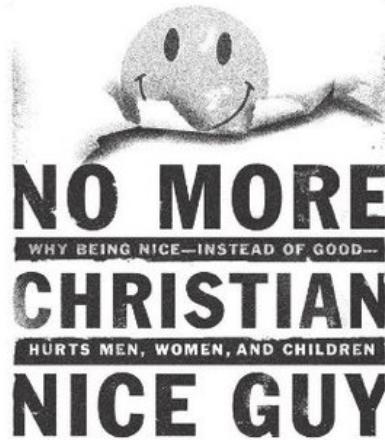


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No More Christian Nice Guy: When Being Nice-- Instead of Good--Hurts Men, Women and Children

Paul Coughlin, Laura Schlessinger (Foreword by)

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Using humorous examples from his own life, poignant stories, and vivid examples from contemporary culture, Coughlin shows how he learned to say no to the "nice guy" syndrome and instead reflect the true biblical model of manhood.

No More Christian Nice Guy: When Being Nice--Instead of Good--Hurts Men, Women and Children Details

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Thomas says

Obviously like all books that fall into the quasi-scriptural/self-help section. It's not God-Breathed scripture, so you have to pray over it, but it is worth the read.

I congratulate the author for going out on a limb, and saying what needed to be said. He stated some pointed statements in this book, he got right down where the "Christian Nice Guy" lives, and pulled no punches. He not only challenged, but he proked! However, he is speaking out of empathy, because he once was a CNG!

His section on how Jesus' image has been twisted to be more feminine, is plain jaw dropingly shocking! I left that section with an answer to a few questions. I had always suspected that something wasn't right with how Jesus was portrayed, but it took reading this book to be able to put my finger on it.

I think he took a good attempt to show how the harmony of the sexes actually help each other, and there is no bashing of women in anyway.

I will add that while the book is chocked-full of scripture, he doesn't go into an in depth process on how the Holy Spirit, or rather the Spirit of Grace can help a man change. Don't get me wrong, he speaks of the Holy Spirit, of God and Jesus a lot, but if you want a book on the spiritual process that makes a man, it's not here.

If you think that Christianity and mansculinity are polar opposites you should read it.

Russell Vining says

good perspective of how to view what society is teaching and how to respond.

Lucas says

I'm not quite finished with this one yet, and it's been a tough slog so far. Parts of it made me very angry at Paul, since it seems like he's blaming women and the Women's Rights Movement of the 60's and 70's for a lot of what he sees is wrong with guys nowadays. And granted, what he sees is wrong really is wrong - men who are timid and meek and ever subservient, men who will not stand up for justice, men who bowl over in conflict just to avoid ruffling feathers, men who manipulate behind the scenes because they are afraid to just ask for what they want, men who are afraid to lead, men who do not respect themselves enough to oppose insult and embrace righteous confrontation.

However, his message seems a little bit off for my personal experience. I haven't gone through a lot of what he talks about in his text, but he gives a strong biblical standing for the qualities of godly masculinity, which is helpful and interesting to read.

Andy R. says

Once you've read "Wild at Heart," reread it, then you are ready for this book. Seriously, this sits on my shelf right between the complete works of John Eldredge and "Why Men Hate Going to Church." If you love God but can't stand His followers you owe it to yourself to read those three books.

Philip Parker says

This book was exactly what I needed at this time in my life. The author has a great way of challenging the reader to look at his Christian walk in a different light. I pray now that I walk with God as a Christian Good Guy and stand for what is biblical instead of what I think a Christian Man is supposed to act like. I also found it helpful to read this book as a group so I could glean from other Men. It was refreshing to share what I read and then hear a completely different take on the same thing because another man had different life experiences than me.

James says

I had this on Kindle and finally got around to reading it. Paul Coughlin is a local Christian writer and runs a non-profit addressing the problem of bullies. This book was written about a decade ago and is his encouragement for Christian men to stop being so passive, and to become courageous, good and assertive.

I would say for the most part this book is great; however about 20% of the book is Coughlin's critique on how the feminist movement has eroded our understanding of what it means to be a man. He sees other root causes for the Christian Nice Guy (CNG), such as a feminized, meek and mild picture of Jesus, and how (he personally but others) have had their masculinity damaged through abuse. The advice he dispenses, about being assertive and not ruled by fear, applies to both males and females and I disagree with some of his analysis, mostly because painting the 'meek' image of Jesus as girly (or as he says in a chapter title, a bearded lady), demeans women. Passive nice ladies are not exactly praised in Scripture, where as assertive, strong women are (i.e. the bleeding woman, Mary and Martha, Jesus' mother Mary at the Wedding of Cana, the Syrophenician woman, etc). I don't blame feminists for eroding manhood, but praise them for helping women recover their strength. Coughlin does write a *No More Christian Nice Girl* book as well, where presumably he packages this same advice for women.

But on the level of 'advice,' I think Coughlin is spot-on. Niceness is pretty detrimental to men's lives. Passivity is a failure to be truly good and I can recognize patterns of behavior and places where I personally be more assertive. So I appreciate his message.

Michael says

A book worth reading again. I've recommended this to friends. It is my prayer that this message spreads more in the church and men feel free to be the men God meant for them to be according to the Bible.

John Gardner says

The men in my small group recently went through this book together. Coughlin distinguishes between “nice guys” and “good guys”, contending that Jesus was the latter, and so we Christian men ought to be as well. This entails living lives that are bold and adventurous rather than passive and uninspiring. It requires finding a balance between being “wise as serpents and innocent as doves” (Matt. 10:16). After all, Jesus was the man who “opened not his mouth” (Is. 53:7) in his own defense at his trial, but he is also the man who brandished a whip to drive the moneychangers out of the temple, and who bucked the establishment of the political and religious leaders of his day. Jesus wept with emotion, got angry, loved children, worked diligently, and gave glory to His Father at all times. “Christian Nice Guys”, however, struggle to follow his example, which hurts them in their marriages, their families, and their jobs. Coughlin offers practical solutions and Biblical counsel for those struggling CNG’s and their wives.

Buy this book [here](#) .

Jeff Wright says

This book should be distilled down into about a 50-page booklet. There's an excruciating amount of personal stories. Very tough to get through to the end.

Sage Adams says

The usual Christian platitudes about how great Jesus and God are and how you should be more like Jesus. Some ideas about how to be less 'nice'...but would be more beneficial to men who suffer from niceness to spend more time tackling why they are nice in the first place - through no fault of their own - usually unhealthy family systems that have taught them to be doormats.

Richard Joya says

There would have been less heartbreak in my life had I read this book earlier. Reading this book has helped me realize how trying to please people in the short run ends with me often taking a passive aggressive attitude. Rather than confront something when it is happening I would bottle things up and blow up when the last straw comes weeks or even months later. Because of that friends and even family were afraid of me. Now people are much more happy and respectful around me.
I like his reference to Dr. Kristina Hoff Sommers. I enjoy her show the Factual Feminist. I would love to see groups like the Honey Badgers interview Paul. I think it would be interesting.

Reading this has helped me realize how my clouded view of Jesus and Christianity has put myself into a box of needing to be a people pleaser. The perspective that Paul Coughlin wrote about has given me a better understanding of Jesus and his teachings. He now feels like someone who lived on Earth rather than just a character in a story.

This has also helped me understand why many of my peers would criticize Christianity but act surprised, absolutely shocked if I decide to make a stand and defend the faith. So many of them expect Christians to be pushovers. It also explains some of the reasons many of them hold such bitter views. Paul also dispels myths about what Christian men should think and not feel that I have noticed among many bitter people.

John says

The title kind of tells it all, and for those familiar with "No More Mr. Nice Guy" get the reference - why I bought this and had to see what it was about. It starts with the obvious, to show how the bible is not about "nice guys" and then goes to show how Jesus was not a "nice guy". I mean, pretty basic. And a lot of the rest is too. I got the impression that Paul Coughlin thinks he has stumbled upon something really important, as well may be, and that this is the book to tell the world. I found it rather disappointingly written, a bit too all over the place and lacking in structure. It's not that it's very bad, it is actually totally ok book in case of content if you manage to distill it out, but not all in the writing style and building a good case for each chapter. Somehow it became a slow read rather than interesting, and I lost the edge of it too often in the multitudes of jumps in references. I wonder if maybe the first edition would have been better because it seemed that this expanded edition just got sprinkled with new quotes and paragraphs all over.

Rommel Salazar says

Definitivamente cambió la perspectiva de mi fe y mi relación con Jesús.

Rick says

The potential for something great is there, but the author fails to deliver and instead just goes the easy route of being yet another voice complaining about how overly sensitive people are.

Robbie Cruse says

Good, challenging book for the Christian guy. Makes a lot of sense. Does not give an excuse to be a jerk, like the title may seem to lean towards. It has a good balance and is easy to read.
