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Cook's "The burning of the White House" (Book Review)

Jennifer A. Rich
Hope International University

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Hunt, J. (2015). *Bonding with your child through boundaries*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway. 263 pp. \$15.99. ISBN 9781433543340

This book is well-suited to collections that center on higher level Christian books on child-rearing. It's not meant to be a theoretical, scholarly treatise on parenting, nor does it aim to instruct brand new parents in the area of infant care. Rather, it is meant as a practical guide for thoughtful parents on how to combine developing emotional closeness and raising children with consistent, effective discipline. Its principal author, June Hunt, has distinguished herself through many previous publications in the realm of counseling. Co-author Peggy Sue Wells adds depth and insight to the text.

Section 1 deals with boundaries and child rearing in general, including a Q & A chapter. In the second section, Hunt includes very practical, "how-to" chapters to guide parents in the details of how to implement the biblical concepts she espouses. She encourages parents to set boundaries in common areas of conflict with children, including use of electronic toys, TV, internet, and phones; bedtime and mealtime; eating; clothing; friendships, and schoolwork.

Boundaries extend to many other aspects of a child's behavior as he or she interacts with peers and adults. She also includes practical advice for areas such as etiquette, anger issues, temper, whining, and appropriate responses to adults. The process of training up a child within boundaries is meant to be handled with consistency, and a Christian love that is both firm and kind.

Reviewer

J. James Mancuso, Northeastern Baptist College

Cook, J. H. (2106). *The burning of the White House*. Washington DC: Regnery History. 433 pp. \$29.99. ISBN 9781621574781

Jane Hampton Cook served on the staff of former president George W. Bush in the White House. As such, she saw the remaining scorch marks from the burning of the White House. While evacuating the Eisenhower Executive Office Building during the September 11, 2001 terror attacks, Cook imagined what the Madisons and other Americans felt during the invasion of Washington City, now Washington D.C., during the War of 1812. Developing this book after years of deep research resulted in an engaging narrative that provides viewpoints of many individuals affected by the burning of Washington in 1814.

Cook draws the reader through the historical events leading up to the British invasion and destruction of Washington City. Direct quotations of letters and written records support the emotions and suppositions she uses to connect the reader to the situations. After reading the book, one has the feeling that these historical people are more than facts and figures; they are individuals who did the best they could in the situations that occurred.

This book is not a textbook, but it provides readers with a bibliography and numerous footnotes to chase if one desires to further research the events. Cook, additionally, uses the current vernacular to describe the circumstances, but incorporates the language of that time, with explanations. This work is best for one interested in history and a quick read. It does provide well-documented research that a reader could pursue independently.

Reviewer

Jennifer A. Rich, Hope International University

Vetere, V. (2015). *By the power of God: Living the true Christian life*. Bloomington, IN: WestBow Press. 59 pp. \$9.95. ISBN 9781490890685

Vicent Vetere, a retired correction officer, magician/illusionist, and evangelist, guides the reader through his journey of his life to live for Christ. Vetere takes the reader on his life's journey weaving his arm wrestling, magic, and correction officer experiences to show how to be a true follower of Christ no matter a person's occupation. Vetere's succinct style of writing entices the reader to draw into his life's journey and evaluate the reader's life journey. Even though, the reader may be missing any knowledge of arm wrestling or magic, Vetere uses his occupational experiences to encourage the reader to a deeper devoted life for Christ. The visual image of correlating arm wrestling and the power of God is compelling throughout the book. Confusion arises, by the reader, when Vetere displays step by step techniques in arm wrestling. However, it becomes more clear when the author discusses how faith integrates into his arm wrestling experiences, especially during interviews. Vetere, during interviews with media, gives the Lord the glory.

This book would be advantageous for an undergraduate spiritual formation class. Vetere encourages the reader by living his or her life for Christ no matter the occupation. Even though, there are no discussion questions at the end of the chapters, questions arise from each chapter in the reader's mind, which would lead to an outstanding group discussion. The book would be beneficial to spiritual formation