## getting to the point



Looking for how to spend good reading time? Watch this column as we introduce you to a "Top 10" suggested reading list from each of our speakers. This month it's JOHN STONESTREET (President of The Colson Center and speaker for "The Point" and "BreakPoint").

John writes ... Only 10? Not sure I could boil it down to just that many, so here are ten I love — a mix of classics, plus a few newer ones I really appreciate.

**10. The Fabric of Faithfulness** (Steven Garber) — The best book on Christian education that I know of, and simply a must-read for anyone interested in discipling future generations.

**9. 7 Women** (Eric Metaxas) — Because I have a contractual obligation to mention a Metaxas book whenever I speak in public. Just kidding — as the daddy of daughters, I like this for my kiddos — especially that these 7 women were great because they were women, not by acting more like men.

8. Not the Way It's Supposed to Be: a Breviary of Sin (Cornelius Plantinga). A book on sin? Yes... you'd think we'd all be experts on sin already, right? In one sense — practicing sin — we are. In other sense — understanding the scope of the fall and the impact of sin both personally and structurally we aren't. But we should be.

7. Alone Together (Sherry Turkle) — The most insightful commentator alive on how technology shapes our souls. Turkle, who has been observing technology and its impact for 30 years, has evolved from excited to alarmed, and she tells you why.

**6. Never Eat Alone** (Keith Ferazzi) — The ultimate non-creepy networker, Ferazzi will convince you of the power of relational capital, and how to get it.

5. The Way of the Modern World: Or Why We Live as If God Doesn't Exist (Craig Gay). I've come back to this book to understand culture more than any other, though *How Not to Be Secular* by James K. A. Smith is a recently published close second. **4. The Abolition of Man** (C.S. Lewis). This book is more true than it was when he wrote it, especially the first article "Men Without a Chest."

**3. The Book of Common Prayer** (1928) — I struggle with prayer, but this collection gives me words and sharpens my requests. I often will send specific prayers to those struggling, instead of just saying "I will pray for you."

2. How Now Shall We Live (Chuck Colson and Nancy Pearcey) — The book that made worldview cool with evangelicals, and a brilliant mix of important ideas and compelling stories.

**1. Knowing God** (J.I. Packer) — Theology should form our hearts and lives, and no one has written on this better than Packer. I first discovered this book in college, and am grateful I did.

Follow John on Twitter: @JBStonestreet