

Outrageous Idea of Academic Faithfulness, The: A Guide for Students

By Donald Opitz, Derek Melleby



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Most Christian college students separate their academic life from church attendance, Bible study, and prayer. Too often discipleship of the mind is overlooked if not ignored altogether. However, authors Donald Opitz and Derek Melleby issue a clarion call to students to integrate their faith and learning in The Outrageous Idea of Academic Faithfulness. Written for a narrative generation, this guide extracts illustrations from the Book of Daniel, The Lord of the Rings, the experiences of real students, and more. This book is an excellent gift for collegebound seniors in high school. It's an essential text for firstyear college students, too. The Outrageous Idea of Academic Faithfulness will also benefit professors, pastors, and parents.



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Editorial Review

From the Back Cover

"As you get ready to plunge into college, add this book to your reading list. It will help you navigate the common landmines that can trip up your faith, and it will give you the tools you need to sprint ahead."--**Kara Powell**, executive director, Center for Youth and Family Ministry, Fuller Theological Seminary

"This book provides clear and accessible guidelines on how to relate one's faith to academics. I hope it will be widely used."--George Marsden, University of Notre Dame; author of *The Outrageous Idea of Christian Scholarship*

"Deep yet easily accessible, this book reminds us why we study."--**Kelly Monroe Kullberg**, author of *Finding God Beyond Harvard: The Quest for Veritas*

"The most difficult transition in the life of faith is from high school to college. This book will prove valuable for any student who gives it the time it deserves. Read and listen, I say."--Scot McKnight, North Park University; author of *The Jesus Creed*

"Probing yet playful, *The Outrageous Idea of Academic Faithfulness* is full of wisdom for those who yearn for their learning to move beyond mere labor to true love."--**Steven Garber**, director, The Washington Institute for Faith, Vocation, and Culture; author of *The Fabric of Faithfulness*

"Opitz and Melleby's wonderfully outrageous little book will tickle, inspire, challenge, and encourage students to gain a real life--not just grades, degrees, and jobs."--Quentin J. Schultze, Calvin College; author of *Here I Am: Now What on Earth Should I Be Doing?*

"This book addresses numerous timely issues related to the place of academics in the life of the Christian student. Nothing I have seen yet addresses these particular issues with a combination of theological depth and easy accessibility that mark this book."--Walt Mueller, president, Center for Parent/Youth Understanding; author of *Engaging the Soul of Youth Culture*

"An outstanding book about how Christian students can learn to be faithful to their Lord in their studies. Those who read it--students and teachers alike--will reap genuine dividends."--**David Naugle**, Dallas Baptist University; author of *Worldview: The History of a Concept*

"Few Christian books for college students even mention the central aspect of college life--academics and course work. This one is on that short list of must-reads, essential for grooming Christian faithfulness in the college years."--Byron K. Borger, Hearts & Minds Bookstore, Dallastown, Pennsylvania

About the Author

Donald Opitz (PhD, Boston University) is associate professor of sociology and higher education at Geneva College in Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania. He is the author of numerous articles and has worked as a pastor as well as a campus minister. **Derek Melleby** (MA, Geneva College) is the director of the College Transition Initiative for the Center for Parent/Youth Understanding. He is also an associate staff member of the Coalition for Christian Outreach and lives in Mount Joy, Pennsylvania.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Ethel Davidson:

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William Reynolds:

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