

# Summer Reading List

Looking for reading ideas for those moments you'll be lounging on your deck, stretched out on the sand, or unwinding next to an evening campfire?

I bet there's something in this list that will tickle your fancy. If you read something that resonates, share your takeaway in FAC's W2W Facebook group. Happy reading!

## FICTION:

### **Saving Amelie**, Cathy Gohlke

*In the summer of 1939, a trip to Germany, a cryptic letter, and an estranged friend with a deaf daughter, all work to uncover dark truth and saving love.*

### **Gods & Kings**, Lynn Austin

*At the foot of Molech's altar, Hezekiah encounters the one true God, Yahweh, and it changes everything. Enter the pages of the Old Testament through Austin's retelling of Hezekiah's story.*

### **A Cry from the Dust**, Carrie Stuart Parks

*A forensic artist in real-life, Park's career brings authenticity to this suspenseful story of a forensic artist who was hired to reconstruct victims, but ends up uncovering a terrifying mystery.*

## Theology:

### **Name Above All Names**, Alistair Begg & Sinclair Ferguson

*Jesus Christ has been given the name above all names, the highest seat of honor, and the right to rule and reign. Yet, the busyness of our lives and the diversions of this world often distract us from knowing the most important person we could ever know. See and meditate on the incomparable character of Christ by examining seven key qualities of Jesus' identity and ministry; gaze upon the King of kings and see how great Jesus really is.*

### **The Holiness of God**, R.C. Sproul

*Central to God's character is the quality of holiness, but most people are hard-pressed to define what God's holiness precisely is. Many people avoid the topic because they don't quite know what to do with words like "awe" or "fear." In this classic work, Sproul puts the holiness of God in its proper and central place in the Christian life and paints an awe-inspiring vision of God that encourages Christians to become holy just as God is holy. Once you encounter the holiness of God, your life will never be the same.*

### **Erasing Hell OR Forgotten God**, Francis Chan

*In Forgotten God, Chan reminds us that when Jesus ascended into heaven, He promised to send the Holy Spirit 'the Helper' so that we could be true and living witnesses for Christ, but often we admire the gift without opening it. Thorough scriptural support and compelling narrative form Chan's invitation to stop and remember the One we've forgotten, the Spirit of the living God. Erasing Hell looks at what God has said about eternity, and what we've made up about it. It examines questions we have about eternal destiny - an area where we can't afford to be wrong.*

### **Reading the Bible Supernaturally: Seeing and Savoring the Glory of God in Scripture**, John Piper

*Does it take a miracle to read the Bible? God wrote a book, and its pages are full of his glory. But we cannot see his beauty on our own, with mere human eyes. In Reading the Bible Supernaturally, John Piper aims to show us how God works through his written word when we pursue the natural act of reading the Bible, so that we experience his sight-giving power — a power that extends beyond the words on the page. Ultimately, Piper shows us that in the seemingly ordinary act of reading the Bible, something miraculous happens: we are given eyes to behold the glory of the living God.*

### **The God Who is There**, D.A. Carson

*How can we understand the story of God - and our part in it - when we don't know it? In this book, Carson takes you through the big story of Scripture to help you know what you believe and why you believe it.*

### **The Rest of God**, Mark Buchanan

*In this book, Buchanan reminds us of the value of restoring the sabbath in our lives. He states that we've lost the rest of God—the rest God bestows and, with it, that part of Himself we can know only through stillness. There is wisdom in God's own rhythm of work and rest. Jesus practiced Sabbath and reminded listeners of the day's true purpose: liberation—to heal, to feed, to rescue, to celebrate, to lavish and relish life abundant.*

## Biography/Memoir:

### **A Heart for Freedom**, Chai Ling

*The fascinating story of Chai Ling, commander-in-chief of the student protesters at Tiananmen Square and witness to the massacre of thousands of Chinese civilians. Follow her pursuit of freedom, purpose, and peace, and how they are satisfied in Christ.*

### **Surprised by Oxford**, Carolyn Webber

*A feminist from a loving but broken family, suspicious of men, and intellectually hostile to all things religious, Weber grapples with her God-shaped void alongside the friends, classmates, and professors she meets at Oxford. She tackles big questions in search of Truth, love, and a life that matters.*

### **Fire Road**, Phan Thi Kim Phuc

*The story behind the iconic image of Vietnam. A story of pain, loss, healing, and hope found in a God who suffered and a Savior who understood the depths of pain.*

### **Kisses from Katie and Daring to Hope**, Katie Davis

*The New York Times bestselling account of a courageous eighteen-year-old who gave up comfort and convenience to become the adoptive mother to thirteen girls in Uganda.*

### **reGeneration: Stories of Resilient Faith in Communist Romania**, Mariam Charter

*Stories about ministry in the underground church of communist Romania and the never-ending regenerative process of true discipleship.*

## Apologetics:

### **Another Gospel?**, Alisa Childers

*Raised in a Christian home and dedicated to leading worship as part of the popular Christian band ZOEgirl, Childers never thought she would question her faith. But she was deeply challenged when she met a progressive pastor, who called himself a hopeful agnostic. Another Gospel? describes the intellectual journey she took wrestling with questions that struck at the core of the Christian faith. Everything she had ever believed about God, Jesus, and the Bible had been picked apart, and she found herself at the brink of despair . . . until God rescued her, helping her to rebuild her faith, one solid brick at a time. A book that points to the firm answers needed in a culture of endless questions.*

### **Making Sense of God**, Timothy Keller

*Keller invites believers and skeptics to consider that Christianity is more relevant today than it has ever been. We cannot live without meaning, satisfaction, freedom, identity, justice, and hope, and Christianity provides us with unsurpassed resources to meet these needs. This book shines a light on the profound value and importance of Christianity in our daily lives.*

### **Confronting Christianity, OR 10 Questions Every Teen Should Ask (and Answer) About Christianity**, Rebecca McLaughlin

*Addressing controversial issues about Christianity—the Bible's teaching on gender and sexuality, the reality of heaven and hell, and more—these books show how current psychological and scientific research actually aligns with teaching from the Bible.*

### **We Will Not Be Silenced**, Erwin W. Lutzer

*Dr. Lutzer prepares you to live out your convictions against a growing tide of hostility, gain a better understanding of nonbelievers' legitimate hurts and concerns regarding issues like racism, sexism, and poverty, and identify the toxic responses secular culture disguises as solutions. In the process, you'll see how you can show compassion and gentleness to those outside of the faith without affirming their beliefs. Move beyond fear and boldly accept the challenge of representing Christ to a watching world that needs Him now more than ever before.*

### **God's Undertaker: Has Science Buried God?**, John C. Lennox

*Lennox is a professor of Mathematics at the University of Oxford, and in this book he writes from the experience of lecturing and debating in the UK, USA, Germany, and Russia, and evaluates the evidence of modern science in relation to the debate between the atheistic and theistic interpretations of the universe.*