

# Lambs That Roar

BY MICHELE BUCKINGHAM

There's very little 'salt' in the popular press, almost none on television, only a grain or two in modern literature and the visual arts, and barely a dash in the movies," writes emmy-award winning television producer Bob Briner in his challenging new book, *Roaring Lambs: A Gentle Plan to Radically Change Your World* (Zonder-van).

But merely criticizing Hollywood, the news media and the arts for immoral and irreverent views is wrong, Briner says. Instead, Christians should become involved in careers in those areas. And pastors and church leaders should encourage them to do so.

"It's time for believers to confidently carry their faith with them into the marketplace so that our very culture feels the difference," he writes. It's time for Christians to become *roaring lambs*—people who don't shrink from the world but run to it, knowing that every arena, profession, and institution of our society *must have* the salt of the gospel to survive.

The Western church, too often, has failed to be salt or light. We send missionaries and we train pastors—as well we should—but, as Briner notes, we don't teach people about the "possibilities for a dynamic, involved Christian life outside the professional ministry." We bring young men and women before the congregation for prayer when they're about to go off to seminary or the mission field. But what about when they're on

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Michele Buckingham is the managing editor of *Ministries Today*.

their way to Hollywood, or journalism school?

"It's almost as if we believe God is strong enough to take care of His own only as long as they stay within the safety of the Christian ghetto," Briner writes. "And yet, the Bible gives us countless examples of people like Joseph, who not only served as an advisor to the 'president' of his day, but also used that position to influence the entire land."

Bringing the gospel of Jesus Christ to bear on a dying world: that is, in essence, what *evangelism* is all about. And evangelism is the underlying current running through the feature articles in this issue of *Ministries Today*.

I urge church leaders to read Briner's book and consider his challenge.

## LEGAL BRIEF

We are pleased to introduce a new columnist to our team of contributing editors: attorney and CPA Richard Hammar, whose column, "Legal Brief," will appear every other issue. Many *Ministries Today* readers are no doubt familiar with Hammar, who serves as legal counsel for the Assemblies of God and is also associated with the law firm of Gammon and Grange in McLean, Virginia. The author of 14 books on church legal and tax issues, Hammar serves as editor of the *Church Law & Tax Report*, a bimonthly newsletter addressing legal and tax developments impacting churches and clergy. We are pleased to have him on board.

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