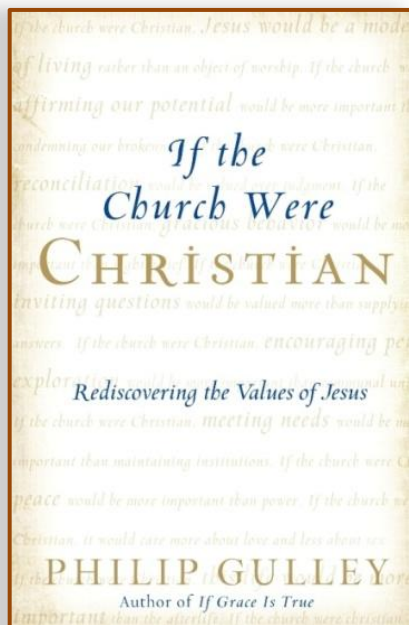


CRITICAL ACCLAIM for Philip Gulley's *If the Church Were Christian*



Philip Gulley is a Quaker pastor and beloved writer and speaker from Danville, Indiana. He is the co-author of the spiritual books *If Grace Is True* and *If God Is Love*, in which he and co-author James Mulholland describe their progressive worldview. In his latest theological endeavor, *If the Church Were Christian*, Gulley envisions a Christianity consistent with the teachings of Jesus.

While many religions claim to be growing, the largest group in American religious life is the disillusioned—people involved in the church, but see few similarities between the church's life and the person of Jesus. In the midst of elaborate programming, professional worship, and political crusades, they ask, "Is this really what Jesus called us to do?" While the church has dismissed these people as uncommitted and lacking in faith, perhaps the opposite is true. Their commitment to authentic spirituality over institutional idolatry might be the very corrective the church needs. These people respect Jesus, but question what Christianity has become.

If the Church Were Christian explores how the church has lost its way. An eye-opening examination of the values of Jesus reveals the extent to which the church has drifted from the teachings of the man who inspired its creation. Gulley provides a profound picture of what the church would look like if it focused on the priorities of Jesus.

"Why are thousands of ministers not saying what Philip Gulley says so well!! His vision of Christianity is grounded, gripping, and filled with uncommon sense. He is building bridges instead of boundaries, and such wisdom is surely needed now."

~Father Richard Rohr

"Philip Gulley separates wheat from chaff, experience from explanation and purpose from function in this book. He calls the Jesus message into a new vision - one that has both power and integrity."

~ John Shelby Spong, author of *Eternal Life: A New Vision*

"Gulley puts the Christ back in Christian. This manifesto is a call not just to worship Jesus, but to follow him. It asks the daring question, 'What if Christians actually began to take their Christ seriously?' The answer to that question could change the world."

~ Shane Claiborne, bestselling author of *The Irresistible Revolution*

"The chapter titles alone are worth the price of this book. Whether you pray them by yourself or discuss them with others, they chart the distance between two very different ways of receiving God's good news."

~ Barbara Brown Taylor

"Filled with memorable, insightful and revealing stories. I recommend it."

~ Marcus Borg, author of *Jesus: A New Vision and The Heart of Christianity*

"No one raises provocative questions about Christianity more kindly than Philip Gulley. In an age of shouting, Gulley gently points out the flaws in the church while opening ways to practice Christian spirituality with greater integrity. If the church were as Philip Gulley envisions here, people would be knocking down our doors to experience God's love."

~Diana Butler Bass, author of *Christianity for the Rest of Us*

For more information about Philip Gulley, you can visit his GraceTalks website, <http://www.philipgulley.org>. For speaking information, please contact Stacey Denny at 317.313.1171, or email her at StaceyDenny@att.net