

Presbyterian Study Companions to the Book of Confessions & Book of Order

Basic Christian Doctrine. John H Leith. (Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 1993). 350 pages. ISBN 0664251927. For those who seek a deep study of catholic, evangelic, and reformed theology. Reading Level: 12th grade-College.

Being Presbyterian in the Bible Belt: A Theological Survival Guide for Youth, Parents, and Other Confused Presbyterians. Ted V. Foote Jr and P. Alex Thornburg. (Louisville: Geneva Press, 2000). 91 pages. ISBN 0664501095. Good for confirmation classes of all ages, easy read, and helps distinguish at least nine unique doctrines held by Presbyterian Christians. Reading Level: 6-8th grade.

Book of Confessions: if able, select the study version.

Calvin for Armchair Theologians. Christopher Elwood. (Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2002). 182 pages. ISBN 0664223036. Good companion to Calvin's Institutes edited by McKim. Reading Level: 9-12th grade.

Calvin's Institutes: Abridged Edition. John Calvin. Donald K. McKim, ed. (Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2001). 189 pages. ISBN 0664222986. Good introduction to *Calvin's Institutes*, and lifts up major sections which have influenced our historic Presbyterian beliefs and polity. Reading Level: 12th grade-College.

Christian Doctrine. Shirley Guthrie. (Revised Edition). (Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 1994). 434 pages. ISBN 0664253687. Well indexed and keyed to Confessions and Scripture, provides study questions. Reading Level: 9-12th grade.

Presbyterian Beliefs: A Brief Introduction. Donald K. McKim. (Louisville: Geneva Press, 2003). 126 pages. ISBN 0664502539. Good follow up to *Presbyterian Questions, Presbyterian Answers*. References scripture and Confessions, and provides study questions at the end of each chapter. Reading Level: 9-12th grade.

Presbyterian Creeds: A Guide to the Book of Confessions. Jack Rogers. (Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 1985). 292 Pages. ISBN: 0664254969. This book provides Presbyterian clergy, laity, and students with a thorough introduction to their faith as set forth in the Confessions. Rogers explains the technical terms and places current issues in perspective by examining the meaning of creeds, confessions, and declarations. He examines their role in history, their full meaning, and their continuing relevance to the Christian community. Good for discussion groups. Reading Level: 9-12th grade.

Presbyterian Polity for Church Officers (3rd Edition). Joan S. Gray and Joyce C. Tucker. (Louisville: Geneva Press, 1999). 204 pages. ISBN 0664500188. Good introduction to historic Presbyterian polity. Includes scriptural and Constitutional citations.

Presbyterian Questions, Presbyterian Answers: Exploring Christian Faith. Donald K. McKim. (Louisville: Geneva Press, 2003). 113 pages. ISBN 0664502504. Probably the best introduction book to Presbyterian history and beliefs out on the market. Easy to read and covers history, doctrine, polity, and Christian witness (piety). Cites scripture and its clear one of his primary sources is the Confessions. Reading Level: 6-8th grade.

Sealed in Christ. John M. Mulder. (Louisville: Geneva Press, 1991). 77 pages. ISBN 0664500048. Looking at the seal of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Mulder argues that one can discern at least 8 doctrines the Presbyterians hold as essential and formative for their Christian witness. Good for confirmation classes of all ages, easy read. Reading Level: 6-8th grade.

Selected to Serve: A Guide for Officers. Earl S. Johnson, Jr. (Louisville: Geneva Press, 2000). 200 pages. ISBN 0664501656. An ideal handbook for church officers and text for the mandated officer training. Includes scripture and Constitution citations, and study questions. Reading Level: 9-12th grade.