

## **Kick Out Clichés and Christianese** Ava Pennington

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### **Clichés**

#### **What are they?**

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#### **Why do we use them?**

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#### **How to avoid them:**

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**Rewrite these clichés:**

1. a baptism of fire
2. a level playing field
3. avoid him like the plague
4. bad apple
5. behind the eight ball
6. by the skin of my teeth
7. calm before the storm
8. chomping at the bit
9. cold as ice
10. cool as a cucumber
11. cry over spilled milk
12. dead as a doornail
13. eat like a bird
14. faster than a speeding bullet
15. fight like cats and dogs
16. flat as a pancake
17. free as a bird
18. good as gold
19. hard as nails
20. head-over-heels
21. hungry as a bear
22. in the nick of time
23. in the same boat
24. in this day and age
25. it remains to be seen
26. jumping out of my skin
27. leave no stone unturned
28. like a bull in a china shop
29. like a kid in a candy store
30. like clockwork
31. little did she know
32. meek as a lamb
33. mind like a steel trap
34. nipped in the bud
35. pretty as a picture
36. quiet as a mouse
37. sick as a dog
38. silent as the grave
39. slow as a snail
40. stuck out like a sore thumb
41. think outside the box
42. water under the bridge
43. white as a sheet
44. writing on the wall

## **Christianese**

Christian clichés →

### **Rewrite these Christianese phrases:**

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| 1. abundant life                       | 17. it blessed me          |
| 2. ask Jesus into heart                | 18. laid upon my heart     |
| 3. backsliding                         | 19. lift it up to the Lord |
| 4. bound by sin                        | 20. my witness             |
| 5. burden on my heart                  | 21. prayer warrior         |
| 6. cafeteria Christian                 | 22. put on my heart        |
| 7. enemy territory                     | 23. quiet time             |
| 8. fellowship                          | 24. saved                  |
| 9. get into the Word                   | 25. schemes of the devil   |
| 10. God revealed to me...              | 26. seeker service         |
| 11. going down a slippery slope        | 27. Spirit-filled life     |
| 12. grounded or rooted in the faith    | 28. traveling mercies      |
| 13. head knowledge vs. heart knowledge | 29. unspoken needs/prayers |
| 14. I just need some time in the Word  | 30. victory in Jesus       |
| 15. I'm wrestling                      | 31. walk with God          |
| 16. in the world not of it             | 32. washed in the blood    |

Learn how to identify and eliminate clichés and Christianese – your editors and readers will thank you!