

“

I look forward to the day when God's prophecy will be fulfilled again. When God will pour out his Spirit on our church; when our sons and daughters will prophecy; and all will see visions and dream dreams.

”

Martyn
Lloyd-Jones
REVIVAL

Foreword by J.I. Packer

REVIVAL

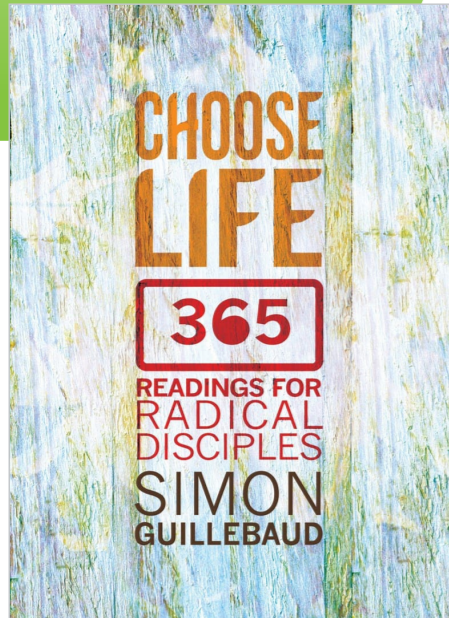
Martyn Lloyd-Jones

Crossway, 1987

ISBN 10: 0720806526 / ISBN 13: 9780891074151 | pp. 306

I highly recommend this book, particularly for those who are longing for revival and feel burdened by the current state of the church and secular culture. This book is very relevant to our current context even though it was originally written over sixty years ago. Not only does it offer an in-depth reflection of where the church has gone wrong over the years, it provides helpful Biblically rooted solutions for those seeking revival, or who are in search for inspiration.

Reviewed by Anthony Boateng
Available on Amazon



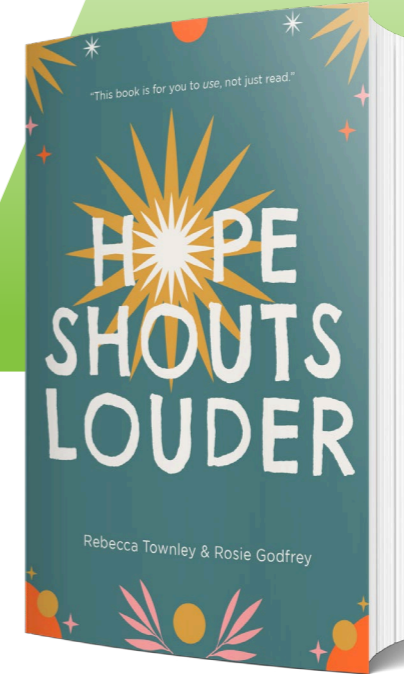
CHOOSE LIFE 365 *Simon Guillebaud*

Oxford, England: Monarch Books 2014
ISBN 978-0857215222 | pp. 384, £12.99

Choose Life is a brilliant devotional that has helped many in our church to engage with scripture on a daily basis. Simon, in his gracious and inimitable manner, says it how it is. It's inspired and challenged us to live as everyday disciples committed to the radical mission of Jesus. Love it!

Reviewed by Gareth Dickinson, Vicar of St Luke's Maidstone

RESOURCE REVIEWS



HOPE SHOUTS LOUDER *Rebecca Townley and Rosie Godfrey*

Indianapolis, IN: Light & Life Publishing, 2022
ISBN 978 0 89 367435 9 | pp.181, £9.99

In this easy to read book, the authors share stories from their own Christian lives and experience, and encourage readers to engage with God in a closer way. The chapters are short which makes it easy to pick up and put down if you are short on time! Each section ends with some questions to aid reflection and prayer, and the book would make a great tool for the gentle discipleship of women.

The writers share openly about their own journeys of faith and walk with the Lord, speaking candidly about some of the difficulties they have faced and how Jesus has helped them in various circumstances. They clearly have a good relationship with each other and also share how their friendship has been an encouragement to them along the way.

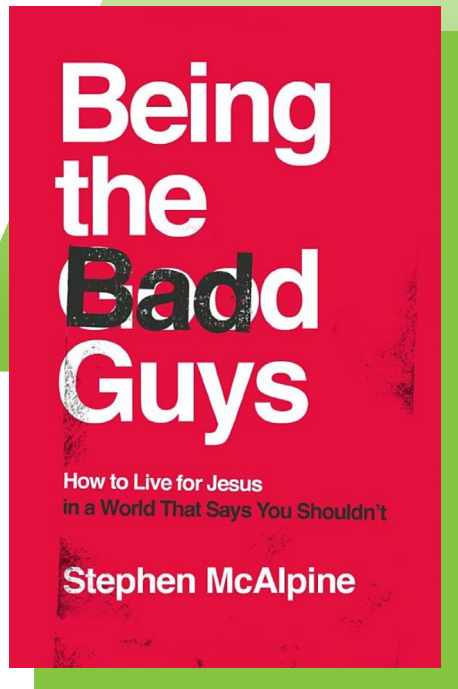
The 'Pause Points' and prayers give readers an opportunity to engage with the material in a deeper way than when you simply read a book. It would make a great book for a women's house group to read together and to use the reflections to aid discussion in meetings. The sections would equally be of benefit for someone to use in their private quiet times with the Lord and there is space for making notes so that readers can make the book their own faith journal.

At the end of the book, there is encouragement for anyone who doesn't yet know Jesus to invite him into their life and includes a prayer of commitment, so the book would also be a helpful gift for a not yet Christian friend or someone who is just exploring matters of faith.

Both women write in an easy, chatty, friendly style so it feels as though you have a friend alongside you encouraging you as you read. I warmly recommend this book to you, wherever you are in your journey of faith.

Reviewed by Carolyn Lawrence who has a background as a Primary School teacher and has also been a mission partner in South America. She is a former Vice President of the Methodist Conference (2020-2021). She currently lives in Shropshire with her husband Mark, who is a Methodist minister, and is a debt centre manager for the charity Christians Against Poverty as well as part of the leadership team of her local church.

Within the UK, 'Hope Shouts Louder' can be purchased from <https://hope-shouts-louder.sumupstore.com>



BEING THE BAD GUYS: HOW TO LIVE FOR JESUS IN A WORLD THAT SAYS YOU SHOULDN'T

Stephen McAlpine

Epsom: The Good Book Company, 2021
ISBN 978-1784985981 | pp. 144, £8.99

What happened to our 'Christian country'? Why this sudden hostility toward Christians? How do we reach out to a culture that thinks the Church is a bunch of bigots?

If you've ever asked yourself these questions, then this is the book for you.

Stephen McAlpine's 'Being the Bad Guys' addresses exactly what it says on the tin. In this relatively short and intensely practical book, Stephen seeks to help us live authentically as Christians in a world that is increasingly suspicious of us, and now seems to view us as 'the bad guys'. He helps us to understand why and how this has happened, and enables us to respond faithfully through biblical hope and practical strategies.

Stephen takes us through a journey of the cultural shifts that have led to this suspicion. In the 20th century, Christianity was merely 'one good option' in the marketplace of ideas. The legal, cultural and political power structures affirmed Christians. Today? Something has changed. Christianity is viewed as the problem. The legal, cultural, and political guns are now aimed toward us. The number of those professing faith

continues to fall, and we no longer have a seat at the cultural table. Christians are allegedly on the 'wrong side of history', obsessed with binaries and self-denial in a world of fluidity and self-actualisation.

How should we therefore respond? Surprise? Discouragement? Stephen reminds us that life on the fringes has been the norm for faithful Christians for most of Church history, and he warns us against a victimhood mentality all too common in our society. He helpfully reorients our expectations in order that they align with those of the Bible, and shows us the hope we have in Christ. He focusses on the local church, showing how it is actually the greatest bulwark we have against the cultural forces against us, and even gives strategies for Christians in the workplace.

If you feel discouraged, concerned, or confused about how we should act in this suspicious world, or you minister to those who do, this book is an absolute must-read.

Reviewed by Nathan Veall, who is the Rising Generation Representative on the MET Executive. He preaches regularly at local churches and currently works in Cyber Security.