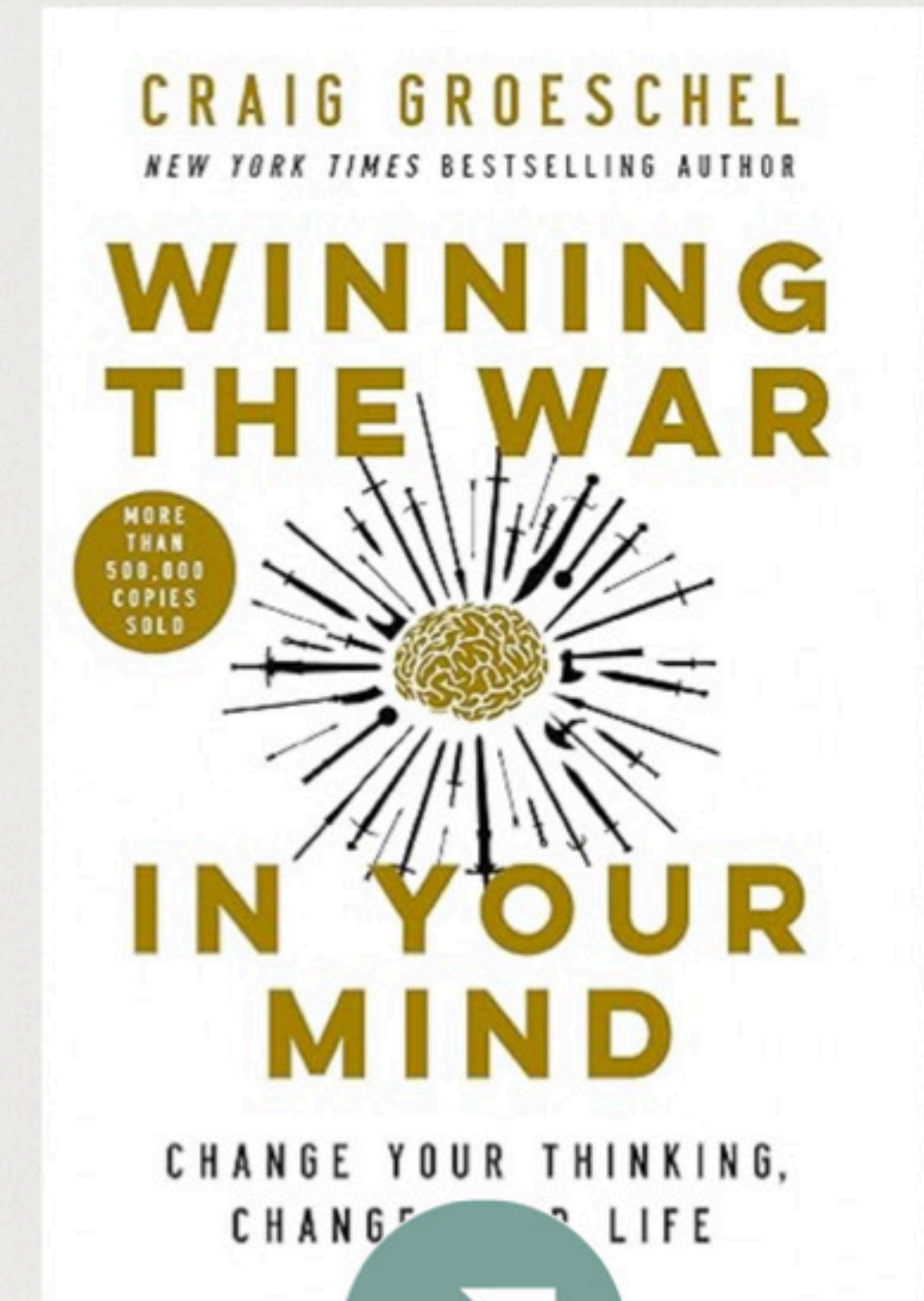
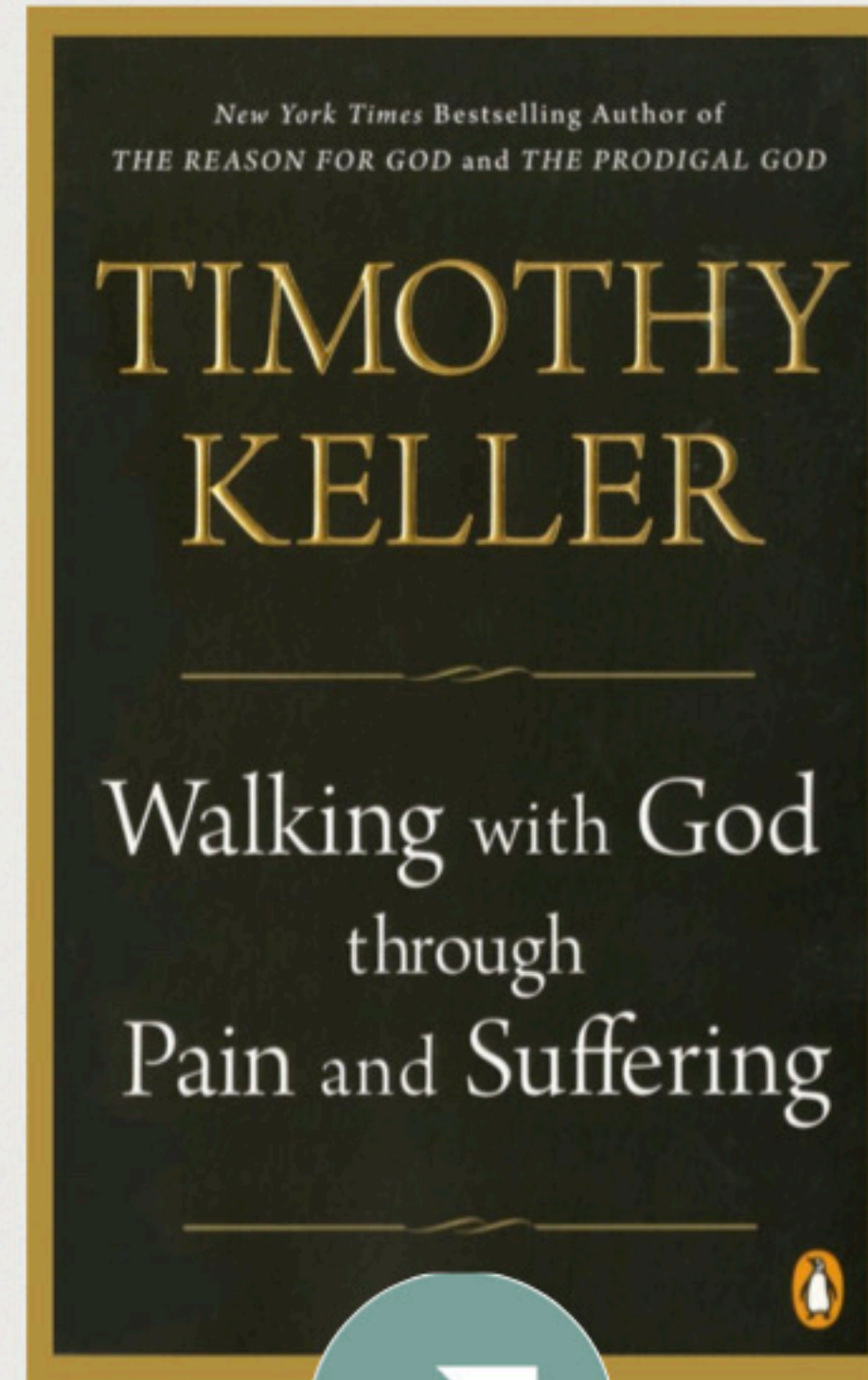
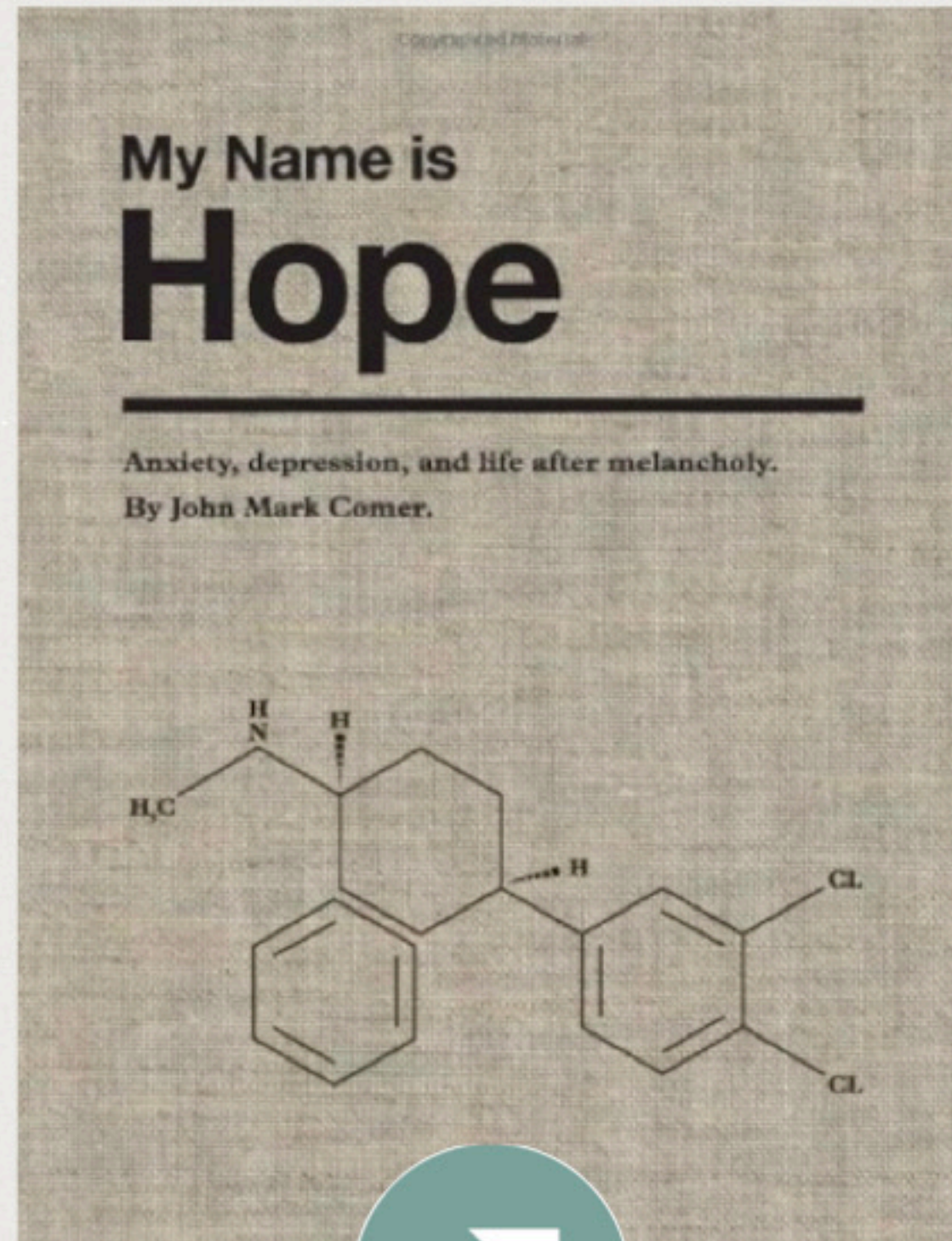


A SEASON OF EXPECTATION



AT NORTHLANDS CHURCH





Hope by Nature is Future-Oriented



For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have? But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.

Romans 8:24-25



Image Bearers Build Futures



Like bees make hives, and ants
build tunnels, and silkworms spin
silk, human beings build futures.

Erwin McManus *The Artisan Soul*



Hope deferred makes the heart sick...

Proverbs. 13:12



The Hope Paradox



The Hope Paradox

Easiest time to Hope, *hopeful* Seasons



The Hope Paradox

Easiest time to Hope, *hopeful* Seasons
(That's when I need hope the least)



The Hope Paradox

Easiest time to Hope, *hopeful* Seasons
(That's when I need hope the least)

Hardest time to Hope, *hopeless* Seasons



The Hope Paradox

Easiest time to Hope, *hopeful* Seasons
(That's when I need hope the least)

Hardest time to Hope, *hopeless* Seasons
(That's when I need hope the **MOST!**)



253 Million Prescriptions for Anti-Depressants in 2010 in U.S



In 2023...



In 2023...

**20% Growth: 303.6 Million
Prescriptions Written**



Positive Assumption Study

by John Gottman

&

Positivity Illusion Study

by Sandra Murray



Expectation _____ Experience



Expectation TRUST Experience



Expectation TRUST Experience

Expectation SUSPICION Experience



Expectation_____Experience

God is All Powerful, All Knowing,
All Present, Loves us with an Everlasting Love



Expectation _____ ? _____ Experience

God is All Powerful, All Knowing,
All Present, Loves us with an Everlasting Love



BOOK OF JOB SUMMARY



The Prologue (Chapters 1-2): Job's Test

Job's Character:

Job is introduced as a blameless and upright man who fears God and avoids evil. He is wealthy, with a large family and many possessions.

The Heavenly Council:

Satan, the accuser, appears before God and challenges Job's integrity, suggesting he is righteous only because of his blessings.

Job's Trials Begin:

God permits Satan to test Job:

Round 1: Job loses his wealth, livestock, servants, and children in a series of calamities.

Round 2: Job is afflicted with painful sores.

Job's Response:

Job mourns deeply but does not curse God, famously declaring, "The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord" (Job 1:21).



The Dialogue (Chapters 3-31): Job's Search for Answers

Job's Lament (Chapter 3):

Job curses the day of his birth, lamenting his suffering and wishing he had never been born.

The Speeches of Job's Friends:

Explaining Job's suffering:

Eliphaz Appeals to visions and personal experience, suggesting Job must have sinned.

Bildad Focuses on the justice of God and argues that Job's children must have sinned.

Zophar Speaks harshly, insisting Job deserves even worse suffering for his hidden sins.

Job's Responses:

Job defends his integrity, challenges their assumptions, and wrestles with God's justice. He insists on his innocence but struggles to understand why he suffers.



Elihu's Speeches (Chapters 32-37): A New Perspective

Elihu's Role:

A younger observer, Elihu, rebukes both Job and his friends.

Key Points:

- 1) Suffering can be a form of divine discipline, not necessarily punishment for sin.
- 2) God's ways are higher than human understanding.



God's Speeches (Chapters 38-41): Divine Response

God's First Speech (Chapters 38-39):

God speaks out of a whirlwind, questioning Job.

He highlights His wisdom and power as Creator, asking Job if he understands the complexity of creation.

Emphasis: Human limitations versus divine sovereignty.

God's Second Speech (Chapters 40-41):

God describes His control over powerful creatures (Behemoth and Leviathan).

These symbolize forces beyond human control, pointing to God's mastery over all creation.

Job's Humble Response (Chapter 42:1-6):

Job acknowledges his limited understanding and repents for questioning God's purposes.



Suspicion

1. Does not make life better, it makes you bitter



Suspicion

1. Does not make life better, it makes you bitter
2. It does not make your heart safe, it makes it small



Suspicion

1. Does not make life better, it makes you bitter
2. It does not make your heart safe, it makes it small
3. It makes you arrogant, and the way to hope is humility



but those who hope
in the Lord will
renew their
strength. They will
soar on wings like
eagles; they will run
and not grow
weary, they will walk
and not be faint.

Isaiah. 40:31

Then you will know
that I am the Lord;
those who hope in
me will not be
disappointed.
Isaiah. 49:23

No one who hopes
in you will ever be
put to shame,
Psalms. 25:3

May the God of
hope fill you with all
joy and peace as you
trust in him, so that
you may overflow
with hope by the
power of the Holy
Spirit.

Romans. 15:13



**Give God the gift of your trust,
and you will receive the gift of
His hope.**



Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. **So we fix our eyes** not on what is seen, but on **what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.**

2 Corinthians. 4:16-18



A SEASON OF EXPECTATION

HOPE

AT NORTHLANDS CHURCH