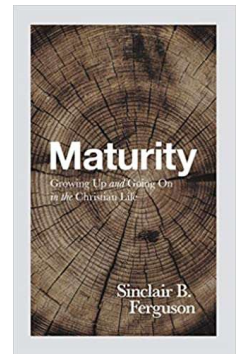
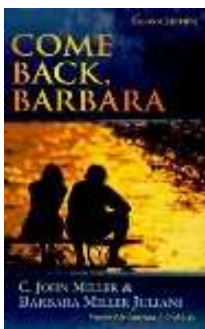


Maturity – *Growing Up and Going On in the Christian Life* by Sinclair B. Ferguson (248.8 FER). What are the most important lessons the New Testament has to teach us about being a Christian? Sinclair Ferguson shows that a deep-seated concern of the writers of the New Testament was to see Christians grow to spiritual maturity and if that was the concern of the first believers, then it should be our concern too. In clear and logical chapters that are rooted in the reality of the Christian life, the author, who has had long experience in pastoral ministry and seminary teaching, seeks to show what Christian maturity is and how it is to be obtained. It was the apostle Paul's desire to present those to whom he ministered 'mature in Christ' – for such a maturity would lead to stable, servant-hearted Christians, and healthy, fruit-bearing churches. All those who desire to live useful, mature, and consistent Christian lives will gain much wisdom from reading and reflecting upon the contents of this book.



### December 13

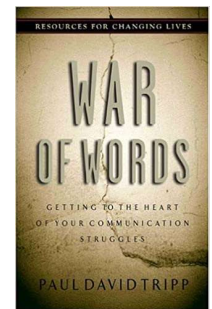


Come Back, Barbara by C. John Miller & Barbara Miller Juliani (248.8 MIL). The inspiring account of a prodigal daughter's return to faith and her reconciliation with her father. "Mom, Dad, I don't want your rules and morals, I don't want to act like a Christian anymore! And I'm not going to," Barbara declared at age 18. As her father desperately attempted to reason with her, Barbara grew more resentful, choosing a path of immorality that only deepened her parents' pain. "I am not ignorant of human depravity," writes C. John Miller, "but I had long denied that it could exist in our family." That reality, however, forced him to confront his own sin, seek forgiveness, admit his inability to change his wayward daughter, and begin loving Barbara on God's terms. Here "Jack" Miller and Barbara Miller Juliani chronicle their journey from grief and conflict to joyful reconciliation. Come Back, Barbara is thus an irresistible portrayal of God's grace to the Millers and us all. With newly added study questions, this book offers invaluable lessons about facing our own struggles with humility, courage, and hope.

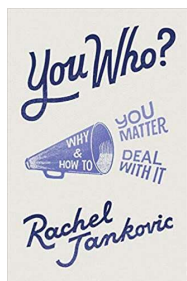
### December 20

War of Words – *Getting to the Heart of Your Communication Struggles* by Paul David Tripp (241.7 TRI). "... and important and biblical book about our words and our God. Few of us really think about the power, the blessing, the gift, the effect and the danger of our words. This book will make you think before you speak. Best of all, it will make you think of Him before you speak. Read it. You'll be glad. – Steve Brown.

"Until our hearts are completely purified by God in heaven, we must set strong guards at the gates of our mouths and fight daily battles to restrain the overflow of our sinful desires. I have never before read such helpful insights and practical tools for this battle. I enthusiastically recommend War of Words. – Ken Sande



### December 27



You Who: Why You Matter, and How You Deal with It by Rachel Jankovic (233 JAN). If "Who am I?" is the question you're asking, Rachel Jankovic doesn't want to "find yourself" or "follow your heart." Those lies are nothing compared to the confidence, freedom, and clarity of purpose that come with knowing what is actually essential about You. (And the answer to that question is at once less and more than you are hoping for.) Christians love the idea that self-expression is the essence of a beautiful person, but that's a lie, too. With trademark humour and no-nonsense practicality, Rachel explains the fake story of the Self, starting with the inventions of a supremely ugly little man named Sartre (rhymes with "blart"). And we – men and women, young and old – have bought the lie of the

Best Self, with terrible results. Thankfully, that is not the end of our story. You Who: Why You Matter and How to Deal with It takes the identity question into the nitty-gritty details of everyday life. Here's the first clue: Stop looking inside, and start planting flags of everyday faithfulness. In Christianity, the self is always a tool and never a destination.