

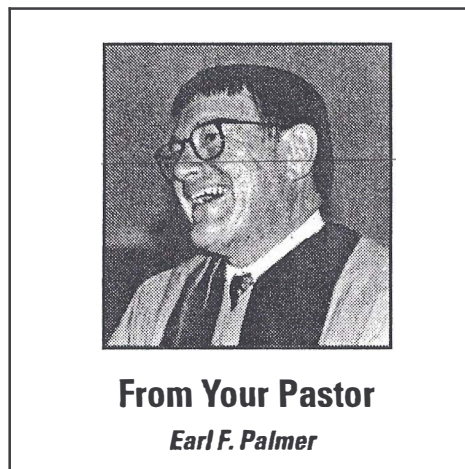
Sources for being an informed Christian

Should a Christian stay informed about what is happening in the world around us? I think the answer is “yes” because each believer is an ambassador for Jesus Christ. Ambassadorship requires two kinds of knowledge. First the knowledge of Christ whom we serve and secondly the knowledge of the world toward which our ambassadorship is mandated.

This second kind of knowledge is acquired in three ways, by life experience, by relationships with people and by reading.

Think for a moment about the ambassadorship of reading. Our first reading and study goal should be in the source book of our ambassadorship, which is the Bible. As for the reading that makes us well informed about the world in which we live, I'll make a few suggestions that I've found useful.

First try to push beyond and behind the swift sound bites that characterize most news reporting today. This is an argument in favor of a daily subscription to a newspaper and if possible the daily *New York Times* (or at least the Sunday edition). Read Christian publications that offer a thoughtful commentary of the world of people and the world of people



of faith.

Here are my favorites (each are in our library reading room).

- **Christianity Today** in my view offers the best and most even-handed picture of the two worlds.

- **Books and Culture** is a new publication of Christianity Today with brilliant in-depth commentary on key cultural issues.

- **Radix Magazine** offers fascinating articles on Christian themes with a wise and

skillful Christian commentary on the arts, books and films of today's culture.

Three Presbyterian magazines also are significant:

- **The Outlook** — this Presbyterian Publication is the best overview of what is happening in our own denomination on a week by week basis.

- **The Presbyterian Layman** focuses on our denomination from the standpoint of the conservative side of our fellowship, endeavoring to alert our church to its orthodox heritage and confessional goals.

- **reNews Magazine** is primarily concerned with the evangelical renewal in our church. The special articles are very helpful for our own discipleship as Christians.

I try to read faithfully these Christian publications and it helps me stay up to date.

For subscriptions, contact:
New York Times
1-800-698-4637

Christianity Today
1-800-999-1704
\$24.95 per year (14 issues)

Radix Magazine
P.O. Box 4307
Berkeley, CA 94704
\$15 per year (4 issues)

Books & Culture
Subscription Services
P.O. Box 37011
Boone, IA 50037-2011
\$24.95 per year

The Presbyterian Outlook
Box 85623
Richmond, VA 23285
1-800-446-6008
\$29.90 per year

The Presbyterian Layman
Presbyterian Lay Committee Inc.
P.O. Box 2210
Lenoir, NC 28645

reNews Magazine
Presbyterians for Renewal
8134 New LaGrange Road Suite 227
Louisville, Kentucky 40222-4679