

KOREAN CAUCUS BOOK CONCERT: DIGITAL INNOVATION, SOCIAL SUFFERING, AND LAMENT

MEET THE AUTHORS: LATEST WORKS IN HOMILETICS



Sunggu Yang

Associate Professor of
Theology and Christian
Ministries at George Fox
University, OR



Eliana Ah-Rum Ku

Assistant Professor of
Practical Theology at
Graduate School of
Practical Theology, South
Korea



Jeremy Kangsan Kim

Associate Pastor at
Praise Presbyterian
Church, NJ

PROGRAM OUTLINE

Welcome and Greetings

- Purpose of the Korean Caucus Pre-Meeting: Building Bridges in Homiletics
- Introducing authors and new publications

Roundtable

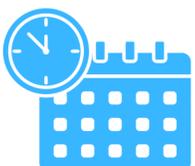
- Digital Homiletics (Dr. Yang)
- Lament-Driven Preaching (Dr. Ku)
- Preaching on Social Suffering (Dr. Kim)

Q & A



Hyemin Na (moderator)

Assistant Professor of Worship,
Media and Culture and Chapel
Elder of Oxnam Chapel at
Wesley Theological Seminary



**3 December 2024
8:00 PM (ET)**



**ZOOM MEETING
ID: 646 712 3278**

[Click ZOOM Link](#)

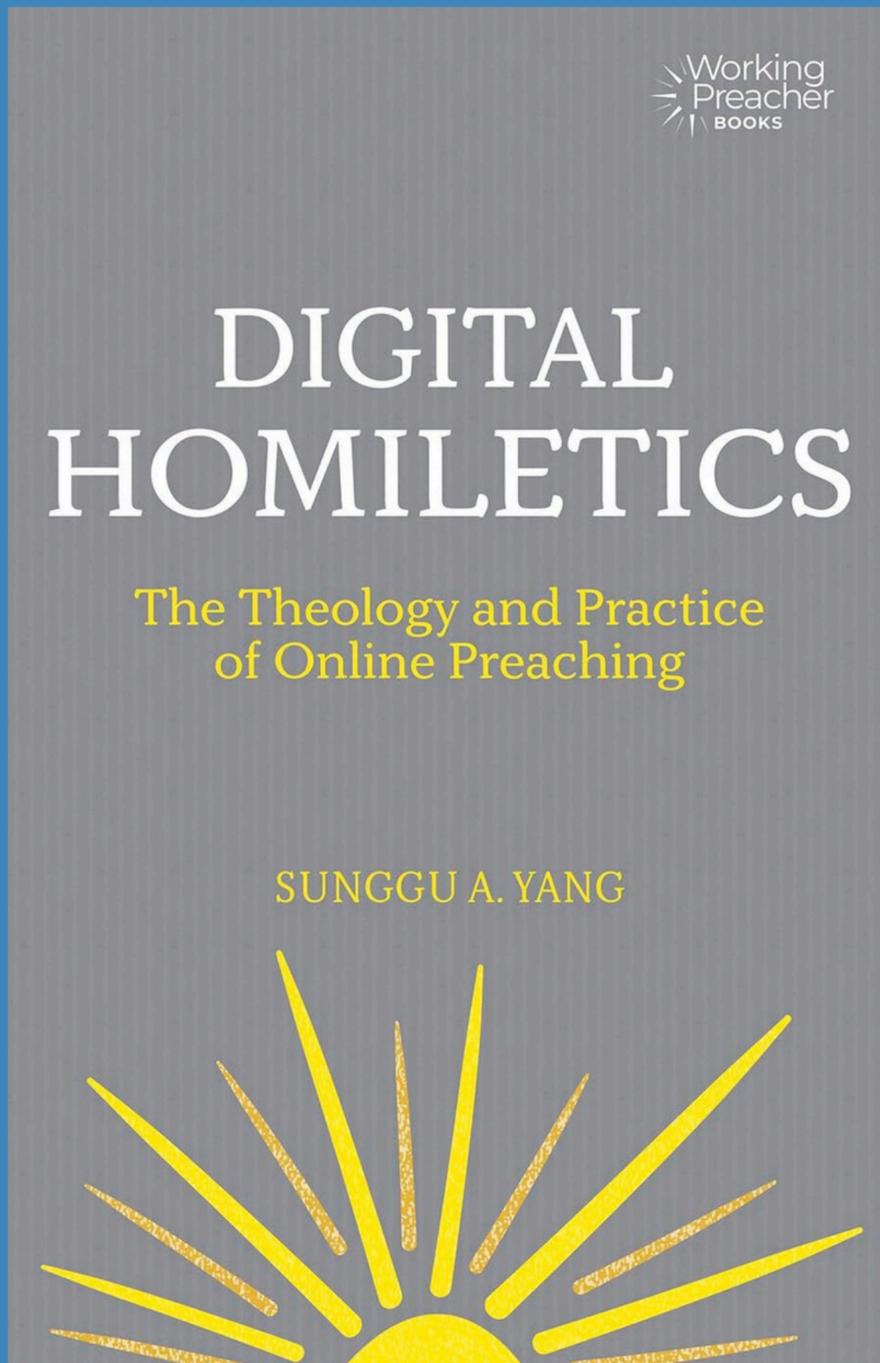
We cordially invite you to the Korean Caucus Pre-Meeting. This meeting features three homiletics scholars presenting and discussing their latest books. All interested are welcome.





Sunggu Yang

Associate Professor of
Theology and Christian
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Professor Sunggu Yang at George Fox University has recently published "Digital Homiletics." This book proves immensely helpful for congregations and preachers alike in understanding how to interact effectively in the online realm through digital formats. Specifically, the book presents concise and accessible theological foundations and shares ten methods for effective digital preaching.

Each of these ten methods is detailed with general explanations, preaching theories, practical advice, and relevant resources. Readers will gain theological reflections and specific guidance for sharing the word of God online, regardless of the scale of their ministry. Highly recommended for all pastors engaged in preaching ministry in the digital landscape of the 21st century.

To purchase Digital Homiletics, click on the book image.



Eliana Ah-Rum Ku

Assistant Professor of
Practical Theology at
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Practical Theology, South
Korea

LAMENT- DRIVEN PREACHING

Proclaiming Hope amid Suffering



ELIANA AH-RUM KU

foreword by PAUL SCOTT WILSON

Professor Eliana Ah-Rum Ku at the Graduate School of Practical Theology in South Korea has published *Lament-Driven Preaching: Proclaiming Hope amid Suffering*.

This book serves as a response to the challenge that how to proclaim hope in the midst of suffering. As the Christian community grapples with the inevitable suffering that accompanies human existence, this inquiry delves into the palpable dissonance between the experiential perception of divine absence and the doctrinal assurances of a benevolent and omnipresent God.

The book advocates for a robust engagement with lamentation as a profound theological stance characterized by fervent expression, witnessing, and both personal and communal resistance against the manifestations of evil and injustice. This call is underpinned by a profound yearning for the divine salvific presence amid the tangible realities of suffering.

Drawing on diverse discourses, including the book of Lamentations, the Korean concept of han and hanpuri, the narrative of the Paschal Triduum (with particular emphasis on Holy Saturday), and contemporary homiletical discussions on suffering, the book explores the capacity of sermons to navigate the intricate dynamics of grief and hope without trivializing the severe impact of suffering.

Aimed primarily at enriching the homiletical perspectives/practices of preachers, the book elucidates how lament can serve not only as a manifestation of faith but also as the quintessential language of the Gospel. It does not seek to mediate or reconcile the polarities of suffering and hope; rather, it endeavors to mine the profound tension existing between these two states, thereby offering a richer, more nuanced articulation of the Christian faith in the context of human suffering.

To purchase *Lament-Driven Preaching*, click on the book image.



Jeremy Kangsan Kim

Associate Pastor at
Praise Presbyterian
Church, NJ

PREACHING ON SOCIAL SUFFERING



*Formulating a Homiletical Theology for the
Contemporary Korean Context*

JEREMY KANGSAN KIM

foreword by Sally A. Brown

April 16th marks the tenth anniversary of the Sewol ferry disaster. Despite the passage of time, there are many who still clutch the vivid scars of this tragedy. Specifically, during this period, the pulpits of Korean Protestant churches have found themselves at the center of social controversy, having failed to fully assume social and religious responsibilities in the wake of the Sewol and other societal disasters in Korean history.

Dr. Jeremy Kangsan Kim (Praise Presbyterian Church, NJ) observed the reality of these Korean church pulpits and published *Preaching on Social Suffering: Formulating a Homiletical Theology for the Contemporary Korean*. This book defines the various political and social traumas experienced by Korean society in the last century as 'social suffering' and analyzes the preaching theology of Korean Protestantism that has dealt with these issues. It points out that homiletics concerning social suffering has developed dichotomously into pastoral and prophetic perspectives. The former has trivialized issues requiring social implications by substituting social suffering with individual pain, reducing them to matters of personal faith, while the latter has fallen into the error of generalizing individual suffering by focusing solely on social transformation based on God's justice.

To integrate these bifurcated approaches, the author proposes biblical lamentation as a theological alternative. Lamentation, exceeding a mere individual petition, encompasses God's compassion towards those who suffer from a pastoral perspective and simultaneously represents resistance based on God's justice against an unjust social community from a prophetic stance. Notably, the author discovers the dual nature of biblical lamentation in 'ren (仁)'—a key virtue of Neo-Confucianism that has deeply influenced Korean thought, representing an understanding of the Other (ren = compassion + righteousness)—and suggests it as a hermeneutical framework that can integrate divided homiletic approaches while also complementing the shortcomings of Western theories of the Other developed after World War II.

The author proposes a homiletic for social suffering that responds to the sociopolitical and theological context of Korea. Through this, Korean preachers are challenged to see the homiletical responsibility toward the suffered others socially as a contemporary missional mandate and a homiletic task given to us today.

To purchase *Preaching on Social Suffering*, click on the book image.