

Books That Have Helped Me

John Manley

Celebration of Discipline, by Richard J. Foster

This is a book I re-read on occasions. It marks out the path to a deeper life with God and gives helpful insights into the devotional lives of many great Christians.

Shepherding the Church, by Joseph M. Stowell

This is a great book for anyone who is interested in being an effective pastor in the modern world while staying true to God's plan for church leadership.

The Good and Beautiful God, by James Bryan Smith

This book helps us to see clearly how God operates from ultimate goodness, both his mercy and His wrath are expressions of His goodness. It was helpful to me personally, but also a book I can easily recommend to someone new in the faith or confused about the nature of God.

The Complete Works of E.M. Bounds on Prayer

This is a book or collection of books that always helps re-stoke the fire within when I have gotten coldhearted. Bounds words are like arrows that hit the mark. Many times I've laid the book down and hit my knees in prayer.

The 21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership, by John C. Maxwell

Not necessarily a deeply spiritual book but one that has helped me get a better handle on leadership. I'm glad I read it early in my ministry.

Fresh Wind, Fresh Fire, by Jim Cymbala

This is a very inspiring book that God has used more than once to help me. It's biblically sound and not ancient history.

How To Win Friends and Influence People, by Dale Carnegie

Not a Christian book, to be sure, but a worthy read for anyone in the people business.

Ordering Your Private World, by Gordon MacDonald

This has been a life-changing book for me—literally! God used it to lead me away from some dangerous habits in my life and establish some new healthy ones.

The Spirit of Holiness, by Everett Lewis Cattell

This is quite possibly the most helpful book on holiness that I have read. Cattell uses some great illustrations from Scripture and life in this book that have helped bring clarity and spiritual hunger to me.

Between Two Worlds, by John Stott

This is one of my favorite books on preaching. Even the title challenges me when I think of it.

Becoming A Contagious Christian, by Bill Hybels

This is a great book for anyone who cares about evangelism. Many up-to-date approaches are included.

Real Worship, by Warren Wiersbe

This book opened my mind and heart to worship like never before. The chapter on preaching as an act of worship was revolutionizing.