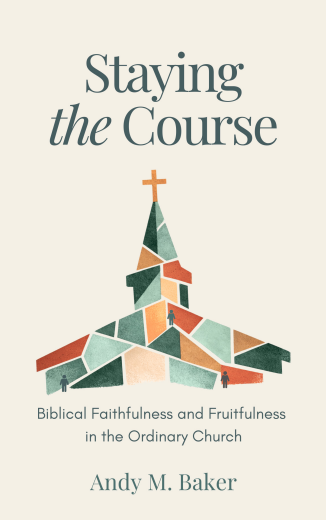
# Staying the Course

## Biblical Faithfulness and Fruitfulness in the Ordinary Church

*Andy M. Baker*

**RELEASE DATE 19 JANUARY 2027**

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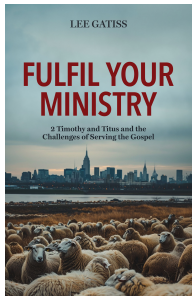


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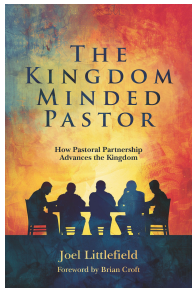


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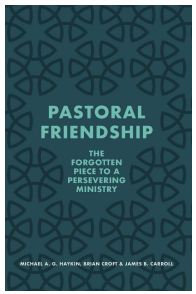


### DESCRIPTION

**Stay Faithful. Finish Well. Embrace the Beauty of Ordinary Ministry.**

In *Staying the Course*, Andy M. Baker calls pastors to embrace the beauty and importance of long-term ministry in ordinary churches. Challenging modern assumptions about success, he shows that God often works most powerfully through steady, faithful shepherding rather than impressive numbers or public recognition.

This encouraging and practical book will help pastors:

- **Rediscover a biblical definition of ministry success**
- **Resist the temptation of "greener pastures"**
- **Navigate discouragement and difficult seasons**
- **Cultivate deep, lasting relationships within the local church**
- **Finish their ministry with faithfulness and joy**

A timely reminder that God's kingdom advances through ordinary churches and enduring servants.

### AUTHOR

Andy Baker (PhD, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary) is lead pastor of First Baptist Church Oloh in Sumrall, Mississippi, where he resides with his wife and their three children.

### ENDORSEMENTS

Whether you're at the beginning of your ministry or turning gray, this book will encourage you, even entice you, to carry on. I didn't realize how much I needed it, even after serving my church for twenty-five years.

**David King**
*Senior Pastor, Concord Baptist Church, Chattanooga, Tennessee*

I wish this book had been given to younger me 15 years ago, but I rejoice that Andy has written it now. It will encourage pastors that the Lord Jesus Christ sees their service to him and promises to never leave or forsake them."

**Stephen McDonald**
*Pastor, First Baptist Church of Scituate, Massachusetts*

... Andy Baker makes a compelling case for long-term pastoral ministry within a congregation – for the good of the pastor, the building up of the congregation, and the glory of God.

**Colin J. Fast**
*Minister, Abbeygreen Church, Lesmahagow, Scotland*

I just love Andy's mature, godly, practical perspective on the life, times, and future of the ordinary pastor—which is almost all of us. I want my students preparing for ministry to share his realistic yet hopeful determination to stay the course, for the sake of the church and the glory of God.

**Collin Hansen**
*Editor–in–Chief, The Gospel Coalition; author, 'Timothy Keller: His Spiritual and Intellectual Formation'*

**TECHNICAL DETAILS**

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