

**Suggested Interview Questions for Matt Litton,
author of *The Mockingbird Parables* (Tyndale House)**

The Enduring Relevance and Spiritual Significance of *To Kill a Mockingbird*

- Why do you think *To Kill a Mockingbird* is still so relevant, fifty years later?
- How did you come to view the themes of *To Kill a Mockingbird* as parables?
- What Christian value do you think is at the heart of *To Kill a Mockingbird*?

***Mockingbird* Lessons on Compassion, Courage, and other Christian Values**

- How does the shadowy character of Boo Radley provide a representation of the nature of God?
- What are some examples of how compassion is modeled in the book?
- What does the novel teach about the importance of giving?
- The character of Atticus Finch is a beloved American icon. Talk about him as a model of Christian courage.
- What can we learn from characters such as Atticus, Scout and Jem Finch, Miss Maudie, Boo Radley and others about being a good neighbor and the essence of true community?

Racism in *To Kill a Mockingbird*

- Are the residents of Maycomb - who exhibit prejudice and who sit on a jury that sends an innocent man to his death - supposed to be Christians?
- What can Christians do today to respond to continuing problems of racism in our society?
- What does the story of the Missionary Tea held by some of the Maycomb ladies teach us about our responsibility to the “global neighborhood”?

The Role of Women in Faith

- Why was writing the chapter about Scout Finch and the role of women in faith so personal for you?
- Why do you think some Christians wish to keep women in certain prescribed roles?

Christian Financial Ethic

- To Kill a Mockingbird* is set during the Great Depression. How different is the financial ethic demonstrated by the characters from that which prevails in our culture?

Parenting and Teaching

- How is Atticus Finch a role model for you as a father?
- You often teach the novel to your high school English students. How do they respond to it?

Creation Care

- What message about creation do you find in the story of Miss Maudie and her azaleas?

Building Community

- You end *The Mockingbird Parables* with a call for Christians to practice a kind of communication that builds community. Explain.

**For an interview with Matt Litton, please contact Kelly Hughes, (312) 280-8126 or
kelly@dechanthughes.com.**