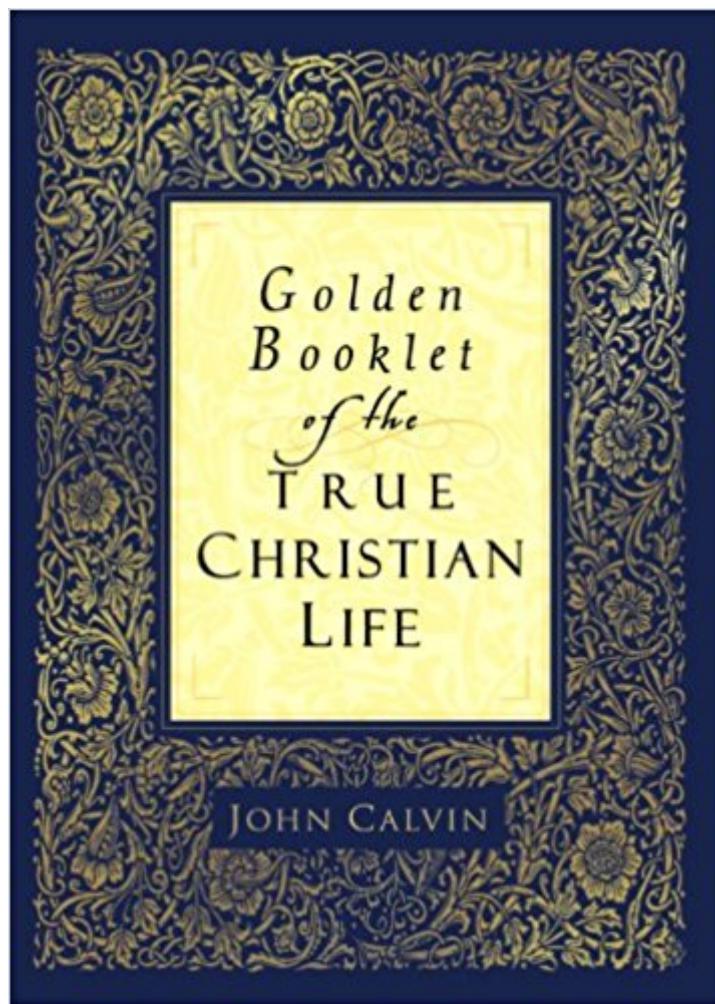


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# Golden Booklet Of The True Christian Life



## **Synopsis**

In this classic devotional, John Calvin urges readers to apply the Christian life in a balanced way to mind, heart, and hand. Rather than focusing on contemplative otherworldliness, the book stresses the importance of a devotedly active Christian life. In style and spirit, this book is much like Augustine's *Confessions*, Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress*, or Thomas à Kempis's *Imitation of Christ*. However, its intense practicality sets it apart, making it easily accessible for any reader seeking to carry out Christian values in everyday life. Chapter themes include obedience, self-denial, the significance of the cross, and how we should live our lives today.

## **Book Information**

Paperback: 96 pages

Publisher: Baker Books; 14281st edition (December 2004)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0801065283

ISBN-13: 978-0801065286

Product Dimensions: 5 x 0.2 x 7 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.1 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 32 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #112,794 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #29 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Christian Denominations & Sects > Protestantism > Calvinist #442 in Books > Religion & Spirituality > Worship & Devotion > Devotionals #618 in Books > Religion & Spirituality > Worship & Devotion > Inspirational

## **Customer Reviews**

Golden Booklet of the True Christian Life has inspired readers around the world for more than four centuries. Now in paper, this classic devotional will guide you on how to apply biblical principles to everyday life. Originally part of John Calvin's *Institutes*, the devotional covers themes such as obedience, self-denial, the significance of the cross, and how believers should live their lives today. Rather than focusing on contemplative other-worldliness, the Golden Booklet of the True Christian Life stresses the importance of a devotedly active Christian life. In style and spirit, it is much like Augustine's *Confessions*, Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress*, or Thomas à Kempis's *Imitation of Christ*. Its intense practicality, however, sets it apart, making it easily accessible for anyone seeking to carry out Christian values in everyday life. The translator, Henry J. Van Andel, competently preserved the colorful language and direct style of which John Calvin was a recognized

master.

Benjamin Wirt Farley is Younts Professor Emeritus of Bible, Religion, and Philosophy at Erskine College. He is the translator of John Calvin's Sermons on the Ten Commandments.

How do you review a book such as this one? When I first read this book several years ago, it changed the way I thought and lived the Christian life. Now, rereading it some years later, it reminds me of just how foundational it was in my way of thinking of "the Christian life". Especially in the way it taught me (and others through me who I teach) how important and "normal" is suffering in the true Christian life. It is through suffering God conforms us to the image of Christ. This is a volume taken from the third volume of 'Calvin's Institutes' and has been incredibly helpful for Christians for over 400 years! One of the things you will find about this book is how extremely easy it is to understand it, as well as practical (in fact it is almost like it was written yesterday). Oftentimes, it is easy to think that a book written originally in the 16th century would be both difficult and impractical! However, this book is biblically crystal clear as well as useful! I have given this book away often and I have only seen growth in those to whom I have given it! May it be a new book for you, or one you buy again for a friend.

Good information on Christian values for living a Christ like life. Humble obedient lives, striving for perfection, spiritual progress and so much more in this book for a true Christian life. I love this part mentioned in the book and how true. The gospel is not a doctrine of the tongue, but of life. A good read.

This book is truly a treasure. John Calvin did not know the sentimentalism that has crept into mainstream Protestantism nowadays. Calvin understood that our souls are at stake. He understood that we must walk a difficult path in the Christian life. "The gospel is not a doctrine of the tongue, but of life."

This short handbook sums up the Christian lifestyle in few words and with Scripture to back each premise. Would we expect anything less from John Calvin? Many Christians need this kind of simple guide to help us keep the application of Biblical principles close to our hands and hearts. Then, grounded, we can go for a more lofty understanding of various doctrines as other tomes (such as Calvin's Institutes) orient us. A quality translation, this book never feels dated or passé. I

recommend it as a handy reminder for reading and re-reading during times when life feels too complicated.

This book is the cure for the fluff that evangelicals are used to consuming, a book tightly bound to what the bible says. The clarity and depth presented in this book is refreshing, absent are the empty sentiments and shallow treatment of the subject of the christian life. Willingness to look into your heart with the aid of scripture and this little book as a guide will be richly rewarded to any honest and teachable christian. This is truly a gift to the church coming down to us from one of the very best minds of our christian heritage.

Timeless wisdom from one of the church's greatest thinkers and teachers. It's a small, brief collection of Calvin's teachings and is a good read by itself which will perhaps ( hopefully) whet the appetite for further reading of Calvin's materials.

I was taken aback by the simple declaration of the implications of the Gospel presented in this book. In that what you think you know about pride and humility in the context of the society you live in is far removed from the reality of what you are confronted with in this book. Your heart and soul can always use a good plowing . . . and this book is up to the task in a graciously apt way.

This thin little book is no lightweight. It's a Trojan horse that delivers timeless substance from the Scriptures on how to think about and live the Christian life. It reaches head and heart, and so is extremely practical--without being a simplistic "how-to" book. I have used it in a number of one-on-one discipling relationships; its small size makes it manageable and appealing to busy people, but God uses its substantive and convicting teaching to affect lives. Buy a copy for yourself and another for someone you care about, and get ready for sharpening discussions.

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