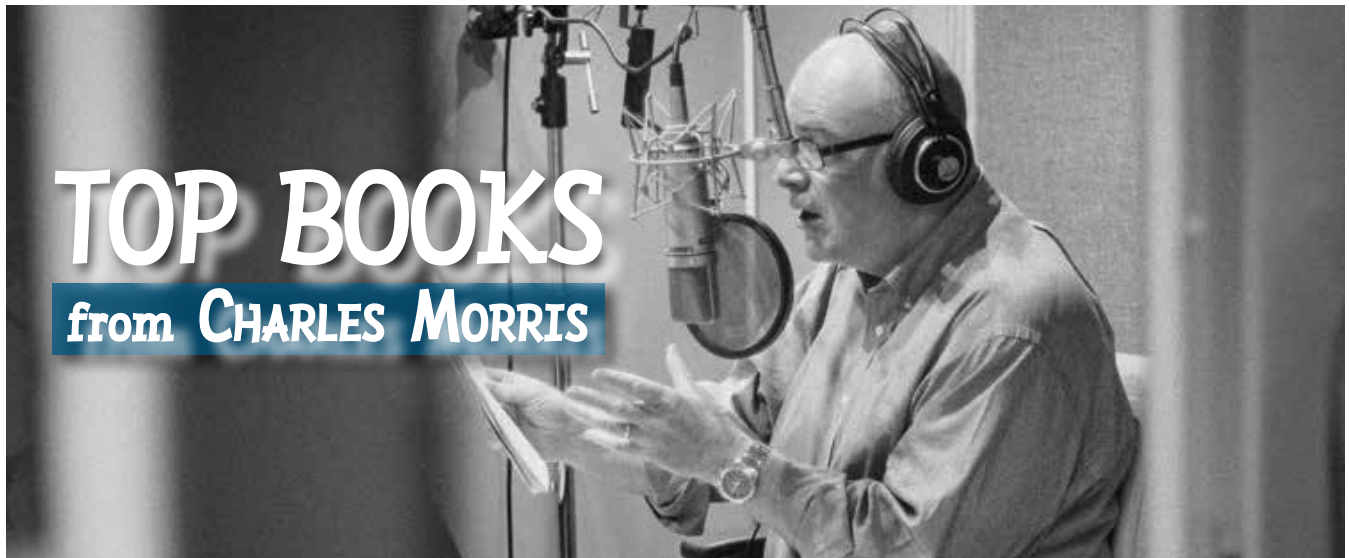


recommended reads



Looking for a good book? Here's **Charles Morris** (*HAVEN Today*):

From age 9 when I caught the reading "bug" to now having passed 60, books are a major part of my life and my faith. How can the Bible not be number one for a Christian to love the Lord their God and for one to listen and hear His voice. But reading is a gift God gives and along with inspiration and wisdom, books offer entertainment and the opportunity to flee a smart-phone life. (Yes, I avoid e-books unless I'm traveling and on a program or interview deadline.)

So after **God's Holy Word**, here is my list in an order that's constantly changing by genre and title.

1. **Berlin Diary** (William L. Shirer) — who with Edward R. Murrow invented modern-day broadcast journalism. It was an instant best seller of all he couldn't report with German censors monitoring his every dispatch on the rise of Hitler.

2. **The Last Lion: Winston Spencer Churchill** (William Manchester and Paul Reid) — a trilogy on the life of Churchill who I grew to admire after taking my BA at the college in Missouri where the former Prime Minister delivered his famous "Iron Curtain" speech.

3. **George Whitefield** (Arnold A. Dallimore) — the father of modern-day evangelicalism whose preaching led the great revival of the 18th century.

4. As a sentimentalist, I'm torn by fond memories of reading my children **The Hobbit** (J.R.R. Tolkien) and the seven volumes of **The Chronicles of Narnia** (C.S. Lewis). Is it too mundane to say that anything by Lewis belongs on a best read list?

5. **Saving Grace** (C. John Miller) — the late preacher who was my pastor who changed my marriage and influenced my parenting. He stoked my heart and many others by reviving the Puritan line

"preach the Gospel to yourself."

6. **Systematic Theology** (Louis Berkhof) — the most treasured hardback on my shelf. From my first days of seminary for over 30 years, this classic is worth owning just for the index. This is my compass for sound biblical teaching.

7. Like J.I. Packer, what would life be without a good "whodunnit" for bedside reading? I've moved past Dorothy Sayers and Agatha Christie to more modern works by John Grisham, P.D. James, and even fellow former UPI reporter Daniel Silva with his best work yet, **The English Patient**.

8. **The Complete Poetry and Selected Prose** (John Donne) — My diet for poetry is not steady, but the one my wife and I turn to together is to slowly share the writing of the English priest who delivered his own funeral sermon and whose statue commands a worthy presence in St. Paul's Cathedral, London.

christmas is coming

Look for more detailed information next month but for those who plan early—there will be two brand new Christmas specials this year. Contact Haley@ambaa.com for details!

Because of Bethlehem

If you could use some true Christmas this Christmas, join **Max Lucado** as he unpacks the enduring promises of Christmas and discovers a lifetime of hope because of one baby born in Bethlehem.



Where Christmas Never Ends

It's a traditional Christmas celebration at its best when **Carter Conlon** reflects on this glorious season through both message and song. The fireside may be virtual but the holiday delight is genuine.

