

RESOURCES for Engaging with the World

BOOKS			
Apologetics			
Genre/ Title	Author	Summary : What is it about? (<i>subtitles, if present, quoted</i>)	Comments/ Why/ Who it might help?
Can I trust the Bible?	Barry Cooper	Explains basics of what Christians believe about the Bible	Short, readable book
Gods Undertaker	John Lennox	"Has Science Buried God?"	Harder read than some others. Lennox very helpful. Check out YouTubes with him for easy & quick helps.
Mere Christianity	C S Lewis	Bringing together radio talks CS Lewis gave during the war years, where he set out to "explain & defend the belief that has been common to nearly all Christians at all times."	The classic! & now you have time to read it! (Had sold over half a million copies in UK alone by 2012!)
More than a Carpenter	Josh McDowell	Evidence about Jesus.	Short & to the point. Easy to read. Basic apologetics
The Case for Christ	Lee Strobel	"A journalist personal investigation of the evidence for Jesus"	
The Dawkins Letters	David Robertson	A helpful & clear critique of Dawkins' New Atheist ideas.	One of the best popular level critiques of Dawkins. This book attracted a huge amount of interest, even from Dawkins fans! (NB E-book at 10ofthose)
The Language of God	Francis E Collins	"A scientist presents evidence for belief"	Francis Collins was the scientific head of the human genome project
The Reason for God	Tim Keller	"Belief in an age of scepticism" Addresses important reasons for faith & frequently asked questions.	
Three Theories of Everything	Ellis Potter	A concise & accessible exploration of how three common worldviews can approach the tough questions of meaning, suffering & reality. He's very well informed & respectful about non-Christian	Somebody who would consider themselves religious – seeking, & positive about considering their options spiritually. Somebody who has

		worldviews & is very sympathetic to them – the author used to be a Buddhist. He doesn't poke holes or attack those other worldviews. But in a balanced exploration the inescapable conclusion is that our answers are found in one God in Trinity.	experienced Eastern religions – especially Indian, Bangladeshi, Chinese. Somebody exploring spirituality. Somebody who has carefully rejected religion in favour of atheism. So accessible that it doesn't require a high level of reading. About 120 pages.
UNDERSTANDING CHRISTIANITY			
Christian Basics	John Stott	"A Handbook of Christian Faith". "What is a Christian & how do you become one? What do Christians actually believe & how does that impact their everyday life?" Amazon.	Helpful for understanding Christianity
The Prodigal God	Tim Keller	Many familiar with the Prodigal Son story will discover at a greater depth how amazing the Fathers actions were, pointing us to how amazing is Gods fathers' heart.	A short book, helpful easy read at popular level.
BIOGRAPHY for Apologetics			
Abandoned to God.	Oswald Chambers	Sturdy. The story of a settled life lived by faith.	
Betrayed	Stan Telchin	The story of a Jewish family who become followers of Jesus.	Jewish friends
God's Smuggler	Brother Andrew	How Bibles & the Good News were smuggled across the Iron Curtain giving life & hope.	Young people (teens/ twenties) perhaps close to or new to faith.
Run Baby Run	Niki Cruz	The story of a notorious New York gang leader who comes to Christ through David Wilkinson's ministry (See "Cross & Switchblade")	Late teens/Twenties or older. People close to faith/ new believers. Inspiring biography.

The Cross & The Switchblade	David Wilkinson	A country pastor trusting God enters New York gangs with wonderful transformation.	Late teens/Twenties or older. People close to faith/ new believers. Inspiring biography.
The Hiding Place	Corrie ten Boom	A Dutch Christian family's story of oppression & opportunity under Nazi governance & in Auschwitz prison camp.	
To End All Wars	Ernest Gordon	Hope found in Christ transforming lives & attitudes in WWII Japanese Prisoner of War Camp.	Men (or women) – robust, straight talking real life in harsh situations, First 2 chapters are ordinary, the rest extraordinary!

PODCASTS

Things Unseen	Sinclair Ferguson	Brief (5 to 6 min) bite size devotions for Monday to Friday of solid theology with a very pastoral tone showing how wonderful God is.	Those with some notion of God – they will get more captivated by this well thought out, accessible and a reasoned presentations.
FourWords	Daniel and Naomi Shin	Do you ever feel like you have big decisions to make and don't know where to start? Do you ever wish your faith in Jesus came with an instruction manual? Join the conversation as Daniel and Naomi Shin discuss taking the best steps forward with Jesus in life's biggest decisions.	
Women, Faith and Stories	Jeanette Duff	A collection of stories from women, many of whom in our church, about God's work in their lives, and their stories.	A real encouragement for christians, and an opportunity for conversation.

FILMS/ TV SERIES	RATING	SUMMARY	NOTES
Amazing Grace	Film PG	The story of William Wilberforce & the efforts to have the slave trade abolished in parliament.	Great & helpful film, though not a fair portrayal of John Newton.

Hacksaw Ridge	Film 15	WWII story of a committed Christian who went as a medic into the battlefield & who single handedly saved over 70 lives & won the respect of cynical comrades. Based on True story	Contains violence "I don't know any film that it's easier to talk about the Bible with non-Christians after watching than this"
The Passion of The Christ	Film 18	Mel Gibson's epic story of Jesus' last days & suffering.	Contains violence.
To End All Wars	Film 15	Faith discovered in a Japanese Prisoner of war camp. Based on True Story	Rating 15 (Could be 18?) See book list for more.

YOUTUBE

John Lennox		Many & varied, easy to listen to scientific apologetics	
Speak Life	Nate Morgan Locke, Glenn Scrivener	A regularly updated podcast and youtube resource, discussing topics in politics, church, history and beyond, and trying to speak Jesus into these situations.	A great resource for Christians trying to engage with the world around them.

EVANGELISM	Author	Summary	Comments
How to talk about Jesus without being "that guy"	Sam Chan	Helps give us tips, step by step, as we move from simply connecting with others to building relationship and sharing the Gospel.	It'll help you as you learn to connect well and have conversations about values not just interests. Short chapters very easy to read giving helpful questions and direction.
Learning Evangelism from Jesus	Jerram Barrs	Jesus was the greatest evangelist so it's important to study how he drew people to himself.	"Lessons and principles for attractively communicating the gospel to unbelievers in our day".
Out of the Saltshaker & into the world	Rebecca Manley Pippert	"Evangelism as a way of life".	Rebecca Manley Pippert has contributed importantly to help people in their witnessing to Christ.

Seeking Allah Finding Jesus.	Nabeel Qureshi	A devout Muslims journey to faith	Through this captivating story, you can learn much about Islam & sharing faith with Muslims
The Gospel comes with a housekey	Rosaria Butterfield	“Practicing radically ordinary hospitality in Our Post-Christian World”. A former lesbian & pioneer of the LGBT movement explains how using your own home for hospitality to “love your neighbour” is a tool for us all in evangelism	So much can be achieved for good through “practising hospitality” as we are called to. This can come in many ways! A readable book that will inspire you on this way.
Confronting Christianity	Rebecca McCaughlin	“ This is good for friends who have more academic hangups about faith and who are prepared to be open minded about it.	“My friend particularly interested in the chapter on is Christianity bad for women.” Anna McCracken

For Kids/Families

'Thoughts to make your heart sing'	by Sally Lloyd Jones.		
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Parenting

Raising Kids for Christ in a Confusing Culture	Ed Drew	Inspires and equips parents to help their children find their identity in being made and loved by Jesus. Useful for any stage of parenting.	
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