

Have you read any good Books lately?..... How about the Bible? By Lorelei Pepe

I think the majority of us, especially Christians, have at least one Bible in our homes. But how often do we pick it up to read it? I know we have good intentions but for many it ends up sitting on the bookshelf collecting dust. But as I get older, I find it is not only a great read, (and true) but helps me with a lot of life situations. It seems it is my go-to therapy. Max Lucado, a great Christian writer states **“it calls for undying devotion to a carpenter who called Himself God’s Son”**. Who is this man called Jesus who came to save us from sin and offer eternal life?

Well, for many people that don’t know to find the answer to that question I would suggest they start with the Book of John. Written by the Apostle John, who dearly loved Jesus and was so devoted to Him, it is known as the Book of Love. Also, the old testament is filled with incredible stories of floods, fires, earthquakes, war and some pretty amazing people.

One of my favorite missionaries, Corrie Ten Boom, who survived the Holocaust, shares in her books about her fearless travels and ministry trying to get Bibles into forbidden places. I think she was so inspired after her long stay in the Ravensbruck Concentration Camp. She thought she was going to die there as her sister Betsey did, but when she was released she vowed to witness around the world of the grace of God.

In one of her books, Corrie recalls standing in a Moscow customs office and her suitcase was filled with Russian Bibles that she was smuggling into the country. She prayed to God while standing there in line, shaking from head to toe. She quietly whispered to God to please watch over her and the suitcase. She then says at that moment, she could see **“light beings”** form around her suitcase... Later she says it must have been angels, as they were there for a moment and then gone in flash! Corrie was older and very tired standing on this long line for quite a while, because it moved very slowly. She ended up being the last one and her suitcase was waiting to be opened by the Russian customs officer. She feared for her life if he found the Bibles. But he took one look at her and her tired demeanor and picked up the suitcase. He said it was “heavy” and asked if she needed help bringing it outside. He said, “I am done with my work for the day and going home. Since you are the last one, I will help you carry it to the in-tourist car”. And with that, she said he picked it up, without opening it and proceeded toward the exit. She followed, not believing her eyes and praying all the way. When he put it down she looked up at him with tears in her eyes, and thanked him. She then composed herself, and gave him a big smile, looked up and thanked God.

So I will always treasure this story and would have liked to meet this heroic woman as she knew the Bible and how prayer would help us in times of trials and tribulations, joy and sorrow. All we have to do is open it up and read it...and the faith will follow.

Hebrews 13:5&6

“I will never leave you nor forsake you. The Lord is my helper. I will not fear. What can man do to me?”