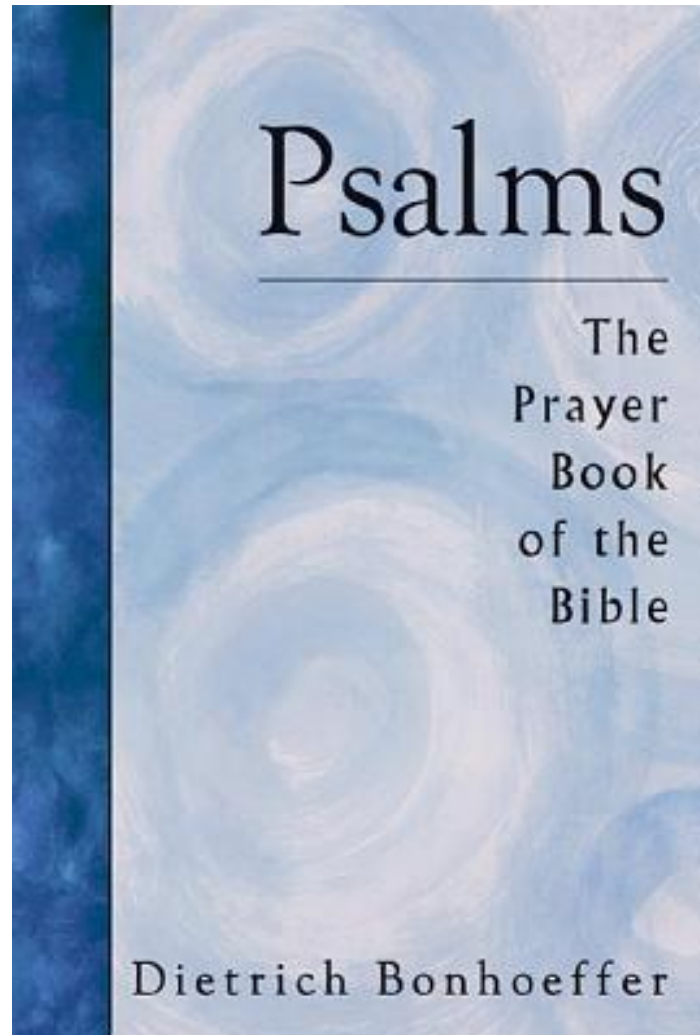


Dietrich Bonhoeffer

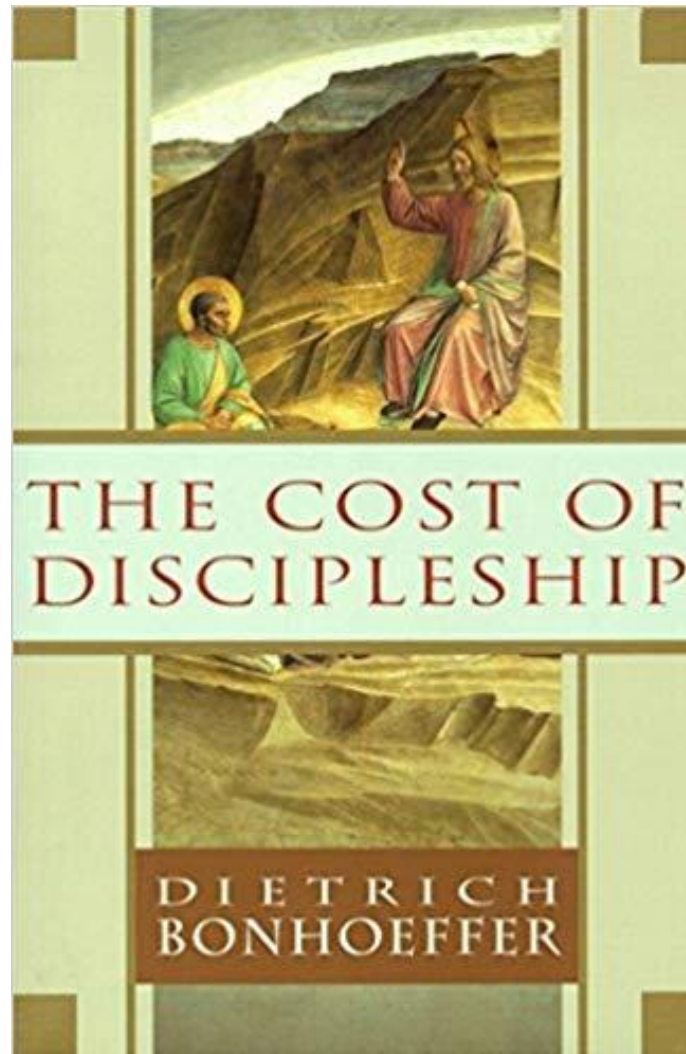
1906-1945



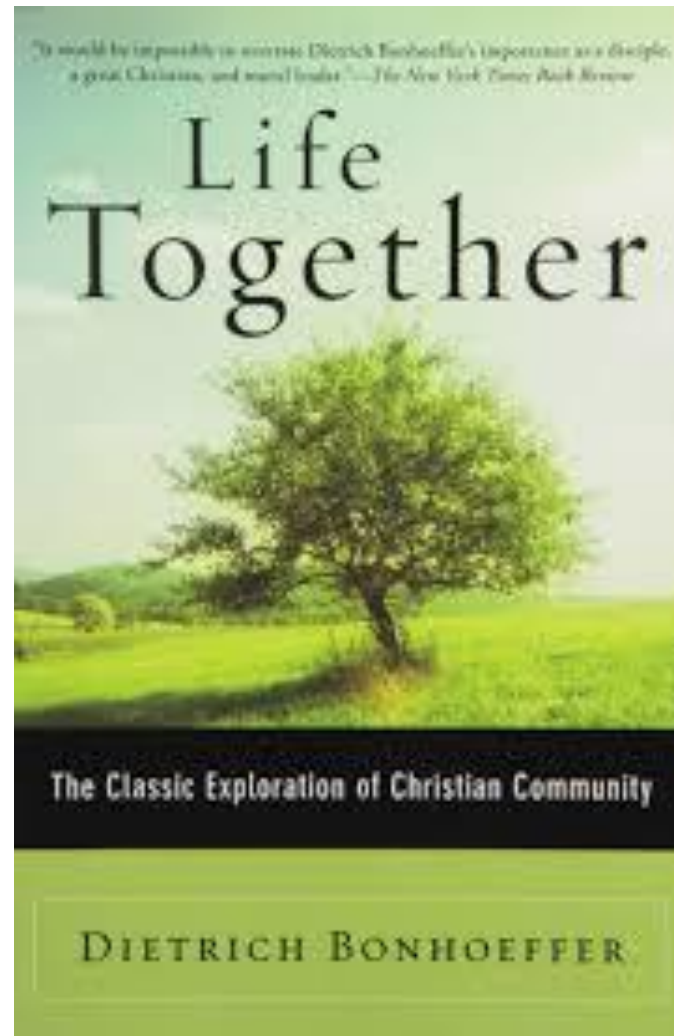
Dietrich Bonhoeffer



Dietrich Bonhoeffer



Dietrich Bonhoeffer



Dietrich Bonhoeffer

- Born: February 4, 1906 (Poland)
- Moved to Berlin, 1912
- By age 21:
 - bachelor's degree
 - master's degree
 - Doctor of Theology degree from Berlin University (*summa cum laude*)

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

- 1930 (age 24): New York: **Union Theological Seminary**
- **Abyssinian Baptist Church (Harlem):**
“from phraseology to reality”

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

1931:

- Returned to Germany
- Taught Systematic Theology
(University of Berlin)
- Ordained as Pastor

1933: Hitler installed as Chancellor of
Germany

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

1934: Founded the Confessing Church

1935: Head of Underground Seminary
("seminary on the run")

1941: Joined the Abwehr

1945: condemned to death. "This is
the end—for me, the beginning of
life."

The Courage of Obedience

The Cost of Discipleship

If you had to describe the essence of discipleship in one sentence, what would you say?

Bonhoeffer: “When Christ calls a man, he bids him come and die.”

The Courage of Obedience

The Cost of Discipleship

Cheap grace is preaching forgiveness without repentance. Cheap grace is grace without discipleship, without the cross, grace without the living, incarnate Jesus Christ.

The Courage of Obedience

The Cost of Discipleship

Costly grace is costly because it calls to discipleship. It is grace, because it calls us to follow *Jesus Christ*; it is costly, because it costs people their lives; it is grace, because it thereby makes them live.

The Courage of Community

Life Together

- *We have to be realistic.*
- *We have to pray for each other.*
- *We have to pursue humility.*
- *We have to confront (Matthew 7:5).*

We have to be realistic.

The person who loves their dream of community will destroy community, but the person who loves those around them will create community.

We have to be realistic.

The Christian must bear the burden of a brother. He must suffer and endure the brother. It is only when he is a burden that another person is really a brother and not merely an object to be manipulated.

We have to pray for each other.

A Christian fellowship lives and exists by the intercession of its members for one another. I can no longer condemn or hate a brother for whom I pray, no matter how much trouble he causes me.

We have to pursue humility.

By living under the cross:

Anybody who has once been horrified by the dreadfulness of his own sin that nailed Jesus to the Cross will no longer be horrified by even the rankest sins of a brother.

We have to pursue humility.

By listening to one another:

Christians who can no longer listen to one another will soon no longer be listening to God either.

We have to pursue humility.

By confessing to one another:

The root of all sin is pride. Confession in the presence of a brother is the profoundest kind of humiliation. It hurts, it cuts a man down, it is a dreadful blow to pride. But it's there we experience the Cross of Jesus as our rescue and salvation.

We have to confront.

Nothing can be more cruel than the leniency which abandons others to their sin.

Nothing can be more compassionate than the severe reprimand which calls another Christian in one's community back from the path of sin.

The Courage of Involvement

Prison Letters

1. Holy Worldliness

“The church is the church only when it exists for others.”

The Courage of Involvement

Prison Letters

2. Theology of Responsibility

We will not and must not be either outraged critics or opportunists, but must take our share of responsibility for the molding of history in every situation and at every moment.

The Courage of Involvement

Prison Letters

3. Secret Discipline

Life in the world always requires the nourishment of the secret discipline, and the secret discipline always sends a man back into the world.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

“He was without exception, the finest and most lovable man I have ever met.”