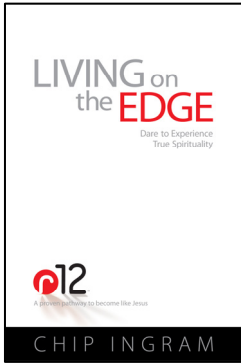


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Contact: Melinda Adair, Pure Publicity
818.753.4056 or Purepublicity@aol.com

LIVING ON THE EDGE AS AN AUTHENTIC DISCIPLE Pastor Chip Ingram Navigates Growth in Spiritual Life of a Christian

(Los Angeles, Calif): For the last 25 years, **Pastor Chip Ingram** has seen many people convert to Christianity, but one question that continues to haunt him is, “Why are there are so many decisions for Christ, but so few disciples who live like Christ?”



Ingram, the senior pastor to over 3,000 each week in San Jose, California and the host of a daily radio program with an audience of more than one million listeners around the world, believes too many Christians customize their faith to meet *their* needs, focusing more on religious performance and rules rather than an authentic relationship with Christ.

“Jesus commanded Christians to go into the world and make disciples, but many people don’t have a clear picture of what a disciple is,” says Ingram. “*Romans 12* gives us an example of what a genuine disciple of Christ is, one that flows out of an authentic relationship with Him as we live like Jesus - on the edge, passionate, fearless, dedicated to grace and truth and impacting the world.”

Ingram has released a new book, ***Living on the Edge: Dare to Experience True Spirituality*** (Howard Books) based on *Romans 12* that provides Christians a measurable example of a disciple who is a biblical, relational, practical and grace-based. Readers of *Living on the Edge* will understand the following:

- The difference between religious performance and genuine discipleship
- The five qualities of a true, spiritual disciple
- Resolve spiritual confusion and answer life's most significant questions
- Spiritual surrender as the greatest need in the body of Christ
- The role of self identity in our spiritual lives
- Grace to love our enemies through our struggles, pain and hurt
- People who are surrendered to God, separate from the world's system, sober self-assessment, serving others through love and supernaturally know how to overcome evil

“*Living on the Edge* is for Christians who are new to the faith, who feel spiritually stuck or disengaged or who are looking to disciple others,” says Ingram. “It’s about our relationship with God who wants us to surrender to Him, our relationship to the world system which is hostile to our relationship with God, and it’s about our relationship with ourselves.”

For those who question Ingram's ability to relate to those who are struggling to live out their faith, Ingram shares his own spiritual confusion of growing up in a non-Christian, dysfunctional home with an alcoholic father while pursuing self-fulfillment through work, girls and money. Ingram eventually met and married his wife, who had two children from a previous marriage and whose father was also an alcoholic.

Each chapter of *Living on the Edge* includes questions and resources to process and apply what God is doing in reader's lives, in addition to an interactive web site. *Living on the Edge* also includes guidance on facilitating a six-week small group study. More information is available at www.livingontheedge.org/r12.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Contact: Melinda Adair, Pure Publicity
818.753.4056 or Purepublicity@aol.com

*“Living on the Edge clearly identifies God's timeless path for spiritual growth. It's amazingly relevant and applicable across the full spectrum of one's spiritual pilgrimage.” -- Rick Warren, pastor of Saddleback Church and author of *The Purpose Driven Life*.*

“This book ignites my passion! Jesus said go make disciples, not decisions. Chip Ingram has given us a biblical, practical, relevant pathway to achieving spiritual maturity.” -- Dr. Tony Evans, senior pastor of Oak Cliff Bible Fellowship; president of the Urban Alternative



About Chip Ingram: Chip Ingram is Senior Pastor of Venture Christian Church (www.venturechristian.org) in Los Gatos, CA and President of Living on the Edge, an international teaching and discipleship ministry that provides practical help for everyday believers. He has a unique ability to communicate truth and winsomely challenge people to live out their faith.

As a pastor for more than 25 years, Chip is passionate about helping Christians really live like Christians by raising the bar of discipleship. He has been the pastor of churches of 500 in Texas to 3,000 in California. He also served five years as president of Walk Thru the Bible. Chip holds an M.S. degree from West Virginia University and a Th.M. degree from Dallas Theological Seminary.

Chip is author of 12 books, including his latest release, *Living on the Edge: Dare to Experience True Spirituality*. His other books include *Overcoming Emotions That Destroy*, *Good to Great in God's Eyes*, *Effective Parenting in a Defective World* and *Overcoming Emotions That Destroy*. Reaching more than a million people a week, his teaching can be heard on over 800 hundred radio stations and multiple television outlets worldwide, as well as the Internet. Chip and his wife, Theresa, have four adult children and six grandchildren.

###

Suggested Interview Questions for Chip Ingram:

1. What does God really want from us? (Answer Romans 12:1)
2. How do we get God's best for our lives? (Answer Romans 12:2)
3. How do we come to grips with the "real" selves? (Answer Romans 12:3-8)
4. How do we experience authentic community? (Answer Romans 12:9-13)
5. How do we overcome the evil aimed at ourselves? (Answer Romans 12:14-21)
6. When did you realize that many Christians made commitments of faith but did not understand the definition of a true disciple?
7. What drew you to *Romans 12* and the topic on authentic discipleship?
8. Why does it seem so many Christians do not fully understand what it means to be an authentic follower of Jesus?
9. What are five qualities of a *Romans 12* disciple?
10. How can the church properly educate their congregants that God isn't into religious activities or performance based spirituality but a genuine relationship with Him?
11. Why is it important to discover our true identity with regard to a relationship with Christ and accomplishing His will for our lives?
12. What does one need to do fully surrender and totally commit their life to Christ? Why is this vital to spiritual growth?
13. What are some of the struggles you have dealt with in your spiritual life?
14. You believe many Christians are taught to focus on evangelism but lack understanding of God's desire. What should they know?
15. How did your life change the night before your high school graduation?
16. Please describe authentic community and its value to a Christian's life?
17. Why do Christians need to recognize and identify their inner spiritual battle?
18. What do you mean by "Christians should identify and serve their worst enemy"?

Notable Quotes from Chip Ingram and *Living on the Edge*:

1. "Many Christians 'stall out' in the faith when the call to total commitment is received or viewed as something too high or too hard to acquire...or they have never been taught that total commitment is Christ's demand for all His followers."
2. "God always has and always will look for men and women who say to Him, 'I trust you so much, I'm all in. I want your way not mine. I am willing to live by faith!'"
3. "Although our sins are forgiven and we now have the power to overcome temptation, we will forever struggle with sin because we still have what the Bible calls the flesh."
4. "Holiness, has become relative in our day, allowing us to lower the bar and pick and choose which commandments we will obey...many Christians have a spiritual longing and desire to really change but they don't know how."
5. "The cross is the greatest example of humility and devotion in the universe. Jesus put your needs ahead of His own. He considered you more valuable than Himself."
6. "Although we will never be perfect in this life, it's God's passionate desire to continually transform our hearts and lives to reflect the beauty, love and holiness of Jesus."
7. "Nothing breaks down barriers and preconceived ideas about 'Christians and Christianity' more than when we treat people the way Jesus treated His enemies."