BILLY GRAHAM





Copyrighted material

Cover design by Bryce Williamson

Cover photo © venimo / Gettyimages

Interior design by Chad Dougherty

Content development by Meadow's Edge Group LLC. Thank you, Seamus Dillon at Zondervan and Marshall Shelley at Christianity Today, for helping make this book possible. Your kindness and graciousness are exemplary.

For bulk, special sales, or ministry purchases, please call 1 (800) 547-8979. Email: Customerservice@hhpbooks.com

is a federally registered trademark of The Hawkins Children's LLC. Harvest House Publishers, Inc., is the exclusive licensee of the trademark.

150 Essential Insights on Faith

Copyright © 2013 by Meadow's Edge Group LLC Published by Harvest House Publishers Eugene, Oregon 97408 www.harvesthousepublishers.com

ISBN 978-0-7369-8220-7 (pbk.) ISBN 978-0-7369-8221-4 (eBook)

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means— electronic, mechanical, digital, photocopy, recording, or any other— except for brief quotations in printed reviews, without the prior permission of the publisher.

Printed in the United States of America

21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 / VP-CD / 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations have been taken from the Holman Christian Standard Bible[®], Copyright © 1999, 2000, 2002, 2003, 2009 by Holman Bible Publishers. Used by permission. Holman Christian Standard Bible[®], Holman CSB[®], and HCSB[®] are federally registered trademarks of Holman Bible Publishers.

Verses marked NIV are taken from the Holy Bible, New International Version[®], NIV[®]. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.[®] Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide. www.zondervan.com. The "NIV" and "New International Version" are trademarks registered in the United States Patent and Trademark Office by Biblica, Inc.[®]

Verses marked אדע are taken from the New King James Version®. Copyright © 1982 by Thomas Nelson, Inc. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

This book includes material from these sources:

Todd Hafer, private interviews with Billy Graham (August and September, 1992).

Harold Myra and Marshall Shelley, The Leadership Secrets of Billy Graham (Zondervan, 2005). Used by permission.

Ralph Keyes, The Quote Verifier (St. Martin's Press, 2006).

Todd Hafer, editor, For Your Confirmation: Promises and Prayers (Hallmark, 2009). Used by permission.

Billy Graham, Just as I Am: The Autobiography of Billy Graham (Zondervan, 1997). Used by permission.

Ruth Graham, A Legacy of Faith: Things I Learned from My Father (Zondervan, 2006). Used by permission.

Press conferences and public addresses.



CONTENTS

Introduction • 7

The Heart of the Billy Graham Message • 9

On Friends and Family • 23

Unity in Diversity • 29

A Man and His Mission • 43

The State of America...and the World • 67

Personal Revelations • 95

The Power of Prayer • 127

Quotable Quips • 135

Confronting Social Injustice • 149

Facing the Future • 161

Go into all the world and preach the gospel to the whole creation.

MARK 16:15

Copyrighted material



INTRODUCTION

Billy Graham. A spiritual confidant to US presidents beginning with Harry Truman. A respected adviser to myriad world figures, from Winston Churchill to Boris Yeltsin to Ronald Reagan to Bono. For more than seven decades, Mr. Graham spoke to hundreds of millions of people in more than 185 countries and territories from massive crusades in major cities to small gatherings in remote African villages. He appeared more than fifty times on the Gallup organization's "Ten Most Admired Men in the World" poll. He also received the Congressional Gold Medal and was honored by the George Washington Carver Memorial Institute for his contribution to race relations.

Well into his nineties, Billy Graham continued to proclaim his message of hope, encouragement, and faith

through televised crusades, a worldwide radio ministry, an internationally syndicated newspaper column, and appearances on programs like *Larry King Live*.

Mr. Graham wrote more than thirty books, including several *New York Times* bestsellers.

Raised on a North Carolina dairy farm during the Great Depression, Billy Graham maintained a humble spirit and singular goal throughout his long ministry. "My purpose in life," he said, "is to help people find a personal relationship with God."

This book features highlights from Mr. Graham's life and ministry. You'll discover stirring quotes, fascinating anecdotes, and profound spiritual insights sure to capture the mind and the heart.

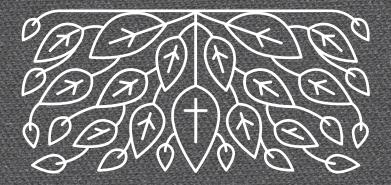
We hope and pray that this book will give you new insights into a remarkable man—and that his wise words will inspire and encourage you and draw you closer to the God whom Billy Graham served so faithfully.



THE HEART OF THE BILLY GRAHAM MESSAGE

I am eager to preach the good news.

ROMANS 1:15



I recall an old Methodist preacher who came to Harringay Arena in London in 1954. "I have come here every night for ninety-three nights," he told us, "and I have heard only one message." He meant it as a compliment, for he knew as I did that there is **ONLY ONE** Christian message. God created us in His image. He created us and **LOVES** us so that we may live in harmony and fellowship **WITH HIM**. We are not here by chance. God **PUT US HERE** for a **PURPOSE**, and our lives are never fulfilled and complete until His purpose becomes the **FOUNDATION** and center of our lives. God provided **HIS LOVE** on the cross. When Christ hung, bled, and died, it was God saying to the world, **"I LOVE YOU."**

¥

1

Copyrighted material

God **WILL NOT** reject a heart that's broken and sorry for sin. He's not waiting to condemn you, to judge you. He's waiting to **KISS YOU** and say "I love you."

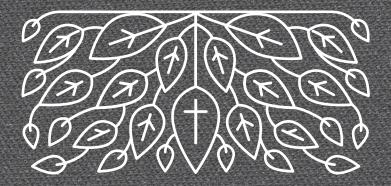
Copyrighted material



ON FRIENDS AND FAMILY

Show family affection to one another with brotherly love.

ROMANS 12:10



In my ministry, I've been blessed by the people who have surrounded me and worked with me. Without men like Cliff Barrows, Bev Shea, T.W. Wilson, Bill Brown, Guy Martin, Allan Emery, and George Bennett—and all the other people who have served on our board

and worked on the crusades—our ministry would be nothing. You would have never heard of me. I give all the credit and glory on this earth to them. And **ALL THE GLORY** we give collectively to **GOD**, because without His Holy Spirit, we couldn't have done it. Everybody needs some friends around him who will say, "You are wrong!" And that includes me. I really value the **FRIENDSHIP** of people who'll just tell it to me **LIKE IT IS**, even though I may try to defend my position for a while.