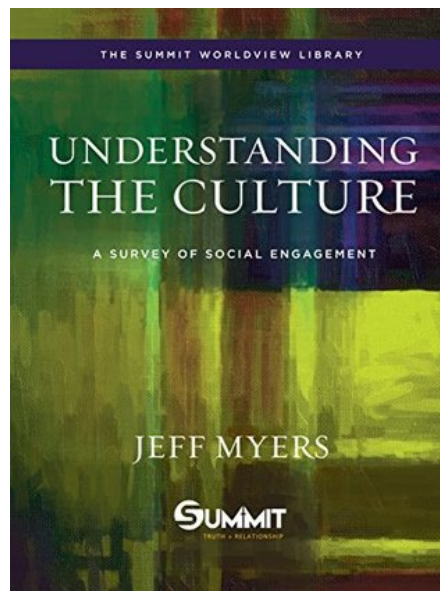




Understanding the Culture: A Survey of Social Engagement

Jeff Myers

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Addressing issues such as gender identity, abortion, technology, and poverty, Dr. Myers challenges readers to ask: How can an authentic Christian worldview provide a compassionate, effective witness in culture today?

Dr. Myers first shows readers what they can learn from Christian history—and why today's issues might not be as new as they seem. Then he takes them through the significant topics that affect them every day, offering biblical ideas for conversing with others in an increasingly hostile culture.

This capstone book to a groundbreaking worldview trilogy equips readers to apply a bold Christian witness to their relationships with loved ones, neighbors, and colleagues.

Understanding the Culture: A Survey of Social Engagement Details

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Lew Button says

A book of this kind is certainly needed not because it attempts to give a definitive answer to save humanity (location 72) but because it points to how Christians, especially, should interact with the those with whom they do not share that culture. The authors do present talking points on Sexuality, Marriage, Justice, the Value of Human life and other matters being questioned today. However, I think one of the most important ideas they bring to the discussion is the emphasis on caring.

"Christian caring ought to be the very best kind of caring". (Location 91) This thought is then developed in other areas: Godly caring is based on wisdom. (So this book helps us gain wisdom.) Godly Caring is based on Worthiness. Godly caring is based on Words.

In this age of instant messaging a falsehood or a rumor can fly across the world in a minute. This is not the way wise caring people should operate. A book like this can become a good foundation for civil discourse. I received a copy of this book from Netgalley.com with the understanding I would review it.

Bob Morton says

I got an advanced copy from Netgallery in exchange for a review. Unfortunately I could not finish in time for the book to be released. This is a good thing. It was so deep, rather than skim through it I had to deep read it each chapter.

The book has the feel of a Classroom textbook. It is easy to read but the topics are very deep. There is a clear pattern to each chapter and once that pattern is noticed it does make the reading a little easier.

It is clear that once you get into it, this is a Christian world view book. The name does not give the hint that it would be. I wish I had a copy of it last semester when taking a Philosophy class, a lot of the questions that came up I had a hard time addressing. It would have been good to have this a reference to quote from.

It is the third in a series and I would love to some time invest in the other two. For now, I will have to add them to my want to read list.

Summing it up, it is a great book, but it may not be for everyone.

Russell Threet says

I have not had the privilege of reading the first two books in the Summit Worldview Library but after reading Understanding the Culture I will be checking those titles out very soon. This book is very wide in scope so there is a lot that could be said, but the most apparent to me is that this book taught me a lot. It taught me about the ways in which Christianity and the Bible have transformed culture in the past, and the ways in which it is possible to remain faithful and see this transformation take place in our culture today. This book is valuable as both a title to be read from cover to cover and as a resource to reference as you wrestle with cultural issues in your life and ministry. This text is the right blend of biblical, scholarly, easy to read, and applicable. This book would be a great addition to the library of any Christian pastor, leader, teacher, parent, or student that is serious about engaging and at times combating the culture with the hope of transformation.
