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Williams' "Being disciples: Essentials of the Christian life" (Book Review)

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“Discipleship is a state of being.” So begins Rowan Williams’ short book on the topic. Williams, former Archbishop of Canterbury, has written this book as a follow up to *Being Christian: Bible, Baptism, Eucharist, Prayer*. Consisting of six chapters covering themes such as faith, hope, love, forgiveness, holiness, and living as faithful disciples in modern society, Williams provides the reader with much to consider as they examine how they are living as a disciple of Jesus. Of particular relevance is chapter 5, “Faith in Society,” which focuses on living as a Christian disciple in a modern democratic society.

There is not much theological preciseness here, but that does not mean that there are theological concerns with this book either; it should be read more as a meditation on discipleship than an academic work of theology. It is clearly designed to appeal to a wide audience, rather than to a particular theological tradition. People from a variety of theological perspectives will find something useful to their Christian life in this book. Since each chapter begins with a passage of Scripture, and concludes with a series of questions for reflection and discussion, this would be a good book for personal devotional use or small group Bible study.

**Reviewer**
Robert Lancaster, Dordt College