

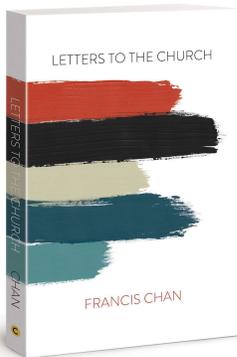
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## LETTERS TO THE CHURCH

### Francis Chan Urges Americans to Abandon Consumer Mentality and Return to God's Vision for Church

*"We went to an underground gathering in China where young people embodied a fearless passion for Jesus. When I described church life in America, they began laughing hysterically. They found it laughable that we could read the same scriptures and create something so incongruent."*



**Colorado Springs, CO** — Francis Chan built a megachurch, started a college, wrote bestselling books, and developed a huge podcast following. Then he walked away from it all and took his family to Asia. People questioned why Francis would leave the country when he was gaining influence on so many fronts. The Chans returned three years later and began planting churches in the San Francisco area. Francis Chan shares the story behind his sudden departure – and what he's learned about church since then – in a new book entitled ***Letters to the Church*** (David C Cook, September 2018).

Chan's first book, *Crazy Love*, urged Christians to experience God's overwhelming love and to make radical changes in living. The book was heralded as radical and has sold more than 2.6 million copies. Ten years later, Chan's ***Letters to the Church*** is again challenging American Christians, this time urging them to abandon consumer mentality and instead seek God's vision for His Church.

"Americans today go to a building on Sunday mornings, attend an hour-long service, and call themselves members of the Church," writes Chan in ***Letters to the Church***. "But do we find anything in Scripture even remotely close to the pattern we have created? The fact that we have reduced the sacred mystery of Church to a one-hour event is staggering."

Francis Chan opens ***Letters to the Church*** by reflecting on what he's learned since founding Cornerstone Church 25 years ago. Chan recounts his own failures in leadership, the powerful example of Asian churches, and why he returned to Scripture to discover what God wanted for His Church. Each chapter (or letter) within in the book invites leaders to carefully consider where their own church may require a *course correction* or *fresh power to stay the course*:

1. Have we cheapened something sacred?
2. Have we brought the offering God ordered?
3. Have we nourished love and unity?
4. Have we become servant leaders?
5. Have we developed good shepherds?
6. Have we embraced Jesus and his suffering?
7. Have we unleashed God's people to follow the Spirit?

**Letters to the Church** flows from one of the happiest and most peaceful seasons of his life. Yet this book proved to be the most difficult to write. Francis deeply feels the need to encourage those lovers of Jesus who are discouraged. He also feels a responsibility to rebuke those who are harming the church, knowingly or unknowingly, and to call them to repentance.

“Francis Chan is prophet for modern times. He first called us to radical living in *Crazy Love*. Now he calls Christians into a deeper understanding of God’s heart for His Church,” comments Wendi Lord, Vice President of Publishing at David C Cook. “**Letters to the Church** offers a vital, vivid model of Christian community marked by love, unity, discipleship, sacrifice and worship.”

Christian leaders eager to share and discuss these concepts can explore companion resources including the **Letters to the Church** Study Guide, Video Series, and Spanish Edition (all from David C Cook). More information is available at [www.LetterstotheChurchBook.com](http://www.LetterstotheChurchBook.com).

David C Cook is supporting the September launch of **Letters to the Church** with advertising, digital and social media efforts as well as a national publicity campaign. Francis Chan is available for a limited number of press interviews.



**Francis Chan** is the author of *Crazy Love*, *Forgotten God*, *Erasing Hell*, *Multiply*, and *You and Me Forever*. He currently plants churches in the San Francisco area. Francis and his wife, Lisa, are raising their seven children in Northern California.

**David C Cook** is a nonprofit organization dedicated to publishing and distributing leadership and discipleship resources to help Christians all over the world grow in their faith and pass it on to the next generation.

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**Letters to the Church** by Francis Chan

Available from David C Cook, [www.LetterstotheChurchBook.com](http://www.LetterstotheChurchBook.com)

English: ISBN 978-0-8307-7658-0, 224 pages, \$16.99,  
Spanish: 978-0-8307-7655-9, Paperback, 224 pages, \$13.99  
Study Guide: 978-0-8307-7582-8, Paperback, 128 pages, \$10.99  
Video Series: 978-0-8307-7646-7, DVD/Digital Download, \$14.99

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