## FRESH PICKS

## TOP TEN READING LIST John Fuller

If you've spent any time at all in Christian radio, you know John Fuller's name. Arriving at Focus on the Family in 1991 after a successful career on the station side, John has served as the daily program co-host for 16 years. In addition to hosting duties, he is Vice President of the Focus Audio team. An author himself for various magazines and his own book (First-Time Dad: The Stuff You Really Need to Know), John and wife, Dena, are parents to six children and live in Colorado Springs. And ... he's just about the nicest fellow we know!

- Mere Christianity, by C.S. Lewis. As a new believer in Christ, I read this book with wonder while working overnights at a paper mill. Lewis put forth such a cogent and compelling defense of the faith that, to this day, I find myself referring to the key principles he so powerfully expressed.
- 2. The Call, by Os Guinness. Given to me by a friend, this book captures something that every individual needs to consider: for whom are you living? What audience do you desire to please? If you are facing some decisionmaking, or feel a need for direction in life, this book will challenge and inspire.
- 3. All is Grace, Brennan Manning. The author of the influential "The Ragamuffin Gospel," Manning was an ardent follower of God, although clearly a flawed man. What draws me to this autobiography is the candor with which Manning's many struggles are exposed, and better, the deep, rich and unconditional love of our heavenly Father for us, because of, not just in spite of, our weakness.
- 4. 7 Habits of Highly Successful People, Steven Covey. Several of the key ideas in this personal development book have stuck with me over the years, notably "Begin with the end in mind," and "Seek first to understand, then to be understood." Remembering these has been crucial for my relationships and work, and I've quoted them more than a few (hundred) times to my children.
- 5. Ghost Soldiers is the riveting, horrific account of more than 100 American soldiers who survived the Bataan Death March, only to be subjected to a cruel imprisonment that tested their will and ability to live. Replete with gripping battle scenes, emotionally laden moments in their remote POW camp, and a daring rescue that brought them freedom when nearly all hope was lost. One of the most compelling tales of courage, endurance and camaraderie I've ever read.

- 6. The Grace Awakening. Chuck Swindoll's wonderful sermon series have encompassed many biblical topics but for me, this particular doctrine has become a key to life. This book addresses the need to leave legalism and live in the freedom of God's grace with anecdotes throughout and practical application in every chapter. This is a great guide to everyday, grace-oriented life.
- 7. Listening To Your Life. This compilation of quotations and entries by Frederick Buechner is thought-provoking, inspiring, edifying and even entertaining. There's a breath of observation and insight about God and the Faith that is really engaging. The writer seeks to prompt us to listen, really listen, to God in the mundane as well as the spectacular. I am almost always richer for reading this devotional.
- 8. Decision Making and The Will of God. Gary Friesen addressed the popular notion of "the center of God's will" just as I was trying to determine how my relatively new walk with God was supposed to work. In seeking to please Him, I struggled to find decision-making criteria that was reasonable, reliable, and most of all, biblical. The author's encouragement offers freedom to take steps of faith without worrying about missing God's best—because He uses all of life, even my bad decisions, to accomplish His purposes.
- 9. Ryrie Study Bible. I worked with a close friend of Dr. Ryrie, who one day looked at my original study Bible and gave me an NIV Ryrie instead. I was hooked! Dr. Ryrie's gift of being able to offer concise clarity about key passages and verses helped me as a younger believer to understand the beauty and reliability of Scripture, and gave me a holistic view of God's character.
- 10. Where Is God When It Hurts, Phillip Yancey captured a biblical perspective on the difficult topic of suffering, helping me see that God is intentional when it comes to the pain we experience in life—it is designed for us to move closer to Him when life is hard.

## ON THE ROAD WITH JOHN FULLER



In early June, John participated in NRB convention planning meetings in D.C. Pictured here with broadcasting friends of Focus: (L-R) Ross McCampbell (WBCL), Ric McClary (KTIG), Doug Myer (WDAC), Eben Fowler (Bott Radio Network), John, and Tracy Figley (WFCJ/WEEC).



John has been active with NRB (where Reagan once spoke ③), serving many years on the Ex Committee and Board.



After the meeting, John had the perfect chance to stop in to give greetings at Salem D.C.'s H.Q. Pictured is John with talk show host **Don Kroah** and GM **Tom Moyer.** 



The WMIT team can be found in beautiful Asheville, NC (L-R): **Kevin Van Buren, Jon Wood, John Owens,** and John



John found the His Radio Morning Crew in great spirits (L-R): **Jim Mann, Alison Storm, John,** and **Rob Dempsey.**