



also leads chapel services for the New York Giants, New York Jets, and the U.S. Pentagon. He has written over twenty books and appeared on *The Dr. Phil Show*, CBS Evening News, and *The 700 Club*.

He began his career in civil engineering with an undergraduate degree in mechanical engineering (Fairleigh Dickinson University) and a graduate degree in civil engineering (Stevens Institute of Technology). Later he attended seminary, earning a master's degree in theology (Alliance Theological Seminary) and a doctorate in organizational leadership (Regent University), and completed post-doctoral work at the University of Pennsylvania. He and his wife Marlinda married in 1984 and have two daughters.

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Racial disharmony is tearing communities apart, both inside and outside the Church. But Jesus Christ is the great reconciler. Warmth, regard, and respect emanated from His person toward others—all others. Jesus was comfortable in His skin and this made others who approached Him comfortable in their skin. We too are called by God to build bridges, cross cultural lines, and model diversity in every area of our lives. In a divided society Christians must demonstrate how to practice unity, tearing down the barriers that keep us apart.

David Ireland equips Christians to usher in a new era of racial reconciliation in *One in Christ*. Ireland shows us that becoming a true reconciler can be learned. In fact, it is demanded of us. The last charge Jesus gave His followers was to become cross-cultural ambassadors. He said, "Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19). This is not optional, Ireland says: We must each become racially accommodating, true reconcilers who labor to bring all of God's people together in Christ.

DAVID IRELAND is the lead pastor of Christ Church, a multi-site, multiracial congregation in northern New Jersey. When he founded the church in 1986, it had six members. Today it has a congregation of 8,000 representing over sixty nationalities.

Ireland serves as a diversity consultant to the National Basketball Association and

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