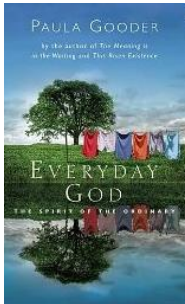


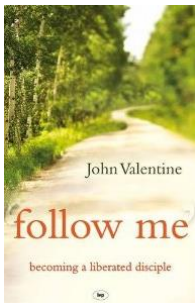
Faith at Work - Book Recommendations

Section 1: Setting the scene



Everyday God
The spirit of the ordinary
Paula Gooder
Canterbury Press
ISBN 9 78 1848 251168
RRP £8.99

This book encourages us to take the time to remind ourselves that what we do on a Monday is as important to God as what we do on a Sunday. God loves the ordinary, everyday lives that we lead and through our life after church we bring his kingdom closer to the people we meet when we are at work, at home and at leisure. Or, as Paula Gooder says when she explores 1 Corinthians 12:1-31, “*Paul’s language reminds us that our extraordinary calling as Christians is to live out our ordinary, everyday lives as Christ on earth.*” It is a calling that we should strive to achieve day by day, week by week. *Everyday God* can help us do this by looking at this calling through the lens of 33 biblical passages, which Paula brings to life in fresh yet challenging ways. It is a very readable book that stimulates both your mind and your heart.



Follow Me
Becoming a liberated disciple
John Valentine
IVP
ISBN 9 78 1844 743940
RRP £7.99

This is an easy to read book which is ideally suited for new Christians and for anyone wanting to spend some time reflecting on how to live out their faith in their everyday lives. To quote from the book, “Following Jesus is not a religious hobby, but a way of being and living.” *Follow me* explores this way of being and living by looking at how our faith can help us day-by-day in our personal lives and can grow through our involvement in the corporate life of the church, and how we can use the whole of our lives to further God’s kingdom.

The spiritual life is first of all a life.
Thomas Merton

John Valentine is the Rector of St. George’s Church, Holborn in London.



How to Live

A guide to the Christian Journey

Stephen Cottrell & Steven Croft

Church House Publishing

ISBN 9 78 0715 142400

RRP £9.99

An excellent and easy to read book for the newly confirmed and for anyone wanting to refresh their understanding of what it means to be a Christian (our inner journey) and to live out our faith in our daily lives (our outer journey) – at home, at work and at leisure. It includes lots of helpful biblical and theological quotes, inspirational prayers and hints and tips to guide us on our lifelong journey of discovery, change and growth. The book concludes with a simple form of Daily Prayer that uses material from Common Worship. *How to Live* is an excellent guide to living life in the light of God's love.

He who labours as he prays lifts his heart to God with his hands.

St. Bernard of Clairvaux

The Great Divide

Mark Greene

LICC

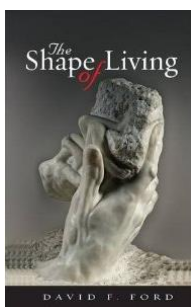
ISBN 9 78 0903 452434

RRP £2.50 (for individual copies; discounts available for multiple copies)



This is a small and easy to read booklet but it contains a very big challenge facing the Church and us all today. We pray regularly “Thy kingdom come”

- Mark challenges us whether we limit God's kingdom to part of his world? He asks whether we put divisions between the sacred and secular with the secular being second rated to church or church organised activities. Christians spend most of their lives doing productive work whether paid, voluntary or leisure. Most of the same Christians have not heard a sermon on work and would not expect one or think that it is relevant! Mark asks us to imagine these same Christians equipped for mission in their daily situations.



The Shape of Living

Spiritual Directions for Everyday Life

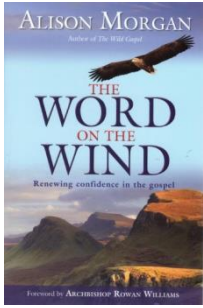
David F Ford

Canterbury Press (to be published 31 Oct 2012)

ISBN 9 78 1848 252479

RRP £9.99

This is a new edition of a classic David F Ford book, which was first published in 1996. It looks at how we shape our lives in the midst of a world that overwhelms us with challenges and changes. Chapter Five focuses on leisure and work; how we shape and use our time, money and relationships alert to the presence of God in our everyday lives. The final page of this chapter encourages us to find a moment of repose in the busyness of daily life that can energize and renovate the whole day. It is a book that encourages you to read, ponder and re-read its faith inspired words of wisdom.



The Word on the Wind **Renewing confidence in the gospel**

Alison Morgan
Monarch Books
ISBN 9 78 0857 210159
RRP £9.99

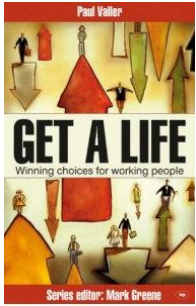
A powerful exploration of the need to refocus Christian minds and activities from standard Sunday services in church buildings to living our daily lives with full faith and expectation that Jesus (the Word) and his Spirit (the Wind) remain as present and active today as they were the first century. Miracles abound and are obvious to Christians who are looking for them or are praying Jesus' eternal compassion into the troubled lives of those they encounter in everyday life. The Revd Dr Alison Morgan is a well known writer (*The Wild Gospel*) and editor (*Rooted In Jesus* - a discipleship course) and, following many years of parish ministry now works for ReSource which is an independent ecumenical charity working to help churches be more effective in mission and renewed in the Spirit.

The book is extremely well researched and has a wealth of footnotes and a large bibliography and an excellent further resources section listing books, resource materials, related websites, and focusing on areas such as: *Becoming Disciples of Jesus*, *Living Beautiful Lives*, *Ministering to Others* and *Renewing the Traditional Church*.

Alison leads us to strengthen our own confidence in the transformative power of the Gospel by inhabiting its story; which can take us out of ourselves into Christ's reality which is much larger than we can comprehend but is surprisingly full of joy, grace and miracles. The book is full of stories and anecdotes relating personal witness to the eternal power of the Gospel to transform ordinary lives by filling the deep seated human need for spiritual fulfilment - which is often triggered by encountering a loving Christian response to misfortune that then leads the recipient to query the source of that compassion - which is The Word (Jesus) On The Wind (the Spirit) acting through His transformed disciples.

A compelling read for individuals and an excellent resource for churches seeking a roadmap to expanded mission.

Section 2: At work



Get a Life **Winning choices for working people**

Paul Valler

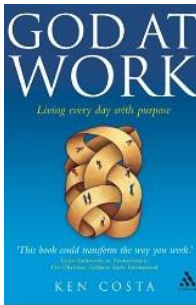
IVP

ISBN 9 78 1844 742172

RRP £8.99

This book guides the reader on a journey towards a faith-filled approach to work and a work-life harmony (that looks, feels and is Shalom). It's helpfully split into short chapters that cover individual steps of the journey. Each chapter provides true to life case studies, Bible-inspired guidance and closing questions to prompt reflection and inspire action. Read it cover-to-cover to consider where you can make positive changes to improve your work-life balance, or dip into individual chapters for ideas to help with specific issues that you are experiencing at work / home. Paul's book is well-written, easy to read and reflects his personal Christian tradition and background.

Paul Valler was Finance and HR Director of Hewlett-Packard Ltd. He is a preacher and speaker with a mission to inspire people to make the right choices.



God at Work **Living every day with purpose**

Ken Costa

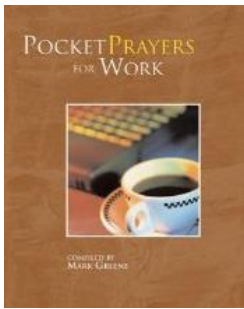
Continuum

ISBN 9 78 0826 496355

£10.99

This is an easy to pick up and hard to put down book; it explores what it means to place God at the heart of our working lives. It's full of practical advice, biblical guidance and excellent real-life examples to help us live a whole-of-life faith whatever our workplace. It's positive, full of hope yet realistic, thought-provoking and challenging yet enormously inspirational. In *God at Work* Ken Costa writes, "Our prime task at work is not to be evangelists. That is not what we are employed to do. But we should be vigilant and available to colleagues at decisive moments when we can discuss with them the way towards a spirituality that will enrich their lives." All through his book, Ken Costa provides guidance on how to do this and how to let our faith guide the way we approach the everyday issues and opportunities of the workplace.

"The workplace is the coalface where faith is tested and strengthened." Ken Costa



Pocket Prayers for Work

Mark Greene

Church House Publishing

ISBN 9 78 0715 140222

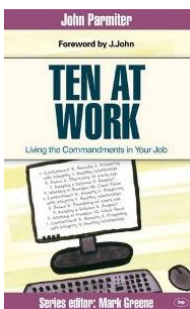
RRP £5.99

This small book is packed full of work related prayers.

- prayers for the start of a working day
- prayers for use during Sunday services
- prayers covering a wide range of work related issues and situations, such as redundancy, over work and exhaustion
- prayers of reflection inspired by the bible

They have been written by people from different walks of life; from accountants to vicars and carers to teachers; by those on no pay / low pay to those who are highly paid.

It is a rich resource to dip into at any time of the day – to draw on for spiritual refreshment; for help with an immediate or long-standing issue; to give thanks for all that is good about your work and your workplace; to seek help for your colleagues or for yourself. This is a pocket gem that can help you bring the light of God's love into your workplace, wherever you work.



Ten at Work

Living the commandments in your job

John Parmiter

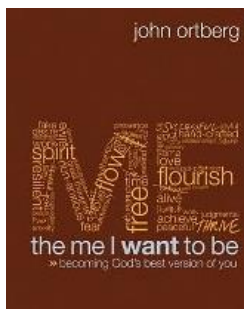
IVP

ISBN 9 78 1844 745579

RRP £8.99

As its title tells us, this book is all about helping us to live out our Christian faith at work by using the Ten Commandments as our guide. John Parmiter starts with the tenth commandment, where he explores how coveting at work can make us discontent and can encourage us to break some of the other commandments, and counts down over the following chapters to the first commandment, where he looks at ways to stay focused on God and avoid a me-first culture at work. Each chapter ends with a short list of reflective questions, to inspire and encourage us to apply the teaching in the commandments to our daily, working lives. Throughout his book, John provides open and honest real-life examples of how the Ten Commandments can influence the way we handle everyday challenges within the workplace. The style of this well-written and easy to read book reflects John's personal Christian background, so you may find that you do not always agree with everything that he says. However... each chapter is a catalyst for questions, inner reflection, ideas and change whatever your church tradition.

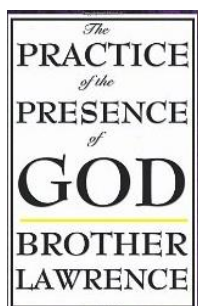
John Parmiter is a long standing member of Holy Trinity Brompton, where he is involved in The Marriage Course and has led Alpha groups for 25 years. He is a workplace associate for the London Institute for Contemporary Christianity.



The me I want to be

John Ortberg
Zondervan
ISBN 9 78 0310 275930
RRP £8.99

An encouraging and liberating book on how we can work towards becoming God's best version of ourselves. This is not a self-help, strive to be better manual – it has at its heart Ortberg's signature theme of surrender to God and the flow of the Holy Spirit. Part Six has two very useful chapters on how this can transform our work and workplace. The assumption of an holistic approach to life and faith sidelines the need for any sacred / secular divide. Read it and rejoice – you are fearfully and wonderfully made!



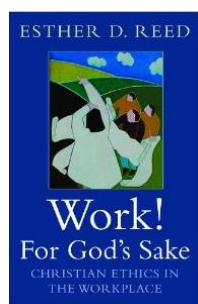
The Practice of the Presence of God

Brother Lawrence
Wilder Publications
ISBN 9 78 1604 592498
RRP £4.99

Brother Lawrence was uneducated and poor; his faith was simple. He saw God in the mundane tasks he carried out in the priory kitchen. His conversion to faith when he was in the army was inspired by a barren tree in winter. In its renewal in spring he saw the power and greatness of God. These simple events were the start of his lifelong conversation with God. Let Brother Lawrence's conversations and letters help you see God in the routine, everyday tasks. God is always there with you, in the detail.

We ought to act with God in the greatest simplicity, speak to Him frankly and plainly, and implore His assistance in our affairs.

Brother Lawrence was a member of the Carmelite Order in France during the 17th Century.



Work for God's Sake

Christian Ethics in the Workplace

Esther D Reed, Associate Professor of Theological Ethics, University of Exeter
Darton, Longman & Todd
ISBN 9 78 0232 527612
RRP £12.95

This short yet well-researched book is ideal for anyone wanting to consider and reflect on the theology relating to work and Christian ethics in the workplace. Esther has not limited her research to just one church tradition. Her book contains examples from Roman Catholic, Protestant, Methodist and Orthodox churches and writers, and from the Jewish faith. It tackles big picture topics, such as human rights in the workplace, showing how they relate to the Christian faith and what this means for us as individuals in our own workplaces. At the end of the book, Esther offers three models for the way Christians can live out their faith as disciples at work: Salt and Light, Yeast in the Dough, and Wisdom.

My plea is for new litanies and variety in our formal prayers so that we pray explicitly for workplaces, relationships at work, the end of exploitation, living wages, fair working practices, the home or charity shop as a workplace, and other such concerns. Esther D Reed

For work and every aspect of life:



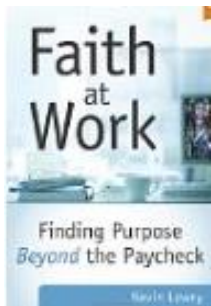
A blessing to follow **Contemporary parables for living**

Tom Gordon
Wild Goose Publications
ISBN 9 78 1905 010660
RRP £13.50
Produced for Lectionary Year C

Tom Gordon is a storyteller. He takes what is real and vivid, and creates powerful stories with meaning and insight for our everyday lives. This book contains a collection of original and contemporary parables and uses the framework of the Christian Year to offer a story for every week, and a few more besides. As an observer of life, Tom draws on his experiences of parish ministry and hospice chaplaincy to create a rich resource for personal or public use. His stories will make you smile and shed a tear as you reflect on life and faith, and will help you see familiar things in a new and imaginative way.

This is one of a series of three books. **Welcoming each wonder** has been written for Year A and **With an Open Eye** for Year B.

From USA:



Faith at Work **Finding Purpose Beyond the Paycheck**

Kevin Lowry
Our Sunday Visitor Inc
ISBN 9 78 1592 760169
RRP US\$ 14.95

Finding Purpose Beyond the Paycheck shows that work is an opportunity, not only to earn a living but also to live out our faith in all its fullness. If we don't embrace our faith in the workplace, we're missing out on a huge opportunity to serve Christ by serving our colleagues, customers and all of the other people we meet at work. This book provides a step-by-step guide to integrating our faith and our work. Each chapter closes with a helpful summary – in the form of action steps – and offers questions for further reflection. Full of real-life examples from Kevin's work and home life, *Finding Purpose Beyond the Paycheck* is an easy to read, practical yet inspirational book. Look out for "Making Music at Work" where he likens the Holy Spirit to a professional concert pianist. We all need the help of the Holy Spirit in our work!

One of my favourite quotations, mistakenly attributed to St. Francis of Assisi, is "Preach the Gospel at all times. Use words if necessary." Kevin Lowry

Kevin Lowry is a Roman Catholic who has spent over twenty years in financial and executive management roles. The book reflects his Roman Catholic beliefs and practices.



Jesus wants to save Christians
A manifesto for the Church in exile

Rob Bell

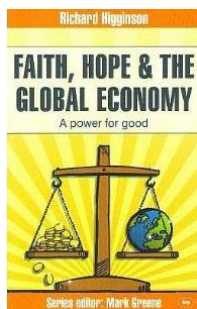
Harper Collins

ISBN 9 78 0007 487875

RRP £8.99

This is a book for those who want to be challenged by big picture thinking, drawing together the Bible and contemporary socio-political realities. It's presented in typical Rob Bell style, in short bites, questions and statements that build into larger sections and themes as we follow the journey of God's people: Egypt, Sinai, Jerusalem, Babylon and Salvation. Above all we are brought face-to-face with the God who hears and responds to the cry of the oppressed. The authors explore a compelling interpretation of God's world in its current state and our calling as Christians within it. Are we caught up in global systems and ways of thinking that Jesus wants to liberate us from? What did this look like historically for God's people? What does it mean for us to be a Eucharistic community as we respond to the world around us? Going through an airport security system will never be the same again...

On the current economic climate:



Faith, Hope & the Global Economy

A power for good

Richard Higginson

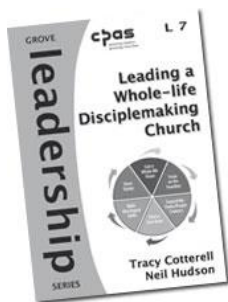
IVP

ISBN 9 78 1844 745807

RRP £9.99

Does faith have any hope to offer a global economy beset by debt and crisis? A main theme of this book is the bringing of Christian faith and hope – and even love – to the workplace. The author has a largely positive view of the business world; both within large corporate organisations, where there is scope for Christian influence, and in other models which are perhaps more naturally in tune with Christian principles – e.g. social enterprises, co-operatives, fair trade, micro-credit and eco-friendly companies. That's not to say that there are no downsides, given that we're in a fallen world. This book will help business men and women to think deeply about what they do and why they do it. Chapter by chapter, the book takes the biblical story of salvation and shows how it has something important, challenging and hopeful to say to the world of business today. Full of examples from businesses visited by the author on his travels, this book will inspire you to see the relevance of your faith to your work.

Section 3: Helpful advice



Leading a Whole-life Disciplemaking Church

L7

Tracy Cotterell and Neil Hudson

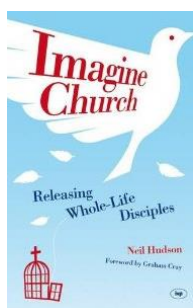
Grove Books

www.grovebooks.co.uk

ISBN 9 78 1851 748181

RRP £3.95

Designed mainly for ministry and mission teams, this booklet looks at how leaders can help a church have a keen interest in what happens after Sunday and equip their people to live as disciples in their everyday lives – at home, at work and in the community. It suggests a step-by-step approach that can help make vision a reality and is sprinkled with useful real-life examples.



Imagine Church

Releasing Whole-Life Disciples

Neil Hudson

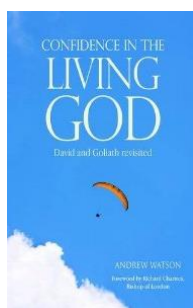
IVP

ISBN 9 78 1844 745661

RRP £9.99

If “Leading a Whole-Life Disciplemaking Church” resonated with you and you feel called to take this forward in your church, *Imagine Church* is an ideal follow-on book. Neil Hudson works on the Imagine Project at the London Institute for Contemporary Christianity, which aims to encourage churches to help their whole-life disciples make a difference wherever they live and work. From setting the vision through to starting out on the journey, Neil’s book equips leaders and church members for what lies ahead. It provides practical, bible-grounded guidance, real-life examples and feedback from the pilot churches (which are primarily in urban settings), practical ideas and suggestions, reflective and thought-provoking questions, and suggestions for further reading and sources of useful resources. It’s a book to be read, reflected on and shared.

To find out more about the Imagine Project, visit www.licc.org.uk/imagine.



Confidence in the Living God

David and Goliath revisited

Andrew Watson

ISBN 9 78 1841 016436

£7.99

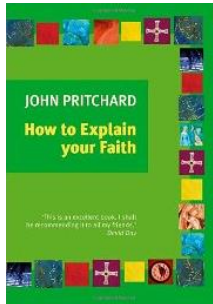
By the author of *The Way of the Desert*, this book explores the theme of confidence – our confidence in the living God and the Lord’s confidence in us. It recognises the enormous challenge that we face in proclaiming our faith in God when we live in a culture that is increasingly interested only in getting the most out of the here and now. Using the story of David and Goliath in 1 Samuel 17, Andrew Watson explores how God can make us self-confident, as individuals and churches, able to tackle the challenges of day-to-day living including those that we face in the workplace. Reading the book can help us reflect on how the “Stockdale

paradox” can strengthen us to cope with all that life throws at us without losing faith in the Lord. The book includes a study guide, so is suited for group as well as personal use. Read it and feel yourself transformed like David by the power of the living God.

A quote from Admiral Jim Stockdale, a former Vietnamese prisoner of war:

“This is an important lesson. You must never confuse faith that you will prevail in the end - which you cannot afford to lose – with the discipline to confront the most brutal facts of your current reality, whatever they might be.”

The Stockdale Paradox



How to Explain your Faith

John Pritchard

SPCK

ISBN 9 78 0281 057085

RRP £9.99

If you've faced questions like... “Why bother with God?”, “Why Jesus and not Buddah?” or “Can the bible be trusted?” ... and felt tongue-tied, this is the book for you. It will help you talk more confidently with your friends and colleagues about the hope that keeps you going. Each of the easy to read and follow chapters begins with a “What they say” section, which lists the main challenges that we may face as Christians. The author explores answers that we might give to these tough questions, concluding with a “heart of the matter” solution that takes us to the crux of our Christian faith. All through the book you will find stories and a variety of inspiring, poignant and witty quotes that you can weave into your conversations. This book is also an excellent resource for small church and home groups.

I believe in Christianity as I believe the sun has risen, not only because I see it, but because by it, I see everything else. C S Lewis

Coming soon: A review of **Sharing Faith the Jesus Way** by Jim Currin, published by BRF (ISBN: 9 78 1841 018621).



Telling our Faith Story

Ev 85

Janice Price

Grove Books

www.grovebooks.co.uk

ISBN 9 78 1851 747115

RRP £3.95

This practical guide recognises that stories matter to us. We all enjoy them. We love listening to stories told by others. As Christians, we should also enjoy telling our story – the story of our living faith – and the big story of what God has done for his world through Jesus, himself a master storyteller. It isn't easy. We may lack confidence or may, like Moses, feel that we will struggle to find the right words to inspire our listeners. This guide offers a safe way for individuals to practice telling their faith story, with the help and encouragement of their fellow travellers. It provides step-by-step instructions for running a group session on “telling our faith” and helpful advice to the person who will be leading it.