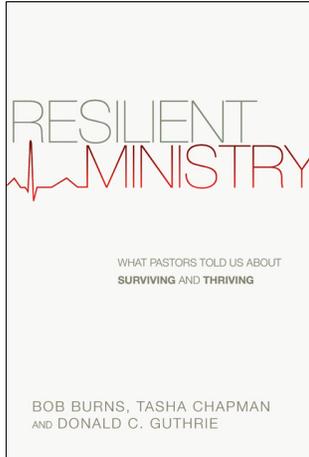




# BOOK DETAILS



*Resilient Ministry: What Pastors Told Us About Surviving and Thriving*  
February 2013  
\$17, 313 pages, paperback  
978-0-8308-4103-5

## *Resilient Ministry* Reveals Groundbreaking Study on Surviving and Thriving in Ministry

### **About *Resilient Ministry***

Every year hundreds of pastors and ministry leaders leave the vocational ministry they thought they had been called to for a lifetime. Why? What does it take for ministry leaders to remain in fruitful ministry for a lifetime? How can both the ministry leaders and those around them pursue resiliency that fosters healthy ministry leadership? This book is a result of years of reflection and research seeking to answer these questions.

### **How this book is different than others for pastors and ministry leaders**

This book is unique in that it is not written purely out of personal experience and reflection, but is based on rigorous research drawn from seventy-three pastors reflecting on their experience in the ministry. The research leads to the distinctive style of specifically identifying, explaining and illustrating key themes of ministry sustainability out of the lives/ministries of pastors and their spouses. *Resilient Ministry* not only identifies challenges but also discusses specific ideas of healthy growth for both individual and corporate maturity stemming from five identified themes.

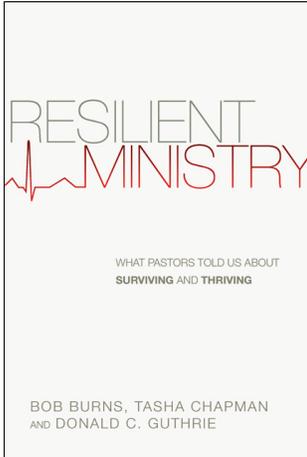
### **Key Themes from *Resilient Ministry***

There are five primary resilient ministry themes that ministry leaders should consider personally and in community in order to be sustained in fruitful ministry:

1. Spiritual formation
2. Self-care
3. Emotional and cultural intelligence
4. Marriage and family
5. Leadership and management.

*"Burns, Guthrie and Chapman provide not only painstaking research and thought-provoking analysis in Resilient Ministry, but also even more--they provide a path forward for sustaining excellent ministry over the long haul. As a result, this book needs to be required reading not just for theological educators and judicatory and denominational officials, but also for pastors (and pastors' spouses) and lay leaders--everyone who cares about Christ, his church and his ministers. If Christ's church advances, it will only be through ministerial leaders who are resilient, committed, sustained and growing. Burns and company show us the way."*

**—Dr. Sean Michael Lucas, senior minister, First Presbyterian Church, Hattiesburg, Mississippi**



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To find out how pastors can thrive as well as survive, the authors of *Resilient Ministry* undertook a five-year, in-depth research project among working pastors. Here in this groundbreaking book is the distilled wisdom of dozens of pastors who have been on the front lines of ministry. We hear from them what works, what doesn't and what distinctive issues people in ministry face.

## A Word About the Authors

**Bob Burns** serves as senior associate pastor and head of staff at Central Presbyterian Church in St. Louis, Missouri. During the seven years of leading the Pastors Summit research, Bob was dean of lifelong learning, professor of educational ministries and director of the Center for Ministry Leadership at Covenant Theological Seminary in St. Louis. Bob has been a pastor and teacher for more than forty years, with experiences ranging from church planting to family ministry and from worship and the arts to youth and singles ministries. Bob and Janet, his wife of thirty-four years, have two married children and five grandchildren.

**Tasha Chapman** serves Covenant Theological Seminary as dean of academic services and adjunct professor of educational ministries. Tasha has over twenty years of experience working with diverse ministries in the United States and overseas. These include university campus ministry, church women's ministry and international women's ministry, as well as consulting for youth ministry, children's ministry, disability ministry and elementary schools. After spending the week with adult learners at the seminary, she enjoys ministering with young children and cognitively handicapped saints on Sunday mornings. She and her husband, David, have two teenage children.

**Donald C. Guthrie** is professor of educational ministries at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School. Following twelve years of campus ministry, Donald joined the faculty of Covenant Theological Seminary, where he served for fifteen years. He directed field education, the doctor of ministry and distance learning programs and served as vice president for academics. He has enjoyed serving as a ruling elder in several local churches over the past twenty-five years. He is a frequent teacher at conferences and retreats, often addressing cultural trends, intergenerational ministry, calling and vocation, and adult learning. He and his wife, Mary, have two young adult children.