



RECOMMENDED READING LIST

SUMMER 2024 AGES 13–17

Some of the titles below may be out of print. Look for them in your local library or request them through an interlibrary loan service. You may also find some titles in used bookstores or online. A good online resource for out-of-print books is bookfinder.com.

While we have made an effort to suggest titles on this list with few, if any, objectionable elements, BJU Press does not hold an exclusivist position on objectionable elements in books. Instead, we evaluate their presence based on the criteria of gratuitousness, explicitness, and moral tone. As we read, we ask ourselves: does the objectionable element serve a purpose within the story, is the description more detailed than is necessary, and does the author condemn, shrug off, or promote sinful actions? Each title on this list has been reviewed according to these guidelines; however, as a parent/guardian you are the best judge of what is appropriate for your students. We encourage you to use discernment when selecting reading material for yourself and your family. If you'd like a more thorough explanation of our position, please see chapter four of [Handbook of Christian Education](#).

Abraham Lincoln: God's Leader for a Nation – David R. Collins (B)

This biography of Abraham Lincoln focuses on his spiritual life.

The Adventures of Robinson Crusoe – Daniel Defoe (F)

Robinson Crusoe, the sole survivor of a shipwreck, must survive on a deserted island.

Abbreviation Key

B	Biography	GN	Graphic Novel	PB	Picture Book
ER	Early Reader	NF	Nonfiction		
F	Fiction	P	Poetry		

Titles in blue are published by JourneyForth

Ambushed!: The Assassination Plot Against President Garfield – Gail Jarrow (NF)

A riveting account of the events leading up to, and more importantly following, the July 2, 1881 shooting of President James Garfield.

Anne of Green Gables - Lucy M. Montgomery (F)

This is the heart-warming story of the orphan, Anne, who finds a home with an elderly brother and sister.

An Autobiography – Fanny Crosby (B)

Crosby shares her life story and devotion to God.

Autobiography of George Mueller – George Mueller (B)

Using excerpts from his diary, Mueller tells of struggles and triumphs as he establishes orphan homes to care for thousands of English orphans.

Avery's Battlefield – Deanna K. Klingel (F)

Follow Avery Bennett and his dog Gunner as they journey through the battle-torn towns and countryside of Civil War America. What begins as a quest to find his uncle becomes a search for purpose and peace amid the chaos and violence of war. The story continues in *Avery's Crossroad*.

Betty Greene: Wings to Serve - Janet and Geoff Benge (B)

A thrilling biography of the first missionary pilot. It follows Greene from her childhood to her service in the WASPs to the founding of Missionary Aviation Fellowship and her sixteen years as a MAF pilot.

Captains Courageous – Rudyard Kipling (F)

A series of unexpected events forces a pampered American youth to work for his living. The experience, though difficult, proves to be invaluable in helping the boy mature into manhood.

A Chance to Die – Elisabeth Elliot (B)

Elliot vividly portrays the life of Amy Carmichael, missionary to India.

Children of the Storm – Natasha Vins (B)

An autobiographical account of the persecution Christians faced in the Soviet Union.

The Choctaw Code - Brent Ashabranner and Russel G. Davis (F)

A boy learns the art of living in the forest from a wise Native American friend with a mysterious past.

The Count of Monte Cristo – Alexander Dumas (F)

Edmond Dantes, unknowingly betrayed by his best friend, escapes prison and gains a fortune. His transformation into the Count of Monte Cristo is only the beginning of his quest for revenge.

Abbreviation Key

B	Biography	GN	Graphic Novel	PB	Picture Book
ER	Early Reader	NF	Nonfiction		
F	Fiction	P	Poetry		

Titles in blue are published by JourneyForth

David Copperfield - Charles Dickens (F)

A coming-of-age tale based largely on Dickens' own life.

Don Quixote – Miguel de Cervantes (F)

This humorous story about a bumbling Spanish knight is a classic satire on chivalry.

Eight Cousins – Louisa May Alcott (F)

In this engaging Alcott story, one girl and seven boy cousins find plenty of adventure and a good deal of mischief to keep them occupied.

Ellenor's Exchange – Linda Hayner (F)

Ellenor Fitzhugh goes to London hoping to make a grand debut into society and marry a nobleman. Instead, she becomes a pawn in a game of political intrigue. How can she determine who is a friend and who is a foe?

Emma – Jane Austen (F)

After successfully promoting the marriage between her governess and a local widower, Emma turns her matchmaking skills to her best friend and the vicar.

False Coin, True Coin – Lois Hoadley Dick (F)

The plague, the London fire, and a tinker called John Bunyan point Cissy Nidd to God.

Great Expectations – Charles Dickens (F)

An unknown benefactor provides Pip with the means to become a gentleman.

Gunner's Run – Rick Barry (F)

Nineteen-year-old Jim Yoder is an ocean away from his childhood home in Elkhart, Indiana; he is serving in the United States Air Corps as a waist gunner flying on a B-24. Through a strange chain of events, Jim is trapped behind enemy lines. As Jim is running across Nazi Germany to reach the safety of Allied soil, he discovers that to survive he will have to trust the God he once rejected.

The Hobbit – J. R. R. Tolkien (F)

The unassuming Bilbo Baggins finds himself the unwilling warrior in the fight between good and evil.

The Holy War – John Bunyan (F)

In this allegory of spiritual warfare, the city of Mansoul has been captured by Diabolus.

The House of Seven Gables – Nathaniel Hawthorne (F)

A troubled family of Puritan New England deals with an inherited curse.

How to Read a Book – Mortimer Adler (NF)

Mortimer Adler's classic guide to intelligent reading will help you glean more from the books you read.

Abbreviation Key

B	Biography	GN	Graphic Novel	PB	Picture Book
ER	Early Reader	NF	Nonfiction		
F	Fiction	P	Poetry		

Titles in blue are published by JourneyForth

The Human Body – Answers in Genesis (NF)

Scientists show how the amazing design of the human body points to a Divine Creator.

In Search of Honor – Donnalynn Hess (F)

A young craftsman searches for truth in the middle of the terror of the French Revolution.

India's Street Kids series (3 books) – Kimberly Rae (F)

Sold into slavery when she was ten, Jasmina dreams of escape and reunion with her mother. Her rocky path to freedom takes an unexpected turn when she meets a strange group of praying women.

Jane Eyre – Charlotte Bronte (F)

Jane Eyre works as a governess for Mr. Rochester and falls in love with him. But he is not what he appears to be.

Joyful Noise: Poems for Two Voices – Paul Fleischman (P)

In this book of poetry, Fleischman uses vivid imagery and wonderful imaginative comparisons to recreate the “joyful noise” of a myriad of insects.

Kidnapped – Robert Louis Stevenson (F)

David Balfour was on his way to America—against his will—when a collision with another ship sets him on a new course in Scotland.

Kiriath's Quest – Rick Barry (F)

When King Jekoniah of Xandria is kidnapped by evil Grishnaki, the royal family searches for a way to save him.

The Legend of Sleepy Hollow – Washington Irving (F)

Ichabod Crane vies with Brom Bones for the hand of Katrina Van Tassel and encounters the headless horseman.

Lincoln's Grave Robbers – Steve Sheinkin (NF)

After the arrest of their engraver threatens to put a team of counterfeiters out of business, they plot to steal the body of Abraham Lincoln and hold it for ransom.

Little Women – Louisa May Alcott (F)

Four sisters, each having her own struggles, grow up in New England during the Civil War.

Margaret Thatcher: Britain's Prime Minister – Dorothy Hole (B)

This intriguing biography also provides a glimpse into Britain's system of government and its whirlwind political life.

Abbreviation Key

B	Biography	GN	Graphic Novel	PB	Picture Book
ER	Early Reader	NF	Nonfiction		
F	Fiction	P	Poetry		

Titles in blue are published by JourneyForth

Moose – Deb Brammer (F)

High school student Moose is a new Christian and pretty rough around the edges when he joins his friend Cody in the Montana wilderness for an unforgettable week at Moose Creek Bible Camp.

My Side of the Mountain – Jean Craighead George (F)

Sam learns self-reliance and wilderness survival skills living in the woods on his grandfather’s abandoned farm.

Nothing Daunted: The Story of Isobel Kuhn - Gloria Repp (F)

This book traces the life of intrepid missionary Isobel Kuhn and her extensive ministry in China.

Out of Darkness – Alicia Petersen (F)

A blind Roman friend and a dying mother spur Elhanan to search for the healer Jesus.

The Paper Daughters of Chinatown: Adapted for Young Readers – Heather B. Moore and Allison Hong Merrill (F)

After young Tien Fu is sold by her father, she is smuggled into San Francisco, where she lives in squalor and is abused by her masters. Until one day she is rescued by women running a mission home for girls like her. Based on true events.

Persuasion - Jane Austen (F)

Persuaded by her family’s disapproval, Anne Elliot ended her engagement to Frederick Wentworth seven years ago. Now, to get his finances in order, her extravagant, but cash-strapped father rents their home to none other than Wentworth’s sister and her husband. When dashing Capt. Wentworth returns to the neighborhood, he seems to have eyes for anyone but Anne.

Pride and Prejudice – Jane Austen (F)

Mr. Darcy is the last man in the world whom Elizabeth could ever be prevailed on to marry. Or is he?

The Red House Mystery – A. A. Milne (F)

When the body of Mark Ablett’s brother Robert is discovered in the study of the Red House, Antony Gillingham and his friend Bill decide to investigate. As they hunt for clues, Antony realizes that the murderer is still in the house, and it could be anyone. Note: the JourneyForth edition of this title has been abridged to remove some objectional elements.

Redwall series (22 books) – Brian Jacques (F)

Redwall Abbey has long stood as a beacon of goodness, friendship, and delicious food to the woodland creatures who live in and near it. But it is often threatened by vermin bent on destruction.

Abbreviation Key

B	Biography	GN	Graphic Novel	PB	Picture Book
ER	Early Reader	NF	Nonfiction		
F	Fiction	P	Poetry		

Titles in blue are published by JourneyForth

Regina Silsby's Secret War – Thomas J. Brodeur (F)

Rachel Winslow didn't mean to spark the legend of Regina Silsby. After witnessing the Boston Tea Party, Rachel is chased into a nearby cemetery by British troops; when the spooked soldiers are unable to find her, they believe they were attacked by the ghost of Regina Silsby. The story might have ended there if Rachel hadn't donned the personae to rescue her brother and the Sons of Liberty. With the single-minded Capt. Dudley hunting her down, Rachel's escapades are too dangerous to continue—and too important to stop. More adventures unfold in *Regina Silsby's Phantom Militia*.

Scarhaven Keep – J.S. Fletcher (F)

When a famous actor goes missing, the search leads playwright Richard Coplestone to the seaside town of Scarhaven. But every clue he finds only seems to raise more questions about the town and its leading family.

Sense and Sensibility - Jane Austen (F)

Austen's first novel focuses on two sisters impoverished by their father's death as they adjust to their new circumstances and find love in surprising places.

Shoshana's Refuge – Donna Flower Lawrence (F)

When an accident forces Shoshana to flee to the nearest city of refuge, she struggles to see God's grace in her circumstances. Will she find freedom among God's people? Or will she seek refuge somewhere else?

Silas Marner – George Eliot (F)

Silas, despairing after being falsely accused of theft, raises a baby girl and through her love becomes a kind man again.

Sonnets from the Portuguese – Elizabeth Barrett Browning (P)

Written for her husband, Robert Browning, this collection contains several famous poems on love.

A Sparrow Alone – Alicia Petersen (F)

Mala, a young Jewish seamstress, finds hope when she meets Jesus of Nazareth.

Stepping Heavenward – Elizabeth Prentiss (F)

This epistolary novel details a young woman's spiritual journey.

This Dear-Bought Land – Jean Lee Latham (F)

Under the guidance of Capt. John Smith, David Warren comes of age while enduring the brutal conditions of settling Jamestown.

Through Gates of Splendor – Elisabeth Elliot (B)

Elisabeth Elliot tells the story of her husband, Jim Elliot, and the other four missionaries who were killed by the Auca Indians in 1953.

Abbreviation Key

B	Biography	GN	Graphic Novel	PB	Picture Book
ER	Early Reader	NF	Nonfiction		
F	Fiction	P	Poetry		

Titles in blue are published by JourneyForth

Westward, Ho! – Charles Kingsley (F)

This romance of sixteenth-century England and South America shows the Great Armada in battle and tells of Drake and Raleigh as they sail the seas in search of treasure for Queen Elizabeth.

What about Cimmaron? – Lauraine Snelling (F)

Sarah must find a way to get back into Toutle Valley to save Cimmaron from the eruption of Mount St. Helens.

What's Stopping You? – Nathan D. Thomas (D)

Sin, fear, and discouragement often prevent Christian youth from moving forward for God. If you're a teen frustrated with your own spiritual inaction, make a choice today to change the status quo and step out for God.

William Carey: Father of Modern Missions – Basil Miller (B)

The amazing story of a simple English cobbler who became a self-taught scholar of Hebrew and Greek, a botanist, a minister, and finally a pioneer missionary to India! His life became the model for modern missions.

The Witch of Blackbird Pond – Elizabeth George Speare (F)

Katherine Tyler, an English girl from Barbados, comes to Connecticut to live with her Puritan uncle and aunt. Her unfettered ways not only make her feel like an outcast, but also place her in grave danger.

Woods Runner – Gary Paulson (F)

After his home is burned and his parents are taken prisoner by British forces, Samuel travels to New York City to rescue them. Interspersed between chapters are passages on Colonial and Revolutionary history.

Zoli's Legacy – Dawn L. Watkins (F)

Zoli, a student in Hungary between the world wars, struggles for his future.

Abbreviation Key

B	Biography	GN	Graphic Novel	PB	Picture Book
ER	Early Reader	NF	Nonfiction		
F	Fiction	P	Poetry		

Titles in blue are published by JourneyForth