

PASTOR MATT'S LIST OF CHRISTIAN RESOURCES (Updated Sept 2021)

Resources for All:

Books

Gospel Fluency by Jeff Vanderstelt

A striking read as the book challenges us as believers in Christ to live our lives in light of Christ's gospel. The question posed is, 'are we gospel fluent'? There are so many opportunities for us throughout our days to bring the most valuable truth to the forefront of our minds as well as the minds of others. Upon reading this book, I was challenged by the fact that I am nowhere near 'gospel fluent', but was encouraged to seek out how I might bring the truths of the gospel into my everyday life. May Christ become such a treasure to us, to the point that we become fluent in the gospel.

The Imitation of Christ by Thomas a Kempis

In this flurry of short sections Thomas of Kempis' writings repeatedly point the sinner back to the savior. In pursuit of holiness dependence on Christ is stressed heavily. This book does well to remind us to live humbly under the authority of Christ. There is great value to reading it straight through but I had used it as a devotional in the morning to help remind me that I am no longer serving myself but I am to imitate Christ and serve the Lord every day.

The Attributes of God by A.W. Tozer

The author is a self-taught theologian who humbly makes known the wonders of our amazing God. This is a two volume series that helps us to get to know the God we love and serve.

The Valley of Vision – A Collection of Puritan Prayers and Devotions by Arthur G. Bennett

An amazing resource for your time devoted to the Lord as such a high view of God is presented in short prayers or thoughts. Some beautiful thoughts are brought out of the older language that is used. Me writing this makes me want to go home and start reading it!

You and Me Forever by Francis and Lisa Chan

This is an amazing book to go through with your spouse/fiancé/significant other or as a book to prepare you for marriage in the future. Francis and Lisa actually use the book to tell us not to place our focus on our marriage but on God who gives us everything that we need to have a healthy Christian marriage. Erin and I have done this as a book study, so if you would be interested in a book study then feel free to contact me and we can arrange something.

With by Skye Jethani

In a relatively concise manner, the author lays out 5 different ways that we live our lives in relation to God (For Him, From Him, Under Him, Over Him & With Him). Taking the idea of abiding with God and dwelling with Him as opposed to the other prepositions is such a powerful message. When we don't live our lives WITH God we miss the point of The Gospel, Salvation and God's Word. I strongly recommend this book as we seek intimacy with our Heavenly Father.

Me, Myself & Bob by Phil Vischer

This a telling of the entire tale of the VeggieTales from the birth of concept to it's bitter sweet end. If you have enjoyed VeggieTales as a kid then you will enjoy reading how it all came together. Not only is the history enjoyable but Phil learns a few really good hard lessons through it that would be helpful for any believer to wrestle with.

Sermons

Stirring Your Affections for Jesus by Matt Chandler (Feb. 4, 2009)

Our religious structures though good, have become the be all end all of our faith. Matt takes us through Scripture to bring us back to the heart of our devotion to Christ and reminds us that our desires should be for Him.

Faith Family Series by David Platt (2013) – On Right Now Media

This is a strong reminder of why we need the church, love the church and desire to serve the church! In a world that is so divided, these messages are ripe with foundational reminders of the importance of our faith family.

Podcasts

Laugh Again with Phil Callaway

A resource to take the edge off of your day. Phil uses comedy to proclaim Biblical truth into our lives. He also has videos on YouTube but this podcast is filled with very short segments that brighten up a very busy day.

Crossway Podcast

This podcast is interview based as authors discuss the Bible, theology, church history and the Christian life. If you like to read, then scroll through the list of episodes and listen to some of the thoughts of a few renowned (and others not so renowned) authors.

The Briefing with Albert Mohler

President of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Albert Molar takes the time every during the week to share an analysis of news and world events from a Christian world view. Holding a generally conservative stance he is a refreshing voice in a world of loud mainstream media. Some episodes are heavy on American politics (makes sense because he is in America) but also speaks to a lot of heavily debated topics that we face in our world today.

5 Minutes in Church History

It's important to know where we came from, so that we might know where we will end up. This podcast is very short clips that look back at the people, the stories and the events that have shaped Christianity today. Let the stories of our Christian forefathers enlivened us to serve Christ today.

Truth and Nails with Pastor Sean Brandow

Sean interviews ministry leader, pastors, theologians and professors in order to help his listeners gain a better grasp on certain theologies as well as the life of the church. Sean is a Fellowship of Evangelical Bible Churches pastor from Humboldt, Saskatchewan who loves the Lord and desires to see the entire body of Christ grow in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

The Holy Post with Phil Vischer and Skye Jethani

A highly entertaining conversation between two men who love Jesus. Their discussions are generally geared toward living the Christian life in a very post-Christian world. If you want to enjoy some lighthearted conversation that also points us to Christ, here is where you will find some of that.

Websites

Desiring God - www.desiringgod.org

A wealth of media from Pastor John Piper. John Piper has done much to uphold the Word of God and continues to exhort the church to find joy in giving God the glory.

Jesus Freak Hideout - <https://www.jesusfreakhideout.com/>

A helpful resource for getting to know the modern Christian music scene. I use the album release page to find out when some of my favorite artists are releasing their newest songs. If you like music or want to explore the Christian realm of music this might be worth checking out.

The Gospel Coalition – <https://ca.thegospelcoalition.org/>

The Gospel Coalition Canada helps people know God's Word with their mind, love God fully with their heart, and engage the world with grace and truth.

Inherit the Mirth by Culyer Black - <https://www.culyerblack.com/>

Cartoons that poke fun at Biblical themes and stories. We shouldn't always be taking ourselves too seriously.

I Am Second - <https://www.iamsecond.com/>

“Stories of real people that impact the way we think, live and believe.” – from the website.

Now a multifaceted organization, I Am Second started with sharing testimonies of those who have been saved by Christ. This is an amazing resource in the pursuit of hearing how God works in individuals lives.

Apps

LOGOS BIBLE SOFTWARE

The Logos Bible Software app is the mobile version of the world's leading Bible software. This free download comes with several Bible translations and other resources, and there are more than 100,000 books related to the Bible you can buy through the app.

PrayerMate

PrayerMate is an award-winning Christian prayer app that seeks to help you actually pray for all the people and causes you care about.

The Bible App by Life.Church

Need a Bible on your phone? This bible app is one of the best developed and most used apps in regard to having Scripture on your phone.

Resources for Women: (Talk to Erin Oliver for details)

Books

Risen Motherhood by Emily Jensen and Laura Wifler

Books by Jen Wilken

Books by Nancy Demoss Wogelmouth

Podcasts

Journey Woman Podcast

Risen Motherhood

Resources for Parents:

Books

Parenting by Paul David Tripp

A look at parenting in light of the gospel. This book was one that helped transform the way that Erin and I parent our kids. “No parent gives mercy better than one who is convinced that he desperately needs it himself.”

Show Them Jesus by Jack Klumpenhower

This is very much a resource for children’s ministry teachers, but it is my desire to see parents champion the ideas that are brought forward in this book. The author thoroughly lays out just how important it is to teach children about Jesus. He does this by pointing to every interaction that we have with our children as opportunities to share the good news of the gospel. Children don’t just need Bible stories to keep them entertained they need the good news too!

The Jesus Story Book Bible by Sally Lloyd-Jones

This is a story book that uses the entire biblical narrative to show children the beauty of Christ. As our children get older, Erin and I hope to continue to point our kids to Christ using the same narrative that we find in Scripture. “The Jesus Storybook Bible invites children to discover for themselves the one who is at the center of God’s great rescue story — and at the center of their story, too.” - <http://www.jesusstorybookbible.com/>

Podcasts

CEF Podcast

This podcast that was only recently introduced (April 2020) in order to point children to the truths of Scripture through stories and lessons. This is something that might be worth trying when on the road for 20mins or more.

Websites

Tiny Theologians - <https://tiny-theologians.com/>

“Tiny Theologians is a line of discipleship tools for the youngest members of God’s household. We created them to help parents intentionally impart the Christian faith onto their children, teaching them about theology, church history, missions, and discipleship.” – From the website

Minno Kids - <https://www.gominno.com/>

With streaming services like Netflix and Disney+ drawing more and more attention. This site is built to serve Christian households with shows like VeggieTales (the older good stuff) and 321 Penguins. There are also articles and other resources to use as you seek to point your children toward the truth of God’s Word.

U-Nite on YouTube -

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC86gzOaVywYkXyoVwsT7zqw>

A video channel on YouTube that is meant to unite kids with the Bible.

Resources for Teens and Young Adults:

Books

Crazy Love by Francis Chan

This book is a call for all believers to seek out a faith in Christ that is both passionate and relevant. The author helps readers understand the crazy love that God has for us as well as the crazy love that we are to have for others. One of the stand out books that needed as I ventured out of my parent's home and into what God had for me.

The Irresistible Revolution by Shane Claibourne

A passionate and radical author who in writing this book desired for more believers to join a revolution of people who are sold-out for Jesus. This book challenged me to be far more mindful of the call that God has given us to care for the poor and the oppressed as well as to be willing to give up comforts in order to serve others.

Websites:

The Bible Project on Youtube -

<https://www.youtube.com/user/jointhebibleproject>

A great channel that explores the Bible and its themes. They have a massive library of videos to explore, including a video for each book of the Bible.