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Introduction: The Art and Science of Spiritual Formation (Gerald Hiestand and Todd Wilson)

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Whole-Person Theology for Ministry

Throughout his ministry, Jesus consistently demonstrated his concern and love for the whole person: soul, mind, and body.

That concern is carried forward today by pastors and church leaders, who are called to care for people in the midst of individual circumstances as well as seismic cultural shifts. How might that calling be informed by recent developments in psychology? How should the church attend to matters of mental health? How might psychology and counseling aid us in our spiritual formation?

Based on the 2018 Center for Pastor Theologians conference, this volume brings together reflections by pastors, theologians, and psychologists who explore the relationships among three fields of study—theological anthropology, spiritual formation, and modern psychology. The result is a vibrant whole-person theology that can aid the church today in its centuries-old call to care for the soul, mind, and body.



"Many thanks to the up-and-coming Center for Pastor Theologians for leading the way in the promotion of profound and utterly relevant ecclesial theology."

DOUGLAS A. SWEENEY

Beeson Divinity School

"Think alongside these thoughtful chapters and consider how we may faithfully engage the question of spiritual formation for the church today."

KYLE STROBEL

Talbot School of Theology, Biola University,

"In the church we have often failed to integrate our spiritual life with the rest of our humanity, resulting in a truncated vision of discipleship. . . . These helpful essays draw from multiple disciplines and address a wide array of topics to encourage a more holistic understanding of spiritual formation."

GAVIN ORTLUND

senior pastor of First Baptist Church of Ojai

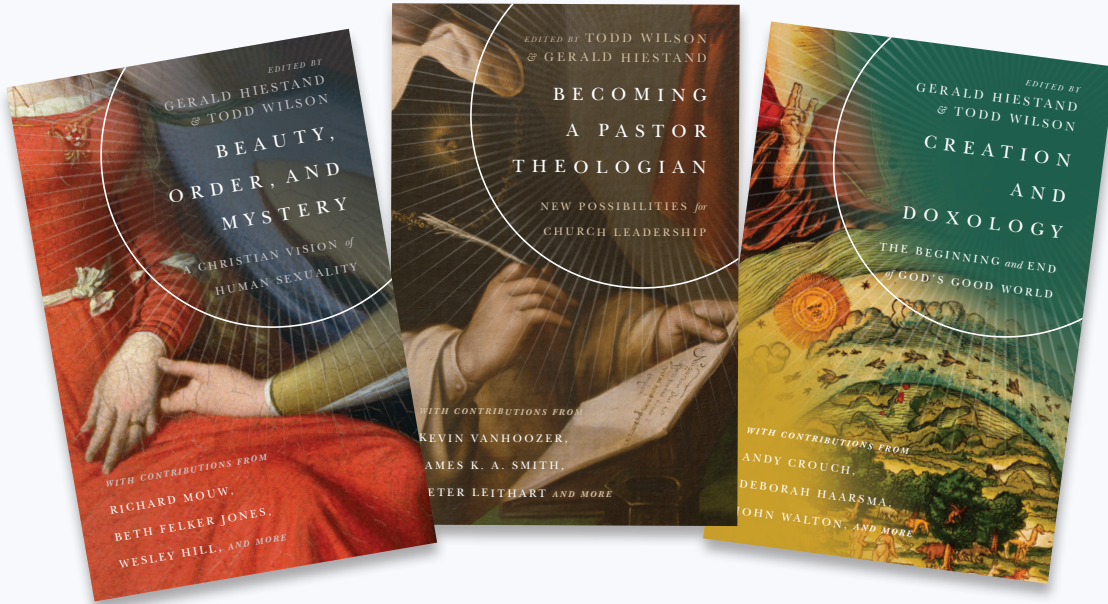


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TODD WILSON (PhD, University of Cambridge) is the president and cofounder of the Center for Pastor Theologians. He is the author of *Mere Sexuality: Rediscovering the Christian Vision of Sexuality* and *Real Christian: Bearing the Marks of Authentic Faith*, coauthor of *The Pastor Theologian: Resurrecting an Ancient Vision*, and coeditor of *Becoming a Pastor Theologian; Beauty, Order, and Mystery*; and *Creation and Doxology*.

CENTER FOR PASTOR THEOLOGIANS SERIES

The Center for Pastor Theologians (CPT) is an evangelical organization dedicated to assisting pastors in the study and written production of biblical and theological scholarship for the ecclesial renewal of theology and the theological renewal of the church.



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The CPT believes that the contemporary bifurcation between the pastoral calling and theological formation has resulted in the loss of a distinctly ecclesial voice in contemporary theology. It seeks to resurrect this voice.

Led by the conviction that pastors can—indeed must—once again serve as the church’s most important theologians, it is the aim of the CPT to provide a context of theological engagement for those pastors who desire to make ongoing contributions to the wider theological and scholarly community for the renewal of both theology and the church.

Based on annual CPT conferences, the volumes in the Center for Pastor Theologians Series bring together the reflections of church leaders and academic theologians to consider how pastoral ministry and theological scholarship might be reconnected once again. The contributors consider several facets of the theme discussed at each conference, exploring the insights that can be gained from historical examples of pastor theologians as well as the essential truths from Scripture on the topic.

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