

Stuff Christians Like Jon Acuff

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A Christ-Centered Wedding

From figuring out what your dream is to quitting in a way that exponentially increases your chance of success, *Quitter* is full of inspiring stories and actionable advice. This book is based on 12 years of cubicle living and my true story of cultivating a dream job that changed my life and the world in the process. It's time to close the gap between your day job and your dream job. It's time to be a quitter.

How to Worship a King

Grace is always good news. But it's not cheap—true grace compels us to change. That's where holiness comes in. Beloved writer, speaker, and bestselling coauthor of *Wild and Free* Jess Connolly will be the first to admit that not long ago, like many women, she grasped grace but she had forgotten holiness. *Dance, Stand, Run* charts her discovery that holiness was never meant to be a shaming reminder of what we “should” be doing, but rather a profound privilege of becoming more like Christ. That's when we start to change the world, rather than being changed by it. *Dance, Stand, Run* is an invitation to the daughters of God to step into the movements of abundant life: dancing in grace, standing firm in holiness, and running on mission. Through story and study, Jess casts a fresh vision for how to live into your identity as a holy daughter of God, how to break free of cheap grace and empty rule-keeping, and finally, how to live out your holy influence with confidence before a watching world. Spoiler alert: it's a beautiful thing. For anyone longing to take their place in what God is doing in the world, *Dance, Stand, Run* will rally your strength, refresh your purpose, and energize your faith in a God who calls us to be like Him.

Lutheran Handbook

All Groan Up: Searching for Self, Faith, and A Freaking Job! is the story of the GenY/Millennial generation told through the individual story of author Paul Angone. It's a story of struggle, hope, failure, and doubts in the twilight zone of growing up and being grown, connecting with his twentysomething post-college audience with raw honesty, humor, and hope.

Finish

How safe is your marriage? The answer may surprise you. The biggest threat to any marriage isn't infidelity or miscommunication. The greatest enemy is ordinary. Ordinary marriages lose hope. Ordinary marriages lack vision. Ordinary marriages give in to compromise. Ordinary is the belief that this is as good as it will ever get. And when we begin to settle for ordinary, it's easy to move from "I do" to "I'm done." Justin and Trisha Davis know just how dangerous ordinary can be. In this beautifully written book, Justin and Trisha take us inside the slow fade that occurred in their own marriage—each telling the story from their own perspective. Together, they reveal the mistakes they made, the work they avoided, the thoughts and feelings that led to an affair and near divorce, and finally, the heart-change that had to occur in both of them before they could experience the hope, healing, and restoration of a truly extraordinary marriage.

The Legacy Journey

Year after year, readers pulled me aside at events and said, "I've never had a problem starting. I've started a million things, but I never finish them. Why can't I finish? According to studies, 92 percent of New Year's resolutions fail. You've practically got a better shot at getting into Juilliard to become a ballerina than you do at finishing your goals. For years, I thought my problem was that I didn't try hard enough. So I started getting up earlier. I drank enough energy drinks to kill a horse. I hired a life coach and ate more superfoods. Nothing worked, although I did develop a pretty nice eyelid tremor from all the caffeine. It was like my eye was waving at you, very, very quickly. Then, while leading a thirty-day online course to help people work on their goals, I learned something surprising: The most effective exercises were not those that pushed people to work harder. The ones that got people to the finish line did just the opposite-- they took the pressure off. Why? Because the sneakiest obstacle to meeting your goals is not laziness, but perfectionism. We're our own worst critics, and if it looks like we're not going to do something right, we prefer not to do it at all. That's why we're most likely to quit on day two, "the day after perfect"--when our results almost always underperform our aspirations. The strategies in this book are counterintuitive and might feel like cheating. But they're based on studies conducted by a university researcher with hundreds of participants. You might not guess that having more fun, eliminating your secret rules, and choosing something to bomb intentionally works. But the data says otherwise. People who have fun are 43 percent more successful! Imagine if

your diet, guitar playing, or small business was 43 percent more successful just by following a few simple principles. If you're tired of being a chronic starter and want to become a consistent finisher, you have two options: You can continue to beat yourself up and try harder, since this time that will work. Or you can give yourself the gift of done.

Soundtracks

Do you know what makes a story great? All the best stories have a few things in common. First, we need the voice of a narrator or a storyteller. Then, add interesting characters, throw them into a risky setting, and get ready for a good dose of conflict. Give those characters a purpose or goal, and that's then the real action begins. Story is our calling. It is also the next generation's best chance of identifying with the Church and changing the world. As we become storytellers, we learn to see the world in terms of stories being lived and told. We discover deeper insights into God, ourselves, and others. God's story is happening. We are right in the middle of a page-turner—and God is in it with us. Start seeing your life as a part of God's story and make some great adventures happen right now!

Atlas Girl

God would like a word with you What you believe about God affects the way you approach life—often in ways you don't realize. Are you convinced that God limits you, or liberates you? Is he more interested in correcting you or connecting with you? And when you hit a rough spot and start looking for help, do you believe God is against you or on your side? In *The Gospel of Yes*, Mike Glenn reveals God's most powerful word, which opens our eyes to everything he does. That word is YES. God said "yes" to creating a world for us to live in and "yes" to inviting us into a relationship with him. No matter what we face in life, the best way to live is captured in one word: yes. When you live in God's "yes" you find your identity, your true value, and your unique purpose on earth. You can stop trying to be someone else and enjoy being yourself as you join with God in doing the work of his kingdom. When God looks at you he always says "yes." It's time to live like you know it. Includes Discussion Questions for Personal and Group Use.

Finding Spiritual Whitespace

Sometimes, we fall in love on mission trips even though we know well break up when we get back. Sometimes, you have to shot block a friends prayer because shes asking God to bless an obviously bad dating relationship. Sometimes, you think, "I wish I had a t-shirt that said I direct deposit my tithe so people wouldnt judge me. Sometimes, the stuff that comes with faith is funny. This is that stuff. Jonathan Acuffs *Stuff Christians Like* is your field guide to all things Christian. Youll learn the culinary magic of the crock-pot. Think youve got a Metro worship leader-use Acuffs checklist. Want to avoid a prayer

handholding faux pas? Acuff has you covered. Like a satirical grenade, Acuff brings us the humor and honesty that galvanized more than a million online readers from more than 200 countries in a new portable version. Welcome to the funny side of faith.

Tell Me a Story

FROM ONE OF TODAY'S FOREMOST INNOVATION LEADERS, AN INSPIRING, PERSONAL APPROACH TO MASTERING CHANGE IN THE FACE OF UNCERTAINTY. Confronting change is incredibly hard, both organizationally and personally. People become resistant. They are afraid. Yet the pace of change in our world will never be slower than it is right now, says Beth Comstock, the former Vice Chair and head of marketing and innovation at GE. *Imagine It Forward* is an inspiring, fresh, candid, and deeply personal book about how to grapple with the challenges to change we face every day. It is a different kind of narrative, a big picture book that combines Comstock's personal story in leading change with vital lessons on overcoming the inevitable roadblocks. One of the most successful women in business, Comstock shares her own transformation story from introverted publicist to GE's first woman Vice Chair, and her hard-won lessons in shifting GE, a 125 year old American institution, toward a new digital future and a more innovative culture. As the woman who initiated GE's Ecomagination clean-energy and its (and NBC's) digital transformations, Comstock challenged a global organization to not wait for perfection, but to seek out emerging trends, embrace smart risks and test ideas boldly, and often. She shows how each one of us can become a "change maker" by leading with imagination. "Ideas are rarely the problem," writes Comstock. "What holds all of us back, really—is fear. It's the attachment to the old, to 'What We Know.'" As Comstock makes clear, transforming the mindset and culture of a company is messy. There is no easy checklist. It is fraught with uncertainty, tension and too often failure. It calls for the courage to defy convention, go around corporate gatekeepers when necessary, and reinvent what is possible. For all those looking to spearhead change in their companies and careers, and reinvent "the way things are done," *Imagine It Forward* masterfully points the way.

Spiritual Warfare Bible

Foreword Reviews' 18th Annual INDIEFAB Honorable Mention for Graphic Novels and Comics The wildly popular online comic *Coffee with Jesus*, described by *Library Journal* as offering "disarmingly funny reflections on human failings and faith," is back with a venti-sized second volume. Find yourself in your favorite characters, and laugh with Jesus at the absurdities of our world and the ways we walk in it. Follow your favorite characters as they honestly engage with Jesus about their successes and failures and wants and needs, effectively showing what conversation with God—or prayer—might look like. These poignant and pointed visual vignettes are rife with good theology and will have you laughing for days.

The Ask and the Answer

The true story of a father who wrestles with faith in God throughout his two-year-old son's victorious battle with cancer, discovering that pain sometimes open the door to a deeper experience with Jesus.

The Gospel of Yes

"From the writer of the beloved worship songs "God and King" and "The More I Seek You" comes a book that reveals the purpose of worship. In How to Worship a King, Neese unveils the power and beauty of true worship, which surpasses any known song or melody. This book unfolds a holistic view of worship so that you can experience peace, joy and the richness of living in god's presence." -- Back cover

8 Hours or Less

Top 50 Instant Bible Stories for Elementary comes with quick, age appropriate and easy to use activities. You can use this great resource as a weekend curriculum or a mid-week teaching opportunity. Each lesson is volunteer friendly and child approved.

Do Over

A powerful message of hope for anyone burdened by regret and everyone who longs for a fresh start. What if I told you that you and your not-so-perfect story have been invited to experience the joy of second chance living. Your critics and nay-sayers and those negative voices in your head have defined who you are and stolen your hopeful future for far too long! The insecurity, shame, and judgment—That stops today. This simple guide will show you how your imperfect life matters in ways you never thought possible. It will help you see your scars, flaws, and failures as unfair advantages and gifts that you can bring to the world. Foster's examination of hope is one part challenge, two parts encouragement. He forces the reader to ask the following questions: How did I lose it? How do I get? How do I give it? Each question is broken down into core concepts that are essential to a life devoted to the power of second chances: awareness, discovery, ownership, forgiveness, acceptance and freedom. Packed full of unfiltered honesty and simple next steps, this manifesto for prodigals, imperfectionists, and hopesters will help you discover beauty in the brokenness.

Stuff Christians Like

Move beyond Coping and Surviving to a Rejuvenating Place of Soul Rest How many of us find ourselves exhausted, running on empty with no time for rest, no time for ourselves, no time for God? Bonnie Gray knows exactly what that's like. On the brink of fulfilling a lifelong dream, Bonnie's plans suddenly went off script. Her life shattered into a debilitating journey through anxiety, panic attacks, and insomnia. But as she struggled to make sense of it all, she made an important discovery: we all need spiritual whitespace. Spiritual whitespace makes room--room in one's heart for a deep relationship with God, room in one's life for rest, room in one's soul for rejuvenation. With soul-stirring vulnerability and heartbreaking honesty, Bonnie takes readers on a personal journey to feed their souls and uncover the deeper story of rest. Lyrical writing draws readers into Gray's intimate journey through overwhelming stress to find God in a broken story and celebrate the beauty of faith. Guided by biblical encouragement and thought-provoking prompts, Gray shows readers how to create space in the everyday for God, refreshment, and faith. She also offers practical steps and insights for making spiritual whitespace a reality, right in the midst of the stress-frayed stories in every season of life. "We live in a culture that brags and boasts about being busy. Into that reality steps Bonnie with a new idea. Whitespace is an important concept and Bonnie has captured it perfectly. If you're exhausted with being exhausted, read this book. If you feel too busy to read this book, then that's probably the best sign of all that you need it."--from the foreword by Jon Acuff, New York Times bestselling author of Stuff Christians Like

Beyond Ordinary

The Spiritual Warfare Bible is designed to help you use the Bible to access the power of the Holy Spirit against demonic strongholds and activity. With engaging study materials from Christian leaders and best-selling authors, this Spiritual Warfare Bible is perfect for both individual study and small groups. Features include: Spiritual Warfare Declarations--More than 250 one-sentence declarations and prayers that affirm your determination to confront Satan with the Holy Spirit's help Spiritual Warfare Basics--216 tips for effective spiritual warfare Lessons From God's Warriors--Character profiles of Old and New Testament people who were equipped and anointed by the Holy Spirit for engaging the enemy in spiritual warfare Spiritual Warfare Prayers--Scripture-based prayers on topics you can use when facing your spiritual battles Sharpening Your Sword Interactive Study Elements--Interactive studies for deeper reflection on what the Word of God says about spiritual warfare Preparing for Spiritual Warfare Articles--Deeper teaching on spiritual warfare and an article for each book of the Bible that covers a specific element of spiritual warfare in that book

Catching the Wind

With a biting, satirical style reminiscent of The Onion, How to Be a Perfect Christian takes a humorous look at the quirks of cultural Christianity while subtly challenging the reader to search for more than a cultural faith. Written in the trademark

style of The Babylon Bee, this book humorously satirizes cultural Christianity while peppering in subtle challenges to the reader. Through humor and sarcasm (and a handy meter to rank your "holiness" as you progress through the book), readers will be called to find a more biblical understanding of the Christian faith, all while poking fun at the quirks of the modern, American Christian community.

No Angel

It doesn't seem to make sense: Jesus tells his disciples to take a lesson from Satan himself. A scandalous idea? Yes. Essential to the Christian life? Definitely. Drawing on Jesus's parable of the shrewd manager in Luke 16, Rick Lawrence explores Jesus's shocking mandate to be as shrewd as Satan and as innocent as the Holy Spirit. In fact, Jesus implies, if we are going to be any good for the Kingdom of God, we've got to be a lot shrewder than we are now. Shrewd shows us how Jesus was naturally shrewd in every encounter he had, using leverage such as laughter, generosity, and bluntness to influence a situation for good. God calls us to be shrewd without evil intent, just as Jesus was. Because the truth is that we have no salvation outside of the holy shrewdness of a loving God. And that's a scandalous story worth telling.

Wednesdays Were Pretty Normal

What does the Bible really say about money? About wealth? How much does God expect you to give to others? How does wealth affect your friendships, marriage, and children? How much is "enough"? There's a lot of bad information in our culture today about wealth—and the wealthy. Worse, there's a growing backlash in America against our most successful citizens, but why? To many, wealth is seen as the natural result of hard work and wise money management. To others, wealth is viewed as the ultimate, inexcusable sin. This has left many godly men and women confused about what to do with the resources God's put in their care. They were able to build wealth using God's ways of handling money, but then they are left feeling guilty about it. Is this what God had in mind?

The Consistency Chain for Network Marketing: A Remarkably Simple Process for Harnessing the Power of Habit, Eliminating Self Sabotage and Achieving Yo

Disillusioned and yearning for freedom, Emily Wierenga left home at age eighteen with no intention of ever returning. Broken down by organized religion, a childhood battle with anorexia, and her parents' rigidity, she set out to find God somewhere else--anywhere else. Her travels took her across Canada, Central America, the United States, the Middle East, Asia, and Australia. She had no idea that her faith was waiting for her the whole time--in the place she least expected it. Poignant and passionate, Atlas Girl is a very personal story of a universal yearning for home and the assurance that we are

known, forgiven, and beloved. Readers will find in this memoir a true description of living faith as a two-way pursuit in a world fraught with distraction. Anyone who wrestles with the brokenness we find in the world will love this emotional journey into the arms of the God who heals all wounds.

Mad Church Disease

Every life requires a spiritual foundation. "Grandfather, you left this" Julio lifted the leather-bound journal and stepped toward the old man. "It is yours now," said Antonio, with a gleam in his eye. "I've lived my life according to the twelve principles recorded in it. And if you will apply its principles as I did, your success will be greater than you could ever imagine." Be a minister in the marketplace. Terry Felber has written a parable that will transform your life and your business. Many years ago, this ago book helped Dave Ramsey rediscover the marketplace as a mission field--and merchants as ministers. Now let it open your eyes to the opportunities for service and leadership all around you. Are you ready for a change? The Legend of the Monk and the Merchant will change the way you see yourself, your job, and your purpose. Now includes personal and small group study guide.

You Rise Glorious

Sometimes, we fall in love on mission trips even though we know we'll break up when we get back. Sometimes, you have to shot block a friend's prayer because she's asking God to bless an obviously bad dating relationship. Sometimes, you think, "I wish I had a t-shirt that said 'I direct deposit my tithe' so people wouldn't judge me." Sometimes, the stuff that comes with faith is funny. This is that stuff. Jonathan Acuff's Stuff Christians Like Ebook is your field guide to all things Christian. You'll learn the culinary magic of the crock-pot. Think you've got a Metro worship leader—use Acuff's checklist. Want to avoid a prayer handholding faux pas? Acuff has you covered. Like a satirical grenade, Acuff brings us the humor and honesty that galvanized more than a million online readers from more than 200 countries in a new portable version. Welcome to the funny side of faith.

The Legend of the Monk and the Merchant

"Following Jesus is hard enough without having to navigate the rocky terrain of church culture all by yourself. The Lutheran Handbook is the indispensable companion for anyone trying to become a well-informed church-goer and have a chuckle now and then. Timeless biblical truths stand alongside everyday life situations that everyone meets, with step-by-step instructions that make the going easy" -- BACK COVER.

A Second Shot of Coffee with Jesus

Part two of the literary sci-fi thriller follows a boy and a girl who are caught in a warring town where thoughts can be heard – and secrets are never safe. Reaching the end of their flight in *The Knife of Never Letting Go*, Todd and Viola did not find healing and hope in Haven. They found instead their worst enemy, Mayor Prentiss, waiting to welcome them to New Prentisstown. There they are forced into separate lives: Todd to prison, and Viola to a house of healing where her wounds are treated. Soon Viola is swept into the ruthless activities of the Answer, while Todd faces impossible choices when forced to join the mayor’s oppressive new regime. In alternating narratives the two struggle to reconcile their own dubious actions with their deepest beliefs. Torn by confusion and compromise, suspicion and betrayal, can their trust in each other possibly survive?

How to Be Your Own Selfish Pig

When He came to earth, Jesus Christ was rejected in every quarter in which He stepped. The Creator was rejected by His own creation. “He came to His own and His own received Him not,” said John. For this reason, Jesus Christ had “no where to lay His head.” There was one exception, however. A little village just outside of Jerusalem named Bethany. Bethany was the only place on earth where Jesus was completely received. *God’s Favorite Place on Earth* is a retelling of Jesus’ many visits to Bethany and a relaying of the message it holds for us today. Frank Viola presents a beautifully crafted narrative from the viewpoint of Lazarus, one of the people who lived in Bethany with his two sisters. This incomparable story not only brings the Gospel narratives to life, but it addresses the struggle against doubt, discouragement, fear, guilt, rejection, and spiritual apathy that challenges countless Christians today. In profoundly moving prose, *God’s Favorite Place on Earth* will captivate your heart with its beauty, charm, and depth. In this book you will discover how to live as a “Bethany” in our world today, being set free to love and follow Jesus like never before.

All Groan Up

Using the same humor and honesty that galvanized more than a million online readers from more than 200 countries, speaker Jon Acuff brings his insightful take on Christianity to the book world with this new edition of *Stuff Christians Like*. Do you constantly find yourself toying the fine line between praying before certain types of meals and not others? This book is for you. Have you fallen in love on a mission trip, just to break up when you get home? This book is for you. Are you a unicorn of purity who ranks honeymoon sex slightly higher than the second coming of Christ? Guess what – this book is for you, too. It’s time to shake off Somber Christian Syndrome and embrace the quirks of being a member of God’s kingdom. This book will teach you how to: Break up with your small group Subtly find out if your new Christian friends drink beer too

Recognize the shame grenade that is a Jesus Juke Avoid a prayer handholding faux pas Say something Christian-y without looking like a snake handler From prayer shot blocks to metro worship leaders, no stone is left unturned in this hilarious look at faith. "I never knew how much I needed Jesus until I found out I was judging people who use the table of contents in their Bible. This book saved me from looking like a bad Christian." - Sister Mary Francis, Rhode Island. "It's such a time saver to know that my Chick-fil-a from the drive-thru comes pre-blessed. I always knew I was making the right choice by choosing the Lord's chicken." - Dave L., South Carolina.

Dance, Stand, Run

Two words from Jesus change everything If anyone had the ability to succeed as a committed Christian as well as a high-achieving American, it was Hilary Alan. She and her husband, Curt, had a beautiful home, a fast-track career, and talented, successful children. But in the midst of their comfortable life and active church involvement, they realized they rarely heard from God. Sent tells the story of ordinary Christians who accepted two words from Jesus at face value and found that doing so changed everything. In Jesus's call to "follow me," the Alans discovered answers to the most pressing human needs: meaning, purpose, vocation, significance, and God's plan for the future. For the Alans, it led to selling nearly all their belongings and moving with their children halfway around the world. For you, the particulars will be completely different, but no less significant. Jesus's call can change everything in your life. As you follow Hilary Alan's journey in response to Jesus's call to discipleship, you will gain a clear understanding of the things that can keep you from obeying God. You will no longer wonder if you're investing your life in the best way possible, because two words from Jesus change everything.

The Circle Maker

With the publication of No Angel, a novel introducing the engaging cast of characters in the Lytton family, Overlook opens a thrilling new dimension to this author's already illustrious career. No Angel is an irresistibly sweeping saga of power, family politics, and passion-a riveting drama and a fervent love story. Celia Lytton is the beautiful and strong-willed daughter of wealthy aristocrats and she is used to getting her way. She moves through life making difficult and often dangerous decisions that affect herself and others-her husband, Oliver, and their children; the destitute Sylvia Miller, whose life is transformed by Celia's intrusion; as well as Oliver's daunting elder sister, who is not all she appears to be; and Sebastian Brooke, for whom Celia makes the most dangerous decision of all. Set against the tumultuous backdrop of London and New York in the First World War, No Angel is, as British Good Housekeeping wrote, "an absorbing page-turner, packed with believable characters and satisfyingly extreme villains, eccentrics, and manipulators.†? Readers of Maeve Binchy, Barbara Taylor Bradford, and Anita Shreve will fall in love with this epic, un-put-downable novel.

Quitter

What happened to Brigitte Berthold? That question has haunted Daniel Knight since he was thirteen, when he and ten-year-old Brigitte escaped the Gestapo agents who arrested both their parents. They survived a harrowing journey from Germany to England, only to be separated upon their arrival. Daniel vowed to find Brigitte after the war, a promise he has fought to fulfill for more than seventy years. Now a wealthy old man, Daniel's final hope in finding Brigitte rests with Quenby Vaughn, an American journalist working in London. He believes Quenby's tenacity to find missing people and her personal investment in a related WWII espionage story will help her succeed where previous investigators have failed. Though Quenby is wrestling her own demons—and wary at the idea of teaming up with Daniel's lawyer, Lucas Hough—the lure of Brigitte's story is too much to resist. Together, Quenby and Lucas delve deep into the past, following a trail of deception, sacrifice, and healing that could change all of their futures. A 2018 Christy Award finalist!

Gazelles, Baby Steps and 37 Other Things Dave Ramsey Taught Me about Debt

Stuff Christians Like

According to Pastor Mark Batterson in this expanded edition of *The Circle Maker*, "Drawing prayer circles around our dreams isn't just a mechanism whereby we accomplish great things for God. It's a mechanism whereby God accomplishes great things in us." Do you ever sense that there's far more to prayer than what you're experiencing? It's time you learned from the legend of Honi the Circle Maker--a man bold enough to draw a circle in the sand and not budge from inside it until God answered his impossible prayer for his people. What impossibly big dream is God calling you to draw a prayer circle around? Sharing inspiring stories from his own experiences as a circle maker, Mark Batterson will help you uncover your heart's deepest desires and God-given dreams and unleash them through the kind of audacious prayer that God delights to answer. This expanded edition of *The Circle Maker* also includes Batterson's newest insights on how God answers prayer along with stories that add convincing proof to the reality that God is able to do exceedingly far greater than all we could ask or imagine.

Stuff Christians Like

"Starting on the first day you got paid to scoop ice cream or restock shelves, you've had the chance to develop the four elements all great careers have in common: relationships, skills, character, and hustle. You already have each of those, to one degree or another. Now it's time to amplify them and apply them in a new way, creating a Career Savings

Account"--Amazon.com.

Shrewd

Girl at the End of the World

From the author of *Stuff Christians Like* comes a fresh take on a timeless subject, money. A member of the Dave Ramsey team, Jon Acuff offers a front row seat to all of the silly things we do when it comes to paying off debt, managing our money and everything in between.

Sent

The Elf on the Shelf: A Christmas Tradition is an activity the entire family will enjoy. Based on the tradition Carol Aebersold began with her family in the 1970s, this cleverly rhymed children's book explains that Santa knows who is naughty and/or nice because he sends a scout elf to every home. During the holiday season, the elf watches children by day and reports to Santa each night. When children awake, the elf has returned from the North Pole and can be found hiding in a different location. This activity allows *The Elf on the Shelf* to become a delightful hide-and-seek game.

Imagine It Forward

I was raised in a homegrown, fundamentalist Christian group—which is just a shorthand way of saying I’m classically trained in apocalyptic stockpiling, street preaching, and the King James Version of the Bible. I know hundreds of obscure nineteenth-century hymns by heart and have such razor sharp “modesty vision” that I can spot a miniskirt a mile away. Verily, verily I say unto thee, none of these highly specialized skills ever got me a job, but at least I’m all set for the end of the world. *Selah*. A story of mind control, the Apocalypse, and modest attire. Elizabeth Esther grew up in love with Jesus but in fear of daily spankings (to “break her will”). Trained in her family-run church to confess sins real and imagined, she knew her parents loved her and God probably hated her. Not until she was grown and married did she find the courage to attempt the unthinkable. To leave. In her memoir, readers will recognize questions every believer faces: When is spiritual zeal a gift, and when is it a trap? What happens when a pastor holds unchecked sway over his followers? And how can we leave behind the harm inflicted in the name of God without losing God in the process? By turns hilarious and heartbreaking, *Girl at the End of the World* is a story of the lingering effects of spiritual abuse and the growing hope that God can still be good when His people fail. Includes reading group discussion guide and interview with the author

How to Be a Perfect Christian

Growing up the daughter of a pastor, Anne Jackson experienced firsthand the conflict, stress, and struggle church leaders often face. She vowed her life in ministry would be different. Yet, years later, as a church leader, she was hospitalized because stress began wreaking havoc on her body. After being released from the hospital, an associate pastor asked her, 'Does working at this church interfere with your communion with Christ?' The question was a amount in turning her life around. Thinking she wasn't alone, Anne developed a website that allowed church leaders to share their struggles. Within a few days, she was flooded with over a thousand responses from people pouring out their stories of burnout. Using anecdotal parallels between Mad Cow Disease and leadership trends in the church, she writes not only to help us realize what church leaders are facing, but also to provide practical and positive treatment plans. Mad Church Disease is a lively, informative, and potentially life-saving resource for anyone in ministry---vocational or volunteer---who would like to understand, prevent, or treat the epidemic of burnout in church culture.

The Elf on the Shelf

What every pastor wants: more time. The clock is every pastor's nemesis. Between meetings, administration, counseling, and other duties, it's hard to find enough time for sermon prep. Unless you change the process. 8 Hours Or Less will show preachers how to write the same sermons they've been writing, but in half the time. Author Ryan Huguley reveals: The biggest time-wasters in sermon prep The five marks of a faithful sermon A day-by-day plan for writing sermons Tips for preparing your mind, heart, and notes for preaching Common pitfalls in ending a sermon And more Huguley is a pastor and the host of a podcast featuring leaders like Matt Chandler, Doug Wilson, and Nancy Ortberg. What he shares in 8 Hours or Less is a process he's been refining for six years, and it has radically improved both his preaching and experience in ministry. Why work harder when you can work smarter? 8 Hours or Less brings relief to the time crunch and helps pastors be healthier, more balanced, and more effective—all without making their sermons suffer for it.

God's Favorite Place on Earth

Wedding planning has spawned a major industry. The average cost of the occasion now exceeds \$25,000, and societal pressure to create the "perfect day" is so strong that even Christian couples forget what God originally intended for the sacred marriage ceremony. While paying attention to the good fun that follows that special proposal (the dress, the flowers, the cake, the gatherings, etc.), A Christ-Centered Wedding first serves as a guide to believers who want their wedding to portray the relationship of Christ with the church and to reflect the gospel to all in attendance. From the start, this thoughtful book looks to the Creator of weddings for guidance in planning by emphasizing the sacrificial love of the Savior

more than the modern world's idealistic view of romantic love. There are chapters filled with practical information about everything from pre-marital counseling and choosing a wedding location to other resources like a planning checklist and timeline, music suggestions, guidance on potential issues of conflict, a listing of traditional financial responsibilities, sample vows, and other great ideas from couples who have successfully put together a Christ-centered wedding.

TOP 50 INSTANT BIBLE LESSONS F

Ready to Harness the Remarkable Power of Consistency? Everyone wants to achieve long-term success, yet many people fall short. The question is, why? The answer is simple: it's a lack of performance consistency. Consistency is the baseline skill that unleashes all the others. And until this skill is mastered, true potential is never realized. Yet most people struggle to keep up any kind of consistent effort, especially when it comes to building their network marketing business. If you've had a life-long challenge with consistency, you're finally going to understand why. More importantly, you're going to begin to change. And if you're a leader, you're going to understand how to support that change in others on your team. Author George Campbell readily admits for most of his life he had obvious talent and potential and yet was infuriatingly inconsistent. Co-author Jim Packard on the other hand, is a man with an unbroken string of successes, in his personal life and in business. It is with their two unique perspectives that they share *The Consistency Chain*. The key to harnessing the power of consistency is in your hands. The only way this book won't help you, is if you don't read it. Scroll up and order your copy today!

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