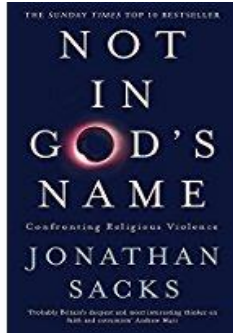


## CHURCH LIBRARY

Do sign in books when you borrow them, then we will know who to chase if you hold on them for too long.

*Eileen Robinson*

### **Not in God's Name by Jonathan Sacks**



This book, published in 2015 in hardback, won the Templeton Prize. Jonathan Sacks is no stranger to us. I would go so far as to say he is the most well-known of Chief Rabbis, having served in that post for twenty-two years. He has spoken out very strongly on religious issues over the years.

This book confronts the issue of how much violence is done in God's name. His first line in chapter one is "When religion turns men into murderers, God weeps".

This book is not an easy read and certainly not one that one can "skip" through, but it has many challenging statements and thoughts. Jonathan Sacks explores the roots of violence and its relationship to religion, focusing on the three Abrahamic faiths —Judaism, Christianity and Islam.

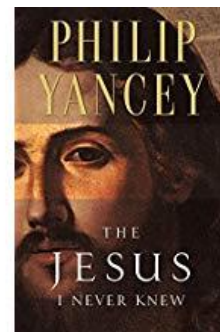
Philip Yancey is quite well-known to us as an author and speaker, in fact we have used him at St. Andrew's for House Group Study over the years.

We already have two books by this author in our Church Library - , "What's so amazing about Grace?" and "Prayer".

Philip introduces this book by going back to Sunday School days and recounts how he, like many of us, thought he knew Jesus. You will see and know there is far more to Jesus than that. In sections headed "Who He was", "Why He came" and "What He left behind", the story unfolds - and it is a story.

I have put these two books in the Study section of the Library, but they could quite easily be included in other sections.

### **"The Jesus I Never Knew" by Philip Yancey**



### **"Close Encounters of the Loving Kind" by Anita Marshall**



This fascinating book tells the story of twelve people who were there at a particular time or at a particular event. The story of Theo, the Temple boy, tells how he went off to see Jesus because he'd heard about him and wanted to find out for himself. Another story is from Davina, who is the daughter of the woman who met Jesus at the well. Read for yourself what happens there. This book can be found in the Stories Section.

**“Simple Gifts”  
by Kevin Scully**

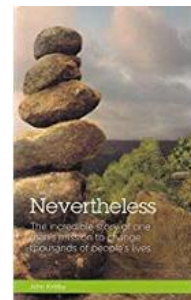


Kevin Scully is a former actor and journalist but now a full-time vicar. This book has a chapter for each gift including hospitality, rest, friendship and tears.

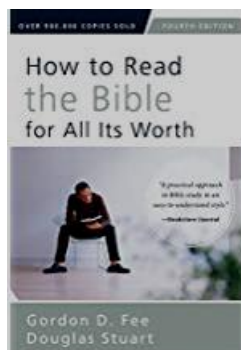
This book is the story of the founding of the charity Christians Against Poverty (CAP) in 1996.

We have all heard and read about this charity but would you believe it now helps more than 30,000 individuals worldwide each year! John Kirby, who is the founder, tells us of the background of how he came to the decision to form this charity. I warn you, it didn't just happen overnight - it is an amazing story. Read it for yourself.

**"Nevertheless"  
by John Kirby**



**"How to read the Bible for all it's worth"  
by Gordon D. Fee and Douglas Stuart**



When I first saw this title, I had to look and look again. I'd never considered reading my Bible as though there were no tomorrow. Okay, you may sit and read chunks, you may read parts under a little pressure for study, but reading it "for all it's worth"?

There is a chapter on translating and what is suggested. I found this very interesting and helpful.

Would you believe the first suggestion is the Epistles! Now I would have expected to start with Genesis. The next chapter is the Old Testament. The Old Testament constitutes three quarters of the bulk of the Bible.

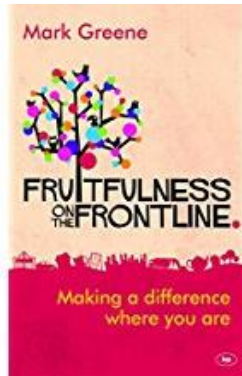
**'The Bad Christian's Manifesto'  
by Dave Tomlinson**

If you want to be pulled out of your comfort one, shaken out of your Christian roots or challenged about your beliefs, then this is the book for you – and indeed, I would go so far as to say this is a book everyone should read.

With chapter headings like, “A tired old man upstairs”, “God is what grabs you deep down” and “Tea and biscuits religion”, who could resist? I leave you to decide.



**'Fruitfulness on the Frontline'  
by Mark Greene**



What an absolutely fascinating book, which is subtitled "Making a difference where you are".

This book tells lots of stories of ordinary people leading ordinary lives and how they make a difference. With chapters headed, "Bananas are not the only fruit", "Being a mouthpiece for truth and justice" and "Being a messenger of the gospel", it certainly makes for lively reading. I highly recommend it.

There's a lot of stuff out there to help us study our Bibles. We no longer have to sit rigid with our Bible on our laps, or even on a table, to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest chapter by chapter.

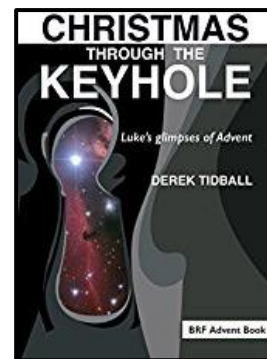
Of course, there's nothing wrong in doing that and if you can, well done, I'm full of admiration.

Derek Tidball is a Baptist Minister. As well as pastoral ministry, he has been Principal of the then London Bible College, President of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and the Chair of the Evangelical Alliance Council. Oh, yes, and he writes books.

This last Advent he did a study entitled "Christmas through the Keyhole" and it showed Luke's glimpses of Advent. In the scriptures of the Jewish people, Luke records the songs of Mary, Zechariah, Simeon and the Angels of Bethlehem.

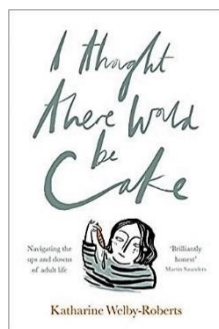
This book leads us through these songs day by day, week by week during Advent and I found it very helpful.

**'Christmas Through the Keyhole'  
by Derek Tidball**



***This Advent book is now available in the Church Library in the Study Guide section.***

**'I Thought There Would Be Cake'  
by Katharine Welby-Roberts**

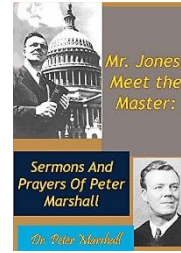


Katharine Welby-Roberts has suffered depression, anxiety and self-doubt for a good part of her life. This often led to her alienating herself from others. This book relates how Katharine worked out ways of dealing with normal daily issues and tried to embrace her own self-worth. It makes fascinating reading, is brilliantly honest and reveals how this can affect so many people.

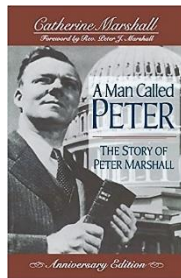
I have a copy of this book and would be willing to lend it to anyone who is interested.

## 'Mr Jones Meets the Master' by Peter Marshall

This is a collection of sermons delivered in Washington's famous New York Avenue Presbyterian Church.



## 'A Man Called Peter' by Peter Marshall



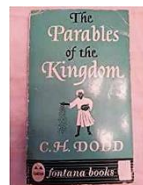
This is one of the most moving books I have ever read. This is the story of Peter Marshall and how he became an ordained Minister and rose to the position of Chaplain to the United States Senate.

## 'Adventures in Prayer' by Catherine Marshall (wife of Peter)

This book is exactly what it says on the cover – a classic that can guide you to a more joyous faith.



## 'The Parables of the Kingdom' by C H Dodd



Professor Dodd examines the parables and answers many questions in this study, such as, "Do the parables of the Kingdom illustrate general truths and are they easily understood today?"

Read it and you will find out.

## 'An Impossible God' by Frank Topping

There are several books by Frank Topping in our Church Library. We have been given another one. This one is real food for thought and certainly points out very strongly that God is an "impossible God".

