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Finding God in the Ordinary

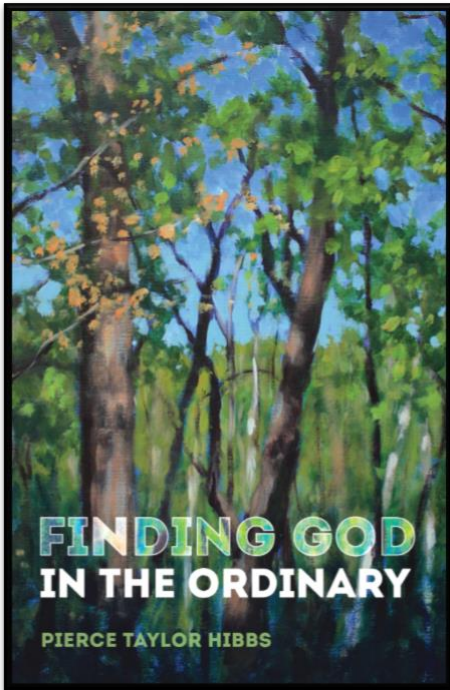
by Pierce Taylor Hibbs

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New Title from Pierce Taylor Hibbs
Finding God in the Ordinary



We tend to look for God in the grand and spectacular, but most of our lives are filled with ordinary moments and routines: drinking coffee, reading a book, driving to work. Can we find God in the banalities of everyday life? In *Finding God in the Ordinary*, the author shows that we can, and that we must. Our world is not an ordinary world. Because it was spoken into being and maintained by the word of God's power (Heb. 1:3), everything around us is always revealing the nature and character of the triune God. Our world is extraordinarily ordinary, always calling our attention to the God of glory and his work in the commonplace.

Pierce Taylor Hibbs serves as the Associate Director of the Theological English department at Westminster Theology Seminary. He is the author of *The Trinity, Language, and Human Behavior* (2018) and *The Speaking Trinity & His Worded World* (2019). He writes regularly at piercetaylorhibbs.com.



Interview with Pierce Taylor Hibbs

1. Why did you write this book?

I wrote this book because all of us need to be seeking God in all parts of life, not just on Sunday mornings or in weekly prayer meetings. We need to seek God in the ordinary, for he is there, too.

2. Who is the book for?

This book is for everyday churchgoers and pastors who are looking for creative ways to commune with God. I share my experiences so that others might search for God in the ordinary moments and routines of their own lives.

3. What did you enjoy most about writing this book?

This book was a spiritual exercise that helped me to examine common occurrences in light of God's ever-present glory. I loved getting to see my family and the moments of my week with deeper significance.

4. How have others received the book so far?

The book has been received very well by many people I respect and admire: Vern Poythress, John Frame, Kent Hughes, Bill Edgar, and Aimee Byrd. It is both practical and poetic, simple and creative.

5. What makes this book distinct?

In today's fast-paced world, few of us slow down to examine the "ordinary" moments of life. We rush through them, in search of bigger things. But the ordinary is grand and testifies to the triune God in remarkable ways. We just have to ask God to open our eyes and then rely on the Holy Spirit to train us to see it.

6. What is your hope for this book?

My hope is that readers will grow in awe of God and come to worship him in the little moments, not just the great events.

An Excerpt from *Finding God in the Ordinary*

We are surrounded by an environment steeped in God's presence, a world that cannot help but reveal something of the God who spoke it into being. Sin is the reason why we are blinded to this profound truth.

That is why we must constantly rid ourselves of the falsehood that the world is somehow neutral and cold: a conglomeration of elements, unpossessed by God and void of divinely-ordained meaning. Our sinful world says, "The earth is man's; we govern ourselves." But God says, "The earth is the LORD'S and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein" (Ps. 24:1). We are living on and within purchased property—an entire cosmos that is possessed and governed by the triune God. And the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit have so created this cosmos to reveal God's control, authority, and presence around every corner.

This book is my attempt to describe "commonplace" elements or events of my own life and reflect on how they reveal the God I worship and serve. My hope is that it encourages you to look for God in the world around you—in the ordinary. He is here. And because he is here, the world is not truly ordinary. It is always extraordinary because all around us we find marks of the Trinity: the God who governs, guides, and protects his people in a world that everywhere reveals his presence with us. Let us together train our minds and hearts to combat the sinful assumptions of the world and find the God of grace in the strangest places.

Praise for *Finding God in the Ordinary*

“I loved this short book by Pierce Taylor Hibbs on finding God in the ordinary. It is Scriptural, wise, and beautifully written. Reformed theologians are not supposed to write natural theologies, but the Bible itself says that God is clearly revealed in the creation, and that means not only in the big things like the skies and the mountains, but also in small things, like my morning cup of coffee. This book will help you to see God everywhere, for that is where he is.”

—John M. Frame, author of *Nature’s Case for God*

“This book is a tremendous stimulus to seeing the world as God would have us see it, and interacting with the world as God would have us interact. It helps us by showing what was always there, God’s presence in the ordinary. Creative, illuminating, and godly.”

—Vern S. Poythress, author of *Knowing and the Trinity*

“The meditations upon life’s commonplaces that Pierce Taylor Hibbs has crafted in this remarkable volume are Dillard-like in their penetrating observations of creation, and Hopkins-like in their ‘Glory be to God for dappled things’ celebration of the Creator’s work. And more, because Hibbs’ meditations are grounded in a robust, polychrome doctrine of the Holy Trinity, they help us to see the work of the three-personed God in all of life—the extraordinary ordinary of our own lives.”

—R. Kent Hughes, author of *Disciplines of a Godly Man*

“In this precious volume Pierce Hibbs has done what few can achieve. These pages credibly combine the eye of a keen observer of the world around with statements about God’s nature and purposes. Putting it that way sounds a bit grandiose, for the book is both playful and lyrical, at times overflowing into poetry. . . . Interspersed are Hibbs’s insights into language, which is his great specialty. This is a book I would give to many people, believers or not, as it would introduce them to our God, whom they would meet in the ordinary.”

—William Edgar, author of *Created and Creating*

