INSIDE: *Persecuted Church Prayer Map • Egerton Ryerson • The Chosen Season 6*

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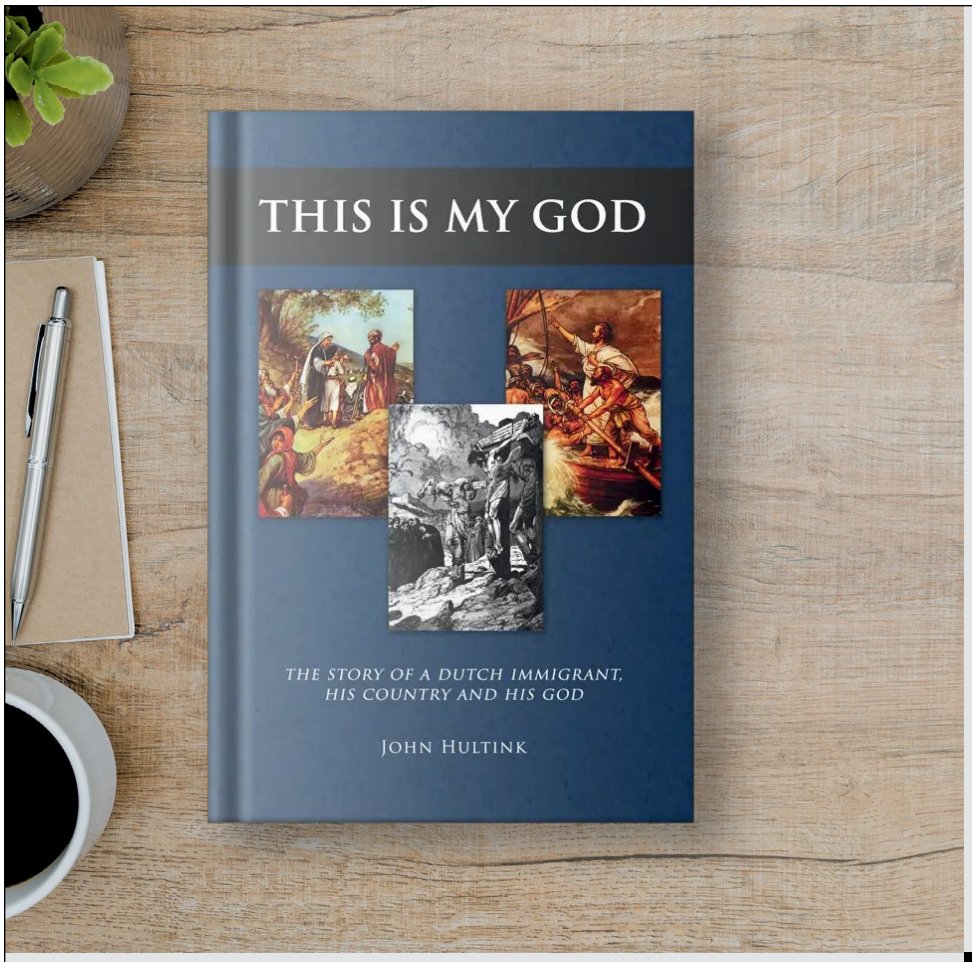
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The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the Word of our God stands ***FOREVER.*** *Isaiah 40:8*

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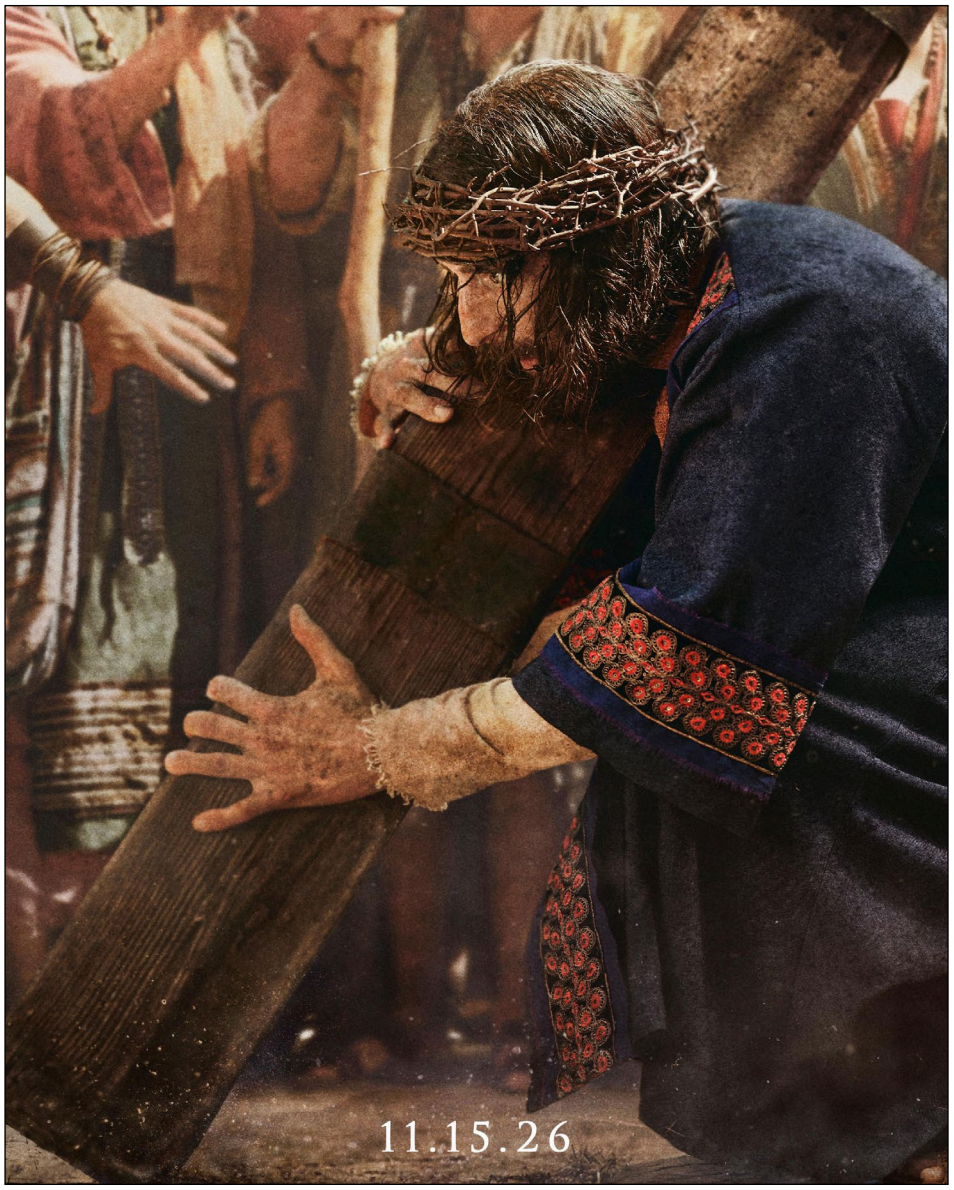
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Teaser Image of Season Six of The Chosen, courtesy of 5&2 Studios

Season Six of The Chosen premieres November 15

New season of the internationally acclaimed TV drama to be released on Prime Video in Canada.

The new season of The Chosen will feature six television episodes, with the first three released simultaneously on November 15, followed by weekly episodes through December 6. The season will conclude with a standalone movie release in spring 2027.

Season Six focuses on the final 24 hours of Jesus' earthly life, portraying the events leading to His crucifixion through the perspectives of His disciples, religious authorities and Roman officials.

"Everyone knows the basics of this part of the story, but not everyone knows the 'why' of the crucifixion and the extraordinary events of these 24 hours," said series creator Dallas Jenkins, explaining the decision to devote an entire season and theatrical finale to the subject.

Jonathan Roumie returns as Jesus, alongside Shahar Isaac as Peter, Elizabeth Tabish as Mary Magdalene and Luke Dimyan as Judas.

Produced by 5&2 Studios, The Chosen has attracted more than 300 million viewers worldwide. The groundbreaking series is planned to conclude after seven seasons.

All five previous seasons are currently available to Canadian viewers on Prime Video.





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Ontario's Christian Colleges and Universities facing...

OSAP FUNDING CRISIS

Sudden suspension of student assistance threatens thousands of students at private institutions, raising urgent questions about fairness, religious education and the need for long-term financial independence.

Ontario's Christian colleges and universities are facing a financial crisis following the Ford government's sudden suspension of Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) payments to students attending private postsecondary institutions.

The October 6 announcement has created uncertainty for students at longstanding Christian institutions, including **Tyndale University** in Toronto, **Redeemer University** in Ancaster, **Canada Christian College** in Whitby and **McMaster Divinity College** in Hamilton.

Many students began the academic year expecting government-approved loans and grants to help cover tuition, accommodation and living expenses. Weeks into the semester, that assistance remains unavailable.

Worse, on October 20, Colleges and Universities Minister Nolan Quinn announced that payments would not resume until a strengthened institutional approval process is introduced, something the province does not anticipate before 2027.

A Broad Response to a Different Problem

The funding freeze follows a government investigation into suspected abuse of OSAP funding at certain private career colleges.

An independent audit conducted by KPMG identified potential irregularities involving student verification, enrolment records, connections with immigration services firms and unusually concentrated OSAP applications. The government has referred its concerns to the Ontario Provincial Police.

Protecting taxpayers and maintaining educational accountability are legitimate government responsibilities. However, critics argue that suspending funding across the entire private postsecondary sector unfairly penalizes institutions and students unconnected with the alleged misconduct.

Christian universities are particularly affected because, despite their separate legislative status, academic programs and longstanding histories, they have been included in the same administrative category as private career colleges.

Tyndale University, for example, has served Canadian students and churches for more than 130 years.

Students Caught in the Middle

For affected students, the consequences are immediate.

In an October 8 open letter, Tyndale President Dr. Marjory Kerr described students struggling to afford groceries, transportation and rent. Some face possible eviction, while others have already withdrawn from their studies.

Tyndale has responded with tuition-payment deferrals and emergency assistance, including food supplies and meal vouchers.

McMaster Divinity College has committed an initial $150,000 toward emergency student support.

The grassroots advocacy initiative OSAP Fairness, found at www.osapfairness.com, has highlighted the circumstances facing established Christian institutions.

According to the campaign, some schools had received indications of approval for the 2026–27 academic year as early as July 16, before the province's subsequent suspension disrupted funding expectations.

The coalition, representing concerned students, faculty, staff, alumni and supporters, is seeking a fair resolution that protects legitimate students while allowing investigations into suspected wrongdoing to proceed.

"Students who followed the rules should not have their education jeopardized by allegations concerning other institutions."



The underlying principle is straightforward: students who followed the rules should not have their education jeopardized by allegations concerning other institutions.

Three Ways Christians Can Respond

Ontario's Christian community has an opportunity to demonstrate practical solidarity through three immediate responses.

First, pray. Congregations should include affected students, families, faculty and institutional leaders in congregational prayer. Pray also for Premier Doug Ford, Minister Quinn and provincial officials as they work toward a fair resolution.

Second, help a student. Churches, businesses, alumni and individuals can contribute to emergency assistance funds administered by affected institutions. Congregations might sponsor students facing immediate difficulties with tuition, accommodation or essential expenses.

Third, engage politically. Concerned Ontarians can respectfully contact their local Members of Provincial Parliament, the Premier's Office and the Ministry of Colleges and Universities, asking for the restoration of funding to eligible students at accountable institutions.

The OSAP Fairness campaign provides information and advocacy resources, including opportunities to register support and contact elected representatives.

A Longer-Term Vision: Christian Higher Education Financial Independence

Beyond the immediate emergency, this crisis exposes a larger vulnerability: the dependence of Christian higher education upon government-controlled student financing.

To remedy this, Christian Herald believes Ontario's Christian community should consider establishing a substantial, independently-governed Christian Higher Education Endowment.

Churches, denominations, Christian foundations, businesses, alumni and individual donors could collectively build a permanent investment fund supporting scholarships, emergency grants and institutional needs.

With professional investment management, transparent governance and appropriate oversight, annual distributions could help Christian schools remain accessible without depending entirely on government assistance.

Such an initiative would require cooperation across denominations and institutions, but it could become an enduring investment in the next generation of Christian leadership.

Government assistance should remain accessible to qualifying students. Nevertheless, the Christian community must also consider how to strengthen its own institutions against future financial uncertainty.

The immediate challenge calls for prayer, generosity and civic engagement. The long-term opportunity calls for vision, unity and a commitment to building something that will endure for generations.

Faith-based healthcare benefits all Canadians and should be protected, says new CARDUS report

Faith-based healthcare institutions bring resources and approaches to care that benefit Canadians of all walks of life. Preserving that contribution requires greater attention to their mission and stronger connections across the sector, according to a new Cardus discussion paper released October 20.

Renewing Faith in Healthcare: What Faith-Based Healthcare Offers Canada, and How to Sustain It, by Dr. Rebecca Vachon and Ray Pennings, draws on discussions from a symposium that brought together healthcare leaders and practitioners in Ottawa.

Participants, which included leaders from Catholic and Protestant hospitals, seniors' care facilities and a hospice, as well as practitioners and representatives of healthcare associations, described how religious convictions shape their care for patients, particularly those facing complex needs or experiencing homelessness. They also identified challenges in sustaining their institutions' mission amid growing secularization and pressures on conscience, including preparing future leaders, expanding faith-based healthcare education, and sharing effective programs across institutions.

"Canadians benefit from faith-based healthcare whether or not they share the beliefs that inspire it," says Ray Pennings,



Cardus executive vice president and co-founder. "For many who work in these institutions, caring for a vulnerable person is a calling. That sense of responsibility shapes how they serve patients and sustains them through difficult work."

The paper identifies contributions that, together, distinguish faith-based healthcare:

• **Care for the whole person:** Institutions deliberately attend to spiritual and emotional needs alongside physical health, including when an illness cannot be cured.

• **Service to marginalized people:** Faith-based organizations develop programs for people whose needs can be difficult to meet through existing services. For instance, Journey Home Hospice, a program of the Saint Elizabeth Foundation, provides end-of-life care at no cost to people experiencing homelessness.

• **Community support:** Connections with faith communities bring donations, volunteers and relationships that can strengthen care and help institutions respond to emerging needs.

• **Care for healthcare workers:** Attention to meaning and spiritual care can help sustain staff through demanding work.

These practices also exist in secular settings. The paper argues that faith-based institutions make a distinctive contribution by intentionally integrating these practices into care guided by their religious mission. Symposium discussions also drew on experience in Jewish healthcare settings and explored the contribution of people of faith working in secular institutions.

"Faith is what brought many of these institutions into being, and it continues to motivate people to serve their neighbours," adds Pennings. "Preserving faith-based healthcare means protecting the convictions that guide its care, while showing Canadians how it benefits the wider community."

ARPA Canada Calls on Parliament to Reject MAID Without Consent

On October 27, the federal government introduced Bill C-41, making changes to Canada's criminal law around Medical Assistance in Dying (MAID).

Bill C-41, if passed, will legalize advance requests for MAID, meaning persons diagnosed with a serious capacity-limiting illness may outline in writing the circumstances under which a doctor may euthanize them after they lose the mental capacity to consent.

"Bill C-41 will remove the existing requirement for present consent, leaving it to provinces to determine whether to legalize advance euthanasia requests," said Daniel Zekveld, Policy Analyst for ARPA Canada. "Advance consent is not informed consent. It is based only on fear of a future condition that the person has never experienced."

Zekveld noted, "Rather than being a clear choice about when to die, advance requests delegate a future life-and-death decision to third-parties to determine when a person should die by MAID. Instead of offering MAID to those with capacity-limiting illnesses, Canada must provide appropriate care and support so that those facing loss of capacity can live well despite their illness."

Proposed safeguards around advance euthanasia requests in the legislation will be inadequate, as understanding the wishes of a patient who has lost capacity is difficult, if not impossible, to determine.

"ARPA Canada calls on Parliament to move forward with the much-needed repeal of MAID for mental illness, said Zekveld, but to reject MAID without present consent."

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Niagara Conference 2026 to explore Biblical Creation, Science and Christian Worldview

Former NASA astronaut Barry Wilmore to headline two-day event at Worldview Campus in Niagara Region, November 20–21.

The Cántaro Institute will host its annual Niagara Conference on November 20–21, bringing together Christian scholars, scientists and ministry leaders to explore the biblical doctrine of creation and its implications for faith, science and contemporary culture.

With the theme "Creation Ex Nihilo"—Latin for "creation out of nothing"—the conference will examine the biblical understanding of God as Creator and how that foundational belief shapes Christian perspectives on human origins, scientific inquiry and the authority of Scripture.

The two-day gathering will take place at Worldview Campus in Wellandport, Ontario, featuring six speakers, including former NASA astronaut **Captain Barry "Butch" Wilmore.**

Wilmore, who retired from NASA in 2025, completed three spaceflights and accumulated 464 days in space. His most recent mission aboard the International Space Station was unexpectedly extended to approximately nine months following difficulties with Boeing's Starliner spacecraft. Now serving as an elder at Providence Baptist Church in Texas, Wilmore combines his experience in space exploration with his Christian faith.

Other featured speakers include astronomer **Dr. Danny Faulkner** of Answers in Genesis, who will lead two evening stargazing sessions; **Dr. Jerry Bergman**, an author and former college professor; and **Calvin Smith**, Executive Director of Answers in Genesis–Canada.

The program will also feature **Rev. Steven R. Martins**, founding director of the Cántaro Institute, and **Joe Owen**, an international speaker and Christian apologist.

Conference sessions will address questions about the relationship between science and worldview, the importance of Genesis to Christian theology, and the philosophical implications of evolutionary thought.

Martins will open the conference Friday evening with a presentation entitled "Worldview Before Science," examining how underlying beliefs influence interpretations of scientific evidence.

Saturday's program includes Smith's presentation, "Genesis: The Missing Piece of the Puzzle," and Bergman's examination of C.S. Lewis's evolving views on Darwinism and evolution. A panel discussion will give attendees opportunities to engage with all six speakers.

The conference also marks an important chapter for the Cántaro Institute, which recently established its Worldview Campus in Wellandport as a centre for Christian education, scholarship and ministry.



Captain Barry "Butch" Wilmore
Public domain photo by Bill Stafford

Organizers hope the gathering will equip Christians to approach questions about origins, truth and contemporary culture from a distinctly biblical perspective.

Registration is $60 per person. The conference will be held at Worldview Campus, 6727 South Chippawa Road, Wellandport, with on-site parking available.

For further information, the complete schedule and conference registration, visit cantaroinstitute.org/niagara2026.

'The Bible Is Trending' to explore spiritual curiosity among young Canadians

Canadian Bible Society to host gathering for pastors, youth leaders and educators in Richmond Hill.

The Canadian Bible Society is inviting Christian leaders across the Greater Toronto Area to explore renewed interest in Scripture among younger generations at an upcoming event entitled "**The Bible Is Trending: Honest Conversations for a Shifting Age."**

Scheduled for Tuesday, November 24, at the Sheraton Parkway Toronto North Hotel in Richmond Hill, the free gathering will examine how churches can respond to a generation increasingly asking challenging questions about Christianity, faith and biblical truth. Two keynote speakers will lead the discussion.

Dr. Andrew Ollerton, a British theologian, pastor and founder of The Bible Course, will present "Making Sense of the Bible's Toughest Questions." Ollerton is also the author of *God's Book: An Honest Look at the Bible's 7 Toughest Topics*.

Dr. Domenic Ruso, Lead Pastor of the180 Church, will address "Hearing Biblical Truth in a Shifting Secular Age." Ruso is the author of *The Bible for a Shifting Secular Age: Hearing the Truth You Need for the Life You Are Meant to Live.*



Dr. Andrew Ollerton
Theologian, pastor and founder of
The Bible Course

A highlight of the event will be the launch of *God's Book: The Series*, a new eight-part video resource featuring Ollerton alongside young Canadian hosts Mikayla, Juanita and Quinten.

The series, developed by the Canadian Bible Society to address young adults' questions about God and faith, tackles challenging subjects including science, suffering, sexuality, violence and biblical interpretation, encouraging thoughtful engagement rather than simplistic answers.

A youth panel featuring the series' hosts will also discuss the questions younger Canadians are asking and how churches can create welcoming environments for honest conversations about Scripture.

The event is designed for pastors, youth leaders, campus ministry workers, educators and others seeking to strengthen biblical engagement among emerging generations.

The gathering runs from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., followed by lunch. Doors open at 9:00 a.m.

Admission is free, but advance registration is required. For details and registration, visit biblesociety.ca/tbitevent.

Three GTA Communities to Host Annual Prayer Breakfasts

Christian leaders, civic officials and residents will gather in Brampton, Markham and Oakville this fall for three annual municipal prayer breakfasts, offering opportunities for fellowship, encouragement and prayer for their communities.

The **Brampton Mayor's Prayer Breakfast** takes place Tuesday, November 10, from 6:45-9:00 a.m. at the Pearson Convention Centre. Organized by the Brampton Ministerial, the gathering will feature guest speaker **Adam Shepski**, Executive Director of Disciple a City.

The **Markham Prayer Breakfast** follows Friday, November 20, at 7:00 a.m. at Angus Glen Golf Club. Featured speaker **Dan Carter, Mayor of Oshawa**, will share his remarkable journey of personal transformation and public service. Tickets are $45.

The **43rd Annual Oakville Prayer Breakfast** takes place Wednesday, December 2, from 6:30-8:30 a.m. at the Oakville Conference Centre. **Dr. Deani Van Pelt**, President of Edvance Christian Schools Association, will speak on following God's guidance through career, crisis and calling.

CREATION EX NIHILO

2026 Niagara Conference

November 20-21, 2026

Worldview Campus

6727 S. Chippawa Rd., Wellandport, ON.

If Genesis 1–3 were to be compromised, the entire Christian worldview would begin to unravel. The 2026 Niagara Conference, *Creation Ex Nihilo*, directly addresses the rise of theistic evolution, scientism, and other reductionist frameworks that seek to reinterpret Scripture's opening chapters. This conference makes the case that Genesis is not peripheral, but foundational to the church's doctrine of God, creation, mankind, sin, and redemption—equipping believers to stand firmly on the authority of God's Word in a confused age.

WITH TEACHING FROM

Astronaut Capt. Barry Wilmore, Joe Owen, Dr. Jerry Bergman, Calvin Smith,
Rev. Steven R. Martins, Dr. Danny Faulkner






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MUSIC

Christmas at The River Set for December 5

The River Worship will present its annual Christmas at The River production on Saturday, December 5, at 7:30 p.m., bringing an evening of Christmas music and worship to the eastern Greater Toronto Area.

The family-oriented event will celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ through congregational singing, Christmas carols, special musical presentations and a candle-lighting ceremony.

Organizers say the evening is intended to bring Christians together to reflect on the significance of Christmas, with the performances centred on worship rather than entertainment. The production's theme emphasizes celebrating the birth of Christ before an "Audience of One: JESUS!"

Following the program, attendees are invited to gather for complimentary hot chocolate in the lobby.

General admission tickets cost $30, with seating available on a first-come, first-served basis. The first 1,000 attendees will receive a complimentary Christmas ornament.



VIP admission is $50 and includes reserved seating in the first five rows, reserved parking near the entrance, red-carpet access and an event T-shirt. (VIP seating and parking reservations will be released at 7:35 p.m.)

Children under five are admitted free of charge. The event is open to individuals, families and church groups throughout the Greater Toronto Area. Proceeds from ticket sales will help support future productions and ministry activities of The River Worship.

For tickets and additional information, visit www.theriverworship.ca.

Christmas in the City returns Dec. 19

Jesus in the City will host its annual Christmas in the City celebration on Saturday, December 19, at Global Kingdom Ministries in Scarborough, bringing together churches and families from across the GTA.

The event, themed A Musical Showcase & Cultural Celebration, will feature gospel music, choirs, Christmas carols and multicultural dance performances in celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ.

The evening begins with the Christmas Experience at 5 p.m., followed by a concert at 6 p.m. A Christmas Market of Nations will offer international foods, baked goods and gifts, alongside interactive activities and family attractions.

"Christmas is a beautiful opportunity to bring people together to celebrate the incredible love of God and to share that love with others," says Rev. Ayanna Solomon, president of Jesus in the City.

Best known for its annual Jesus in the City Parade in downtown Toronto, the organization promotes Christian unity through public expressions of faith, bringing together congregations from different denominations and cultural backgrounds.

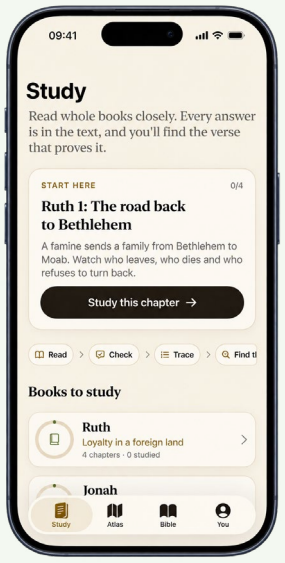


The Christmas celebration continues that emphasis on faith, cultural diversity and community fellowship.

Christmas Passports are $25. Global Kingdom Ministries is located at 1250 Markham Road, Toronto. For tickets and information, visit www.jesusinthecity.com.

TECH

Toronto-made Bible app goes live on the App Store



Wayfold: Understand the Bible went live on the App Store on October 21. The new Bible Study app, developed in Toronto, lets users focus on one chapter at a time.

Readers can read and study through the World English Bible, and answer comprehension questions. For small groups, it prints a PDF leader guide for a chapter or a whole book, with the chapter outline, discussion questions with an answer key and verse references, the places named and a reflection question. Every explanation is labelled (In the text, History, Interpretation, Traditions differ, Debated).

Ruth and Jonah, the Ruth group guide, the atlas, timeline and full Bible reader are free. One optional Premium Lifetime purchase (no subscription) adds Philippians, James, Habakkuk and Philemon. No account, no ads, no tracking.

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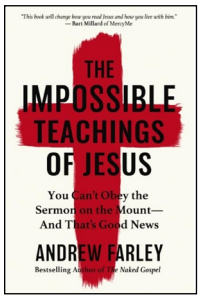
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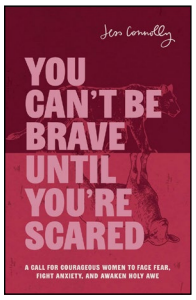
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The Impossible Teachings of Jesus
You Can't Obey the Sermon on the Mount - And That's Good News
By Andrew Farley, Zondervan
288 pages, Paperback

Andrew Farley takes readers straight into Christianity's most admired--and most misunderstood--sermon. For centuries, the Sermon on the Mount has been treated as a spiritual rulebook, a blueprint for moral success, and a road map to becoming "more like Jesus."

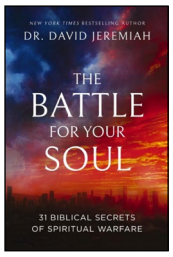
Farley shows that the Sermon on the Mount was never meant to produce better behaviour. Instead, it was designed to shatter self-righteousness, expose our total inability, and drive us to the only place grace can actually be found. Jesus wasn't raising the bar so we could try harder; he was removing every illusion that we could succeed at all.



You Can't Be Brave Until You're Scared
A Call for Courageous Women to Face Fear, Fight Anxiety, and Awaken Holy Awe
By Jess Connolly, Baker Publishing Group
224 pages, Paperback

Fear is no longer a quiet undercurrent in women's lives--it's a crisis. As many as one in three women will experience an anxiety disorder in her lifetime, with numbers rising fastest among younger women. Culturally, the message makes it worse: if you're not scared, you're not paying attention. But many of us have absorbed an equally crushing message from the church: that fear itself is a failure of faith. Both are lies. And Scripture tells a different story.

At the heart of this book is a truth that most Christians have never been taught: when you learn to fear the Lord rightly, every other fear begins to lose its grip.



The Battle for Your Soul
31 Biblical Secrets of Spiritual Warfare
By Dr David Jeremiah
Thomas Nelson
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You sense it, don't you? A force in the world actively working against your peace, your family, and your faith. The Bible calls this spiritual warfare, and Dr. David Jeremiah wants to offer a liberating truth: You have nothing to fear in Christ.

For too long, the topic of spiritual warfare has been shrouded in confusion or sensationalism. Dr. Jeremiah cuts through the noise to give you clear, biblical perspectives on how to identify the enemy's strategies without becoming obsessed with them. It's time to stop walking in fear and start living in the confidence of the One who has already overcome the world.





Opening Hearts and Homes: The Christian Call to Foster and Adopt

As we commemorate Adoption Awareness Month, **Bridgeway Family Homes** is encouraging Christian families and congregations to help provide loving, stable homes for vulnerable children.

Every November, Adoption Awareness Month shines a spotlight on the thousands of children and youth whose lives are touched by Ontario's child welfare system, and the families who open their hearts and homes to them.

For Christians, the call to care for vulnerable children is deeply rooted in Scripture. James 1:27 identifies caring for orphans and widows in their distress as an expression of pure religion. For a growing number of Ontario families, that calling is finding practical expression through fostering and adoption.

One organization helping families answer that call is Bridgeway Family Homes, a Christian-family-founded agency that has provided specialized foster care throughout Ontario since 1988.

Working alongside Children's Aid Societies and community partners, Bridgeway has cared for more than 2,500 children and youth, partnering with hundreds of foster parents. According to its website, 217 children have been adopted by Bridgeway families.

Bridgeway also works with local congregations to encourage Christian families to consider fostering, helping address Ontario's continuing need for qualified foster homes.

Behind those numbers are remarkable stories of faith and commitment.

For Audrey, retirement was supposed to mean travelling and relaxing. Instead, inspired by her daughter Tricia's experience as a Bridgeway foster parent, she opened her home in 2003.

> The call to care for vulnerable children is deeply rooted in Scripture.

"I thought that I was just going to travel and relax, but God had other plans for my life," she recalls.

Over the following 23 years, Audrey fostered more than 90 children and adopted three daughters. Her extended family has embraced fostering and adoption as well, including five granddaughters adopted by Tricia and her husband.

Emily's journey followed a similar path. Inspired by her parents, who began fostering in 2008, she became a foster parent herself in 2016. Since then, she has welcomed more than 30 children into her home and pursued adoption of two sisters.

For Mark and Christine, the inspiration came through their church.

After hearing a guest speaker address child trafficking, the couple began praying about how they could help children in need. They completed foster parent training and began providing weekend respite care through Bridgeway.

In July 2024, they met a young boy with whom they developed a special bond. When they learned that he and his sister were available for adoption, they applied to become their permanent parents.

Their application was subsequently approved, and in April 2026, they began the mandatory adoption probation period. They now look forward to the adoptions being finalized by the end of the year.

"Our journey has been a complete reliance on God and His beautiful grace and mercy," the couple shared.

Such stories demonstrate that fostering can be both a temporary ministry of compassion and a pathway to permanent family relationships.

Bridgeway supports foster families with specialized training, clinical services, respite care and around-the-clock guidance.

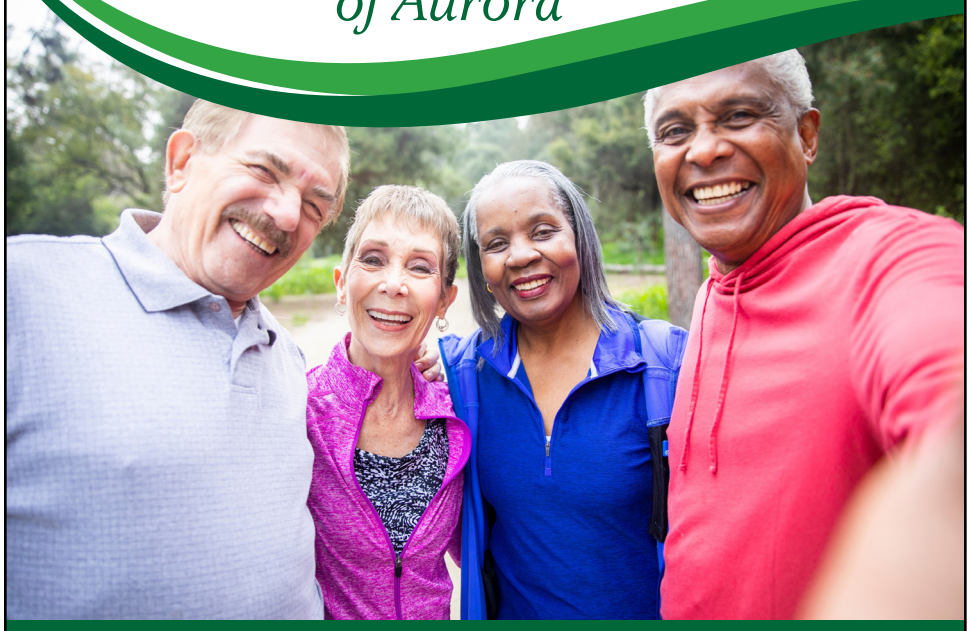
As Adoption Awareness Month approaches, Ontario congregations have an opportunity to respond—through prayer, encouraging prospective foster parents, providing practical support and helping recruit new families.

Not every Christian household can foster or adopt. But every congregation can help build a community where vulnerable children experience love, stability and belonging.

Full versions of the adoption stories are available at www.bridgeway.ca/rise.



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Christian HERALD COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Greater Toronto's most comprehensive guide to Christian events

BUSINESS

Toronto Christian Entrepreneurs Network Breakfast Meeting
Tuesday, November 17, 2026; 7:00-9:00am
Join us every 3rd Tuesday of the month to connect with like-minded Christian entrepreneurs, share ideas, refer clients, and get inspired over breakfast. Whether you're just starting out or seasoned in business, grow your network in a friendly atmosphere. Held at Friend of Nations Church, 1290 Finch Ave., W., Unit# 19, North York. Come with your flyers and business cards. Registration: On EventBrite, or $10.00 at the door. Call 647-914-5777 or email torontocenetwork@gmail.com.

CONCERTS & MUSIC

The River Worship - Season 15
Tuesdays @ 7:30pm [Starts Sept. 8]
Midweek worship has arrived in the Durham Region! You'll find us at the Canada Christian College auditorium, 300 Water Street, Whitby.
The River exists so you can come before God in the middle of the week, leave everything else at the door, and encounter Him in a personal and meaningful way. Expect to hear your favourite current worship songs and get ready to worship. Things might get a little loud!
www.theriverworship.ca.

Whitby Christian Coffeehouse
Saturdays; 7:30-9:30pm
The Coffee House is an outreach ministry of Durham Full Gospel Church focused on spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It was established over thirty-eight years ago and is still going strong. Halfway through the evening there is a 15-minute break for refreshments and fellowship. Each night there is a different Christian group ministering through songs and testimonies of what the Lord has done in their lives. Held at 419 Brock St North, Whitby. For the current schedule of performing artists, visit www.durhamfullgospelchurch.org.

Todd Dulaney LIVE in Toronto
Saturday, November 14th, 2026; 7:00pm
At Revivaltime Tabernacle,
4340 Dufferin St, North York.
www.GospelConnection.ca.

A Gospel and Jazz Christmas ft. Mike Janzen Trio and the Toronto Mass Choir
Thursday, December 3, 2026; 7:30pm
Get ready for an unforgettable night of festive joy! Juno Award-winning Toronto Mass Choir returns to the iconic Koerner Hall for an encore performance of A Gospel Jazz Christmas, alongside the brilliant Mike Janzen Trio. This year's concert brings even more energy with soul-stirring gospel harmonies, rich jazz grooves, and fresh, reimagined holiday arrangements. Featuring special guest appearances by award-winning steel pan artist Joy Lapps and dynamic gospel vocalist Renee Rowe, it's a high-energy celebration packed with timeless classics and original tunes that will resonate long after the final note. www.tmc.ca.

Christmas At The River
Saturday, Dec. 5, 2026; 7:30pm
We can't wait to welcome you to Christmas at The River, our annual celebration of the birth of Jesus! It's one of the most anticipated nights of the year, filled with incredible worship, joy, and Christmas celebration. Come ready to sing your favourite Christmas carols, experience our beautiful candle lighting, and worship together in an atmosphere that captures the wonder and true meaning of Christmas.
This is a night for the whole family! Bring your loved ones, invite your friends, and join us as we celebrate the true reason for the season. Children under 5 attend FREE, and general admission seating is first come, first served. General Admission: $30, VIP Admission: $50 Held at the Canada Event Centre, 300 Water Street, Whitby. Your ticket also helps make future seasons of The River Worship possible. Thank you for your generosity and for being part of what God is doing through this ministry! www.theriverworship.ca.

Christmas in the City 2026
Saturday, December 19, 2026; 5:00pm
Get ready for an unforgettable Christmas celebration! Bringing churches, families, artists and communities together from across the Greater Toronto Area, this vibrant multicultural experience will celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ through music, the arts and culture. The excitement begins at 5 p.m. with the Christmas Experience, followed by a spectacular concert at 6 p.m., featuring uplifting gospel music, dynamic choirs, live bands, Christmas carols and colourful cultural dance performances.
Guests can explore the Christmas Market of Nations, filled with international foods, festive baked goods, gifts and cultural treasures. Adding to the fun are interactive attractions, including a Caroling Karaoke Corner, Christmas Spirit Tunnel and 360-degree camera experience. Presented by Jesus in the City.
Christmas Passports are $25. Location: Global Kingdom Ministries, 1250 Markham Road, Scarborough. Tickets & Information: www.jesusinthecity.com.

CONFERENCES/MEETINGS

2026 Carters Charity & NFP Law Webinar
Thursday, Nov. 12, 2026; 8:30 am–1:00 pm
Join us for Carters' Annual Charity & Not-for-Profit Law In-Person/Hybrid Seminar, with guest speaker Bruce MacDonald, President and CEO of Imagine Canada. Attend in person at the 12FIFTY Event Centre, 1250 Markham Road, Scarborough, or participate virtually via live-streaming. In-person attendees will enjoy a complimentary continental breakfast featuring coffee, tea, juices, and assorted pastries.
Following the seminar, in-person attendees are invited to join us for a complimentary light lunch and anniversary cake as we celebrate Carters' 25th Anniversary and enjoy an opportunity to connect together. Registration Fee: $45.00 per person (plus HST) for both in-person or online attendance. For more information, contact us at 1-877-942-0001 x239 or seminars@carters.ca.

FBC 200th Anniversary Service
Sunday, November 15, 2026; 4:00pm
Join First Baptist Church Toronto - Toronto's first Black institution & beacon of hope for generations - as they celebrate their landmark bicentennial! Join FBC for its special 200th Anniversary service held at Evangel Temple, (4190 Yonge Street) as they celebrate TWO centuries of faith, resilience, service & community. Come be part of this historic celebration of a church founded by 12 enslaved freedom seekers who fled north through the underground railroad in a quest for freedom and opportunity. www.fbctoronto.ca.

2026 Brampton Mayor's Prayer Breakfast
Tuesday, November 10, 2026; 6:45-8:45am
The 2026 Brampton Mayor's Prayer Breakfast will include a great breakfast with good friends, guest speaker Adam Shepski, enjoyable music, and, of course, prayer. Held at the Pearson Convention Centre, 2638 Steeles Ave., Brampton. Tickets: $30. per person. Hosted by the Brampton & District Ministerial Association. https://2026mayorprayerbreakfast.eventbrite.com.

Canada Missions Society Conference 2026
November 13-14, 2026
Bringing believers together to be inspired, equipped, and empowered to share the hope of Jesus Christ with the world. Uniting Christians to discover, support, and participate in God's mission at home and around the world. Come be inspired by stories of faith, connect with mission-minded believers, and discover how you can make a lasting impact for Christ. At Hope Church Mississauga (7755 Tenth Line W.) www.canadianmissionssociety.org.

ELO Forum Toronto
Wednesday, Nov. 18, 2026; 9:30am- 6:30pm
The ELO Forums in Canada is a premier gathering of Christian business leaders. We invite you to be a part of our events! We're not mass market—we are a limited attendance curated event. Tickets are available as tables or half tables. Held at The Sheraton Toronto Airport Hotel. www.elonetwork.org/Toronto2026.

Creation Ex Nihilo: Niagara Conference 2026
November 20–21, 2026
Join us in Wellandport as we explore the biblical doctrine of creation ex nihilo and consider its far-reaching implications for theology, science, and the Christian worldview. This year's Niagara Conference will equip believers to think clearly and faithfully about origins, authority, and the foundations of truth in every sphere of life.
Featuring Astronaut Barry Wilmore, Dr. Danny Faulkner, Dr. Jerry Bergman, Rev. Steven R. Martins, Joe Owen, and Calvin Smith.
Location: Worldview Campus, 6727 S. Chippawa Rd., Wellandport, ON. L0R 2J0. (Parking on-site) Ticket Price: $60 General Rate.
www.cantaroinstitute.org/niagara2026.

The Bible Is Trending:
Honest Conversations for a Shifting Age
Tuesday, Nov. 24, 2026; 9:30am–12:30pm
The Bible can feel overwhelming, confusing and sometimes difficult to understand. Today's generation is asking honest questions about faith, truth and the Bible's relevance to life. Are we ready to answer the questions?
Join Dr. Andrew Ollerton and Dr. Domenic Ruso for a conversation about helping a spiritually curious generation engage the Bible with honesty and confidence. We welcome pastors, youth leaders, campus ministry staff, educators, and anyone passionate about helping people uncover the wisdom of Scripture and grapple with challenging questions. Be among the first to experience God's Book: The Series, an eight-part video resource featuring Andrew Ollerton and young Canadian hosts Mikayla, Juanita and Quinten tackling tough questions about science, suffering, sex, violence and the Bible. Held at: Sheraton Parkway Toronto North Hotel & Suites, 600 Highway 7, Richmond Hill. Register for free before November 24.
https://biblesociety.ca/TBITEvent.

The 2026 Oakville Prayer Breakfast
Wednesday, December 2, 2026; 6:30am
In its 43rd year, the OPB is thrilled to present "When the Professional Becomes Personal:

To list your event in the Community Calendar, format your listing exactly as those on this page and email it to us at info@christianherald.ca.
Submissions which are incorrectly formatted may not be published. All submissions are subject to space and taste considerations. Christian Herald reserves the right to decide what is appropriate, and may edit submissions. Placement in the Community Calendar is NOT guaranteed. All persons and organizations submitting events to the Community Calendar must agree with the Statement of Faith as found on our website at www.christianherald.ca. Events sponsored by churches which distribute Christian Herald will be given priority. Your calendar listing must reach Christian Herald by the 15th of the month preceding the issue in which you would like it to be printed. (For example, the listing must arrive by the 15th of September to be included in the October issue.)

Following God's Nudge Through Career, Crisis, and Calling" with special guest speaker Dr. Deani Van Pelt, President of Edvance Christian Schools Association. Please join us for breakfast, prayer, inspirational worship and fellowship as we enter the advent season! Tickets: $40., Table of 10: $400. For more information visit: www.oakvilleprayerbreakfast.com.

Chinese 2026 Evangelism Conference
Saturday, Dec. 5, 2026; 9:30am-4:00pm
Presented in Mandarin, Cantonese and English. With special guests Rev. Will Graham, Rev. Leo Chia, Rev. Dr. Ho-Ming Tsui, Rev. George Mah, Rev. Peter Mah, Silas Wang. At Scarborough Chinese Baptist Church, 3223 Kennedy Road, Scarborough. Free admission For information and to register: www.billygraham.ca/chinese.

Christian Heritage Month
Flag Raising Ceremony & Celebration
Sunday, December 6, 2026
Flag Raising 3:00-4:00pm
Celebration 4:15pm
The CHM Brampton Flag Raising Ceremony will take place at Brampton City Hall (2 Wellington Street West, Brampton) Afterward, join us for a special celebration featuring worship, celebration, inspiring speakers, leaders, officials, flag raising, and proclamation, at the nearby Rose Theatre (1 Theatre Lane, Brampton.) Fellowship and refreshments will follow after 6:00pm. This event is free, but please reserve your spot today to ensure your attendance. For more information or to register, visit www.christianheritagemonth.org, or contact us at christianheritagemonth@gmail.com.

CIECR Church Research Gathering 2026
December 9-11, 2026; 9:00am - 5:00pm
Church Leaders and Researchers are invited to The Canadian Institute for Empirical Church Research's annual Congregation and Religion Research Gathering 2026 at Wycliffe College (University of Toronto, St. George Campus).
This three-day gathering brings together people interested in both the academic study of congregations and religion and the practical application of research within churches, denominations, ministries, and other religious organizations. It is designed as a space where researchers and practitioners can share current findings, explore new methods and datasets, and consider how empirical research can inform the questions and challenges facing religious communities. www.ciecr.wycliffecollege.ca.

Envision Pastors and Leaders Conference
February 1-4, 2027 (in Jerusalem)
Presented by International Christian Embassy Jerusalem (ICEJ). The Lord who roars from Zion to chasten the nations is also the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. This year's Envision conference explores the dynamic personality of God, the Lion and the Lamb. At Envision 2027, we will:
• Hear from seasoned Christian pastors from Israel and abroad about how to give Spirit-led direction to your church and community is such times of turmoil and crisis. • Learn from Israeli experts about the current security and political situation in Israel. • Meet with senior Israeli officials in the Knesset and Foreign Ministry. • Tour the border areas in northern and southern Israel most impacted by the war. • Encounter Israelis who have been directly impacted by the conflict. • Visit ICEJ projects which have brought aid and relief to battered Israeli communities. • Take part in a special service with local Arab and Jewish believers worshipping the Lord as the "One New Man." For more information or to register visit: www.icej.ca/envision.

SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS

DivorceCare - Surviving the Holidays
Various GTA locations and dates
After separation or divorce, your holidays won't look the same as they used to. Traditions change. Some family members won't be there. Social gatherings can feel stressful. DivorceCare Surviving the Holidays can help! It's a 2-hour seminar that includes a video, sharing time, and a "Survival Guide" filled with tips and encouragement for managing the holidays after separation and divorce.
www.divorcecare.org/holidays.

GriefShare - Surviving the Holidays
Various GTA locations and dates
Facing this season while grieving can sometimes feel like taking one step forward and two steps back. Holiday traditions have changed. Social events are draining. Sights, songs & smells trigger emotions. Like a trusted guide, a 2-hour GriefShare Surviving the Holidays event will prepare you to navigate the season's changes. www.griefshare.org/holidays.

PRAYER

One Voice 2026:
A Prayer Gathering for the Nations
Saturday, Nov. 14, 2026; 10:30am-5:00pm
Join young adults from across Ontario for One Voice 2026, a free one-day gathering focused on God's heart for the nations. Through worship, global stories, guided prayer, and interactive experiences, participants will pray for unreached peoples and be inspired to respond to God's call. Hosted by Operation Mobilization in Canada, in partnership with HowToLife and MoveIn.
Location: Markham Missionary Church, 5438 Major Mackenzie Dr E, Markham. Cost: Free
For details and registration, visit onevoice.events or email events.ca@om.org.

Toronto Night of Prayer
Saturday, November 14, 2026; 6:30pm
A multicultural gathering of Christian leaders, churches, and believers across the GTA, united in worship and prayer. Together, we seek God for our city, our nation, and greater Gospel impact, celebrating our diversity and our oneness in Christ. Location: Friends Of Jesus Christ, Canada, 181 Nugget Ave, Scarborough.
www.billygraham.ca/toronto-night-of-prayer.

YOUTH

Unveil & Chill
Saturday, November 28, 2026; 4:00-6:00pm
A relaxed evening of Scripture, discussion, connection, and bubble tea. Intended for youth ages 16+ and young adults. There is no cost to attend. Faith-based conversation card game created to encourage Christ- centered discussion. Meet & connect with others.
At Canadian Bible Society Toronto Bookstore, 10 Carnforth Rd, North York. [biblesociety.ca] Please sign up by Friday, November 27.
www.tinyurl.com/Nov-YouthEvent.

SUPPORT GROUPS

LEARNING ABOUT CHRISTIANITY AND THE BIBLE

Alpha
Alpha is a course that creates a space, online or in person, where people are excited to bring their friends for a conversation about life, faith and Jesus. The same Alpha content is run all over the world, by Christians of all traditions, and provides a common expression of faith. Over 1 million people in Canada have experienced Alpha, and millions more have taken Alpha in over 100 countries and over 100 languages. Find a local Alpha course at www.alphacanada.org.

Christianity Explored
Christianity Explored courses are used in a variety of settings: run in churches, used one-to-one and online, in community groups, and in prisons. The series are designed to be as flexible as possible and to allow the Bible to speak for itself. www.christianityexplored.us.

The Bible Course
An eight-session course that will help you grow in your understanding of the Bible. For in-person groups or digital gatherings: it can be used anywhere – homes, workplaces, churches, or online meetings. www.biblesociety.ca/thebiblecourse.

GRIEF, ADDICTION, RECOVERY AND MENTAL HEALTH

Celebrate Recovery
Celebrate Recovery (CR) is a biblically-based, recovery program that addresses our Hurts, Hang-ups, and Habits using a 12-step approach based on the Beatitudes from the book of Matthew. CR leaders, understand your struggles, as they have experienced freedom from addictive and dysfunctional patterns in their own lives. They have been trained to guide people through the 12 Steps/8 Principles, and to provide a safe environment for accountability and building authentic relationships. www.celebraterecovery.ca.

DivorceCare
DivorceCare is a friendly, caring group of people who will walk alongside you through one of life's most difficult experiences. Don't go through separation or divorce alone. Find a local group at www.divorcecare.org. [Find a DivorceCare for Kids group at www.dc4k.org.]

GriefShare
GriefShare is a support group for those facing the loss of a loved one through death. You will be most welcomed into a caring environment in which you can receive hope and encouragement by relating to others who are facing similar emotions.
Find a local group at www.griefshare.org.

Overcomers Recovery and Support
A Bible-based, 12-step recovery and support program that leads people to freedom from the problems and issues that control their lives. If you are looking for a safe and encouraging community to walk with you towards hope and freedom from life-controlling habits, Overcomers is for you. For individuals, face-to-face groups or online meetings.
www.biblesociety.ca/overcomers.

Parents of Human Trafficking Victims Online Support Group
First and Third Thursdays, 7:00-9:00 pm
Family members suffer greatly when a loved one becomes entangled in the sex trade. If you are a parent or family member of a young person exploited in this way, we offer a safe space for you to be understood. Zoom in or meet with us in person to process your feelings without fear of judgment. We also work with families, individually, to bring an end to the exploitation. Parents Hope is part of the Christian ministry of Lifeworthy - SIM Canada. For more info, please email Lynda at parents.hope@lifeworthy.ca or visit: www.lifeworthy.ca.

Sharing The Burden
There is Hope! Come and take life-healing steps. Addiction, anxiety, depression, co-dependency. Don't be alone with it any longer. Group support, all welcome. email: scott@sharingtheburden.ca, or visit www.sharingtheburden.ca.

CRISIS PREGNANCY SUPPORT

Pregnancy Care Canada
PCC is a Christ-centred national best practice organization dedicated to affirming the value of every life by equipping pregnancy care centres and local communities with resources, education, and support to compassionately serve those challenged by an unexpected pregnancy. Find a Pregnancy Care Centre affiliate near you at www.pregnancycarecanada.ca.

Egerton Ryerson

Dedicated Christian educator, now controversial Canadian

by Rev. Dr. Ed & Janice Hird

How many Canadians know that Bishop John Strachan and his Family Compact colleagues sought to establish the Anglican Church as Canada's official State Church in Canada? One-seventh of surveyed land was initially set aside to fund the Anglican Church. Twenty-three-year-old Egerton Ryerson publicly protested this injustice.

Before 1828, Methodists could not legally own property for churches, often meeting in marketplaces, kitchens, and taverns. Unlike Anglicans and Presbyterians, their Methodist clergy could not perform marriages or funerals. At the wedding of Ryerson and Hannah Aikman, a Presbyterian minister had to officiate.

When Ryerson was converted, a white-robed smiling Jesus appeared to him. In 1820, at age 17, he joined the Methodist Episcopal Church. This greatly upset his father Joseph so he kicked Ryerson out of the house. His Dad told him, "You must either leave them or leave my house." So, Ryerson served as a saddlebag circuit rider along Yonge Street.

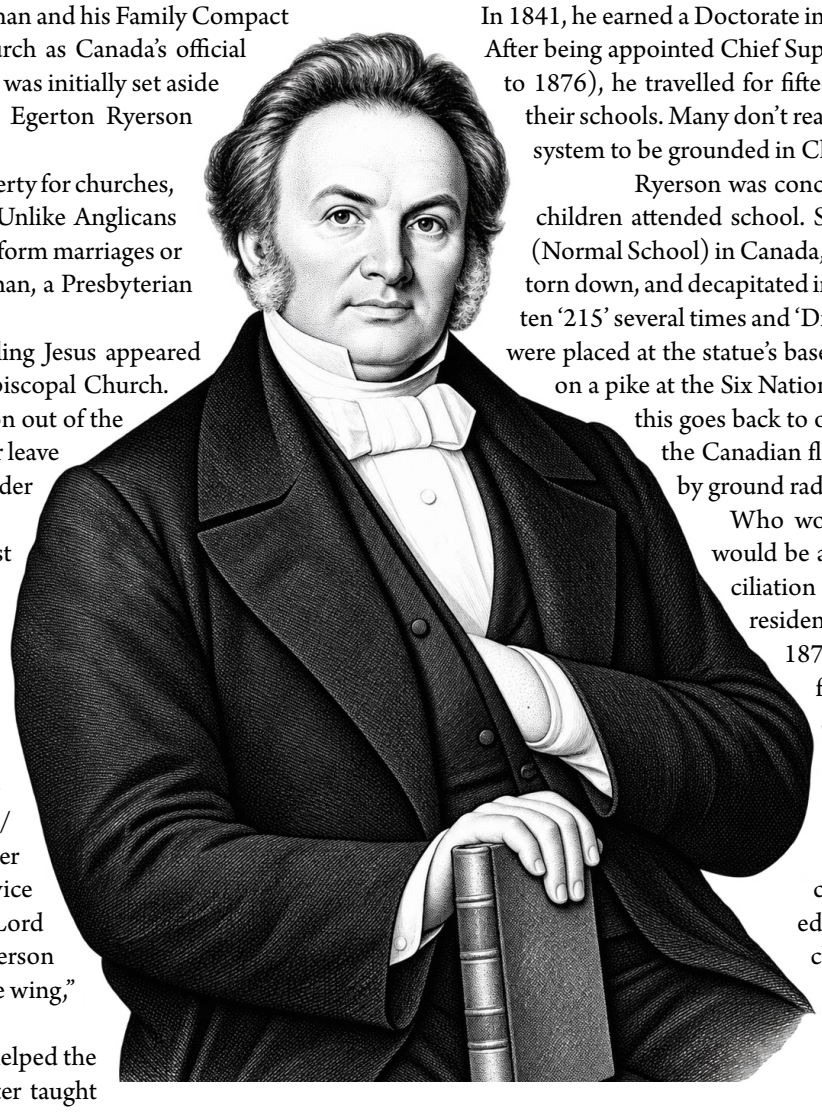
Ryerson's mom was so sympathetic to Methodist renewal that five of her six sons, including Egerton, became Methodist clergy. Because Ryerson had been the chief labourer on his dad's farm, after two years his dad said to him, "Egerton, you must come home." So, he returned to the farm for a season.

In 1826, Ryerson was appointed as a missionary to the Mississaugas of the Credit. He was taught Ojibwe by his lifelong friend Peter Jones (Kahkewaquonaby/ Sacred Feathers), the first Indigenous Methodist minister in Canada. At the 1827 New Year's Watchnight Service with Peter Jones and Egerton Ryerson, the glory of the Lord filled the house, and about twenty fell to the floor. Ryerson was given the name "Cheehock," meaning a "bird on the wing," because he was "constantly on the move."

While at Port Credit, using his carpentry skills, he helped the Mississaugas build a school/chapel, where he and Peter taught the children to read and write. His farming background helped him teach them basic agricultural methods.

After Ryerson wrote seven letters defending the equal rights of Methodists, he was appointed in 1829 by the Methodists as the first Editor of the Christian Guardian. With over 12,000 subscribers, it became the most-widely read newspaper in Upper Canada. Ryerson served as Editor from 1829 to 1840. Its principal purpose was to promote "practical Christianity – to teach men how to live and how to die."

Who might have imagined that a Methodist saddlebag preacher would build Ontario's public school system? Ryerson's passion for education ran deep. He regularly studied between three and six o'clock in the morning.



AI-enhanced portrait of a public domain image of **The Rev. Dr. Adolphus Egerton Ryerson**. [Based on a painting by Théophile Hamel from the Archives of Ontario.]

In 1841, he earned a Doctorate in Divinity from Connecticut's Wesleyan University. After being appointed Chief Superintendent of Education in Upper Canada (1844 to 1876), he travelled for fifteen months to Europe, including Ireland, to study their schools. Many don't realize that Ryerson built the Canadian Public School system to be grounded in Christian teaching and morals.

Ryerson was concerned that, in Toronto, less than half of the 4,450 children attended school. So, he founded the first Teacher Training College (Normal School) in Canada, at the very place where his statue built in 1882 was torn down, and decapitated in 2021. On the base of the Ryerson statue was written '215' several times and 'Dig them up'. Two hundred and fifteen pairs of shoes were placed at the statue's base. The head of the statue was subsequently placed on a pike at the Six Nations of the Grand River near Caledonia, Ontario. All this goes back to our ex-Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's lowering of the Canadian flag for 160 days after 215 anomalies were detected by ground radar at the Kamloops residential school site.

Who would have imagined that this Canadian superstar would be a victim of cancel culture? The Truth and Reconciliation Commission, however, did not blame Ryerson for residential schools, which happened because of the tragic 1879 Davin Report. Ryerson did not recommend forcing Indigenous children to attend "industrial schools", nor did he suggest punishing students for speaking Indigenous languages.

At his massive funeral in 1882, clergy and lay people attended from every denomination.

May we, as Canadians, learn from his courage—ever passionate about the Cross, and educating the next generation in truth and moral character.

*Rev. Dr. Ed & Janice Hird are the authors of **God's Firestarters; Blue Sky**, a novel; and **For Better, For Worse: Discovering the keys to a Lasting Relationship**. Dr Ed's newest award-winning book **The Elisha Code** is co-authored with Rev. David Kitz.*



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馬天佐牧師

REV. GEORGE MAH



馬英傑牧師

REV. PETER MAH



王子銘 (敬拜事工帶領者)

SILAS WANG

(MINISTER - WORSHIP)

12月5日

上午 9:30 至下午 4:00

(上午 8:30 開放入場及開始登記)

士嘉堡華人浸信會

3223 Kennedy Rd., Scarborough, Ontario

免費入場

DEC. 5

9:30 a.m.–4 p.m.

(Registration begins at 8:30 a.m.)

Scarborough Chinese Baptist Church

3223 Kennedy Rd., Scarborough, Ontario

FREE ADMISSION

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