



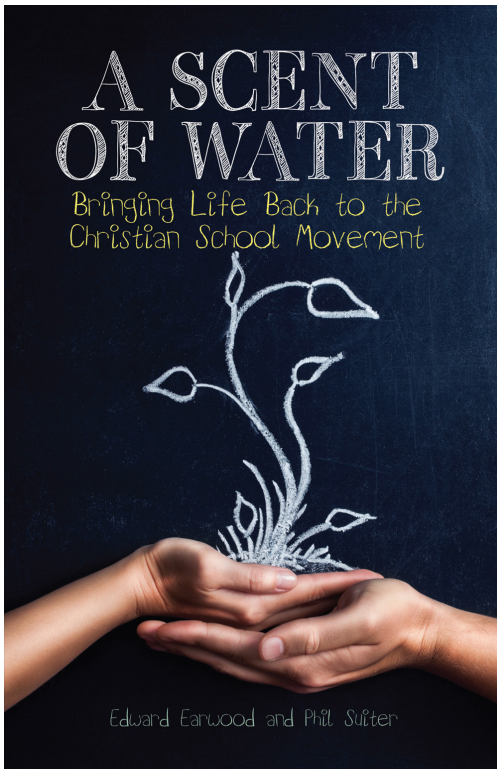
news release

AMBASSADOR INTERNATIONAL
427 Wade Hampton Blvd
Greenville, SC 29617
Ph. 864.235.2434
Fx. 864. 235.2491
www.ambassador-international.com

MEDIA CONTACT: Alison Storm
864.235.2434
media@emeraldhouse.com

CHRISTIAN SCHOOL MOVEMENT MUST FACE REALITIES, NEEDS TRANSFORMATION ACCORDING TO NEW BOOK

AUTHORS DELIVER MESSAGE OF HOPE FOR CHRISTIAN SCHOOL MINISTRY



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: The Christian school movement currently lacks vision, struggles with enrollment declines and battles budget limitations, according to the authors of a new book that aims to restore hope and vision to the ministry. *A Scent of Water: Bringing Life Back to the Christian School Movement* (Ambassador International; September 2012; \$15.99, paperback) combines scriptural truth with empirical research to provide a roadmap for the Christian school movement for the 21st century.

Authors Edward Earwood and Phil Suiter have combined experience in Christian education of nearly 75 years. “*A Scent of Water* is designed to take a look at the realities of where we are in the Christian school movement,” says Earwood, Executive Director for the South Carolina Association of Christian Schools. “We address some of the realities and lay out a protocol to infuse hope into our movement.”

Named for Job 14:9, “through the scent of water it will bud” and sprout anew, the authors explain what is needed for growth and improvement. This includes active leadership, vibrant teachers and strong vision that will revitalize and transform the movement. “We believe the Christian school movement is helping the church fulfill the task of taking the gospel to the world,” says Suiter, a pastor, educator and former West Virginia Assistant State Superintendent of Schools. “But we also see room for improvement.”

RELEASE DATE: September 2012
TRADE Paperback
PAGES: 240
PRICE: \$15.99
ISBN: 9781620201558

Author Edward Earwood has served 34 years in Christian education with positions ranging from teacher and athletic director to principal and pastor. After more than two decades in Alabama, he now serves as the executive director of the South Carolina Association of Christian Schools.

Author Phil Suiter taught in the School of Education at Marshall University. After leaving public education in 1980, Suiter has served in a variety of leadership roles within the Christian school movement both at state and national levels.

To learn more about authors Edward Earwood and Phil Suiter visit [Facebook.com/AScentofWater](https://www.facebook.com/AScentofWater). To receive a review copy of *A Scent of Water* or to connect with the authors please contact publicist Alison Storm by email at media@emeraldhouse.com.

CONTINUED

ABOUT THE PUBLISHER: Ambassador International was founded in 1980 in Belfast, Northern Ireland and expanded to Greenville, South Carolina in 1995. Ambassador International’s books and materials have been distributed in dozens of countries and are sold worldwide. For more information visit www.ambassador-international.com. You can also follow @AmbassadorIntl on Twitter or check out [Facebook.com/AmbassadorIntl](https://www.facebook.com/AmbassadorIntl).

Suggested Interview Questions

1. What led you to write *A Scent of Water*?
2. How has the economy impacted the Christian school movement?
3. Why is government education not acceptable to many who believe the Bible as the Word of God?
4. What are the main threats to the Christian school movement?
5. What is being offered as “the scent of water” for the Christian school movement?
6. What needs to change in order for Christian education to thrive?
7. What is Christian education lacking right now?
8. Is there reason for hope? If so, what must happen to transform the movement?
9. What are the most remarkable changes in Christian education, both positive and negative, that you’ve witnessed during your career?
10. Are you encouraged by initial response to the book? Why?

Endorsements

“The authors pose the question in the introduction, ‘is Christian education worth saving?’ and go on to articulate EXACTLY why we must have solid and successful Christian education in our nation. . . . it is incumbent upon us to re-energize and reignite believers to the TRUTH that only comes through Jesus Christ. Too few children in our land are taught HIS principles or reinforced in HIS ways and it is more important now than ever that we not be discouraged . . . but take back lost ground. I appreciate Earwood and Suiter leading us in this great and needed work!!”

—**Chad Connelly**, chairman of the South Carolina Republican Party, author, and former school board chairman

“This book might throw cold water in your face, but keep reading! The authors have accurately summarized the history and current state of the Christian education movement and have suggested an excellent model for moving forward as schools and as a movement.”

—**Dr. Jeff Walton**, Executive Director, American Association of Christian Schools

“In *A Scent of Water*, authors Suiter and Earwood strongly challenge Christian school educators to face the issues of the day in their ministry. This book will force those in positions of leadership in Christian school education to re-examine where they are at and where they need to go in order to re-gain focus in the movement called Christian school education. Today, Christians are more like the world than they realize. Biblical worldview is compromised ever so gradually. The cause is weakened, but is greater than ever as are the challenges. This work will provide inspiration to face those challenges.”

—**Michael H. Bryant**, EdD; Executive Director, Georgia Association of Christian Schools

“*A Scent of Water* is a must-read for any educator desiring to transform the current state of Christian education. As seasoned educators, Earwood and Suiter bring clarity to the major issues and provide an excellent blueprint for the future.”

—**Joe Haas**, Ed.D., Executive Director, North Carolina Christian School Association

“*A Scent of Water* is exceptionally thoughtful, thorough, and Bible-based. Any school which embraces the foundational research and information and then implements the plan of action will be definitely more efficient and effective in training students to know, love, and serve the Lord Jesus in His church.”

—**Dr. Cecil Beach**, administrator, Northside Christian School, North Charleston, South Carolina

“My heart was filled with hope as I read through the pages of *A Scent of Water*. Certainly there is a cause, and I am excited for the Biblical principles and practical steps identified to strengthen our schools, our families, and our movement for Christ.”

—**Dr. Dan Brokke**, administrator, Grace Christian School, Huntington, West Virginia

“WOW!!! Nailed it!!! In *A Scent of Water*, Suiter and Earwood correctly identify the challenges facing the Christian school movement and offer solid ideas for bringing new life to a movement definitely worth saving. The pages are filled with scriptural application, solid research, and an action plan that offers hope for the future.”

—**Dr. Cathy Dotson**, Elementary Principal, Wilmington Christian Academy, Wilmington, North Carolina

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Author Bios

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EDWARD EARWOOD AND PHIL SUITER *Authors of "A Scent of Water"*



Edward Earwood has served 33 years in Christian education; his ministry has included positions as teacher, athletic director, principal, and pastor. After more than two decades in Alabama, he now serves as the executive director of South Carolina Association of Christian Schools. His work extends to the national and international levels through North American Christian School Accrediting Agency.



Phil Suiter, pastor and educator, has experience in Ohio as teacher and principal. He taught in the School of Education at Marshall University and later accepted a position with the State Department of Education in West Virginia, first serving as the Director of Teacher Preparation and later as the Assistant State Superintendent of Schools. He left public education in 1980 to enter the ministry and serve in leadership roles within the Christian school movement at both state and national levels.

Connect with authors

 www.ascentofwater.com

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