

Theology

Holiness of God - R.C. Sproul

What is the holiness of God? Are you intrigued by it, or are you terrified? R.C. Sproul clearly identifies this attribute of God and all the associations one may make with it. This absolutely will inform and radically cause a re-thinking of one's view of God.

Desiring God - John Piper

Desiring God is a paradigm-shattering work that dramatically alters common perspectives on relating to God. Piper reveals that there really is no need to choose between duty and delight in the Christian life. In fact, for the follower of Jesus, delight is the duty as Christ is most magnified in His people when they are most satisfied in Him. Constantly drawing on Scripture to build his case, Piper shows why pursuing maximum joy is essential to glorifying God. He discusses the implications of this for conversion, worship, love, Scripture, prayer, money, marriage, missions, and suffering.

Knowing God - J.I. Packer

Stemming from Packer's profound theological knowledge, *Knowing God* brings together two important facets of the Christian faith— knowing about God and also knowing God through the context of a close relationship with the person of Jesus Christ. Written in an engaging and practical tone, this thought-provoking work seeks to transform and enrich the Christian understanding of God. Explaining both who God is and how we can relate to him, Packer divides his book into three sections: The first directs our attention to how and why we know God, the second to the attributes of God and the third to the benefits enjoyed by those who know him intimately.

What's So Amazing About Grace? - Philip Yancey

It's the one thing the world cannot duplicate, and the one thing it craves above all else--for only grace can bring hope and transformation to a jaded world. In *What's So Amazing About Grace?* award-winning author Philip Yancey explores grace at street level. If grace is God's love for the undeserving, he asks, then what does it look like in action? And if Christians are its sole dispensers, then how are we doing at lavishing grace on a world that knows far more of cruelty and unforgiveness than it does of mercy?

Crazy Love - Francis Chan

Does something deep inside your heart long to break free from the status quo? Are you hungry for an authentic faith that addresses the problems of our world with tangible, even radical, solutions? God is calling you to a passionate love relationship with Himself.

Because the answer to religious complacency isn't working harder at a list of do's and don'ts—it's falling in love with God. And once you encounter His love, as Francis describes it, you will never be the same. Because when you're wildly in love with someone, it changes everything.

The Gospel According to Jesus - John MacArthur

In *The Gospel According to Jesus*, MacArthur tackles the idea of “easy believism,” challenging Christians to re-evaluate their commitment to Christ by examining their fruits. MacArthur asks, “What does it really mean to be saved?” He urges readers to understand that their conversion was more than a mere point in time, that, by definition, it includes a lifetime of obediently walking with Jesus as Lord.

City of God - St. Augustine

This expansive theological work provided an articulate defense of Christianity against the claims that it led to the downfall of Rome in the years preceding its publication. It outlines a citizenship that goes beyond the worldly, the political, and the self-centered, instead focusing on a place where the inhabitants are devout, God-focused, and seeking grace. In examining history with a clear perception of good and evil, Augustine was in effect interpreting human actions in relation to eternity. He contrasts earthly and heavenly cities to great effect, in addition to inspecting pagan religions, Greek philosophers like Plato, and the Bible.

Church Practices

Worship Matters - Bob Kauflin

Combining biblical foundations with real-world application, Kauflin guides worship leaders and pastors to root their corporate worship in unchanging scriptural principles rather than divisive trends.

Disciplines of a Godly Man - Kent Hughes

Seasoned pastor R. Kent Hughes's inspiring and best-selling book *Disciplines of a Godly Man*--now updated with fresh references and suggested resources--is filled with godly advice aimed at helping men grow in the disciplines of prayer, integrity, marriage, leadership, worship, purity, and more.

Disciplines of a Godly Woman - Barbara Hughes

Life isn't always easy for women today! In the shuffle of so many responsibilities, it's easy to lose focus on pursuing godliness in every task. That's why a woman must train herself to reflect on everything she encounters and determine whether or not it encourages holiness. Her character, relationships, ministry, even her soul - all need to be examined and ultimately surrendered to God before she can develop the godly character she so desperately wants. Through poignant stories and faithful reminders, Barbara Hughes encourages women to discipline every area so that God is most glorified and they are most unified with Him.

Instruments in the Redeemer's Hands - Paul Tripp

In many ways, the church today has more consumers than committed participants. We see church merely as an event we attend or an organization we belong to, rather than as a calling that shapes our entire life. Many of us would be relieved if God had placed our sanctification in the hands of trained professionals, but that simply is not the biblical model. God's plan is that through the faithful ministry of every part, the whole body will grow to maturity in Christ.

Sabbath Keeping: Finding Freedom in the Rhythms of Rest - Lynne Baab

Eighteen months in Tel Aviv, Israel, where a weekly sabbath is built into the culture, began Lynne M. Baab's twenty-five-year embrace of a rhythm of rest—as a stay-at-home mom, as a professional writer working out of her home and as a minister of the gospel. With collected insights from sabbath keepers of all ages and backgrounds, *Sabbath Keeping* offers a practical and hopeful guidebook that encourages all of us to slow down and enjoy our relationship with the God of the universe.

Habits of Grace - David Mathis

This book explores how Bible reading, prayer, and fellowship with other Christians, three foundational habits of grace, have the power to awaken our souls to God's glory and stir our hearts for joyful service.

Relationships

Boundaries - John Townsend, Henry Cloud

Does your life feel like it's out of control? Perhaps you feel like you have to say yes to everyone's requests. Maybe you find yourself readily taking responsibility for others' feelings and problems. Or perhaps you focus so much on being loving and unselfish that you've forgotten your own limits and limitations. Or maybe it's all of the above. In the *New York Times* best seller, *Boundaries*, Drs. Henry Cloud and John Townsend help you learn when to say yes and know how to say no in order to take control of your life and set healthy, biblical boundaries with your spouse, children, friends, parents, co-workers, and even yourself.

True Community - Jerry Bridges

Fellowship among believers is more than just talking over coffee after church service. Biblical fellowship in New Testament times - or *koinonia* - had rich and varied meanings, including covenant relationship, partnership in the gospel, communion with God and others, and the sharing of earthly possessions. In *True Community*, best-selling author Jerry Bridges guides you through *koinonia* and its implications for today's church.

Apologetics

Mere Christianity - C.S. Lewis

Mere Christianity brings together what Lewis sees as the fundamental truths of the religion. Rejecting the boundaries that divide Christianity's many denominations, C.S. Lewis finds a common ground on which all those who have Christian faith can stand together, proving that "at the center of each there is something, or a Someone, who against all divergences of belief, all differences of temperament, all memories of mutual persecution, speaks with the same voice".

More Than a Carpenter - Josh McDowell

Former skeptic Josh McDowell is now joined by his son Sean as they examine the evidence about Jesus. Is he really the Lord he claimed to be? How can we know for sure? *More than a Carpenter* offers arguments for faith from a skeptic turned believer.

Case for Christ - Lee Strobel

Retracing his own spiritual journey from atheism to faith, Lee Strobel, former legal editor of the *Chicago Tribune*, cross-examines a dozen experts with doctorates from schools like Cambridge, Princeton, and Brandeis who are recognized authorities in their own fields. Strobel challenges them with questions like: How reliable is the New Testament? Does evidence for Jesus exist outside the Bible? Is there any reason to believe the resurrection was an actual event?

The Reason for God - Tim Keller

As a pastor in Manhattan, Tim Keller has discussed the Christian faith with thousands of skeptics and cynics. This book is shaped by those discussions. It examines the most common objections to the truth of the Christian faith, as well as probing the assumptions that underlie those objections. Believers and unbelievers alike have their faith put on the table for examination.

This book divides into two parts. The first part tackles the reasons people have for rejecting Christianity. In the second part of the book, positive reasons are given for believing in the Christian faith. A case is made for the existence of God, knowing God, the historicity and necessity of the cross and resurrection, and other core elements of Christianity. Keller draws together a number of arguments and clues to form a cumulative case for the truth of Christianity.

Devotionals

Pursuit of Holiness - Jerry Bridges

“Be holy, for I am holy,” commands God. But holiness is something that is often missed in the Christian’s daily life. According to Navigator author Jerry Bridges, that’s because we’re not exactly sure what our part in holiness is. In *The Pursuit of Holiness*, he helps us see clearly just what we should rely on God to do—and what we should take responsibility for ourselves. As you deepen your relationship with God, learn more about His character, and understand the Holy Spirit’s role in holiness, your spiritual growth will mature.

Respectable Sins - Jerry Bridges

The Christian journey is a life of practiced godliness, but too often we overlook or minimize sins that, while corrosive and destructive to ourselves and those around us, are overshadowed by more flashy, headline-grabbing sins. This classic book from Jerry Bridges helps readers understand and commit to a life of holiness by examining patterns of behavior we often accept as normal, rather than as violations of God's law.

Ten Questions to Diagnose Your Spiritual Health - Donald Whitney

Are you spiritually healthy or just spiritually busy? This book's 10 probing questions will help you look beyond your spiritual activity to assess the true state of your spiritual health and help you on your journey of spiritual transformation. See how the spiritual disciplines—including prayer, worship, and meditation—can take your spiritual health from fair to excellent.

Living the Cross Centered Life - C.J. Mahaney

Let dynamic pastor C. J. Mahaney strip away the nonessentials and bring you back to the simplest, most fundamental reason for your faith: Jesus Christ. This book is packed with powerful truth that will grip your heart, clear your mind, and invigorate your soul. Chapters include "Breaking the Rules of Legalism," "The Cross Centered Day," and "Assurance and Joy." Get ready to behold a breathtaking view of what God intends to accomplish in and through you every day. You'll discover how embracing this cross centered life is both our highest privilege and greatest responsibility.

Other

The Jesus I Never Knew - Philip Yancey

Everyone has their own vision of Jesus - an all-powerful defender of the faith, a wise rabbi, a stained-glass cathedral image, or a soft and fluffy Sunday school flannelboard likeness. But the question of who Jesus really was and what his life was like has fascinated generations of Christians. Best selling author and respected journalist Philip Yancey takes a deeper look at the Christ of the Gospels. From the manger in Bethlehem to the cross in Jerusalem, Yancey reveals a complex character, a disturbing and exhilarating Jesus who aims to transform your life and faith radically. *The Jesus I Never Knew* is a piercingly honest interpretation of the life and character of Jesus of Nazareth by a writer unafraid to tackle Christianity's most difficult issues in order to enhance our perspective and understanding.

How to Read the Bible for All It's Worth - Gordon Fee, Douglas Stuart

Understanding the Bible isn't for the few, the gifted, the scholarly. The Bible is accessible. It's meant to be comprehended by everyone from armchair listeners to seminary students. A few essential insights into the Bible can clear up a lot of misconceptions and help you grasp the meaning of Scripture and its application to your 21st-century life.

The Liturgy of the Ordinary - Tish Harrison Warren

In the overlooked moments and routines of our day, we can become aware of God's presence in surprising ways. How do we embrace the sacred in the ordinary and the ordinary in the sacred? Framed around one ordinary day, this book explores daily life through the lens of liturgy, small practices, and habits that form us. Each chapter looks at something—making the bed, brushing her teeth, losing her keys—that the author does every day. Drawing from the diversity of her life as a campus minister, Anglican priest, friend, wife, and mother, Tish Harrison Warren opens up a practical theology of the everyday. Each activity is related to a spiritual practice as well as an aspect of our Sunday worship. Come and discover the holiness of your every day.

Fiction

The Pilgrim's Progress - John Bunyan

Often disguised as something that would help him, evil accompanies Christian on his journey to the Celestial City. As you walk with him, you'll begin to identify today's many religious pitfalls. These are presented by men such as Pliable, who turns back at the Slough of Despond; and Ignorance, who believes he's a true follower of Christ when he's really only trusting in himself. Each character represented in this allegory is intentionally and profoundly accurate in its depiction of what we see all around us, and unfortunately, what we too often see in ourselves. But while Christian is injured and nearly killed, he eventually prevails to the end. So can you.

The Narnia Series; The Space Trilogy; Till We Have Faces; The Great Divorce - C.S.Lewis

While these are myth, fantasy and science fiction, they are full of Biblical truth. C.S.Lewis says that in stories the author can 'steal past [the] watchful dragons of stained-glass and Sunday School associations' to direct the reader to a correct feeling 'about God or about the sufferings of Christ'.