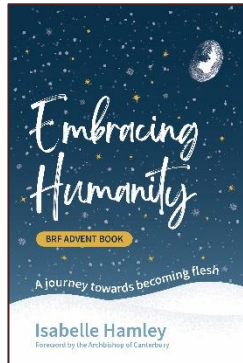


# PRESS RELEASE

from BRF Ministries

20 September 2024



## Embracing Humanity A journey towards becoming flesh

Isabelle Hamley

Pb, ISBN 978 1 80039 226 7, £9.99

BRF Ministries Advent book 2024



In *Embracing Humanity* Isabelle Hamley takes us on a journey exploring what it means to be human in light of God choosing to come and be born to a human family, grow as a child and inhabit a full human life alongside us. Despite growing up in ‘a virulently atheist family and going through the highly secular French education system’, Isabelle has been fascinated by Christmas since she watched her first nativity play aged twelve. ‘The sheer wonder of it still gives me goosebumps,’ she writes, ‘the hard journey, the promise of a star, the extraordinary baby unrecognised while an indifferent world goes by.’

Perfect both for personal prayer and reflection through Advent, and for group study, *Embracing Humanity* is both timeless and timely. As Isabelle writes in her introduction: ‘I think that questions around identity and humanity are at the heart of a lot of conversations and sometimes conflict today. Whether it is Covid and mortality, the threat of AI, our response to the environmental crisis or the rise in mental health challenges among our young people, a lot of this can be linked to how we think of ourselves, what we expect our lives to be, and whether we can receive the love and hope that God offers in the midst of complex and challenging times.’

### Foreword by Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury

‘Isabelle has written a wonderful book of preparation for Christmas, a book to build excitement, open the eyes and relish the paradox of a God who loves us so much that he whispers his words of comfort and joy, heard only by those who listen. Her aim is to bring us face to face with Christ, to go through Advent travelling towards Bethlehem, and to find out who our travelling companions are. We know some. We travel with the shepherds, the short distance from dark hillside to awed wonder. We travel with the magi, the long and puzzled journey to a point of enlightenment and then flight. But most of all we travel with each other.’ – *Justin Welby*

### About the author

Isabelle Hamley is a theologian, writer and broadcaster currently working as principal of Ridley Hall, Cambridge. She was previously the theological adviser to the House of Bishops in the Church of England and chaplain to the Archbishop of Canterbury. She has also worked as a probation officer, lecturer, parish priest and university chaplain.

For more information click [here](#).

#### For a review copy or author information, please contact:

Eley McAinsh, Press and Media Officer [eley.mcainsh@brf.org.uk](mailto:eley.mcainsh@brf.org.uk) or +44 (0)1865 319700 | [enquiries@brf.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@brf.org.uk)