

30 Books Every Christian Should Read

Although each of the books on this list address our understanding (head), devotion (heart), and practice (hands) of the Christian life in substantial ways, I have intentionally chosen them according to what I believe to be their primary emphasis and benefit to every Christian today.

HEAD

Basic Christianity John Stott
The Heidelberg Catechism Zacharius Ursinus
Knowing God J.I. Packer
Mere Christianity C.S. Lewis
Redemption—Accomplished and Applied John Murray
The Reason for God Timothy Keller
The Screwtape Letters C.S. Lewis
The Holiness of God R.C. Sproul
How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth Gordon Fee and Douglas Stuart
God's Big Picture: Tracing the Storyline of the Bible Vaughn Roberts

HEART

Pilgrim's Progress John Bunyan (read a modern English version)
The Valley of Vision: A Collection of Puritan Prayers and Devotion Arthur Bennett, editor
Desiring God John Piper
The Discipline of Grace Jerry Bridges
Gentle and Lowly Dane Ortlund
Grace Abounding to the Chief of Sinners John Bunyan
Confessions of St. Augustine Augustine of Hippo
The Cost of Discipleship Dietrich Bonhoeffer
Communion with God John Owen (read a modern English version)
In the Lord I Take Refuge Dane Ortlund (devotional on all 150 Psalms)

HANDS

Celebration of Discipline Richard Foster (the daily disciplines of the Christian life)
A Long Obedience in the Same Direction Eugene Peterson (classic primer on true discipleship)
Prayer Timothy Keller (core teaching on developing a faithful and biblical prayer life)
The Imitation of Christ Thomas à Kempis (living according to the way of Christ)
The Purpose Driven Life Rick Warren (description of "5 purposes" of the Christian life)
The Case for Christ Lee Strobel (evangelism—the person and work of Christ)
The Case for Faith Lee Strobel (evangelism—the 8 most common objections to faith)
Out of the Saltshaker and into the World Rebecca Pippert (evangelism—practical instruction)
Just Do Something Kevin DeYoung (following God's will for your life)
The Message of Acts John Stott (outstanding commentary on Acts—for head, heart, and hands!)