

Translating Jesus How to Share Your Faith in Language Today's Culture Can Understand

by Shauna Pilgreen Paper ISBN: 978-0-8007-4250-8 E-Book ISBN: 978-1-4934-4140-2

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Bridging the gap: A guide to communicating the gospel in a language today's culture can understand

"This book is a page-turner...Shauna's authenticity and vulnerability are disarming, just like Jesus."
—from the foreword by **Mark Batterson**, *New York Times* bestselling author

Often, the church does not speak the same language as the culture. Believers use many of the same words when communicating the gospel, but they rarely mean the same thing culturally. And speaking louder isn't the answer. If followers of Christ are to faithfully and effectively share the Good News, they have to translate Jesus.

In *Translating Jesus: How to Share Your Faith in Language Today's Culture Can Understand* (Baker Books, August 2023), vibrant evangelist and church planter Shauna Pilgreen shows readers how to learn the language of the culture so that they can clearly communicate the love of God in the three places Christ and culture meet: the gate, the cross, and the table. She embraces and unpacks the bilingual nature of the Gospel and empowers readers to faithfully and effectively share the Good News.

"Lay down your life—starting with your awkwardness, your discomfort—for your friends. This is how you translate Jesus," writes Pilgreen.

Shauna Pilgreen is available for interviews and would love to discuss:

- how to effectively understand the language of culture to communicate the language of Christ
- sharing Jesus through everyday conversations and real relationships
- the bilingual nature of the Gospel
- how to get over the fear of sharing your faith
- + more on evangelism, culture, and the Gospel.

About the Author





Shauna Pilgreen, along with her husband, Ben, coleads Epic Church, a multiethnic congregation in the heart of San Francisco. She serves on the teaching team at Epic and as a network director for Alpha USA. She writes for "everyday evangelists" on her blog. Learn more at www.shaunapilgreen.com.

Suggested Interview Questions for Shauna Pilgreen

- Thanks for joining us! Will you tell us a little bit about your story and why you decided to write *Translating Jesus*?
- Your book is divided into three places Christ and culture meet: the gate, the cross, and the table. What is the significance of each of these images?
- What does it mean that the Gospel has a 'bilingual nature'?
- What are a few ways the church learn the language of culture to share the good news of Christ?
- What advice do you have to the believer listening that doesn't know how to share their faith? Where should they start?
- In Chapter 3, you write about an interesting interaction you had with a shopper at Marshalls. What happened?
- · Why should we be grounded in prayer and scripture in order to communicate Christ?
- In your book you write "if we ever lose our fascination with Christ and His Word, we lose our effectiveness for Christ and His world". How can we cultivate a fascination with Jesus in our own lives to be more effective evangelists?
- · Why is it important to share stories?
- If our listeners can take away one thing from this interview, what would it be?
- Where can our audience go to connect with you and purchase a copy of Translating Jesus?

PRAISE for *Translating Jesus*

"I believe Translating Jesus will help demystify and simplify conversations with culture about Christ. I equally believe these three sentences will be a fresh and winsome evangelistic tool and conversation guide: Jesus loves you. Love Him back. Love one another. Shauna has modeled this in wonderful ways. We'd do well to follow in her steps."

—**Rich Villodas**, lead pastor of New Life Fellowship and author of *The Deeply Formed Life*

"In an era when too many Christians are waging war on the culture or retreating from it, Shauna Pilgreen gives us a thoughtful, loving, practical advance."

—**Carey Nieuwhof**, bestselling author of *At Your Best* and founder of The Art of Leadership Academy

"Why would people believe that the God we are talking about wants to know them, if we don't want to know them? Could our open doors, ordinary tables, and honest conversations matter more than we know? In these practical yet stunningly personal pages, Shauna Pilgreen provides a hands-on guide for Christ-followers to graciously and effectively share about Jesus through their everyday conversations and their real relationships. Translating Jesus is a gift to today's local and global church--it's a love letter to Jesus and a guide to loving people well, written by someone who is clearly in close proximity to both."

—**Hosanna Wong**, international speaker, spoken word artist, and bestselling author of *How (Not) to Save the World*

"Shauna has written a beautiful and important book. The more post-Christian our society becomes, the more important it is to close the gap with thoughtful and biblical mission and contextualization. Shauna has done a wonderful job on helping us think about how to love people to God and connect the gospel message in a timeless yet compelling way."

—Pastor Jon Tyson, Church of the City New York, jon@church.nyc

"Shauna has an inspiring vision to share the love of God with those around her in a practical and accessible way. I am delighted she has written this book."

—Nicky Gumbel, pioneer of Alpha

PRAISE for *Translating Jesus*

"For the last twelve years, I've watched Shauna live out the message of Translating Jesus in the beautiful, influential, and challenging city of San Francisco. It's been inspiring to see this Southern girl with four children embrace the city and the people of the city with such intentional love and curiosity. Shauna has put language to her learning in this book, and her personal stories will captivate you. Reading Translating Jesus helps me see how to invite Jesus into each interaction throughout everyday life. If every follower of Jesus embraced the principles of this book, it would change the world."

—**Stacie Wood**, teaching pastor of Saddleback Church

"Translating Jesus is an urgent message for changing times. Shauna skillfully helps equip us from the inside out with the framework to deeply and lovingly engage with a fast-moving culture. The result is not just a new understanding of the power of the gospel but the ability to share the good news about Jesus with confidence. A must-read for anyone serious about communicating God's love to our generation."

—Al Gordon, rector of SAINT, London

