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## *BUT I TELL YOU* receives praise:

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### **L.L. Barkat**

*author of Stone Crossings: Finding Grace in Hard  
and Hidden Places (InterVarsity Press, spring 2008)*

Reading *But I Tell You* is like sipping jasmine tea on a peaceful morning. It is quiet and approachable, sweetly preparing us to meet the day. But watch out: Oberst's book, like its subject the Sermon on the Mount, has a flavor of challenge we cannot easily put aside.

### **Tim Burdick**

*editor of simpleriver.org and student at George Fox Evangelical Seminary*

The Sermon on the Mount has always been a difficult passage to realize today, and one that is often brushed over as a utopian dream. Oberst reaches back to the ancient texts, however, and brings out a core modern-day relevance that is both challenging and practical. *But I Tell You* is a great book for anyone who wants to spend a week or an entire year reading through the heart of what Jesus taught.

### **Robert A. Crandall**

*pastor and educator*

*But I Tell You* is a fresh and refreshing look at the Sermon on the Mount in bite-sized chapters. It is not some self-improvement "fluff," but solid spiritual meat. The writing is clear, cogent, and compelling, making it easier to digest. But a warning: It is also convicting!

This attractive paperback is an excellent resource for personal study, reflection, and spiritual growth. Small groups would do well to use it for study and discussion. And teachers and leaders in the church will find excellent material for their ministries. The use and explanation of the Greek gives added support and authority.

My hope is that others are as challenged and encouraged by this book as I have been.

**Faith Marsalli**

*pastor, Klamath Falls (Oregon) Friends Church*

Karen's book offers its reader a challenging and practical view of the most radical sermon Jesus ever preached. This Greek scholar makes the original language accessible to us all. Her fresh perspective on the Sermon on the Mount inspires one to move from complacency to action.

**David L. McKenna**

*educator, administrator, author*

The Sermon on the Mount is like a diamond in the light. With each turn of the gem, a new facet of truth shines through. Karen L. Oberst gives us that kind of insight as she makes key words from the Greek text come alive with creative meaning and practical application. *But I Tell You* is a resource for daily reading, with a point to ponder as we go on our way.

**Arthur O. Roberts**

*professor at large, George Fox University, Newberg, Oregon*

Karen L. Oberst writes lucidly and with refreshing insights about a familiar portion of Jesus' teachings: the Sermon on the Mount. Her knowledge of original languages is matched by a good grasp of contemporary verbal culture. This enables her to convey in a conversational mode both the implications and the applications of these important New Testament teachings. The book thus offers thoughtful Christian readers a unique blend of authentic text and creative paraphrase.

**Walter Wink**

*author; professor emeritus of biblical interpretation,  
Auburn Theological Seminary, New York*

The Sermon on the Mount is the most radical statement of Jesus' new reality, and *But I Tell You* is a good place to engage its challenge to a new life. This lively and readable book is made the more valuable thanks to the author's knowledge of Greek. Read, and enjoy.