

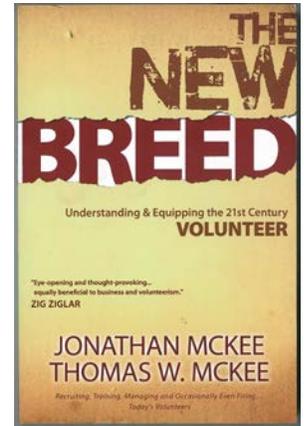
TITLE: The New Breed: Understanding & Equipping the 21st Century Volunteer (1st ed.)

AUTHORS: Jonathan McKee and Thomas W. McKee

AUTHORS' CREDENTIALS:

Jonathan McKee - originally a youth pastor, now speaker at churches, conferences and special events; author

Thomas W. McKee (M.Div., Denver Seminary) - originally a youth pastor, now speaker, trainer and consultant



FOCUSED ON CHURCH?

No. (Focused on community volunteers.)

BIBLICAL VIEWPOINT?

There are no Biblical references, foundation, or concepts presented. Church ministry is used occasionally for examples, and the authors mention their origins in youth ministry, but otherwise, it is from a secular perspective.

STRENGTHS:

- The chapter on recruiting may be worth the price of the book. Warning: You may never be able to listen to a recruiting pitch or orientation the same way again! (See blog post for more on this. ["Oh, by the way" recruiting - post coming soon])
- The authors go into some detail on generational differences versus life-stage issues. It's true, for example, that many Boomers are drawn into volunteering because they have never lost their change-the-world heart from the early Peace Corp era. It's also true that volunteers with young families in any generation need flexibility.

HOLES AND SOFT SPOTS:

- The authors assume that you have the time to recruit using a slow build-up of volunteer staff and a lot of one-on-one recruiting (coupled with networking). It's hard to picture this working for children's ministry (especially events like VBS) or hard-to-fill slots (like traffic management).
- You may come away from this book thinking that the "New Breed" of volunteer is one who wants to do *what* the volunteer wants to do, *when* the volunteer wants to do it.

SUGGESTED TOPICS FOR COMMENTS:

- How do you give volunteers feedback so that they know they are making a difference?
- The authors suggest using short-term opportunities to bring new volunteers into the organization. What would this look like in church ministries?