

# NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Life's toughest questions subject of new book**

April, 2023 — A new book entertains and dares readers to get the most out of life by asking hard questions. The autobiography by retired pastor Richard Braun demonstrates how wrestling with life's most complex challenges can lead to finding answers of purpose, hope, and connectedness. It also helps readers make better decisions through questioning while finding spiritual guidance in scripture.

“Hard Questions: About Life, Death and After Life” follows Braun’s life from his childhood on a Midwest farm, to a career in engineering and becoming a software development entrepreneur on the West Coast. A call later in life brought him to seminary, becoming an ordained minister and finally retiring to the Minnesota community where he grew up.

The author weaves together stories, constantly shifting life circumstances, and perplexing questions that he and his wife faced from the early 1950s to the present. “It’s taken a lifetime for me to realize not asking questions leads to ignorance, failure and despair,” Braun says. “Asking tough questions all along the way stimulates deeper thinking, greater self-awareness, and the rewarding feeling of connectedness.”

While Braun hopes his book will benefit everyone as they face day-to-day and longer-term life decisions, he says it can be particularly useful for small groups. Each of the book’s 18 chapters concludes with a list of questions that group participants are invited to explore.

Braun’s website and blog can be found at: [hardquestionsforsmallgroups.com](http://hardquestionsforsmallgroups.com).

The book is available on the website and from Amazon, Barnes and Noble, and Apple iBooks.

## For Further Information...

### Author Bio Information

As a Midwest farm boy – one of eight children – I grew up where stability and connectedness were cornerstones of our traditional family and community. I enjoy leading and writing materials for small groups, preaching, speaking, and traveling. I'm also an avid walker (2,500+ miles/year), reader and amateur photographer.

I earned a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering over ten years while working as a machinist. I started a software development company in my thirties. Twenty-five years later, I received my Master's in Divinity degree and a congregational call into ministry as a Lutheran pastor.

I reside with my wife of 55 years in the cold north and have two adult children and two grandchildren. I'm now retired. I have not arrived; I don't believe we ever reach perfection. Humans are imperfect...but we're always stretching for that goal in the life to come

### Our Organization

Braun Consulting Group is a small organization focused on supporting small group ministries. We provide resources and small-group education for churches and companies that desire to improve communication. As head of the group, I've written small group materials and a book called *Hard Questions: About Life, Death, and After Life*. I'm a pastor, author, speaker, and engaged participant in improving communication.

**Photos – If a digital files are required, they may be downloaded from my website.**

*(Pastor Richard Braun)*



Pastor *Emeritus* Richard Braun

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The website and blog can be found at:  
[hardquestionsforsmallgroups.com](http://hardquestionsforsmallgroups.com)

Purchase options: Amazon, Barnes and Noble, Apple iBooks, and our website.

*(Book cover photo)*

