

Value of Reading Biographies of Great Christians

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I. Introduction.

A. We are to remember our leaders and their faith. (Hebrews 11:7)

B. Reading is a critical component for life.

II. Reading Christian material stirs our heart and souls. (II Peter 3:18)

A. Biographies give wisdom. (Proverbs 13:20)

B. Biographies challenge our faith.

C. Biographies strengthen courage.

D. Biographies grow our capacity to love and sacrifice.

E. Biographies enable one to assess true character.

F. Biographies help us to see how we are interconnected.

III. We need more than information—we need transformation.

A. Biographies can bless you.

B. Biographies can bless other people.

C. One can retrieve information from biographies by reading and underlining.

IV. Tips.

A. Read widely.

B. Take what a person has to offer—a person does not have to accept everything.

C. Favorites: Taylor, Mueller, Trotter, Wilberforce, Carmichael, Elliot, Chambers, St. Francis, Judson, Barnett, Mother Theresa.

Application questions:

1. What do you think is the most compelling reason to read biographies?

2. The speaker reads non-Christian biographies along with Christian biographies. How can one benefit from reading non-Christian biographies?

3. Which biography are you looking most forward to reading? Explain.
