

CONTENTS

Series Introduction xi

Preface xv

1. Knowing for Sure (1:1–4) 3
2. Getting Ready for Jesus (1:5–25) 16
3. The Annunciation (1:26–38) 28
4. *Magnificat* (1:39–55) 41
5. *Benedictus* (1:56–80) 54
6. Away in a Manger (2:1–7) 65
7. *Gloria in Excelsis Deo* (2:8–20) 76
8. *Nunc Dimittis* (2:21–38) 88
9. The Boy Jesus (2:39–52) 101
10. Be Prepared (3:1–14) 114
11. The Baptism of the Son (3:15–22) 126
12. Son of God, Son of Man (3:23–38) 139
13. Paradise Regained (4:1–13) 151
14. The Gospel according to Jesus (4:14–21) 164
15. A Prophet without Honor (4:22–30) 178
16. All Authority and Power (4:31–44) 190
17. No Turning Back (5:1–11) 202
18. Faith Healer (5:12–26) 215
19. Feast or Famine? (5:27–39) 227

Contents

20. Lord of the Sabbath (6:1–11) 240
21. The Calling of the Twelve (6:12–26) 253
22. The Hardest Commandment (6:27–36) 267
23. Your Log, My Splinter (6:37–42) 279
24. Of Rocks and Trees (6:43–49) 291
25. Just Say the Word (7:1–10) 304
26. Dead Man Talking (7:11–17) 315
27. The Friend of Sinners (7:18–35) 327
28. The Debt of Love I Owe (7:36–50) 339
29. The Parable of Parables (8:1–15) 353
30. Just Do It (8:16–21) 368
31. Who Is This Guy? (8:22–25) 380
32. What Has He Done for You? (8:26–39) 393
33. Only Believe (8:40–56) 406
34. An Internship for the Apostles (9:1–9) 419
35. Five Loaves, Two Fish, Twelve Baskets (9:10–17) 432
36. Confessing Christ Crucified (9:18–22) 444
37. The Cross of Discipleship (9:23–27) 456
38. The Glory of God the Son (9:28–36) 469
39. Four Mistakes That Most Christians Make (9:37–50) 482
40. Don't Look Back (9:51–62) 496
41. The King's Messengers (10:1–16) 509
42. Joy, Joy, Joy! (10:17–24) 522
43. Whose Neighbor Am I? (10:25–37) 536
44. Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World (10:38–42) 552
45. When You Pray (11:1–4) 566
46. Boldly Persevering in Prayer (11:5–13) 581
47. Jesus or the Devil (11:14–26) 594
48. A Sign for All Times (11:27–36) 607
49. When Your Soul Is an Unmarked Grave (11:37–44) 618
50. The Blood of the Prophets (11:45–54) 631

viii

CONTENTS

- 51. Unafraid and Unashamed (12:1–12) 643
- 52. A Fool and His Money (12:13–21) 656
- 53. Anxious for Nothing (12:22–34) 668
- 54. Ready, or Not? (12:35–48) 681
- 55. Before the Fire Falls (12:49–59) 694