



press release

for immediate release

for more information, contact:

Anita Crawford at 615.353.9021

or anita@springboardentertainment.com

CHURCHED HUMOROUSLY RECOUNTS BARBIE BURNINGS, SATAN BOXING MATCHES

Matthew Paul Turner's Memoir Available Now

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (Oct. 9, 2008) – Matthew Paul Turner's memoir, *churched: One Kid's Journey Toward God Despite a Holy Mess* released Tuesday nationwide. The book recounts humorous stories of Turner's upbringing in a strict fundamental Baptist church where Barbies were burned to explain hell and the preacher had a yearly boxing match with Satan.

"I encountered some odd experiences growing up in my church," says Turner, "so this book is sort of like therapy for me. Though I can find the humor in some of the experiences now, my church's perspectives certainly left lasting impressions on me, offering me images of God that were fear-filled and frankly, incorrect. I'm realizing I wasn't the only one, and so I hope this book offers laughs and therapy for others too."

Released Tuesday, *churched* quickly climbed Amazon.com's top sellers list, landing at #687 by the end of the day. The book is also available in Christian bookstores nationwide, including Family Christian Stores and Cokesbury.

Often compared to David Sedaris and Anne Lamont, Turner's honest and funny prose vividly introduces readers to his conservative father, loving and sometimes overbearing mother, three know-it-all sisters, and a host of church members led by a hellfire and brimstone-loving preacher. Within the 17 essays, Turner weaves threads of hope and faith into his childhood's foibles and follies.

This fall, Turner will travel with writer/director/producer Dan Merchant and musician Scott Phillips, on the *Lord Save Us* Tour. Merchant's documentary, *Lord, Save Us from Your Followers*, serves as a connecting point for the Tour. The three will pose the question *why is the gospel of love dividing America?* and host conversations about culture and faith in America at churches and college campuses across the country. For more about the Tour, visit www.LordSaveUsTheTour.com.

Matthew Paul Turner is a popular blogger, speaker and author of more than a dozen books including *The Christian Culture Survival Guide* and *The Coffeehouse Gospel*. He has written for *Relevant*, *HomeLife* and *Collide* magazines and was the former editor of *CCM* magazine. To learn more about Turner and to read a chapter from *churched*, visit www.MatthewPaulTurner.com.

#

For more information please contact:

Anita Crawford | SPRINGBOARD entertainment

1708 21st Avenue South #129 | Nashville, TN 37212

[ph] 615.353.9021 | anita@springboardentertainment.com