



*Busyness: Finding God in the Whirlwind (LBS)*

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*“One of InterVarsity Christian Fellowship’s most important contributions to the evangelical church at large has been the popularization of, motivation for, and training for inductive Bible study.” – Andy Le Peau, editorial director, IVP*

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## Creating a Legacy of Inductive Bible Study

Since the publication of the first LifeGuide® Bible Study (LBS), *Genesis*, in 1985, InterVarsity Press has been striving to create accessible Bible studies for individuals and groups.

In 1982, InterVarsity Christian Fellowship staff member Jack Kuhatchek and IVP editors Andy Le Peau and Jim Hoover conceptualized what became LifeBuilder Bible Studies (soon renamed LifeGuide® Bible Studies). The idea was to produce a quality series of Bible study guides that would be relevant and inductive and appeal to both Christian students and laypeople in churches. The first seven studies were published in 1985, with a plan to have an LBS for almost every book of the Bible as well as numerous topical studies.

“Over ten million LifeGuide® Bible Studies have been distributed around the world since InterVarsity Press first started publishing them in 1985,” says Cindy Bunch, associate editorial director and LBS series editor. “They are designed to create conversation around Scripture passages. The discussion format is easy to lead, and the focus on a single chapter of Scripture allows everyone to enter the conversation, even those with little prior knowledge about the Bible. LifeGuide® Bible Studies create a context for God’s Word to speak into our lives today.”

Editors and authors include the late John Stott, J. I. Packer, Jack Kuhatschek, Dale and Sandy Larsen, Rebecca Pippert, Patty Pell, James Sire, Paul Borthwick and many others. With over one hundred titles currently in print, IVP has accomplished its original goal to cover the Old and New Testaments, Bible characters and major Christian themes.

In the most recent LifeGuide, *Busyness*, Juanita Ryan helps busy readers explore ways of conversing with God in the midst of life and come to see our day’s work as the joyful service of kneeling before all others with Jesus.

Ryan asks in the introduction, “How can we learn to live centered in God’s loving presence, in a way that allows all our activity to flow from that center? How can we experience this change of heart that will allow us to know God’s presence with us in the midst of the busyness of our lives?” She goes on to explain, “We will listen as Jesus calls us to live with eyes wide open to what matters most in life, even as we entrust ourselves to God’s care so we can live in the present, where God is with us, providing for us. We will hear the invitation to draw the strength we need for the day from God, the Source of all life. We will learn to open ourselves throughout the day to God as we seek God’s wisdom, express our gratitude and begin to rest and rely more deeply in God’s presence with us. We will explore ways of conversing with God in the midst of the whirlwind of life and come to see our day’s work as a labor of love for God and as the joyful service of kneeling before all others with Jesus.”

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