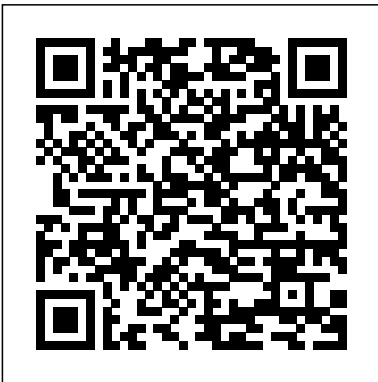


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# Nooma Study Guides Online

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Exploring the "I Am" Sayings of Jesus Upper Room Books  
Turning to the Gospels,  
James Bryan Smith invites  
you to compare your ideas

about God with what Jesus himself reveals about his Father. Smith leads you through a process of spiritual formation that includes specific activities aimed at making these new narratives real in your body and soul as well as your mind.

The Prodigal God Vintage Ormond Simpson provides a clear, accessible analysis of strategies for increasing retention and, crucially,

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provides case studies and examples to illustrate how these strategies can change institutional policy and practice.

What We Talk About  
When We Talk About  
Love Zondervan

How God is described today strikes many as mean, primitive, backward, illogical, tribal, and at odds with the frontiers of science. At the same time, many intuitively feel a sense of reverence and awe in the world. Can we find a new way to talk about God? Pastor and New York Times bestselling author Rob Bell does here for God what he did for heaven and hell

in Love Wins: he shows how traditional ideas have grown stale and dysfunctional and reveals a new path for how to return vitality and vibrancy to how we understand God. Bell reveals how we got stuck, why culture resists certain ways of talking about God, and how we can reconnect with the God who is with us, for us, and ahead of us, pulling us forward into a better future—and ready to help us live life to the fullest.

Explore the Big Story Ballantine Books

Glory and Agony is the first

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history of the shifting attitudes toward national sacrifice in Hebrew culture over the last century. Its point of departure is Zionism's obsessive preoccupation with its haunting "primal scene" of sacrifice, the near-sacrifice of Isaac, as evidenced in wide-ranging sources from the domains of literature, art, psychology, philosophy, and politics. By placing these sources in conversation with twentieth-century thinking on human sacrifice, violence, and martyrdom, this study draws a complex picture that provides multiple, sometimes contradictory insights into the genesis and gender of national sacrifice. Extending back over two millennia, this study unearths retellings of biblical and classical narratives of sacrifice, both enacted and aborted, voluntary and violent, male and female—Isaac, Ishmael, Jephthah's daughter, Iphigenia, Jesus. *Glory and Agony* traces the birth of national sacrifice out of the ruins of religious martyrdom, exposing the sacred underside of

Western secularism in Israel as elsewhere.

A HarperCollins

A masterpiece of breathtaking scope—a brilliantly conceived epic novel that traces the entire turbulent course of English history. This ebook edition features a new introduction by the author in honor of the thirtieth anniversary of *Sarum*. This rich tapestry weaves a compelling saga of five families—the Wilsons, the Masons, the family of Porteus, the Shockleys, and the Godfreys—who reflect the changing character of Britain. As their fates and fortunes intertwine over the course of the centuries, their greater destinies offer a fascinating glimpse into the future. An absorbing historical chronicle, *Sarum* is a keen tale of struggle and adventure, a profound

human drama, and a magnificent work of sheer storytelling. Praise for Sarum “ Bursts with action, encyclopedic in historic detail . . . supremely well crafted and a delight to read. ” —Chicago Tribune “ A fascinating journey . . . a clear yet sparkling window upon history with a superb narrative, so perfectly balanced between history and fiction that it clears away the mists of time from antiquity, giving the reader the impression that events over a span of ten centuries occurred only yesterday. ” —Fort Worth Star-Telegram “ Strong . . . appealing . . . I haven ’ t read so satisfactory a saga in years . . . in fact, perhaps not ever before. . . . It gives you not only history but comfort. ” —Chicago Sun-Times “ [Edward] Rutherford holds us all

consistently intrigued. In Sarum he has created a splendid novel that will bring many hours of diversified reading pleasure. ” —The Plain Dealer “ A richly imagined vision of history, written with genuine delight. ” —San Francisco Chronicle “ Rutherford is at his best. . . . His storytelling skills are substantial. . . . One of the best books of the season. ” —Kansas City Star “ Absorbing . . . a superior historical novel . . . This blockbuster saga should appeal to discriminating readers, since Rutherford has an excellent grasp of his subject and a compelling story to tell. ” —Publishers Weekly Breathe Paraclete Press This resource presents twelve essential practices for a Christian way of life. Written for adults, parents, and families to use in learning

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about and living these Christian practices, each chapter presents the Biblical foundation of the Christian practice and a variety of practical suggestions for living it and making it an integral part of everyday life.

### At Home with the

### Patagonians Love Wins

A Book About Heaven, Hell, and the Fate of Every Person Who Ever Lived

Usually when we think of the Advent story, Mary, Joseph, and the angel Gabriel come to mind. Okoro approaches Advent a little differently, inviting us to sit for a while with Zechariah and Elizabeth and the story of how they came to bear their only son, John. "The Advent story we so often associate with the joy of Christmas actually begins with deep sorrow and longing. But thankfully, in the kingdom of God, there is

always more to the story than meets the eye," Enuma Okoro writes. Zechariah and Elizabeth were good people. They had maintained faith and hope in God for many years, despite Elizabeth's inability to conceive, a condition considered shameful in their time. So they were quite familiar with the universal human experiences of longing and waiting. Even though this couple's story takes up only one chapter in Luke's Gospel, it contains enough lessons about faith and life to last for weeks. In her beautifully written, imaginative meditations for each day of Advent, Okoro looks closely at the doubts and longings of Zechariah and Elizabeth. As you explore their story, Okoro guides you to reflect on your own experiences of waiting and longing, of grief and the need

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for community, and of  
hungering for God. These  
poetic and poignant  
meditations will linger with  
you long after Christmas.  
Reflection questions and a  
prayer challenge accompany  
each week's meditations. A  
perfect book for individual or  
group study.

What Is the Bible? Zondervan  
Single copy of course  
workbook. For those wanting  
packs of five (five for the  
price of four) the ISBN is 987  
1 85424 952 4.

Silence and Other Surprising  
Invitations of Advent Harper  
Collins

Evangelism doesn't have to be  
frustrating or intimidating. Bill  
Hybels and Mark Mittelberg  
believe that effectively  
communicating our faith in Christ  
should be the most natural thing in  
the world. We just need  
encouragement and direction. In  
Becoming a Contagious Christian,  
Hybels and Mittelberg articulate  
the central principles that have

helped the believers at Willow  
Creek Community Church  
become a church known around  
the world for its outstanding  
outreach to unchurched people.  
Based on the words of Jesus and  
flowing from the firsthand  
experiences of the authors,  
Becoming a Contagious Christian  
is a groundbreaking, personalized  
approach to relational evangelism.  
You will discover your own natural  
evangelism style, how to develop a  
contagious Christian character, to  
build spiritually strategic  
relationships, to direct  
conversations toward matters of  
faith, and to share biblical truths in  
everyday language. This landmark  
book presents a blueprint for  
starting a spiritual epidemic of  
hope and enthusiasm for spreading  
the Gospel.

Falling in Love with the God Jesus  
Knows InterVarsity Press

As he revolutionized traditional  
teaching on hell in the  
phenomenal New York Times  
bestseller Love Wins, Rob Bell  
now transforms how we  
understand and practice marriage  
in The Zimzum of Love, co-  
written with his wife, Kristen.

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Despite the divorce statistics, people are still committing to each other, instinctively believing and hoping that theirs is a sacred union that will last forever. Yet when these couples encounter problems, they often lack the resources that keep them connected to this greater mystery surrounding marriage. Rob and Kristen Bell introduce a startling new way of looking at marriage, *The Zimzum of Love*. Zimzum is a Hebrew term where God, in order to have a relationship with the world, contracts, creating space for the creation to exist. In marriage, zimzum is the dynamic energy field between two partners, in which each person contracts to allow the other to flourish. Mastering this field, this give and take of energy, is the secret to what makes marriage flourish. Rob and Kristen Bell are brutally honest about their own struggles, their ups and downs, as together they pass along what matters most for couples. In this wise book, they explore the secret of what makes a happy union—probing the mystery at the heart of the extraordinary emotional connection that binds

two people. With his down-to-earth charm, a dose of whimsy, and memorable stories, Rob, writing with his wife Kristen, changes how we consider marriage, providing insight that can help all of us create satisfying and sacred unions of our own.

### *A Manifesto for the Church in Exile* John Wiley & Sons

"An exciting vision of the future" --Michael Eric Dyson  
*Everything Is Spiritual* is an unexpected and compelling invitation to see your life in a whole new way. We have the great moments of our lives, the highs, those times when we soar, when it all makes sense, when it feels like it all has purpose and meaning. And then there are all those other moments—the lows and aches and failures and struggles and experiences that leave us wondering what the point of it all is. Are our lives ultimately bits and pieces and fragments—you try to find a

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little peace and hope and then it ' s over? Or is there more going on here? In our increasingly polarized and disoriented world, Everything Is Spiritual gives us a radical new take on how it all fits together, how it works, how it ' s all connected. Part memoir, part extended riff on the quantum nature of reality, part history of the universe, Rob Bell takes us back through the twists and turns and struggles of his story in order to help us see the larger story so that we can reconnect with our story.

A Book About Heaven, Hell, and the Fate of Every Person Who Ever Lived Harper Collins  
Brilliant Lent course for individuals and groups, based on the Oscar-winning film 'The King's Speech'. The purpose of 'Finding a Voice' could be summed up in the words of the King ' s speech therapist: ' To give them faith in their voice

and let them know a friend is listening. ' The course, which offers five group sessions plus weekly material for private reading, uses the film as a discussion starter and relates it to what the Bible has to say about such universal issues as discouragement and determination, fear and friendship, calling and courage. ' The King ' s Speech ' is such a runaway success because it holds that mirror to our world, and offers hope of overcoming the difficulties. It shows hope built out of friendship, trust and supportive love; and courage in the face of gathering evil. Lent is traditionally a time for strengthening resolve, bringing believers together in trust and encouragement as they strive to follow their calling.

What We Talk About When We Talk About God Abingdon Press  
What if you knew that by simply crossing the room and saying hello to someone, you could change

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that person's forever? Just a few steps to make an eternal difference. It has nothing to do with methods and everything to do with taking a genuine interest in another human being. All you need is a heart that's in tune with the Holy Spirit and a willingness to venture out of your "Circle of Comfort" and into another person's life. Just *Walk Across the Room* brings personal evangelism into the twenty-first century. Building on the solid foundation laid in *Becoming a Contagious Christian*, Bill Hybels shows how you can participate in the model first set by Jesus, who stepped down from heaven 2,000 years ago to bring hope and redemption to broken people living in a fallen world. Now it's your turn. Your journey may not be as dramatic, but it can have a life-changing impact for someone standing a few steps away from you—and for you as well, as you learn the power of extending care, compassion, and inclusiveness under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The highest value in personal evangelism is cooperating with the Spirit, says Hybels. This means playing only the role you're meant to play—walking when the Spirit says to walk, talking when he says to talk, and falling silent when he suggests that you've said enough. Hybels encourages you to "live in 3D" ... —Developing friendships —Discovering stories —Discerning appropriate next steps ... as a means of learning to understand the Holy Spirit's promptings. With fresh perspectives from his own reflections and experiences collected during his most recent decade of ministry, Bill Hybels shows with convincing and inspiring clarity the power of this personal, richly relational approach to evangelism. The stakes are high. The implications are eternal. And you may be only a conversation away from having an eternal impact on someone's life—if you will just walk across the room. *The God We Can Know* HarperCollins UK Millions of Christians have struggled with how to reconcile God's love and God's judgment: Has God created billions of people over thousands of years only to select a few to go to heaven and

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everyone else to suffer forever in hell? Is this acceptable to God? How is this "good news"? Troubling questions—so troubling that many have lost their faith because of them. Others only whisper the questions to themselves, fearing or being taught that they might lose their faith and their church if they ask them out loud. But what if these questions trouble us for good reason? What if the story of heaven and hell we have been taught is not, in fact, what the Bible teaches? What if what Jesus meant by heaven, hell, and salvation are very different from how we have come to understand them? What if it is God who wants us to face these questions? Author, pastor, and innovative teacher Rob Bell presents a deeply biblical vision for rediscovering a richer, grander, truer, and more spiritually satisfying way of understanding heaven, hell, God, Jesus, salvation, and repentance. The result is the discovery that the "good news" is much, much better than we ever imagined. Love wins.

You 015---Rob Bell Discussion Guide (5-Pack) Upper Room

## Books

-- Author is based in Bloomington, IN -- The author was International Studies Research Fellow in a project called Lived Religion in the Digital Age. For half of this study, he spent five years with a progressive religious community in Bloomington. He has knowledge of our local that can have a global influence. His writing moves swiftly between narrating stories from his fieldwork to outlining how these stories contributed to discoveries about religion in a booming digital culture. -- This book stands out as the only that combines online observations and analyses of online interaction with detailed observations of everyday evangelical life, focusing on a group of Midwestern evangelicals and digital connoisseurs. Comparative titles with overlap don't go beyond evangelical bloggers. -- The method behind the author's expertise is to look at media within the cultural contexts of the human experience. This relates directly to a strategic building opportunity from IUP's 2017 plan for the film and media

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list. -- Target audience includes our film and media studies, religious studies, and anthropology lists. Midwesterners interested in religion generally might pick this up.

How to Be Here

HarperChristian Resources

NOOMA is a new format for spiritual direction. It's short films touching on issues that we care about, that we want to talk about, and it comes in a way that fits our world. It's a format that's there for us when we need it, as we need it, how we need it.

Audio: English. Subtitles:

English, French, German, Korean, Mandarin, Portuguese, Spanish.

Velvet Elvis Harper Collins

He reveals wisdom, ignites faith, guides our way – the Holy Spirit, with our willingness, can change our lives, for good. Following the popular study guide, "Transformed by the Presence of Jesus", author Liz Babbs is back with her

engaging meditative approach to exploring the Bible, this time focusing in on the Holy Spirit. Through six studies, Liz encourages readers to really grasp who the Holy Spirit is, as revealed by Him through key Scriptures. Perfect for groups and individual use.

Becoming a Contagious Christian Penguin

If God were throwing a party, would everyone be invited?

Or does God invite some and not others? And if so, how

does God decide? Is it what you say? Is it what you do? Is it what you're going to do? Is

it who your friends are? Or

what your friends do? Or

what religion you happened to be born into? Or where

you live, or what you look like, or what you believe?

What if the idea of heaven and hell that we have been

taught is not, in fact, what the Bible teaches? What if Jesus

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meant something very different by the concepts of heaven, hell, and salvation from how we've come to understand them? And what if the answer to life's meaning is much better than we ever imagined? In his teen edition of the bestselling book *Love Wins*, Rob Bell tackles all these questions in a way that addresses the real challenges of growing up in today's world. This is not just a book of questions and this is not just a book of answers. This is a book of exploration. This is a book of discovery. This is a book about why love wins.

*A Small Group Experience*  
Lifeway Church Resources  
Bestselling author Rob Bell offers a provocative book which gets to the heart of questions about life and death. His perspective, encapsulated by his famous slogan 'love wins', will surprise and challenge both Christians and atheists, and will

inspire people of all faiths and none.

*A Study Guide for Those Who Want to Go Deeper*  
Harper Collins

There are more than one billion Catholics in the world, and each one has a similar set of basic beliefs and practices that he or she follows. Some of the teachings of Catholicism are thousands of years old, while others are more recent. So what is the Catholic culture like and what do they believe?

*Catholicism For Dummies* answers these and many other questions. Whether you're a Catholic or not, you may be totally clueless or just unaware of some aspects of Catholic traditions, history, doctrine, worship, devotion, or culture. No sweat. Regardless of whether you're engaged, married, related to a Catholic, or just curious about what Catholics really do believe, this book is for you. *Catholicism For Dummies* is not a catechism

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or religious textbook, but a casual, down-to-earth introduction for non-Catholics and reintroduction for Catholics. It gives commonsense explanations so that the next time you 're invited to a Catholic wedding, Baptism, funeral, Confirmation, or First Communion, you won 't be totally confused. You 'll also discover other important topics that can help you better understand the Catholic culture—from morality and devotions to worship and liturgy. This book will familiarize you with Catholicism by showing you: What it means to be a Catholic: traditions, prayers, beliefs, and holidays Who is who in the Catholic hierarchy How Catholics worship What the Seven Sacraments and Ten Commandments are The book regarded as the holiest to Catholics: The Bible The Church 's stand on some sticky issues Catholicism For

Dummies presents a rich tapestry and history of the Catholic faith—from devotions to doctrines. This intelligent and faithful look at Catholicism will open your eyes to this religion and answer many of the questions you may have about it.