



Recommended Reading  
from the Library

# INTRODUCTION

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“When you listen and read one thinker, you become a clone... two thinkers, you become confused... ten thinkers, you’ll begin developing your own voice... two or three hundred thinkers, you become wise and develop your voice.”

Timothy Keller

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Books are the voices of friends and strangers that share knowledge and experience with the world. By reading, you and your family can learn from others and deepen your understanding of the Christian faith. The more books you read, the more wisdom you can attain.

Our vision in the Growing Place Library is to connect adults and children with quality books that meet their needs, help them grow, and inspire greater love for our Lord Jesus Christ.

These book recommendations have been made by trusted pastors, staff, and leaders within the church to ensure their theological trustworthiness, as well as their ability to clearly communicate biblical truths. This condensed version contains only three books in each category as a starting point for learning, but the extended version is available at [www.2pc.org/growingplace](http://www.2pc.org/growingplace).

The books are organized by topics, everything from theology and evangelism, to managing finances and discipling children. Each book entry includes the title, author, copyright date, and number of pages, along with the local call number (LCCN) in The Growing Place Library and a brief description of the book’s content.

We hope that you will use this resource and that it may be a tool to maximize your intellectual, emotional, and spiritual growth. Enjoy!

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Investigating Christianity .....	1
Foundational Books for Young Christians .....	1
General Theology .....	2
Heaven & Hell .....	2
God, Jesus Christ & the Holy Spirit .....	3
Baptism .....	4
Christian History.....	4
The Church & Its Role .....	5
Gospel-Centered Living.....	6
Growing in Christ.....	6
Personal Intimacy with Christ .....	7
Prayer & Fasting .....	7
Understanding the Bible .....	8
Fighting Sin .....	9
Holiness & Christian Character .....	9
Finding Identity in Christ .....	10

## OUTREACH

Sharing Your Faith.....	11
Engaging Culture .....	11
Making Disciples & Spiritual Leadership .....	12
Redeeming the City & Community.....	13
Reaching the Nations & World Missions.....	14

## BIOGRAPHIES & LITERATURE

Missionary Biographies.....	15
Other Biographies .....	15
Fiction & Literature .....	16

## **LIFE ISSUES**

Work & Rest .....	17
Finances .....	18
Emotional & Mental Health .....	18
Suffering, Pain & Grief .....	19

## **RELATIONSHIPS**

Relating to Others & Resolving Conflict .....	20
Gender & Human Sexuality .....	20
Dating & Approaching Marriage .....	21
Manhood .....	22
Womanhood .....	22

## **MARRIAGE & FAMILY**

Marriage .....	23
Divorce .....	24
General Parenting .....	24
Discipling Children in the Faith .....	25
Parenting Teenagers .....	26
Christian Families .....	26
Books to Read to Children .....	27

# SPIRITUAL GROWTH

## *Investigating Christianity*

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### **More Than a Carpenter** by Josh McDowell

(©1986; 129 pages) LCCN: 232 McD Gold

Is Jesus really the Lord He claimed to be? How can we know for sure? This book offers a concise series of well-documented arguments from a skeptic turned believer in support of the Christian faith.

### **The Reason for God** by Tim Keller

(©2008; 336 pages) LCCN: 239 Ke Orange

Using literature, philosophy, anthropology, pop culture, and intellectual reasoning, Keller addresses the frequent doubts that skeptics and non-believers bring to religion and explains how the belief in a Christian God is, in fact, a sound and rational one.

### **Basic Christianity** by John Stott

(©1971; 142 pages) LCCN: 232 St Gold

Is it plausible that Jesus was truly divine? And what would that mean for us? This clear, classic book examines the historical facts on which Christianity stands, providing a sensible guide for all who seek an intellectually satisfying explanation of the Christian faith.

## *Foundational Books for Young Christians*

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### **Calvary Road** by Roy Hession

(©1950; 131 pages) LCCN: 248.4 He Yellow

This concise book describes how Jesus can fill you with His Holy Spirit through brokenness, repentance and confession.

### **The Explicit Gospel** by Matt Chandler & Jared Wilson

(©2012; 224 pages) LCCN: 230 Ch Orange

Responding to the needs of both the over-churched and the un-churched, Chandler outlines what the Gospel is and isn't, and explores its deep implications on personal and cosmic levels.

## **Don't Waste Your Life** by John Piper

(©2003; 189 pages) LCCN: 248.4 Pi Yellow

In this book, Piper challenges readers to passionately submit the sufferings they endure, the risks they take, and the goals they set to the pursuit of the cross of Christ and the glory of God.

## **General Theology**

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### **Concise Theology: A Guide to Historic Christian Beliefs**

by J.I. Packer

(©1993; 267 pages) LCCN: 230 Pa Orange

In brief, easy-to-understand chapters, Packer presents a summary of nearly 100 major Christian beliefs from a Reformed perspective, providing precise descriptions without sacrificing depth.

### **The Gospel as Center** edited by D.A. Carson & Tim Keller

(©2012; 272 pages) LCCN: 230 Ca Orange

D. A. Carson, Tim Keller, Kevin DeYoung, Sandy Willson and other influential leaders have created this volume to defend the traditional Gospel, to strengthen the Church and to reclaim the core beliefs of the Christian faith that are in danger of being lost to relativism.

### **The God Who is There** by D.A. Carson

(©2010; 224 pages) LCCN: 220.6 Ca Orange

In this basic introduction to the faith, D.A. Carson takes new Christians and seekers through Scripture to define fundamental doctrines and help readers define what they believe, and why.

## **Heaven & Hell**

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### **If I Should Die Before I Wake**

by K. Scott Oliphint & Sinclair Ferguson

(©1955; 124 pages) LCCN: 236.24 Ol Aqua

In this brief, fascinating look at death and the afterlife, the authors point out the right and wrong answers to the question, "Why do you expect to go to heaven?" digging deep into Scripture to reveal what the Bible says about the future and what one can expect in heaven.

## **Heaven** by Randy Alcorn

(©2004; 560 pages) LCCN: 236.24 Al Orange

In this book, Alcorn provides readers with a thoroughly researched and biblically definitive description of heaven, answering many of the most serious questions.

## **The Most Encouraging Book About Hell Ever** by Thor Ramsey

(©2014, 103 pages) LCCN: 236.1 Ra Orange

Often funny, but deadly serious, this book lays out the biblical vision of hell and why the existence of hell is actually good news that proves God's goodness and brings Him the greatest glory.

# ***God, Jesus Christ & the Holy Spirit***

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## **The God You Can Know** by Dan DeeHan

(©1982; 133 pages) LCCN: 231.4 De Gold

Burdened by contemporary Christians' lack of understanding of the nature of Almighty God, DeeHan wrote this book to help readers become intimate with God by studying His character and attributes.

## **In My Place Condemned He Stood** by J.I. Packer & Mark Dever

(©2008; 160 pages) LCCN:232 Pa Gold

An enthusiastic and timely reaffirmation of the doctrine of substitutionary atonement, this book includes Packer's "The Heart of the Gospel" and "What Did the Cross Achieve"; Dever's "Nothing but the Blood"; and more.

## **Forgotten God** by Francis Chan

(©2009; 186 pages) LCCN: 248.3 Ch Yellow

Chan uses scriptural support and a compelling narrative to form this invitation to stop and remember the Spirit of the living God, the Helper given to believers so that they can be true living witnesses for Christ.

# Baptism

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## **Why Do We Baptize Infants?** by Bryan Chapell

(©2007; 32 pages) LCCN: 265.1 CH Orange

Biblical and pastoral, simple and accessible, this booklet explains in a nontechnical style why believers should baptize their infants and shows pastors how to administer the sacrament in ways that are meaningful and helpful for their churches.

## **What Christian Parents Should Know About Infant Baptism**

by John Sartelle

(©1985; 28 pages) LCCN: 265.1 Sa Orange

This short booklet explains why the children of believers are special in God's sight, what it means for them to be baptized, the practical responsibilities of Christian parents and the promises of God regarding their children.

## **Baptism: Its Purpose, Practice, & Power** by Michael Green

(©2010; 142 pages) LCCN: 234.161 Gr Orange

Through the examination of biblical evidence and teaching, Michael Green provides a bold, clear explanation of the different approaches of baptism: as an infant, as a believer and by the Holy Spirit.

# Christian History

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## **The 100 Most Important Events in Christian History**

by Kenneth Curtis et al

(©1991; 204 pages) LCCN: 270.02 Cu White

This fascinating and accessible guide to Christian history introduces the people, places, and events every Christian should know.

## **Turning Points in Christian History** by Mark Noll

(©2012; 384 pages) LCCN: 270 No White

This well-received introduction to church history in a broad scope provides contemporary Christians with a fuller understanding of God as He has revealed His purpose through the centuries.



## **Introduction to the History of Christianity** by Tim Dowley

(©1995; 688 pages) LCCN: 270 Do White

The 2000-year history of Christianity is a dramatic, intriguing, and often surprising story, told here by more than 60 specialists from 10 countries in the most popular one-volume illustrated reference book on church history ever published.

## **The Church & Its Role**

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### **Total Church** by Tim Chester & Steve Timmis

(©2013; 224 pages) LCCN: 262 Ch Yellow

In this book, Chester and Timmis first outline the biblical case for making the Gospel and community central and then apply this dual focus to evangelism, social involvement, church planting, world missions, discipleship, pastoral care, spirituality, theology, apologetics, youth and children's work.

### **Radical** by David Platt

(©2010; 217 pages) LCCN: 261.1 Pl Yellow

In this book, Platt challenges readers to consider how American Christians have manipulated the Gospel to fit our cultural preferences; he shows what Jesus actually said about being his disciple and shares what is happening as a "successful" suburban church decides to get serious about the Gospel according to Jesus.

### **Church Membership** by Jonathan Leeman

(©2012; 146 pages) LCCN: 250 Le Yellow

Becoming a member of a church is an important and often neglected part of the Christian life; in this book, Leeman has built a compelling case for committing to the local church body.

# ***Gospel-Centered Living***

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## **Living the Cross-Centered Life** by C.J. Mahaney

(©2004; 156 pages) LCCN: 248.4 Ma Yellow

Packed with powerful and practical truth, this book focuses on the essence of the Christian faith, the cross of Christ, helping Christians learn to apply the truth of the Gospel to daily life in order to reignite passion for Jesus.

## **The Gospel for Real Life** by Jerry Bridges

(©2002; 193 pages) LCCN: 248.4 Br Yellow

The Gospel of Jesus Christ is not just the door to eternal life, but also the very lifeblood of a believer's walk with God day by day; readers will learn how the Gospel is the key to salvation as well as the power for daily progress in holiness.

## **God is the Gospel** by John Piper

(©2008, 196 pages) LCCN: 231.6 Pi Gold

In this book Piper explains that God himself, as revealed in Christ's death and resurrection, is the ultimate and greatest gift of the Gospel; the good news is primarily seeing and savoring the glory of Christ.

# ***Growing in Christ***

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## **A Long Obedience in the Same Direction** by Eugene Peterson

(©1980; 192 pages) LCCN: 248.4 Pe Yellow

Peterson's time-tested prescription for discipleship remains the same: a long obedience in the same direction as believers learn to grow in worship, service, joy, work, happiness, humility, community and blessing.

## **Counterfeit Gods** by Tim Keller

(©2009, 240 pages) LCCN: 241.3 Ke Yellow

In this book, Keller explores Scripture and uses classical Bible stories to demonstrate how people's hearts can turn good, wholesome things into idols that drive them away from God, but also how identifying such idols in society and culture is key to finding happiness in the only place it can ultimately be found.

## **Discovering God's Will** by Sinclair Ferguson

(©1982; 125 pages) LCCN: 231.7 Fe Gold

In this book, Ferguson draws out fundamental principles by which God guides believers to know His will, primarily through knowing, loving and obeying him; he then applies these principles to practical situations like vocation and marriage, and highlights many important biblical counsels.

## **Personal Intimacy With Christ**

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### **Seeing and Savoring Jesus Christ** by John Piper

(©2004; 127 pages) LCCN: 232.8 Pi Gold

In this book, Piper helps readers to explore Jesus' deity, power and wisdom so that having "seen" Jesus for who He is, they may "savor" His beauty, goodness and truth, and be changed as a result.

### **Abide in Christ** by Andrew Murray

(©1997, 201 pages) LCCN: 248.4 Mu Gold

This book contains 31 heart-searching readings to learn how to live daily in closer communion and fellowship with the Father.

### **Pursuit of God** by A.W. Tozer

(©1995; 119 pages) LCCN: 248.2 To Gold

This book shows how God pursues humans to draw them into a relationship with Himself. While humans thirst after the things of God, they attempt to fill this thirst with things other than worship of their Creator.

## **Prayer & Fasting**

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### **A Praying Life** by Paul Miller

(©2009; 270 pages) LCCN: 248.3 Mi Blue

In this book, Miller shares his insights and conclusions about how to connect the broken pieces of your life and allow prayer, even poorly delivered, to fill the gaps with meaning and substance.

## **A Hunger For God** by John Piper

(©1997, 239 pages) LCCN: 248.47 Pi Blue

In this book, Piper argues that when Christians are full of what the world offers, then fasting might increase their soul's appetite for God; for when God is the supreme desire of the Christian's heart, He will be supreme in everything.

## **Praying God's Word** by Beth Moore

(©2000, 344 pages) LCCN: 248.3 Mo Blue

In this landmark book, readers will learn to wield the sword of the Spirit, praying God's Word to break free anything that has a hold on them until the joy and authority of Christ rules in their lives.

## ***Understanding the Bible***

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### **God's Big Picture** by Vaughan Roberts

(©2012, 160 pages) LCCN: 220.8 Ro White

In this excellent overview, Roberts gives readers the big picture of the Bible—how all of it fits together under the theme of the Kingdom of God, providing both the encouragement and the tools to read the Bible with confidence and understanding of the Bible's supreme subject, Jesus Christ, and the salvation God offers through Him.

### **Truth and Power: The Place of Scripture in the Christian Life** by J.I. Packer

(©1999; 191 pages) LCCN: 220.1 Pa White

With clarity and skill, Packer looks at the Bible's authority, authenticity, and unity, helping readers understand how to use the Bible and not abuse it.

### **Reading the Bible with Heart & Mind** by Tremper Longman III

(©1997, 240 pages) LCCN: 226.6 Lo White

As the Bible is the single most powerful agent for transforming our lives, this book will equip readers to accurately understand and respond to God's Word in ways that will develop deep intimacy with Christ.

# ***Fighting Sin***

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## **Respectable Sins** by Jerry Bridges

(©2007, 181 pages) LCCN: 241.3 Br Yellow

In this book, Bridges addresses several “acceptable” sins that Christians tend to tolerate in themselves, such as jealousy, anger, pride, unthankfulness, and judgmentalism, and he proclaims God’s transforming grace as the means to overcoming such subtle sins.

## **The Enemy Within** by Kris Lundgaard

(©1998; 150 pages) LCCN: 241.3 Lu Yellow

This book takes dead aim at the heart of ongoing sin, and drawing from two masterful works by John Owen, offers insight, encouragement and hope to overcome the enemy within.

## **The Mortification of Sin** by John Owen

(©2004, originally 17th Century, 130 pages) LCCN: 241 Ow Orange

This is a treatise by the Puritan John Owen on the importance and work of the Christian in putting to death their deeds of the flesh.

# ***Holiness & Christian Character***

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## **Who You Are When No One is Looking** by Bill Hybels

(©1987, 113 pages) LCCN: 241 Hy Aqua

The character qualities of courage, discipline, vision, endurance and love are quickly becoming endangered, but with God’s guidance and strength, Christians can maintain character that lasts despite temptations and troubles.

## **The Pursuit of Holiness** by Jerry Bridges

(©1978, 158 pages) LCCN: 248.44 Sw Yellow

In this book, Bridges helps readers know God’s role and their responsibility in becoming holy, mature and Christ-like in their faith.

## **Humility: True Greatness** by C.J. Mahaney

(©2005, 174 pages) LCCN: 241.4 Ma Yellow

C. J. Mahaney raises a battle cry to daily, diligently, and deliberately weaken our greatest enemy (pride) and cultivate our greatest friend (humility).

## ***Finding Identity in Christ***

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### **Search for Significance** by Robert McGee

(©1990, 337 pages) LCCN: 248.4 Mc Yellow

This book has helped millions of readers learn to experience the freedom to enjoy Christ's love while no longer basing their self-worth on their accomplishments or the opinions of others.

### **Found In Him** by Elyse Fitzpatrick

(©2013, 240 pages) LCCN: 232.1 Fi Orange

In this book, Fitzpatrick explores the wonder of the incarnation and the glory of the Christian's union with Christ, offering him or her a sure path to ultimate acceptance and true belonging through the power of the Gospel.

### **Children of the Living God** by Sinclair Ferguson

(©1987, 163 pages) LCCN: 248.4 Fe Yellow

This book emphasizes that people were created for joyful fellowship with God, and explains how believers enter His family by new birth and adoption, showing how the Spirit of sonship, Christian freedom, divine discipline, prayer and the sacraments all contribute to experiencing the love the Father has for His children.

# OUTREACH

## *Sharing Your Faith*

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### **Becoming a Contagious Christian**

by Bill Hybels & Mark Mittleberg

(©1994, 221 pages) LCCN: 248.5 Hy Yellow

Designed for Sunday school classes, small groups and individual study, this book will help readers discover why all believers are called to be contagious Christians; how authenticity, compassion and sacrifice will help them relate to seekers; and how to clearly share the Gospel with those that they love.

### **Tell the Truth** by Will Metzger

(©2012, 272 pages) LCCN: 248 Me Lavender

As useful as it is passionate, this book will refocus and re-energize a new generation to communicate the whole Gospel wholly by grace—Truth that does not alter with the times, but that is unchanging.

### **Evangelism: How the Whole Church Speaks of Jesus**

by J. Mack Stiles

(©2014, 126 pages) LCCN: 269 St Lavender

This brief and compelling book presents an inspiring picture of a church where evangelism is simply part of the culture, where leaders share their faith consistently and openly and members follow, encouraging one another to make evangelism an ongoing way of life.

## *Engaging Culture*

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### **Culture Making: Recovering Our Creative Calling**

by Andy Crouch

(©2013, 271 pages) LCCN: 261 Cr Yellow

In this book, Crouch unleashes a stirring manifesto calling Christians to be culture makers; he unpacks the complexities of how culture works and gives Christians tools for cultivating and creating culture.

## **The Intolerance of Tolerance** by D.A. Carson

(©2012, 176 pages) LCCN: 261.7 Ca Orange

In this book, Carson traces the subtle but enormous shift in the way Americans have come to understand tolerance over recent years and discusses its implications for culture today, especially its bearing on democracy, discussions about good and evil, and Christian truth claims.

## **Echoes of Eden: Reflections on Christianity, Literature and the Art** by Jerram Barrs

(©2013, 208 pages) LCCN: 261.5 Ba Yellow

In this book, Barrs gives three key elements for evaluating great art, puts those qualifiers to the test as he investigates five of the world's most influential authors, and empowers Christians to better understand the character of God while helping others to know Him too.

## ***Making Disciples & Spiritual Leadership***

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### **The Master Plan of Evangelism** by Robert Coleman

(©1993, 198 pages) LCCN: 269.2 Co Lavender

For more than 40 years this classic study has shown Christians how to minister to the people God brings into their lives by looking to the Bible to answer the question: What was Christ's strategy for evangelism and discipleship?

### **Be the Leader You Were Meant to Be** by LeRoy Eims

(©1975, 132 pages) LCCN: 158 Ei Aqua

Biblically-based, time-tested, and real-world proven, this landmark book offers powerful and practical insights for personal and professional development, helping readers become influential leaders of integrity, passion, and excellence.

### **Spiritual Leadership** by J. Oswald Sanders

(©1994, 180 pages) LCCN: 268 Sa Lavender

In this book, Sanders presents the key principles of leadership in both the temporal and spiritual realms, illustrating his points with examples from Scripture and the biographies of eminent men of God.



# ***Redeeming the City & Community***

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## **When Helping Hurts** by Brian Fikkert & Steve Corbett

(©2009; 219 pages) LCCN: 261.8 Co Lavender

This book emphasizes that poverty is much more than simply a lack of financial or material resources and that it takes much more than donations and handouts to solve the problem of poverty successfully; its central point is to provide proven strategies that challenge Christians to help the poor empower themselves.

## **Why Cities Matter** by Stephen Um & Justin Buzzard

(©2013, 170 pages) LCCN: 270 Um Lavender

In this call to invest in the city, urban pastors Buzzard and Um lay out a compelling vision for cultural engagement and church planting in our world's cities, answering questions including: Why are cities so important? What does the Bible say about cities? and How do Christians overcome common issues and develop a plan for living missionally in the city?

## **Generous Justice** by Tim Keller

(©2010, 189 pages) LCCN: 261.8 Ke Orange

Keller challenges the preconceived beliefs that Christian faith hinders social justice and presents the Bible as a fundamental source for promoting justice and compassion for those in need, offering readers a new understanding of modern justice and human rights that will resonate with both the faithful and the skeptical.

# ***Reaching the Nations & World Missions***

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## **From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya** by Ruth Tucker

(©1983, 511 pages) LCCN: 266 Tu Lavender

From one of the most respected missiologists of our day, this book traces Christian missions from the days of the early church to the present, helping readers understand the life and role of a missionary through real life examples of great leaders, including Paul, Boniface, Adoniram Judson, Amy Carmichael, Jim Elliot, Mother Teresa, Brother Andrew, and many others.

## **Fresh Vision for the Muslim World** by Mike Kuhn

(©2009; 266 pages) LCCN: 297.1 Ku Gray

After living for more than two decades in the Middle East, pastor, author and college Arabic instructor Mike Kuhn wonders if there can be a fresh vision for the Muslim world—one not rooted in media lies or personal fears but in the values of Christ's kingdom; he challenges readers to love the Muslims down the street and across the world with the love of Christ.

## **Let the Nations Be Glad** by John Piper

(©1997; 228 pages) LCCN: 266.001 Pi Lavender

In this book, Piper offers readers a biblical defense of God's supremacy in all things, provides a sound theological foundation for missions, and issues a passionate plea for God-centeredness in the missionary enterprise.

# BIOGRAPHIES & LITERATURE

## *Missionary Biographies*

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### **Shadow of the Almighty** by Elisabeth Elliot

(©1989, 256 pages) LCCN: 248.5 El Red

One of the great missionary stories of modern times, this is the true account of the life, testament and martyrdom of Jim Elliot (1927-1956) and four fellow missionaries, at the hands of Ecuador's Huaorani Indians, as told by Elliot's widow.

### **I Dared to Call Him Father** by Bilquis Sheikh

(©2003, 190 pages) LCCN: 248.2 Sh Red

This is the fascinating, true story of Bilquis Sheikh (1912-1997), a prominent Muslim woman, and her unusual journey to a personal relationship with God that turned her world upside down and put her life in danger.

### **Peace Child** by Don Richardson

(©1974, 287 pages) LCCN: 266 Ri Lavender

In 1962, Don and Carol Richardson risked their lives to share the Gospel with the headhunting Sawi people of New Guinea; this is the remarkable tale of how God gave them the key to the Sawi hearts via a redemptive analogy from their own tribal mythology.

## *Other Biographies*

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### **Seeking Allah, Finding Jesus** by Nabeel Qureshi

(©2014, 287 pages) LCCN: 248 Qu Red

Providing an intimate window into a loving Muslim home, Qureshi shares how he developed a passion for Islam before discovering, almost against his will, evidence that Jesus rose from the dead and claimed to be God; his testimony will challenge Christians, Muslims, and all those who are interested in the world's great religions.

## **The Hiding Place** by Corrie Ten Boom

(©1971; 219 pages) LCCN: 92 TeB

When the Nazis invaded Holland, Corrie Ten Boom's (1892-1983) quiet life turned into a nightmare as she and her family were sent to a concentration camp for housing Jews; refusing to despair, she discovered how Jesus can turn loss to glory.

## **A Legacy of Sovereign Joy** by John Piper

(©2000; 151 pages) LCCN: 270.09 Pi Lime

The lives of St. Augustine, Martin Luther, and John Calvin reveal the glory and grace of our perfect God in the imperfect lives of His faithful servants; through the strengths and struggles of these men, readers can behold the glory and majesty of God and find power to overcome their own weaknesses.

# ***Fiction & Literature***

## **The Pilgrim's Progress** by John Bunyan

(©1875, 141 pages) LCCN: 828 Bu Black

A deeply cherished book, this is the allegorical tale of Christian the pilgrim on his journey to the Celestial City and his encounters along the way with both worthy companions and dreadful adversaries.

## **The Chronicles of Narnia Series** by C.S. Lewis

(©1994) LCCN: J Le Blue

Epic battles between good and evil, fantastic creatures, betrayals, heroic deeds, and friendships won and lost all come together in this unforgettable world in these seven books, which has been enchanting readers of all ages for more than 60 years.

## **Stepping Heavenward** by Elizabeth Prentiss

(©1869, 344 pages) LCCN: F Pr

A truly refreshing fictional account of a 19th century girl's day-to-day activities, interwoven with her quest to better her life. As she learns about striving for excellence, develops an acute awareness of her selfish human nature and discovers that true happiness comes from giving oneself to others as Christ did.

# LIFE ISSUES

## Work & Rest

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### **Business for the Glory of God** by Wayne Grudem

(©2003, 83 pages) LCCN: 261.8 Gr Yellow

In this book, Grudem offers solid guidance for avoiding marketplace temptations while simultaneously affirming the God-honoring potential of business practices, emphasizing how ownership, productivity, money, lending, and competition offer opportunities for imitating the Lord's creative work.

### **Every Good Endeavor** by Tim Keller

(©2012, 288 pages) LCCN: 306.3 Ke Yellow

This book is about how the Christian furthers God's work in the world through his own daily work by doing it with excellence, integrity, discipline, creativity, selflessness and passion and by considering it an act of worship.

### **The Call** by Os Guinness

(©1998, 248 pages) LCCN: 248.44 Gu Yellow

A classic, reflective work on life's purpose, this book goes beyond the surface understanding of God's call and addresses the fact that God has a specific calling for each individual life.

### **The Rest of God** by Mark Buchanan

(©2007, 223 pages) LCCN: 263 Bu Yellow

In this book, Buchanan states that the Sabbath is essential to full humanity and faith because God set forth a rhythm of work and rest that, if restored, will prolong life, enrich relationships, increase fruitfulness, and bring abundant joy.

# Finances

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## **The Treasure Principle** by Randy Alcorn

(©2001; 120 pages) LCCN: 241.68 Al Yellow

In this short and Bible-based book, Alcorn illuminates the liberating joy of giving and its impact, not only for today but for eternity.

## **Managing God's Money** by Randy Alcorn

(©2011, 254 pages) LCCN: 248 Al Coral

In this easy-to-follow book, Alcorn deals with materialism, stewardship, prosperity theology, debt, and more, challenging readers to rethink the use of God-given resources.

## **Financial Peace** by Dave Ramsey

(©1995, 270 pages) LCCN: 332.024 Ra Coral

Admonishing the reader to avoid the seductiveness of credit cards, among other things, Ramsey illustrates his strategy for dumping debt, rebuilding fiscal health and realizing financial peace.

# Emotional & Mental Health

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## **Telling Yourself the Truth** by William Backus & Marie Chapian

(©1980; 185 pages) 248.4 Ba Yellow

Wrong thinking produces wrong emotions, wrong reactions, and wrong behavior, but learning to deal with thoughts, by identifying wrong beliefs and replacing them with truth, is the first step on the road to healthy thinking.

## **Spiritual Depression** by Martyn Lloyd-Jones

(©1965; 300 pages) LCCN: 362.2 Ll-J Copper

Believing that Christian joy was one of the most potent factors in the spread of Christianity in the early centuries, Lloyd-Jones reveals the causes that have robbed many Christians of spiritual vitality and shows how to find complete joy through the mind and spirit of Christ.

## **The Cry of the Soul** by Dan Allender & Tremper Longman III

(©1994; 259 pages) 248.2 Al Aqua

Beginning with the Psalms, Allender and Longman III explore what Scripture says about emotions such as anger, jealousy, and grief, and how often our attempts to control our emotions are an attempt to flee from Him.

## **Suffering, Pain & Grief**

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### **Glorious Ruin** by Tullian Tchividjian

(©2012; 197 pages) LCCN: 248.4 Tc Yellow

In *Glorious Ruin*, best-selling author Tullian Tchividjian takes an honest and refreshing look at the reality of suffering, the ways we tie ourselves in knots trying to deal with it, and the comfort of the Gospel for those who can't seem to fix themselves or others.

### **Holding On To Hope** by Nancy Guthrie

(© 2002; 166 pages) 248.86 Gu Aqua

By weaving her personal story with the suffering found in the book of Job, Nancy Guthrie encourages people suffering from loss, failure, or personal trials to seek peace in the heart of God.

### **When God Weeps** by Joni Eareckson Tada & Steve Estes

(© 1997; 254 pages) LCCN: 248.8 Ta Aqua

After spending 30 years in a wheelchair, Joni Eareckson Tada writes from personal experience with suffering, helping others see and understand God's love and grace during the hardest times in life.

# RELATIONSHIPS

## *Relating to Others & Resolving Conflict*

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### **Boundaries** by Henry Cloud & John Townsend

(©1992, 304 pages) LCCN: 248.2 CI Aqua

Often, Christians focus so much on being loving and unselfish that they forget their own limits. This book will give guidance on how to set healthy boundaries with parents, spouses, children, friends, co-workers and personally in order to experience a thriving lifestyle.

### **Relationships: A Mess Worth Making**

by Timothy Lane & Paul David Tripp

(©2006, 177 pages) LCCN: 248.4 Tr Yellow

In this book, authors help readers tackle the stubborn problems that plague many close relationships; demonstrate the deeper issues that drive reactions, choices, and behaviors; and show how God steps in to help people build relationships that are all He intended them to be.

### **Resolving Everyday Conflict** by Ken Sande

(©2011, 128 pages) LCCN: 248.4 Sa Yellow

This book is a practical, biblical, concise guide to peacemaking in everyday life that can turn tumultuous relationships into peaceful ones.

## *Gender & Human Sexuality*

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### **Sex & the Supremacy of Christ** by John Piper & Justin Taylor

(©2005, 288 pages) LCCN: 261.8 Pi Rose

God created sex to glorify Him; it is a gift to married couples that sin has twisted. This book shows us the purpose of God's original design for sex and how to fight the sin trying to twist it.



## **Rid of My Disgrace** by Justin & Lindsey Holcomb

(©2011; 288 pages) LCCN: 248.8 Ho Copper

One in four women and one in six men will be sexually assaulted in their lifetime. A couple with experience in counseling victims writes this book to offer healing from the guilt, shame, fear, grief and darkness experienced by the survivors of sexual assault.

## **Is God Anti-Gay?** by Sam Allberry

(©2013, 83 pages) LCCN: 248.8 Al Orange

In this short, simple book, Allberry wants to help confused Christians understand what God has said about questions surrounding homosexuality in Scripture, and offers a positive and liberating way forward through the debate.

# ***Dating & Approaching Marriage***

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## **Holding Hands, Holding Hearts** by Richard & Sharon Phillips

(©2006, 184 pages) LCCN: 248.8 Ph Rose

This book provides a biblical view of relationships without shying away from discussing attraction, first dates, commitment, and more.

## **Passion & Purity** by Elisabeth Elliot

(©1984; 192 pages) LCCN: 306.8 El Rose

Using her own life as an example, Elisabeth Elliot gives guidance to singles of both genders and of any age about how to put their love lives under the authority of Jesus Christ.

## **The Sacred Search** by Gary Thomas

(©2013, 256 pages) LCCN: 248.4 Th Rose

In this book, Thomas presents a unique perspective on dating that will prepare readers for a satisfying, spiritually enriching marriage even before walking down the aisle.

# Manhood

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## **Manhood Restored** by Eric Mason

(©2013, 187 pages) LCCN: 261.8 Ma Yellow

In this book, Mason combines theological depth with practical insights, putting men in step with a Gospel-centered manhood that will enrich every facet of their lives.

## **Thoughts for Young Men** by J.C. Ryle

(©1996; 86 pages) LCCN: 248.4 Ry Yellow

Replete with warnings, exhortations, and instruction about this life's many trials, temptations, and common pitfalls, this is a biblical, practical, timeless, and wise book that covers four great temptations that plague most young men: sloth, lust, love of pleasure, and peer pressure.

## **Disciplines of a Godly Man** by Kent Hughes

(©1991, 219 pages) LCCN: 248.842 Hu Yellow

Using engaging illustrations, scriptural wisdom, and practical suggestions for daily life, Hughes offers frank biblical discussion on major areas of Christian manhood, including family, godliness, leadership, and ministry.

# Womanhood

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## **Becoming God's True Woman** edited by Nancy Leigh DeMoss

(©2002, 192 pages) LCCN: 248.8 DeM Yellow

These seven beloved teachers: Nancy Leigh DeMoss, Susan Hunt, Mary Kassian, Carolyn Mahaney, Barbara Hughes, P. Bunny Wilson, and Dorothy Patterson approach the subject of womanhood from different angles and teaching styles, but throughout there runs a thread of joy and delight with the greatness of God's created order and the part He wants Christian women to play in His grand redemptive plan.

## **Feminine Appeal** by Carolyn Mahaney

(©2004; 124 pages) LCCN: 248.8 Ma Yellow

In this book, Mahaney identifies with the challenges facing women in today's world and meets them with the guidance of God's Word in Titus 2 to show them the appeal of being a woman who lives for God and helps others do the same.

## **Lies Women Believe and the Truth that Sets Them Free**

by Nancy Leigh DeMoss

(©2001; 286 pages) LCCN: 248.8 DeM Yellow

In this book, DeMoss exposes those areas of deception most commonly believed by women (lies about God, sin, priorities, marriage and family, emotions, and more) while shedding light on how Christian women can be delivered from bondage and set free to walk in God's grace, forgiveness, and abundant life.

# **MARRIAGE & FAMILY**

## *Marriage*

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### **The Meaning of Marriage** by Tim Keller

(©2011; 325 pages) LCCN: 248.8 Ke Rose

Timothy Keller, with insights from Kathy, his wife of 37 years, shows marriage to be a glorious relationship that is also misunderstood and mysterious. He teaches against the world's expectations of marriage using Holy Scripture to change the view of marriage for singles, skeptics, long-time married couples, and anyone else who wants a deeper understanding of God's design for marriage.

### **Intimate Allies** by Dan Allender & Tremper Longman III

(©1995; 362 pages) LCCN: 248.8 Al Rose

In *Intimate Allies*, the authors (one a counselor and the other a theologian) focus on five foundations taken from Genesis 1-3 and include an extensive review of other biblical passages on marriage, sharing true-life stories and offering biblical counsel.

## **Sacred Marriage** by Gary Thomas

(©2000; 268 pages) LCCN: 248.4 Th Rose

What if God designed marriage to make us holy more than to make us happy? In this book, readers will discover how marriage works to develop Christ-like character in them: forgiveness, love, respect and perseverance.

## **Divorce**

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### **Divorce** by John Murray

(© 1961; 117 pages) LCCN: 301.42 Mu Aqua

This work is technical, written to deal with the original languages, and does not avoid dealing with the hardest of questions concerning divorce and remarriage.

### **Broken Vows: Divorce and the Goodness of God** by John Greco

(© 2013; 94 pages) LCCN: 306.8 Gr Aqua

John Greco helps us see and live in the relentless grace and sure direction of the Father in the face of our seemingly unbearable trials.

### **Marriage, Divorce & Remarriage in the Bible** by Jay E. Adams

(© 1986; 99 pages) LCCN: 173 Ad Rose.

The author examines the passages focusing on divorce, marriage, and remarriage in both the Old and New Testaments so that his readers can consider the many issues and interpretations that arise in trying to establish a consistently biblical position.

## **General Parenting**

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### **Shepherding a Child's Heart** by Tedd Tripp

(©1995; 210 pages) LCCN: 248.8 Tr Emerald

Grounded in the Bible's divine plan for parenting, this guide defines goals for parenting and provides the Scriptural methods for accomplishing them.

## **Give them Grace** by Elyse Fitzpatrick

(©2011; 198 pages) LCCN: 248.8 Fi Emerald

In this book, parents will learn how to connect the benefits of the cross - especially regeneration, adoption, and justification - to their children's daily lives.

## **How and When to Tell Your Kids about Sex**

by Stan & Brenna Jones

(©2007, 248 pages) LCCN: 248.845 Jo Emerald

In this biblically based book, parents will find important and helpful information on concerns their children face from infancy through adolescence, and will learn how to talk with their children about sexual issues and when it's appropriate to tell them what.

## ***Discipling Children in the Faith***

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## **Raising Your Children for Christ** by Andrew Murray

(©1975, 228 pages) LCCN: 248.8 Mu Emerald

In this practical guide to parenting, Murray shows the essential qualities of being a parent who loves the Lord, how to build a family in the Lord, alleviate stressful family situations, direct children's steps and meet the needs of every family member.

## **Parenting in the Pew** by Robbie Castleman

(©1993; 132 pages) LCCN: 249 Ca Emerald

With infectious passion, nitty-gritty advice and a touch of humor, Castleman shows parents how to help their children, from toddlers to teenagers, enter into worship.

## **What Really Matters at Home** by John & Susan Yates

(©1992; 168 pages) LCCN: 248.845 Ya Emerald

With refreshing honesty rooted in real life examples, the Yates share practical ways in which parents and children can grow together while parents teach and model the eight crucial elements of Christian character: integrity, faith, self-discipline, joy, compassion, courage, a teachable spirit and a servant's heart.

# ***Parenting Teenagers***

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## **Age of Opportunity: A Biblical Guide to Parenting Teens**

by Paul David Tripp

(©1997; 291 pages) LCCN: 248.8 Tr Emerald

With compassion, wit and wisdom, Tripp uncovers the heart issues affecting families during the often-chaotic adolescent years, gives assurance of God's provision for parenting success and presents ways for parents to seize opportunities to deepen communication, learn, and grow with their teens.

## **Like Dew Your Youth: Growing Up With Your Teenager**

by Eugene Peterson

(©1994; 113 pages) LCCN: 248.8 Pe Emerald

In this book, Peterson turns his attention to parent-adolescent relations to help promote an atmosphere of communication, growth, frankness, forgiveness, love, and harmony in the home.

## **Parenting Today's Adolescent** by Dennis & Barbara Rainey

(©1998; 335pages) LCCN: 649.124 Ra Emerald

In this book, the Raineys help children and parents build a satisfying relationship while forging a vision for a productive, God-honoring life-before, during, and after adolescence.

# ***Christian Families***

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## **A House Full of Friends: How to Like the Ones You Love**

by Susan Alexander Yates

(©1995; 188 pages) LCCN: 306.87 Ya Emerald

In this book, Yates shows how, through commitment and creativity, a family can learn not only to love each other but also to like each other.

## **How a Man Prays for His Family** by John Yates

(©2004; 142 pages) LCCN: 248.3 Ya Blue

This book offers simple, practical advice for men that will help them to start or renew their experience of prayer and to make prayer an effective agent of power and insight for their wives, children, and grandchildren.

## **Peacemaking for Families** by Ken Sande & Tom Raabe

(©2002, 219 pages) LCCN: 248.4 Sa Yellow

With the help of engaging real-life stories and practical principles, readers will learn how to create harmonious familial environments based on basic conflict resolution skills found in Scripture.

## **Books to Read to Children**

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### **The Jesus Storybook Bible** by Sally Lloyd-Jones

(©2007; 351 pages) LCCN: E LI Green

Children and adults alike will be captivated by the 44 beautifully written and illustrated stories in this bestselling storybook Bible that focuses on the one Story beneath all the stories of the Bible.

### **The Gospel Story Bible** by Marty Machowski

(©2011, 328 pages) LCCN: J Ma Red

This easy-to-read storybook introduces families to many captivating people, places, and events from the Bible's Old and New Testaments, showing how each one ultimately points to Jesus.

### **Church History ABC's** by Stephen Nichols and Ned Bustard

(©2010, 34 pages) LCCN: J Ni Yellow

This book presents 26 heroes of the faith, boldly telling their stories in language children can understand, reflecting the breadth of church history and reminding children that these great figures of the past were living, breathing people who lived and died for the glory of God.