

BOOK REVIEW

IDENTITY, story, community, sin, disciplines, growth, time, relationships. In those eight chapters, Jaquelle Crowe gives the teenaged reader understandable, applicable, and thoughtful analysis and challenges to those aspiring to grow in their relationship with Jesus.

Crowe addresses identity as Jesus followers explaining that who we are influences what we do, and how the Gospel's history is our history. She emphasizes that being a Jesus follower is more than making a claim, and the Gospel is the best news we can hear as well as live by.

The following chapters go into detail with community, church, the Christian's place in it; common sins (the "respectable" kind) and what attitudes should be towards them; and disciplines, tasks to do out of love for God and desire for godliness.

With discussion and reflection questions at the end of each chapter, Crowe gives the reader a chance to engage with the reading and biblically consider what it means to be a believer of the Gospel message of Jesus.

Home Application

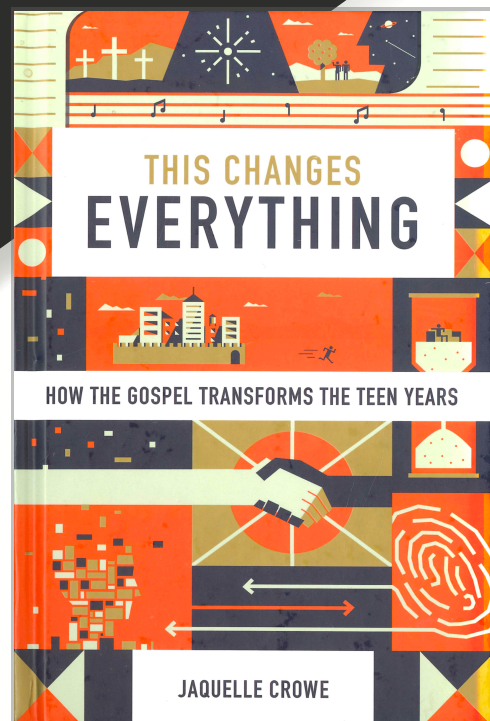
If you're attending a church, "talk to your parents or sit down with your pastor (or do both!) and look at your time and talents to figure out how you can serve" (p. 54). Consider: care for the property or clean, be a greeter, offer tech support, make birthday cards, work in the office or help administration (p. 53).

There are 5 ways to fight sin, one of them is "be accountable to people who love you." look for a person wise and godly to have talks with about your faith and struggles often.

"...I believe that after the gospel saves us, it grabs our hands and leads us to church (Acts 2:46-47)" (p. 46).

"You've probably heard that the gospel means "good news." But this news isn't merely good in the trivial way we use the word, as in a "good movie" or a "good hamburger." This is the best news you will ever get to hear. I guarantee it. More important, God guarantees it. After all, it's his story" (p. 32).

"If you take away one thing from this book let it be this: Jesus has no half-hearted followers. He demands all. And when he saves you, he changes all. The inevitable question is only – How?" (p. 19).



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