



“ A gripping, prophetic call to churches to halt the cover-ups of sexual abuse of women and secure justice for the victims. ”

NICHOLAS WOLTERSTORFF, YALE UNIVERSITY

“AS A **SURVIVOR** OF BOTH SEXUAL ASSAULT AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT, I HAVE DONE THE **DEEP WORK OF PROCESSING MY OWN STORIES**. AS A **PASTOR**, I AM PASSIONATE ABOUT HELPING OTHER VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS **SEE THEIR STORIES ADDRESSED IN SCRIPTURE.**”



RUTH EVERHART is an author, speaker, and pastor who has served Presbyterian (PCUSA) churches for more than twenty years. She is the author of *Chasing the Divine in the Holy Land* and the *Christianity Today* award-winning memoir *Ruined*, which chronicles her own experience of sexual assault. A graduate of Calvin College and United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities, Ruth speaks widely and has written for publications such as *Christian Century*, *Sojourners*, and the *Washington Post*. She lives near Washington, DC.

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TALKING POINTS

ONE OUT OF EVERY SIX WOMEN

is the victim of an attempted or completed rape in her lifetime.



WOMEN ARE DISPROPORTIONATELY LIKELY to be victims of assault.



PEOPLE OF COLOR suffer higher levels of sexual assault than white people.



MISOGYNY is a major issue in the church, as it was during the time of Jesus' ministry.



PATRIARCHY and **SEXUAL ABUSE** are linked.



SECRECY allows the evils of sexual abuse to flourish.

PRAISE FOR THE BOOK

“Pulling back the curtain on the mishandling of sexual abuse within Protestant churches, this incisive work from Presbyterian pastor Everhart boldly calls for communal repentance and change.”

★ **PUBLISHERS WEEKLY** starred review

“Ruth Everhart knows and understands firsthand as a survivor and a pastor that all too often Christian communities are quick to dismiss and marginalize those who have been abused within their midst while at the same time empowering (and sometimes celebrating) those who abuse. . . . ***The #MeToo Reckoning* is a critical warning shot across the bow of Christendom** that I pray will help wake us up before it’s too late.”

Boz Tchividjian,

abuse attorney and founder, GRACE

“With bold storytelling and deep engagement with the biblical text, Ruth Everhart diagnoses the unchecked power, patriarchy, and shallow forms of forgiveness that plague many Christian communities grappling with abuse. She also points to the cure: a better, more biblical practice of justice for victims. **May this book ensure that more victims’ cries for justice are finally heard.**”

Katelyn Beaty,

author of *A Woman’s Place*

“*The #MeToo Reckoning* should be required reading for all church leaders. . . . Through powerful storytelling and insightful scriptural analysis, Everhart shows how we got where we are, why abuse matters, and how the church can find a way forward. **This book has the power to promote real change.**”

Jen Zamzow,

Concordia University Irvine

“In her remarkable clarion call for change, Ruth Everhart reminds religious leaders tempted to view #MeToo as a dismissible modern political movement that variations of ‘me too’ have echoed off the walls of the church since its foundation. This book begs us all to answer the question: **How much longer will we shut our ears to the voice of God heard in the cries of ‘the least of these’?**”

Linda Kay Klein,

author of *Pure*

“Ruth Everhart has a piercing, lucid, and urgent message: as long as the church idolizes power—the power of the institution or the lone charismatic leader, success, or patriarchal masculinity; as long as it holds up the strong at the expense of the vulnerable—it fails in its mission. **Though this is not an easy book, it is ultimately hopeful,** revealing with practical and concrete wisdom, a path forward.”

Debbie Blue,

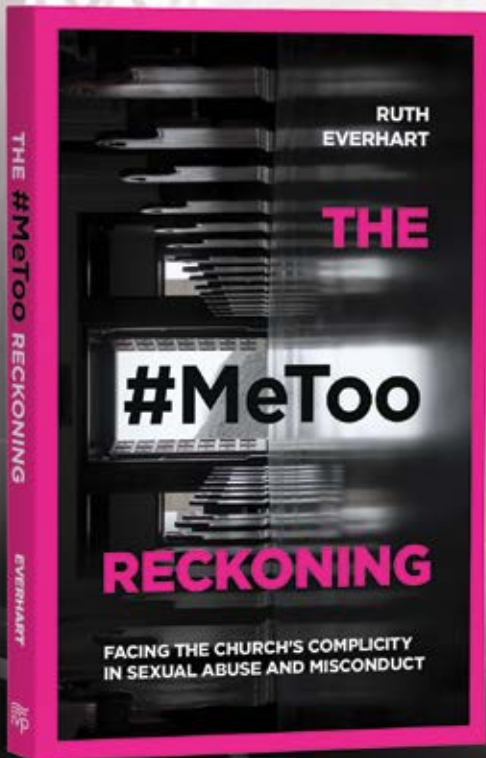
pastor and author of *Consider the Women*

“Ruth Everhart challenges religious institutions as places where abuse is too often discounted, denied, and concealed. I applaud the brave souls who share their stories of pain, including Everhart, and for her courageous call for change that is healing and just. **May her wisdom hasten the day when there are no more such stories to tell.**”

Kathleen Long Bostrom,

author and retired minister

The **#MeToo movement** has revealed sexual abuse and assault in every sphere of society, **including the church.**



BUT VICTIMS ARE ROUTINELY IGNORED

by fellow Christians who deny their accounts and fail to bring accountability to the perpetrators. All too often, churches have been complicit in protecting abusers, reinforcing patriarchal power dynamics, and creating cultures of secrecy, shame, and silence.

Pastor and survivor Ruth Everhart shines a light on the prevalence of sexual abuse and misconduct within faith communities. She candidly discloses stories of how she and others have experienced assault in church settings, highlighting the damage done to individuals, families, and communities.

Everhart offers hope to survivors as she declares that God is present with the violated and stands in solidarity with victims. Scriptural narratives like those of Tamar and Bathsheba carry powerful resonance in today's context, as do the accounts of Jesus' interactions with women. God is at work in the midst of this #MeToo moment to call the church to repentance and deliver us from violence against the vulnerable.

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