



# Studying Paul's Letters: Contemporary Perspectives and Methods

By Joseph A. Marchal

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Studying Paul's Letters provides a survey of the most relevant current methods in Paul scholarship. Joseph A. Marchal leads a group of scholars who are also experienced teachers in courses on Paul. More than a series of "how-to" essays in interpretation, each chapter in this volume shows how differences in starting point and interpretive decisions shape different ways of understanding Paul. Each teacher-scholar focuses on what a particular method brings to interpretation and applies that method to a text in Paul's letters, aiming not just at the beginning student but at the "tough choices" every teacher must make in balancing information with critical reflection. Studying Paul's Letters is organized for use in a single semester course on Paul.

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## **Editorial Review**

### **Review**

"The essays in Studying Paul's Letters, each written by a first-tier scholar, manage to demonstrate cutting-edge Pauline scholarship in ways that remain highly accessible for beginning students. These essays will not only provoke conversation about difference in perspective, but also reveal the multiple ways that seemingly disparate approaches still often intertwine. I can think of no other collection suitable as supplementary readings for students that so effectively unites these various goals." --Robert Paul Seesengood, Albright College

### **About the Author**

Joseph A. Marchal is Associate Professor of Religious Studies in the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies at Ball State University and the author of *The Politics of Heaven: Women, Gender, and Empire in the Study of Paul* (Paul in Critical Contexts: Fortress Press, 2009) and a number of journal articles and essays concerning method and approach in interpretation.

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