

# CMD Ideas

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## A Few Interesting Books

*A Fellowship Of Differents* by Scott McKnight (Zondervan 2014). A rich theological exploration of the church as transformative through its diversity.

*Paul And His Recent Interpreters* by NT Wright (SPCK 2015). A challenging walk through the story of how scholars have read Paul since the early 19<sup>th</sup> century.

*The Plausibility Problem: The Church And Same Sex Attraction* by Ed Shaw (IVP 2015). A British pastor who experiences same-sex attraction argues that his choice of biblically-inspired celibacy is highly plausible, despite what others tell him.

*Human Universe* by Brian Cox (Collins 2014). Wonder at the way physics has enabled us to explore the universe and discover how a prominent atheist answers the question, 'Why are we here?'

*Leadership* by Alex Ferguson (Hodder and Stoughton 2015). A mine of leadership insight gained from the Game and taught to many MBA students. You decide how much of this echoes biblical wisdom.

## For Retreats and Spiritual Development

*The Bield*, [retreat centre near Perth](#), is a great place for personal retreats with the option of guided retreats, accompanying or coaching.

*The Atholl Centre*, [a venue familiar to many of us](#) in Pitlochry, offering warm hospitality and the optional use of a room for prayer and study for those on an individual retreat.

*Nether Springs*, [base of the Northumbria Community](#), offers a range of possibilities for retreat and prayer, with the opportunity to join in with the daily prayers of the community.

## Some Courses and Conferences

*A Good City*, [9 January, Glasgow](#). A Neopolis event tackling the theological endeavour that underlies the issue of transforming a city for the good, with David Smith, Deidre Brower Latz and Ian Wills.

*How Listening Can Bring Life*, [19 January, Stirling](#). Day conference for anyone involved in pastoral care of older people, organised by Faith In Older People.

*Immersive Experience*, [25-28 April, Southend](#). Church from Scratch is a network of groups that organise around life, community and mission without a weekly church service. Experience life with them and explore their theology and practice.

*Preaching In Colour*, [25-28 April, Leicestershire](#) (repeated 3-6 May for younger ministers). Proclamation Trust conference with Bryan Chappell focusing on matching faithful biblical exegesis with focused living application.

*CLAN Gathering*, [9-14 July, Largs](#). Worship and teaching for all ages. Speakers include Danielle Strickland, Alan and Debra Hirsch, Chris Duffett and Karl Martin.

*Fire Camp*, [23-26 July, Colchester](#). Not your usual Baptist gathering. A temporary community will come into being, to explore collaboration, faith and our collective future.

*Kingdom Come: Rutherford House Ministry Conference*, [19-21 September, Edinburgh](#). For ministers and others who engage in preaching and teaching.

## Daily Prayer

And here are *two apps* that might help you if you are looking for ways to refresh your personal devotions. [Daily Prayer](#) brings a wealth of daily prayer material (from the Anglican tradition) to a superbly designed app, including Bible readings from The Psalms, OT and NT each day.

[Rooted](#) provides an attractive, simple-to-use method for daily Bible-reading, reflection and prayer.