

Top Ten: Grief Books

Book	Author	Quotes & Notes
A Grace Disguised: <i>How the Soul Grows Through Loss</i>	Jerry Sittser	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ “Can anyone really expect to recover from such tragedy, considering the value of what was lost. We recover from broken limbs, not amputations.” [p. 73] ▪ Sittser’s wife, young daughter and mother were killed by a drunk driver. He and his three young boys survived.
A Tearful Celebration: <i>Finding God in the Midst of Loss</i>	James Means	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ “I have heard so often that time heals this hurt. I doubt the truthfulness of such a cliché. Enough time has now elapsed to know that grief is never quite healed.” [p. 61] ▪ Mean’s honesty validated the pain I was still feeling several years after my wife’s death.
Facing Your Giants	Max Lucado	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ “So go ahead, face your grief. Give yourself time. Permit yourself tears. God understands. He knows the sorrow of a grave. He buried his son.” [p. 88]. ▪ Lucado’s chapter entitled, “Unspeakable Grief” was the best eight pages on grief that I read.
Let Me Grieve but Not Forever	Verdell Davis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ “Everything I had ever been taught, everything I had ever believed, was being severely tested. I wrestled with issues of faith and trust, with God’s sovereignty.” [p. 26-27] ▪ Verdell personally helped my journey through her “Living with Loss” grief support class.
In Light of Eternity: <i>Perspectives on Heaven</i>	Randy Alcorn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ “Home as term for heaven is not simply a metaphor. It describes an actual, physical place—a place built by our bridegroom, a place we’ll share with loved ones, a place of... fine food and great conversations...and expressing the gifts and passions God has given us.” [p. 12] ▪ Alcorn’s book absolutely transformed my image of heaven and provided unshakable hope.
Getting to the Other Side of Grief: <i>Overcoming the Loss of a Spouse</i>	Susan Zonnebelt-smeenge & Robert De Vries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ “Grief not only validates the significance of the relationship but also gives you an occasion to acknowledge the value of the person who died.” [p. 16]. ▪ Written by a psychologist and a pastor who both lost spouses at a young age.
God of the Valley: A Journey through Grief	Steve Griffiths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ “It was as if someone had torn open my chest, ripped out my heart, and was stamping it into the ground. I have never before or since felt such an intense pain. [p. 125] ▪ Griffith weaves reflections on biblical passages into the story of his grief journey.

<p>God in the Storm</p>	<p>Mark Maillefer</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ “While in the storm it is hard to trust God. Trusting God seems as impossible as worshipping him... It is hard to trust the Lord when everything is in a state of chaos.” [p. 32] ▪ Maillefer describes God’s presence and purpose in our devastating storms.
<p>When God Breaks Your Heart: <i>Choosing Hope in the Midst of Faith-Shattering Circumstances</i></p>	<p>Ed Underwood</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ “Suppressing the question [Why not me?] is not the solution. Lying to your Savior when your heart screams for more only intensifies the pain. Christians who attempt to hide their hurt from Christ are trapped in a dark room of despair.” [. 53] ▪ Underwood tackles the dilemma of a God who has the power to do anything, yet chooses not to help.
<p>I’ll Hold You in Heaven: <i>Healing & Hope for the Parent Who Lost a Child Through Miscarriage, Stillbirth, Abortion, or Early Infant Death</i></p>	<p>Jack Hayford</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ “Here you are specifically freed to expect to meet your child in heaven, to recognize him or her and to be with your child.” [p. 73-74] ▪ This book comforted my wife after suffering three miscarriages.
<p>Widowed: <i>When Death Sucks the Life out of You</i></p>	<p>Fran Geiger Joslin</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ “Somewhere along the line we find a way to scratch our way out of the darkness of death. While we still grieve, we encounter more joy than sadness, and we discover how to keep living.” [p. 215-216] ▪ Upset that another friend suddenly faced widowhood, Fran asked herself, “What would I say to a new widow.” This book answers that question.