

General Topics :: Your favorite book(s): suggested reading.

Your favorite book(s): suggested reading. - posted by tjservant (), on: 2007/2/4 19:49

What books have really moved you? Maybe opened your eyes or brought you closer to Christ? How about a better understanding of some theological issue?

Biographies, devotionals, and commentaries list any and all, just name it and why.

I have saved a few pennies and would like some suggestions before I purchase.

God Bless

TJ

Re: Your favorite book(s): suggested reading., on: 2007/2/4 19:55

I'm nearly finished with (<http://www.amazon.ca/Robert-Murray-MCheyne-Andrew-Bonar/dp/085151085X>) Robert Murray M'Cheyne by Andrew Bonar and it has been a phenomenal book. I'm putting this near the top of my favorites.

I'll just name one right now. ;-) My favorite place to shop are used bookstores, especially used Christian bookstores...so I have quite a few favorite books I picked up here and there.

Re:, on: 2007/2/4 20:03

Grace Abounding by John Bunyan

Re: - posted by PaulWest (), on: 2007/2/4 20:28

Well, the one book I relentlessly endorse is *The Christian in Complete Armour* by William Gurnall. It is widely acknowledged as the greatest treatise on spiritual warfare ever penned. It has been lavishly acclaimed by Ryle, Spurgeon, Ravenhill, Newton, Wilkerson. I am not hyperbolizing when I say that almost *every sentence* is redolent of deep wisdom and divine truth. Since spiritual warfare is such a major part of the Christian's life, a proper understanding of this topic is of the utmost importance to every saint. In this spiritual battle manual, Gurnall totally unmasks Satan's schemes, tactics, plots, and traps in a brilliantly epigrammatical and understandable English style. But he doesn't stop there - he teaches how to fight back and drench your sword in demonic blood. The book will bring you to your knees in awe of the wisdom God gave to this man.

Another life-transforming book is *The Christian's Secret of a Happy Life* by a Quaker lady named Hannah Whitall Smith. Don't let the title fool you - it's not a "warm and fuzzy" book. This is an instruction manual on the topic of the blessedness found in the eternal principles of absolute surrender, an awesome truth also propounded by Andrew Murray. I think this book was written back in 1870. If you are able to grasp its simplicity, it will change your life forever.

There are so many other books I can recommend, but these two stand out like twin, towering peaks amidst a mountain range of godly books. These two have impacted my life in the greatest way imaginable, and the Lord has used them both to touch something in that mysterious *inner part* where only He can enter and change.

Hope this helps!

Brother Paul

Re:, on: 2007/2/4 20:38

"Intercessor" a book about Rees Howells by Norman Grubbs.

"Experiencing the Depths of Jesus Christ" by Jeanne Guyon.

Two great books.

~sscott

Re: Your favorite book(s): suggested reading. - posted by caldwell1 (), on: 2007/2/4 21:01

The attributes of God, The Knowledge of the Holy and the Pursuit of God all by A.W Tozer. These books leave me hungry and thirsty for God. Hope you enjoy them!!

Re: - posted by tjservant (), on: 2007/2/4 21:18

Brother Paul

How much, if any, is lost in the modernized version of The Christian in Complete Armour?

God Bless

TJ

Re: - posted by PaulWest (), on: 2007/2/4 21:38

Quote:

-----How much, if any, is lost in the modernized version of The Christian in Complete Armour?

TJ, I'm glad you asked! :-)

I own both versions. The modern, abridged version is put out in three volumes by Banner of Truth, and is, actually, a good abridgment in my judgment. It's much better than what they did to Henry's commentary or probably John Owen's *Mortification of Sin*. If you are not at all familiar with TCICA, I suggest getting your feet wet with the modernized version.

However...

The original version is over 1,200 pages. The modernized version is about 900. You can do the math. Much is cut out, and much of what is cut out is golden. The original volumes were published in 1655, 1658 and 1662 and, as you can imagine, the Puritan language is antiquated, the paragraphs thick and weighty...but, oh, the gold! In the modernized version, much of the gold is already mined and brought to the surface, neat and polished.

So, really, I recommend you start with the modernized version and eventually work your way to the original. But, if you feel intrepid enough to tackle the 1,200+ Mount Everest, go for it!

Brother Paul

Re: Your favorite book(s): suggested reading. - posted by InTheLight (), on: 2007/2/4 22:19

Here's one that has been of particular blessing to me.

(http://www.kingsleypress.com/devern_fromke_books.php) Ultimate Intention by DeVern Fromke

This book focuses on seeing God's whole purpose for mankind, a purpose that includes redemption but also goes far beyond that. It's a call to a deeper walk and a life lived unto and by the power of Another. I think it's a must read for all Christians and it will really open your eyes to see from a much larger perspective.

In Christ,

Ron

Re: - posted by Racward (), on: 2007/2/4 22:20

reese howells divine intercessor

Re: Your favorite book(s): suggested reading. - posted by Goldminer (), on: 2007/2/5 0:29

I will name just a few because being an extremely avid reader of Christian books my list is huge.

1. Apostolic Foundations - Art Katz
This book really opened my eyes for believers to have an eternal mindset. That we won't relate to the kingdom correctly with out that understanding
2. The Spiritual Man - Watchman Nee
I was the most comprehensive book I have ever read about the threefold nature of man.
3. Spiritual Torrents - Madam Jean Guyon
It gives you an understanding of just what the cross really means in this life
4. Hind's Feet On High Places - Hannah Hurnard
Just because it's wonderful
5. The Wounded Spirit - Frank Peretti
This is the autobiography of his life.
6. The Heavenly Man - Pastor Yun
A prisoner for his faith in China's prisons.
It will cause you to be very thankful for what you have and to wonder if difficulties should be welcome in our lives
7. Christian Perfection - Francios Fenelon
A difficult book to find on the inner life of a Christian
8. Brokenness the Forgotten Factor in Prayer - Mickey Bonner
Speaks for itself by the title

That is just a few. I have many more. Oh how I thank God for the rich treasury that has been handed down to us by men and women who allowed God to stir their hearts.

Re: Your favorite book(s): suggested reading. - posted by hmmhmm (), on: 2007/2/5 5:09

crucified whit christ-L.E Maxwell

saving life of christ-W.Ian Thomas

Re: Your favorite book(s): suggested reading. - posted by vico, on: 2007/2/5 10:30

1. The Pilgrim's Progress ~ John Bunyan
2. Christ The Sum of All Spiritual Things ~ Watchman Nee
(this book was actually stolen from me on a train trip, i never got to finish it!)
3. One With Christ ~ Hudson Taylor
4. Foxe's Book of Martyrs ~ John Foxe
5. The Heavenly Man ~ Brother Yun
6. How to pray ~ R. A. Torrey
7. Abide in Christ ~ Andrew Murray
8. And most biographies of great and godly men.

Re: - posted by deltadom (), on: 2007/2/5 10:40

Heroes of Faith Series by Barbour Books (<http://www.barbourbooks.com/series/heroes-of-the-faith/>) Heroes of Faith

Puritan Paperback series- the next series I want to read but have not got the money for the books
(<http://www.graceandtruthbooks.com/puritans/paperbacks.asp>) Puritan Paperbacks

Anything by John Bunyan, Andrew Murray, R A Torrey!!

Re: suggested reading - posted by JennRich (), on: 2007/2/5 11:15

1. Maurice Roberts' books: The Thought of God, Great God of Wonders, and The Christian's High Calling. They're available at Banner of Truth (<http://www.banneroftruth.org/pages/home.php?PHPSESSID=3e664ccc77165e6b1e21c3e51a7a58fe>).
2. The Thought of God by A.W. Tozer
3. Pierson's biography on George Mueller
4. Mary Slessor of Calabar by W. P. Livingstone
5. Pilgrim's Progress by John Bunyan
6. Loving God With All Your Mind by Elizabeth George

There are so many more I want to read, that I can't get around to because I read my favorite books over and over! They're like old friends that I can't bear to put away.

Re: Your favorite book(s): suggested reading. - posted by Meriwether, on: 2007/2/5 13:04

Some of my recent favorites:

In the Beginning, by Walt Brown
Intelligent Design vs Evolution: Letters to an Atheist, by Ray Comfort
One Heartbeat Away, by Mark Cahill
What Is Reformed Theology?, by R.C. Sproul
The Way of the Master, Ray Comfort

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Re: - posted by iansmith (), on: 2007/2/5 13:22

One of the things I do that I think might be an encouragement to other avid readers is to read multiple books at once, in small doses!

I'll read anywhere between three and nine books at any time, only one chapter at a sitting, that way I get the most out of each chapter.

Right now I'm reading 'Promise of the Spirit' a compilation of lectures by Charles Finney, along with some John Owen, A W Tozer and CS Lewis.

The topics of the books overlap a lot, and the way that I keep them separate in my mind is to take notes on what I've read and to try to remember one important thing about what I've just read.

For example, from Finney, I remember that I just read the first lecture on the Promises of God. The AW Tozer was on the Wisdom of God and the CS Lewis was on Faith (I really loved his illustration about asking a father for money to buy him a birthday present...).

I say this, because before I would try to sit and read a book cover to cover in one sitting... which is possible if it's something like Brother Andrew's 'God's Smuggler' or a Corrie Ten Boom book... but when I did it with something like Andrew Murray or EM Bounds, I found later that I couldn't remember anything in particular about what I'd read... besides the fact that I'd read it!

I guess what I'm trying to say is, enjoy what you're reading, read in order to get the most out of it, don't push yourself just to get to the last page!

One thing I do is to make myself read a chapter of something I don't necessarily want to read every day before something I do... Although I love John Owen, it's not always the easiest reading... So in order to read KP Yohannan, I force myself to read at least one chapter of John Owen and take at least three notes.

I hope God blesses you reading =)

Re: Your favorite book(s): suggested reading. - posted by ChrisJD (), on: 2007/2/5 13:23

Hi tjiservant,

I have really been inspired by the story of the imprisonment of Richard Wurmbrand, called Tortured for Christ.

I also carry around with me in my backpack a book called *The Valley of Vision, a collection of Puritan prayers and devotions*. There is very much in these prayers which is God exalting and also humbling for our hearts to meditate upon and consider. I sometimes read them on the bus or train, and if I'm much distracted by all the noise and commotion (on the bus and with life in general).

I pray you will be edified in built up in whatever you read.

Chris

Re: - posted by Branded4him (), on: 2007/2/5 13:42

The Spiritual Man Watchmen Nee
School of Christ T Austin Sparks
Life of God In the Soul of Man Henry Scougal
Any of George Warnocks books.
Christian and Complete Armor William Gurnall
Life and Diary of David Brainerd Jonathan Edwards

Re: Your favorite book(s): suggested reading. - posted by MSeaman (), on: 2007/2/5 16:32

Imitation of Christ Thomas a Kempis
Absolute Surrender and Humility by Andrew Murray
The Calvary Road Roy Hession

All of these books are very challenging to go deeper in surrender to Christ...also I have found them all available online so if you want to PM me, I will give you the links and you can spend your pennies on some other suggestions!

Re: - posted by JoeA (), on: 2007/2/5 21:10

The Normal Christian Life by Watchman Nee
Why Revival Tarries by Leonard Ravenhill
The Complete Works of E. M. Bounds On Prayer
My Utmost For His Highest by Oswald Chambers

And i have been reading a book (sent to me by a brother from SI) by V. Raymond Edman called "They Found the Secret". It's a compilation of short biographies of men and women of God who lived a life hidden in Christ. It has been a blessing.

Re: Your favorite book(s): suggested reading. - posted by KingJimmy (), on: 2007/2/5 23:42

Why Revival Tarries - Leonard Ravenhill - A book about prayer, preaching, and revival.

The Cross and the Switchblade - David Wilkerson. - A testimony to the power of the baptism of the Holy Spirit, and the founding of the "Teen Challenge" program beginning in New York.

Fresh Wind, Fresh Fire - Jim Cymbala (all 3 books in the series) - The need for us as a church to get back to the basics.

Apostolic Foundations - Art Katz - This book is about living out the realities of our faith in a way that can be called "apostolic."

Road to Reality - K. P. Yohannan - A book that will cause you to live your life with your eyes on eternity. It's ultimately a call to live a more simple life.

No Compromise: The Life Story of Keith Green - Melody Green. It's an amazing thing what God can do in such a short time through one man. Some have called Keith Green "John the Baptist on a Piano."

The Charismatic Theology of St. Luke - Roger Stronstad - The greatest scholarly defense ever put forth concerning the baptism of the Holy Spirit being essentially a post-conversion experience.

Selling out the Church - Philip D. Kenneson - A book that absolutely shatters the buyer/consumer mentality of the way we do church.

Life on the Vine - Philip D. Kenneson - A very close examination of the fruit of the Spirit as outlined in Galatians 5, and it's practical application.

The Open Church - James Rutz - Examines how the early church met in the Scriptures, namely, in an open participatory meeting where everybody could contribute. Also examines some churches (even large ones) that meet in this format today. A bit cheesy sometimes in writing style, but still a valuable read.

The Sermons of John Wesley - You can find these online or in various volumes that have been compiled. They are well worth a series read.

Also, for commentaries I generally recommend volumes from the series, The New International Commentaries (NICOT and NICNT respectively for each testament).

I've read many other good books, but these are by far the one's that stick out most in my mind.

Re: Your favorite book(s): suggested reading. - posted by strawrifle (), on: 2007/2/6 0:30

Hi, mine would be Run baby Run By Nicky Cruz & Jamie Buckingham..

Nicky was the gang leader in NY that David Wilkerson led to Jesus (sure u know)..I still remember the first time i read it 25 years ago, it led me to God!!

Jamie wrote this beautifully..

andy

Re: Warning! - posted by iansmith (), on: 2007/2/6 2:26

Warning! Reading any of these books will change your life!

Through the Gates of Splendor Â– Elizabeth Elliot

The true story of five missionaries who paid the ultimate price to proclaim Jesus' name to the ends of the earth.

God's Smuggler Â– Brother Andrew

A man who learned the boldness that comes with being a disciple of Christ, and experiencing first hand that Jesus opens doors!

The Hiding Place Â– Corrie Ten Boom

The true story of the ultimate forgiveness only found in Jesus manifested and displayed in the most unforgivable situation.

No Compromise Â– Melody Green

The true story of one man, sold out for Jesus, and seven years to share it with as many people as possible.

The Heavenly Man Â– Brother Yun

The true story of a Chinese house church leader who spent almost as much time in prison as he did as an itinerant preacher and his vision for the future of China.

Revolution in World Missions Â– KP Yohannan

A heartbreaking view of the lost! See how you can get involved in being the hands and feet of Jesus in the 10-40 window! (<http://www.gfa.org>) www.gfa.org

The Cost of Discipleship Â– Dietrich Bonhoeffer

How much did the grace which we have received cost Â–everything!

Why Revival Tarries Â– Leonard Ravenhill

A heartbreaking call to true worship and repentance before the cross of Jesus.

The Promise of the Spirit Â– Charles Finney

God's got some promises for you! Learn about them! (<http://www.gospeltruth.net/1839OE/index39.htm>) here.

I actually wrote out a longer list with more detailed descriptions, but my computer went *zap* and it disappeared... I tried my best to redo it. Hope you find this encouraging!

Re: Your favorite book(s): suggested reading. - posted by preacherafla (), on: 2007/2/7 1:17

I love reading old holiness books and the authors are many. A couple of my favorite books are:

1) The Christian in Complete Armour by William Gurnall

2) Why Revival Tarries by Leonard Ravenhill

3) Revival Praying by Leonard Ravenhill

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- 4) Purity of Heart by William Booth
- 5) W B Godbey wrote a commentary on the New Testametrn that is really good
- 6) Holiness Teachings by B T Roberts
- 7) The Acceptable Sacrafice by John Bunyon
- 8) Books by J C Ryle

Lighter but good teaching:

- 9) Railroad Sermons from Railroad Stories by J M Humphrey
- 10) Books by Bud Robinson

There are many others and these are not in any particular order but it's food for thought.

Thanks,
In His service,
Preacheraflame
Actually "Preacher Aflame" is another good book by Donald Demaray :)

Re: - posted by fromtheold (), on: 2007/2/7 2:32

This first book of John otherwise known as 1John.
Its quite cheap to find, You can find it in any bible, The kjv ones are good because they dont remove the name of Jesus.
Sorry i am not being sarcastic. The book of 1John in the bible is the best thing ever to read. :-)

Re: Your favorite book(s): suggested reading. - posted by HisPrincess (), on: 2007/2/7 4:59

For all the ladies...

'Captivating' by John & Stasi Eldredge is an excellent read, giving you freedom to be as God created you to be, in a world where women are often crushed.

Re: Your favorite book(s): suggested reading. - posted by tjservant (), on: 2007/2/12 18:02

Thank you all for taking the time to reply to this thread.

Now for the hard part of picking just a few.

Thanks again

God Bless

TJ

Re: - posted by iansmith (), on: 2007/2/12 18:05

One of the ones i suggested is free... that's a good place to start =p

Re: - posted by JennRich (), on: 2007/2/12 18:25

Quote:

JennRich wrote:

2. The Thought of God by A.W. Tozer

I meant "The Pursuit of God" by Tozer.
Jenn.

Re: - posted by tjservant (), on: 2007/2/12 18:27

I have read that one myself several times...what a book!

I have a few of his...all good so far.

Thanks

TJ

Re: - posted by TheophilusMD (), on: 2007/2/12 20:28

Hungry for more of Jesus by David Wilkerson

Tale of Three Kings by Gene Edwards

Re: - posted by elected (), on: 2007/2/12 22:06

Goforth to china - the biography of Jonathan Goforth, canadian presbyterian missionary, he was instrumental of powerful revivals and a great soul winner and shining light for Christ

Power through prayer - E.M.Bounds - may be the most powerful book Bounds wrote on prayer or ever written by a protestant

No man is an island - Thomas Merton - simple and yet deep truths about the spiritual life written by a man who lived close to God