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Revolve: The Complete New Testament (Biblezines)



Synopsis

In focus groups, online polling, and one-on-one discussion, Transit Books has found that the number one reason teens don't read the Bible is that it is "too big and freaky looking." This fashion-magazine format for the New Testament is the perfect solution to that problem. Teen girls feel comfortable exploring the Scriptures in the New Century Version and over 500 further-study notes because of the relevant language and format! Revolve is the new look for teen Bible publishing!

Book Information

Series: Biblezines

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Average Customer Review: 3.4 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (106 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,288,116 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #63 inÂ Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Children's & Teens > Teens > Biblical Studies #1116 inÂ Books > Teens > Religion & Spirituality #7295 inÂ Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Bibles

Customer Reviews

It is certainly laudable to make the Bible accessible to particular demographic groups -- teen girls, teen boys, moms, etc. And though I have reservations about the trend toward niche marketing of Bibles, rarely do "niche Bibles" turn my stomach. This one does, primarily because it buys rather uncritically into a media culture that is particularly harmful to girls and young women. Yes, the editorial additions to the biblical text sometimes warn the reader about things like eating disorders and sexual violence, but when these additions are coupled with images of beautiful and thin girls with a "natural" glow, the images overpower the words. It's hard enough for teenagers in our culture to develop a healthy body image, but associating images of impossibly perfect people with "the word of God" compounds the problem. Beyond the problem of "image" and fashion mag format, the content here is condescending and dishonest. For instance, the editorial introduction rightly notes that questions about who wrote particular books of the Bible and why are important, and that each

book's introduction will address these questions. Aside from some thematic material and an occasional passing nod to the fruits of faithfully critical biblical scholarship, the book introductions fail to do so. Similarly, in response to one of the "Blab" questions about proper attire for girls, the text says that some biblical passages are "prescriptive" and others "descriptive," the latter not to be understood as rules for today's readers. Fair enough, but there's nothing that would help the reader learn how to tell the difference. It's dishonest to say you're going to do something and not do it; it's condescending to assume that teenagers are incapable of learning how to read the Bible in a discerning way.

I've never been more embarrassed to be raised Christian. Why not change all the words in the bible? Why not change all the meaning? Bit by bit its original message is degraded in a whisper chain of translations until the person at the end is left with something resembling The Book of Mormon. There are all sorts of people who interpret the bible for any number of reasons, including Nazi's, cultists and well meaning fund raisers, but the problem is the same no matter what the purpose. To change the words inevitably in some way alters the meaning. To interpret the words gives you only one point of view- the interpreters. God wanted you to have your own point of view. The author says that girls are intimidated by the big words and the old language of the bible. Why girls? Are they so stupid? Are they so much lesser than other parts of human culture that they need a bible written especially for them in the language of pre-adolescent morons? If girls are so pathetically ignorant, that they can't understand things people educated and uneducated alike have understood for over 1000 years, maybe they should spend a little less time shrinking their pores and a little more time paying attention at school. All this book does is say that girls are freaking idiots and so much so that they need their own version of the bible (with lots of pictures) to be able to hold their short lived brainless attention for more than 5 minutes. So anyone supporting this book supports the empty brains of girls everywhere saying "it's ok pretty thing, if you don't understand the big mean complex world, we'll just make it conform to you so you can go about putting on your make up and not have to deal with anything so bad as reality.

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