

GOSPEL and MONEY

Brian Christopher Coulter



ME



YOU



WHAT

How do you share both the good news of the gospel and talk directly about the issues of stewardship and money in the church. Come and hear insights from the field, share stories, and get ideas for your next sermon series on one of the most needed and most avoided topics in our congregations.

HOW

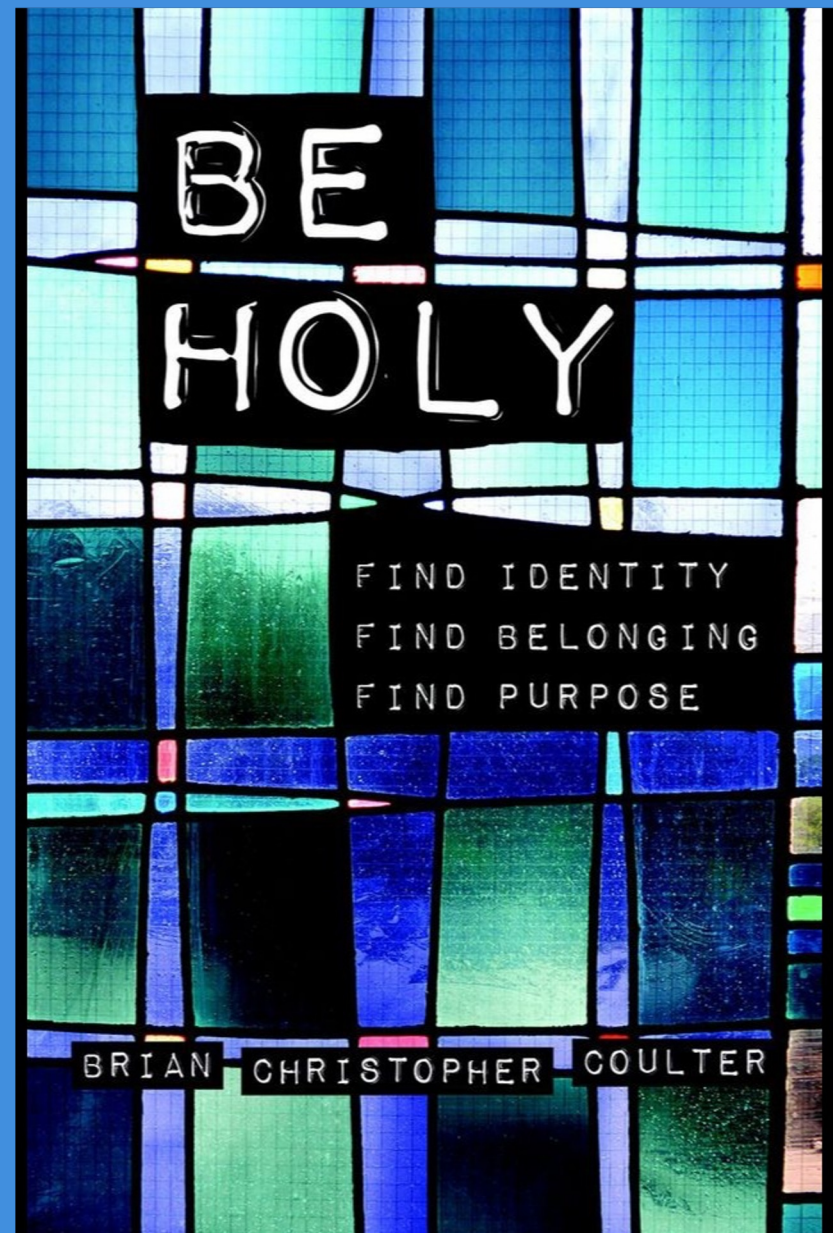
C.I.A.

sermon – text – movements – quotes – thoughts

top 10 list

Q&A

WHY



A large, faint watermark of the Central Intelligence Agency seal is visible on the left side of the image. The seal features an eagle with wings spread, perched on a shield, surrounded by a circular border with text.

C.I.A.

C.I.A.

Clear

Inviting

Authentic

C.I.A.

Clear

articulation

Inviting

Authentic

C.I.A.

Clear

articulation

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C.I.A.

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articulation

cognitive message

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C.I.A.

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rhythm

intuitive illustrations

Authentic

range

C.I.A.

Clear

articulation

cognitive message

Inviting

rhythm

intuitive illustrations

Authentic

range

emotive elicitation

1

Ben Kane

“What Would Jesus Pledge?”

[sermon link](#)

1

Matthew 6.3-4

But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

1

he argues with JESUS

innate need to be noticed

but notice what

GOD notices all

1

“Today is about Jesus and money. I feel it is necessary to be honest about what we are doing this morning as we glorify God through our worship. We are talking about money—a topic that causes a reaction; maybe it is an eye roll, maybe it is a shifting in your seat as talk of money makes you uncomfortable; maybe you’ve already tuned me out ...”

1 – direct talk about money

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2

Michael East

“More than Enough: You are Enough”

[sermon link](#)

2

John 6.8-9

One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said, "A youth here has five barley loaves and two fish. But what good is that for a crowd like this?"

2

maternity leave

problem with miracles

problem with stewardship

redefining enough

2

“The best kind of stewardship is the one that comes when each and everyone of us come to understand that whatever we have, whatever we give, is already enough. And through God, it is always more than enough.”

2 – extra vs enough



3

Ryan Baer

“Presbyterians in the Bible Belt: Stewardship”

[sermon link](#)

3

Matthew 25.21

‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’

3

sermon series on reformed theology

proper use of the gifts of God

personal story

congregational story

3

“The Church with a capital C is still accidentally training people that stewardship has mostly to do with institutional needs of the church, particularly buildings and budgets. We have reduced the word stewardship and devalued it to the equivalent of the fall fundraising campaign.”

3 – ~~budget~~ transformation



**HOW TO
WRITE A
TRANSFORMATION
STORY**

4

Tara Bulger
“know what you value”

[sermon link](#)

4

Matthew 6.21

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

4

Buechner quote on values = “look to your feet”

her feet

Jesus’ feet

grandparent’s feet

4

“Integrity is that cohesiveness between what you say you value and how you’re going to live that out ... I will tell you honestly that it is your decision how you give of your time, talent, and treasure. You decide how you are going to live out the values you have as people of faith.”

4 – align with values



5

Ann Marie Quigley-Swanson
“Better Together”

[sermon link](#)

5

Ephesians 3.20

Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine ...

5

Field of Dreams

Reformation Sunday

Consecration Sunday

a 6-year old named Paul

5

“Today is Consecration Sunday. It is a day for dreams and it is day of commitment. Of trusting that our gifts—of time, talent and treasure will be well cared for—used to build the kingdom.”

5 – dreams becoming real



6

Robert Thomas Quiring
“worth a penny”

[sermon link](#)

6

Mark 12.41-42

[Jesus] sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny.

6

overtly looking for praise

secretly looking for praise

NBA games

every seat is at the same table

6

“We more easily understand and relate to those who have similar seats and similar problems as ours. And it is important to care for those people. However, Jesus also wants us to remember and lift up those who are seated behind us as well - to love our neighbor – whether they are able to give out of their abundance or if they’ve just given their last penny.”

6 – different point of view



7

Alan Dyer

“Politics, Pescatarians, Pocketbooks, Prayer”

[sermon link](#)

7

Mark 8.6

“When he had taken the seven loaves and given thanks, he broke them and gave them to his disciples to distribute to the people, and they did so.”

7

election differences

the angel feeds Elijah

Jesus feeds the 4000

the meal is ready to serve

7

“God provides the meal, but the people are the ones who share it, the people are the ones who serve each other. Maybe that is the real miracle; maybe that is why, of all the gospels, Mark is the only one to repeat a feeding of the thousands story twice – so amazed was he of a hungry and tired and diverse community that served one another.”

7 – we're all in this together



8

Matt McCollum
“You are the Letter”

[sermon link](#)

8

2 Corinthians 3.3

“show that you are a letter of Christ, prepared by us,
written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living
God”

8

signatures

church = love letter

will you sign it?

what will that mean?

8

“begin percentage giving. Instead of just putting in the offering plate whatever you happen to have in your wallet that day, decide what percentage of your income you will give away. It may be 2% or 4% or 8% and next year grow that by a percent or two until you reach your target”

8 – percentage based giving

Annual Income	2%	3%	4%	5%	6%	7%	8%	9%	10%	12%
\$20,000	\$400	\$600	\$800	\$1,000	\$1,200	\$1,400	\$1,600	\$1,800	\$2,000	\$2,400
\$30,000	\$600	\$900	\$1,200	\$1,500	\$1,800	\$2,100	\$2,400	\$2,700	\$3,000	\$3,600
\$40,000	\$800	\$1,200	\$1,600	\$2,000	\$2,400	\$2,800	\$3,200	\$3,600	\$4,000	\$4,800
\$50,000	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$2,000	\$2,500	\$3,000	\$3,500	\$4,000	\$4,500	\$5,000	\$6,000
\$60,000	\$1,200	\$1,800	\$2,400	\$3,000	\$3,600	\$4,200	\$4,800	\$5,400	\$6,000	\$7,200
\$75,000	\$1,500	\$2,250	\$3,000	\$3,750	\$4,500	\$5,250	\$6,000	\$6,750	\$7,500	\$9,000
\$100,000	\$2,000	\$3,000	\$4,000	\$5,000	\$6,000	\$7,000	\$8,000	\$9,000	\$10,000	\$12,000
\$125,000	\$2,500	\$3,750	\$5,000	\$6,250	\$7,500	\$8,750	\$10,000	\$11,250	\$12,500	\$15,000
\$150,000	\$3,000	\$4,500	\$6,000	\$7,500	\$9,000	\$10,500	\$12,000	\$13,500	\$15,000	\$18,000
\$175,000	\$3,500	\$5,250	\$7,000	\$8,750	\$10,500	\$12,250	\$14,000	\$15,750	\$17,500	\$21,000
\$200,000	\$4,000	\$6,000	\$8,000	\$10,000	\$12,000	\$14,000	\$16,000	\$18,000	\$20,000	\$24,000

9

Shannon Kershner
“Joy and Generosity”

[sermon link](#)

9

John 12.5

“Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?”

9

starbucks cup = flowers = offering to God

Mary's extravagant act







Judas' understandable protest

making a holy difference

9

“So this week, as you continue to prayerfully consider what you will pledge, give, to this church for God’s work in this world, for the building up of God’s kingdom, God’s reign, God’s community of love, or as your reconsider what you have already pledged, take into account what kind of a holy difference your gift will or will not make in your life.”

9 – ask the week before

● WEEKLY PLANNER ●						
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
						



10

Karl Travis

“If you’re living it,
then the sermon
kind of just writes itself.”



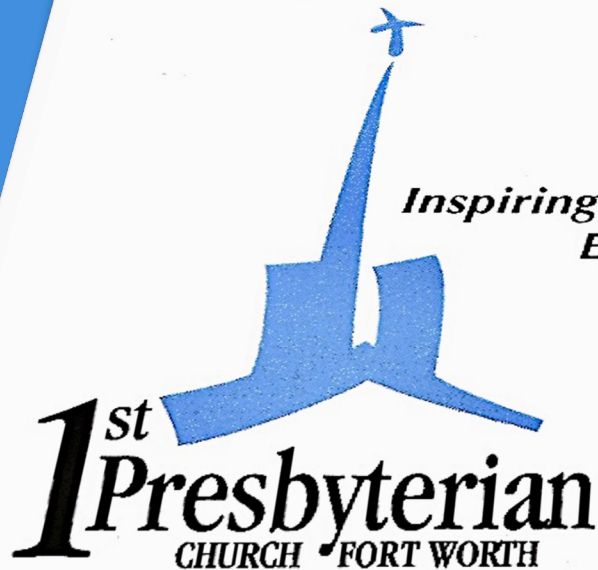
10 – live into it



All 10

- 1 – direct talk about money
- 2 – extra vs enough
- 3 – ~~budget~~ transformation
- 4 – align with values
- 5 – dreams becoming real
- 6 – different point of view
- 7 – we're all in this together
- 8 – percentage based giving
- 9 – ask the week before
- 10 – live into it

Questions?



*Inspiring Disciples...
Engaging the World*

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