



Volume 58 | Issue 1

Article 30

2015

Mattson's "Faith is Like Skydiving: And Other Memorable Images for Dialogue with Seekers and Skeptics"

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Recommended Citation

Rice, Amy C. (2015) "Mattson's "Faith is Like Skydiving: And Other Memorable Images for Dialogue with Seekers and Skeptics," *The Christian Librarian*: Vol. 58 : Iss. 1 , Article 30.
Available at: <http://digitalcommons.georgefox.edu/tcl/vol58/iss1/30>

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**Faith Is Like Skydiving: And Other Memorable Images for Dialogue
with Seekers and Skeptics,**

by Rick Mattson. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2014. 231 pp.
\$15.00. ISBN 9780830844111

*Reviewed by Amy C. Rice, Access Services Librarian,
Northwest Nazarene University, Nampa, ID*

Faith Is Like Skydiving is a handbook of metaphors and anecdotes that will help ordinary Christians dialogue better with skeptics, people curious about Christianity, and people of other faiths. Rick Mattson, based at Macalester College in St. Paul, Minnesota, works for InterVarsity Christian Fellowship and has an MA in the philosophy of religion. His area of interest is apologetics, and he brings extensive experience speaking at college campuses nationwide. Mattson emphasizes the fact that questions and criticism address many different facets of Christianity, so the book is divided into topical sections to address different facets. He covers questions of theodicy, heaven and hell, religious pluralism, origins of the universe and God's role in creation, historicity, and the divinity of Jesus, and other similar topics, all of which are common conversation pieces he has encountered in his work. Mattson also spends time discussing the difference between talking with people holding a modern or postmodern worldview, as well as talking with people who have a combination of both modern and postmodern views. He provides easy to remember metaphors that can be used to frame the conversation, and he includes personal stories about his conversations with skeptics and seekers. At the end of each chapter, he recaps the main points and provides resources for further reading. More than a mere book about apologetics and argumentation, *Faith Is Like Skydiving* emphasizes the relational aspect of dialogue: responding graciously to hostile questioning, acknowledging the ways in which people have done wrong things in the name of Christianity, and – above all – deeply *listening* to people rather than trying to come up with the next rejoinder in the argument. Recommended for universities with ministry programs and anyone interested in dialogue with others who do not hold the same beliefs.

Finding Your Heart's Desire,

by R. T. Kendall. Minneapolis, MN: Chosen Books, 2013. 184 pp. \$14.99.
ISBN 9780800795672

Reviewed by Amy Bessin, Instructional Services Librarian, Asbury University, Wilmore, KY

In his book *Finding Your Heart's Desire*, R. T. Kendall tackles the idea of what it means to have godly ambition. Kendall proposes that God can use ambition to motivate us toward what God has called us to do in life. The book covers a variety of areas related