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# Devotional Literature

### *Ethics, Moral Theology*

**Alcorn, Randy C.**

*Prolife Answers to Prochoice Arguments.*

Portland, OR: Multnomah Press, 1991.

The author, a prolife activist and spokesperson, provides the prolife community with a handy reference manual that summarizes answers to arguments by the pro-abortion lobby. From his discussion, readers will quickly see that the prochoice vs. prolife debate revolves around the question of when life begins. Alcorn elicits statements from medical professionals who testify that life begins at conception, not birth. Alcorn then deals with the “mother’s rights.” He shows that choice of any kind is determined by a variety of factors. In the case of an unwanted pregnancy, one of the “other factors” is the life of the child.

**Anderson, Neil T., and Dave Park.**

*Purity Under Pressure.*

Eugene, OR: Harvest House Publishers, 1995.

This book is designed for all who would like to retain their sexual purity. It also has a message for those who would like to be free from premarital sexual entanglements. In these pages the authors boldly describe the ethical norms associated with friendships and dating, and how to forge relationships that last without succumbing to the pressures that would lead one to commit immoral acts. This is an essential book for young people. It is ideal for discussion groups.

**Ankerberg, John, and John Weldon.**

*The Myth of Safe Sex: The Tragic Consequences of Violating God's Plan.*

Chicago: Moody Press, 1993.

Thoroughly documented, this book gives readers a clear picture of where American is headed. It describes the devastation that has come in the wake of the sexual revolution, and explains the fallacies behind the slogan of “safe sex.” A revealing discussion. Highly recommended.

**Arthur, John, ed.**

*Morality and Moral Controversies.* 3d ed.

Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall, 1993.

A secular work that contains articles on different facets of morality. Covers material that is both old and new. Discusses how people determine what is moral and what is not, try to resolve issues

of life and death, formulate the ethics of personal relationships, and struggle with social and political ideologies. A most helpful treatment.

**Atkinson, David J., et al., eds.**

*New Dictionary of Christian Ethics and Pastoral Theology.*

Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1995.

Part one contains 18 essays dealing with ethical issues from “God” to “Sexuality” and “Pastoral Counseling” to “Sin and Salvation.” Part two (pages 131-907) comprises an alphabetically arranged series of articles from “Abelard” to “Zeal, Zealot.” All articles are initialed, many contain “See” and “See also” references, and the longer ones conclude with bibliographies. This work is valuable as a resource, but users should not accept everything it contains uncritically.

**Bork, Robert H.**

*Slouching Towards Gomorrah: Modern Liberalism and American Decline.*

New York: Regan Books, 1996.

To help his readers understand the current political and moral malaise, Judge Bork takes a hard look at the 1960s--a decade in which the social and spiritual foundations of our nation came under relentless assault. The Judge is of the opinion that our nation has never recovered from the attacks on ethics and values that were launched by radicals upon our institutions during that decade and the early 1970s. In these pages he explains what happened, why, and what needs to be done about it. Recommended.

**Calahan, Don.**

*An Ounce of Prevention: Strategies for Solving Tobacco, Alcohol, and Drug Problems.*

San Francisco: Jossey-Bass Publishers, 1991.

Probes the damage being done by the addiction of people to various forms of habit forming drugs. Assesses the effect of such addiction on society and the high economic cost of allowing such practices to continue. Provides information on recent national developments to curb these problems. Does not believe that offenders (i.e., manufacturers, traffickers) should be prosecuted, but rather put out of business through an educational awareness program. While stressing prevention, Calahan persists in believing that the Federal government holds the key to the eradication of drug (including alcoholic, narcotic, and related) problems. There are strengths and weaknesses in the presentation of the author's thesis.

**Cameron, Nigel M. deS.**

*The New Medicine: Life and Death After Hippocrates.*

Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 1991.

“In the post-WWII era physicians began to water down the basic tenets of the Hippocratic tradition, and then they abandoned them. That's what this important book is all about: the rise and fall of Hippocratic medicine. Cameron's work could be the rallying point for that large segment of the medical profession that may not share Cameron's Christian insight, but who know something is wrong.”--C. Everett Koop.

**Carmody, Denise Lardner, and John Tully Carmody.**

*Christian Ethics: An Introduction Through History and Current Issues.*

Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Simon and Schuster, 1993.

Begins with the OT and works successively through different eras of history down to the present. Discusses such topics as war and peace, social and economic justice, sexual ethics, and finally medical and environmental ethics. Places in the hands of readers an important overview of the issues.

**Chamberlain, Paul.**

*Can We Be Good Without God? A Conversation About Truth, Morality, Culture and a Few Other Things That Matter.*

Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1996.

Our culture is beset by vexing ethical questions. Euthanasia, racism, genetic engineering, abortion, poverty, and capital punishment are all discussed in this book. His manner is forthright and there is a great deal to learn from him.

**DeLashmutt, Gary.**

*Loving God's Way: A Fresh Look at the One Another Passages.*

Grand Rapids: Kregel, 1996.

Seeks to restore a sense of Christian community by anchoring each person's faith in the love of God and a knowledge of the truth. Deals persuasively with the way in which adult study groups can implement the principles of the "one another" passages. Recommended.

**Demy, Timothy J., and Gary P. Stewart, eds.**

*Genetic Engineering: A Christian Response. Crucial Considerations in Shaping Life.*

Grand Rapids: Kregel, 1998.

The contributors to this volume are all specialists in different areas. They tackle the hard questions relating to all aspects of genetic engineering. As a text on medical ethics this one deals adequately with the moral and spiritual implications involved. While not overly technical, the contents will be of most value to professional care-givers.

**Devine, George.**

*Responses to 101 Questions on Business Ethics.*

New York: Paulist Press, 1996.

This is a book of practical questions. It was written for real people--business executives, salespersons, managers, entrepreneurs, and teachers. It covers the nature and scope of business ethics, the absence of viable ethical principles in businesses today, and how people in all walks of life can implement sound ethical principles in their work. Plain and practical.

**DeVries, Paul, and Barry C. Gardner.**

*The Taming of the Shrewd: A Marketplace Handbook for Smart Ethics, Scrupulous Strategy, Sound Decision-Making.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1992.

Two reputable Christian leaders (the one an educator and the other the president of a firm of business consultants) team up to combine their expertise and give to believers a manual that will help them survive the 1990s. Each chapter contains an appeal to the mind, the emotions, and the “grit” (i.e., will), and points the way (not to compromise!) to success. Timely and helpful.

**Douma, Jochem.**

*The Ten Commandments: Manual for the Christian Life.* Trans. By N. D. Kloosterman. Philipsburg, PA: P&R, 1996.

Combines exposition with application to provide a “manual” on Christian ethics. Deals thoroughly with each commandment. Explains the historic context of each aspect of God’s legislation. The discussion of the sixth commandment includes a treatment of abortion, euthanasia, suicide, negligent homicide, and more. Makes no distinction between Israel and the Church. Reformed.

**Drummond, Lewis A.**

*Love: The Greatest Thing in the World.*

Grand Rapids: Kregel, 1998.

Revisits Henry Drummond’s classic work *The Greatest Thing in the World*. Provides a useful exposition of 1 Corinthians 13. Insightful.

**Evans, Anthony T.**

*What a Way to Live! Running All of Life by the Kingdom Agenda.*

Nashville: Word, 1997.

Evans ably introduces the “Kingdom agenda” by providing a sound biblical foundation. Applies the truth he has established to one’s personal, family, and church life. “Tony Evans writes like he speaks—with clarity, practicality, and power. [This book] is a road map to help you live God’s way.”—Ravi K. Zacharias.

**Everett, Carol, and Jack Shaw.**

*Blood Money.*

Sisters, OR: Multnomah Press, 1992.

Originally published under the title *The Scarlet Lady*. The cover carries the subtitle: “Getting Rich Off a Woman’s Right to Choose.” Traces the author’s personal career as a former abortion clinic director and owner of several clinics that performed about 500 abortions each month. Explains how abortion “counselors” were not paid to discuss options but to encourage pregnant women to have abortions. Also reveals how clinics did “abortions” on women who were not pregnant, and how one woman in 500 died as a result of complications. This is an important expose. Read it!

**Ezell, Richard.**

*Cutting to the Core: The Seven Components of Christian Character.*

Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2001.

Ezell discusses eleven dimensions that he believes form the core of character. A valuable corrective to the lassiz faire attitude so common today.

**Ferguson, David, Teresa Ferguson, Chris Thurman, and Holly Thurman.**

*The Pursuit of Intimacy.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1993.

Tackles the all-important issues related to falling in love before discussing the ten steps of intimacy therapy. Each of the 15 chapters is like a private session with a skilled Christian psychological team. This is a book that couples should read and discuss with one another.

**Fowler, Richard, and Rita Schweitz.**

*Together on a Tightrope.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1991.

Another Minirth-Meier publication. Discusses interpersonal relationships in dating, at work, within marriage, and wherever two people are together. Helps readers identify areas of weakness, and develop them into strengths. Also of value is the discussion of one's emotions in relationships with others.

**Gaddy, C. Welton.**

*Adultery and Grace: The Ultimate Scandal.*

Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1996.

Covers the biblical teaching on adultery, sin, and marriage. Exposes the hypocrisy, lies and deception that precede scandals that make the headlines. Also deals with the hurt of betrayal and the pain inflicted on the innocent. Concludes with information on forgiveness and restoration.

**Ghent, Rick, and James K. Childerston.**

*Purity and Passion.*

Chicago: Moody Press, 1994.

Designed for men who want to retain their integrity and exert an influence for good on those whom they meet. Deals with different images of manhood and the kinds of problems each personality type attracts. Also emphasizes authentic male sexuality.

**Grant, George.**

*Immaculate Deception: The Shifting Agenda of Planned Parenthood.*

Chicago: Northfield, 1996.

An important monograph in the continuing struggle between Prolifers and proponents of Freedom of Choice. Focuses on the myth of "planned parenthood" which is really a euphemism for abortion counseling. No one can read this book and continue to be indifferent to the issues.

**Grant, George.**

*The Quick and the Dead: RU-486 and the New Chemical Warfare Against the Family.*

Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 1991.

This is a good book and it is to be regretted that the publisher used newsprint for its publication. Grant discusses the latest trend in the Right to Life war on abortion. His material is timely and relevant, and he is never trite or boring. Recommended.

**Guinness, Os.**

*Doing Well and Doing Good: Money, Giving, and Caring in a Free Society.* Ed. by G. Koloszyc. Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 2001.

Complete with a reader's guide, this book draws from a wide variety of sources, both ancient and modern. The overall goal is to produce a cheerful liberality in giving that is free from legalism and a quid pro quo approach in which a person desires to earn God's favor. Very helpful!

**Guinness, Os.**

*Steering Through Chaos: Vice and Virtue in an Age of Moral Confusion,* ed. by V. Mooney. Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 2000.

Covers the "seven deadly sins" providing illuminating insights from a variety of authors both ancient and modern. Makes stimulating reading.

**Guinness, Os.**

*When No One Sees: The Importance of Character in an Age of Image,* ed. by V. Mooney. Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 2000.

Tackles the issue of leadership and provides data from a variety of writers (from Job and Plato to Hobart Mowrer and Dietrich Bonhoeffer) to illustrate the importance of sound internalized principles of right and wrong. Also discusses what has led to the erosion of character in our leaders.

**Hancock, Maxine.**

*Living On Less and Liking It More.*

Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1994.

Updates her 1976 best seller. Provides candid reflections on her own experience when her husband decided to give up teaching and go farming. Describes their early struggles, explains their many "new decisions," and concludes with the benefits of their deliverance from "tyranny" to all members of the family.

**Hawkins, O. S.**

*Moral Earthquakes and Secret Faults: Protecting Yourself from Minor Moral Lapses that Lead to Major Disaster.*

Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 1996.

Hawkins helps his readers identify their secret faults, exposes hidden sins, and offers hope for healing.

**Horton, Michael Scott.**

*The Law of Perfect Freedom.*

Chicago: Moody, 1993.

What is involved in “playing by God’s rules”? Horton shows how to relate to God by practicing the Ten Commandments. He explains how to avoid the traps of legalism and points out how believers can live in the freedom that comes from obedience to the Lord.

**House, H. Wayne, and John Howard Yoder.**

*The Death Penalty Debate.*

Dallas, TX: Word Publishing, 1991.

“Proponents of capital punishment, who as a rule are likewise committed to the ‘just war’ position, argue that today as perhaps never before the proper interpretation of this commandment is imperative. For example, Iraq’s violent seizure of Kuwait in 1990 was a catalyst for fierce conflict in the Persian Gulf.... But opponents of capital punishment maintain that appeals to Scripture in support of government-decreed killing are hermeneutically indefensible. Rightly understood, Scripture gives no divine endorsement to the killing of even killers. More than that, life ending by legitimized life takers does not deter murder; it brutalizes society, denying in practice the incalculable value which is theoretically imputed to every human being. [The authors] are able spokespersons for their respective convictions regarding capital punishment. House espouses it; Yoder is set against it. Each respects the other’s stance while criticizing his exegesis and logic. The reader must therefore judge for himself or herself whose argument is the more persuasive and biblical. Hopefully, though, this dialogue will enable Christians to move beyond mere irrational emotionalism to a revelational, reasoned, and relevant perspective ...”--  
Vernon C. Grounds.

**Hovestol, Tom.**

*Seeing Ourselves in the Pharisees Extreme Righteousness.*

Chicago: Moody, 1997.

This book will probably become known by the short title, *Extreme Righteousness*. It takes a hard look at conservative Christians. Though not everyone will see themselves in the portrait presented by the author, all readers will have areas of their lives brought under the microscope of God’s Word and have pointed out to them specifics that require change. Recommended.

**Howard, Jeanette.**

*Out of Egypt: One Woman’s Journey Out of Lesbianism.*

Grand Rapids: Monarch, 2000.

This book is the result of the author’s five-year walk away from lesbianism. It is an honest account of her struggles and how through perseverance and the loving support of her church she finally was numbered among the overcomers.

**Hughes, R. Kent.**

*Disciplines of Grace.*

Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 1993.

Devotional messages on the Ten Commandments. Pastors will find the contents suggestive of numerous discourses. Timely and relevant.

**Johnston, James Kirkland.**

*Why Christians Sin: Avoiding the Dangers of an Uncommitted Life.*

Grand Rapids: Discovery House Publishers, 1991.

“Goes right to the heart of what is central to the reality of being a Christian.... Puts us in touch with the solutions by setting forth the biblical truths and practices which are at the core of Christian living.”--Robert L. Saucy.

**Jones, John Daniel.**

*The Greatest of These: Expository Sermons on 1 Corinthians 13.*

Grand Rapids: Kregel Publications, 1995.

First published in 1925. Contains Jones' insights into the highest of Christian virtues--love. A brief work of inestimable value. No believer should be without this exemplary exposition.

**Kilner, John F.**

*Life on the Line: Ethics, Aging, Ending Patients' Lives, and Allocating Vital Resources.*

Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans publishing Co., 1992.

Life and death are increasingly becoming matters of choice. Skyrocketing health-care costs, limited resources, and new technologies are leading more people than ever before to withhold, withdraw, or otherwise manipulate medical treatment in order to determine their own fate or the fate of others. Kilner develops a basic ethical approach for dealing with difficult end-of-life situations and the allocation of limited medical resources.

**Larson, Edward J., and Darrel W. Amundsen.**

*A Different Death: Euthanasia and the Christian Tradition.*

Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1998.

Traces the attitude of people to suicide and euthanasia from the earliest times to the present. Assesses the work of the euthanasia advocacy group, the Hemlock society, and the writings of those in favor of euthanasia. Should be read carefully, especially by those who hold a differing opinion.

**Lawhead, Alice Slaikou.**

*Doing the Right Thing: Eleven Exercises for Your Ethical Mind.*

Wheaton, IL: Harold Shaw Publishers, 1991.

“Lawhead raises all the right issues, cites the right Scripture, [and] gives excellent guidance for people seeking to live right in a world gone very wrong. She does not give answers but goes us one better: She teaches us to think for ourselves and thus to know not only what we should do but why we should so it.”--Paul deVries.



**Lawson, Stephen P.**

*Daddy, Why Are You Going to Jail?*

Wheaton, IL: Harold Shaw Publishers, 1992.

This autobiographical account of a man drawn into white collar crime exposes the fallacy of situation ethics. It also underscores the power of Christ to forgive and restore the erring sinner.

**Lewis, Michael, and Carolyn Saarni, eds.**

*Lying and Deception in Everyday Life.*

New York: Guilford Press, 1993.

Most of us were taught by our parents not to lie. This book examines why advertisers encourage illusion, and how this cycle of deceiving and being deceived has permeated our society and is being perpetuated day after day. *Lying and Deception* contains perceptive chapters that trace the origin and growth of these evil twins.

**MacArthur, John F., Jr.**

*The Vanishing Conscience.*

Dallas, TX: Word Publishing, 1994.

Deals forthrightly with the doctrine of sin and shows how Christians must live if they are to please God. Describes the reasons for the present moral interregnum and offers a Biblical and practical solution.

**McDowell, Josh, and Norman L. Geisler.**

*Love Is Always Right: A Defense of the One Moral Absolute.*

Dallas, TX: Word Publishing, 1996.

The writers believe that love is the sine qua non of ethics. Setting aside the “fear of the Lord” motif which is designed to keep a person from evil, they contend that the basis of ethics is real love for others. McDowell and Geisler then use a series of real-life stories through which they explain how their system of ethics works. Provocative.

**McGee, John Vernon.**

*Love, Liberation, and the Law.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1995.

Here is “vintage McGee.” These messages cover the decalogue plus Christ’s command to love one another. As McGee observed, “The Ten Commandments won’t take you to heaven; but they will point you in the right direction.”

**Meeks, Wayne A.**

*The Origins of Christian Morality: The First Two Centuries.*

New Haven, Conn.: Yale University Press, 1991.

“In a vigorous historical analysis, Meeks offers new perspectives on the early days of Christian morality. Conventionally, Christian morals are understood as a set of principles to which each

believer must adhere, or at least struggle toward, in the depths of his or her conscience. But Meeks redefines morality in the first Christian centuries as a communal activity in which members of the new faith adopted not only a creed but a way of life with its own revolutionary language, customs, and stories. To be a Christian was to undergo a thorough conversion of moral and social dimensions--a transformation in which a new kind of human being was forged. This conversion, Meeks shows, produced an ambiguous relationship toward the world at large, ranging from gnostic rejection by Valentinus to ambiguity on the part of St. Paul and his followers. To help converts, moral directives were promulgated in the form of maxims, rules of thumb ('gnomes'), teaching tales, letters, testaments, and lists of virtues and vices. A new 'grammar' was developed through rituals like baptism and the Eucharist, as well as through the practice of almsgiving and hospitality. Evil became personified in Satan and his demons; a hierarchy of fallen creatures warred with God's ministers for human souls. Complex views of the body evolved, leading to a 'democratized asceticism.' Perhaps the most dramatic innovation was the struggle 'to do God's will,' often through suffering ...” *Kirkus Review*.

**Meilaender, Gilbert.**

*Bioethics: A Primer for Christians.*

Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1996.

Euthanasia, assisted suicide, organ donation, assisted reproduction, gene therapy and genetic research, prenatal screening, abortion, and participation in questionable research projects are issues most people never thought about 20 years ago. Today all has changed. These are serious issues and Christians need to be aware of the issues. In addressing these matters, Meilaender offers a clear statement of how Christians ought to think about each of these topics. Throughout his book he stresses the importance of care for the weakest member in the community and the hope that we are doing so (despite our inability to eliminate all suffering), because we have a God who suffers with us.

**Milco, Michael R.**

*Ethical Dilemmas in Church Leadership: Case Studies in Biblical Decision Making.*

Grand Rapids: Kregel, 1997.

Treats the professional ethics of clergy. Uses case studies to good effect. Tackles problems such as physical abuse, AIDS, infidelity, handling the crisis of an unwanted pregnancy, and more. Complete with bibliography and recommendations for further reading.

**Mouw, Richard J.**

*Uncommon Decency: Christian Civility in an Uncivilized World.*

Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1992.

Deals with the issues of the church's witness to the world, the importance of benevolence, and the Bible's teaching about courtesy. Tackles forthrightly the pitfalls of compromise on the one hand and the limits of civility on the other. This book demands more than a casual reading for, as Mouw has shown, our culture has turned violent and Christians are supposed to be the passive sufferers of a secular, atheistic community's anger and violence. Thus places of worship are

burned, racial tension is incited, and a perspective on peaceful coexistence is lost. In sharpening the focus of his counsel, Mouw emphasizes the importance of civil speech, civil attitudes, the problems of pluralism, sexual discrimination, and one's relationship to other religions. Not every question is answered, and all issues do not receive an adequate discussion. What has been presented within these pages, however, will plant one's feet on a path to a mature understanding of the problems.

**Nelson, John Robert.**

*On the New Frontiers of Genetics and Religion.*

Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co/. 1994.

The Human Genome Project, one of the most important in science and medicine, has aroused significant religious and ethical concerns. Nelson states that "an expanding knowledge and understanding of human life is the primary purpose of both genetic science and religious thought." Though different in character, the fields of genetics and religion are brought together as a result of this expanding knowledge. Exploration into the DNA molecule has opened questions about human nature, identity, behavior, and destiny--questions for which religious and ethical answers are most appropriate.

**Olasky, Marvin N.**

*Abortion Rites: A Social History of Abortion in America.*

Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 1992.

"If Olasky was startled at what his research revealed, it surprised me even more. Imagine members of Congress taking famous women to New York for abortions--120 years ago. Imagine a time, less than 100 years ago, when the age of consent for girls was seven in one state and fourteen or less in 35 others. This book is loaded with fascinating information. Most surprising, however, is Olasky's conclusion about the pro-life movement. From his unique historical treatment, his perspective was fresh and encouraging."--Robert P. Dugan, Jr.

**Peters, Ted.**

*Sin: Radical Evil in Soul and Society.*

Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1994.

This book had its origin in the author's quest to understand the relationship between Satanism and the New Age movement. Peters studied the phenomenon of Satanism within the context of a theological and psychological understanding of sin and evil. The result was this revisiting of the dark side of human nature, arguing that in failing to properly address sin as personal responsibility, we have lost interest in the internal workings of the human soul. While asserting that all humans are capable of extreme sin, Peters draws on ordinary and extraordinary experiences to outline just how sin sows its poisonous seeds. He offers seven steps as a path to follow from innocence to radical evil, with subsequent chapters probing each of the seven steps of anxiety, faithlessness, pride, concupiscence, self-justification, cruelty, and blasphemy.

**Reisinger, Ernest C.**

*The Law and the Gospel.*

Phillipsburg, NJ: P&R, 1997.

Discusses the relevancy of the Decalogue to morality and social conditions in the United States. Each chapter stresses the contemporary application of the Bible to all aspects of human relationships. Reformed.

**Risk, William P.**

*Dating and Waiting: Looking for Love in All the Right Places.*

Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2000.

Covers all the key questions young people are asking in a persuasive, realistic manner. Explains how God can use the single years to prepare those who wait on Him for the more in-depth aspects of marriage. Challenging.

**Schaumburg, Harry W.**

*False Intimacy: Understanding the Struggle of Sexual Addiction.*

Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1992.

Schaumburg shows that false intimacy goes beyond behavioral symptoms and willpower-based solutions. As proof, he provides Biblical guideposts on the journey to restoration. With frank honesty and deep compassion, it offers hope to those whose lives or ministries have been impacted by sexual addiction.

**Schlesinger, Laura, and Stewart Vogel.**

*The Ten Commandments: The Significance of God's Laws in Everyday Life.*

New York: HarperCollins, 1998.

Plain, practical, well-written chapters on the Decalogue designed to elevate our lives above the level of brutal passions that has pock-marked this century with its wars, acts of oppression, broken promises/contracts/treaties, and restore God to His rightful place in people's lives.

**Shores, Steve.**

*False Guilt: Breaking the Tyranny of an Overactive Conscience.*

Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1993.

Explains the reasons for, as well as the results of an overactive conscience. Deals with guilt and shame as well as the tension between dignity and depravity. An important discussion. Recommended.

**Smith, David L.**

*With Willful Intent: A Theology of Sin.*

Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1994.

"When it comes to sin, I am familiar with it and have had considerable experience with it," writes the author. "But I can also say, that I also fairly early on discovered the cure for the disease of sin and have taken advantage of that many years past." Writing (apparently) from a Methodist

perspective, Smith then covers the subject of sin in a way that readers will find useful with sufficient help to assist them develop their own Biblically-based theology of sin.

**Smith, Frank LeGaard.**

*Sodom's Second Coming.*

Eugene, OR: Harvest House Publishers, 1993.

The cover contains a subtitle: "What You Need to Know About the Deadly Homosexual Assault." Examines the controversy surrounding the gay rights movement. Exposes the falsity behind the propaganda slogans and the media coverage. An excellent discussion. Deserves widespread circulation.

**Smith, Ken.**

*It's About Time.*

Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 1992.

"Smith begins this book with a gripping account of how the Lord rescued him from alcoholism and brought him into a new life of committed obedience to Christ. Over the years [he] developed a splendid self-discipline of the stewardship of time. This book is a strategy and tactics manual beginning with the basic principles, then moving to nitty-gritty suggestions about how to put an effective time-management program into practice. Abundant stories and case histories illustrate his points. I recommend this book for people serious about improving their time-effectiveness."--  
John W. Alexander.

**Spiegel, James S.**

*How To Be Good In a World Gone Bad.*

Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2004.

A companion volume to Hypocrisy: Moral Fraud and Other Vices. With candor and genuine insight the author explores 18 aspects of virtue, including humility, kindness, generosity, wit, justice, patience, courage, gratitude, faith, and love. This is an excellent example of the application of biblical truth to every-day life.

**Stafford, Tim.**

*Sexual Chaos: Charting a Course Through Turbulent Times.*

Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1993.

Tackles problem issues such as teen pregnancy, homosexuality, single-parent homes, pornography, adultery, date rape, gay rights, and more. Points the way to a sound, Biblical approach to ethics and morality. Recommended.

**Stuart, Elizabeth, and Adrian Thatcher, eds.**

*Christian Perspectives on Sexuality and Gender.*

Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1996.

A pivotal collection of essays written from a neo-orthodox/neo-liberal perspective. Each chapter provides a resource for those who wrestle with the twin problems of sexuality and gender. None of those whose works are cited is either conservative or evangelical in theology.

**Thielman, Frank.**

*Paul and the Law: A Contextual Approach.*

Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1994.

“The last two decades have seen an explosion of new approaches to Paul’s theology and especially to his theology of the Old Testament and Judaism. This so-called new perspective on Paul has demanded response from various theological traditions. Thielman’s book on Paul and the law is the most thorough response to these issues to date. Not everyone will agree with his perspectives and conclusions, but his book forms a fine starting point for further discussion of these matters.”--Douglas J. Moo.

**Tiger, Lionel.**

*The Pursuit of Pleasure.*

Boston: Little, Brown and Company, 1992.

What is pleasure? Is pleasure legitimate? If so, can it be sought? And what do you do when you have found it? The author, professor of anthropology, Rutgers University, has written a positive monograph on our ability to experience pleasure. And he shows that its enjoyment is not a luxury but an entitlement. As with virtually everything, however, it can become an obsession. Such misuse only negates the benefits of truly pleasurable experiences. Provocative.

**Tomasino, Anthony J.**

*Written Upon the Heart: The Ten Commandments for Today’s Christian.*

Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2001.

Judge Roy Moore, a dedicated Christian, placed the Ten Commandments in his court house in Alabama. This precipitated a storm of controversy, and in time the plaque was removed and Judge Moore lost his position in his state’s judiciary. This book seeks to determine the validity of the Decalogue in the life of the believer. Questions conclude each chapter, making this book ideal for adult discussion groups. An important treatise.

**Tucker, Jeff, and Ramona Tucker.**

*Maximum Friendship: Devotions for Students.*

Wheaton, IL: H. Shaw, 1999.

This 8-week devotional book gives teens solid help for building friendships that last. With tips on how to make good friends and break off the ones that are not-so-good, this book teaches young adults to also cultivate their friendship with Christ. Recommended.

**Uhlmann, Michael M., ed.**

*Last Rights? Assisted Suicide and Euthanasia Debated.*

Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998.

A rich and comprehensive anthology of primary sources. Intended as an essential resource for anyone interested in understanding the many facets of the arguments for and against assisted suicide and euthanasia. Examines the moral, theological, medical, and legal perspectives.

**United States Congress. Class of 1994.**

*Profiles in Character: The Values That Made America.*

Nashville: Nelson, 1996.

An unusual book. Both its content and its authorship demand attention. The chapters within it make an eloquent plea for the need for our leaders to return to the power of moral values. The contributors showcase the triumph of personal goodness in the lives of 28 people whose brief biographies fill these pages. Recommended.

**Venning, Ralph.**

*The Sinfulness of Sin.*

Carlisle, PA: Banner of Truth Trust, 1993.

Formerly published under the title *The Plague of Plagues*. Venning deftly handles the Bible's teaching on sin while also stressing the need for salvation. Insightful.

**White, John.**

*Eros Redeemed: Breaking the Stranglehold of Sexual Sin.*

Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1993.

A companion volume to *Eros Defiled*. The three sections treat "Eros Enslaved in Chains," "Men, Women and Sex," and "Redemption from Sexual Sin." Provides a diverse approach to many different facets of a Christian's sexuality and succeeds in avoiding some of the legalistic presuppositions often found in Christian circles.

**Wright, Christopher J. H.**

*Walking in the Ways of the Lord: The Ethical Authority of the Old Testament.*

Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1996.

A sequel to the author's earlier book *Living as the People of God*. This one directs the reader's attention to ethical issues and shows the relevancy of the OT to the kind of questions people are asking. The chapter: "When the system fails" is worth the price of the book. Excellent!

**Zuck, Roy B., ed.**

*Vital Contemporary Issues: Examining Current Questions and Controversies.*

Grand Rapids: Kregel Resources, 1994.

Contains 14 articles selected from the pages of *Bibliotheca Sacra*. Tackles issues such as absolutes, abortion, euthanasia, suicide, and more. Insightful. A worthy acquisition.

*Daily Meditations*

**Chambers, Oswald.**

*The Complete Works of Oswald Chambers.*

Grand Rapids: Discovery, 2000.

Chambers is all but forgotten in today's milieu. This large volume of 1500 double column pages brings together his biblical and devotional writings. It should serve well the needs of a new generation.

**Clairmont, Patsy.**

*Normal Is Just a Setting on Your Dryer.*

Colorado Springs, CO: Focus on the Family, 1993.

Sharing her zany personal experiences in short, side-splitting chapters, Clairmont offers a much-needed word of relief to those caught in the destructive rut of comparing themselves with others. She believes that "everybody's fabric could use a little softening," and by using laundromat analogies substitutes smiles for frustrations while urging readers not to take life too seriously. Whatever a person's size or weight, gifts or limitations, status or function, Clairmont claims that "normal" is just a setting on the dryer. We're all unique.

**Colson, Charles W., and Nancy R. Pearcey.**

*A Dangerous Grace: Daily Readings.*

Dallas, TX: Word Publishing, 1994.

Neither as good nor as inspirational as Colson's other works. Made up largely of brief essays that appeared in *Breakpoint*, Prison Fellowships newsletter.

**Dawn, Marva J.**

*I'm Lonely Lord—How Long? Meditations on the Psalms.* Rev. ed.

Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998.

Out of her own painful experience with loneliness and suffering, Dawn turned to the Psalms for comfort and guidance. Here is her answer to some of the troubling questions faced by those who face unrelieved periods of loneliness.

**Drescher, John M.**

*Meditations for the Newly Married.*

Scottsdale, PA: Herald Press, 1995.

What does it mean to blend two lives into one? How can a couple build a strong, happy marriage? Drescher offers insights based on the Bible, literature, and years of experience as a pastor and family counselor. His 30 meditations focus on issues that range from respect to companionship to sex, parenthood, and money. The book also includes prayers, poetry excerpts, and suggestions for further reading.

**Enns, P. Paul.**

*Approaching God: Daily Reflections for Growing Christians.*

Grand Rapids: Kregel, 1991.



Clear, concise, convincing daily readings covering, in an easy-to-read way, nine different aspects of Bible doctrine. An excellent resource.

**Ironside, Henry Allan.**

*The Continual Burnt Offering: Daily Meditations on the Word of God.*

Neptune, NJ: Loizeaux Brothers, 1994.

These devotional gems were first published in two volumes in 1941. They have now been updated with Biblical quotations from the NKJV. Each meditation contains (1) a text chosen for the day, (2) a discussion of the meaning of this text within its context, and (3) a poem. This is a practical handbook that is sure to enrich the believer's heart and life.

**Lingo, Susan L.**

*Show Me! Devotions for Leaders to Teach Kids.*

Loveland, CO: Group, 1997.

Here are 52 devotions that are simple enough for an all-thumbs 1st grader, but slick enough to intrigue playground of 5th graders. Useful.

**Macartney, Clarence Edward Noble.**

*The Prayers of the Old Testament.*

Grand Rapids: Kregel Publications, 1995.

This book first appeared in print in 1930 under the title *Wrestlers with God*. In it Macartney deals with only a few of the prayers of the OT--13 in all. His selection, however, brings together the most noble expressions of the human heart and makes this book a high watermark in the literature on prayer. Once the contents of this book has been read, the reader will wish that Macartney had written more!

**Maclaren, Alexander.**

*Music for the Soul: Daily Readings for a Year from the Writings of Alexander MacLaren.*

Selected and arranged by G. Coates. Chattanooga, TN: AMG Publishers, 1996.

Reprinted from the 2d. 1905 edition. The 366 devotional thoughts use the KJV. Though Maclaren's work is not as well known as the works of Oswald Chambers, J. R. Miller, and C. H. Spurgeon, his meditations are far from "standard fare." In fact, they are surprisingly fresh, insightful, and meet the reader where he or she lives. Recommended!

**Miller, J. R.**

*Devotional Hours With the Bible.*

Chattanooga, TN: AMG, 1997.

The majority of devotional books leave much to be desired. This one is different. These chapters are brief (2 to 5 pages), but their content is rich and rewarding. Miller's insights and application of the truth to life leave readers blessed beyond measure. Here is a book users will enjoy.

**Murray, Andrew.**

*Daily Secrets of Christian Living; A Daily Devotional.*

Compiled by Al Bryant. Grand Rapids: Kregel Publications, 1996.

Originally published in 1978. Contains excerpts from Murray's writings. Focuses on specific themes (e.g., January, The Secret of Intercession; February, The Secret of Persevering Prayer; etc.). Uncovers the secrets of developing true faith in God.

**Murray, Andrew.**

*God's Best Secrets: An Inspirational Daily Devotional.*

Grand Rapids: Kregel Classics, 1994.

First published in 1923, and newly revised in modern English for today's readers. Covers a wide variety of themes. Worthy of being a classic.

**Palmer, Earl F.**

*Prayer Between Friends.*

Tarrytown, NY: Fleming H. Revell Company, 1991.

Explores the personality, practices, and purposes of prayer. Draws valid information from the prayer-life of men like Job, David, the Lord Jesus Christ, and Paul. Stimulating.

**Richards, Lawrence O.**

*Every Prayer and Petition in the Bible.*

Nashville: Nelson, 1998.

This work is unlike others of the same genre. Richards is an original thinker. His material highlights the personal needs of God's people as well as the dynamics of praise. Here is a work that will reward the careful reader.

**Stowell, Joseph M., III.**

*Strength for the Journey: Day by Day with Jesus.*

Chicago: Moody, 2002.

Like the scribe of whom the Lord Jesus spoke in Matthew 13:52, Stowell has brought out of his treasure of knowledge and experience things old and new. Recommended.

*Evangelical Writings*

**Stafford, Tim.**

*Knowing the Face of God.*

Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1996.

First published in 1989. Comprises "a fine blend of sound theology, personal insight, and lucid writing."--Harold L. Myra.

*Hymnology*

**Osbeck, Kenneth W.**

*Amazing Grace: 366 Inspiring Hymn Stories for Daily Devotions.*

Grand Rapids: Kregel Publications, 1990.

Each day's devotional highlights Biblical truths drawn from the true-to-life experiences behind the writing of these well-known hymns. Each story includes a portion of the hymn itself, as well as suggested Scripture readings, meditations, and practical application. In addition to its intended use as a daily devotional, pastors will find this work to be of great value for sermon illustrations. Recommended.

**Smith, Jane Stuart, and Betty Carlson.**

*Great Christian Hymn Writers.*

Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 1997.

Covers men and women hymn writers from the earliest times to the present. Arranged in alphabetic order. Includes the famous as well as the obscure. Each chapter is brief, factual, and contains the pertinent data that makes this book interesting and usable.

*Religious Drama, Art, Icons, Symbols*

**Goss, Leonard, and Carolyn Stanford Goss.**

*The Little Style Guide to Great Christian Writing and Publishing.*

Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 2004.

A truly remarkable book! Covers all the bases of writing and production. Highly Recommended.

**Webber, Robert E., ed.**

*Music and the Arts in Christian Worship.*

Vol. 4: The Complete Library of Christian Worship. Nashville: Star Song, 1994.

This discussion of music in Christian worship covers two large volumes. Even though it begins with a resume of different kinds of contemporary church services, it soon becomes evident that the emphasis is slanted towards sacramental/liturgical kinds of services and away from independent, non-traditional forms of worship. Once this limitation is recognized, the reader can more easily benefit from the excellent historical and contemporary discussions of hymnology, drama, dance, and the use of visual arts in worship.

*Personal Religion, Christian Experience*

**Allender, Dan B., and Tremper Longman III.**

*The Cry of the Soul: How Our Emotions Reveal Our Deepest Questions About God.*

Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1994.

“Offers insight after surprising insight into the unexpected relationship between our emotions and our view of God. A needed correction to a simplistic explaining away of pain and suffering.”-- Daniel Taylor.

*Lord, Where Are You When Bad Things Happen?* Arthur, Kay.

Portland, OR: Multnomah Press, 1993.

These devotional chapters are based on the Book of Habakkuk. They address the issue of good and evil, and explain how a believer's responses can result in a deepening of his or her faith and greater spiritual maturity. Discussions questions conclude the book.

**Bisset, Tom.**

*Good News About Prodigals.*

Grand Rapids: Discovery, 1997.

The Library of Congress data carries the subtitle, “Why Prodigals Return and How We Can Help Them.” Treats extensively the religious life of young people. Practical. Offers encouragement to distraught parents.

**Branon, Dave.**

*Where Do I Go From Here? A Handbook for New Believers.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1993.

In eleven chapters the author covers the essential steps of growth for new believers. Practical.

**Demarest, Bruce A.**

*Satisfy Your Soul: Restoring the Heart of Christian Spirituality.*

Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1999.

“Demarest clears away misunderstanding, offers safeguards against non-biblical Christian mysticism, and provides realistic directives for fellow-questors. In short, this is a must read book for anyone who is serious about vital discipleship and ongoing growth in Christ-likeness.”— Vernon C. Grounds.

**Evans, Anthony T.**

*The Perfect Christian: How Sinners Like Us Can Be More Like Jesus.*

Nashville: Word, 1998.

The title is based on one of the strangest and most improbably commands in the Bible: “Be perfect as your Father in heaven is perfect.” However, as the author explains, “The God who burdens us with the demand also provides the ability, strength, direction and support we need to grow into greater conformity with His character.” Packed with wise counsel. Recommended.

**Ferguson, Rick E., and Bryan McAnally.**

*The Servant Principle: Finding Fulfillment Through Obedience to Christ.*

Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 1999.

A thorough treatment of servant leadership. Explains the principles and then applies the teaching of Scripture to different areas of service. Illustrates different facets of leadership with stories that will challenge and encourage readers.

**Fisk, Samuel, comp.**

*More Fascinating Conversion Stories.*

Grand Rapids: Kregel Publishers, 1994.

A sequel to *Forty Fascinating Conversion Stories*. Places in the hands of preachers a rich resource. The majority of people about whom Fisk writes lived between the mid-1900s and the present. Makes for fascinating reading.

**Houston, James.**

*In Pursuit of Happiness: Finding Genuine Fulfillment in Life.*

Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1996.

First published in 1990, and now available in paperback. Houston explores the nature of happiness and shows that by modeling our lives after Christ's we can experience genuine fulfillment in life.

**James, David C.**

*What Are they Saying About Masculine Spirituality?*

New York: Paulist Press, 1996.

The feminist movement has robbed men of their masculinity. James explains how and why this happened. He then combines Biblical and psychological insights as he points the way to the restoration of the masculine image, and the reciprocal recognition on the part of men and women of each gender's unique and complimentary gifts.

**MacArthur, John F., Jr.**

*Whose Money Is It Anyway?*

Nashville: Word, 2000.

A bold approach to personal financial stewardship. Contains a study guide that makes this book ideal for adult group discussions. Challenging.

**Packer, James Innell, and Loren Wilkinson, eds.**

*Alive to God: Studies in Spirituality Presented to James Houston.*

Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1992.

A Festschrift presented to James Houston on his 70th birthday. Contains 22 essays by colleagues and former students. Areas of spirituality subjected to scholarly analysis include chapters based on "Biblical and Exegetical" dimensions together with the "Historical and Theological" progress of ideas followed by "Integrative and Interdisciplinary" aspects of spirituality. The material is provocative, and pastors who read this book will find them filled with ideas that they can then develop into sermons.

**Schaeffer, Edith.**

*The Life of Prayer.*

Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 1992.

The author gathers together the Bible's admonitions about prayer, blends these truths with experience--her own and others--and relates this to people's struggles. She challenges and encourages her readers with the possibilities of prayer, and in this way makes a real contribution to the literature already available on this subject.

**Sproul, Robert Charles.**

*The Soul's Quest for God.*

Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House Publishers, 1992.

Explores the dynamics of the soul's quest for communion with God, and explains how real intimacy can be attained and maintained. This material validly applies theology to the needs of each believer.

**Sullivan, James E.**

*The Relentless Hunger: The Heart's Search for Love.*

New York: Paulist Press, 1994.

The heart's relentless hunger for love constantly urges a person forward to become his/her true self. Sullivan shows how this helps individuals relate to others with warmth and genuine care. Such love makes the care-giver vulnerable to being hurt, but it also brings true joy.

*Prayer, Personal Worship*

**Aldrich, Joseph Coffin.**

*Prayer Summits: Seeking God's Agenda for Your Community.*

Portland, OR: Multnomah Press, 1992.

Focuses attention on prayer groups, clergy conferences, and the way in which prayer plays a definitive role in church renewal.

**Beltz, Bob.**

*Becoming a Man of Prayer.*

Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1996.

A "manual" that develops a strategy based on the teaching of Jesus.

**Bounds, Edward McKendree.**

*The Complete Works of E. M. Bounds on Prayer.*

Grand Rapids: Baker, 1990.

Brings all of Bounds' works on prayer together. Recommended.

**Bunyan, John.**

*How to Pray in the Spirit.* Ed. by L. G. Parkhurst, Jr.

Grand Rapids: Kregel, 1998.

Contains 31 devotional readings on personal prayer. Shows how to involve both mind and spirit. Should be read slowly and methodically.

**Chambers, Oswald.**

*Prayer: A Holy Occupation.*

Edited by H. Verploegh. Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1993.

Contains excerpts from Chambers' writings that are grouped under 18 headings. Valuable for its devotional insights. Also of help to preachers who would like to have original quotations at their fingertips.

**Delffs, Dudley J.**

*The Prayer Centered Life: Living in Conversation with the Father.*

Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1997.

Shows readers how to develop intimacy with God. Examines the barriers to prayer and the importance of perseverance. Recommended.

**Flynn, Leslie Bruce.**

*The Master's Plan of Prayer: Learning to Pray as Jesus Prayed.*

Grand Rapids: Kregel Publications, 1995.

There is more depth and inspiration in these chapters than might at first be imagined.. Flynn explains the principles and procedures of prayer in ways that make intercession and supplication an exciting adventure. Recommended.

**Foster, Richard J.**

*Prayer: Finding the Heart's True Home.*

San Francisco: Harper and Row, 1992.

Explains how prayer can move us inward into a personal transformation, upward toward intimacy with God, and outward to minister to others. Foster leads us beyond questions to a deeper understanding and practice of prayer, bringing us closer to God, teaching us more about ourselves, and making it possible for us to enjoy closer fellowship with the Lord.

**Graf, Jonathan L.**

*The Power of Personal Prayer: Learning to Pray with Faith and Purpose.*

Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 2002.

The twelve chapters that make up this book vary in length. All, however, are relevant to the needs of today's Christians.

**Henry, Matthew.**

*The Secret of Communion With God.*

Grand Rapids: Kregel Publications, 1991.

This timely reprint contains messages designed to encourage Christians to begin each in prayer to God, become so aware of His presence that each day is spent with Him, and then bring each day to a fitting conclusion by ending it with prayer and meditation on His Word. It is a valuable aid to strengthening one's devotional life.

**Hiebert, David Edmond.**

*Working with God Through Intercessory Prayer.*

Greenville, SC: Bob Jones University Press, 1991.

Everything Hiebert wrote is of the greatest value. He was a gracious, devout man of God. This book readily testifies to the motivating force of his life. Its reading will encourage Christians of all persuasions to pray earnestly about the things that concern them the most. Highly recommended!

**Houston, James.**

*The Transforming Power of Prayer: Deepening Your Friendship with God.*

Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1996.

First published in 1989. Examines the true nature of prayer and helps us enter into the richness of fellowship with God. Shows how this can become a transforming process.

**Jeremiah, David.**

*Prayer—The Great Adventure.*

Sisters, OR: Multnomah, 1997.

“In our see it, grab it, sinkhole society, prayer as a pattern seems like a misfit, but the writer's stepping stones to making Jesus' agenda our own provide a clear guide to mastering this life-changing discipline.”—Howard G. Hendricks.

**Longenecker, Richard Norman, ed.**

*Into God's Presence: Prayer in the New Testament.*

Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2001.

The editor has invited a group of scholars with unquestioned credentials to contribute chapters on the place and importance of prayer in the OT, the NT, Jewish life in the 1st century A.D., the Dead Sea Scrolls, etc. A very full treatment.

**M'Intyre, David.**

*The Hidden Life of Prayer.*

Minneapolis: Bethany House Publishers, 1993.

Points to the crucial components of successful prayer. Directs the reader to the spiritual transformation that awaits him/her who learns to live in the presence of God.

**Price, Oliver W.**

*The Power of Praying Together: Experiencing Christ Actively in Charge.*

Grand Rapids: Kregel, 1999.



“I highly recommend this practical and biblical how-to-book for any team of believers serious about accessing divine power in their lives.--Howard G. Hendricks.

**Ruvolo, Carol J.**

*Before the Throne of God: Focus on Prayer.*

Phillipsburg, NJ: P&R, 1999.

Written specifically for women, this book explains the privilege, purpose, content, and results to be expected in biblically oriented prayer. Stimulating.

**Stedman, Ray C.**

*Talking with My Father: Jesus Teaches on Prayer.*

Grand Rapids: Discovery, 1997.

First published in 1975 using the subtitle as the title of the book. Covers all the bases. New believers as well as older saints will enjoy Stedman's treatment, and astute readers will appreciate his valuable insights.

**Watts, Isaac.**

*A Guide to Prayer.*

Carlisle, PA: Banner of Truth, 2001.

Reprinted from the 1715 edition. Discusses the benefits of godly prayer and concludes with a chapter on learning how to pray. A valuable “guide.”

**Woolmer, John.**

*Prayer.*

London: Monarch, 2001.

A primer on prayer that is surprisingly fresh, sincere, and contains encouragement for believers of all ages.

*Christian Life And Practice*

**Allender, Dan B., and Tremper Longman III.**

*Bold Love.*

Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1992.

Here is an important book. It explains the essence of lasting love in ways that make sense. The writers point out that nothing worth having comes to us without some sort of struggle. And so it is with genuine love. In these pages they point the way to eventual victory over self and the achievement of lasting happiness.

**Anders, Max.**

*Twenty-one Unbreakable Laws of Life.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1996.

Provides a road map for living a meaningful life and relating effectively to those with whom one comes into contact. Duane Litfin writes, "Max Anders has tapped into the wisdom of the Bible to spell out how things work in God's world. Readable and well-illustrated, [this work] helps readers avoid divinely placed brick walls and find the way God wills them to take."

**Anderson, Neil T.**

*Walking Through the Darkness.*

San Bernardino, CA: Here's Life Publishers, 1991.

The verso of the title page carries the subtitle, *Discerning God's Guidance in the New Age*. The book is divided into three sections. In them Anderson explains (1) how believers may discern the will of God when faced with counterfeit systems of thought; (2) what to do in instances where there is no clear teaching in the Word and one must rely on sanctified common sense and spiritual discernment; and (3) how by walking with God and following the light of His Word they can enjoy security and peace. A final chapter deals with trust in God when compelled to walk through the darkness. Throughout the pages of this book the reader will also find practical counsel on handling fear and anxiety, spiritual conflict, false teachers, secular humanism, deceiving spirits, and New Age teaching. Recommended.

**Arterburn, Stephen, Frank Minirth, and Paul Meier.**

*Safe Places: Finding Security in the Passages of Your Life.*

Nashville: Nelson, 1997.

This practical book uses case histories to illustrate different dilemmas. The authors then provide sane counsel/advice on some of the trying situations people can be called upon to face.

**Arthur, Kay.**

*Marriage Without Regrets.*

Eugene, OR: Harvest, 1999.

Written primarily to women, this book seeks to strengthen marriages so that the couple can survive the disappointments and vicissitudes of married life.

**Bailey, Mark L.**

*The Seven Characteristics of a Disciple.*

Sisters, OR: Multnomah, 1997.

Expounds the Scriptures that treat the seven characteristics of a disciple. Cuts through the traditional verbiage to provide sound information on this important topic. Recommended.

**Barna, George.**

*Absolute Confusion: How our Moral and Spiritual Foundations are Eroding in this Age of Change.*

Vol. 3: The Barna Report, 1993-94. Ventura, CA: Regal Books, 1993.

Aptly titled, this book reveals to us much about ourselves. The poll upon which Barna bases his presentation of certain undeniable facts probed such issues as church attendance, prayer, Bible

reading, homosexuality, television and the media, charitable donations, Sunday school attendance, recovery groups, and much more. This book deserves careful reading by all who are concerned about the present malaise. Recommended.

**Barna, George.**

*If Things Are So Good, Why Do I Feel So Bad?*

Chicago: Moody Press, 1994.

Barna is always provocative, and this book enhances his reputation as a social critic. He evaluates our contemporary milieu (religiously, socially, economically) and draws some important principles for today's seekers after satisfaction. He not only explains why the search for satisfaction is like a vanishing dream, he also shows each reader what he/she can do about it.

**Barnes, M. Craig.**

*Yearning: Living Between How It Is and How It Ought To Be.*

Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1991.

Pop psychology claims that people in all walks of life should be fulfilled. Advertisements tease people with the promise of fulfillment if they will only do such-and-such. And many preachers, as well as a certain genre of Christian book, advocate fulfillment through their "feel good" or "positive mental attitude" approaches. Surprisingly, Barnes disagrees. Building upon the teaching of the early chapters of Genesis, he shows that such expectations are false and only serve to intensify one's pain and increase one's disillusionment. "What do you do with a life that falls short of realized wholeness?" asks Martin E. Marty. "That is the plot of this book. I am so eager to have you be drawn into the plot that I shall not detail any part of it. Read on" (from the Foreword).

**Begg, Alistair.**

*Made For His Pleasure: Ten Benchmarks of a Vital Faith.*

Chicago: Moody, 1996.

"The truths in this feast Alistair has set before us are eternal, but the table setting and arrangement are exhilaratingly fresh, captivating, and warmly personal. Because pleasing Him is our own ambition, the sine quo non, only the foolish would resist the great help to fulfill this ambition this book will provide."—John F. MacArthur, Jr.

**Biehl, Bobb.**

*Why You Do What You Do.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers,, 1993.

"This is the fastest tool I've seen for getting right to the heart of the emotional issues. [I found it to contain] a profoundly simple understanding of both problems and solutions--in lay terms."-- Stephen Arterburn.

**Bisset, Tom.**

*Why Christian Kids Leave the Faith.*

Grand Rapids: Discovery, 1997.

Breaks new ground to reveal why teenagers turn away from the church and the traditions in which they were reared. This is a book every parent will want to read during their children's latency years.

**Biuso, Joseph, Brian Newman, and Gary Wilde.**

*Receiving Love.*

Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1996.

Love is critically important to all of us, yet somehow, it seems that some people have a higher "love quotient" than others. They give love freely and seem to bask in the love of those around them. Unfortunately for many other individuals love seems unattainable, like some distant dream. If so, then this book is for you.

**Boice, James Montgomery.**

*Christ's Call to Discipleship.*

Grand Rapids: Kregel, 1998.

First published in 1986. Explains the meaning of discipleship and then describes the process of growth. But this is not all. Boice deals realistically with the cost and rewards. Here is a theologically reliable book that can be used to good effect in "discipleship classes."

Recommended.

**Boice, James Montgomery.**

*Renewing Your Mind in a Mindless World: Learning to Think and Act Biblically.*

Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2001.

An able exposition of Romans 12:1-2. Timely and challenging. Recommended,

**Bonhoeffer, Dietrich.**

*Life Together.*

Translated by J. W. Doberstein. San Francisco: HarperCollins, 1993.

The reissue of a 1954 classic. Discusses the complimentary roles of personal prayer, worship, and service within the community of believers.

**Boreham, Frank William.**

*Mountains in the Mist.*

Grand Rapids: Kregel Publications, 1995.

Contains reminiscences based on the author's travels "down under." Each anecdote reveals some important truth. Readers will find these devotional thoughts refreshingly different from the usual fare.

**Boreham, Frank William.**

*The Luggage of Life.*

Grand Rapids: Kregel Publications, 1995.

First published in 1912. Contains lively illustrations of truth drawn from commonplace events and circumstances. Preachers will find these observations of life to be pertinent to the present in spite of the passage of time. This book can also be read by lay people to their eternal profit.

**Bridges, Ronald F.**

*Disciplines of the Devoted Heart.*

San Bernardino, CA: Here's Life Publishers, 1991.

This book is unlike most devotional treatises. The author has packed a lot of practical information into each chapter. Recommended.

**Briley, Richard Gaylord.**

*Everything I Needed to Know About Success, I Learned in the Bible.*

Glen, NH: Publisher-in-the-Glen, 1993.

The author deserves an "A" for effort. He has ransacked the Bible for principles of success, and there is much sound wisdom in this slender volume. Sometimes the Scriptural proof texts have been taken out-of-context. This is lamentable. And Briley gives no evidence of having consulted a single commentary to check on his interpretation. This, too, is to be regretted. However, the upbeat tone of his words does lift the spirit, even though he tends to transfer the temporal blessings promised to Israel to the believer.

**Brouwer, Douglas J.**

*Beyond "I Do": What Christians Believe About Marriage.*

Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2001.

The author makes a strong appeal to Christians to found their relationship on time-tested, abiding principles so that couples can weather the storms that invariably threaten all relationships. His counsel is plain and easy to follow, and throughout he manifests a compassionate spirit.

**Bunyan, John.**

*All Love's Excelling: The Saint's Knowledge of Christ's Love.*

Carlisle, PA: Banner of Truth, 1998.

Expounds Ephesians 3:18-19. This phrase-by-phrase discussion was first published in 1692. Rich in spiritual application.

**Carter, Les.**

*Heartfelt Change: Turning Harmful Emotions Into Positive Character.*

Chicago: Moody Press, 1993.

First published in 1987 under the title *The Missing Peace*. Deals with emotions common to all people, explains how they inhibit personal and spiritual growth, and points the way out of the rut that can easily become a deep trench. Also describes sin's role in our emotions, the psychological barriers to personal growth, and the way to put what one has learned into practice. Shows how to experience the presence of Christ, learn good communication skills, and grow in all aspects of one's personality. Recommended.

**Carter, Les.**

*Putting the Past Behind: Biblical Solutions to Your Unmet Needs.*

Chicago: Moody Press, 1989.

“In his excellent book Carter puts his finger right on the five most basic needs lacking in those who experience emotional tensions. He shows keen insight into the influence that the environment has upon our emotions. The illustrations offered in the book demonstrate his knack for knowing how to relate [to people] at the precise points of pain.”--Frank Minirth.

**Carter, Tom.**

*Thirteen Crucial Questions Jesus Wants to Ask You.*

Grand Rapids: Kregel, 1999.

This book is admirably suited for use in adult Bible study groups. Questions to promote discussion are included. Carter's presentation of Christ's questions leads readers to understand the deeper implications of His life and message.

**Chapell, Bryan.**

*The Wonder Of It All: Rediscovering the Treasures of Your Faith.*

Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 1999.

What does it mean to “love the Lord with all your heart, soul, and strength”? Chapell explains how a genuine love for the Lord may be kindled or rekindled. He warns readers of counterfeit experiences. This is a sorely needed book.

**Cloud, Henry, and John Townsend.**

*Boundaries: When to Say Yes, and When to Say No.*

Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1992.

The authors believe that having clear boundaries is essential to a healthy, balanced lifestyle. Within these pages they show their readers how to set physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual boundaries. They offer Biblically-based answers to the tough questions Christians face, and show them how to establish healthy parameters of conduct with their parents, spouse, friends, co-workers, and others whom they may meet at church, in the elevator, at “Little League,” et cetera.

**Cloud, Henry, and John Townsend.**

*False Assumptions.*

Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1994.

All the books produced to date by this duo are of the utmost importance. The confusion of voices in today's Christian world has become immense. Cloud and Townsend unscramble most of what the far-right vs. liberal establishment is thinking, probe the ethical quandaries that have arisen as a result of mass communication, and point a way out of the quagmire of confusing beliefs through a unique blend of psychological and Scriptural teaching.

**Clyde, Marianne.**

*You Are One In a Million: The Art of Asking Questions That Produce Results.*

Washington, DC: May Day Press, 1995.

Gives guidelines that will help the reader define his/her direction, learn how to ask the right types of questions, and overcome resistance. The principles in this book can be applied to all areas of life.

**Collins, Kenneth J.**

*Soul Care: Deliverance and Renewal Through the Christian Life.*

Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1995.

“Helpfully juxtaposes contemporary understandings of the self with the spirituality of the saints. The result illumines the nature of both sin and grace.”--Robert K. Johnston.

**Cook, Andy.**

*The Search for God's Own Heart: Finding a Genuine Relationship with God.*

Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2001.

Cook masterfully weaves stories of David, Jonathan and Saul through our routine lives, reminding us that we too face a “Road of Repentance,” a “Garden of Adversity,” and a “Search for God's Own Heart.”

**Covey, Stephen R., A. Roger Merrill, and Rebecca R. Merrill.**

*First Things First: To Live, to Love, to Learn, to Leave a Legacy.*

New York: Simon and Schuster, 1994.

An important work that is possibly the best personal development book to be written within the last decade. Points the way to creating lives filled with meaning. A must! By all means obtain it and read it!

**Crabb, Lawrence.**

*Inside Out.*

Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1998.

An expanded version issued on the 10th anniversary of the 1st edition. Describes a bold statement of what the author believes to be the single most important aspect of Christian growth.

**Curtis, Brent, and John Eldredge.**

*The Sacred Romance: Drawing Closer to the Heart of God.*

Nashville: Nelson, 1997.

The authors invite us to see what God is doing behind the scenes of our lives to woo us to Himself. They interweave personal experience with biblical truth and practical wisdom. Encouragement fills every page of this book. Recommended.

**Diggs, Steve.**

*Free to Succeed: 12 Dynamic Keys to Experiencing and Enjoying Godly Success.*

Tarrytown, NY: Fleming H. Revell Co., 1992.

Assesses what real success is, and then explains how Christians may attain it. Untangles the knots in the thinking of some people so that the stress and uncertainty of becoming successful is removed. Ably correlates Biblical principles with daily life.

**Evans, Anthony T.**

*The Battle Is the Lord's: Waging Victorious Spiritual Warfare.*

Chicago: Moody, 1998.

In 20 authoritative chapters Evans discusses the character and activity of Satan and his agents. Of particular importance is the author's treatment of the believer's authority and the way in which Christians can tear down the strongholds of the devil. Recommended.

**Evans, Anthony T.**

*The Victorious Christian Life.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1994.

This work is a guide to spiritual success. Billy Graham said, "[It] will change anyone who feels caught in a web of stale and ineffective Christian living." Points the way to finding purpose in life. Recommended.

**Evans, James Stewart.**

*Uncommon Gifts: Transforming Learning Disabilities into Blessings.*

Wheaton, IL: H. Shaw, 1998.

This book reveals the author's journey from brokenness to a fuller life of caring for others and his discovery that the grace of God can transform our greatest weaknesses into unexpected strengths. An excellent book.

**Evans, Pamela.**

*The Overcommitted Christian: Serving God Without Wearing Out.*

Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2001.

Mrs. Evans, a physician and counselor, writes from long experience with Christians who have become "burned out" in their service of the Lord. Beginning with "Religion Can Damage Your Health," she asks the hard questions and shows interested readers how they may break the cycle of religious addiction and pace themselves so that they may effectively serve the Lord all of their lives.

**Foth, Richard, and Ruth Foth.**

*When the Giant Lies Down.*

Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1995.

The essential theme of this book is about building relationships. It includes observations about why relationships are crucial in today's world, and how relationships are built. Includes a discussion of power, and explains how in the long run relational power transcends all forms of power. Includes human models of authentic relationships.



**Gillespie, Virgil Bailey.**

*The Dynamics of Religious Conversion.*

Birmingham, AL: Religious Education Press, 1991.

Focuses attention on two foci: identity and transformation. Probes the reason why people identify themselves with different religious groups, and then assesses the process of change or transformation. Whereas the former is treated broadly, the latter is interpreted within an Eriksonian framework. Even those who disagree with Gillespie's approach will find this a mind-stretching book.

**Graham, Franklin.**

*Living Beyond the Limits: A Life in Sync with God.*

Nashville: Nelson, 1998.

Partly biographical and partly inspirational, this work encourages believers to live Christ-centered lives.

**Grayson, Curt, and Jan Johnson.**

*Healing Helps That Sabotage the Soul.*

Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1995.

Here is a book by a psychologist and a writer who are both Christians. They feel deeply the hurts that hinder many believers from leading full, productive lives. And, because they care, they offer important insights into a variety of emotional and relational disorders.

**Halliday, Steve.**

*No Night Too Dark: How God Turns Defeat Into Glorious Triumph.*

Sisters, OR: Multnomah Books, 1993.

Invites readers to look for evidences of God's activity in all the occurrences of life., and especially in times of adversity. Uses Scripture and history to illustrate how God works even in our darkest hours.

**Harkin, Jeff.**

*Grace Plus Nothing.*

Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House Publishers, 1992.

Formerly published under the title *Celebration of Grace* (1990). In brief, pertinent chapters the author describes how self-effort always leads to spiritual failure, whereas appropriating the grace of God results in a life of effective service.

**Hawkins, Don.**

*Never Give Up.*

Neptune, NJ: Loizeaux Brothers, 1992.

As an "agent of hope," Hawkins describes and illustrates the need for perseverance. He grounds his appeal in the need for commitment, and then discusses the physical and emotional problems that can lead to discouragement, depression, and despair. Recommended.

**Hendricks, Howard George.**

*Color Outside the Lines: A Revolutionary Approach to Creative Leadership.*

Nashville: Word, 1998.

With the emphasis on creativity, Hendricks proposes a nine-step approach to infusing leaders with the kind of spiritual dynamic that gets things done and warms the hearts of those who are led.

Recommended.

**Hennings, Chad.**

*It Takes Commitment.*

Sisters OR: Multnomah, 1996.

“Chad is extremely dedicated and committed in his spiritual life.... His family and professional life are equal testament to Chad’s dedication to being a man of God on and off the field. I highly recommend [this book] for every American youth.”—Emmett Smith.

**Houston, James.**

*The Heart's Desire: Satisfying the Hunger of the Soul.*

Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1996.

A very perceptive treatise. Houston points out that our desires have enormous influence over our lives. When God is not at the center of our desires they can imprison us in despair. When He is then the reality of eternity frees us to find true fulfillment through fellowship with God.

**Hummel, Charles E.**

*Freedom From the Tyranny of the Urgent.*

Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1997.

A sequel to *Tyranny of the Urgent*. Focuses on the religious aspects of time management.

**Issler, Klaus Dieter.**

*Wasting Time with God: A Christian Spirituality of Friendship with God.*

Downers Grove, IL: IVP, 2001.

Don't let the title of this book put you off reading it. Many have lauded this work. Paul Moser wrote, “Drawing from his profound personal experience of God, Issler brings Christian theology to real life via pursuit of deep friendship with God. Attentive readers will be powerfully challenged to enter into such dynamic friendship and its resulting community of God.”

Recommended.

**Jeffress, Robert.**

*Choose Your Attitudes, Change Your Life.*

Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1992.

This is not the typical PMA--(Positive Mental Attitude)--book “that is sweet to eat, quick to swallow, but does not satisfy one’s hunger. Jeffress has done an excellent job of presenting deep biblical truths in a message of hope. His step-by-step approach to illustrate and to apply biblical

truths brings the insight of a scholar down to the level of those of us who are interested in bottom-line results and a real life change.”--Howard G. Hendricks.

**Keller, Weldon Phillip.**

*Walking with God: Wholeness and Holiness for Common Christians.*

Grand Rapids: Kregel, 1998.

First published in 1980. Designed for “the weary and worn who have lost their way and are uncertain where to turn.... [This book] is designed especially for those seeking souls who long to walk with God in humble joy—who ache fiercely for the Master’s friendship.”—Foreword.

**Keller, Weldon Phillip.**

*What Makes Life Worth Living.*

Grand Rapids: Kregel, 1998.

In 21 brief essays the late author discusses the essence of a life of godliness while explaining the sources of fulfillment.

**Klarreich, Samuel H.**

*“It Can’t Happen To Me”: How To Overcome 99 of Life’s Most Distressing Problems.*

New York: Brunner/Mazel Publishers, 1992.

Using case histories--stories told by the counselees themselves--the author discusses everything from the loss of one’s job to fear of retirement, and from the care of an elderly parent to losing one’s memory or raising a disabled child. The length of each discussion varies (with two pages being the average).

**Laney, J. Carl.**

*Everything I Know About Success I Learned from the Bible: Life Principles from the Wisdom Books.*

Grand Rapids: Kregel Publications, 1996.

Delves into the books of Job through Song of Solomon, and from them derive principles of success that can be applied to one’s family, career, and finances. First published in 1988.

**Larsen, David L.**

*Biblical Spirituality: Discovering the Real Connection Between the Bible and Life.*

Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2001.

In this insightful study Larsen leads the reader into a consideration of the major doctrines of the Christian faith showing how each contributes to the believer’s spiritual growth. Larsen bridges the gap between faith and practice, and shows us how to put the truths taught in the Bible into action. Recommended.

**Laurie, Greg.**

*The Great Compromise.*

Dallas, TX: World Publishing, 1994.

Billed as a “survival manual,” this book really is an expose of Satan’s wiles and devices. It reveals his ploy to side-track and trip-up Christians by ensnaring them in a maze of conflicting emotions and compromising situations. A valuable treatise.

**Lewis, Michael, and Jeanette M. Haviland, eds.**

*Handbook of Emotions.*

New York: Guilford Press, 1993.

A secular work. Described as “one of the most complete and authoritative discussions of the human affects ... [it] announces how much progress has occurred since William James’s classic essays.”--Jerome Kagan.

**Lucado, Max.**

*In the Eye of the Storm: A Day in the Life of Jesus.*

Dallas, TX: Word Publishing, 1991.

Seeks to help harried believers find peace in the “eye of the storm.” Lucado’s illustrations are worth much more than the price of this book. They are humorous, informative, and instructive. Lucado’s intent is to exalt Jesus Christ and show how those who are rightly related to Him can find comfort and consolation amid the vicissitudes of life.

**Lucado, Max.**

*When God Whispers Your Name.*

Dallas, TX: Word Publications, 1994.

A contemporary appraisal of select Bible characters showing how their example helps us lead less hurried, worry-free lives.

**Lutzer, Erwin Wesley.**

*Putting Your Past Behind You: Finding Hope for Life’s Deepest Hurts.* Revised and expanded ed. Chicago: Moody, 1997.

This book breathes encouragement to all who hurt. In it Lutzer explains the teaching of Scripture on a variety of problems. His counsel is clear and it is hoped that many will read this book and find release from the pain of the past.

**MacArthur, John F., Jr.**

*How to Survive in a World of Unbelievers: Jesus’ Words of Encouragement on the Night Before His Death.*

Nashville: Word, 2001.

Twelve pertinent, devotional messages based on John 13—16 showing how Christians should conduct themselves in an increasingly secular society.

**MacArthur, John F., Jr.**

*The Power of Suffering: Strengthening Your Faith in the Refiner’s Fire.*

Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1995.

Examines the reality of pain and the inevitable trials of the Christian life. Offers a plausible explanation for the deep valleys each of us must traverse, and examines the unique and important role suffering plays each believer's life. Contains Biblical principles that will encourage the reader to cherish adversity while also learning how to comfort and encourage others.

**MacDonald, Gordon.**

*The Life God Blesses.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1994.

What are the characteristics or evidences of godliness? MacDonald digs deeply into the Scriptures, and from his study determines that godliness is the result of trials that are evident in proven character. It comes as no surprise to the reader, therefore, to have pointed out that such character comes as a result of having weathered the storms of life. But God does not abandon His children to struggle along on their own. He also makes provision for them so that they can rise above the vicissitudes of life. In the end MacDonald shows that God blesses the life of the one who is devoted to Him, obedient to His Word, and honors Him.

**Marian, Jim.**

*Growing Up Christian.*

“[This] is a tremendous book that will benefit all who minister to ‘church kids.’ [The author] demonstrates a thorough knowledge of the subject as he provides clear and relevant illustrations, well-thought out counsel, and solid, open-ended discussion questions. I pray that this book will find its way into the hands of those who minister to kids ‘growing up Christian.’” --Eric Heard. Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1992.

**Martin, Hugh.**

*Christ For Us.*

Carlisle, PA: Banner of Truth, 1998.

Fifteen sermons that cover a range of themes from the righteousness of faith, the eternal priesthood of Christ, and the blessings of a believer's union with Him.

**Mason, Dale, and Karen Mason.**

*Married to Television: Restructuring Your Prime Time.*

Denver, CO: Accent Books,, 1990.

“[This book] is not only timely but challenging to each of us concerned about families! [The Masons'] book is practical, hard-hitting, and must reading ....

**McCullough, Donald W.**

*The Power of Realistic Thinking: How to Cope When How-to Books Fail.*

Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1992.

Formerly published under the title Waking From the American Dream. Just what is ‘success’ for the Christian? What are the measurements for acceptance or approval by God or by one's fellow

believers? And what do we do when all we have struggled for fails us? McCullough addresses these hard questions and provides realistic answers grounded in eternal realities.

**McQuilkin, J. Robertson, ed.**

*Free and Fulfilled: Victorious Christian Living in the Twenty-first Century.*

Nashville: Nelson, 1997.

The editor has assembled a team of Christian leaders—Baptist, Independent, Four Square, Presbyterian—who are either his friends or have had some association with the Columbia International University. The goal of these chapters is to present different views of the victorious Christian life. The chapters are challenging, even though they do not offer a theologically consistent approach to the doctrine of sanctification.

**Meier, Paul, and Robert Wise.**

*Windows of the Soul: A Look at Dreams and Their Meanings.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1995.

Do dreams have meaning? “Your dreams are probably trying to tell you something, and it may not be what you think.” So write the authors. Then they explain the basic principles of dream-interpretation. Insightful.

**Meier, Paul.**

*Don't Let Jerks Get the Best of You.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1993.

The cover carries the subtitle, “Advice for Dealing with Difficult People.” Focuses on masochists and the way their temperament can adversely affect people. And for those who are masochists, Meier points the way out of the quagmire toward acceptable maturity.

**Minirth, Frank B.**

*The Power of Memories: How to Use them to Improve Your Health and Well-being.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1995.

Covers all aspects of our memories in an easy-to-read style. Of particular value are Minirth's discussions of “When Memory Works Against Us,” and “When Memories Build the Future.” Helpful. Fills a lacuna in self-help literature.

**Minirth, Frank B., and Mark Littleton.**

*You Can!*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1994.

After a chapter designed to encourage readers to persevere through their problems, the authors discuss seven principles that will help them cope with, and finally master, the difficulties they face. Helpful.

**Morley, Patrick M.**

*The Rest of Your Life.*

Nashville: Nelson, 1992.

Helps readers develop a personal plan for finding authentic meaning and significance in life. An excellent discussion.

**Morley, Patrick M.**

*Walking With Christ in the Details of Life.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1992.

Formerly published under the title *I Surrender* (1990), this book treats the place and importance of obedience in the life of the believer. Makes compelling reading. Recommended.

**Nash, Tom.**

*The Christian Communicator's Handbook.*

Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1995.

This is an excellent book that explains the art and science of good communication. It is designed to be especially useful to Christians who wish to increase their effectiveness in life and ministry. Each of the 17 chapters presents practical ideas that will work in a variety of situations in which pastors, Sunday school teachers, youth leaders, home Bible study leaders, school teachers, administrators, counselors, broadcasters, bookstore personnel, camp directors, parents, spouses, and many others find themselves. An excellent resource.

**Newman, Deborah.**

*Then God Created Woman: Finding Fulfillment as the Woman God Intended You To Be.*

Colorado Springs, CO: Focus on the Family, 1997.

Through the experiences of women at various stages in life, Newman takes readers on an exploration of the many ways relationships affect a woman's sense of esteem. Her goal is to show that only a healthy relationship with Christ can fully meet a woman's needs.

**Nouwen, Henri J. M.**

*Life of the Beloved: Spiritual Living in a Secular World.*

New York: Crossroad Publishing Company, 1992.

This is the story of a friendship in which a Catholic priest and a "secular Jew" explore their respective faiths as they grow in their knowledge of God and His love for them.

**Olford, Stephen F.**

*The Grace of Giving: A Biblical Study of Christian Stewardship.* Revised ed.

Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2000.

First published in 1972. An important, practical exposition. "Dr. Olford is true to the biblical text, creative in his expositions, and intensely practical in his application. He speaks convincingly to Christians today to rise above the influences of materialism and to put God first."—Gene A. Getz.

**Olford, Stephen F.**

*The Way of Holiness: Signposts to Guide Us.*

Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 1998.

This renowned Keswick speaker expounds selected passages of Scripture on sin, forgiveness, holiness, Christ-centeredness, yieldedness, usefulness, and readiness. Each chapter is a model of excellence in exposition.

**Oliver, Gary Jackson, and H. Norman Wright.**

*Pressure Points.*

Chicago: Moody Press, 1993.

Deals with the causes and cure of anger. Along the way the authors treat related issues (e.g., stress, harassment, abuse, and anger generated by interpersonal relationships with family members). Specifically slanted to the needs of wives/mothers.

**Oliver, Gary Jackson, and Harry Norman Wright.**

*When Anger Hits Home: Taking Care of Your Anger Without Taking It Out on Your Family.*

Chicago: Moody Press, 1992.

“Mismanaged anger rips up marriages and steals the joy right out of our homes. Without a doubt such anger is the most widespread problem that families face today. In practical ways [the authors] help us understand the value of anger and how to make this God-given emotion work for us rather than against us.”--John Trent.

**Oliver, Gary Jackson.**

*Real Men Have Feelings Too.*

Chicago: Moody Press, 1993.

This powerful discussion of the place of feelings in the balanced growth of each male begins with Oliver's dispensing with the myths of male masculinity. He then goes on to deal candidly with fear, anger, loneliness, love, worry, depression, and more.

**Paxson, Ruth.**

*Life on the Highest Plane: God's Plan for Spiritual Maturity.*

3 vols. In 1. Grand Rapids: Kregel Publications, 1996.

Reprinted from the 1983 edition. This book has stood the test of time. It's message is grounded in the work of Christ, and in its application to the life of the believer it builds upon the work of the Holy Spirit. Though somewhat pedestrian in style, Miss Paxson's approach is to be commended.

**Peel, William Carr, and Kathy Peel.**

*Discover Your Destiny: Finding the Courage to Follow Your Dreams.*

Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1996.

The Peels' believe that our dreams are God-given—and should be pursued. In this book they explain how they can become a reality. Some psychologists believe that this procedure will open up a new dimension of reality.



**Peel, William Carr.**

*Living in the Lion's Den Without being Eaten.*

Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1994.

“If I could clone one Old Testament character for contemporary society, it would be Daniel. Here is a must read [book] for anyone concerned about relating biblical truth to current issues.”-- Howard G. Hendricks.

**Pentecost, John Dwight.**

*Designed to Be Like Him: Understanding God's Plan for Fellowship, Conduct, Conflict, and Maturity.*

Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2001.

First published in 1966. A devotional work that ably correlates the teaching of the apostle Paul with the Gospel narratives about the life of Christ. Follows the four-fold format of the subtitle. A work of rare excellence.

**Piper, John.**

*Future Grace.*

Sisters, OR: Multnomah Press, 1995.

This is a book for those who want to mature spiritually. It cuts across traditional theories of spiritual maturity to show us what God expects of His children. While readers will not agree with everything Piper says, his discussion of the issues is fresh and unfettered by theological convention. Each chapter makes stimulating reading.

**Pritchard, Ray.**

*The Road Best Traveled.*

Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 1995.

Carries a subtitle on the cover: “Knowing God's Will For Your Life.” Takes the mysticism out of the quest. Plainly written, ably illustrated with human interest stories, and remarkably perceptive, this is a book that will delight young people in the church. Recommended.

**Richo, David.**

*When Love Meets Fear: How to Become Defense-less and Resource-full.*

New York: Paulist, n.d.

Draws information from Greek literature, Zen Buddhism, and the experience of counselees to illustrate how people may overcome fear. Examines the roots of fear, including fear of love, and offers simple steps toward recovery.

**Robertson, O. Palmer.**

*The Final Word: A Biblical Response to the Case for Tongues and Prophecy Today.*

Carlisle, PA: Banner of Truth, 1993.

The author writes to correct the landslide on the part of evangelicals within the church toward “signs and wonders” and the practice of “tongues” and “prophecy.” Also discusses Wayne Grudem’s widely espoused views.

**Rogers, Adrian.**

*The Power of His Presence.*

Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 1995.

Rogers believes that the “curse of modern Christianity is the desert of dry mediocrity in which so many Christians are living.” He clarifies some of the common misunderstandings of what it means to have Christ living within, and takes his readers back to the OT tabernacle and temple to show how they are visual models of God’s desire to dwell among His people. He also explains what believers must do, and then describes the results of God living within us. Practical.

**Ryle, John Charles.**

*Old Paths: Being Plain Statements on Some of the Weighty Matters of Christianity.*

Carlisle, PA: Banner of Truth, 1999.

First published in 1878. Contains 19 sermons on as many theological themes. Evangelical. Recommended.

**Ryle, John Charles.**

*Practical Religion: Being Plain Papers on the Daily Issues, Experience, Dangers, and Privileges of Professing Christians.* New and Improved ed.

Carlisle, PA: Banner of Truth, 1998.

First published in 1878. Deals with issues such as self-inquiry, prayer, Bible reading, zeal, freedom, happiness, and much more. A valuable compendium of information designed to aid the spiritual growth of readers.

**Sibbes, Richard.**

*The Bruised Reed.*

Carlisle, PA: Banner of Truth, 1998.

First published in 1630. Contains 16 sermons designed to encourage the downhearted and point the way through despair to eventual victory. Readers will find in this volume a blend of sound theology and practical counsel.

**Smith, Donna Rae.**

*Building Your Bright Side.*

Tarrytown, NY: Wynwood Press, 1991.

Here is a book about success, but it is not the usual kind of treatise that one has read before. Smith focuses on involvement with others so that they are made successful and able to reach their full potential. Her approach is positive. This is an eye-opening work.

**Smith, Ron.**

*Hooked on the Word: Changing Your Life Through Bible Meditation.*

Lakeside, MT: West Shore Books, 1994.

Brief, pertinent chapters dealing with the power of Scriptural meditation to change lives from within. Recommended.

**Stanley, Charles F.**

*Confronting Casual Christianity.*

Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 1998.

First published in 1985. Contains study questions by Yvonne Burrage. Focuses on making Christ the Lord of one's life. Exposes the apathy of many Christians. Carefully diagnoses the reasons for indifference and provides the cure. An important work.

**Stanley, Charles F.**

*The Glorious Journey.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1996.

Tackles "Church Concerns," "Daily Living," "Doctrine" and much more. Each discussion of a topic (e.g., "Loneliness," "Love," etc.) is pithy and combines practical insights with the application of Scripture to life. The result is a concise compendium that all will enjoy.

**Stephens, Larry D., and James D. Denney.**

*Please Let Me Know You, God: How To Restore a True Image of God and Experience His Love Again.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1993.

This 30-day manual presents the nature of God as loving, gracious, and Fatherly. The goal is to restore each reader's faith in God's positive attributes and experience those traits in a daily close relationship with Him.

**Stevens, R. Paul.**

*Disciplines of the Hungry Heart: Christian Living Seven Days a Week.*

Wheaton, IL: Harold Shaw Publishers, 1993.

Divides his presentation into seven parts. Tackles Christian living at work, within the family circle, with the opposite sex, with siblings, when we are alone, with friends and neighbors, and on the day of rest.

**Stoop, Jan, and David A. Stoop.**

*Saying Goodbye to Disappointment: Finding Hope When Our Dreams Don't Come True.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1993.

Are you single when you'd rather be married? Do you suffer from a low sense of personal esteem? Or do you feel a general sense of disappointment and not really know why? As a result of their own experience of working with women, the Stoops show their readers how to overcome disappointment, deal with unresolved anger, and assuage their hurts. Here is a Biblically-based

approach that will assist people overcome their problems so that they can move on with their lives.

**Stowell, Joseph M., III.**

*Far From Home: The Soul's Search for Intimacy with God.*

Chicago: Moody, 1998.

Stowell calls upon readers to live a radical, biblically-based lifestyle. He engenders in his readers a thirst for God's Word and emphasizes the importance of maintaining intimacy in our daily walk in spite of the vicissitudes through which we pass. Recommended.

**Stowell, Joseph M., III.**

*Perilous Pursuits.*

Chicago: Moody Press, 1994.

Our need for significance is part of our nature. We believe we can create personal fulfillment through prosperity, performance, and the quest for power. Stowell deals with our needs under four headings: Regret, reunion, refocus, and response. His approach is thoroughly Biblical, and an epilogue ties everything together. Recommended.

**Strean, Herbert S., and Lucy Freeman.**

*Why People Fail.*

Tarrytown, NY: Wynwood Press, 1992.

"Failure," write the authors, "has many faces, many causes, and many forms.... One of the keys to resolving failures is to understand better how and why we experience them as we do. Many of us view our inability to achieve in love, work, or play as a severe stigma. We berate ourselves because we believe we must be the best and the most beautiful or the most handsome in order to feel successful, despite the fact that no person can ever attain all the achievements he [or she] fantasizes. Most failures can be overcome if we recognize how and why we somehow produced them, for failure in most instances is a script written unconsciously by the one who fails.... Too often failure is self-imposed because we feel guilty about success. We cannot tolerate our success, so we arrange, albeit unconsciously, to plunge into depression, to feel dejected or devalued in spite of achievements...." The counsel in this book, if followed, can lead to a better understanding of ourselves, greater success, and happier, healthier lives for all concerned.

**Strombeck, John Frederick.**

*Disciplined By Grace: Studies in Christian Conduct.*

Grand Rapids: Kregel Publications, 1991.

As Warren Wiersbe has pointed out, Strombeck's *Shall Never Perish* settles for us the matter of our security in Christ; *Grace and Truth* helps us understand the relationship between law and grace, and *Disciplined by Grace* balances these doctrines and delivers us from gravitating toward unwarranted extremes.

**Swartz, David.**

*Embracing God.*

Eugene, OR: Harvest House Publishers, 1994.

Seeks to awaken in the heart of the reader a desire to know God more intimately and enjoy His love. Challenging.

**Swenson, Richard A.**

*Margin: How to Create the Emotional, Physical, Financial, and Time Reserves You Need.*

Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1992.

Deals with illness and the problem of pain, followed by counsel on how to balance time and energy, with specific guidance on regaining one's health. A needed work. Recommended.

**Swenson, Richard A.**

*The Overload Syndrome: Learning to Live Within Our Limits.*

Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1998.

Here is a practical, well-reasoned book on how to beat stress, reorder priorities, and lead a meaningful, fulfilling life. Swenson outlines ways to relieve the contemporary overloads of change and stress, debt, hurry and fatigue, possessions and work. A valuable discussion.

**Swindoll, Charles Rozell.**

*Start Where You Are: Catch a Fresh Vision of Your Life.*

Nashville: Word, 1999.

Takes incidents from the lives of Bible personalities and draws from them principles for living a fulfilling life.

**Thurman, Chris.**

*If Christ Were Your Counselor.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1993.

In 15 brief chapters Thurman, a psychologist, explains the reasons for the present mental, emotional, and spiritual malaise. He also points the way to soundness and health through obedience to Christ's commands before treating questions of forgiveness, taking responsibility, being honest, and relying on God. Recommended.

**Thurman, Chris.**

*The Truths We Must Believe.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1991.

A sequel to *The Lies We Believe*. Offers a plan whereby readers may improve their emotional health. Grounds his counsel in the need for truth/honesty, and then describes a dozen principles that, when put into practice, lead to a healthy, happy life. Concludes with a 30-day Truth Program. Recommended.

**Thurman, Chris.**

*The Twelve Best Kept Secrets for Living an Emotionally Healthy Life.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1991.

Begins by emphasizing the need to establish our lives on the truth. Then presents insightful and practical chapters that will result in better emotional health. Injects into many of our foibles and fanciful daydreams a note of reality. Concludes with a program for putting the truth into operation in our daily lives. Recommended.

**Trent, John, and Rick Hicks.**

*Seeking Solid Ground: Anchoring Your Life in Godly Character.*

Colorado Springs, CO: Focus on the Family, 1995.

Following an introductory section designed to lead readers to “solid ground,” the authors provide ten keys that serve like stepping stones in the development of Christian character. Their belief is that, thus equipped, men will be able to withstand worldly pressures that otherwise might nullify their testimony. Recommended.

**Trent, John.**

*LifeMapping.*

Colorado Springs, CO: Focus on the Family, 1994.

“A long-overdue guide to understanding and dealing with the circumstances of life. Trent makes some of life’s mountains and valleys much more comprehensible. More importantly [his] book helps map a pathway for your future steps. This is must reading for everyone.”--Robert Barnes.

**Van Dyken, Seymour, and Barbara M. Van Dyken.**

*Becoming Like Jesus: Nurturing the Virtues of Christ. The Fruit of the Spirit in Human Experience.*

Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1996.

Every four years politicians campaign on restoring our nation’s values. Do they know what they are advocating and the changes that would have to take place in their lives? The Van Dykens’ take a practical look at what is involved in becoming more like Jesus. They study the fruit of the spirit, consider love to be the fundamental attribute, and then go on to discuss joy, peace, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Included are nine inspiring poems by Barbara Van Dyken.

**Virkler, Henry A.**

*Speaking Your Mind Without Stepping One Toes.*

Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1991.

Assertiveness is the ability to express your thoughts, feelings, beliefs, and desires in direct, honest, appropriate ways that do not violate the rights, needs, and sense of esteem of another person. Positive assertion can become a style of living as well as a healthy way of interacting. Not only does it help you deal with negative feelings that arise when someone’s priorities conflict with your own, but assertiveness also helps you reach out to people and deepen your friendships. This book addresses some areas of possible weakness by examining contemporary approaches to assertion training, then learn how to speak the truth in love, develop the skill of being assertive

without being aggressive, and finally how to remain assertive and positive when others try to sidetrack you into a non-assertive posture.

**Vitz, Paul C.**

*Psychology as Religion: The Cult of Self-Worship.*

2d ed. Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1994.

“This book stands as a penetrating indictment of the cult of self and needs to be read even more urgently today than when it was first published in the 1970s.”--Mary Stewart Van Leeuwen.

**Warren, Richard.**

*The Purpose-Driven Life: What on Earth Am I Here For?*

Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2002.

Divided into 40 chapters, and designed as a 40-day spiritual journey, Warren deals in a practical yet effective way with different aspects of the Christian life. There is little that is original in this work for the author draws heavily on writers of the past. More so than any other book, this one has topped the “best-seller” charts for several months.

**Whiteman, Thomas A., and Randy Petersen.**

*Love Gone Wrong.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1994.

How do you counsel someone who is in a sexually unhealthy relationship? This book shows readers how to identify such relationships and what to do to correct “love gone wrong.”

**Whiteman, Thomas, and Randy Petersen.**

*Becoming Your Own Best Friend: How to Love, Affirm, and Support Yourself.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1994.

Presents sound strategies for confronting personal insecurities and self-doubts. Shows how to build and maintain a healthy self-esteem.

**Whitney, Donald S.**

*Spiritual Disciplines for the Christian Life.*

Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1991.

Covers the basics: Bible reading, prayer, worship, et cetera. Calls believers to pursue Godliness through practicing the disciplines of gratitude and grace, not through self-effort. “I can go on record as urging all Christians to read what Don Whitney has written; indeed, to read it three times over, with a month’s interval (certainly not less, and ideally, I think, not more) between each reading. This will not only make the book sink in, but will also give you a realistic picture of your seriousness, or lack of it, as Jesus’ disciple.”--J. I. Packer.

**Wiersbe, Warren Wendell.**

*A Gallery of Grace: 12 New Testament Pictures of the Christian Life.*

Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2002.

First published in 1988. Deftly describes the dimensions of the Christian life by devoting a chapter to each aspect (e.g., a child in God's family, a sheep, a pilgrim, a member of Christ's body, etc.). As always, Wiersbe's writings are filled with sage wisdom. Recommended.

**Wiersbe, Warren Wendell.**

*On Being a Servant of God.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1993.

Intended for those in vocational ministry, these "chats" by a senior pastor are designed to encourage younger ministers in their pursuit of authentic servanthood. Wiersbe is always insightful, and here he excels. Recommended.

**Wilkins, Michael J.**

*In His Image: Reflecting Christ in Everyday Life.*

Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1997.

"Sharing himself honestly and helpfully, Wilkins marks out in straightforward terms the true path of transformation in Christ. This stern, yet sunny book will help drifting and jaded Christians everywhere."—J. I. Packer.

**Wright, Harry Norman.**

*Chosen for Blessing.*

Eugene, OR: Harvest House Publishers, 1992.

Describes mankind's search for happiness and why it seems so elusive. Reveals the emotional roadblocks that prevent us from experiencing what we desire most. Summarizes the blessings that God has given to His people, and encourages them to appropriate these by faith. A welcome treatise.

**Yoder, Joanie.**

*Finding the God-Dependent Life: A Personal Story of a Life Transformed by the Secret of God-Dependence Over Co-Dependence.*

Grand Rapids: Discovery House, 1992.

"This is not a Cinderella story where problems are solved with wishful thinking and miracle interventions. It is a book ultimately about the faithfulness of God in the midst of real life.... This is a modern true-life story, carrying a needed truth right to the center of our hearts."--Jay Kesler.

**Ziglar, Zig.**

*Over the Top.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1994.

Shows readers how to exchange their fears, guilt, and anger for positive attitudes that will help each person live up to his or her potential. Distinguishes between real faith and "New Age" thinking, pop-psychology, and real achievements.



## *Witnessing*

### **Heck, Joel D., ed.**

*The Art of Sharing Your Faith.*

Tarrytown, NY: Fleming H. Revell Company, 1991.

The contributors to this volume include Ann Kiemel Anderson, Joe Aldrich, Jill Briscoe, Charles Colson, and others. The topics covered focus on being oneself, friendship evangelism, the importance of asking questions, and choosing the right words, et cetera. The result is a practical book from which all Christians may profit.

### **MacArthur, John F., Jr.**

*Nothing But the Truth: Upholding the Gospel in a Doubting Age.*

Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 1999.

Within these covers readers will find sermons that treat “witness bearing” and “evangelism” from a mediating Reformed perspective. MacArthur begins with the attitude believers should have, then discusses the message that should be proclaimed, and concludes with the need to take the gospel where people live. A study guide concludes this work.

### **Owens, Daniel, and Perry Brown.**

*Sharing Christ When You Feel You Can't: Making It Easier to Tell Your Friends and Family About Your Faith in Christ.*

Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 1997.

Ably fulfills the subtitle. Shows how to build bridges to people and lead them to faith in Christ. Makes the process of witnessing easy and painless. Recommended.

## *Guides For Special Circumstances*

### **Allender, Dan B.**

*The Wounded Heart.*

Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1990.

The cover carries the subtitle: Hope for Adult Victims of Childhood Sexual Abuse. Allender believes that the sin of sexual abuse inflicted on a child is the most soul-deadening trauma there is. He exposes the full range of emotions locked up inside every victim of sexual abuse and guides adult victims out of their rage, fear, and confusion to hope and healing in Christ.

### **Anderson, Don.**

*Keep the Fire! Approaching Your Senior Years with Perspective and Passion.*

Sisters, OR: Multnomah Books, 1994.

An essential guide for pastors and church workers. Explains how, instead of sidelining senior citizens, the church can meet their needs and channel their unique talents into constructive

ministries. “Few have been more helpful to so many over the years than Don Anderson as he has translated the Bible into practical rules for living.”--Howard G. Hendricks.

**Anderson, Neil T., and Dave Park.**

*Stomping Out the Darkness.*

Ventura, CA: Regal Books, 1993.

A junior high and high school version of Anderson's *Victory Over Darkness*. This book should be placed in the hands of all young people! Recommended.

**Anderson, Neil T., Mike Quarles, and Julia Quarles.**

*Freedom from Addiction.*

Ventura, CA: Regal Books, 1996.

“Offers a combination of biblical truth and fascinating testimony which demonstrates that Christian salvation is not just an experience for heaven. Christ desires to change lives and bring freedom from destructive habits now. The great value of [this book] is that it not only proclaims this truth, but explains how to make it real.”--Robert L. Saucy.

**Arterburn, Stephen.**

*Winning at Work Without Losing at Love.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1995.

Some people sacrifice friends, loved ones, and even themselves on the way to achieving success in their chosen career. Others have quality relationships but can't succeed at making a living. In this book Arterburn shows his readers how to succeed at both. Practical and helpful.

**Backus, William.**

*The Good News About Worry.*

Minneapolis: Bethany House Publishers, 1991.

All of us experience anxiety at one time or another. Backus writes for the chronically anxious. By blending psychological principles with Scripture he leads readers into an understanding of fear/worry, and explains how readers who are chronically anxious may obtain the victory. A most helpful discussion.

**Baker, Tim.**

*Going Out Without Freaking Out: Dating Made Doable.*

Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2004.

A practical guide for teens to pilot them through the shoals and reefs of relationships.

**Barber, Cyril John.**

*Through the Valley of Tears.*

Eugene, OR: Wipf and Stock, 2004.

A practical book growing out of the author's experiences with death in his own family and in his counseling ministry. Popularly written.

**Bauman, Michael, and David Hall, eds.**

*God and Caesar: Selected Essays from the 1993 Evangelical Theological Society's Convention in Washington, D.C.*

Camp Hill, PA: Christian Publications, 1994.

Contains evangelical position papers on a Christian view of government. Divided into "historical" and "practical" sections. Strongly favors Reformed theology. Beckwith's essay on the New Age movement and public education is excellent. Together, these essays form a valuable critique of the present malaise.

**Beasley, David.**

*How To Use a Research Library,*

New York: Oxford University Press, 1988.

The author is Reference Librarian at the Research Libraries of the New York Public Library. While his book is not unique, it is authoritative and helpful. His focus is on helping people find data in books, journals, serials, et cetera. His methodology is easy-to-understand and helpful.

**Bloom, Allan.**

*Love and Friendship.*

New York: Simon and Schuster, 1993.

Bloom, who gave to the world the discerning critique of contemporary educational mores entitled *The Closing of the American Mind*, here provides an equally as valuable work that could have been called "The Closing of the American Heart." Drawing upon the great love affairs of literature, this gifted author sets forth a recipe for love that is at once attainable and yet is constantly growing. He adds new depth to the term eros, lifting it out of and placing it above modern concepts of love and love-making. The writers from whom Bloom derives much of his inspiration include Rousseau (the avatar of romanticism), and novelists Austen, Flaubert, and Tolstoy. He saw their works as antidotes to the shallow, superficial views espoused in the slogan he saw hung from a student balcony while he was in college: "Great sex is better than great books." Bloom believed that the one was impossible without the other, for the latter provided an imaginative catalyst to deepen and enrich the former. This is a book with a difference. It is not a manual on how to achieve a better than average orgasm. It is the product of a conservative scholar, and aims at enlarging one's understanding of the possibilities of legitimate pleasure.

**Blue, Ken.**

*Healing Spiritual Abuse: How to Break Free From Bad Church Experiences.*

Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1993.

Treats religious addiction, manipulative behavior, and Christian leadership. Focuses on the results of the abuse of power. Uses the book of Matthew as the basis of the counsel offered. Runs the gamut from the invitation to the abused person to embark upon the road to freedom to healthy church discipline. An excellent discussion of a difficult topic.

**Boa, Kenneth, and Gail Burnett.**

*Wisdom at Work: A Biblical Approach to the Workplace.*

Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 2000.

Ideal for use with youth anxious to find their place in the workforce. Combines Scripture with sage counsel.

**Brand, Paul, and Philip Yancey.**

*Pain: The Gift Nobody Wants.*

New York: HarperCollins, 1992.

Part biography, part medical mystery, and part a self-help book, these authors deftly combine medical and spiritual issues as they tackle the problem of pain. The principles they enunciate are able illustrated from Brand's years as a medical missionary to lepers. Perhaps the most important issues to be derived from this book are (1) a message of hope, and (2) the techniques of listening to what your body may be telling you. And in the end, by following the counsel of this gifted duo, readers will be led into new and more effective ways of coping.

**Brewer, Connie.**

*Escaping the Shadows, Seeking the Light: Christians in Recovery from Childhood Sexual Abuse.*

San Francisco: HarperSanFrancisco, 1990.

Child sexual abuse is one of the scourges of our age. The pain inflicted upon a child, with its life-long effects, cannot be calculated. Brewer points the way to the healing of the pain of the past. The counsel given is sane and practical, and offers hope to all who suffer from the trauma of being used and abused.

**Budziskewski, J.**

*How to Stay Christian in College: An Interactive Guide to Keeping the Faith.*

Colorado Springs, CO: InterVarsity, 1999.

An interactive guide through the maze of college realities. Explains the foundations of the Christian faith and addresses the harsh dilemmas students will encounter in college.

**Burkett, Larry, and Michael E. Taylor.**

*Money Before Marriage: A Financial Workbook for Engaged Couples.*

Chicago: Moody Press, 1996.

Designed for would-be weds as well as those who are newly weds. Leads couples step-by-step through the process of planning a budget and the need to understand each other's needs. Explains the importance of developing unity in this area of their relationship. Questionnaires are included.

**Butler, Robert N., and Myrna I. Lewis.**

*Love and Sex After 60.*

Revised ed. New York: Harper and Row, 1988.

Full of practical information and permeated with much-needed assurance. "Explodes the myth that old age is sexless. With perception and candor, the authors show the need for intimacy and

loving relationships until the closure of life, and they suggest appropriate ways to satisfy this need.”--Maggie Kuhn.

**Campbell, Roger F.**

*Thin, Trim and Triumphant.*

Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1988.

The dustcover carries the subtitle: “How to Get God’s Help in Losing Unwanted Pounds.” Some of the material is exceedingly helpful, but on occasion the author includes dull, bland information that some may find boring. Designed for use as an adult study group elective.

**Carter, Les.**

*Imperative People: Those Who Must Be In Control.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1991.

Part of the growing Minirth-Meier corpus. According to the author, “imperative people”--who need to be in control--take a good thing too far. They try to dominate others, and when they do, their strength becomes a weakness. Carter leads his readers through a self-realization process so that if they are inclined to be domineering, they can see themselves as other people do, determine for themselves the degree to which they may have erred, and make the necessary adjustments.

**Coleman, William L.**

*You and Your Aging Parents.*

Grand Rapids: Discovery House Publishers, 1994.

Abounds with practical suggestions that are based upon Biblical principles. Helps adult children acquire the skills that will enable them interact with their aging parents, deal with the trauma that is often associated with having to admit them to a nursing home (if such becomes necessary), or make advance preparations for a funeral. Coleman provides a healthy balance between over-protectiveness and neglect. His book is a welcome addition to other works in this area of family studies.

**Cook, Shirley.**

*Murder on the Fat Express.*

Old Tappan, NJ: Fleming H. Revell Company, 1990.

Here is a smorgasbord of sane counsel replete with Biblical quotations, motivational poems, positive recommendations, and questions to insure that the reader is kept on track. Cook’s humor is refreshing, and her writing style is captivating. Recommended.

**Cooper, Kenneth H.**

*Dr. Kenneth H. Cooper’s Antioxidant Revolution.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1994.

“Ken Cooper has done it again. The ‘father’ of preventive medicine and author of the all-time bestseller *Aerobics*, has now done for nutrition what he did for exercise. He has made [nutrition]

medically acceptable [to the laity] in a way that will insure longer and healthier lives for millions of people.”--Arnold Schwarzenegger.

**Cornes, Andrew.**

*Divorce and Remarriage: Biblical Principle and Pastoral Practice.*

Ross-shire, Scotland: Christian Focus, 2002.

First published in 1993. “This is a challenging and stimulating book of great value to those in ministry who have responsibility for teaching about and being involved with situations of divorce and remarriage.”—Dianne Tidball.

**Cutrer, William, and Sandra Glahn.**

*Sexual Intimacy in Marriage.* 2d ed.

Grand Rapids: Kregel, 1998.

A reverent, respectful explanation of the physiology and psychology of sexual intimacy. This book can confidently be placed in the hands of engaged and newly married couples.

**Davis, Thomas J.**

*By the Waters of Babylon: One Family's Journey Through Illness.*

Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1995.

Davis shares in very personal terms how his wife's (a mother of two children) illness challenged and changed both his family and their faith. He frankly examines their feelings of despair and hope, and ultimately shows how it is possible to sing the Lord's song in the “strange land” of disease and death.

**Dawn, Marva J.**

*In Our Weakness: A Gift of Hope from the Book of Revelation.*

Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2002.

Though this book begins with a discussion of how to read the Book of Revelation, the author's system of interpretation should not be followed if the reader wants to understand what the Bible teaches about the future, for the author uses this work from the pen of the Apostle John to illustrate Christ's lordship over the powers of evil before applying to comfort those who suffer.

**Deane, Barbara.**

*Getting Ready for a Great Retirement: A Planning Guide.*

Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1992.

“Deane's suggestions, her analyzes, and the essential information she has gathered are tremendously useful--not only for the person contemplating retirement, but for the person who has already retired.”--William Standish Reed.

**DeVries, Linda K.**

*Insomnia: Don't Lose Sleep Over It, Find the Help You Need.*

Wheaton, IL: H. Shaw, 1998.

Mrs. DeVries writes from personal experience. She provides up-to-date information about the causes and treatments of sleep disorders, and includes tested ways which readers can use to test the physical and emotional causes of their insomnia.

**DeWitt, David.**

*The Mature Man: Becoming a Man of Impact.*

Gresham, OR: Vision House Publishers, 1994.

Divides the male experience into three parts: Boyhood, manhood, and patriarchal maturity. "The ultimate goal of biblical manhood is patriarchy.... I look for this book to be recognized as authoritative and life-changing. I highly recommend it!"--Bruce H. Wilkinson.

**Dorfman, Rachelle A.**

*Aging Into the 21st Century: The Exploration of Aspirations and Values.*

New York: Brunner/Mazel Publishers, 1993.

"A sensitive and beautifully written account of the inner experience of aging among a community of elders. Her vivid stories of how real people maintain and actualize personal values in late life add poignancy to the ethnography of aging and establish a humane basis for long-term care decision-making."--Sharon R. Kaufman.

**Downs, Hugh.**

*Fifty to Forever.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1994.

Confused about health matters? The author explains the physical changes older adults can expect. Concerned about adult day care or in-home nursing? Downs discusses these issues as well. For those who are getting older and find that their bodies no longer respond the way they once did, this book is for you. For those with aging parents and more questions than answers, this book will help them sort through the issues so that they can reach an informed decision.

**Dunn, Ronald.**

*When Heaven Is Silent.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1994.

**The counsel contained in this book came largely from the author's experience following the death of his teenage son. Forced to grapple with the pain of suffering, he sought in the Scriptures the answers to his problems. Now, between these covers, he shares with his readers the comfort he found.**

**Dunnam, Maxie, Gordon MacDonald, and Donald W. McCullough.**

*Mastering Personal Growth.*

Sisters, OR: Multnomah Press, 1992.

Shows pastors how to avoid burnout. Places justifiable emphasis on personal growth, and in particular the art of cultivating closeness with God. Two helpful chapters lay stress on sustaining relationships. Study habits and the lessons to be learned from the Renaissance form a major part of this book. Concludes with pointers on the best ways to fulfill one's stewardship.

**Eid, J. Francois, and Carol A. Pearce.**

*Making Love Again: Regaining Sexual Potency Through the New Injection Treatment.*

New York: Brunner/Mazel Publishers, 1993.

Drugs, smoking, congested arteries, Peyronie's disease, the effects of aging, injuries, disease, or hormonal problems all affect male potency. This book covers these problems, explains the dangers of implants, and makes a persuasive case for injection therapy. Foreword by Helen Singer Kaplan.

**Ellis, Lee, and Larry Burkett.**

*Your Career in Changing Times.*

Chicago: Moody, 1993.

Larry Burkett writes: "Studies show that the majority of people are unhappy in their work. Work stress has become a serious problem, and many are burning out from trying to work in areas where they aren't naturally talented. This applies to Christians as much as to anyone else." This book will be welcomed by those dissatisfied with the status quo and who desire God's best.

**Evans, Anthony T.**

*No More Excuses: Be the Man God Made You To Be.*

Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 1996.

Challenges readers to engage in introspection and take decisive action to become the person God intended. "[This book] speaks to us as men in every area of our lives. It probes and convicts and disciplines and empowers and encourages.... There have been a lot of forces pushing men down ... this one builds them up."--Bill McCartney.

**Evans, Anthony T.**

*What Matters Most: Four Absolute Necessities in Following Christ.*

Chicago: Moody, 1997.

Addresses issues of discipleship, worship, fellowship, the place and importance of Scripture in the life of the individual and the church, and the necessity of evangelism. Pertinent to our times.

Recommended.

**Ezell, Lee.**

*Private Obsessions.*

Dallas, TX: Word Publishing, 1991.

Deals with obsessive, compulsive, and addictive behavior. Chronicles the author's long struggle with compulsions; the counseling she alternately received, observed, and researched; and the self-help groups she attended. Out of this chaos, she developed a mature, satisfied self that overcame her compulsive tendencies. The secret she now shares with her readers ... in this book.

**Farrar, Steve.**

*Standing Tall: How a Man Can Protect His Family.*



Sisters. OR: Multnomah Books, 1994.

The author's earlier book *Pointman* was about marriage. This one is about the family. Both books were written for men. This one draws attention to the role of the husband/father in America today. Farrar's challenge is clear; and the contents of his book is enlightening. This work is sorely needed and it is hoped that men of all ages will acquire it, read it, and put its truths into operation in their lives. Recommended.

**Fish, Sharon.**

*Alzheimer's: Caring for Your Loved One/Caring for Yourself.*

Wheaton, IL: Harold Shaw Publishers, 1996.

First published in 1990. Though information about Alzheimer's disease is constantly changing due to research, the stress borne by those caring for individuals afflicted with the disease has not. This book explains how the tensions may be balanced without guilt and excessive stress.

**Flaherty, Sandra M.**

*Woman, Why Do You Weep? Spirituality for Survivors of Childhood Sexual Abuse.*

New York: Paulist Press, 1994.

A compassionate resource for women who have been sexually abused. Flaherty patiently examines the feelings and doubts frequently experienced by incest survivors, and leads them through the stages of recovery. A very necessary treatment.

**Freed, Frank.**

*Breaking Free When You're Feeling Trapped.*

Wheaton, IL: H. Shaw, 1997.

Freed shows how we limit our options by the way we approach our problems. He explains how we can open up our thinking so that we can become more creative about our choices.

**Gallagher, Vincent.**

*Three Compulsions That Defeat Most Men.*

Minneapolis: Bethany House Publishers, 1992.

Gallagher discusses different aspects of compulsive behavior: workaholism, substance abuse, and the attendant danger of sexual immorality. He discusses each of these areas of possible downfall and offers counsel that hopefully will help each man who reads this book avoid these dangers. Though Christ-centered, Gallagher's discussion lacks depth and on this account tends to offer simplistic solutions to deep-seated problems.

**George, Elizabeth.**

*Women After God's Own Heart.*

Eugene, OR: Harvest, 1997.

This book is devoted to explaining the teaching of Scripture on Christian womanhood, and George is to be commended for her objectivity. A study guide completes the work. Practical.

**Gilbert, Kathleen R., and Laura S. Smart.**

*Coping with Infant or Fetal Loss: The Couple's Healing Process.*

New York: Brunner/Mazel Publishers, 1992.

“The book offers very specific and useful suggestions for helping couples to resolve their own grief and to reduce the stress on their relationship, while providing valuable advice to others who wish to help families to recover from their loss.”--Judith N. Lasker.

**Griswold, Robert L.**

*Fatherhood in America.*

New York: Basic Books, 1993.

Expands the reader's awareness of the role of fathers in America. Shows why more and more is being demanded of the husband/father. Identifies the major shifts in society's expectations of fathers while also assessing the shift in power-relationships within the family. Comments at length on the way in which the feminist movement has negatively impacted families. Here is a work that is historically accurate and sociologically reliable.

**Groom, Nancy.**

*Heart to Heart About Men.*

Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1994.

This is a book for women. While purporting to treat masculine psychology, Groom's primary concern is the “glass ceiling” and the perceived need to place women the top positions in management. In writing this book, Groom based her research only on interviews with women (thus biasing her data). Her overt goal was the restoration of equality between the sexes. Her covert agenda only becomes clear after much reflection. Apparently at the time Groom conducted her research she was unaware of the difficulties men face in a woman's world. Whatever the strong points of her work may be, it lacks a solid Biblical base.

**Hamilton, Elizabeth, and Dan Hamilton.**

*Should I Home School? How to Decided What's Right for You and Your Child.*

Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1997.

Answers 17 questions commonly asked by parents who contemplate home schooling their children. Provides adequate answers that explain the challenges responsibilities, and benefits. Concludes with an extensive bibliography.

**Hargrave, Terry D.**

*Families and Forgiveness: Healing Wounds in the Intergenerational Family.*

New York: Brunner/Mazel Publishers, 1994.

A rare volume. Addresses the perennial problem of intergenerational strife, and how forgiveness may bring opposing parties together. Helpful.

**Hargrave, Terry D., and Suzanne Midori Hanna, eds.**

*The Aging Family: New Visions in Theory, Practice, and Reality.*

New York: Brunner/Mazel, 1997.

“This book provides a much needed integration of gerontological theory with contemporary family service. It will be a tremendous help to practitioners, policy makers, and researchers who are committed to quality improvement in working with families and with older adults.”—Peg Christopher.

**Harper, George Lea, Jr.**

*Living With Dying: Finding Meaning in Chronic Illness.*

Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1992.

Having wrestled with cancer for more than six years, Harper (at the time he wrote this book) had reached the end of the road. He was dying. However, from the very first announcement to him that he had cancer, he chose to live life to the full, and in this book he invites the reader to walk with him through the struggles and triumphs of living with chronic illness. Without attempting to play the role of the “martyr,” he shows his realistic approach toward his suffering, discusses many of the specific trials involved, talks about the constant need to decide about treatment, shares his concern over his inability to plan ahead, describes with pathos the effect of his illness on his work and friendships, includes his envy of those not afflicted, and concludes with his fear of losing control of his own life as death approached. The underlying theme of this book, however, is explained in the subtitle: “finding meaning in chronic illness.”

**Hart, Archibald D.**

*Dark Clouds, Silver Linings.*

Colorado Springs, CO: Focus on the Family, 1993.

In this book Hart unmaskes the misconceptions about depression. He writes from a Christian perspective, and his purpose is to help people cope with depression. He shows how through an understanding of the nature and causes of depression, one can survive this debilitating disease and emerge healthier and wiser. *Dark Clouds, Silver Linings* is a revision and updating of his earlier work entitled *Depression: Coping and Caring*.

**Hart, Archibald D.**

*Helping Children Survive Divorce: What to Expect, How to Help.*

Dallas, TX: Word, 1997.

Formerly published as *Children and Divorce*, and now revised and updated, this work is must reading for all divorced parents who are concerned about their children. Includes a study guide. Recommended!

**Hart, Archibald D.**

*The Sexual Man.*

Dallas, TX: Word Publishing, 1994.

“Discusses the average man’s sexual worries and struggles with tasteful candor, responsible balance, and a controlling respect for biblical wisdom.”--Larry Crabb.

**Hartley, Peter.**

*Interpersonal Communication.*

London: Routledge, 1993.

Deals effectively with the how and why of interpersonal communication. Part 1 outlines the main concepts that are necessary to understand the skills and process; Part 2 discusses the applications and implications; and Part 3 moves beyond the interpersonal to group dynamics. Practical.

**Hawkins, Don, Dan Koppersmith, and Ginger Koppersmith.**

*When Cancer Comes.*

Chicago: Moody, 1993.

The authors tell readers what cancer is before describing the essentials of combating it. They include information on how to choose a doctor, a glossary explaining the meaning of medical terms, how to manage pain, beat depression and fear, and much more.

**Heagy, Ron, Jr., and Donita Dyer.**

*Life Is An Attitude: (A Tragedy Turns to Triumph).*

Sisters, OR: Multnomah, 1997.

“Heagy’s success story is one of a kind! His determination, positive attitude, pleasing personality, and tremendous sense of humor are an inspiration to everyone who meets him.”—Tom Landry.

**Hemfelt, Robert, et al.**

*The Path to Serenity.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1991.

Uses the “twelve-steps” (originally developed by Alcoholics Anonymous) to lead readers into a vital relationship with the God revealed in the Bible. The approach, while Biblical, is also practical. Application is made to different areas of life (e.g., workaholism, alcoholism, obesity, etc.). Recommended.

**Hendricks, Howard George, and W. D. Hendricks.**

*As Iron Sharpens Iron: Building Character in a Mentoring Relationship.*

Chicago: Moody, 1995.

An outstanding book! Explains the dynamics of the mentoring relationship, and discusses how principles may be adapted to different age groups and a variety of social settings. Powerful!

**Hinton, Perry R.**

*The Psychology of Interpersonal Perception.*

London: Routledge, 1992.

We all make assessments about other people. This book investigates this human tendency, identifies the criteria each personality type uses, and explains how to reach reliable assessments. Insightful.

**Hutchins, David.**

*Courageous Parenting: The Passionate Pursuit of Your Teen's Heart.*

Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 2000.

This workbook bridges the gap between the text of Scripture and the everyday challenges of parenting teens. It will be found to be of great help to all parents who desire to be wise in the rearing of their children.

**Janssen, Al, ed.**

*Seven Promises of a Promise Keeper.*

Colorado Springs, CO: Focus on the Family, 1994.

Since its beginning in 1990, the Promise Keepers organization has spurred the largest Christian men's conferences in the country. And there is much that is praiseworthy about the movement. Under Janssen's guidance, the contributors with the origin of the movement, its goals, and the lives that have been changed. In all there are seven sections. The emphasis on genuine manhood is refreshing. Here the writers stress the imperative need for each married man to be the spiritual leader of his home, to mentor younger men, maintain his personal integrity, be the lover and protector of his wife, honor and pray for his pastor, and seek to win others to Christ. All of this is most refreshing. The one lack of the movement is a clear statement of its doctrinal presuppositions that will keep it from succumbing to sectarian pressures that may eventually either dilute its message or divert its energies into serve the ends of special interest groups (as happened with "Evangelism-in-depth" a few decades ago).

**Jeffers, Robert.**

*Coming Home to the Father Who Loves You.*

Sisters, OR: Multnomah, 1997.

Thirteen chapters that discuss each aspect of the prodigal son's departure from the father and return home. Exposes the fallacy of allowing money or pleasure or busyness to lead us away from what is best for us. Practical.

**Johnson, Greg, and Mike Yorkey.**

*Faithful Parents, Faithful Kids.*

Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House Publishers, 1993.

Explains how parents may deal with conflict, discipline appropriately, build strong relationships, communicate effectively, shape their children's values, handle the problems that face modern families, and build pleasant memories. Recommended.

**Jones, Thomas.**

*The Single Again Handbook: Finding Meaning and Fulfillment When You're Single Again.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1993.

"Jones knows what it means to feel the pain that comes with divorce, especially the terrible, crushing feeling of failure that defies comfort. In this very readable book the author traces the steps of recovery for persons who have been divorced, beginning with the process that is analogous to grieving a death. Discovering that their feelings are normal, readers will receive a

healthy dose of reassurance.... Jones doesn't just theorize about recovering from divorce. He's there with you showing you how."--Andre Bustanoby.

**Kimmel, Tim.**

*Powerful Personalities.*

Colorado Springs, CO: Focus on the Family, 1993.

Explores the thin line between love and control, and in particular discusses the kind of over-control that violates the values and value of the other person. Also discusses relationships under siege from within, as well as individuals held hostage by the people they love and count on for support. Kimmel's treatment is Biblically-based and will help those who, perhaps unwittingly, harm others. He helps them understand how over-control does despite to the human spirit, eventually destroying both the over-controller as well as the over-controlled. In the former, relationships and intimacy are eventually destroyed, leaving the individual isolated and alone; and in the latter, trust is destroyed leaving the abused person weak and vulnerable.

**Kupers, Terry A.**

*Revisioning Men's Lives: Gender, Intimacy, and Power.*

New York: Guilford Press, 1993.

"Breaks new and important ground in linking men's personal transformation to a political agenda that is empathically pro-feminist and anti-misogynist. Kupers takes on the challenging issues of homophobia, male emotional self-regulation, and male friendships in ways that both inform and challenge."--William S. Pollack.

**Lawson, Steven J.**

*Men Who Win: Pursuing the Ultimate Prize.*

Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1992.

"Contains the essential Christian message that can make any man a winner in whatever he does. I want to ask you to read it and apply its truth to your life. There is no higher call than the upward call of Christ to win heaven's crown."--Tom Landry.

**Leman, Kevin.**

*Living in a Step-Family Without Getting Stepped On.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1994.

A needed discussion that focuses on how birth order affects relationships within step-families. Explains what practical steps to take to avoid problems and resolve conflict.

**Leman, Kevin.**

*Winning the Rat Race.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1996.

The dustcover adds to the title: "Without becoming a rat." To this is added a subtitle: "The Psychology of Winning in Business." In spelling out his philosophy for success, Leman adopts a win-win approach. He combines practical psychology with principles for well-rounded success,

and shows how a person may sell, manage, and work with others without allowing the world to squeeze him or her into its mold. Timely.

**Lewis, Jerry M.**

*The Monkey-Rope: A Psychotherapist's Reflections on Relationships.*

Larehmont, NY: Bernell Books, 1996.

The “monkey-rope” is Herman Melville’s symbol in *Moby Dick* for relationships that bind each of us to every other individual who shares our human condition. Lewis builds on this imagery, and explains how to understand one’s own biography in our search for intimacy, what happens when we lose a loved one, and much more. He has succeeded in giving us a provocative, insightful discussion.

**Lewis, Robert.**

*Raising a Modern-Day Knight: A Father's Role in Guiding His Son to Authentic Manhood.*

Colorado Springs, CO: Focus on the Family, 1997.

This book is complete with ceremony ideas to celebrate a son’s progression, as well as ways to publicly acknowledge these accomplishments and ingrain them in his mind. It is designed to raise a chivalrous, godly man, and contains considerable practical counsel for modern-day dads.

**Limbaugh, David.**

*Persecution: How Liberals are Waging War Against Christianity.*

Washington, DC: Regenery, 2003.

This book is long overdue, and it should be read by every evangelical Christian. With painstaking accuracy Limbaugh traces the opposition of the “left” to all the good the “right” is trying to do for the country. Their goal is power, not what is best for the people. This is a valuable work, and it should be read by every concerned believer.

**Linamen, Karen Scalf, and Linda Holland.**

*Working Women, Workable Lives: Creative Solutions for Managing Home and Career.*

Wheaton, IL: Harold Shaw Publishers, 1993.

The authors have combined their expertise to place before their readers the kind of wise perspective that only comes after years of patient walking with the Lord along the path of obedience.

**Luter, Boyd.**

*Looking Back, Moving On: Applying Biblical Principles of Freedom to Your Life.*

Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1993.

A fresh look at the trials and triumphs experienced by Daniel and Paul. Luter draws important psychological principles from the way each handled different kinds of setbacks, and then develops these into models of recovery. “In an age where people live in either extreme denial and unwillingness to resolve past wounds, or the other extreme of blaming everything on parents or

past [experiences], Luther has provided us with the much needed biblical balance that can free us to become God's whole creation."--Steve Arterburn.

**MacDonald, Gordon.**

*When Men Think Private Thoughts.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1996.

Probes the kind of thoughts that have plagued men's minds since the dawn of time. Leads readers to probe the reasons for these age-old problems and how to make sense of them in terms of one's masculinity and the desires for intimacy, romance, and friendship.

**Marty, Martin Emil.**

*A Cry of Absence: Reflections for the Winter of the Heart.*

Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1997.

These "Reflections" do not claim to speak to all conditions of all people in all seasons. As Marty points out one's outlook changes when things go well. However, those who are honest with themselves admit that it is harder to cling to faith and hope and love in the "wintry" seasons of life (viz., death, alienation, loneliness, separation). It is to aid sufferers in these dry seasons that Marty wrote his book.

**McDowell, Josh.**

*The Disconnected Generation: Saving Our Youth from Self-Destruction.*

Nashville: Word, 2000.

Points the way for parents to so bond with their children that no secular or social pressure can destroy the relationship that is established. A vitally important work.

**Merriam, Sharon B., and M. Carolyn Clark.**

*Lifelines: Patterns of Work, Love, and Learning in Adulthood.*

San Francisco: Jossey-Bass Publishers, 1991.

Our identities are tied to what we do and what we cherish. And when our need to learn and grow and discover is added to what we do and whom or what we love, we have an emerging picture of the needs of adults. Meaningful activity in the church should meet these needs, but always with the warning that an overemphasis on one area (e.g., work) may diminish another (e.g., love) to the detriment of all concerned. Though secular in its orientation, there is enough sound learning in this volume to make it one from which pastors and Christian educators can profit.

**Morton, Tom.**

*The Survivor's Guide to Unemployment.*

Colorado Springs, VO: Penon Press, 1992.

The author shares his own struggles with joblessness. He also outlines practical steps to take in order to gain successful employment. Recommended.

**Murphy, Philip Michael, and Gary Allan Kupshik.**



*Loneliness, Stress, and Well-being: A Helper's Guide.*

London: Routledge, Chapman and Hall, 1992.

Loneliness can be a terrible experience. It often contributes to a range of psychological difficulties that defy the wisdom of specialists in the mental health professions. The first part of this book provides the conceptual framework for investigating loneliness, and discussing how those who claim to be lonely feel, and why. This knowledge makes it easier to alleviate feelings of loneliness. Part 2 offers a detailed explanation of cognitive-behavioral techniques to help friends and fellow church members overcome the problem. This is a valuable book for pastoral counselors.

**Nadeau, Kathleen G.**

*ADD in the Workplace: Choices, Changes and Challenges.*

New York: Brunner/Mazel, 1997.

Attention Deficit Disorder—ADD—is finally getting the attention it deserves. This book contains a wealth of material that should assist individuals in gaining a better understanding of themselves and their disorder! A valuable monograph.

**Neeld, Elizabeth Harper.**

*Seven Choices: Taking the Steps To New Life After Losing Someone You Love.*

New York: Clarkson N. Potter, 1990.

This is a book those who have lost a loved one will want to read and reread. Practical; helpful.

**Nieder, John, and Thomas M. Thompson.**

*Forgive and Love Again: Healing Wounded Relationships.*

Eugene, OR: Harvest House Publications, 1991.

Places a finger on one of the most destructive forces in marriage (as well as other interpersonal relationships), namely, a lack of forgiveness. Explains the process by which real forgiveness takes place. Also shows how hurts may be healed and love renewed. Practical and helpful.

**Northington, Jan.**

*Separated and Waiting.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1994.

“Your pain identifies you--your choices will direct you.” So says Northington as she shares with her readers her own experience of waiting--for either reconciliation or divorce. Her words are both comforting and encouraging. She deals with the varying emotions experienced by people in this situation and offers wise counsel to those who are suddenly flying solo and do not know what the future holds. Helpful. Extensive bibliography.

**Nouwen, Henri J. M.**

*The Way of the Heart: Desert Spirituality and Contemporary Ministry.*

San Francisco: HarperCollins, 1991.

Provides a valuable addition to J. Cunningham's *A Way Through the Wilderness* (1983). This modern devotional classic interweaves the solitude, silence, and manner of life of fourth and fifth century Egyptian Desert Fathers (and Mothers) with our contemporary search for an authentic spirituality.

**O'Connor, Karen.**

*Restoring Relationships With Your Adult Children.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1993.

Offers counsel to parents on how they may bridge the gap to their estranged children. Explains what to do, when to confront, and how to build flexibility into your relationship.

**Omartian, Stormie.**

*The Power of a Praying Wife.*

Eugene, OR: Harvest, 1997.

Another first-class book for wives. Points the way to the enjoyment of a closer relationship with one's husband. Helpful.

**Palmer, Nancy S., and Ana Tangel-Rodriguez.**

*When Your Ex Won't Pay.*

Colorado Springs, CO: Pinon Press, 1995.

The cover carries the subtitle, "Getting Your Kids the Financial Support They Deserve." Discusses the difficulties as well as the decisions that must be made, and the wide range of emotions that wives/mothers experience. Also provides positive counsel for those caught up in this dilemma.

**Palms, Roger.**

*Celebrate Life After Fifty.*

Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1995.

The cover carries the subtitle, "Unleashing the Ministry Potential of Mature Believers." This book is designed for retirees who want a ministry. An excellent resource for the discussion of the possibilities.

**Partington, David.**

*Making the Break.*

Wheaton, IL: Harold Shaw Publishers, 1992.

Treats the first steps in overcoming the addictions of alcoholism, pornography, and eating disorders. Brief, practical.

**Penner, Clifford L., and Joyce J. Penner.**

*Men and Sex: Discovering Greater Love, Passion, and Intimacy with Your Wife.*

Nashville: Nelson, 1997.

This book spells out male sexuality in a way that results in sexual satisfaction for the husband and his wife. Included in the presentation are creative and dynamic tips for enhancing romance as well as practical information about one's partner's needs. The authors also show how meeting one's spouse's needs will ultimately fulfill each person's desires beyond their expectations. Recommended.

**Pountney, Michael.**

*Getting a Job: A Guide for Choosing a Career.*

Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1984.

Designed for use by pastors as they work with youth. Offers broad guidelines for career decisions, including choosing a career, finding the will of God, and deriving satisfaction from one's work.

**Pritchard, Ray.**

*Keep Believing: God in the Midst of Our Deepest Struggles.*

Chicago: Moody, 1997.

"Pritchard takes the promises of God in the one hand and the anguishing questions in the other and brings them together, convinced that the Bible has something to say to us when life tumbles in. You will get the feeling that you are eavesdropping, listening in as he pours salve on fresh wounds of sorrow, comforting those who find their faith sliding on the slope of a question mark."—Erwin W. Lutzer.

**Riekse, Robert J., and Henry Holstege.**

*The Christian Guide to Parent Care.*

Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House Publishers, 1992.

Designed as a practical resource for helping our aged parents meet their changing physical, emotional, and spiritual needs. "Accurate, readable, and extremely useful. Offers a realistic and hopeful approach to the aging of family members."--David A. Peterson.

**Rolfs, Wayne, and Judith Rolfs.**

*Fifty-two Ways to Keep Your Promises: As a Man, as a Husband, as a Father.*

Grand Rapids: Kregel Resources, 1995.

"Men need to know what God's Word teaches and how to use the Bible's spiritual and emotional resources in all their everyday experiences"--so write the authors. Building on this statement they outline 52 principles to be mastered, one for each week of the year.

**Rollins, Catherine E.**

*Are We Compatible?*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1995.

This practical and helpful book introduces readers to the techniques of building long-term relationships. The key to a good marriage--one that lasts, fulfills, and provides deep inner joy--lies in being compatible.

**Roof, Wade Clark, et al.**

*A Generation of Seekers: The Spiritual journeys of the Baby Book Generation.*

San Francisco: HarperSanFrancisco, 1993.

Now in their 30s and 40s, “baby boomers” are no longer thought of as the “Me generation.” Instead, as a maturing generation, they are concerned with both their inner and outer lives. Rood explains the drives and needs of these people who are now in the middlescent malaise. Perceptive.

**Rosenau, Douglas E.**

*A Celebration of Sex.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1994.

“A very detailed, thorough manual for married couples on the art and practice of sexual love. There is no other such book available from a Christian perspective.”--James D. Mallory, Jr.

**Schmierer, Don.**

*An Ounce of Prevention: Preventing the Homosexual Condition in Today's Youth.*

Nashville: Word, 1998.

A compassionate work designed for parents. Answers the questions many are asking. Calls all concerned to adopt a biblical approach to this national epidemic.

**Schor, Juliet B.**

*The Overworked American: The Unexpected Decline of Leisure.*

New York: Basic Books, 1991.

Here is a book that deserves to be widely read. It places before the reader a “road map” to social change that is both relevant and practical. Timely.

**Shaw, Luci.**

*Life Path: Personal and Spiritual Growth Through Journal Writing.*

Portland, OR: Multnomah Press, 1991.

Explains how to keep a journal. Lays down principles for deriving the most benefit from the process. This is a book for every church library. It deserves widespread readership. Recommended.

**Siegel, Elaine V., ed.**

*Psychoanalytic Perspectives on Women.*

New York: Brunner/Mazel Publishers, 1992.

The editor wisely assigned topics to women with degrees in clinical psychology, medicine, and social work, carefully covering all the dilemmas faced by the gentler sex today. The result is a well-prepared monograph on female sexuality that discusses clearly yet concisely the needs of those who were abused in childhood, or were dominated by a mother, or were the victims of

incest, or who have chosen a homosexual orientation, et cetera. The material is presented from a variety of secular modalities. Of primary interest to the pastoral counselor.

**Smalley, Gary, and John Trent.**

*The Hidden Value of a Man: The Incredible Impact of a Man on His Family.*

Colorado Springs, CO: Focus on the Family, 1994.

The authors show how to develop strong sons and confident daughters. They teach men how to harness their natural strength at home to forge vibrant, enriched marriages, to establish couple friendships that will sustain partners through tough times, and to overcome roadblocks in all close relationships.

**Smoke, Jim.**

*Facing 50: A View From the Mountaintop.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1993.

Being “50-something” can be fearsome or fabulous. This stage of one’s growth presents new changes and challenges. This book helps those in the 50s adjust to their feelings and prepare for their retirement years.

**Smoke, Jim.**

*Growing Through Divorce.*

Eugene, OR: Harvest House Publishers, 1995.

The cover identifies this book as a “revised updated edition.” Smoke treats empathically the pain experienced by those who either divorce their spouses or are divorced by them. He then discusses the ways people can grow through this traumatic experience.

**Solomon, Muriel.**

*Working with Difficult People.*

Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall, 1990.

Here is a hard-hitting book that explains the proven techniques and strategies for dealing with bootlickers, imposters, whiners, bullies, needless skeptics, slouchers, and zealots—to name only a few. This is a “one-of-a-kind” book. Recommended.

**Sproul, Robert Charles.**

*The Hunger for Significance.*

Ventura, CA: Regal Books, 1991.

“[This book] is ‘applied theology’ of a high order. From kitchen to school to hospital to church to prison to marketplace, Sproul highlights factors and attitudes that impede human dignity and shows how they can be addresses and removed by the power of the gospel. With warmth, clarity, humor and pathos, this book conveys a biblical understanding of personal worth that will enrich all who read it.”--David Allan Hubbard.

**Stowell, Joseph M., III.**

*The Weight of Your Words: Measuring the Impact of What You Say.*

Chicago: Moody, 1998.

The reissue of *Tongue in Cheek* (1983). Recommended.

**Taylor, Patrick.**

*When Life Is Changed Forever.*

Eugene, OR: Harvest House Publishers, 1993.

“There are no simple platitudes, quick solutions or moralistic exhortations here. Just biblical truth gently taught through authentic life experience that provides the deep hope of a God who is big enough to handle the worst of our pain.”--Howard G. Hendricks.

**Townsend, John.**

*Hiding From Love.*

Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1991.

Here is an insightful self-help book that is organized around a typical, though fictional, case history. Townsend then analyses the facets of this story showing how readers may recover from past traumatic experiences. Helpful.

**Twentier, Jerry D.**

*The Positive Power of Praising People.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1993.

“A powerful, eye-opening realization to the basic needs of the people that are most important to us... the very people that make us what we are! As a father, husband, and a United States Senator, I have become increasingly aware of the importance of praise those around me. [This book] provides the insight to a simple yet remarkable concept which can result in extraordinarily positive and powerful ramifications for everyone involved.”--Mark O. Hatfield.

**Van Vonderen, Jeff.**

*Families Where Grace Is In Place.*

Minneapolis: Bethany House Publishers, 1992.

The back cover contains the subtitle, “Building a Grace-Filled Marriage and Raising Creative, Contented, Capable Children Without Legalism or Manipulation.” This, certainly, has been the goal of the author. He shows how God’s grace can transform relationships within a marriage and the family. What he has written is deserving of careful reading.

**Weber, Linda.**

*Mom, You’re Incredible!*

Colorado Springs, CO: Focus on the Family, 1994.

In the words of Linda Weber, “Motherhood is not an entry-level service position for mindless, insecure, second-class citizens. It is the noblest of callings. To be entrusted with the very life, health and well-being of a tiny human person is a great gift and honor.” In her book Mrs. Weber addresses the challenging and frustrating questions many mothers ponder, e.g., “Do well-adjusted

kids just happen?” “Is there a light at the end of this tunnel?” “How can I really make a difference?” “What is quality child care?” “As a working Mom, am I short-changing my children?” “Can I look after my children and still have a life of my own?” Her writing is lucid and practical. What she has written makes enjoyable reading.

**Weber, Stu.**

*Locking Arms: God's Design for Masculine Friendships.*

Sisters, OR: Multnomah Press, 1995.

“[This book] is a ‘must read’ for every man seeking true masculinity. [It has been] written in a style that is easy to understand and apply. From the viewpoint of a member of the profession of arms, Weber is incredible. He has been there and paid his dues. I recommend the book as a manual for men’s accountability groups.”--Robert L. Vernon.

**West, Malcolm L., and Adrienne E. Sheldon-Keller.**

*Patterns of Relating: An Adult Attachment Perspective.*

New York: Guilford Press, 1994.

“This is a first-rate addition to the rapidly growing literature on attachment in adult life. The authors firmly anchor their concept of reciprocal attachment in established theory, and then move it boldly forward with solid empirical and clinical investigations. Well referenced and highly readable.”--Kenneth S. Adam.

**White, Jerry E.**

*Dangers Men Face: Overcoming the Five Greatest Threats to Living Life Well.*

Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1997.

A powerful, gutsy book. From the opening foreword to the “final word” (p. 215), White pinpoints areas of life in which men most often fail. His analysis of male weaknesses and vulnerability is at once discerning and relevant. Recommended.

**White, Joe.**

*Faith Training: Raising Kids Who Love the Lord.*

Colorado Springs, CO: Focus on the Family, 1994.

All Christian parents want their children to grow up with a heartfelt desire to serve God. But it doesn't just happen. Parents must have an effective plan for instilling Biblical principles in their kids. Faith Training helps them reach their goal. It is an indispensable book giving them essential information about the principles and process of proper nurture. It shows them how they may encourage their children to emulate the example of the great men and women of the Bible, pray as Christ taught, and cultivate the habit of having their daily devotions. Recommended.

**Whiteman, Thomas A., and R. Petersen.**

*Starting Over: A Step-by-Step Guide to Help You Rebuild Your Life After a Breakup.*

Colorado Springs, CO: Pinon, 2001.

Sets forth eight principles that will lead hurting individuals back to wholeness.

**Whiteman, Thomas.**

*Innocent Victims.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1992.

Explains the needs and fears of the innocent victims of divorce, and how care-givers may help them overcome the trauma from which they suffer.

**Widder, Wendy.**

*Living Whole Without a Better Half.*

Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2000.

Numerous adjectives and innumerable accolades would be insufficient to describe the value of this amazingly helpful book. Writing with understanding and humor the author shares with her readers her own solo odyssey and along the way explains the Bible's resources for happiness and contentment.

**Wiersbe, Warren Wendell, comp.**

*Classic Sermons on Overcoming Fear.*

Grand Rapids: Kregel Publications, 1992.

Within these covers Wiersbe, who is a pastor's pastor, brings together messages on fear preached by the pulpit giants of the past. These highly esteemed men of God include Hugh Black, V. Raymond Edman, J. H. Jewett, and many more. Valuable.

**Wilson, Sandra D.**

*Hurt People Hurt People: Hope and Healing for Yourself and Your Relationships.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1993.

Here is a practical, well-executed book. Earl R. Henslin explains: "Wilson writes from her heart, and shares from her own life. The help of Jesus in healing our own hurts becomes more real through her own story and the stories of others. She provides helpful steps and guidelines for healing the wounds of the past."

**Woodside, D. Blake, et al.**

*Eating Disorders and Marriage: The Couple in Focus.*

New York: Brunner/Mazel Publishers, 1993.

Can eating disorders mar family life, affecting parents as well as children? The authors believe this to be a possibility. They prescribe therapeutic techniques that pastoral counselors will find helpful. Practical.

**Wright, Harry Norman, and Gary J. Oliver.**

*Kids Have Feelings Too!*

Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1993.

Children become depressed, angry, and fearful as adults do. And their emotions are just as valid. Rearing emotionally healthy children is both a challenge and a goal for most parents.



Involvement in a child's emotional development not only affects the quality of a child's growing years, but it directly affects his/her ability to function as an adult. Here's a book for all parents to read and discuss together.

**Wright, Harry Norman.**

*Recovering from the Losses of Life.*

Tarrytown, NY: Fleming H. Revell Co., 1991.

Our lives are marked by losses: leaving home, the death of a loved one, divorce, a business failure, "downsizing," retirement, and the need to relinquish a long-held, cherished dream. Wright deals with these and other losses, shows us how to process our grief, and points the way out of the gloom of depression to renewed faith in God. Helpful.

*Christian Home*

**Anderson, Don Browning, and Brian Boyer, eds.**

*Marriage—Just a Piece of Paper?*

Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2002.

"This book goes beyond conservative-liberal polarities in addressing timely marriage issues head-on.... [It] poignantly captures the varied lives and voices, hopes and heartbreaks, and successes and failures that make up the reality of marriage in American society today." A challenging, insightful work.

**Arp, Claudia, and Linda Dillow.**

*The Big Book of Family Fun.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1994.

Covers just about every family function imaginable. Shows how to create a sense of cohesion through activities that promote unity. Includes usable ideas for birthdays, times of sickness, making friends, travel, and "Just You and Me Times." A valuable resource.

**Arterburn, Stephen, and Jim Burns.**

*When Love Is Not Enough.*

Colorado Springs, CO: Focus on the Family, 1992.

Describes situations that demand the implementation of "tough love." Offers parents clear insight into some of the major traps that ensnare and eventually destroy young people. The topics covered include promiscuity, sexual abuse, Satanism, AIDS, runaways, substance abuse, suicidal tendencies, homosexuality, pornography, and eating disorders.

**Arterburn, Stephen.**

*Hand-Me-Down Genes and Second-Hand Emotions.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1992.

Allows readers to pinpoint the true genetic and environmental causes of specific behaviors so that the first steps can be taken toward overcoming harmful predispositions. "Provides practical and effective help for those who want to overcome their inherited weaknesses."--Archibald D. Hart.

**Backus, William, and Candace Backus.**

*Teaching Your Children to Tell the Truth.*

Minneapolis: Bethany House Publishers, 1992.

Following four chapters aimed at showing parents how to enter their child's world and listen to what they say (as well as what they don't say), this couple then launches into a discussion of children's emotions (including depression, anxiety, anger) and negative defense mechanisms that can develop into habit patterns. The authors explain how parents can handle each contingency as it arises. Here's a book all parents should read. Recommended.

**Ballman, Ray E.**

New expanded ed. Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 1995. *The How and Why of Home Schooling.* All who are involved in home schooling will find this book invaluable for its insights and encouragement. Contains answers to questions people are asking. Points the way to quality education. A must in light of the failure of public schools in many areas.

**Barna, George.**

*The Future of the American Family.*

Chicago: Moody Press, 1993.

A valuable corrective to afternoon TV talk shows where the emphasis is often placed on the aberrant conduct of immature and self-centered people. Barna assesses the health of the American family and provides an objective appraisal of current conditions. He points out the strengths as well as the weaknesses of contemporary families, highlighting the difficulties encountered by children of single parents and emphasizing the importance of the solidarity provided by husband-wife teams. This is an important book. Recommended.

**Barshingere, Clark E., Lojan E. LaRowe, and Andres T. Tapia.**

*Haunted Marriage: Overcoming the Ghosts of Your Spouse's Childhood Abuse.*

Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1995.

Deals with the effects of childhood sexual abuse on a marriage. Explains how it can ruin relationships, destroy sexual intimacy, and negatively affect one's faith. Provides wise counsel for all concerned. Points the way to a healing of the memories.

**Bauer, Gary.**

*Our Journey Home.*

Dallas, TX: Word Books, 1992.

Calls upon husbands and wives, mothers and fathers--and even the extended family--to make a radical choice in favor of family-oriented values. Exposes harmful trends within our society and points the way to lasting change. An excellent monograph.

**Begg, Alistair.**

*Lasting Love: How to Avoid Marital Failure.*

Chicago: Moody, 1997.

This book is ideal for use by couples. It helps husbands and wives recapture their first love. Though not profound, the contents of each chapter constitute the essential building blocks that build a happy home. Recommended.

**Bell, Debra.**

*The Ultimate Guide to Home Schooling.*

Nashville: Nelson, 1997.

This guide to home schooling has been called an “on-ramp” to a powerful new way to educate your children and maximize your family life. It is as complete and comprehensive as a work of this kind should be. Recommended.

**Briscoe, D. Stuart, and Jill Briscoe.**

*Marriage Matters: Growing Through the Differences and Surprises of Life Together.*

Wheaton, IL: Harold Shaw Publishers, 1994.

The authors face head on the “things” (external pressures, commitments, obsessions) that may keep a couple from enjoying true closeness. Describes how to separate the desirable from the necessary and return to a vibrant, satisfying, intimate relationship with one another that can withstand the rigors and routines of life. The Briscoes share with their readers some of their own struggles: the tug between career and ministry, the loneliness of being apart, the worry of rearing children, and the unknowns of growing older. Their counsel is eminently practical. This book is must reading for all married couples.

**Canfield, Ken R.**

*The Heart of a Father: How Dads Can Shape the Destiny of America.*

Chicago: Northfield Publishing, 1996.

This fact-filled book is based upon careful research and a wealth of experience. It deserves to be read at least twice: Once by the father (or soon-to-be father) and then again by the husband-and-wife together. An essential work.

**Canfield, Ken R.**

*The Seven Secrets of Effective Fathers.*

Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House Publishers, 1992.

Discusses eight essential aspects of fatherhood, reminding each father of his commitments and need to know and understand his child. Underscores the importance of consistency. The eighth secret--not mentioned in the title--is the spiritual dimension. Shows how all are necessary. An insightful and helpful monograph.

**Carder, Dave, and Duncan Jaenicke.**

*Torn Asunder: Recovering from Extramarital Affairs.*

Chicago: Moody Press, 1992.

The authors write in the vein of Petersen's *Myth of the Greener Grass* and Mowbray's *The Snare*, but without the wisdom of either. Their book contains practical suggestions, but these are presented in a condescending, holier-than-thou, manner. The authors cover the stages from a spouse's finding out about an affair to husband-wife reconciliation. Appendices covering "What to Tell the Kids," and "Materials for Use with a Couples' Support Group" are helpful; the "Select Bibliography" is not. Also lacking is the reason why men and women have affairs, and the different techniques for handling each kind. Very disappointing.

**Carney, Glandison, and William Long.**

*Trusting God Again: Regaining Hope After Disappointment or Loss.*

Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1995.

Here's a popular and very necessary book that is designed to provide hope and guidance when facing some dark night of the soul. Readers will find that "God's truth, unlike some popular Christian cliches, really fits the tangled web of life's complexity."--Patrick Henry.

**Carter, Les.**

*Distant Partner.*

Nashville: Nelson, 1997.

Deals with the essence of good communication in marriage, includes chapters on communication in spite of sexual differences, the psychology of husbands and wives, and the place of spiritual values. This is the kind of book every couple should read!

**Chapman, Gary, and Ross Campbell.**

*The Five Love Languages of Children.*

Chicago: Moody, 1997.

An essential work for parents everywhere. Deals with the importance of physical touch, words of affirmation, quality time spent with one's children, gifts, and acts of service. Shows how to discover each child's primary love language, and provides pointers on learning the love languages.

**Chapman, Gary.**

*Loving Solutions: Overcoming Barriers in Your Marriage.*

Chicago: Northfield, 1998.

The author shows that even if your spouse has no interest in working on your relationship, you can have a positive influence on your relationship by following the specifics outlined in this book. Heartily recommended!

**Chapman, Gary.**

*The Five Love Languages: How to Express Heartfelt Commitment to Your Mate.*

Chicago: Northfield, 1995.

First published in 1992, this new edition contains a study and questions for group discussion by J. S. Bell, Jr. Identifies the five “love languages” as affirmation, quality time, receiving gifts, acts of service, and physical touch. Couples who put these principles into practice will experience happier, enriched relationships.

**Chess, Stella, and Alexander Thomas.**

*Temperament: Theory and Practice.*

New York: Brunner/Mazel Publishers, 1996.

Longitudinal studies conducted by the authors have placed them in a position to explain the development of child temperaments, as well as interpret the differences in children from the same family and socio-economic setting. Chess and Thomas advance their reasons for a new approach to the understanding of children's temperaments, and explain why these differences arose. Enlightening.

**Congo, David, and Janet Congo.**

*The Power of Love: Overcoming the Love of Power in Your Relationships.*

Chicago: Moody Press, 1993.

“This book is a breath of fresh air, since it addresses one of the most common issues in all types of relationships--power struggles. [The Congos] give positive, practical solutions from a biblical perspective.”--H. Norman Wright.

**Conway, James, and Sally Conway.**

*Traits of a Lasting Marriage: What Strong Marriages Have in Common.*

Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1991.

Presents the results of a limited survey, but does not provide a sample of the questions or form used. Readers are left to presume that all matters were handled professionally and competently. The 15 chapters contain material that is both old and new. The points stressed by the authors are vital ones, and readers will profit from reading this book.

**Crain, Connie, and Janice Duffy.**

*How to Adopt a Child: A Comprehensive Guide for Prospective Parents.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1994.

Provides answers to the most frequently asked questions about adoption. Follows a simple question-and-answer format. Down-to-earth and practical.

**Cutrer, William, and Sandra Glahn.**

*Sexual Intimacy in Marriage.*

Grand Rapids: Kregel, 1998.

“This book refreshes readers like a cool stream in a barren land.... Suitable for newlyweds right through to people in the sunset years, it is full of challenges, surprises, and sound biblical principles.” CBA Marketplace.

**Damico, David.**

*The Influential Parent: How To Be the Person Your Teen Really Needs.*

Wheaton, IL: H. Shaw, 1997.

Getting a son or daughter through adolescence is hard work. The task is made even harder because they are at a stage in their growth that seems to drive them apart. The author offers clear, practical ideas that will help parents connect with their teens and build proven character.

**DeSanto, Charles P., and Terri Robinson Williams.**

*Putting Love to Work in Marriage.*

Scottsdale, PA: Herald Press, 1988.

Lays emphasis on the conscious commitment of a man and woman to make their marriage work. Abounds in sound counsel. Ideal for couples to read together.

**Dobson, James Clayton, Jr.**

*The New Dare to Discipline.*

Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House Publishers, 1992.

Builds upon the Judeo-Christian system of values. Describes in easy-to-understand terms how parents may rear responsible, God-honoring children in the midst of an increasingly secular age.

**Dobson, James Clayton, Jr., and Gary L. Bauer.**

*Children at Risk.*

2d ed. Dallas, TX: Word Publishing, 1990.

“If [this] book were no more than a listing of hazards faced by the most vulnerable among us, it would still be worthwhile reading.... But this revised edition goes beyond. It offers practical and timely advice on how you can work to right these wrongs.”--William J. Bennett.

**Dockery, Karen.**

*When a Hug Won't Fix the Hurt.*

Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1993.

Dockery writes from experience. Her book is designed to assist parents love, equip, and walk with their child through the crises that confront them. This book shares experiences of real parents and children who have gone or continue to go through crisis. It illustrates faith in God without pat answers or attempting to explain away the anguish. It suggests actions that enable families to maintain their routines while allowing time to grieve and heal. It weaves Biblical truth with experience to show how to walk through pain toward healing and wholeness. It also shares answers others have found valuable as they moved ahead toward eventual recovery.

**Durham, Ron.**

*Happily Ever After: (And Other Myths About Divorce).*

Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1992.

Takes a look at “divorce American style.” Probes the pressures placed upon one or both spouses to take the easy way out and separate. The promise, of course, is “happiness.” But this is often

elusive. What is overlooked is the high cost of leaving, the pain inflicted on the children, and the consequences of adultery (if such either is or becomes a part of the demise of the union).

**Eiseman, Tom L.**

*Temptations Families Face: Breaking Patterns That Keep Us Apart.*

Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1996.

Though the word “tempted” as implied in the title and used in the “Contents” is misleading, this book contains a wealth of practical information. Eiseman asks the right questions and provides convincing answers.

**Ezzo, Gary, and A. M. Ezzo.**

*Reaching the Heart of Your Teen.*

Sisters, OR: Multnomah, 1997.

The authors take a biblical approach to the parenting of teens. They penetrate to the heart of the matter by starting with parents, inviting them to examine their own motives so as to change their own lives before seeking to change the lives of their children.

**Farrel, Bill, and Pam Farrel.**

*Love, Honor and Forgive: A Guide for Married Couples.*

Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2000.

Highlights the importance of forgiveness within the family. Describes the corrosive effects of an unforgiving spirit. Stresses the importance of choice in the process and portrays the positive dimensions of reconciliation. A valuable book!

**Fuller, Cheri.**

*Helping Your Child Succeed in Public School.*

Colorado Springs, CO: Focus on the Family, 1993.

This new release provides parents with practical approaches to making the most of public instruction. Based on the experiences of families who were highly effective in overcoming challenges, this work provides a valuable guide full of helpful tips for parents of kids in preschool through high school. Some of the realistic help offered includes discussions of how to get a child's needs met in today's classrooms, how to react when there's a problem, how to monitor what's being taught, how to get involved, how to deal with violence in schools, and how to build relationships with teachers.

**Fuller, Cheri.**

*How to Grow a Young Music Lover: Helping Your Child Discover and Enjoy the World of Music.*

Wheaton, IL: Harold Shaw Publishers, 1994.

“Must reading for all parents who want to make music a part of family life. As an educator and parent, I know firsthand the part that music plays in the intellectual development of children. It isn't just an extra. It's a necessity.”--Elaine K. McEwan.

**Hall, Timothy L.**

*The Labor of Love: Creating an Enduring Romance in Your Marriage.*

Grand Rapids: Kregel, 1996.

Discusses nine principles that are guaranteed to build an enduring and loving relationship. This work is grounded in the Scriptures and vitally related to improving the quality of marriage. Each chapter can be read with profit.

**Hancock, Maxine.**

*Creative, Confident Children.*

Wheaton, IL: Harold Shaw Publishers, 1992.

The reprint of *People in Process: The Preschool Years* (1978) and *Confident, Creative Children* (1981). Contains 19 practical chapters explaining to parents the dynamics of child-rearing and showing them how to develop confidence, character, and creativity in their children.

**Haystead, Wes.**

*Teaching Your Child About God.*

Ventura, CA: Regal Books, 1995.

A practical, on-target guide for parents. Should be in every church library. Recommended!

**Haystead, Wes.**

*The 3,000-Year-Old Guide to Parenting: Wisdom from Proverbs for Today's Parents.*

Ventura, CA: Regal Books, 1991.

The title explains the contents. As a parent today, you don't need just another writer's opinion on how to rear your children. You need the kind of counsel that has stood the test of time--millennia, in fact. H. Norman Wright wrote of this book, "Offers a solid base and practical advice for everyday parenting issues."

**Heinrich, Joyce, and Annette Heinrich LaPlaca.**

*Making Summer Count: Activities to Help Your Family Play, Work, and Serve Together.*

Wheaton, IL: Harold Shaw Publishers, 1991.

The authors explain activities that will help parents develop character in their children, promote family unity, learn how to work together, and serve the Lord as a family. Their discussion includes Scripture devotional stories and activities that involve the whole family.

**Holt, Pat, and Grace Ketterman.**

*Don't Give In, Give Choices: Winning Your Child's Cooperation.*

Wheaton, IL: H. Shaw, 1997.

All parents have dreams of homes full of love and laughter. They envision happy, secure children growing to successful adulthood. But how do they translate those dreams into reality? The authors believe that the key to getting children to do what their parents want lies in giving them choices. Their counsel is short, focused, and applicable to a large range of situations.



**Holt, Pat.**

*Nine Myths that Damage a Child's Confidence: What Parents Think, What Children Say, What Professionals Observe.*

Wheaton, IL: Shaw, 1999.

Brief, pertinent chapters that can change a child's prospects for a healthy, meaningful future. Practical.

**Hunt, Angela Elwell.**

*Loving Someone Else's Child.*

Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House Publishers, 1992.

This book is a Godsend geared to the needs of those who find themselves in a step-parenting or grand parenting role. Hunt adopts a sensitive, caring approach, and "talks respectfully, affectionately, and expertly to parents like me caught in an imperfect, sometimes impossible, family. She is a family expert with courage and a big heart."--David Kopp.

**Hunt, Art.**

*A Weekend with the One You Love.*

Sisters, OR: Multnomah, 1997.

Encourages couples to make time to be alone. Explains the difference a weekend together can make; the basic principles that contribute to marriage enhancement; and how to keep your love growing. A most welcome book.

**Inrig, Gary.**

*Whole Marriages in a Broken World: God's Design for a Healthy Marriage.*

Grand Rapids: Discovery House Publishing, 1996.

Drawing upon Biblical stories to illustrate God's design for marriage, Inrig describes what it takes to grow and maintain a happy, healthy marriage in a world that continuously downplays and denigrates marriage. Here's a good book to read with your spouse!

**Jamison, Heather.**

*Reclaiming Intimacy: Overcoming the Consequences of Premarital Relationships.*

Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2001.

Writing from personal experience, and with courage seldom found in books of this nature, Mrs. Jamison explains the hazards of "cheap substitutes" and points the way out of lonely isolation to a new beginning. Recommended.

**Jones, Howard, et al.**

*Heritage and Hope: The Legacy and Future of the Black Family in America.*

Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1992.

The author is a Black evangelist long associated with the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association. He traces the impact of poverty, drugs, alcohol, violence, and the loss of high moral standards

upon families in Black communities, and shows how a strong working faith can lead couples to return to the foundations that made them strong. Recommended.

**Ketterman, Grace.**

*Mothering: The Complete Guide for Mothers of All Ages.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1991.

Designed for mothers of all age groups. Covers such questions as infertility, pregnancy, Lamaze classes, breast feeding, colicky babies, blended families, disabled children, absent fathers, adolescent peer pressure, diets, ... a grandmother's role, and much more--all will be found between these covers.

**Kimmel, Tim.**

*Basic Training for a Few Good Men.*

Nashville: Nelson, 1997.

"[This book] is an original and thought-provoking work, filled with good advice for men who wish to improve their walk of faith."—Dan Quayle.

**Korem, Dan.**

*Streetwise Parents, Foolproof Kids.*

Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1992.

Shows parents how to guide their children so that they can confront those who would exploit/abuse them, face their fears, discern truth from error, and avoid such issues as illicit sex, illegal drugs, inappropriate music, ill-advised membership in gangs, involvement with different cults, and entrapment in occult practices. An excellent presentation.

**Kroll, Woodrow.**

*Is There a Man In the House.*

Lincoln, NE: Back to the Bible, 1995.

Available from Loizeaux Brothers, Neptune, NJ. Contains ten popular messages outlining what the Bible teaches about masculinity, and what men need to know to fulfill the Biblical criteria.

**Langston, Teresa A.**

*Parenting Without Pressure: A Whole Family Approach.*

Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1994.

"As a therapist in a children's crisis stabilization unit, I work daily with parents whose children are out of control. Parenting Without Pressure has given me specific techniques I can share with my clients. As a parent, I find that my 13-year-old daughter is evidence that these techniques really work."--Melanie Stein.

**Lawson, Steven J.**

*The Legacy: What Every Father Wants to Leave His Child.*

Sisters, OR: Multnomah, 1995.

Shows how to leave one's child a legacy that is more important than money. Treats such important issues as godliness, respect, gentleness, maturity, responsibility and more. Heads up, dad, this book is for you.

**Lee, Steve, and Chap Clark.**

*Boys to Men: How Fathers Can Help Build Character in Their Sons.*

Chicago: Moody Press, 1995.

Deals with the hard questions and explains how father's may prepare their sons for life as adults. Explains the different stages of growth boys pass through and how their fathers may maximize their influence. Most helpful.

**Lehman, Kevin.**

*Keeping Your Family Together When the World Is Falling Apart.*

Colorado Springs, CO: Focus on the Family Publishing, 1993.

The author acknowledges that the family today is in trouble. Divorce, drugs, high drop out rates from school, long distances from extended family members, single parenting, demanding jobs, a shortage of time, stress, and fatigue all wreak havoc on family togetherness. Leman offers a battle plan for busy and stressed-out parents with such common-sense insights as "the whole family is more important than one member," "always put your marriage first," and "priorities are crucial to success." He also offers fresh advice on how to make the family unit stronger; how to reconcile different values and beliefs at home; how to prepare children for the real world; how to cope with such pressures as stress, single parenthood, and the two-job family; and, finally, how to affair-proof your marriage.

**Leman, Kevin, and Randy Carlson.**

*Parent Talk.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1993.

This book is based on questions asked by parents who phone the author's radio program. The different themes run the gamut of the parenting process. Leman's answers are practical and reliable, even though his answers are limited to about a page.

**Leman, Kevin, Dave Jackson and Neta Jackson.**

*Becoming the Parent God Wants You To Be.*

Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1999.

An important practical workbook for parents. Well constructed; timely.

**Leman, Kevin.**

*Becoming a Couple of Promise.*

Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1999.

"I applaud Leman for writing a book that gives couples the courage and resources to improve their relationship. In a time when many couples find it easy to quit, [this book] provides instrumental

exercises and spiritual direction that gives promise to relationships. This book will inspire husbands and wives to indeed become couples of promise.”—Dick DeVos.

**Leman, Kevin.**

*Getting the Best Out of Your Kids, Before They Get the Best of You.*

Eugene, OR: Harvest House Publishers, 1992.

Practical, humorous counsel on how to enjoy the ages and stages of child-rearing. Includes information on birth order and much more. Updates his earlier work, *Parenting Without Hassles*.

**Lewis, Robert, and William Hendricks.**

*Rocking the Roles: Building a Win-Win Marriage.*

Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1991.

“[The authors] have brought us the definitive work on God’s masterplan for marriage gender roles. They blend meticulous scriptural and historical research with sensitive, practical insight [into a book] that every married person should read.”--Dave Simmons.

**Lindskoog, Kathryn, and Ranella Mack Hunsicker.**

*How to Grow a Young Reader: Books from Every Age for Readers of Every Age.* Updated and expanded ed.

Wheaton, IL: H. Shaw, 1999.

Discusses over 1800 titles. Explains how to choose the right book for your child. Helps parents determine which books are valuable and which are not worthy of your time. In an age of TV addiction the authors show parents how to develop in their children a love for reading.

**Maddoux, Marlin.**

*What Worries Parents Most.*

Eugene, OR: Harvest House Publishers, 1992.

A manual for parents. Explains survival strategies for inside and outside the home. Special emphasis is placed on the sexual mores to which children are subjected, and the competing religious philosophies that are current at the present time. Recommended.

**Mallory, James D.**

*Battle of the Sexes: How Both Sides Can Win With Honor.*

Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 1996.

The author lays down a foundation that will help couples better understand this age-old battle. He then describes the unique roles of husbands and wives, and why their differences are important. After this he explains how couples may develop true unity in their relationship with one another. Recommended.

**McEwan, Elaine K.**

*The Parents Guide to Solving School Problems: Kindergarten Through Middle School.*

Wheaton, IL: Harold Shaw Publishers, 1992.

How can parents determine if a particular school isn't "working" for their child? What can they do if their son or daughter doesn't grasp math or the basics of reading and writing? And how can they determine if their child isn't happy or is failing to adjust to a particular situation? McEwan discusses the dynamics of motivating underachievers; overcoming homework hurdles; understanding learning disabilities; exploding the myths that often circulate about "Math is hard" or learning a second language; maximizing learning styles; taking the fear out of tests; and relieving stress and anxiety.

**McGuffey, William H.**

*The Christian Eclectic Readers.* Ed. by C. and B. Burger. 5 vols.

Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998.

For more than 160 years the McGuffey Readers have been standard textbooks for educators and homeschoolers throughout America. Now this trusted set of volumes has been made available again. Provides a ten-year curriculum for teaching rhetorical skills. Recommended.

**McLuhan, M. G.**

*Marriage and Divorce: God's Call, God's Compassion.*

Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House Publishers, 1991.

"McLuhan is one of the finest Bible scholars I know. His many years of service to a local congregation, including his counseling with hundreds of couples, has provided a practical counterpoint to his theological insight. The result is this book, an excellent treatment of the problem of divorce and remarriage. I recommend it highly."--Paul Conn.

**McManus, Michael J.**

*Marriage Savers: Helping Your Friends and Family Stay Married.*

Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1994.

"Christian books decrying social ills are often long on diagnosis but short on cures. Typically they offer sweeping indictments of modern culture, with condemnations of the church's all-too-often fumbling responses. Readers are left yearning for practical answers--ways they can make a difference. But this is one book that meets our yearning for answers... McManus has come across heartening examples of 'Marriage savers'--churches and organizations that offer programs to strengthen marriages. These models provide useful strategies that will help any church become a marriage saver."--Charles Colson.

**Miller, David R.**

*Help! I'm Not a Perfect Parent.*

Denver, CO: Accent Books, 1991.

Faces squarely the problem issues parents encounter and the emotional responses that accompany the role of a parent in today's milieu. Insightful and helpful.

**Miller, Kathy Collard, and Darcy Miller.**

*Staying Friends with Your Kids.*

Wheaton, IL: H. Shaw, 1997.

This book is a warm, down-to-earth, practical guide for developing and maintaining an adult relationship with your children after they've grown. The Millers take a look at what causes friction in the relationship, and how to give each other "space." The advice is well-seasoned and geared to the ups and downs of close relationships.

**Minirth, Frank B., Paul Meier, and Stephen Arterburn.**

*The Complete Life Encyclopedia: A Minirth-Meier New Life Family Resource.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1995.

Arranged in dictionary format with articles ranging from "Abnormal psychology" to "Workaholism," and including such topics as "Anorexia Nervosa and Bulimia" "Grief and Loss," "Infidelity," "Manic-Depression," and "Sexually Transmitted Diseases." The 89 articles are all easy-to-read and practical (as opposed to academic/scholarly). Valuable. A must for the home library.

**Molton, Warren Lane.**

*Friends, Partners, and Lovers: Marks of a Vital Marriage.*

Revised ed Valley Forge, PA: Judson Press, 1993.

Here is a book that is permeated with practical suggestions for strengthening and enriching one's marriage. The author's counseling experience is evident in his style and recommendations. His discussion of the issues that can derail a marriage is timely and practical.

**Morey, Patrick M.**

*The Seven Season's of a Man's Life: Examining the Unique Challenges Men Face.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1995.

"This is not just a good book, it's great. [The author] speaks to the issues, challenges your mind, and also penetrates your heart. This resource can bring a balance into any man's life. [It] is well-written, easy to read, and insightful ..."--H. Norman Wright.

**Morley, Patrick M.**

*The Man in the Mirror: Solving the 24 Problems Men Face.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1992.

"I believe that [this book] is the best I have ever read about men in our culture today. Morley has clearly encapsulated the trials, tribulations, and temptations that all men face. It is written in an easy to read fashion with stimulating questions at the end of each chapter. It will challenge each and every man to a better quality of life. It is must reading for every man in my church."--Charles Green.

**Narramore, Stanley Bruce, and Vern C. Lewis.**

*Parenting Teens.*

Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House Publishers, 1992.

The reissue in paperback of *Cutting the Cord*.

**Nuechterlein, Anne Marie.**

*Families of Alcoholics: A Guide to Healing and Recovery.*

Minneapolis: Augsburg Publishing House, 1992.

Explores the concerns, pain, and confusion experienced by families of alcoholics. Shows the value of a family systems approach to resolving the problems caused by alcoholics, while all the while helping the alcoholics themselves.

**O'Connor, Lindsey.**

*A Christian's Guide to Working from Home.*

Eugene, OR: Harvest, 1997.

A book like this one is long overdue. It deals with establishing a home-based business, and has been written by a wife and mother who has succeeded in establishing a flourishing business. Her counsel is practical and easy-to-follow. Recommended.

**Oates, R. Kim.**

*The Spectrum of Child Abuse: Assessment, Treatment, and Prevention.*

New York: Brunner/Mazel, 1996.

Child abuse in its many forms has reached epidemic proportions. This book exposes what is taking place and the social problems it causes. It also describes what can be done to prevent abuse from taking place.

**Osterhaus, James, and James Denney.**

*Family Ties Don't Have To Bind.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1994.

Osterhaus, a pastor-psychologist, takes a hard look at parent-child relationships, and especially the variety that result in the abusive situations that presently plague our society. He also presents possible aspects of parenting that those who have not benefitted from proper modeling can implement.

**Parish, Ruth Ann.**

*Your Baby's First Year: Spiritual Reflections on Infant Development.*

Wheaton, IL: H. Shaw, 1997.

Takes the reader on a walk through the first year of a child's life. Traces a baby's growth from just before birth to the celebration of the first full year of life. Combines practical information on infant development with insights into the grace of God.

**Parish, Ruth Ann.**

*Your Child's Toddler Years: Spiritual Reflections on Months 13—36.*

Wheaton, IL: H. Shaw, 1999.

“An affirming, sensitive book about one of the most exciting times of childhood. [Parish] provides parents with the knowledge and spiritual tools that will help them move through these years with grace and self-confidence.”—John Neff.

**Penner, Clifford L., and Joyce J. Penner.**

*Getting Your Sex Life Off To a Great Start: A Guide for Engaged and Newlywed Couples.*  
Dallas, TX: Word Publishing, 1994.

Two sexologists cover the basics that make for a lasting, satisfying sexual relationship. Topics covered include trust, romance, intimacy, bonding, sharing, bringing your worlds together, fear of sex, expectations, freedom of expression, and much more. Dignified, Biblical, helpful.

**Penner, Clifford L., and Joyce J. Penner.**

*Sex Facts For the Family.* 2d ed.  
Dallas, TX: Word Publishing, 1992.

This is the revised edition of *A Gift For All Ages* (1986). Explains how sex differs from sexuality. Provides excellent chapters on family planning and birth control. Gives helpful guidelines on explaining sex to children. Only one chapter is devoted to sex in the life of single people. Deals with adult sexuality in special situations and then tackles three key areas: Sexual molestation and abuse, sexual infections, and sexual addictions. Well done. Deserves widespread circulation.

**Peterson, Eugene H.**

*Like Dew Your Youth: Growing Up With Your Teenager.*  
Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1994.

“Adolescence is a gift,” writes Peterson. “God’s gift to the parent in middle-age.” He goes on to explain how adolescence is a time for parents to enjoy a deeper, richer relationship with their children and for both age groups to grow in their relationship with the Lord Jesus. Peterson then offers effective ways to deal with many of the problems and pains of growing up. He also offers insightful understanding of parent-adolescent relationships that will help promote an atmosphere of communication, growth, frankness, forgiveness, love, and harmony in the home.

**Piper, Boni, and Judith Balswick.**

*Then They Leave Home: Parenting After the Kids Grow Up.*  
Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1997.

The authors have both experienced “the empty nest” and know of its pain. In their book they write to help other parents through this difficult passage. They explain how to achieve a healthy separation so that their children will feel free to return as adults. Recommended.

**Prinzing, Fred, and Anita Prinzing.**

*Mixed Messages.*  
Chicago: Moody Press, 1991.

How should the church, and Christians in it, respond to interracial marriages? Writing from personal experience, this husband-wife team seek to provide answers to some of the most



frequently asked questions. While neither promoting nor condemning interracial marriages, the authors do analyze the motives for such unions and the effects it will have on the children.

**Purnell, Dick.**

*Becoming a Friend and Lover.*

Updated ed. Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1995.

Describes how to build a friendship that can develop into a strong marriage. Provides practical insights into understanding one another, and how to avoid short-circuiting a good relationship. Clarifies such matters as relaxing and being oneself when dating or meeting people, and how to cultivate unity in the important areas of life.

**Quayle, James Danforth, and Diane Medved.**

*The American Family: Discovering the Values That Make Us Strong.*

San Francisco: HarperCollins Publishing, 1996.

Quayle and his wife reared their three children during the time he served successively as a Congressman, U. S. Senator, and as Vice President of the United States. A staunch supporter of family values, Quayle articulates the principles that can only be recreated in our homes as parents model them for their children. This is a book that needs to be read ... and then read again and again.

**Reitz, Miriam, and Kenneth W. Watson.**

*Adoption and the Family System: Strategies for Treatment.*

New York: Guilford Press, 1992.

“This book is a unique contribution to the literature on adoption and family therapy. For the first time, family therapists will now understand how to handle adoption within a family therapy context; and adoption workers will understand the implications of adoption in the family system. Never before has there been a volume which brings together family systems theory and adoption. Especially helpful are the numerous case examples, useful interventions, and examples of good practice for working with all members of the adoption triad and their extended families.”--Dirck Brown.

**Rhodes, Sonya, and Susan Schneider.**

*Second Honeymoon: A Pioneering Guide for Reviving the Mid-life Marriage.*

New York: William Morrow and Co., 1992.

Rhodes is a psychotherapist and Schneider is a former journalist. Rhodes bases her counsel on her 25 years as an expert in marriage and family relationships. She describes the high-risk roles and behavior patterns spouses bring with them into mid-life and the kinds of collusions couples typically use for resisting the change that is normal and necessary for growth. Readers will recognize themselves in dozens of case histories defining these common impasses. Rhodes shows couples how to achieve the critical transformations that will make the second half of their life together the companionate and loving “second honeymoon” they want it to be.

**Rickerson, Wayne.**

*The Winning Hand: Making the Most of Your Family's Differences.*

Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1991.

Shows readers how to maximize harmony and minimize conflict in the home. Divides people into four basic personality types. An interesting though elemental discussion. Contains good illustrations of different kinds of people.

**Roth, Patty.**

*Enter at Your Own Risk! 8 Secrets for Parenting Through Middle School.*

Wheaton, IL: H. Shaw, 1999.

Mrs. Roth guides her readers through the turbulent middle school years providing invaluable counsel on such important matters as communication, support, boundaries, conflict resolution, power struggles, spirituality, affection, and autonomy. Also included are extensive appendices offering parents the necessary resources for dealing with step-parenting, early teen substance abuse, suicide, Satanism, and eating disorders. Insightful and helpful.

**Schooler, Jayne.**

*Searching for the Past: The Adopted Adult's Unique Process of Finding Identity.*

Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1995.

Chronicles the anguish of those who, as adults, try to find their real parents. Offers sage counsel on all phases of the process. Blends information from several disciplines with a realistic assessment of the pros and cons. Well done.

**Sears, William, and Martha Sears.**

*The New Baby Planner.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1994.

This doctor and nurse team are the parents of eight children. In their eminently practical book they take their readers through the early years of parenthood and the challenges they will face. An excellent discussion.

**Sell, Charles, and Virginia Sell.**

*Spiritual Intimacy for Couples.*

Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 1996.

With commendable honesty the Sells assess the causes that have contributed to the breakdown of intimacy among couples. They point the way to the development of oneness that can last a lifetime. Practical.

**Simmons, David A.**

*Dad the Family Counselor.*

Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1991.

Assesses the function of fatherhood under three headings: "To Love, To Bend, To Lead." Explains how fathers can develop a team approach that results in successful interpersonal

relations, a healthy spirituality, and emotional stability. Emphasizes the importance of a sense of belonging, worth, and competence in each family member.

**Simmons, David.**

*Dad the Family Coach.*

Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1991.

“There are definite reasons for the decline of excellence in fatherhood. Too few young fathers are aware of the significance and skills of fatherhood. We need a clear and precise statement on fatherhood and a basic primer that covers what a father does, how to do it, and how well it must be done.”--Tom Landry. And this book provides it.

**Smalley, Gary, and John Trent.**

*Leaving the Light On: Building the Memories That Will Draw Your Kids Home,*

Sisters, OR: Multnomah Press, 1994.

These parents share insights into the ways they have built memories--with their children. Insightful and helpful.

**Smalley, Gary, and John Trent.**

*The Gift of Blessing.*

Updated and expanded ed. Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1993.

The “brain child” of John Trent, this explanation of how people may be a blessing to others, and particularly people in their own family, is worthy of repeated reading. With pertinent anecdotes, the authors explain the dynamics involved and how we can meet the needs of others. Recommended.

**Smalley, Gary.**

*Making Love Last Forever.*

Dallas, TX: Word Publishing, 1996.

“A must-read manual for building a lasting relationship and making your love last forever.”--Connie Selleca.

**Smalley, Gary.**

*The Key To Your Child's Heart.*

Revised ed. Dallas, TX: Word Publishing, 1992.

Contains “lists” for just about every phase of the parenting process. These include the six characteristics of a close family; five steps to opening up a child who has shut you out; four common parenting styles; five childhood personalities; one practical, family-tested approach to setting limits and enforcing them; ten keys to effective but tender discipline; seven ways to express loving support; and twenty-two proven ways to motivate a child.

**Smith, Debra White.**

*Romancing Your Husband.*

Eugene, OR: Harvest, 2002.

Brief pertinent chapters enhanced by the testimonies and insights of others.

**Spurgeon, Charles Haddon.**

*Spurgeon's Sermons on Family and Home.*

Grand Rapids: Kregel Publications, 1995.

In this new collection of sermons--including many of Spurgeon's personal favorites--the busy pastor will find a lot of information on the family as well as unique teachings from both the OT and the NT.

**Stanley, Scott.**

*The Heart of Commitment.*

Nashville: Nelson, 1998.

Shows married couples how to cultivate the kind of lifelong devotion that makes marriage a happy experience. Abounds with practical counsel that all couples can use.

**Stoop, David A.**

*Making Peace With Your Father.*

Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House Publishers, 1992.

While the feminist movement will deny it, the fact remains that we are living in a woman's world. And fathers are often the forgotten entities in the family. Sometimes their only sphere of usefulness is disciplining the children because the wife and mother finds such a task distasteful. Now, belatedly, we are learning how much damage has been done. Stoop deals compassionately with the issues and then outlines a step-by-step plan for recovery. Recommended.

**Stoop, David A., and James Masteller.**

Ann Arbor, MI: Servant Publications, 1991. *Forgiving Our Parents, Forgiving Ourselves: Healing Adult Children of Dysfunctional Families.*

"I can heartily endorse this [book] because I know [its counsel] works. With its help you can discover a new way of healing for yourself."--Archibald D. Hart.

**Storey, Duane, Sanford Kulkin, and Mary Ann Mayo.**

*Body and Soul.*

Sisters, OR: Multnomah Books, 1995.

An excellent guide for married couples. Helps them discover and understand their own and their partner's unique sexual personalities.

**Strack, Jay.**

*Good Kids Who Do Bad Things.*

Dallas, TX: Word Publishing, 1993.

Parents want to rear good children, but how do they offset peer pressure and the influence of movies, the drug culture, the world that glamorizes sex, and the pernicious influence of pagan religions? In this book Strack explains how teenagers may be guided in making wise choices.

**Swihart, Nancy L., and Ken R. Cranfield.**

*Beside Every Great Dad.*

Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House Publishers, 1993.

This team approach to parenting, and in particular the dyadic roles of the husband/father, is worthy of serious attention. The experience of the authors is unquestioned, but their research (judging from the sources cited) is almost non-existent. What remains is “opinion” corroborated by a few popular authors. Disappointing.

**Van't Land, Marcia.**

*Living Well with Chronic Illness.*

Wheaton, IL: Harold Shaw Publishers, 1994.

There are no simple answers for the family in the midst of chronic illness and disability. Lifestyles are constantly reshuffled, priorities tumble, financial and emotional burdens grow, and family relationships may become tense as a once “well” and functioning family member needs constant care. In this book the author walks alongside the chronic sufferer through the painful and sometimes lengthy process of finding the right doctor, while also discussing the crucial matters of helping children understand, coping with chronic pain, deciding on courses of treatment, and facing the potential of early death. Included are time tested tips and up-to-date listings of resources. This is an essential book for family, friends, care givers, church leaders, and those facing illness themselves.

**Virkler, Henry A.**

*Broken Promises: Understanding, Healing and Preventing Affairs in Christian Marriage.*

Contemporary Christian Counseling. Dallas, TX: Word Publishing, 1992.

Explains how Christians become involved in affairs. Lays out a counseling model that includes the faithful partner, and then pinpoints the ways in which couples can “affair-proof” their marriage. An excellent discussion. Recommended.

**Walker, Elaine L.**

*Loving Journeys: A Guide to Adoption.*

Peterborough, NH: Loving Journeys, 1992.

Fulfills the title. Part 1 is a thorough introduction to the world of adoption, explaining general requirements and procedures. Part 2 is a directory containing detailed listings of hundreds of adoption resources, private adoption agencies and adoption attorneys, American and international adoption programs (including maps and country profiles), support groups, and newspapers that accept ads for independent adoption. With this preparation, the adoption process need not be a frustrating maze, but instead become a loving journey.

**Walsh, Froma, ed.**

*Normal Family Process.*

2d ed. New York: Guilford Press, 1993.

First published in 1982. Over the past decade social changes have redefined the boundaries of “normal” family life. In this book the contributors reexamine the assumptions--both implicit and explicit--and offer fresh insights into what is happening within our social milieu.

**Walters, Laura Sherman.**

*There's a New Family Living in My House! Blending Stepfamilies Together.*

Wheaton, IL: Harold Shaw Publishers, 1993.

Walters makes available her insights gained from many years as a family and child therapist. She explains the reasons why there are so many confusing emotions and powerful tensions when two families merge. Helpful information focuses on such issues as grief, loss, depression, and the “emotional baggage” that one often brings from his/her family of origin.

**Warren, Paul, and Frank Minirth.**

*Things That Go Bump In the Night: How to Help Children Resolve Their Natural Fears.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1993.

Takes the reader on an excursions into the dynamics of fear, and then relates how fear impacts each stage of a child's development. Most helpful.

**Whiteman, Thomas, and Debbie Barr.**

*When Your Son or Daughter Is Going Through a Divorce.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1994.

The authors show that those whose children are enduring separation/divorce are not alone. They then help their readers understand the feelings of parents and offer positive, practical answers to the often perplexing thoughts that crowd into the minds of the older generation.

**Wiersbe, Warren Wendell, comp.**

*Classic Sermons on Family and Home.*

Grand Rapids: Kregel Publications, 1993.

This slender volume contains messages by Walter A. Maier, Clovis A. Chappell, George W. Truett, Clarence E. Macartney, Robert G. Lee, and others. It is a helpful resource that restores faith in family values.

**Wiggin, Eric E.**

*The Heart of a Grandparent: Investing Yourself in Your Grandchildren's Future.*

Wheaton, IL: Harold Shaw Publishers, 1993.

Explains the essence of effective grand parenting. Uses humor to get his point across. Each chapter contains pointed, pithy paragraphs that brim with practical “things-to-do” with one's grandchildren. Supplies a sorely needed discussion on a neglected aspect of American life.

**Wilson, P. B.**

*Liberated Through Submission.*

Eugene, OR: Harvest, 1990.

Written by a wife to other wives, this book outlines the biblical teaching on a wife's submission to her husband. The author combines humor with pathos as she dispels the misunderstanding that surrounds this doctrine. Read it and decide for yourself.

**Wolgemuth, Robert.**

*She Calls Me Daddy: Seven Things Every Man Needs to Know About Building a Complete Daughter.*

Colorado Springs, CO: Focus on the Family, 1996.

"Without exaggeration, I'd put [the author] in the top one percent of authors I've known.... I urge you to pick up this book and discover the same warm, wise, insightful counsel I've received."--  
John Trent.

**Wright, H. Norman.**

*How to Encourage the Man in Your Life.*

Nashville: Word, 1997.

This veteran counselor shows wives how to tap their potential so as to draw out the best in their husbands. He explains what works and why, when to talk and when to listen, what to say and how to avoid becoming negative. This is a welcome addition to the usual books on marriage and family living.

**Wright, Harry Norman, and Joyce Wright.**

*I'll Love You Forever.*

Colorado Springs, CO: Focus on the Family, 1993.

"Why me?" Where did we go wrong?" These are the questions many parents ask when a child is born disabled or when a child chooses to rebel. The Wrights share from firsthand experience the range of emotions parents feel when a child doesn't fulfill their expectations. They describe their own difficulties in parenting their profoundly retarded son, Matthew, and their grief when their daughter, Sheryl, turned her back on their Christian teaching for a life of drugs and promiscuity. As a result of their painful experiences they are able to walk parents through the grief, questions, and love and pain in dealing with these "losses."

**Wright, Harry Norman.**

*The Other Woman in Your Marriage: Understanding a Mother's Impact on Her Son and How It Affects His Marriage.*

Ventura, CA: Regal Books, 1994.

Wright believes that one of the most powerful relationships experienced by a man is with his mother. He also believes that her influence carries over into his relationship with his wife. This book tells him what to look for and how to make the necessary mid-course adjustments.

**Wright, Harry Norman.**

*The Secrets of a Lasting Marriage.*

Ventura, CA: Regal Books, 1995.

In ten chapters the author, “dean” of American marriage counselors, explains the way marriages can be made to last a lifetime. An appendix contains a “satisfaction questionnaire” by which couples may assess the quality of their relationship. Practical. Offers encouragement to those in troubled marriages.

**Young, Ed.**

*Against All Odds: Family Survival In a Hostile World.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1992.

Encourages couples to actively take charge of their lives and, with God’s help, work through their problems. Here is an upbeat book, crammed with practical ideas, and geared to the needs of spouses/parents in this postmodern era.

**Zaepfel, Glenn P.**

*He Wins, She Wins.*

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1994.

Defines the psychological and spiritual hurdles for both passive and assertive partners. Offers specific counsel on how to restore damaged relationships. Here is an excellent resource as well as a valuable guide for anyone desiring to break the negative effects of the past.

**Zimmerman, Carle C.**

*Family and Civilization.*

New York: Harper and Brothers, c1947.

Social scientists administer their tests to determine current social mores. The results may or may not be compared with studies undertaken in the recent past. In this book, Zimmerman goes back to the distant past and presents data about the family that provides an indispensable context for a study of family structures--what succeeded and what failed--and how a knowledge of social history can aid us today. An essential work.

**Zitzman, Susan M.**

*All-Day Care: Exploring the Options for You and Your Child.*

Wheaton, IL: Harold Shaw Publishers, 1990.

The author is a widowed, single parent. As such, she is in a position to empathize with the difficulties parents face in stretching scarce resources and juggling priorities. From her own experience she’s learned that the task of being a good parent is far wider and deeper than merely answering the question, “Should I work, or should I stay at home?” And based upon her own difficult situation, she is able to pass on to others the principles that she has found to work best. This book does not offer any utopian solutions, but instead meets readers where they are and helps them assess what must be done.





