

RECOMMENDED BOOKS OF THE MONTH

How to Explain Your Faith

by John Pritchard

New in the Church Library (back of the church), I highly recommend this book. It asks the difficult questions that friends or family sometimes ask, such as: -

'Why bother?' and 'Why Believe?'

'Is there anybody out there?'

'Why Jesus and not Buddha?'

'Science has all the answers today'

And many other commonly used questions!

This book will help you talk more confidently to others about your faith and hope. Additionally, if you are questioning your faith, the ideas and answers here will be helpful in coming to a clearer understanding of what you do believe!

It has a user-friendly formula, with each chapter asking 'What they say' (the questions asked by others). Then the author identifies the Key Issue, for example, 'we live in a 'seeing is believing' culture ...is there anybody out there?' Thirdly, the author suggests in detail how we might respond. In addition, throughout the book, there are some humorous and inspiring

stories and quotes which can be worked into conversations whenever the opportunity arises!

Another useful book is

Before you Open Your Bible

by Matt Smethurst

Straight from Keswick this year, this book can be devoured practically in one sitting! It recommends nine heart postures for approaching God's Word. It points out that sometimes we can be intimidated by the Bible, maybe we don't understand what it is saying? Sometimes it may intimidate us because of what we *do* understand. Was it Mark Twain who joked that the sections in the Bible which troubled him most were not the parts he didn't understand but the parts he *did* understand!

I recommend this book for everyone, those who find it intimidating or even boring (!) as well as those who read the Bible regularly, those who are new to the Christian faith as well as those who have been following Jesus for many years, as well as those who want to explore what Christianity is all about.

Carol Crowhurst

Know the Story; Share the Story; Live the Story