

News Release

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New Book Guides the Church Community to Build Connection in Disconnected Times Through Inspiration from the Letter of James

Robin T. Jennings releases third book, *A Letter to the Church and the Next Generation*, to inspire church leaders and parishioners to embrace their vocation as spiritual mentors for future generations

LOUISVILLE, KY (November 15, 2021) — Who is James and why is his letter in the Bible an important read? And, better yet, is his letter worth a deeper reflection? Does his message have relevance like it did for the early church? According to The Rev. Robin T. Jennings, the answer is a resounding “yes!”. His letter is a must read for the church and spiritual mentors who have not given up on the next generation. Jennings’ new book, *A Letter to the Church and the Next Generation: Spiritual Growth through the Witness of James*, uncovers this importance of connection by calling faithful adults to bear witness in becoming spiritual mentors for our youth.

While our world appears more connected technologically than ever before, the latest pandemic reinforced our dependence on virtual connection creating a culture that breeds isolation and alienation. Loneliness is on the rise as is depression, anxiety, and many other concerning trends. While the Letter of James provides deep truths that our world needs at all times, it’s painfully evident that individually, collectively, and spiritually we are more disconnected than ever before. Our world is in need of restoration today, and James extends this calling.

“This book arrives with God’s perfect timing,” said John W. Kyle, PhD, Executive National Director, The Fellows Initiative Church. “Abandonment by the young is at an all-time high. Multigenerational mentoring and deep discipleship have become, sadly, a lost art. The Rev. Robin Jennings draws insightfully upon the wisdom of James to create this readable, valuable, and biblically-rooted resource for Christian mentors working with young adults and emerging leaders.”

An ordained Episcopal clergyman, The Rev. Robin T. Jennings is a spiritual director who has spent a lifetime encouraging churches and parishioners to develop their spiritual growth and make a witness of faith in Jesus Christ. It is a witness designed by James to not simply talk the talk but walk the walk by putting our faith into action. Jennings has always lived his life inspired by James to be a “doer of the Word,” and his latest book inspires others to do the same.

“Much about James’ biological relationship to Jesus is still unknown. What we do know is that he was a contemporary, a ‘living link’ to Jesus,” said Jennings. “After the resurrection, it is James who wrote a letter to the faith community and he was one of earliest church spiritual mentors. His passion was restoration. His mission was to repair broken people, communities, and the world God has created. As a result, James is not only relevant for today, but by being doers of the Word he provides a powerful witness for the next generation.”

A Letter to the Church and the Next Generation highlights biblical truths as Jennings takes readers through the Letter of James and implores the church community to help our world become

reconnected, with the center focus being on the way, the truth, and the life — Jesus. James reminds us, and Jennings highlights, that making a witness begins not on the outside but the inside. To do God’s work, God needs to first do some work within individuals first. Throughout the book, Jennings digs into the first chapter in the Letter of James which offers a framework by:

- **Hearing the call**, the vocation begins by participating within the Kingdom of God.
- **Praying in faith**, faithless prayer leads to doubt, but the prayer of faith lacks in nothing.
- **Be doers of the Word**, restoration is the fruit of witnessing God’s will on earth as in heaven.

A Letter to the Church and the Next Generation: Spiritual Growth through the Witness of James, published by Elk Lake Publishing, is available in paperback, hardcover and eBook.

The Rev. **Robin T. Jennings** is the author of three book: *May You Live in Christ: Spiritual Growth Through the Vision of St. Peter*, *The Door to Renewal: Spiritual Growth Through the Mind of St. Paul*, and *A Letter to the Church and the Next Generation: Spiritual Growth through the Witness of James*. With a lifetime of experience as an ordained Episcopal minister and rector of St. Francis in the Fields, Harrods Creek, Kentucky, Jennings continues a deep longing and active desire in helping bring people to Christ with his writing, teaching and speaking. He and his wife Mary are the parents of four sons (one of whom is deceased) and they have been blessed with three lovely daughters-in-law and six wonderful grandchildren. They reside in Louisville, Kentucky. Learn more about Robin T. Jennings by visiting www.RobinTJennings.com.

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High-resolution book cover art and author headshot available upon request.

