

# Pastor Don's Updated Must Read Book List

## NORTH AMERICAN CHRISTIANITY AND CULTURE:

*Christless Christianity* by Michael Horton. The author shows how the American church's abandonment of Biblical and theological preaching has resulted in an alternative gospel. The work is well done and very understandable.

*Amusing Ourselves to Death* by Neil Postman. Published by Penguin Books. This is not a Christian work, but very pertinent for Christians living in this culture. Deals with the affects of television on critical thinking.

*Why Johnny Can't Preach* by T. David Gordon. This is an interesting little book where the author demonstrates how the media has shaped most evangelical sermons. The result has been starved sheep.

*This Little Church Stayed Home* by Gary E. Gilley. The author chronicles the rise of the seeker sensitive church model within Evangelicalism. In an effort to become relevant to the culture, many Evangelical congregations have lost the meaning of the gospel.

*Selling out the Church* by Philip D. Kenneson and James L. Street. The authors reveal the dangers to orthodox Christianity when congregations adopt secular marketing techniques.

## THEOLOGY:

*The Reformed Study Bible* Published by P & R Publishing. An excellent study aid. The contributors are not afraid to take a position. The only Reformed Theological Study Bible published. The original Geneva Bible with notes was the Bible of the Puritans and original Pilgrims.

*Knowing God* by J.I. Packer. A great book on the attributes of God. Intervarsity Press

*The Sovereignty of God* by A.W. Pink. The best there is on this topic. It is loaded with Scripture references. You will be amazed!

*Christ of the Covenants* by O. Palmer Roberston. This is a great intro to Covenant history and theology.

*Foundations of the Christian Faith* by James Boice. This pastor and theologian has greatly influenced Pastor Don. This work is great on the basics of Christianity.

*The Five Points of Calvinism* by David N. Steele. Understand your faith.

*Putting Amazing Back into Grace* by Michael Horton. Published by Baker. Concerns God's sovereign work in salvation and calls into question evangelical techniques in evangelism that may not be biblical.

*The Holiness of God* by R. C. Sproul. Still considered the best work on the topic for the layman. Worshipping God is inevitable after reading this book.

*Chosen by God* by R. C. Sproul. The layman's guide to understanding predestination and election.

### **UNDERSTANDING SELF:**

*The Search for Significance* by Robert S. McGee. The most competent book I've read on self-esteem concerns. This work is underpinned well with scripture and theology.

*Designed For Dignity* by Richard Pratt. An excellent book on self-concept issues. Pratt is a master at word pictures. You will look at your life and role in the world differently after reading this book.

*Knowing Man* by J.I. Packer. This is out of print, but may be found online at a used book source. It is worth the search.

### **CHRISTIAN LIVING & DEVOTION:**

*Desiring God* by John Piper. May be read online for free at [www.desiringgod.org](http://www.desiringgod.org).

*The Pleasures of God* by John Piper. Also available at [desiringgod.org](http://desiringgod.org).

*Don't Waste Your Life* by John Piper. A must read, a true guide for living. Also available at [www.desiringgod.org](http://www.desiringgod.org).

*Disciplines of a Godly Man* by Kent Hughes. Want to know where to start?

*Improving Your Serve* by Chuck Swindall. Will help you with communications, as you live in the "Family of God."

*Purpose Driven Life* by Rick Warren. A good reminder of all the basics of Christian life.

*The Valley of Vision* A collection of devotional prayers by the Puritans. "The best devotional book I've ever read." Pastor Don

### **MARRIAGE/FAMILY:**

*The Excellent Wife* by Martha Peace. One of the best books on the true Biblical description of being a wife, filled with Scripture and lots of wisdom. Every wife should own it, and study it.

*Lies Women Believe* by Nancy Leigh DeMoss. This is a wonderful book that can be used by every woman to fight the cultural pulls they face.

*Reforming Marriage* by Doug Wilson. One of the best biblically based works on the topic of marriage. Every couple should have a copy.

*What is a Family* by Edith Schaeffer (Francis Schaeffer's wife) Diedre says that this book offers practical suggestions on how to create a Christian home. She had some thoughts as a young wife and mother, but says that this book gave her the outline, so to speak, to begin to develop her family's traditions, family bonds, etc. She believes it should be given to every new bride.

*Federal Husband* by Doug Wilson. Job description for men.

*The Fruit of Her Hands* by Nancy Wilson. Job description for women.

*The Exemplary Husband* by Stuart Scott. The companion to **The Excellent Wife** book. A must read for hubbies.

*Heirs of the Covenant* by Susan Hunt. Covers why and how parents should work toward creating a legacy of faith in their children.

## **THE CHURCH:**

*The Communion of the Saints* by Phillip Graham Ryken. What does it mean to be a part of a church? This question and much more explained.

*The Church* by Edmond Clowney. He is an excellent writer, and imparts a desire to be a part of this great heritage.

*City on a Hill* by Philip Ryken.

## **MISSIONS:**

*Peace Child* by Don Richardson. This book will convince you forever of the need for mission work. The story is powerful! We have the video in the library - but read the book first!

*Go And Make Disciples-* An Introduction to Christian Missions by Rodger S. Greenway.

*Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God* by J.I. Packer. If God has already determined who will be saved why should the church go to the ends of the earth for evangelism? A must read in understanding God's call upon the church to deliver the Gospel to the world.

## **BIBLE STUDY:**

Let the Reader Understand by Dan McCartney and Charles Clayton. This is an excellent introduction on how to interpret the Word of God and apply it to yourself.