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McFarland and Towns' "Ten Questions About Prayer Every Christian Must Answer"

Noelle C. Keller
Adrian College

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This sentiment is echoed throughout the work and includes a wealth of Bible-based teaching concepts and guidance for preschoolers through adult learners.

While all contributors have a good grasp of the academic value of the subject matter, the narrative voice and language of the work make it equally valuable to scholar and lay person alike.

Ten Questions About Prayer Every Christian Must Answer,

by Alex McFarland and Elmer L. Towns, Nashville, TN: B&H Academic, 2014.

152 pp. \$14.99. ISBN 9781433682179

Reviewed by Noelle C. Keller, Technical Services Librarian, Adrian College, Adrian, MI

Co-authors Alex McFarland and Elmer L. Towns offer a scholarly approach to their book, *10 Questions About Prayer Every Christian Must Answer*. Towns brings his academic credentials as co-founder of Liberty University in Lynchburg, VA, and Dean of its School of Religion to bear on the topic. McFarland hosts the radio program, *Exploring the Word*, and is a prolific speaker and author. Other titles by McFarland in the same vein include: *10 Questions Every Christian Must Answer: thoughtful responses to strengthen your faith* and *10 Answers for Atheists: how to have an intelligent discussion about the existence of God*, etc.

In the preface, Christian prayer is defined as communication with the heavenly Father per Jesus in Matthew 6:5-8. It is a function of a Christian's relationship with God.

This book is intended as "an apologetic approach to prayer" (p. vii). The authors seek to address 10 questions of non-Christians and Christians regarding prayer with an intellectual defense. The structure of the book is clear. Each chapter presents a question offering an antithesis or problem that the author then addresses based on biblical perspective with scriptural examples and references. Each chapter concludes with principles that can be applied to one's prayer life along with endnotes.

The authors' answers aim to strengthen the faith and prayer practice of Christians by encouraging a thoughtful and rational approach to addressing misconceptions and doubts regarding prayer. The book's format should help the Christian answer skeptics, critics, or seekers with a reasoned defense. It would be appropriate for personal study – layperson through undergraduate.