



Quality Quiet Time

Amber Shirk

In semesters past, school (and sleep!) had somehow always become more important to me than quality time for morning Bible reading, prayer, and meditation. Notice the word *quality*. Absent-mindedly reading a few verses while scarfing down eggs and sending upward flighty prayers like “Thank You for this day” and “Please help me pass this test!” may help keep one on spiritual life support, but it’s not *quality*.

At first my flesh wrestled against this growing conviction. There are always viable excuses like needing to study or needing another hour or two of sleep. Life is always busy. I knew if God couldn’t be first now in my young adult life, He would never be.

I made a new commitment. I told God I would meet Him every morning at my favorite nature park. So, I did. I suppose this was my next step . . . my next “challenge” pushing me to grow. Every morning I rose at 5:00, ate breakfast and drank coffee, and by 6:00 I was at a small nature reserve near my school.

I set aside 6:00-7:30 for my Father. This was my quiet time when I prayed, sang, studied my Bible, and meditated on the lessons God taught through nature. Often I would end up staying a few hours longer if my day could afford it—and surprisingly, I had plenty of time to spare for my studies, and my academic life thrived rather than suffered.

It didn’t take long before I wished I had done this from the beginning. Though I had always wanted to,

I finally learned to make God my priority and fit school and social life in the cracks, rather than offering God the leftovers. I was so much happier and fulfilled! Life had so much purpose and meaning and joy. It wasn’t because I was so spiritual. I simply put God first . . . and this caused my whole day to be focused on Him rather than the stresses of life.

I share this as part of my journey. It was a crucial time in my life when I sought the Lord and did much thinking and growing. I’m not saying one has to follow the above pattern to be close to God. Moreover, my devotional life hasn’t always looked the same; it has sometimes flourished and other times floundered.

I would like to challenge youth to take the opportunities and time they have to seek the Lord while He may be found. We all need to seek Him and not give up in defeat. God is creative and expects us to be creative too. There is always a way to draw close to the Lord and keep His Word alive and near our hearts.

Adapted from *Metamorphosis*. See page 2 to learn more about this new book about the author’s spiritual journey.



Compelling True Stories

Metamorphosis

Amber Shirk

As a college student, Amber embarked on an unexpected spiritual journey. Relating to five friends—two Muslim and two Christian students and a backpacking instructor—caused her to wonder if she was truly obeying God’s Word. The practical issue that caught her attention was modesty. As an experiment, she decided to wear an Amish dress to school for three months. Amber’s journey from a contemporary college girl and karate expert to a conservative Mennonite woman is a testimony of God’s faithfulness when we follow Him wholeheartedly.

241750 **\$10.95** 148 pages, 5¼ x 8¼

Pilgrims in the Library

Faith Zook

When Faith married a lifelong city dweller, the city shocked her. Rats on the doorstep. Drug dealers next door. Her growing family brought more challenges—child training without privacy, finding chores for the children, having noisy neighbors . . . *being* noisy neighbors.

However, Faith found unexpected opportunities and unexpected joy. Now, she wouldn’t want to live anywhere else. *Pilgrims in the Library* is packed with stories from twenty years of city living. It encourages mothers everywhere to find joy in serving the Lord in their own setting.

265635 **\$11.95** 201 pages, 5¼ x 8¼

A Rainbow in the Mountains

Kathryn Troyer & Miriam Schrock

The mountains of Honduras are beautiful, but in the tiny houses clinging to the slopes live people with lost souls. These stories introduce some who were rescued. But mission work is not all glowing stories. The missionaries in these candid accounts also endured disappointments, loneliness, robberies, and ordinary days where little seemed to be accomplished.

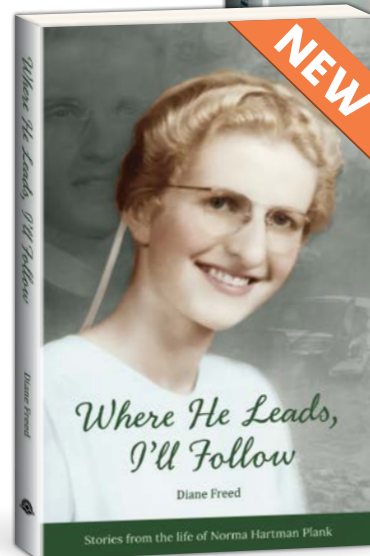
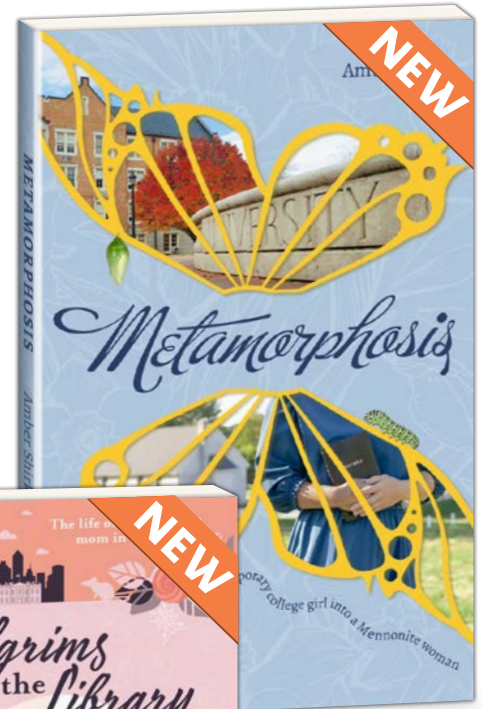
265645 **\$16.45** 527 pages, 6 x 9

Where He Leads, I’ll Follow

Diane Freed

When God called Norma and Marion to mission work in the hollows of Kentucky, they went willingly. Whether their need was kitchen cabinets, five dollars for groceries, or a freezer, God met the need. The Hartman family faced tragedies brought on by drinking and family feuds, and rejoiced when young people chose to be baptized. *Where He Leads, I’ll Follow* tells stories from Norma Hartman Plank’s life.

241755 **\$12.95** 309 pages, 5¼ x 8¼



Chapter Books for Children



Even Irina

Lynnita Seibel

There was not one church house in Irina's town in Kazakhstan. The government made sure of that. Papa and Mama and others who wanted to have church met in each other's houses. Papa prayed every day that Irina would grow up to obey God. But Irina's teacher said that God did not exist. "Do you believe in God?" Irina's teacher asked her. What would happen to Papa and Mama if Irina told the truth? *Even Irina* is a true story that shows what life was like for believers in a Communist country.

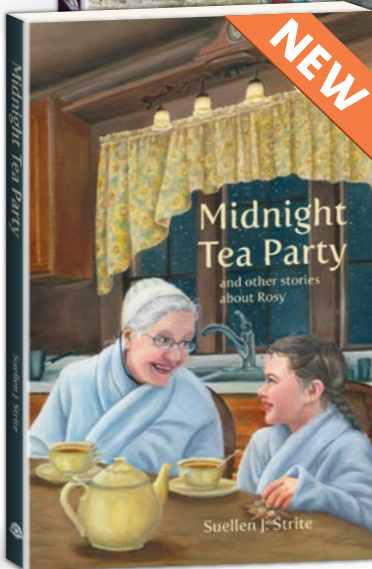
265740 **\$10.95** 197 pages, 5¼ x 8¼

Little Jeannie

Elizabeth Wagler

Little Jeannie longs to grow up and become a teacher like Miss Gail. But Jeannie isn't sure she'll ever be big and brave enough to be a teacher. When her little brother is in danger, Jeannie is brave without even thinking. And when Miss Shirley takes Miss Gail's place at school, Jeannie discovers that even small people can be good teachers.

265730 **\$9.95** 103 pages, 5¼ x 8¼

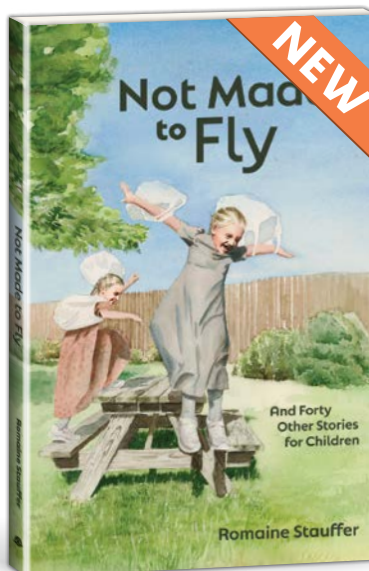


Midnight Tea Party

Suellen J. Strite

Grandmother had asked the girl cousins to take turns sleeping at her house. But that night Rosy couldn't sleep. Grandmother exclaimed, "I can't go to sleep either! Let's go out to the kitchen and make tea." A collection of twenty stories about eight-year-old Rosy.

265690 **\$9.95** 133 pages, 5¼ x 8¼



Not Made to Fly

Romaine Stauffer

Children are always ready for another story, and this collection provides a fresh supply of good ones! Brenda the parachutist, who thought grocery bags would help her fly; Rick the bragger, who couldn't stop tooting his own horn; Clark the scholar, who thought he was happy being miserable; Carrie the crier, who needed a cat to sleep with her; and many more. The children in these stories invite young readers to learn simple, timeless truths along with them.

265695 **\$10.95** 170 pages, 5¼ x 8¼

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What If I Stay?

Anne Gehman

“I wish you wouldn’t have married me.” Amara snatched one of Garrett’s hankies and blew her nose. “This isn’t the marriage you signed up for—a wife who can barely get basic housework done and has a babysitter on call for times I can’t cope.”

Unwanted by her mother, Amara had been shuttled from one foster home to another as a child. Harsh treatment and rejection scarred her heart and made friendships difficult. Blessed with a caring husband and two children, Amara wanted to be fine but knew she wasn’t. Then a letter arrived from a man claiming to be her father.

What If I Stay? is a fictional story of finding security in God’s love, overcoming a victim mentality, and realizing that running from our hurts doesn’t help. It shows the power of forgiveness, friendship, and hope when dealing with suffering and devastation.

265735 **\$10.95** 163 pages, 5¼ x 8¼

Kitchen Grace

 Laura Krause

Roger and Grace Stanwick have relocated to a university town to share the Gospel. When Roger and Grace invite a young couple from the university to share their home for a month, Grace knows she will need God’s help to withstand the added stress. A fictional story that encourages hospitality and outreach.

265630 **\$11.95** 253 pages, 5¼ x 8¼

Homemaker’s Friend 2025 Daily Planner

Sue Hooley

In addition to weekly planning pages, this popular planner features perforated shopping lists, perforated corners, two pockets, and a magnetic bookmark. Make 2025 a year of better planning!

846125 **\$17.50** 5½ x 8½

Church History, Vol. 2

 Keith Crider

What happened to the church after the Reformation? From monasteries to missionaries, from Martin Luther to D. L. Moody, from Moravians to the Moral Majority, from Methodists to Mennonites, you can read about them all in this second volume of *Church History*.

274171 (Volume 2) **\$19.50** 365 pages, 6 x 9

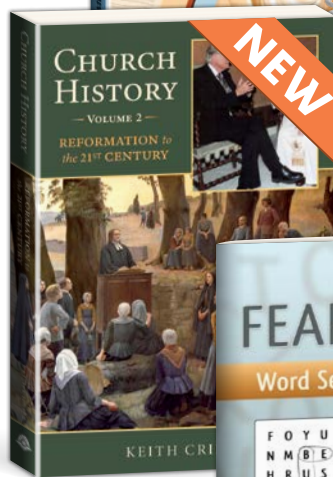
274170 (Volume 1) **\$19.50** 407 pages, 6 x 9

Fear God Word Search Puzzles

 Jean Knabbe

Our selection of word search puzzles can help you keep your mind active and engaged with God’s Word. This newest addition includes verses that refer to fearing God. Call or visit our website to order other titles in the series.

334310 **\$3.75** 112 pages, 5½ x 8½



Select Books From Other Publishers

Beechdale Road

Megan Shertzer & Tim Rogers

In June 2020, an eighteen-year-old Amish woman from Bird-in-Hand, Pennsylvania, was murdered by Justo Smoker. Written by members of Justo's family, this book tells how they grappled with grief, anger, and pain, and how the Amish community related to them with kindness and mercy.

241770 **\$15.99** 154 pages, 5 x 7, self-published

Lessons From a Prodigal Marketer

Roy Herr

Marketing is an integral part of business. Can we market effectively without violating God's call to truth, humility, and contentment? Based on Biblical principles, *Lessons From a Prodigal Marketer* helps you align your marketing with loving God and loving your neighbor.

241765 **\$17.99** 146 pages, 5½ x 8½, Rosewood Marketing

A Cup of Cold Water

Compiled by Jolene Burkholder & Jolene Zimmerman

In this coffee-table book, women share ways they support others in different situations—new mothers, single people, adoptive parents, teachers, pastors, the grieving, and others. It gives you many ideas for blessing people.

241775 **\$35.00** 301 pages, 8 x 10, self-published

KJV Songs for Children, Book 1

Darlene Zimmerman

Twenty KJV Bible verses are set to music. A few of the tunes may be familiar, but most are new. Photos and a built-in digital audio player will make this a favorite for preschoolers.

285220 **\$25.99** 44 pages, 8¼ x 9, self-published

Tanya

Anya Hursh

Tanya knew her papa drank too much, but could he be a murderer? Surely not. But then how did a body get into his barn? Growing up in Ukraine, Tanya faced one crisis after another. Would disappointments, sickness, and poverty conquer her spirit?

241785 **\$17.99** 432 pages, 6 x 9, CAM books

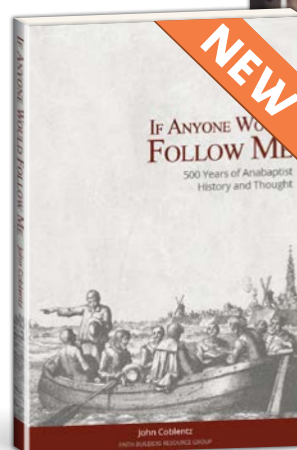
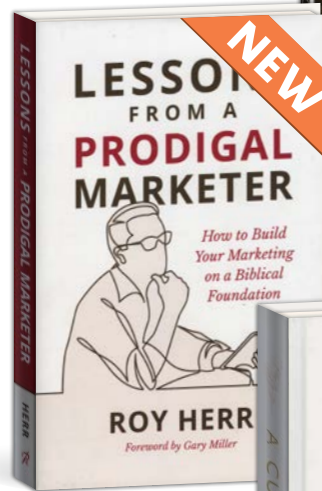
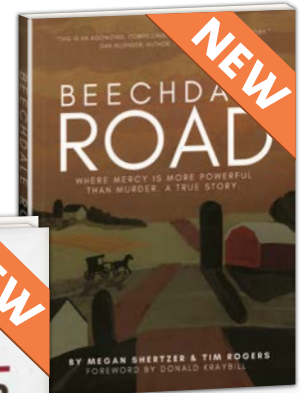
If Anyone Would Follow Me

John Coblenz

This thirteen-lesson study guide covers the Anabaptist movement from its beginning in 1525 through developments of the last century.

390500 Student **\$8.99** paper, 5½ x 8½, Faith Builders

390501 Teacher **\$8.99** spiral, 5½ x 8½, Faith Builders





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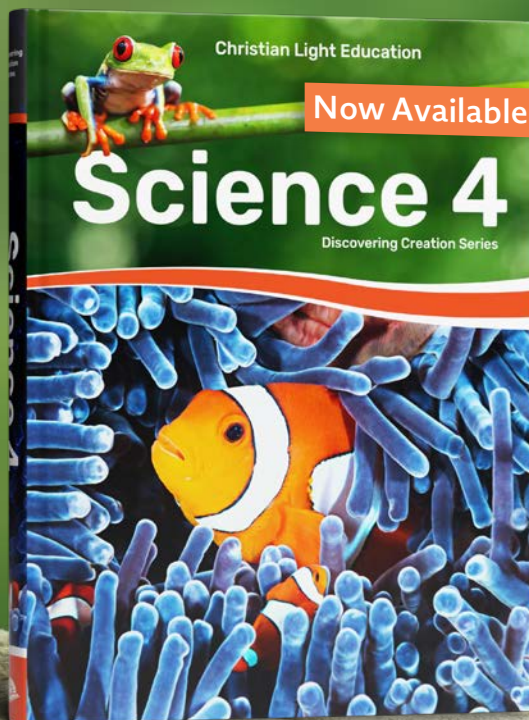
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