

Pastor Luke's Reading List

Be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will (Romans 12:2).

Here at First Baptist Carmi, one truly important goal of ours is to fill our minds with good books. Listed below is what I think are some of the very best books available in a wide range of topics surrounding the Christian life (100 books in all—give or take a few). Join us in this pursuit of godly living and disciplined reading. Please print the following list and use it to develop a reading plan suitable to your needs and schedule, and as you do, please remember that reading *many* books is not nearly as important as reading really good books really well. The titles in **bold** print are some of my personal favorites. Please note: My recommendation of these books does not necessarily amount to an endorsement of *everything* in them. It does, however, mean that I mostly (if not entirely) agree with them and, moreover, I believe you will be very blessed to read them.

Apologetics

20 Compelling Evidences That God Exists by Kenneth Boa and Robert Bowman

Case for Christ, The by Lee Strobel

Case for Faith, The by Lee Strobel

Hard Questions, Real Answers by William Lane Craig

I Don't Have Enough Faith to Be an Atheist by Norman L. Geisler

Know Why You Believe by Paul Little

Mere Christianity by C.S. Lewis

More than a Carpenter by Josh McDowell

Orthodoxy by G.K. Chesterton

Reasonable Faith: Christian Truth and Apologetics by William Lane Craig

Scaling the Secular City by J.P. Moreland (advanced)

That's Just Your Interpretation by Paul Copan

Bible

According to Plan by Graeme Goldsworthy

Bible Translation Differences: Criteria for Excellence in Reading and Choosing a Bible Translation by Leland Ryken

God Wrote a Book by James MacDonald

Living by the Book by Howard Hendricks

Biographies

In the Shadow of the Almighty by Elizabeth Elliott (Jim's journals)

Hudson Taylor's Spiritual Secret by Dr. and Mrs. Howard Taylor

Jonathan Edwards: A Life by Professor George M. Marsden

Through Gates of Splendor by Elisabeth Elliot

Church

Nine Marks of a Healthy Church by Mark Dever

What Is a Healthy Church? by Mark Dever

Why We Love the Church by Kevin DeYoung and Ted Kluck

Christian Mind

Love Your God with All Your Mind by J.P. Moreland

Christian Mind, The by Harry Blamires

Think: The Life of the Mind and the Love of God by John Piper and Mark A. Noll

Weight of Glory, The by C.S. Lewis

Decision Making

Just Do Something: How to Make a Decision without... by Kevin DeYoung

Devotional

Godly Man's Picture, The by Thomas Watson

Godward Life, A by John Piper

My Utmost for His Highest by Oswald Chambers

Valley of Vision by Arthur G. Bennett

Evangelism

How to Give Away Your Faith by Paul Little

One Thing You Can't Do in Heaven by Mark Cahill

Outbreak by Greg Stier (a book aimed primarily at Youth Ministry)

Fiction (with very true messages)

Pilgrim's Progress by John Bunyan

Screwtape Letters by C.S. Lewis

Finances

Making Change by Ken Hemphill

Money, Possessions, and Eternity by Randy Alcorn

Total Money Makeover by Dave Ramsey

Treasure Principle: Discovering the Secret of Joyful Giving, The by Randy Alcorn

Leadership

Passion for Faithfulness: Wisdom from the Book of Nehemiah, A by J.I. Packer

Spiritual Leadership by J. Oswald Sanders

Marriage

Christian Living in the Home by Jay Adams

Excellent Wife: A Biblical Perspective, The by Martha Peace (for women)

Exemplary Husband, The by Stuart Scott (for men)

Feminine Appeal: Seven Virtues of a Godly Wife and Mother by Carolyn Mahaney (for Women)

Point Man by Steve Farrar (for men)

Sacred Marriage by Gary Thomas

Sacred Sex by Tim Alan Gardner

Strengthening Your Marriage by Wayne Mack

Sex, Romance, and the Glory of God: What Every Christian Husband Needs to Know by C. J. Mahaney

Ministry

Called to the Ministry by Edmund P. Clowney

Cross and Christian Ministry, The by D.A. Carson

Dear Timothy by Thomas K. Ascol, ed.

Instruments in the Redeemer's Hands by Paul David Tripp

Lectures to My Students by Charles Spurgeon

The Cross and Christian Ministry by D.A. Carson

Theology of Christian Counseling by Jay Adams

Motivational

Don't Waste Your Life by John Piper

Radical by David Platt

Parenting

Age of Opportunity by Paul David Tripp

Instructing a Child's Heart by Tedd Tripp

Shepherding a Child's Heart by Tedd Tripp

Social Issues

Answering Islam by Norman Geisler and Abdul Saleeb

Culture Shift by Albert Mohler

***Darwin on Trial* by Phillip Johnson**

New Tolerance by Josh McDowell and Bob Hostetler

Pro-Life Answers to Pro-Choice Arguments by Randy Alcorn

Total Truth by Nancy Pearcey

What Is the Difference?: Manhood and Womanhood Defined according to the Bible by John Piper

Why Pro-Life? : Caring for the Unborn and Their Mothers by Randy Alcorn

Spiritual Growth

Celebration of Discipline by Richard Foster

***Disciplines of a Godly Man* by R. Kent Hughes (for men)**

***Enemy Within, The* by Chris Lundgaard**

***Holiness* by J.C. Ryle**

***How People Change* by Timothy Lane and Paul David Tripp**

Humility: True Greatness by C. J. Mahaney

Overcoming Fear, Worry, and Anxiety: Becoming a Woman of Faith and Confidence by Elyse Fitzpatrick (for women)

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

Pursuit of Holiness, The by Jerry Bridges

Religious Affections: A Christian's Character before God by Jonathan Edwards

***Spiritual Disciplines for the Christian Life* by Donald S. Whitney**

***When People Are Big and God Is Small* by Edward T. Welch**

Who Are You to Judge? by Dave Swavely

Spiritual Perspective

***Cross-Centered Life, The* by C.J. Mahaney**

In Christ Alone: Living the Gospel Centered Life by Sinclair Ferguson

Seeing with New Eyes by David Powlison

Theology

***All of Grace* by Charles Spurgeon**

Attributes of God, The by A.W. Tozer

Basic Christianity by John Stott

Cross of Christ, The by John Stott

Knowledge of the Holy by A.W. Tozer

***Systematic Theology* by Wayne Grudem**

Worship

Christ Centered Worship by Bryan Chapell

***Desiring God* by John Piper**

Worship by the Book by D.A. Carson