

cost of discipleship pdf

cost of discipleship pdf is a phrase that often refers to the digital format of the renowned Christian book "The Cost of Discipleship" by Dietrich Bonhoeffer. This book has been a pivotal resource for individuals seeking to understand the profound challenges and commitments involved in true Christian discipleship. The cost of discipleship pdf is widely sought after by readers, theologians, and students for its accessible format and ability to be studied in digital environments. This article will explore what the cost of discipleship pdf entails, its significance in Christian literature, how it is used in various contexts, and considerations when accessing or distributing the pdf version. Additionally, it will provide insights into the themes of discipleship highlighted in the book and why the digital format has become an essential tool for modern readers. Below is an overview of the main sections covered in this comprehensive guide.

- Understanding the Cost of Discipleship
- The Importance of the PDF Format
- Key Themes Explored in the Cost of Discipleship PDF
- How to Access and Use the Cost of Discipleship PDF
- Legal and Ethical Considerations
- Practical Applications of the Cost of Discipleship PDF

Understanding the Cost of Discipleship

The phrase "cost of discipleship" originates from the theological work by Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a German pastor and theologian. This work challenges believers to seriously consider the demands of following Jesus Christ, emphasizing that true discipleship involves sacrifice, obedience, and a willingness to suffer for one's faith. The cost of discipleship pdf allows readers to engage deeply with these challenging concepts in a flexible and convenient format.

Historical Context of the Work

Written during the rise of Nazi Germany, Bonhoeffer's "The Cost of Discipleship" reflects his resistance against oppressive regimes and his call for authentic Christian living. The text critiques "cheap grace," or the idea that grace can be received without transformation or commitment. Understanding this historical

background is vital to appreciate the urgency and gravity of the message conveyed in the cost of discipleship pdf.

Core Message of Discipleship

At its heart, the book highlights the necessity of costly grace, which requires a believer to take up their cross and follow Christ fully. The cost of discipleship pdf presents this message clearly, making it accessible to readers who want to explore the implications of genuine Christian faith and obedience.

The Importance of the PDF Format

The cost of discipleship pdf format has become increasingly popular due to the convenience and accessibility it offers. PDFs preserve the original layout, typography, and pagination of print books, making them ideal for study and reference. The digital nature of the cost of discipleship pdf allows for easy distribution, annotation, and portability across devices.

Benefits of the PDF Format

Using the cost of discipleship pdf comes with several advantages, including:

- **Portability:** Readers can access the content on smartphones, tablets, laptops, and e-readers anywhere.
- **Searchability:** PDFs allow keyword searches, making it easier to find specific passages or themes.
- **Annotation:** Users can highlight text, add notes, and bookmark pages digitally.
- **Preservation of Original Formatting:** The PDF maintains the book's original structure and design, enhancing readability.

Challenges with PDFs

Despite its benefits, the cost of discipleship pdf may present challenges such as file size, compatibility with some devices, and potential issues with copyright compliance when distributed improperly.

Key Themes Explored in the Cost of Discipleship PDF

The cost of discipleship pdf contains profound theological themes that challenge readers to reconsider their faith journey. These themes remain relevant for contemporary audiences seeking a deeper understanding of discipleship.

Cheap Grace vs. Costly Grace

One of the central contrasts in the book is between cheap grace, which is grace without repentance or discipleship, and costly grace, which requires a believer to respond through obedience and sacrifice. The cost of discipleship pdf clearly delineates this dichotomy, encouraging readers to embrace the demanding nature of true grace.

Following Christ in Daily Life

Bonhoeffer emphasizes that discipleship is not merely theoretical but must be lived out consistently. The cost of discipleship pdf details practical implications of following Christ, including ethical living, community involvement, and resisting societal pressures contrary to Christian teachings.

Suffering and Discipleship

The text also deals with the reality of suffering as an integral part of discipleship. The cost of discipleship pdf articulates how believers are called to endure hardship and persecution as part of their commitment to Christ.

How to Access and Use the Cost of Discipleship PDF

Accessing the cost of discipleship pdf can be done through several legitimate channels. Understanding how to best use this format can enhance study and personal growth.

Sources for Legitimate Access

Readers can obtain the cost of discipleship pdf from authorized publishers, educational institutions, or reputable Christian organizations that have the rights to distribute the content digitally. Some libraries also provide access to digital versions through their e-book collections.

Effective Study Practices

To maximize the benefits of the cost of discipleship pdf, users should:

1. Highlight key passages related to themes of grace and obedience.
2. Take notes using digital annotation tools to capture personal reflections.
3. Use the search function to revisit important concepts quickly.
4. Engage in group discussions or study sessions based on the pdf content.

Legal and Ethical Considerations

When dealing with the cost of discipleship pdf, it is essential to respect copyright laws and ethical guidelines. Unauthorized distribution or downloading of copyrighted materials without permission is illegal and undermines the work of authors and publishers.

Copyright Status

The original "The Cost of Discipleship" book is protected under copyright law, and the pdf version is subject to the same protections. Users should ensure they obtain the cost of discipleship pdf through legal means to support the rights holders.

Ethical Sharing Practices

Sharing the cost of discipleship pdf within study groups or educational settings should be done in accordance with licensing agreements. Many publishers offer licenses for group use or educational purposes, and adhering to these ensures ethical use.

Practical Applications of the Cost of Discipleship PDF

The cost of discipleship pdf is not only a study resource but also a tool for spiritual formation and ministry. It has practical applications for various audiences.

For Individual Devotion

Individuals can use the cost of discipleship pdf for personal reflection and growth, enabling a deeper understanding of what it means to follow Christ faithfully.

For Church Groups and Bible Studies

Church leaders and small group facilitators often incorporate the cost of discipleship pdf into curriculum planning to guide discussions on Christian commitment and discipleship challenges.

In Academic Settings

The cost of discipleship pdf serves as a valuable text in theological education, providing students with critical insights into Christian ethics, history, and theology.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the 'Cost of Discipleship' PDF about?

The 'Cost of Discipleship' PDF is a digital version of Dietrich Bonhoeffer's classic Christian book that explores the demands and challenges of following Jesus Christ, emphasizing the necessity of costly grace over cheap grace.

Where can I download the 'Cost of Discipleship' PDF for free?

The 'Cost of Discipleship' PDF is available for free download on various websites offering public domain or authorized Christian literature, such as Project Gutenberg or certain church resource sites. Always ensure you are downloading from a legitimate source.

Is the 'Cost of Discipleship' PDF available in different languages?

Yes, the 'Cost of Discipleship' has been translated into multiple languages, and many of these translations can be found in PDF format online, depending on the publisher's distribution rights.

Can I get a summary of the 'Cost of Discipleship' PDF?

Yes, summaries of the 'Cost of Discipleship' are widely available online and in study guides, highlighting key themes such as the call to follow Christ, the meaning of grace, and the difference between cheap and costly grace.

How can the 'Cost of Discipleship' PDF help in personal spiritual growth?

Reading the 'Cost of Discipleship' PDF can deepen your understanding of Christian discipleship, challenge your faith, and inspire a more committed and authentic walk with Christ by reflecting on the sacrifices and commitments involved.

Are there study guides available for the 'Cost of Discipleship' PDF?

Yes, many study guides and discussion questions accompany the 'Cost of Discipleship' PDF, which can be found through Christian bookstores, seminaries, and online educational platforms to facilitate group or individual study.

Is the 'Cost of Discipleship' PDF suitable for all Christian denominations?

While the 'Cost of Discipleship' is rooted in Lutheran theology, its themes about discipleship and grace resonate across many Christian denominations and can be appreciated by a broad Christian audience.

What is the historical significance of the 'Cost of Discipleship' PDF?

The 'Cost of Discipleship' is significant historically as it was written by Dietrich Bonhoeffer during the rise of Nazi Germany, offering profound insights on Christian ethics, resistance, and the true cost of following Christ.

Can I use the 'Cost of Discipleship' PDF in my church study group?

Yes, the 'Cost of Discipleship' PDF is commonly used in church study groups to facilitate discussions about faith, sacrifice, and discipleship. Always ensure any use complies with copyright if applicable.

Additional Resources

1. *The Cost of Discipleship* by Dietrich Bonhoeffer

This classic work explores the demands of true Christian discipleship, emphasizing the call to follow Jesus wholeheartedly. Bonhoeffer contrasts "cheap grace" with "costly grace," urging believers to live a life of obedience and sacrifice. The book is both a theological treatise and a practical guide for those committed to Christ.

2. *Radical: Taking Back Your Faith from the American Dream* by David Platt

David Platt challenges readers to reconsider their faith in light of the gospel, focusing on the cost of following Jesus in a culture that promotes comfort and success. The book calls for radical obedience and sacrificial living as marks of true discipleship. It includes compelling stories and practical applications for modern believers.

3. *Discipleship by Dietrich Bonhoeffer*

Often considered a companion to *The Cost of Discipleship*, this work delves deeper into what it means to follow Christ. Bonhoeffer emphasizes the importance of community, suffering, and grace in the life of a disciple. It is a profound exploration of faith in action.

4. *The Divine Conspiracy: Rediscovering Our Hidden Life In God by Dallas Willard*

Dallas Willard presents a vision of discipleship as a transformative process that involves spiritual formation and a life lived in close relationship with God. The book challenges the typical understanding of Christianity and offers a roadmap for living out the teachings of Jesus authentically.

5. *Following Jesus: Biblical Reflections on Discipleship by N. T. Wright*

N. T. Wright provides a fresh perspective on what it means to be a disciple of Jesus in today's world. Through careful biblical exegesis, he explores the cost of discipleship and the call to embody the kingdom of God. The book is both accessible and deeply insightful.

6. *The Radical Disciple: Some Neglected Aspects of Our Calling by John Stott*

John Stott examines the often-overlooked challenges and responsibilities of discipleship. He highlights the necessity of total commitment and the willingness to endure hardship for the sake of Christ. This book encourages believers to embrace a more serious and holistic approach to following Jesus.

7. *Costly Discipleship: The Gospel on the Ground by John Piper*

John Piper focuses on the practical implications of living out the gospel with passion and perseverance. The book addresses the sacrifices involved in true discipleship and calls believers to a life marked by joy and faithfulness. It is a motivating resource for those seeking to deepen their walk with Christ.

8. *The Master Plan of Evangelism by Robert E. Coleman*

While primarily about evangelism, this book also discusses the cost and commitment involved in making disciples. Coleman outlines Jesus' strategy for training His followers and challenges readers to apply these principles in their own lives. It is a foundational text for understanding the practical side of discipleship.

9. *Costly Grace and Discipleship: Essays on Dietrich Bonhoeffer by Various Authors*

This collection of essays offers diverse perspectives on Bonhoeffer's theology of costly grace and discipleship. Scholars and theologians analyze his writings and their relevance for contemporary Christian living. The book provides deeper insights into the challenges and rewards of following Christ fully.

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Cost of Discipleship PDF: Are You Ready to Pay the

Price?

Are you genuinely committed to following Christ, or are you just coasting along, enjoying the perks without embracing the sacrifices? Many Christians struggle with the dissonance between their faith and their actions. They long for a deeper relationship with God but shy away from the challenges and costs involved. They face internal conflicts: Is their faith authentic? Are they truly living out their convictions? Are they making the necessary sacrifices? This book confronts these uncomfortable questions head-on, helping you honestly assess the true cost of discipleship and navigate the path towards authentic faith.

This ebook, "The Price of Following: Navigating the Cost of Discipleship," by [Your Name/Pen Name], will equip you to:

Understand the true meaning of discipleship: Move beyond superficial faith and delve into the transformative power of genuine commitment.

Identify personal barriers and stumbling blocks: Recognize the areas in your life where you're compromising your faith for comfort or convenience.

Develop a practical strategy for overcoming obstacles: Learn concrete steps to live a life that reflects your faith, despite the challenges.

Cultivate a deeper, more intimate relationship with Christ: Discover the incredible rewards that come from embracing the cost of discipleship.

Find strength and encouragement in community: Connect with others on a similar journey, fostering mutual support and understanding.

Contents:

Introduction: Setting the Stage: Understanding the Call to Discipleship

Chapter 1: The Cost of Commitment: What Does it Really Mean to Follow Christ?

Chapter 2: Identifying Your Personal Sacrifices: Confronting the Challenges

Chapter 3: Overcoming Obstacles: Practical Steps to Living a Committed Life

Chapter 4: The Unexpected Rewards: Blessings and Growth Through Sacrifice

Chapter 5: Building a Community of Faith: Finding Support and Encouragement

Conclusion: Embracing the Journey: A Life of Purpose and Meaning

The Price of Following: Navigating the Cost of Discipleship

Introduction: Setting the Stage: Understanding the Call to Discipleship

The call to discipleship isn't a casual invitation; it's a profound commitment demanding a willingness

to embrace both the joys and the sacrifices inherent in following Christ. This isn't about a once-a-week church attendance; it's about a complete transformation of life, values, and priorities. This introduction lays the groundwork, defining discipleship not as a religious obligation but as a vibrant, dynamic relationship with God, requiring conscious effort, surrender, and a willingness to pay the price. It examines biblical accounts of discipleship, illustrating the challenges and rewards faced by those who walked closely with Jesus. The introduction emphasizes the need for self-reflection and honesty in evaluating one's own level of commitment.

Chapter 1: The Cost of Commitment: What Does it Really Mean to Follow Christ?

This chapter delves into the core meaning of discipleship, moving beyond surface-level understandings. We explore biblical passages that directly address the cost of following Christ, such as Luke 9:23-26 ("If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me."). We examine what it practically means to "deny oneself," "take up one's cross," and "follow" Jesus. This isn't simply about abstaining from certain behaviors; it involves a radical shift in priorities, placing God's will above personal desires and ambitions. The chapter challenges readers to confront the potential costs—financial sacrifices, social isolation, personal discomfort—and honestly assess their willingness to pay the price. Specific examples from the lives of biblical figures and modern-day disciples will illustrate the varying forms these sacrifices can take.

Chapter 2: Identifying Your Personal Sacrifices: Confronting the Challenges

This chapter encourages readers to undertake a personal inventory, identifying the specific areas in their lives where they're compromising their faith for the sake of comfort or convenience. This process requires self-reflection, honesty, and a willingness to confront uncomfortable truths. Using practical exercises and questions for self-examination, the chapter guides readers in identifying potential conflicts between their faith and their actions. Examples include time commitments, financial priorities, relationships, and personal ambitions. This isn't about self-condemnation, but about identifying areas where growth and transformation are needed. The chapter provides tools to help readers discern between legitimate limitations and willful compromises.

Chapter 3: Overcoming Obstacles: Practical Steps to Living a Committed Life

Armed with a clearer understanding of their personal challenges, readers are equipped in this chapter with practical strategies for overcoming obstacles to a more committed life. This section

provides concrete steps to navigate the difficulties encountered. Strategies include prayer, seeking accountability partners, developing spiritual disciplines (such as Bible study, meditation, and fasting), and utilizing the support of a faith community. Specific examples of overcoming various challenges—financial hardship, difficult relationships, personal temptations—are provided. This chapter emphasizes the importance of perseverance, resilience, and seeking God's guidance in each step of the journey.

Chapter 4: The Unexpected Rewards: Blessings and Growth Through Sacrifice

This chapter shifts the focus from the sacrifices to the incredible rewards that accompany a life of committed discipleship. It explores the spiritual, emotional, and relational blessings that often accompany a willingness to pay the price. This isn't about a transactional approach to faith ("I'll do this, and God will give me that"), but rather about recognizing the inherent blessings of growing closer to God and living a life aligned with His will. We'll examine biblical accounts and testimonies of individuals who experienced profound transformation and blessing as a result of their commitment. The chapter emphasizes the spiritual growth, increased peace, and strengthened relationships that come from living a life of purpose.

Chapter 5: Building a Community of Faith: Finding Support and Encouragement

This chapter highlights the crucial role of community in navigating the challenges of discipleship. It emphasizes the importance of finding a supportive group of believers who understand the journey and can offer encouragement, accountability, and prayer. The chapter explores different ways to connect with a faith community – through local churches, small groups, online forums, or mentoring relationships. It offers advice on choosing a community that is healthy, supportive, and fosters spiritual growth. The chapter also addresses the importance of offering support and encouragement to fellow believers, recognizing that discipleship is a journey shared, not traveled alone.

Conclusion: Embracing the Journey: A Life of Purpose and Meaning

The conclusion summarizes the key themes explored throughout the book and encourages readers to embrace the journey of discipleship with renewed purpose and resolve. It reinforces the idea that the cost of discipleship is far outweighed by the rewards – a deeper relationship with Christ, a life of purpose and meaning, and the joy of impacting the world around them. The conclusion inspires readers to continue their journey, reminding them that they are not alone and that God's grace and

strength are sufficient for every challenge. It provides a call to action, encouraging readers to take concrete steps toward living out their faith more fully.

FAQs:

1. What is the definition of discipleship used in this book? The book defines discipleship as a transformative, lifelong journey of following Christ, characterized by commitment, sacrifice, and a growing relationship with God.
2. Is this book only for devout Christians? No, it's for anyone who is seriously considering a deeper relationship with Christ or who feels a disconnect between their faith and their actions.
3. What kind of sacrifices are discussed? The book explores a range of sacrifices, including time, finances, relationships, personal ambitions, and comfort.
4. Does the book offer practical advice? Yes, it provides practical steps and strategies for overcoming obstacles and living a life that reflects one's faith.
5. Is this book only about giving up things? No, it also emphasizes the immense blessings and rewards that accompany a life of discipleship.
6. How important is community in the book? The book stresses the vital role of community in providing support, encouragement, and accountability.
7. What is the target audience for this book? The target audience is anyone striving for authentic faith and a deeper relationship with Christ.
8. Is this a dry, theological book? No, the book is written in an accessible and engaging style, using real-life examples and relatable stories.
9. Where can I get the PDF version of this book? [Insert link to purchase/download here].

Related Articles:

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cost of discipleship pdf: The Great Omission Dallas Willard, 2006-06-13 The last command Jesus gave the church before he ascended to heaven was the Great Commission, the call for Christians to make disciples of all the nations. But Christians have responded by making Christians, not disciples. This, according to brilliant scholar and renowned Christian thinker Dallas Willard, has been the church's Great Omission. The word disciple occurs 269 times in the New Testament, writes Willard. Christian is found three times and was first introduced to refer precisely to disciples of Jesus. . . . The New Testament is a book about disciples, by disciples, and for disciples of Jesus Christ. But the point is not merely verbal. What is more important is that the kind of life we see in the earliest church is that of a special type of person. All of the assurances and benefits offered to humankind in the gospel evidently presuppose such a life and do not make realistic sense apart from it. The disciple of Jesus is not the deluxe or heavy-duty model of the Christian -- especially padded, textured, streamlined, and empowered for the fast lane on the straight and narrow way. He or she stands on the pages of the New Testament as the first level of basic transportation in the Kingdom of God. Willard boldly challenges the thought that we can be Christians without being disciples, or call ourselves Christians without applying this understanding of life in the Kingdom of God to every

aspect of life on earth. He calls on believers to restore what should be the heart of Christianity -- being active disciples of Jesus Christ. Willard shows us that in the school of life, we are apprentices of the Teacher whose brilliance encourages us to rise above traditional church understanding and embrace the true meaning of discipleship -- an active, concrete, 24/7 life with Jesus.

cost of discipleship pdf: Costly Grace Jon Walker, 2010 In 1937, on the threshold of Nazi Germany's war on the world, Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote what turned out to be one of the most influential books of the century, *The Cost of Discipleship*. In it, he challenged the flabby faith and compromises of German Christians, famously writing, When Christ calls a man he bids him come and die. Now, seventy-three years after the book was first published, Jon Walker writes *Costly Grace: A Contemporary View of Dietrich Bonhoeffer's The Cost of Discipleship*. Walker brings to a new generation the timeless message of Bonhoeffer against the background of today's political upheaval and societal change and what it means to those who claim to follow Christ's teachings.

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cost of discipleship pdf: A Testament to Freedom Dietrich Bonhoeffer, 1990 Dietrich Bonhoeffer was just thirty-nine years old when he was executed by the Nazis in 1945, yet his influence on Christian theology and life has been enormous. *A testament to freedom* takes readers along a biographical-historical journey that follows Bonhoeffer through the various stages of his life and career, including his final years in the underground resistance against the Nazi government and his subsequent martyrdom. This book features previously untranslated writings, sermons, and selections from his letters spanning his entire pastoral-theological career, including his prison letters

cost of discipleship pdf: The Call to Discipleship Karl Barth, 2003-11-01 In this brief essay, drawn from *Church Dogmatics*, Barth articulates what it means to follow Jesus in faith. He emphasizes that discipleship involves a detachment from the authority of possessions, foregoing the pursuit of personal glory, challenging the fear and use of force, the dissolution of self-evident personal attachments, and a better righteousness, which goes beyond actions to intentions and practices piety in secret. The command of Jesus . . . is issued with all the freedom and sovereignty of grace against which there can be no legitimate objections, of which no one is worthy, for which there can be no preparation, which none can elect, and in the face of which there can be no qualification.

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probably the most read, but least understood book of the Bible. History is replete with examples of how not to interpret it, and books featuring end-of-world prophecy claims based on Revelation consistently top the bestseller lists. But how can the message of such an enigmatic book be applied to our lives today? In *Discipleship on the Edge*, Darrell W. Johnson drives home the challenging and practical message of Revelation in thirty carefully crafted sermons. Paying careful attention to the original context of Revelation and the circumstances surrounding its composition, Johnson shows that the book is not a crystal ball but rather a discipleship manual. Thoroughly researched and yet accessible, this collection of sermons is a helpful resource for pastors and small group leaders who are looking for models to help them preach and teach the message of Revelation in a time when there is much confusion about the end times. Darrell W. Johnson serves as Scholar-in-Residence at The Way Church and Canadian Church Leaders Network in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. A popular conference and retreat speaker, he has also served as the preaching pastor for a number of congregations in North America and the Philippines, as well as serving as Adjunct Professor of Preaching for the Doctor of Ministry program at Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, California, and a Teaching Fellow at Regent College. His other books include *Experiencing the Trinity* and *Fifty-Seven Words That Change The World*.

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cost of discipleship pdf: Radical Depravity John Owen, J. C. Ryle, Arthur W. Pink, Thomas Reade, Joel Beeke, John Flavel, Charles H. Spurgeon, Felipe Chavarro Polanía, 2020-10-09 Jesus Christ saves radically depraved men, women, and children from their sins. However, to understand, believe, and love the good news about the crucified and resurrected Savior, we must first understand our condition. Thus, we offer this issue of the *Free Grace Broadcaster*: *Radical Depravity*. Arthur Pink introduces us to this weighty subject by asking the question, "Is man a totally

and thoroughly depraved creature by nature?" Thomas Reade then tells us about the deadly consequences and bitter fruits of Adam's fall: in Adam all die. We then consider Joel Beeke's helpful survey of the doctrine of human depravity. A second article by Thomas Reade leads us to a painful truth: the heart of man is evil. But he does not leave us there: he takes us to the blessed Son of God for deliverance. John Owen describes with great clarity the depraved and corrupted state of man's mind and teaches us that the only remedy for this great darkness is the new birth: "You must be born again." Loraine Boettner explains the extent and effects of original sin, which results in human inability in the matters of salvation. What is our true spiritual condition outside of Christ? Charles Spurgeon declares that we are legally, spiritually, and eternally dead. Nevertheless, he also tells us that we can be legally, spiritually, eternally alive by faith in Jesus Christ the Son! We then hear from John Flavel that in mercy, grace, and love, God draws sinners to Jesus Christ, gradually, suitably, powerfully, effectually, and finally. That is indeed good news! J. C. Ryle brings our subject to a close by asking a penetrating question: "Are you dead or alive?" Each of us, dear readers, must answer that question.

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Savior but also as Lord. Dr. Boice explores the meaning, path, cost, and rewards of being a true disciple. As the author asserts in the preface, I believe that if America could produce a generation of Christians who genuinely affirm and live by these teachings

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Foreword by Howard Ball.

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mission-shaped way of living the Christian life. Written for any Christian serious about issue of discipleship, Untamed covers such topics as church, humans as bearers of the image of God, family life, culture, and sexuality. Through it all they seek to answer the question, how are we to think and live day to day as followers of Jesus? Each chapter ends with suggested practices to help readers begin to live out the book's principles as well as questions for group discussion.

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