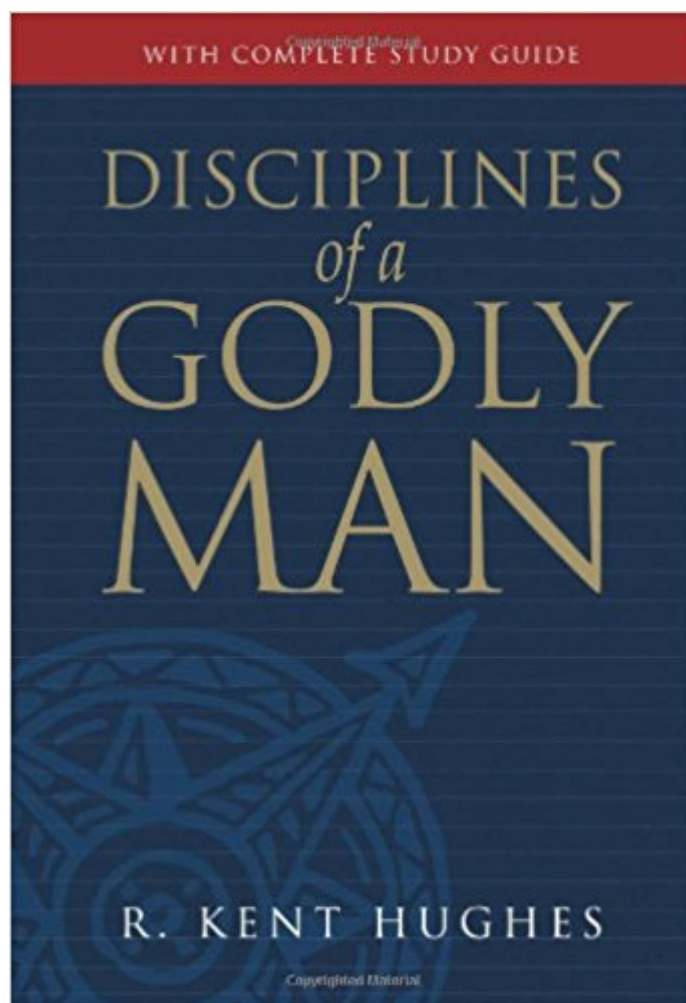


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Disciplines Of A Godly Man (Paperback Edition)



Synopsis

This inspiring and best-selling book has long been speaking to the hearts of men, and its words continue to be highly relevant. Using biblical wisdom, engaging illustrations, practical suggestions for daily living, and personal study questions, Kent Hughes offers hard-hitting discussion on major areas of Christian manhood: marriage, fatherhood, friendship, purity, integrity, leadership, prayer, ministry, and more.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Discipline is a subject about which the Scriptures say much--but contemporary authors have been peculiarly silent. Kent Hughes fills a gaping void with this superb volume.... If there is a spark of spiritual desire in your soul, this book will surely kindle it into a blazing passion for godly discipline. --John MacArthur, pastor and best-selling author. To open this book and find someone taking seriously the biblical call of 'agonizing to enter the kingdom' and... boxing and sweating like a champion to get victory over sin is the most refreshing thing I could have set my eyes on. --John Piper, pastor and popular author --This text refers to the Audio CD edition.

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how to be more effective. It comes from the pen of one who has learned to serve as he has led and who is able to provide the reader with many practical applications of eternal truth." — C. William Pollard, Chairman Emeritus, The ServiceMaster Company "To open this book and find someone taking seriously the biblical call of 'agonizing to enter the kingdom' and . . . boxing and sweating like a champion to get victory over sin is the most refreshing thing I could have set my eyes on." — John Piper, Founder, desiringGod.org; Chancellor, Bethlehem College & Seminary "An outstanding volume for men and women alike! . . . Over 250 pages devoted to the practical outworking of discipline on subjects like purity, marriage, prayer, the tongue, the mind, our work, leadership, ministry, and many, many more. I guarantee: Digest this book and you will bid the blahs farewell." — Charles Swindoll, Pastor and Best-Selling Author "I enjoyed reading Disciplines of a Godly Man because it challenged my spirit. I highly recommend it to men who are not thin-skinned." — Mike Singletary, NFL Hall of Fame Linebacker "An inspiring and practical guide for men who seek to reflect God's glory in their lives. This book is a challenging text for personal devotions as well as for assisting young followers of Christ to grow in their walk with God." — Howard D. Graves (U.S. Army, Retired), Former Superintendent, United States Military Academy (West Point, NY)

My Rating - Must Read
Level - Fairly easy read, moderate length
Summary As the title implies, this is a book about disciplines for men who are trying to live a 'Godly' life. After the introduction Hughes goes into the 17 disciplines he has identified as needed for men. He breaks these into four broad categories - Relationships - which he identifies as the disciplines of purity, marriage, fatherhood, and friendship. He uses the story of David to illustrate the importance of purity. Originally written in 1991 and revised in 2001, there is the noticeable lack of discussion of internet porn. It seems almost funny (naive?) that he would warn about magazines like Playboy, which doesn't even have nudity anymore. The chapters on marriage and fatherhood are about what you'd expect, though I think he does a good job of warning fathers not to be too harsh in punishment; something often quite lacking in the Christian world. He finishes this section with a chapter on friendship. This was a challenging chapter and a topic I think is often overlooked. Soul - mind, devotion, prayer, and worship. Mind, encourages us to watch out mental intake. He points out the statistics of the amount of TV people watch on a daily basis as compared to the relatively small amount spent reading. He isn't opposed to TV, just points out that for the most part, it is there just to kill time, and recommends different things to read instead - Scripture and Christian literature. Devotion, he breaks down into meditation (on the word), confession, and adoration. Prayer and worship are also as you'd expect, worship

being specifically about importance of corporate worship. Character - integrity, tongue, work, and perseverance. Being a man of integrity and clean speech are fairly typical, but the work aspect is unique. I found it especially telling that he would put a chapter on the importance of working in the character section of the book, and after reading the chapter and his arguments, one I fully agree with. The chapter on perseverance was also a new idea to me. His general point is that things aren't easy, and it takes time to accomplish things, and often it is hard just to keep going. This chapter is a short, but helpful, call to focus on what God has laid out for you and to continue on the path. Ministry - church, leadership, giving, witness, and ministry. Again, chapters like being involved in church, giving money, and witnessing (evangelism) are typical and as expected. Leadership is another short chapter that bring a different perspective, but something that is important for men especially. We are all called to be leadership in one aspect or another, work, family, the church, etc. He rounds out the section on ministry with a chapter about, well, ministry. By this he means the importance of actually doing something. Be involved, be willing to be uncomfortable, to be challenged, and to fail, if all for the glory of Christ. Finally, there is a short epilogue with a concluding argument for the importance of Godly discipline and the correct response to grace God has given us. The book is then packed with another 50 pages or so of 'resources' including the hilariously dated 'Bible on Audiocassette', which, honestly, I'm surprised made it into the updated version (the word is so old that my spell-checker is telling me I have it spelled incorrectly). There are also Bible reading plans (including M'Cheyne, which I recommend), helpful Proverbs regarding speech, hymns, choruses, and praise Psalms. As a reading nerd, the most interesting resource to me was his reading survey. He asks a number of well known evangelicals questions regarding their favorite books. This in itself is probably worth the price of the book, and I should probably make it it's own post. Last note on the book, the cover clearly states that there is a complete study guide. This is not what you are probably expecting (unless there was a shipping error and I didn't receive some sort of stand alone guide), as there isn't a dedicated 'study guide' section. Instead, at the end of each chapter, are some thoughts and discussion questions. My Thoughts Overall, I really enjoyed this book. Written very well in general, it especially pastoral in practice and effect. The typical disciplines you see (not a negative, they are always written about because they clearly Biblical and obviously important) written about are handled well, but the strength of this books comes from some of the other chapters that tackles things you don't always see, such as friendship and work. I'd say this is probably the best book on disciplines I've read so far. One major down side is that, obviously, it is mostly geared to men. Some chapters are universal disciplines, but are written about from man's perspective, and some chapters are specifically for men. That being said, if you have a father, a son, a husband, or really just any

man, this book is a must read on the disciplines that God expects of you. More at [...]

Our church men's group decided on this book as a study topic this year and as the title suggests, we were all in for a spiritually challenging journey together. I wasn't familiar with the author prior to starting the book and therefore began it in my usual "Berean" way hoping to not come across any misquotes or private interpretations. Thankfully R Kent Hughes' understanding of the Bible's original languages, authorial intent and context and the all important applications were (in my understanding) extremely precise and accurate. The book is arranged into 19 key chapters that cover different aspects of a man's life walk that require focus and discipline if he is to show love for his God and fellow neighbour. I was very encouraged to discover all of the selected life areas were very much contemporary weaknesses in the lives of Christian men the world over and in bad need of attention. From the outset, the author literally pulls no punches as he warns that discipline and character building in these Godly traits would require continual Godly sweat and hard work. Using the imagery of an ancient Greek athlete who is training for their sport, Hughes exhorts the modern day Christian man to strip himself of the baggage that is presently weighing him down (sins) and get to work in his spiritual gym so that all areas of his life grow stronger and bear fruit. I felt that I was one who needed to read this book as I sometimes like to rest between spiritual sets or exercises for too long before moving onto the next one. As a physical fitness trainer, I could relate well to the imagery used as I often would encourage my clients to work hard in the gym sessions and during the week. In addition to covering the disciplines, the author provides some excellent resources as tools to use to assist the necessary life changes. Next to the plain reading and meditation of God's Word (the Bible), I'm hoping that the disciplines gained from reading this excellent book - The Disciplines of a Godly Man, will be a blessing to my God, family, church, friends and the wider community. Really happy to give it a high rating.

This book was purchased after a recommendation from a pastor friend of mine for a guided book discussion. The chapters are short, and still pack a punch. I think the topics and ideas that Hughes offers in Disciplines fulfills exactly what we needed to help facilitate the discussion we desired. He doesn't waste time on topics, going on and on about stories and such - just enough information to get the idea across. Actually, in some ways, the book could be longer...with more expansion on some passing comments he makes (chapter 4 on Fathers specifically). 25 years old now, there are some things that could be updated in a revised edition for this generation of men - but it's not dated with pop-culture references thus far. Strong buy. Go for it.

AN awesome book. A real good study on what it means to become a Godly man. Covers many areas that is sadly missing in many of the men of our society. Integrity, purity, loyalty, backbone to stand for what is right and last but not least Godliness. I have put the contents of this book to use in my own life and have taught others with it. The results are a changed life for the better. If the principles of this book are applied diligently by the men of today, our world would change to a world of peace and the brotherhood of man. All because of the God that Pastor Hughes loves and teaches men to love. I give it a 10 out of 10!!!

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