

Title: What Good Is God? In Search Of A Faith That Matters	Author: Philip Yancey
Media type: (check one) X Book _CD/Audio book _DVD	Call Number: 231 YAN
Review submitted by: Sharon Krieg	Date: 10/05/2014
Subject (e.g. Prayer, Family Life, Sacraments, Saints, Bible Study, Moral Conduct, Social Justice) Morality/Social Justice	
<p>1. What is this book about? (describe briefly) Philip Yancey explores the question, "What Good Is God?" by sharing the many world-wide troubles he has witnessed throughout his life as student, journalist, author and lecture speaker. Finding the various instances where God is discovered in the midst of tragedy, he speaks to us of God's infinite mercy and love for mankind.</p>	
<p>2. What main message does the author convey? God loves us. God forgives the repentant sinner. We need to love God as well. Compassion is important. Greed is bad. Love your neighbor as yourself. We find our hope in God, especially when times are bad. There are many messages throughout the book referring to the qualities most desirable and pleasing to God. Chapter 19 appealed to me the most. It dealt with alcohol and drug abuse, a problem as old as time. In it Yancey shares, "I once rode in a taxi driven by a red-haired woman who wore a tongue ring and had a flower tattooed on her neck. Within minutes she told me of her addiction to crack, her wasted years, and her recovery through the Teen Challenge program. "Crack isn't for people to feel good," she said, "it's for people to feel nothing. Crack is only for people whose wounds are so great that it alone can numb them. When you come down you feel terrible shame and self-hatred, so you go for it again and again." I asked her about A.A. "Ah, that's a waste of time. All those 12-steps are a waste of time without repentance. You gotta repent to God first." The author later states, "Addicts not only teach me the nature and consequences of sin, they also demonstrate our permanent need for grace." He also asserts, "You have learned that we cannot fall out of range of God's grace. No matter how low we plunge, God's grace goes lower still. The beauty of grace is that it does not leave us there."</p>	
<p>3. What inspired you the most about this book, and why would you recommend it? When one's faith is challenged, this book throws a lifeline to the troubled soul. In Yancey's highly readable style, the fire of one's faith is ignited. By sharing the insights he has gleaned from his travels to various crisis areas of the world, Yancey challenges us to find ways to show God's love for us to others.</p>	
<p>4. Who would benefit from reading this book? Every human being has gone through difficulties. Through thoughtful reflection one may find hope in discovering God's infinite mercy and love.</p>	
<p>5. Any other impressions: How does God fit into a world wracked by various troubles? This book attempts to shed light on this question and offers hope to those who seek God's loving answers.</p>	

3. What inspired you the most about this book, and why would you recommend it?

4. Who would benefit from reading this book?

5. Any other impressions:

- See more at: <http://www.stmaustin.org/library-reader-recommendations#sthash.EQ0YBGzh.dpuf>