

100 Meaningful Books for Teens

This list includes a blend of inspiring, worldview-building, and thought-provoking books, suitable for a wide range of reading levels and interests. You can organize these by theme or simply keep them as a master list to explore across the high school years.

Christian Living & Faith-Based Books

1. Mere Christianity – C.S. Lewis
2. The Hiding Place – Corrie ten Boom
3. Do Hard Things – Alex & Brett Harris
4. Love Does – Bob Goff
5. This Changes Everything – Jaquelle Crowe
6. Don't Waste Your Life – John Piper
7. Not a Fan – Kyle Idleman
8. I Am Not But I Know I Am – Louie Giglio
9. Just Do Something – Kevin DeYoung
10. The Case for Christ (Student Edition) – Lee Strobel

Biographies & Memoirs

11. Unbroken (YA Version) – Laura Hillenbrand
12. Just Mercy (YA Version) – Bryan Stevenson
13. God's Smuggler – Brother Andrew
14. Gifted Hands – Ben Carson
15. Joni – Joni Eareckson Tada
16. Through Gates of Splendor – Elisabeth Elliot
17. The Diary of Anne Frank – Anne Frank
18. Evidence Not Seen – Darlene Deibler Rose
19. Bruchko – Bruce Olson
20. Bonhoeffer: Student Edition – Eric Metaxas

Living History & Culture

21. The Boys in the Boat (Young Readers Edition) – Daniel James Brown
22. The Tattooist of Auschwitz – Heather Morris
23. A Long Walk to Water – Linda Sue Park
24. They Called Us Enemy – George Takei
25. The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind – William Kamkwamba
26. Chinese Cinderella – Adeline Yen Mah
27. The Other Side of the Sky – Farah Ahmed
28. I Am Malala (Young Readers Edition) – Malala Yousafzai
29. Left to Tell – Immaculée Ilibagiza
30. The Cross and the Switchblade – David Wilkerson

Classics with Purpose

31. To Kill a Mockingbird – Harper Lee
32. The Screwtape Letters – C.S. Lewis
33. Fahrenheit 451 – Ray Bradbury
34. Animal Farm – George Orwell
35. Pride and Prejudice – Jane Austen
36. Jane Eyre – Charlotte Brontë
37. The Pilgrim's Progress – John Bunyan (updated version)
38. Les Misérables (abridged) – Victor Hugo
39. The Chosen – Chaim Potok
40. The Giver – Lois Lowry

Modern Fiction that Sparks Thought

41. Wonder – R.J. Palacio
42. Out of My Mind – Sharon Draper
43. Counting by 7s – Holly Goldberg Sloan
44. The Book Thief – Markus Zusak

- 45. Restart – Gordon Korman
- 46. A Mango-Shaped Space – Wendy Mass
- 47. Fish in a Tree – Lynda Mullaly Hunt
- 48. The War That Saved My Life – Kimberly Brubaker Bradley
- 49. Turtles All the Way Down – John Green (preview content)
- 50. Everything Sad Is Untrue – Daniel Nayeri

Life Skills, Growth, & Worldview

- 51. 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens – Sean Covey
- 52. Atomic Habits – James Clear (for older teens)
- 53. Start – Jon Acuff
- 54. The Power of a Praying Teen – Stormie Omartian
- 55. Habits of the Household – Justin Whitmel Earley
- 56. Essentialism – Greg McKeown (for advanced readers)
- 57. Own Your Life – Sally Clarkson
- 58. Crazy Love – Francis Chan
- 59. The Gospel Comes with a House Key – Rosaria Butterfield
- 60. Radical – David Platt

Entrepreneurial / Leadership Thinking

- 61. Rich Dad Poor Dad (Teen Edition) – Robert Kiyosaki
- 62. Start with Why – Simon Sinek
- 63. The Teen Investor – Emmanuel Modu
- 64. The 6 Most Important Decisions You'll Ever Make – Sean Covey
- 65. Take the Risk – Ben Carson
- 66. The Success Principles for Teens – Jack Canfield
- 67. How to Win Friends and Influence People – Dale Carnegie
- 68. Do It Afraid – Joyce Meyer
- 69. Dream Big – Bob Goff

70. The Go-Giver – Bob Burg & John David Mann

Science, Nature, and Curiosity

71. The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks – Rebecca Skloot (advanced)

72. What If? – Randall Munroe

73. The Story of Science – Joy Hakim

74. The Genius of Birds – Jennifer Ackerman

75. Hidden Figures (Young Readers) – Margot Lee Shetterly

76. The Way Things Work – David Macaulay

77. It's Not Rocket Science – Ben Miller

78. Stuff Matters – Mark Miodownik

79. The Wonder of Creation – Louie Giglio

80. The Body: A Guide for Occupants – Bill Bryson (parent preview recommended)

Bonus Picks for Reflection and Worldview

81. Heaven is for Real (Teen Edition) – Todd Burpo

82. 90 Minutes in Heaven – Don Piper

83. Safely Home – Randy Alcorn

84. Life Without Limits – Nick Vujicic

85. Let Me Be a Woman – Elisabeth Elliot

86. Authentic Beauty – Leslie Ludy

87. What's So Amazing About Grace? – Philip Yancey

88. Life Together – Dietrich Bonhoeffer

89. I Kissed Dating Goodbye (with conversation about maturity) – Joshua Harris

90. The Pursuit of God – A.W. Tozer

Gentle Living, Creativity, and Meaningful Reads

91. The Life-Giving Home – Sally & Sarah Clarkson

92. 1,000 Gifts – Ann Voskamp

93. The Hidden Art of Homemaking – Edith Schaeffer

- 94. L'Abri – Edith Schaeffer
- 95. Stepping Heavenward – Elizabeth Prentiss
- 96. Beautiful Girlhood – Karen Andreola
- 97. A Lantern in Her Hand – Bess Streeter Aldrich
- 98. Little Britches – Ralph Moody
- 99. Homeschool Bravely – Jamie Erickson
- 100. Teaching from Rest – Sarah Mackenzie