

## 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