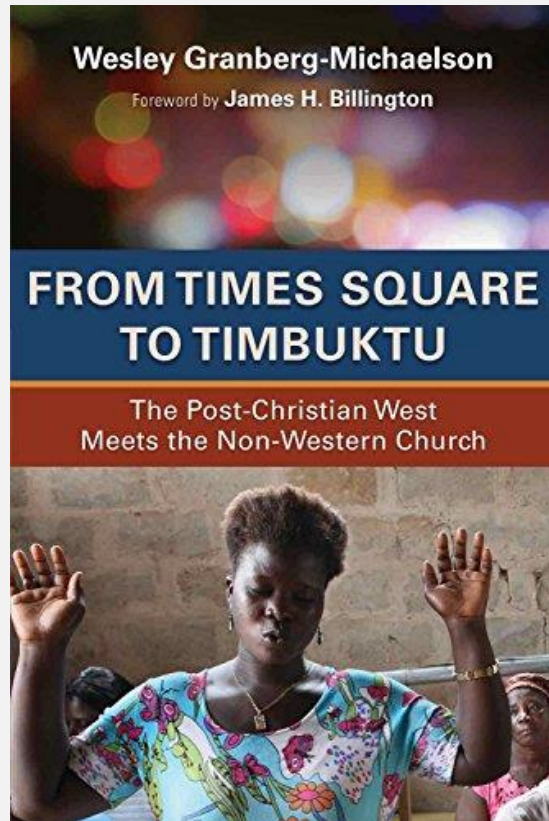
✓ Education

- Hope College
- Western Theological Seminary

✓ Ministry

- Managing Editor, Sojourners Magazine
- Founder, New Creation Institute
- Director of Church and Society, World Council of Churches
- Co-Founder, Christian Churches Together
- General Secretary, Reformed Church in America

Meet the Author





Future Faith:

10 Challenges Reshaping Christianity in the 21st Century



Revitalizing
Withering
Congregations



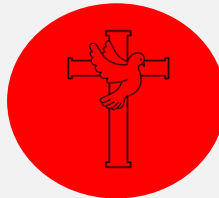
Perceiving the
World as Sacred



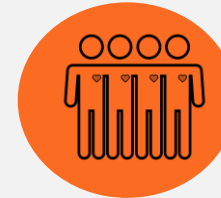
Defeating
Divisive
Culture Wars



Embracing the
Color of the
Future



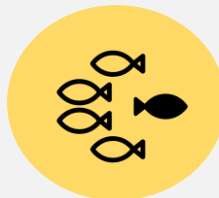
Affirming Spirit-
Filled Communities



Belonging
Before
Believing



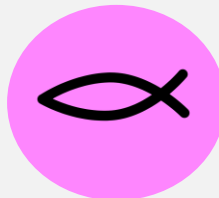
Seeing through
Non-Western
Eyes



Rejecting the Heresy
of Individualism



Saving
This
World



De-Americanizing
the Gospel

Class Schedule, Expectations, & Questions

Schedule: One Challenge a week for the next 10 weeks (9/22 – 11/24)

Expectations:

Questions:



Future Faith:

10 Challenges Reshaping Christianity in the 21st Century

September 15 – November 24, 2019

Facilitator: Dr. Greg Smith

Greg@SoWhatFaith.com