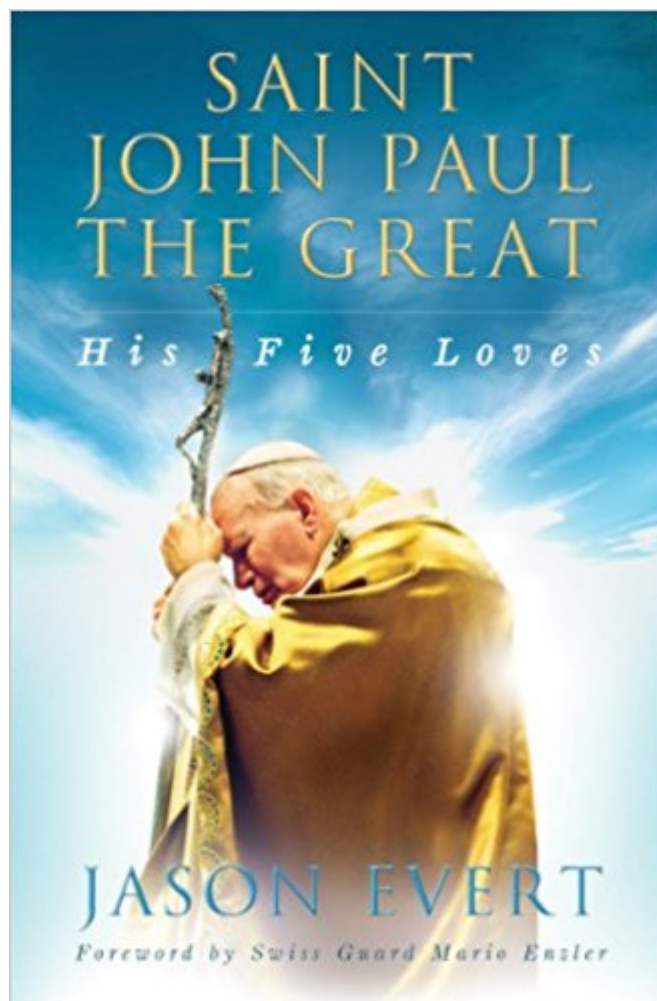


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Saint John Paul The Great: His Five Loves



Synopsis

Discover the five great loves of St. John Paul II through remarkable unpublished stories on him from bishops, priests, students, Swiss Guards, and others. Mining through a mountain of papal resources, Jason Evert has uncovered these many gems, offering a treasure chest brimming with the jewels of the saint's life. After a brief overview of John Paul's life, Evert explores in depth his five great loves: Young People, Human Love, The Eucharist, Our Lady, The Cross. This work is intended to be catechetical, inspiring, and evangelical. By looking at what he loved and why, the goal is to help readers learn more about key aspects of John Paul's life and teachings, including Theology of the Body, Divine Mercy, Total Consecration, Eucharistic adoration, and redemptive suffering. Woven throughout the book is an assortment of intriguing stories and facts that most Catholics don't know about the saint, such as: How the communists actually selected him as archbishop How a priest stabbed him in Fatima, yet he continued with the liturgy How one of Osama Bin Laden's best men nearly murdered him in the Philippines How he had conversations with the Virgin Mary Rekindle your own faith by learning what captivated the heart of this great saint. Illustrated.

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Customer Reviews

"Jason Evert offers readers an insightful, popular introduction to St. John Paul's life and loves."

--George Weigel, Author, *Witness to Hope* • Jason Evert has synthesized the life and teaching of Pope John Paul II around the motives that mark a saint's life: what great loves moved him to be the witness to the Gospel, the apostle to the modern world, a mystic who was also philosopher

and pastor? Reading this book, those who knew him will find themselves smiling and nodding; those who never met him will come to know him.â • --Francis Cardinal George, Archbishop of Chicago

Jason Evert has spoken about the Catholic Faith to more than one million people on six continents, and is the author of more than a dozen books, including *Pure Faith*, *Theology of the Body for Teens*, and *How to Find Your Soulmate without Losing Your Soul*. He and his wife Crystalina run the website chastityproject.com and live in Colorado with their children.

Just in time for Pope Francis to canonize Saint John Paul II on 27 April 2014, we have a new book on the saint by popular Catholic youth speaker Jason Evert. Evert, Jesuit-educated at Brophy Prep, has made a career with his wife Crystalina as a popular fixture on the Catholic youth and young adult speaking circuit. Speaking in the U.S. and beyond, they emphasize the value of chastity and of saving oneself until marriage, frequently citing their inspiration from JP II's theology of the body. As such, it's highly appropriate that this new book focuses on the "five loves" of a pope who focused a good part of his ministry on recovering a self-sacrificing notion of human love for the public square. This is a reverential book written with style and humor in an accessible, non-technical style. If you've read Evert's other books on sexuality and relationships, you'll know what to expect here, but there's a more warmly personal focus in this book on the pope whose love for humanity inspired so many. If you want uplifting spiritual reading for Easter, I highly recommend this paperback book as a simple love letter to the "pope of the young" whom so many of us still recall with deep affection.

I read this book in absolute awe. The only reason I gave it four stars instead of five is I felt that the section on the Theology of the Body was drawn out too long, that it could have been shorter without losing its full meaning. What a remarkable soul Saint John Paul II was/is. His mystical prayer life as it is beautifully offered by the author Jason Evert, has a power which kind of sets a goal for the rest of us to achieve - that God wants this for all of us - and will grant it to us if we truly want intimacy with Him . . . as incredible as it may seem. The confines of time and space didn't seem to confine this Pope. His deep immersion in prayer was always more important. He seemed to be already living in eternity. I really appreciate the effort it must've surely taken to find the stories that are included in this book - plus the time to actually write the book. If you seriously wish to strengthen your relationship with our Lord, with His Blessed Mother, this book is a classroom and John Paul II is our teacher. Please read it!

The book gives insights into a truly brilliant and committed human mind. John Paul had plenty of reasons to be bitter and discouraged. He was the perfect example of living the life and walking the talk. He was not overcome by evil (discouragement) but overcame evil with good (absolute compassion). The book shows one who committed his life, innermost being, and expended all his time and effort to understanding the difference between good and evil and practiced good. He did not cover up his own failings but accepted grace to overcome them and embraced his own weakness and pain as examples of how to endure imperfection. Pope Saint John Paul the Great deserves all those titles. He is the example of what a human being can become when one chooses to eat solid spiritual and inspirational food. John Paul's character was honed by the books he read and the people he both taught and learned from. If we, like him, would investigate the concepts of good and evil and meditate on them we -- if we are not psychopathic -- would have no trouble acknowledging that cutting off people's heads, selling small girls into prostitution, and murdering entire villages of people is evil. Neither would we have a problem in seeing the evil of baiting demented religious fanatics into attacking "innocent Christians practicing free speech." Fanatics are fully capable of evil without provocation. Righteous indignation does not justify evil. The book shows that John Paul did not bait the Soviet Union occupiers of Poland. He simply told the truth. The truth frightened them. Hebrews 5:14 in the Amplified Bible states, "But solid food is for full-grown men, for those whose senses and mental faculties are trained by practice to discriminate and distinguish between what is morally good and noble and what is evil and contrary either to divine or human law." This book gives an example of a "full-grown" man. If any man or woman, likewise, wants to be a moral adult this book gives an example of one. John Paul's life was not a matter of following rules, or philosophies, or doctrines. It was a life to understanding and yielding the impetus that gives worth to each and human life. It is a good book to read if one wants to become a better and more effective human being.

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