

Little Rock SCRIPTURE STUDY

Spring 2022

*Take a
new look at
Little Rock
Scripture
Study!*





Dear LRSS Community,

Welcome to our spring catalog! We're excited to share all that Little Rock Scripture Study has to offer as we welcome a new year along with some wonderful new Bible studies.

Some of you may be receiving our catalog for the first time in a while. We hope you'll enjoy looking through its pages and taking a new look at Little Rock Scripture Study. You'll find new product lines and titles that are flexible for groups and individuals, as well as for in-person or online gatherings. **Bonus: They all feature affordable group pricing!**

Consider our new and award-winning lectionary-based Bible study series, **Ponder**, to pray with and reflect on the Sunday readings. Or choose from one of our many **New Edition studies**, featuring a user-friendly format and free access to online videos—and interesting new topics like *Angels in the Bible*! We continue to add new titles to our popular **Alive in the Word** series, perfect for small-group faith-sharing, including a brand new title for Easter and another on the essential topic of Prayer.

If you're looking for meaningful **resources for Lent**, you'll find what you need on pages 6–7. We've gathered together some excellent recommendations for Lenten Bible study and faith-sharing.

I recently read with delight a customer's comment on our Facebook page: "LRSS always delivers!" That is certainly our goal and our track record as one of the longest-running and most trusted Catholic Bible study programs in the country.

As always, I'm just a phone call or an email away. It would be my pleasure to help you choose your next Bible study or to answer any questions you may have about our resources.

Happy New Year!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amy".

Amy Ekeh, Director
aekeh001@litpress.org
320-363-2081

“*Little Rock Scripture Study*”
always delivers!

Jenn Fiduccia

Catholic Bible Study That Transforms

Little Rock Scripture Study delivers a transformative experience of Bible study that is relevant, trusted, and essential for forming disciples.

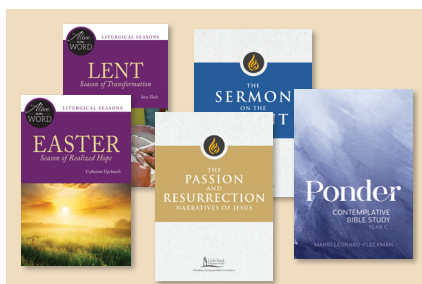
Ponder

Ponder: Contemplative Bible Study is a three-volume series designed to accompany individuals and groups as they pray with and ponder the Sunday readings throughout the liturgical year.



Lent Resources

A variety of resources for prayer, study, and faith-sharing to enrich your experience of this sacred season.



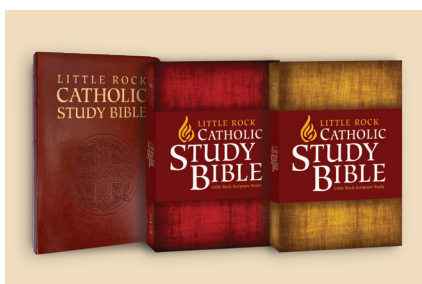
Little Rock Scripture Study New Editions

Content-rich Bible study that makes use of scholarly but readable commentary, study and reflection questions, prayer, and free access to online lectures—all in single books.



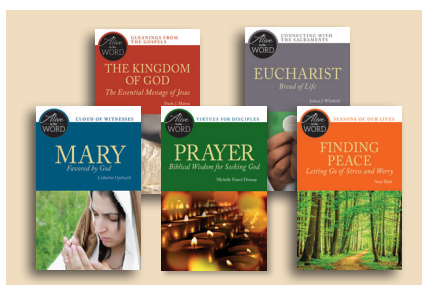
Little Rock Catholic Study Bible

User-friendly, popular study edition of the Bible that places all types of information throughout the Bible where you need it most.



Alive in the Word

Brief 3-session books that place the Bible's themes and characters at the center of our spiritual lives through reflection, prayer, and action.



To view **Little Rock Scripture Study Classics** and **Estudio Bíblico de Little Rock** visit LittleRockScripture.org

Ponder

Contemplative Bible Study for Year C

Mahri Leonard-Fleckman

"Our Bible study group has been using Ponder since last Advent. We have had some beautiful prayer experiences, and our sharing is as profound as any homily! We more fully appreciate the Sunday readings because we pray through them and discuss them together. Thank you for offering this great series."

Susan Tracy, St. Matthew the Evangelist Parish, Bellevue, Nebraska

- Ponder invites prayer and study of the Sunday Scriptures, rooted in *lectio divina*.
- Lectionary readings, informative commentary, and thought-provoking reflections are included for every Sunday of the year.
- Intentionally designed for flexible use, including personal prayer, group Bible study, and Breaking Open the Word.
- Clear instructions are provided for individuals and groups.
- Affordable group pricing for 5+ books.

YEAR C

978-0-8146-6558-9

Paperback, 312 pp., 6 x 9

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YEAR B

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YEAR A

Coming 2022!

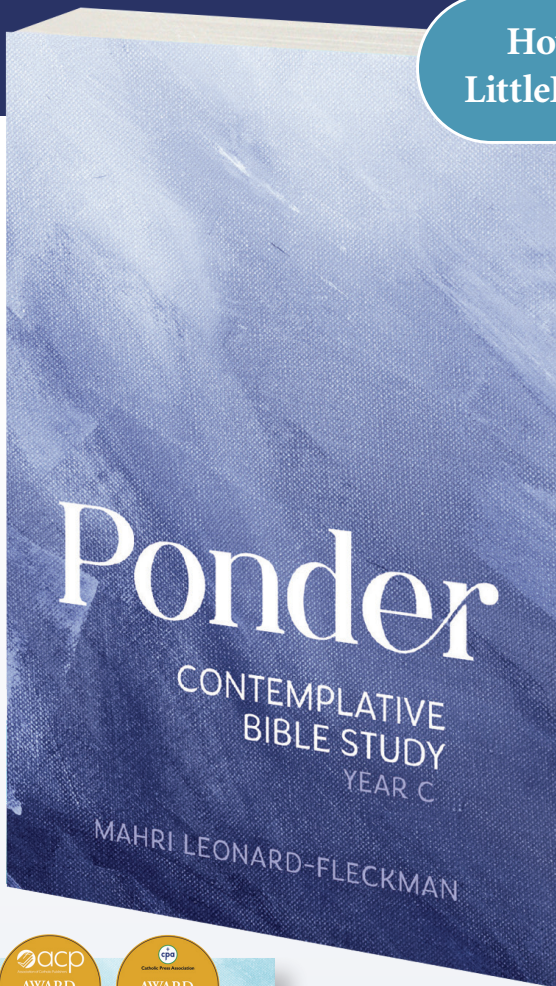


Mahri Leonard-Fleckman is assistant professor of Hebrew Bible in the Religious Studies Department at the College of the Holy Cross. She is a frequent contributor to *Give Us This Day* and co-author of *Ruth* in the Wisdom Commentary series. Mahri is an experienced Bible study facilitator at her home parish in Worcester, Massachusetts.

Visit LittleRockScripture.org/Ponder to learn more.

Ponder the Sunday readings!

How-To and FAQ videos at
LittleRockScripture.org/Ponder



How to Use this Study—Groups

A basic "how-to guide" can be found on the inside front cover of this book, but the following description will provide more detailed guidance. Of course, you should feel free to adapt the following approach as needed to suit the needs, time constraints, and temperament of your group.

Silence. The group leader may invite everyone to settle into silence and come before God if they've been "away" for a while. Remind the group that God is always present. Allow silence to take root for several long moments.

Opening Prayer. You will find an Opening Prayer on the inside front cover of this book. You may wish to say this together, or your group may choose an alternative Opening Prayer.

Lectio Divina (20-30 min.). Choose one of the Sunday readings from your group to read. At this point, the group leader may wish to offer an invitation such as the following: "In this reading of our text, I invite us to open our hearts to this passage, to be curious, and to listen as if we've never heard this passage before. I invite us to listen, in particular, for a word or phrase that speaks to us today. At the end of the reading, we'll go around and share a word or phrase that comes out loud, when it comes, you can say it. Read the text slowly and meditatively. Especially speaks to you. Share a word or phrase that speaks to you or their discussion (or they can say it)."

First Sunday of Advent

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 33:14-16
The days are coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and Judah. In those days, in that time, I will raise up for David a just shoot; he shall do what is right and just in the land, and Jerusalem shall dwell secure; this is what they shall call her: "The LORD our justice."

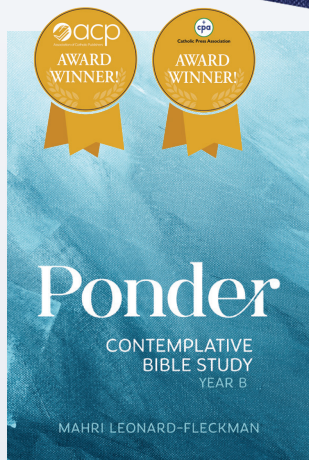
Jeremiah lived from Judah's golden age (late 600s BCE) through the Babylonian conquest and destruction of Judah (ca. 597-586 BCE), or Egypt. Jeremiah himself died in Egypt. Jeremiah began prophesying while the people were in imminent danger of exile and continued after they had experienced the trauma of exile from Judah. Our Jeremiah promises the people's return and the restoration of the Davidic line, the "just shoot" who will rebuild Jerusalem and the temple. This restoration will take place through the power of Israel's God, whose primary attribute is "justice" or "righteousness" (NRSV). The "just shoot" is another expression for "messiah" or "anointed one" (from *mašiah* in Hebrew, meaning "to anoint"), and was a political term for kings. The word "messiah" slowly developed into a purely religious term. For the early Jewish followers of Jesus in the first century CE, and then for Gentile believers, Jesus was this Messiah.

those with astrological knowledge from the east (Mosaic story therefore demonstrates from the very beginning of Jesus at the birth scene, Mary was a Gentile Christ each of them place magi also asserts the place of King Levi. The message includes various texts from the line of David (Mic 5:1-3; 2 Sam 5:2).

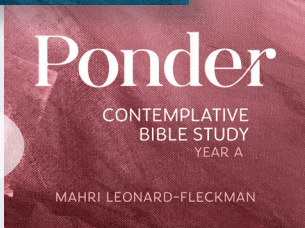
Ponder

Isaiah offers a striking contrast between the darkness covering the earth and the splendor, light, and radiance of God and the Holy City, Jerusalem. For many of us, the threat of darkness in our lives, our communities, and our world is all too real. Yet our readings remind us of God's light, which brings hope into the midst of darkness. This light makes our hearts "throb" and "overflow" according to Isaiah. It manifests as a star shining above a baby in a manger, according to Matthew. On this feast day, how do you live into the promise of God's radiance overflowing into the world? Where and how do you expect to see the rising of a star?

"Epiphany" comes from the Greek *epiphaneia*, meaning "radiance" or "manifestation." Our readings are filled with God's manifestation to the Gentiles. In Isaiah, God's light becomes a reality for all nations. In Ephesians, Paul describes the great "mystery" that leads to the union of all people as the Body of Christ. And in Matthew, for the first time, God's light manifests over and in the baby Jesus, signifying first witness God's light manifest over and in the baby Jesus. Unity is God's ultimate wish and plan for our world. As humans, darkness and exclusion are the easy way out. What takes for more courage and creativity is cooperation with the divine will. This feast day invites us to ponder how we embrace and cooperate with the great mystery and promise of the union of the Body of Christ.



Coming
2022!



To preview this resource, visit: LittleRockScripture.org/Ponder

Resources to enrich

Lent is the perfect time to ponder and pray with the Sunday readings. Flexibly designed for group or individual use, this rich resource includes the Sunday readings, brief commentary, and thought-provoking reflections for every Sunday of the year.

Ponder

Contemplative Bible Study for Year C

Mahri Leonard-Fleckman

978-0-8146-6558-9

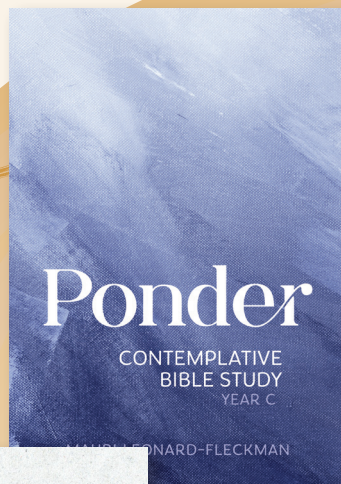
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Spend time with the Gospel stories of the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus as we journey to the cross and empty tomb this season. Break open these essential stories with commentary, prayers, and free online videos.

The Passion and Resurrection Narratives of Jesus

Stephen J. Binz with

Little Rock Scripture Study Staff
(6 lessons)

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Paperback, 128 pp., 7 x 10

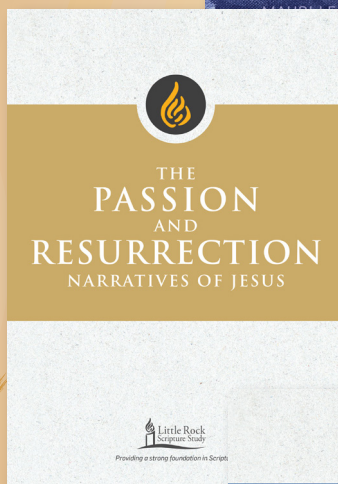
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Clifford M. Yearly with

Little Rock Scripture Study Staff
(4 lessons)

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the Lenten season

Immerse yourself in the heart of Lent with this 3-session book, ideal for small group faith-sharing or personal reflection. Explore Lenten themes of surrender, transformation, repentance, and love.

Lent, Season of Transformation

Amy Ekeh

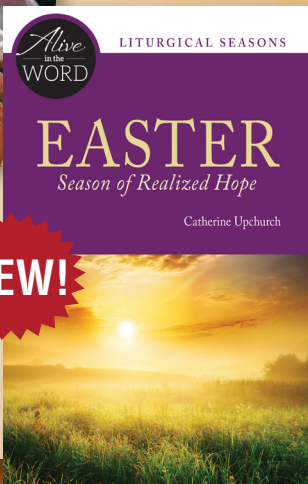
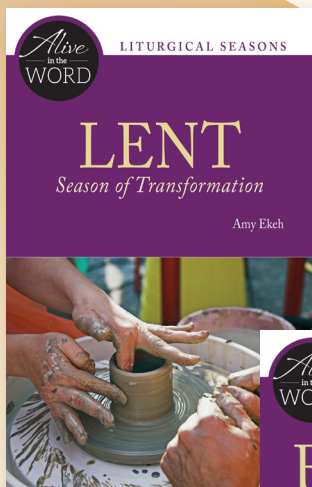
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NEW!

Easter isn't just a day—it's an entire season! Linger at the empty tomb, walk with the risen Christ, restore the hope that is offered by this joyous season. This 3-session book is perfect for small groups or individual reflection.

Easter, Season of Realized Hope

Catherine Upchurch

978-0-8146-6614-2

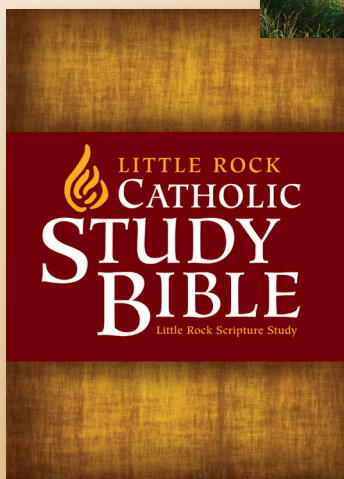
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Take Lent to the next level with the *Little Rock Catholic Study Bible*. Packed full of features to help you understand God's Word, our Bible is a worthy companion on your Lenten journey. Learn more and view options at LittleRockScripture.org/Bible.

Little Rock Catholic Study Bible

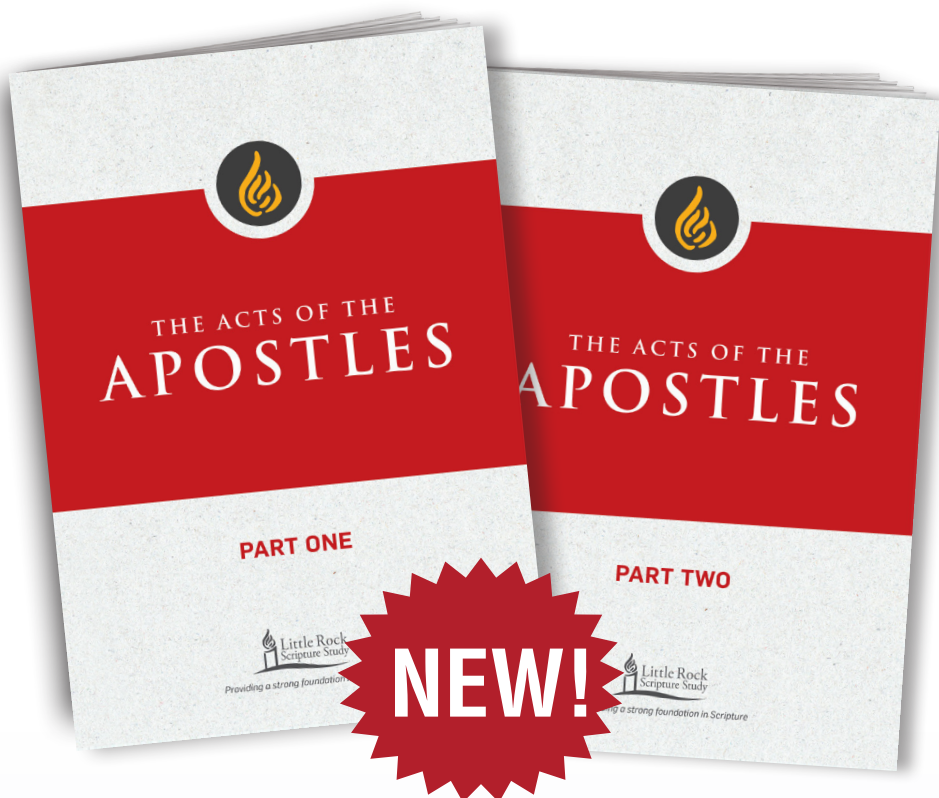
Catherine Upchurch, General Editor; Irene Nowell, OSB, Old Testament Editor; Ronald D. Witherup, New Testament Editor

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Dennis Hamm with Little Rock Scripture Study Staff

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The Acts of the Apostles, Part One (1:1–15:35) invites us to witness the Spirit at work as the apostles of Jesus become evangelists and pastors, as communities of believers expand to include Gentiles, and as local challenges test the staying power of the young church. *5 lessons.*

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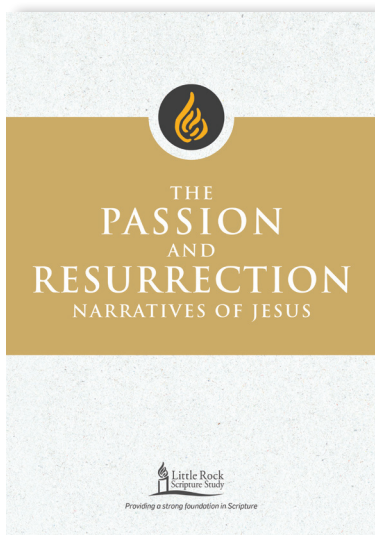
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- Engaging, informative commentary
- Questions for learning, reflection, and discussion
- Opening and closing prayer for each session
- Affordable group pricing



Our New Edition studies are convenient for online Bible study groups!

Share your screen and watch video lectures together!



The Passion and Resurrection Narratives of Jesus

*Stephen J. Binz with
Little Rock Scripture Study Staff*

The Gospel stories of the passion and resurrection of Jesus are at the core of Christian faith, revealing the nature of God, the person of Jesus, and the path of every disciple. Explore these essential stories in the unique accounts of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John with reliable guide Stephen Binz, and embrace the cross and resurrection in your own life. Ideal for Lent/ Easter study. *6 lessons.*

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The Sermon on the Mount

*Clifford M. Yeary with
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Jesus' call to profound discipleship in the Sermon on the Mount is too often dismissed as special instructions for only the holiest and most exceptional Christians. In *The Sermon on the Mount*, Clifford Yeary challenges us to hear the sermon once again as Christ intended it, as our call to follow him whose life illustrated its every ideal. Yeary helps us to hear the Sermon on the Mount as a message for each of us, a challenge that is our constant call to renewal. *4 lessons.*

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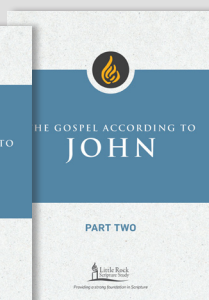
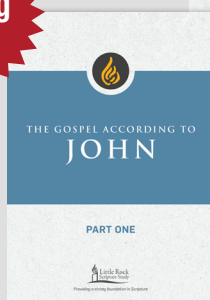
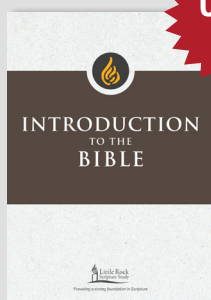
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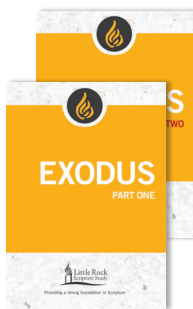


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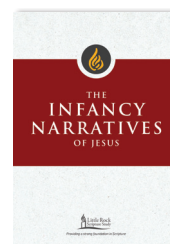
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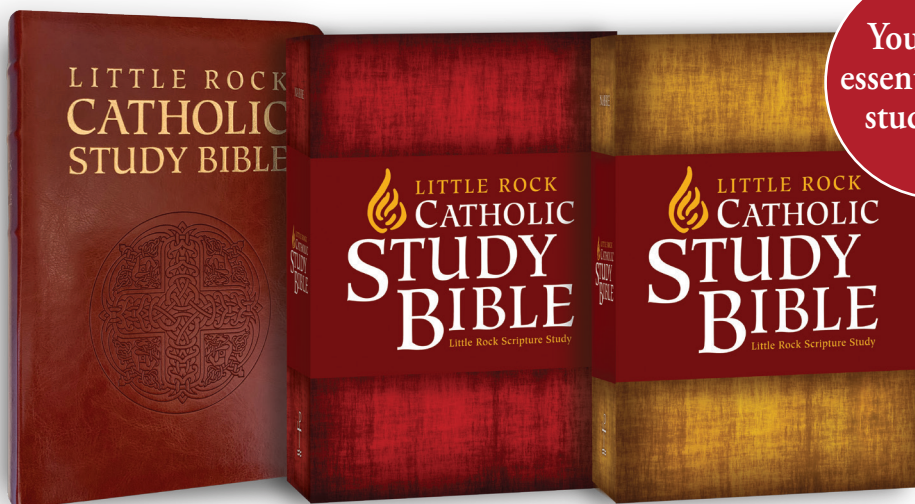
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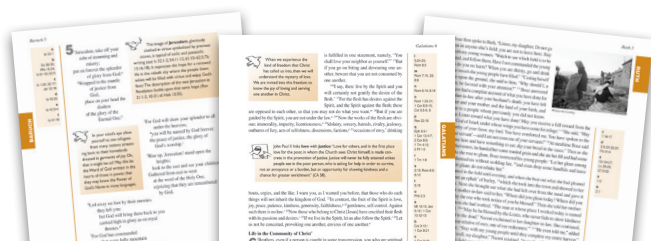
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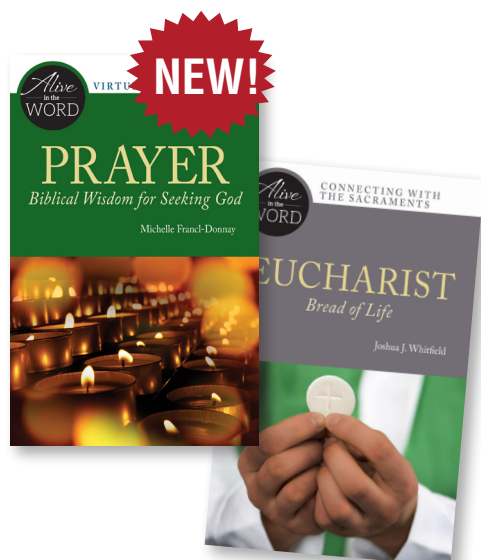


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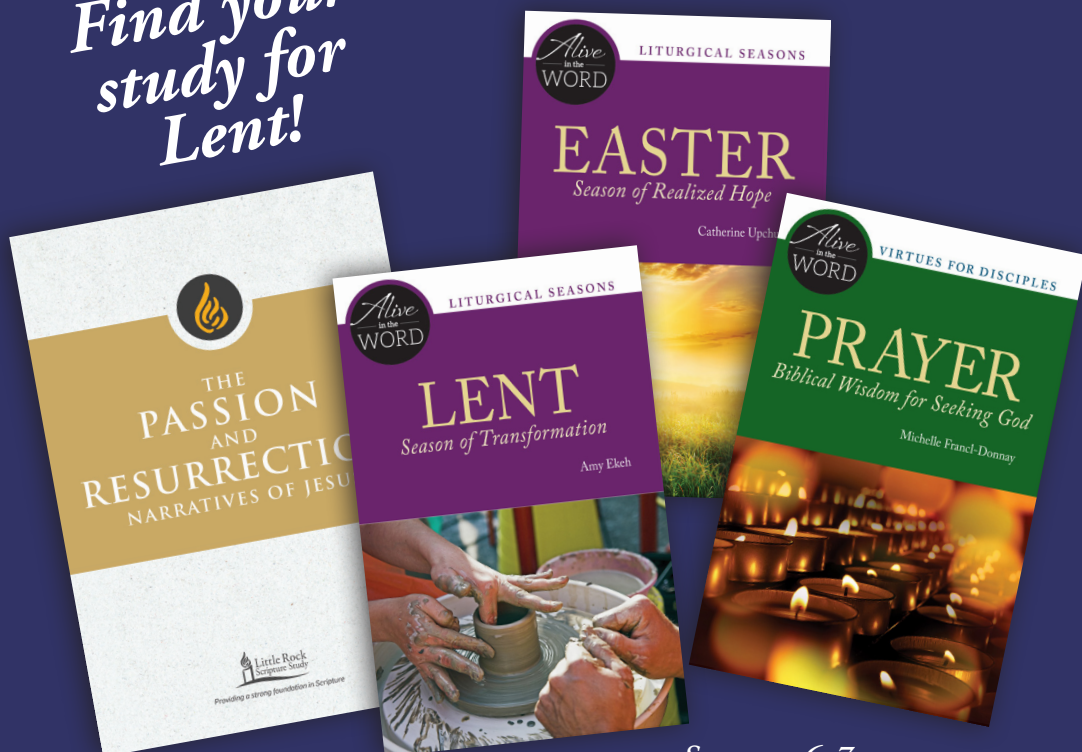
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