

Standing at the Crossroads

A Leader's Guide for a Study of Christian Moral Decision-Making



Four Study Sessions for Individuals or Groups (Revised and Expanded)

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SUGGESTIONS FOR USING THIS LEADER’S GUIDE

Standing at the Crossroads: A Study of Christian Moral Decision-Making is a four-week study designed to aid Christians in making sound, biblically based decisions.

This guide can be used by a:

- Bible study class,
- Small group,
- Churchwide seminar,
- Weekend retreat or for
- Individual self-study.

The study is practical and easy to use.

Each session has a study guide for class participants and a leader’s guide for the teacher.

The leader’s guide engages Scriptures related to the corresponding study guide session. It is designed to assist the group leader in helping the class better understand and apply the material from each session. The questions at the end of each session guide will prompt discussion (and individual reflection).

Participants should read each study guide session ahead of time. The group leader should read both the study and leader’s guide in advance, using both to better teach the class.

SESSION ONE: OVERCOME THE OBSTACLES

Key texts: Proverbs 3:5-6; Jeremiah 6:16

PART ONE

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight. – Proverbs 3:5-6.

Read Proverbs 3:5-6 aloud.

Explain: Most of the Proverbs provide general guidance that the reader can use to determine how to act wisely in his or her daily life.

The approach of Proverbs is similar to parents raising their children. While rules about proper conduct in specific situations are part of the educational process, the goal is not mindless rule following but character formation.

Parents seek to shape their offspring into people who understand what it means to act compassionately, kindly, justly, etc., in circumstances outside of a “dos” and “don’ts” list.

The goal of the book of Proverbs is to help people know how to make good decisions when standing at the crossroads by shaping reader’s character.

This is indicated in the book’s stated purpose: “For learning about wisdom and instruction, for understanding words of insight, for gaining instruction in wise dealing, righteousness, justice and equity” (Proverbs 1:2-3, NRSV).

Proverbs 3:5-6 doesn’t offer specific guidance in responding to life’s complex decisions. It reminds the reader that we are to act based on the commandments of God (as best we understand them) and not merely follow our own desires. To do so is to act wisely, which results in peaceful and secure paths (see verses 17 and 23).

Ray Higgins references Proverbs 3:5-6 in explaining that “getting stuck” is one of several obstacles that must be overcome when discerning the proper response or course of action.

He advises, “Remember that we, as human beings, are never perfect decision-makers. We are never in complete control of our circumstances. We never know all we need to know.”

Proverbs 3 offers two principles that can help us overcome the obstacles we face when making decisions:

First, our choices should be based on our best efforts to understand and apply God’s commandments in the decisions that we face.

PART TWO

Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls.
– Jeremiah 6:16

This is the meaning of Proverbs 3's call to "not forget my teaching" and to "let your heart keep my commandments" (verse 1), its guidance to "lean not on your own understanding" (verse 5) and its urging to "keep sound wisdom and prudence" so as to "walk on your way securely" (verses 21, 23).

Second, we are to be humble, recognizing that the path we choose, no matter how wise it might seem, might turn out to be crooked.

The reference to God "making your paths straight" (verse 6) implies that despite our best efforts to practice wisdom and make good decisions, we "are never perfect decision-makers."

This verse also emphasizes that we can trust that God will honor our humble efforts to act according to God's commandments (see verses 34-35) and will help us to make our paths straight in the end (verses 5-6; see also Romans 8:28).

Discuss: Lead participants in a discussion of the 10 obstacles to decision-making that Higgins lists.

Ask:

- Which of these 10 do you struggle with the most? Why?
- Have participants identify their own obstacles and a biblical verse that helps them address it. Consider making your own list ahead of time to help spur ideas and conversation.

Read Jeremiah 6:16 aloud.

Explain: The prophet Jeremiah received a two-fold summons in his calling as a prophet: "I appoint you over the nations and over kingdoms to pluck up and pull down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant" (Jeremiah 1:10).

Neither Jeremiah's message of certain judgment nor that of equally certain hope for redemption fit with the times or the general sentiment of the Hebrew people.

The message of tearing down (primarily found in chapters 1 - 26) arose during a period of relative peace, prosperity and autonomy for the Southern Kingdom of Judah.

The message of rebuilding (primarily found in chapters 27 – 52) emerged at a time of despair and hopelessness due to the Babylonian exile, which was a result of the nation's disobedience.

To a people living in ease and comfort in their homes, Jeremiah proclaimed a message of tearing down and destruction. To those living in hardship and despair in a foreign land, he offered a message of building up and replanting.

Jeremiah 6:16 is a call to repentance within the “pluck up and pull down, destroy and overthrow” portion of his ministry. It reveals that even amid a proclamation of coming judgment, God continued to urge the people to repent and choose a better path in hope that the punishment of exile would prove to be unnecessary (see Jeremiah 3:6-4:4; 26:1-3 for other examples).

The consequences of Judah’s negative response to Jeremiah’s message were dire. Their refusal to search after the ancient paths for “the good way” in which to walk ultimately led them into exile.

The second half of verse 16 – “But [the people] said, ‘We will not walk in it’” – indicates a decisive choice not to choose the path of obedience to God’s commandments. Standing at the crossroads, they chose poorly.

The dilemma facing most practicing Christians today is not whether to follow God’s commands, but how to apply them to our daily lives. We find ourselves standing at the crossroads, and so we look to the ancient paths for the good way to walk through studying the Bible.

Despite our efforts to discern the best decision, many times we struggle to know what to do. As Higgins illustrated in his introductory story about the homeless man asking for money, Bible-believing Christians can take contrary paths when faced with the same situation.

Jeremiah’s call to “look for the ancient paths” is the starting point of Christian decision-making. The goal is to discover what is “the good way” so that we can “walk in it and find rest for our souls.”

Yet, biblical knowledge alone isn’t sufficient. As Higgins notes, we must know the obstacles that can hinder us or we will, more often than not, find ourselves stuck or on the wrong path.

Discuss: Lead a discussion about how Jeremiah 6:16 underscores the importance of making good decisions, and the obstacles that we face when seeking to find “the good way.”

Ask:

- How does knowing the 10 obstacles help Christians discern “where the good way is” so that they can “walk in it”?
- Can this knowledge help us know how we can work out the details between the Bible’s moral teachings and our specific circumstances?
- What are some of the negative examples found in Jeremiah 6 that can help Christians discern the paths to avoid?

SESSION TWO: USE THE BIBLE

Key texts: 2 Timothy 3:16-17; Psalm 119:11, 105

PART ONE

All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work. – 2 Timothy 3:16-17, NRSV

Read 2 Timothy 3:16-17 aloud.

Explain: 2 Timothy 3:16-17 emphasizes the importance of knowing God's commandments and learning from faithful Christians in order to make sound decisions. Making wise decisions and pursuing "every good work" requires knowing the Bible and having Christian exemplars.

Jeremiah 6:16 called Israel to look for ancient paths, indicating wisdom passed down from one generation to the next. Paul urged Timothy to "continue in what you have learned and firmly believed," knowledge received from his family and "the sacred writings that are able to instruct you."

These verses relate to the first two guidelines that Higgins sets forth: identify the Bible's purpose and look at the Bible's authority.

Paul revealed that the Bible's goal isn't to answer every question that we might face. It teaches, critiques, corrects and trains in righteousness so that "everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work."

The pursuit of righteousness that equips us to know and practice good works involves making decisions when standing at the crossroads.

Reading and being shaped by the Bible enables us to make better decisions by offering specific instructions and, as Higgins notes, "examples of the kinds of decisions Christians should and should not make by showing us the kinds of decisions God's people made in the past."

The Bible's purpose is to help us discern how to live a righteous (rightly ordered) life.

This brings us to guideline two: the Bible's authority in relation to other sources of guidance.

As Higgins explains, some see the Bible as the only authority in making decisions (excluding all other options), others place the Bible on equal footing with other sources of guidance (friends, family, reason, experience, etc.), and still others place the Bible first as the primary standard without neglecting these other avenues of guidance.

“The third view of the Bible’s authority is most helpful,” Higgins states, because it “acknowledges God’s guidance through *special revelation* (in the Bible) and God’s guidance through *general revelation* (in the world and through others).”

Paul affirmed this view by emphasizing the Bible’s divine inspiration and authority without neglecting the importance of learning from others.

He said that Timothy “observed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, my persecution and my suffering” (2 Timothy 3:10). Timothy learned what a faithful, righteous Christian life looks like from watching Paul.

Paul also urged Timothy to “continue in what you have learned” not only from the Bible but also from his family (2 Timothy 3:14).

Learning from one another the good works that result from a life that is rightly ordered by the gospel of Jesus is indicated throughout 2 Timothy:

- “Hold to the sound teaching that you have heard from me.” (1:13)
- “Be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus; and what you have heard from me through many witnesses entrust to faithful people who will be able to teach others as well.” (2:1-2)

- “You have observed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience ... continue in what you have learned.” (3:10, 14)

Both biblical knowledge and Christian community are important for Christians to make sound decisions. The Bible is the basis for Christian moral decision-making, but discerning the best decisions based on the biblical witness should be made in conjunction with other Christians.

Discuss: Lead a discussion of the first two guidelines Higgins shares about how the Bible should be used in making decisions: *Identify the Bible’s Purpose* and *Look at the Bible’s Authority*.

Ask participants to share which of the three views of the Bible’s purpose that Higgins noted – textbook, answer book or accounts – aligns with their approach to the Bible.

Have them to share which of the three ways of understanding the Bible’s authority – only authority, one of many, or primary authority with other sources of guidance – is most closely aligned with their current usage.

Ask: Has the discussion of 2 Timothy 3:16-17 led you to shift your perspective? Why or why not?

PART TWO

*Your word is a lamp to my feet and
a light for my path – Psalm 119:105*

*I have hidden your word in my heart that I might
not sin against you. – Psalm 119:11*

Read Psalm 119:105 and 119:11 aloud.

Explain: Psalm 119 emphasizes the positive results that arise from obedience and requests strength from God to know, understand and follow these instructions.

The joy of obedience is a frequent refrain:

- “Happy are those ... who walk in the law of the LORD ... who keep his decrees.” (verses 1-2)
- “I treasure your word in my heart. ... I will delight in your statutes.” (verses 11, 16)
- “Lead me in the path of your commandments, for I delight in it.” (verse 35)
- “Oh, how I love your law!” (verse 97)

To those who view the Hebrew faith as a drudgery of works-based righteousness, Psalm 119 says that obedience isn't a bore, burden or means to earn God's favor. Rather, living as God intended is a joyous and proper expression of one's relationship with God and a means of living life to its fullest.

Psalm 119 relates closely to the final four guidelines that Higgins sets forth: find out what the Bible teaches, use the whole Bible, beware of easy answers and know your biases.

In order to experience the joy of obedience, Christians must know God's commandments, as Psalm 119 frequently confirms.

“I will praise you ... when I learn your righteous ordinances” (verse 7); “I treasure your word in my heart” (verse 11); “Teach me your statutes” (verse 12); “I will meditate on your statutes” (verse 15) all indicate the importance of knowing what the Bible teaches in order to make sound decisions.

Higgins offers four guiding questions to help Christians discover the Bible's instructions. What does the Bible teach us about:

- (1) Who God is?
- (2) Who God expects us to be?
- (3) What God values?
- (4) What God expects us to value?

Psalm 119's frequent references to God's law (instructions) encompass everything that God has revealed and commanded.

Similarly, Higgins urges disciples to search after all relevant passages from both the Old and New Testaments when seeking to make decisions.

Psalm 119 may seem to ignore the challenge of knowing how to follow God's commandments. Yet, the psalm acknowledges that moving from seeking out the ancient paths to walking in the good way is hard. Often there are no easy answers, and we need help in overcoming biases (and blind spots) in applying God's commands.

"With my whole heart I seek you; do not let me stray from your commandments" (verse 10), discloses the challenge of faithful living even among the most committed.

"I will meditate on your statutes" (verse 48), indicates the need to reflect on what God desires from us before making a decision.

"Teach me good judgment and knowledge for I believe in your commandments" (verse 66) and "Give me understanding so that I may know your decrees" (verse 125, see also verse 34), reveals the need for discernment to apply God's law in faithful ways.

The psalmist declared that God's law is "a lamp to my feet and a light to my path" (verse 105) and that he has faithfully followed God's law despite the hardships endured (verse 157). Yet, the psalm ends on a somber note, emphasizing the need for humility and reminding us that knowing God's commands doesn't assure flawless decisions: "I have gone astray like a lost sheep" (verse 176).

Higgins reminds us to beware of easy answers and to know our biases so that we can lessen our chances of going astray in our decisions: "When we face dilemmas that are not addressed in the Bible, we need to realize that the connections we make and the conclusions we draw are personal opinions and not biblical mandates."

Knowledge and good intentions are not foolproof means of faithfully following God's commands and not every issue we face is addressed in the Bible. We must be humble in our use of Scripture. "The greatest threat ... to our Christian integrity," Higgins asserts, "is to misinterpret the Bible, to make the Bible say more, less or something other than what it really says."

Discuss: Lead a discussion of the final four guidelines Higgins shared for how to use the Bible in making decisions: *Find Out What the Bible Teaches*, *Use the Whole Bible*, *Beware of Easy Answers*, and *Know Your Biases*.

Ask:

- Which guideline do you find the most difficult? Why?
- How does a detailed knowledge of the Bible both enable sound decision-making and make it more challenging?
- What does the ending of Psalm 119 teach us about the importance of humility in Christian decision-making?

SESSION THREE: ASK THE RIGHT QUESTIONS

Key texts: 1 Kings 3:9; 1 Corinthians 8:9; 9:11-12

PART ONE

Give your servant a discerning heart ... to distinguish between right and wrong.
– 1 Kings 3:9

Read 1 Kings 3:9 aloud.

Explain: 1 Kings 3:9 is the final request Solomon makes of God following his coronation as king.

God appears to Solomon in a dream, saying: “Ask what I should give you.” Solomon requests that God give him wisdom to lead the people – “a discerning heart to govern your people and to distinguish between right and wrong” (NIV), “an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil” (NRSV).

The desire for wisdom to make good decisions pleases God, who grants Solomon “a wise and discerning mind” (verses 10-13).

Solomon’s dream ends with a qualification: God will do this “if you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments” (verse 14).

This signals that “a discerning heart or mind” is an important tool in making good decisions – walking in the ways of God – but it is not a guarantee that the best decisions will always be made.

A key aspect of practicing wisdom in making decisions is asking proper questions. Higgins offers seven questions for discerning how to make sound decisions. The first four are:

1. Do I understand accurately the situation?
2. What are the values in this decision?
3. What is the character of those involved in this decision?
4. What are the principles in this decision?

Directly following Solomon’s dream, he is given an opportunity to use the “discerning heart” that he received from God (see 1 Kings 3:16-28).

The familiar encounter with two women claiming a child as their own illustrates how Solomon governed with wisdom and used his discernment to make sound decisions.

It seems likely that he asked the women questions to better understand the circumstances of the case. The benefit of using the questions Higgins sets forth for making wise decisions is seen when they are correlated to this story about Solomon’s judgment:

Verses 16-23 correspond to question one about gathering information. Solomon lets both women share their side of the story.

Verses 24-26 relate to questions two and three on core values and character. Solomon creates a scenario in which each woman's response discloses her values and character.

Verses 27-28 focus on principles. Solomon sees that justice is done by ensuring that the child is raised by his true mother.

Discuss: Lead a discussion of the importance of asking questions in moral decision-making.

Ask participants to share any questions or criteria that they use currently.

Remind them of the first four questions that Higgins shares and ask:

- How can these questions help us in our efforts to determine how to make sound decisions?
- Are there other biblical stories that illustrate how these types of questions can help with moral decision-making?

PART TWO

*Take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak.
– 1 Corinthians 8:9*

*If we have sown spiritual good among you, is it too much if we reap material benefits? ...
Nevertheless, we have not made use of this right, but we endure anything rather than put an obstacle in the way of the gospel of Jesus Christ.
– 1 Corinthians 9:11-12, NRSV*

Read 1 Corinthians 8:9 and 9:11-12 aloud.

Explain: Paul prioritizes the good of the community over the exercise of individual rights / freedoms in 1 Corinthians.

In 8:1-13, he addresses food sacrificed to idols by urging the knowledgeable – those who know an idol is nothing and the meat is acceptable to eat – to temper their behavior based on love for those who lack this knowledge.

The approach Paul urges the Corinthians to follow is what he practices (see 9:1-27) by setting aside apostolic rights for the good of others. This principle is summarized in 8:1-3: knowledge alone puffs up the individual, but knowledge exercised in love builds up the community.

Decisions should not be determined solely by one's knowledge of rights / freedoms, but by love, which always makes the good of others a priority (see also 10:23-11:1; 13:1-13).

The final two guiding questions offered by Higgins address the role of rights and responsibilities, individual freedom and the collective good in moral decision-making:

- What rights are involved in this decision?
- What might be the consequences in this decision?

Both questions require us to consider how our rights might be exercised in a manner that advances the common good.

1 Corinthians stresses that Christian freedom is not libertinism. Freedom to do something doesn't mean that we should. This insight should impact our decision-making.

Christian decisions are to be made based on divine, not worldly, wisdom:

Worldly wisdom takes advantage of any opportunity to help oneself. Divine wisdom takes advantage of any opportunity to help another.

Worldly wisdom focuses on what is best for the individual. Divine wisdom focuses on what is best for the community.

Worldly wisdom demands individual rights and privileges. Divine wisdom gladly gives up these rights and privileges (see also Philippians 2:1-11).

As Higgins summarizes, "The Bible places more emphasis on the responsibilities that the people of God have toward others rather than their rights."

These final guiding questions enable us to make good decisions by helping us balance the exercise of personal rights / freedoms with the pursuit of communal well-being.

Discuss: Lead a discussion of rights (freedoms) and responsibilities in the context of Christian decision-making.

Ask:

- Have you often thought about rights in the context of responsibility?
- How do Higgins' questions help expand the focus of our decisions?
- Does Paul's emphasis on communal well-being as more important than exercising individual rights change your perspective on how we should make decisions?
- What other biblical texts emphasize that Christians are to prioritize the common good over exercising our individual rights?

SESSION FOUR: BUILD A FRAMEWORK

Key texts: Colossians 3:17; Hebrews 10:24-25 and 12:1

PART ONE

Whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. – Colossians 3:17

Read Colossians 3:17 aloud.

Explain: Colossians seeks to help the community of Christians at Colossae and Laodicea make wise decisions based on sound teachings.

Every decision should be filtered through this imperative: “Do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.” In other words, our relationship to Jesus should be primary in our thought process.

This isn’t specific guidance for specific situations. Seeking to “do [everything] in the name of the Lord Jesus” lays the foundation for a framework that can aid us in the decision-making process.

The verse can be reframed into two guiding questions:

- Do my words and actions reflect accurately the life and teachings of Jesus?
- Would it surprise people that I am a Christian based on the decision(s) I am making?

Higgins references the Charles Sheldon book *In His Steps*, which suggested using a similar question: “What would Jesus do?”

Paul gives examples of what doing all things “in the name of the Lord Jesus” looks like by offering lists of vices (to avoid) and virtues (to embrace):

- Avoid sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry (verse 5).
- Rid yourself of anger, rage, malice, slander and filthy language (verse 8).
- Do not lie (verse 9).
- “Clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience” (verse 12).
- “Bear with each other and forgive one another” (verse 13).
- Practice love (verse 14).

These commands are introduced with reference to how Christians should clothe themselves – a metaphor for moral action and a reference to the transformation that has taken place in the Christian’s life as a result of their relationship with Jesus (see verses 9-10).

Higgins emphasizes that the Christian's relationship with Christ and the Bible are key components in building a framework for moral decision-making. They are the foundational resources.

"The starting point for Christian decision-making is being a believer in Jesus Christ," he writes. "Going to the Bible is at the heart of good decisions and right living. ... It teaches us what God values and what we should value. ... The Bible is our standard for making right decisions."

Discuss: Lead a discussion about how a Christian's relationship with Jesus and the Bible are key components in moral decision-making.

Ask:

- Does your relationship with Jesus impact your decisions?
- If so, how?
- How does the call to do everything "in the name of Jesus" help you make decisions?
- Which biblical texts have most shaped your understanding of what it means to act "in the name of Jesus"?

PART TWO

Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another.

– Hebrews 10:24-25

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. – Hebrews 12:1

Read Hebrews 10:24-25 and 12:1 aloud.

Explain: Hebrews 10:24-25 emphasizes the centrality of community for Christians, which Higgins says is an important part of building a framework for moral decision-making.

Gathering together encourages fidelity to the Christian faith by reminding believers of the "great cloud of witnesses" (past and present) whose lives offer models (positive and negative) for faithful obedience. It also encourages and inspires us to "run with perseverance the race [Christian life] marked out for us."

In the context of Hebrews, the “great cloud of witnesses” refers to the individuals listed in chapter 11: Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Moses and others who are set forth as positive examples of faithful obedience.

Yet, the call to learn from and emulate these exemplars of faithful living can be understood more broadly, as including the three expressions of community set forth by Higgins: Christian heritage, members of our local churches, and the larger human community.

“Our Christian heritage provides us with a historical framework for Christian decision-making,” Higgins explains. “We can learn from the kinds of decisions Christians made ... as they struggled to do God’s will.”

Likewise, “A Christian fellowship provides individual believers with collective wisdom for decision-making,” he notes. They can share how they responded to similar circumstances and offer a more objective perspective on our situation.

Finally, perspectives from the larger community – such as experts in different areas, academic publications on relevant topics and support groups – are helpful resources, Higgins suggests, because “God is at work in all areas of our world.”

All of these expressions of human community are means by which Christians can make better decisions. Each offers helpful insights and tools for discerning the best course of action when we stand at the crossroads searching for the good way in which to walk.

Hebrews’ call to “not neglect meeting together” and to look to the “great cloud of witnesses” reminds us of the importance of relying on others in making sound decisions.

Discuss: Lead a discussion of the importance of drawing on various expressions of communal wisdom in moral decision-making.

Ask:

- To whom do you turn when seeking advice on making a decision?
- Why?
- How have the three expressions of community that Higgins noted – Christian heritage, local churches and other community knowledge / resources – shaped your life?
- How can community help us respond to the obstacles set forth in session one, enable us to follow the guidelines for using the Bible noted in session two, and allow us to more accurately answer the questions shared in session three?

YOU MIGHT ALSO ENJOY THE FOLLOWING BIBLE STUDIES:

Being Doers of the Word: This 13-lesson online Bible study uses the book of James to help people who profess faith to back it up with love-based actions – and to expect nothing in return. Lessons include: “Developing a Mature Faith,” “Being Doers of the Word” and “Pursuing Wisdom.” A [leader’s guide](#) and [student guide](#) are available for purchase.

Honoring the Ten Commandments: This 13-lesson online Bible study explores how people of faith can honor the Ten Commandments through lives that uphold them. Lessons include: “Toward a Moral Way of Life” and “Approaching the Ten Commandments with Care.” A [leader’s guide](#) and [student guide](#) are available for purchase.

Questions Jesus Asked: This 13-lesson online Bible study considers Jesus’ questions as recorded in the Gospel of Luke, exploring ethical issues that Jesus raised and showing how these same issues related to our lives today. Lessons include: “Who Is Your Neighbor?” “What Is Faithful Stewardship?” and “What Do You Owe the Government?” A [leader’s guide](#) and [student guide](#) are available for purchase.

OTHER AVAILABLE RESOURCES:

Different Books, Common Word: Baptists and Muslims: A documentary that reveals how Baptists and Muslims are changing history by the way they are engaging each other. Tired of being defined by extremists, some U.S. Baptist and Muslims have sought and found common ground: the common word in both traditions to love neighbor. Learn more about the film at DifferentBooksCommonWord.com.

Gospel Without Borders: A documentary that brings more light and less heat to the issue of immigration. It separates myth from fact, examines what the Bible says about treatment of the “stranger,” shows the experiences of documented and undocumented immigrants and provides handles for Christians to advance the common good. Learn more about the film at GospelWithoutBorders.net.

Through the Door: A documentary that highlights the faith community’s engagement with prisons (including inmates and officers, being in prison and out, both charity and justice). Learn more about the film at ThroughTheDoor.info.