



Bearing Witness: Stories of Martyrdom and Costly Discipleship

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Bearing Witness: Stories of Martyrdom and Costly Discipleship From Plough Publishing House

What does it cost to follow Jesus? For these men and women, the answer was clear. They were ready to give witness to Christ in the face of intense persecution, even if it cost them their lives. From the stoning of Stephen to Nigerian Christians persecuted by Boko Haram today, these stories from around the world and through the ages will inspire greater faithfulness to the way of Jesus, reminding us what costly discipleship looks like in any age.

Since the birth of Christianity, the church has commemorated those who suffered for their faith in Christ. In the Anabaptist tradition especially, stories of the boldness and steadfastness of early Christian and Reformation-era martyrs have been handed down from one generation to the next through books such as Thieleman van Bragt's *Martyrs Mirror* (1660). Yet the stories of more recent Christian witnesses are often unknown.

Bearing Witness tells the stories of early Christian martyrs Stephen, Polycarp, Justin, Agathonica, Papylus, Carpus, Perpetua, Tharacus, Probus, Andronicus, and Marcellus, followed by radical reformers Jan Hus, Michael and Margaretha Sattler, Weynken Claes, William Tyndale, Jakob and Katharina Hutter, Anna Janz, Dirk Willems. But the bulk of the book focuses on little-known modern witness including Veronika Löhans, Jacob Hochstetler, Gnadenhütten, Joseph and Michael Hofer, Emanuel Swartzendruber, Regina Rosenberg, Eberhard and Emmy Arnold, Johann Cornelius Martens, Ahn Ei Sook, Jakob Rempel, Clarence Jordan, Richard and Sabina Wurmbrand, Tulio Pedraza, Stanimir Katanic, Samuel Kakesa, Kasai Kapata, Meserete Kristos Church, Sarah Corson, Alexander Men, José Chuquín, Norman Tattersall, Katherine Wu, and Ekklesiyar Yan'uwa a Nigeria.

This book is part of the Bearing Witness Stories Project, a collaborative story-gathering project involving Anabaptist believers from many different traditions.

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Editorial Review

Review

In a world where people of faith are tempted to take up violence to protect their convictions and cultures, these martyrs show how genuine power is made perfect in weakness. This book is a gift to the entire church. (**Gerald J. Mast**, Bluffton University)

Bearing Witness shouldn't be classified as a good book or an important book ? it's a necessary book. Through 36 accounts gleaned from two millennia of Christianity, the book provides much-needed reminders of what religious oppression can really be like for followers of the Prince of Peace and how they should respond. (**Mennonite World Review**)

Christian martyrdom and costly discipleship are not confined to some legendary past. With vivid storytelling and reliable sources, this book teaches us about nonviolent love in the face of opposition and challenges us to take risks for the gospel today. (**J. Nelson Kraybill**, president, Mennonite World Conference)

About the Author

Charles E. Moore has compiled and edited several acclaimed books, including *Provocations: Spiritual Writings of Kierkegaard*, and *Everyone Belongs to God: Discovering the Hidden Christ*.

Timothy Keiderling is a researcher for the Bearing Witness Stories Project.

Users Review

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Jackson Ponce:

The book Bearing Witness: Stories of Martyrdom and Costly Discipleship has a lot info on it. So when you read this book you can get a lot of help. The book was published by the very famous author. McDougal makes some research previous to write this book. That book very easy to read you can get the point easily after reading this article book.

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