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Foreword

This book is the first of a kind. I suppose that if all the commentaries published on the book of Acts were gathered together, they would comprise a small library. But none of them would do what Edwin Bontrager and Nathan Showalter have done. They have succeeded in making the principles of church growth which operated in the first century come alive for churches today.

Much writing in the field of church growth is sociologically based with scant reference to the Word of God. This book is different. It begins with careful studies of thirteen church growth dynamics in the book of Acts and then shows how each one can apply to your church today. It combines sound theory with an amazing practicality.

It Can Happen Today! is written in plain English. One does not have to be a scholar to understand it. But it is not simplistic. It will stimulate keen minds and inspire warm hearts to move out into the community with the good news of Jesus Christ. It is a book for all Christians to enjoy and to apply.

The title is well chosen. It *can* happen today. We know it can because church growth even in much more dramatic form than we read about in the book of Acts is now happening in many parts of the world.

Is it happening in your community? In your