

# breakout SEMINARS





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Andrew McCourt	How Not to Suck at Leadership: 4 Truths to Become the Leader You Would Want to Follow	B121
Brannon Shortt	A Life of Prayer: The Velveteen Rabbit Way	C230
Carlos Whittaker	Mild to Wild	Worship Center
Dane Sanders	How to Install the Way Jesus Lived as an Operating System for Our Real Lives (aka I'm not spiritual, I'm religious)	C233 B/C
Doug Fields	Leading Yourself Before Leading Others	Ste 440
Elaine Briefman	Growing Again - in a post COVID world	C231
GLOO: Brad Hill	Biggest Outreach Opportunity in a Generation: Is Your Church Ready for He Gets Us?	C141
Jack Hamilton + Todd Arnett	Marks of a Mentor	C138
Jason Young	How to Build a Healthy Volunteer Team	B220
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Peter McGowan + Rich Hurrey	Cultivating a Culture of Creativity: Lessons learned from Pixar Animation Studios	C235/236
Thrive College	Before They Leave: Prepare Your Church to Reach and Keep Gen Z	C139
Wayne Hoag	Desperately Needing One Another	C135
Wes Davis	The Generation Gap in the Church: The Secret to Getting Different Generations On the Mission Together	Ste 418





#### **Andrew McCourt**

Andrew is one of the Senior Pastors at Bayside Church. He is married to Isabelle and together they have four children. Originally from Northern Ireland, he has been in active ministry for almost 30 years and travels extensively speaking in a creative, humorous, and challenging style. He is committed first and foremost to building local churches and raising up multigenerational leaders. As the father of four children, life is never dull, however he still finds the time to enjoy running, mountains, and French food!

# How Not to Suck at Leadership: 4 Truths to Become the Leader You Would Want to Follow

Our world is in a crisis, essentially a crisis of leadership. Join me on a journey to rediscover the core qualities of authentic Christian leadership and learn how they can change your life, church, business and maybe even the world!



#### **Brannon Shortt**

Brannon is a Pastor, a Rapper and a Candlemaker. He's been a pastor in both Southern and Northern California over the past 7 years. His education includes a Bachelor's degree in Theological Studies from Bryan College and a Master's Degree in Theological Studies from Gateway Seminary. Along with pastoring at Bayside Church, Brannon also sits on the board of directors for Rise Academy Compton and the Hollywood Prayer Network. Brannon is married to his wife Casey, who is a mental health therapist and has a five-year-old dog named Gizmo who

he describes as, "perfect love on four paws."

# A Life of Prayer: The Velveteen Rabbit Way

How our prayer lives change when our prayers become honest.



#### **Carlos Whittaker**

Carlos Whittaker is an author, speaker, moment maker, spider killer, and hope dealer. Currently, he is regularly teaching at churches and conferences worldwide. Including Catalyst Conference, Embrace Church, FreshLife Church, and many more.

#### Mild to Wild

Take time to pause and follow detailed steps to overcoming behavioral and relational roadblocks that keep you from God. It is time to unlock your true potential and step into the other side of freedom.

#### **Dane Sanders**

With degrees in business and philosophy, Dane Sanders has served as a pastor, speaker, and teacher at Biola University, Westmont College, and Rockharbor Church. He's also served on the Executive Leadership team at Alpha USA and is author of two best-selling business books for Creatives. Seth Godin described his writing as, "a precious gift."

Dane now serves as CEO of tellmeyourdreams.com, a training and coaching company that helps employees love their jobs. His specialty is in helping individuals thrive through better habits in a comfort-obsessed and digitally dominated culture. Dane is also host of https://convergepodcast.com and founder at https://mwodlife.com. He and his family live in Auburn, California and online at danesanders.com.

How to Install the Way Jesus Lived as an Operating System for Our Real Lives (aka I'm not spiritual, I'm religious The way Jesus spent his everyday existence tells us a lot about how we can better enjoy the Life He talked about so often. In many ways, this is self-leadership for students of Jesus. This seminar explores why most of us miss what he modeled and offers a sustainable path better orient our lives, so we can experience more of God's upside-down Kingdom.



# **Doug Fields**

Doug Fields is a 40-year youth ministry veteran currently serving as Youth Pastor at Mariners Church in So. CA. He's the co-founder of DownloadYouthMinistry.com, the Director of Training at HomeWord, and the author of 50+ books including *Purpose Driven Youth Ministry; Your First 2 Years in Youth Ministry; Speaking to Teenagers*; and *Congratulations... You're Gifted*.

# Leading Yourself Before Leading Others

As a leader, the most important person you lead is yourself. This often-overlooked priority may be the one that's most essential to longevity in youth ministry, effectiveness in leading volunteers, and discipling a generation toward a faith that lasts. Doug will help you discover the skills, habits and attitudes every youth leader needs for success in the ability to lead yourself well... and last in ministry.

# Pa or do ar

# **Elaine Briefman**

Pastor Elaine Briefman, M.A. is an author, speaker, licensed Marriage and Family Therapist, and ordained Pastor who spends her days helping others be freed from Imposter Syndrome and self-doubt while becoming effective influencers. In her spare time she loves reading, board games and fishing, LOTS of fishing!

After being raised by a child molester and her own journey of healing, Pastor Elaine learned that Identity Abuse causes the majority of emotional dysfunction seen in the world today, including Imposter Syndrome. Her ministry, Fishing4Truth, is a unique online community training and mentorship program for Christian Leaders to overcome imposter syndrome, promote spiritual maturity, and attain professional speaking skills and experience.

# Growing Again - In a post COVID world

Imagine a day when you are freed from all self-doubt and had professional speaking skills to grow your ministry. Did you know the average church size in America is under 65 attendees? Redefining success for the Christian Leader is a must. Your Ministry Matters, Your Call Matters, You Matter! Adopted at birth by a child molester, Pastor Elaine teaches Christian Leaders how to lead as MORE than Conquerors and confidently grow their ministries.



## **GLOO: Brad Hill**

Brad Hill has been deeply involved in solving technology challenges for the church for over 20 years. He serves on the executive team at Gloo (www.gloo.us), and is responsible for marketing, sales, success, and all facets of growing and serving Gloo's network of churches, networks, and faith partners. Prior to Gloo, Brad co-founded Ministry Brands, which is the world's largest church/ministry technology company. As President, he completed over 40+ roll-up acquisitions and led the company to win Private Equity deal of the year for 2017. In addition to his experience

starting, building and coaching companies for Kingdom and business impact, Brad has also served in lay leadership at several churches across multiple denominations. Brad lives in the Denver, CO area with his wife and two kids.

# Biggest Outreach Opportunity in a Generation: Is Your Church Ready for He Gets Us?

"Did you see that Jesus commercial on TV?" A new campaign is placing messages about Jesus nationwide. The goal is to influence millions to think differently about Jesus, and encourage them to explore more about Him. The ads are working! Your neighbors are already seeing them. In fact, with over 100+ million ad views in the first few weeks, the effort is poised to drive lots of people to our churches. In this workshop, we'll dive into the opportunity and how your church can join thousands who are already involved.



### **Jack Hamiton & Todd Arnett**

Jack is the former Executive Pastor for 32 years at High Desert Church in Victorville, California. He's been on staff for over 37 years, has seen the church grow from under 150 to 8,000 people with four church sites in the High Desert, and currently serves as a Mentor Pastor for Transformations Ministries working with 9 Senior Pastors in the Inland Empire. He's served on a number of non-profit boards, a public school board member for 19 years, and was on the board of directors for a recreation and park district for 10 years and a church plant. Jack and his wife, Linda, have been married for 51 years and have 3 adult children and 6 grandchildren.

Todd has just recently been called back as Senior Pastor to High Desert Church in Victorville, CA where he had served in a variety of roles for 14 years previously. After his time at HDC, he was the Lead Pastor of Trinity Church in Redlands, Ca for 5+ years.. He is incredibly blessed to be the husband of Joanna, dad to Jackson (married to Sky), Aleah, Kendie and Ellie. He loves helping people be better equipped to live lives that are Rooted in Jesus as they're Reaching their worlds w/Jesus' love and life. He's a big fan of So Cal teams like the UCLA Bruins and the LA Dodgers and he just won his first-ever Fantasy Football championship!

#### Marks of a Mentor

With so many mentors who have so much to offer and so many others lacking life experience and perspective, connecting mentors to mentees is something that we're passionate about. With 50 years of ministry experience mentoring younger leaders, Jack Hamilton is still investing in the lives of those who are seeking wisdom and insight. And with the pattern of investing mentors that God has provided him over the course of his life since elementary school, Todd Arnett will share some perspective about what mentees are desirous of regarding mentors in their lives. This seminar is for those who are looking to mentor others as well as those seeking to be mentored and, who knows maybe we'll make some matches in our time together!

#### **Jason Young**

Jason Young is a best-selling author, coach, and consultant to respected organizations including North Point Ministries, Life.Church, FedEx, Delta Airlines, Gorilla Glue, and many others. He guides leaders and organizations to thrive by helping people understand people. He brings his doctoral research and 25 years of practical experience in leadership, building teams, and getting more guests to come back to church. Jason wants to guide you to make sense of who you are and what you already have, find ways to gain momentum, and feel what it means to thrive. Read

more at catchfiredaily.com.

## How to Build a Healthy Volunteer Team

Imagine if you created the healthiest and most caring team of volunteers in the church. Volunteers could be tired. Volunteer teams are potentially down to a smaller group. Maybe you are also tired or discouraged. What if it did not have to be this way? Imagine if you could add new volunteers, implement fresh ideas, and build a volunteer experience that increases retention, taps into their motivation, and encourages them to ask others to join the team. Learn how to care for your team, prevent burnout, and get everyone on the same page as you build a healthy volunteer team that thrives.



#### Joann Webster

Joann Cole Webster has written, ghost-written, edited, or packaged almost 100 books. In 30 years of Christian ministry, she has worked with great Christian leaders ranging from the late Adrian Rogers to the vibrant Sammy Rodriguez, as well as celebrities and athletes from Mel Gibson to NBA Ironman A.C. Green. She also worked with Ray Johnston on Jesus Called and Hope Quotient. Outside of writing, she serves as Vice President of Christian Men's Network, founded by her brilliant brother Paul Louis Cole and late father Edwin Louis Cole. She has published and

sold well over one million of her father's books since his death.

#### A - Z on How to Write a Book

A practical, condensed guide to writing—who qualifies to write, how to start, finish, and publish, when to write, why, and what to expect.



#### **Kevin Snider**

Kevin Snider has been an attorney since 1994. During that time he has practiced primarily in the area of constitutional law and civil rights. Snider has litigated a number of cases which have garnered national attention. These include two in the U.S. Supreme Court – A Woman's Friend v. Kamala Harris and Gateway City Church v. Gavin Newsom.

He argued In re Jonathan L. before the California Court of Appeal which resulted in restoring the right to homeschool in California. In Michael Newdow v. LeFevre, he argued in defense of the national motto – In God We Trust – in front of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. Days before the January 2009 swearing in of President Obama, Snider represented Pastors Rick Warren and Joseph Lowery in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia in which he successfully argued against the request for an injunction to prevent the invocation and benediction at the inauguration.

He has been the Chief Counsel for the Pacific Justice Institute since 2004. He has been seen on CSPAN and CNN, has made dozens of radio and television appearances, and is interviewed frequently or quoted in newspaper and other publications. Snider is admitted to the Washington, California, and District of Columbia Bars. His wife, Chenyuan, is a regular contributing writer for The Stream. They have two children and reside in northern California.

#### The Current Landscape of Religious Liberties

This interactive session will provide a brief overview of the trajectory of religious liberties in the United States. Drawing on court cases litigated by the Pacific Justice Institute, it will include both the perils and opportunities that ministries and people of faith face. The presentation will also discuss current challenges to parental rights.

## **Lisa Thompson**

Lisa Thompson has been a Christ follower since she was 6 years old. She and her family moved to Folsom 22 years ago where she ministered to women in all faith places through neighborhood Bible studies, women incarcerated at Folsom Prison, and women in recovery at Powerhouse Ministries. Her heart and calling has been to see lives transformed by the truth of God's Word through discipleship and service. Several years ago, she took a position at Bayside Church, as the Women's pastor. She feels blessed to serve both in and out of the church, bringing her love

for God's Word and the Gospel message into her community and church. She is an author, speaks at women's events and retreats and is passionate about equipping leaders to go into the world and share the Good News of Jesus Christ with the disconnected and hopeless. You can find Lisa hanging out any given day at the local coffee shops meeting with people encouraging them to find their purpose and place in God's Kingdom work. Lisa has been married to her husband Robb since 1992, they have four children, and call Folsom, California their home.

#### Patiently Waiting on God When You Are in the Pit

Psalm 13:1 says, How long, O LORD? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me? How long must I wrestle with my thoughts and every day have sorrow in my heart? There are seasons of life, ministry, and marriage where we find ourselves in an unexpected and unwanted pit that we can't seem to get out of...

The pit of discouragement and despair? The pit of unknown and confusion? The pit of insecurity and envy? The pit of fear and worry? The pit of religion and pride?

What is God doing and what are we to do while we wait? This seminar will be practical and encouraging as we look at 5 pits found in the Bible and best practices while you wait on God so you don't miss His redeeming purposes and greater story.



#### **Matt Robertson**

Matt is a seasoned mentor, business developer, and catalyst for change who has helped global organizations grow, adapt and expand. He has had a broad career in business and as a church pastor and now serves as the Director of Relational Advancement for AIM (Agape International Missions), a Christ-centered ministry focused on fighting sex-trafficking in Cambodia, Belize and the US. He oversees a distributed global team that works with individuals, families, churches and companies to advance AIM's mission. Matt and his wife Shela, married 26 years, have two

children. Matt loves surfing in the summer and snowboarding in the winter.

#### How You and Your Church Can Fight Human Trafficking

AIM (Agape International Missions) has been partnering with churches to fight trafficking for over 17 years. Learn how you and your church can get involved in the fight locally and globally. This dynamic session will be an engaging time of learning, sharing and asking questions!

Eric Meier from AIM will also be joining Matt for this breakout session. Eric works with churches on the West Coast.



#### Megan Hutchinson

Megan or "Nutmeg" as her pickleball friends calls her, said yes to irresistible, undeniable, invitation from God at age nineteen and says she hasn't been the same since! She received her master's degree from Fuller Theological Seminary, emphasizing Theology, Youth and Family. Her gifts, talents, skills, abilities and pain led her to serve as a youth pastor at Saddleback church for nearly ten years where, among other things, she co-authored and ran a national movement called, Life Hurts- God Heals, the youth version of Celebrate Recovery. She authored three books, including

Secret Survivors, and Help! I'm a Woman in Youth Ministry! She also served for five years as an ordained Adult Ministries Pastor at a Presbyterian Church in Newport Beach. In 2020, she became a Campus Pastor at Bayside's newest campus in Orange County, California. She says, come on down!

# How to Prepare & Share Your Story in 5 Minutes

Every Christian ought to be able to share their story in a few minutes. Sometimes that's all we have! We call this an "elevator pitch" testimony. By the end of this breakout, you will have yours!

#### Mel McGowan

Mel McGowan is leading Master Planner & Designer of churches in America, having partnered with over 1000 ministries in the US and abroad. Mel spend a decade at Disney where he learned the art of "imagineering" and Spatial Storytelling. Today he is Chief Creative Officer and Co-Founder of Storyland Studios, a 90 person design and production firm consisting of several former Disney Imagineers, artists, architects and artisans who create "destinations that lift the spirit." He is an Outreach Magazine columnist and author of Design Like *God Gives a Damn:* 

Revolutionizing Sacred Space.

# Lessons Learned from Disney: From the Magic Kingdom to God's Kingdom

Discover how the unique gifts and processes of one of the world's greatest storytellers have been made applicable to hundreds of ministries around the world. Mel McGowan, Disney alumni and Chief Creative Officer of Storyland Studios will demonstrate how the art of Imagineering and Spatial Storytelling has potential to create destinations that lift the spirit and architectural evangelism.



# **Peter McGowan & Rich Hurrey**

Peter is an immersive storyteller with over two decades of experience bringing iconic stories to life in physical, digital, and strategic spaces. As co-founder, President & Chief Storyteller at Storyland Studios, Peter has worked with some of the most recognizable corporate and creative brands in the world, including The Walt Disney Company, Universal Studios, LEGO®, Ubisoft, Mars Wrigley M&M'S®, Nissan, IBM, Johnson & Johnson, FAO Schwarz, and many more. He is a champion of bringing brands' unique stories to life by broadening their visual vocabulary beyond

words and helping shape the cultural influence of their organizations. Peter is especially passionate about partnering with non-profit and cause-based organizations through PlainJoe - A Storyland Studio to reflect their missions with excellence and heart. At the end of the day, he loves spending time with his wife, Jennifer, and their three kids making memories that usually involve LEGO® sets, Star Wars, Disney, or all three.

Rich is a 25+ year veteran (another word for being old) in the Animation / VFX Industry, spending over 15 years as a Character TD. He loves modeling, rigging, teaching and building teams of, and working with, people that are smarter than him. The last 3 years he has embarked on building Kitestring Online... a company dedicated to the development of unique technology, storytelling and educational experiences. They are part of the Storyland Studios family of companies, an amazing group of people (and friends) that I am blessed to work with. He is fortunate beyond measure to be on this journey with his amazing wife and 2 incredible children.

# Cultivating a Culture of Creativity: Lessons learned from Pixar Animation Studios

Learn how leading global storytellers such as Disney and Pixar have been able to carefully cultivate an ongoing culture of creativity, while encouraging risk-taking, criticism, and feedback.



### **Thrive College**

Our mission at Thrive College is to raise the next generation of Christian leaders. Every year, 50+ college students join us for 9 months to gain leadership experience, university education, intentional discipleship and authentic community. Our team breathes discipling the next generation. Our students have taught us more than books every could about who Gen Z is. Based on these encounters, we're passionately hopeful about the future of the Church and hope by the end of our breakout you will be too!

### Before They Leave: Prepare Your Church to Reach and Keep Gen Z

Gen Z has been branded a truly post-Christian generation. One third of Gen Z believes that you can't know if God is real. Only half believe church going is important and relevant to their lives. This presents a challenge. How do we disciple a generation that believes God is unknowable and church is irrelevant? In this breakout, we'll unpack some key characteristics of Gen Z and proven strategies to reach and keep Gen Z.



#### **Wayne Hoag**

Outside of his love for God and his family, Pastor Wayne's greatest love is for the Body of Christ. For 45 years he has been a shepherd in the local church, the last 31 years at Sierra Bible Church in Truckee, California. Wayne has been married to his high-school sweetheart, Sandy, for 52 years. They have four adult children, one son and three daughters, as well as 12 grandchildren. He is a motor-head who holds a Spec Miata racing license and spends as much time as possible aboard his 1999 Harley Davidson Road King. To his biker buddies he is known as Pastor Hog.

## **Desperately Needing One Another**

While pastoring his congregation at Sierra Bible Church, Pastor Wayne discovered the 29 One Another admonitions that are found in the New Testament. Further study convinced him that the 29 One Another admonitions are God's Unique Strategy for Building His Church and Conforming His Children into the Image of Christ. What began as a sermon series then turned into a book, The One Another Project.



#### **Wes Davis**

I'm a follower of Jesus. A family man. A dreamer. A church planting junkie. And a basketball lover. My wife, Kari, and I launched a church 20 years ago in the Greater Seattle area that grew from 14 people in our living room to over 4000 people in 7 locations, 3 additional church plants, and 2000 people baptized (pre-COVID). Along the way our family grew to five kids and two grandchildren! My assignment from Jesus is to develop young leaders and launch churches. Don't we all dream of seeing a Jesus movement in our communities in our lifetime. Can you see it?

The Generation Gap in the Church: The Secret to Getting Different Generations On the Mission Together

1 million young people leave the church every year (including half the kids in our youth groups when they graduate).

And many boomers and builders have raised their kids and are only passively involved in the church at a time when the have the most amount of wisdom and financial resources to make a difference.

Good news! This generation of young adults (ages 15-29 as defined by the study/book Growing Young) want mentors and are no longer looking for a church that is cool, but one that is warm! Could the next great awakening in America be as simple as getting the Young to see vision and the old to dream dreams together! Isn't that what it says in the book of Acts??

We live in a culture that worships the young but all the power is with the old.
We live in a country where data suggests that the #1 implicit bias is Age (#2 Body shape, #3 Ethnicity).
What if the church led the way in connecting all ages because the mission needs every generation!