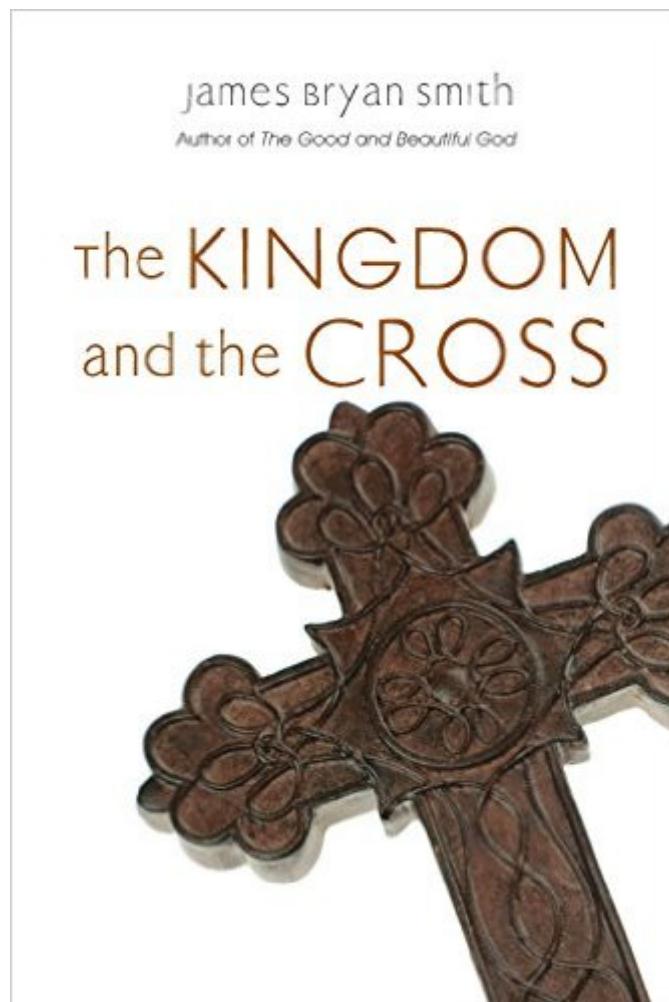


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# The Kingdom And The Cross (Apprentice Resources)



## Synopsis

We believe a lot of false narratives about the nature of God, things like "God helps those who help themselves"; "God blesses the righteous"; "God might not be out for your good, and you might be missing something." But pastor and professor James Bryan Smith, author of the Apprentice Series, points us to the truth of who God is, revealed by Jesus: A God who loves to help the helpless. A God who doesn't play favorites, whether righteous or unrighteous. A God who is, in his essence, self-sacrificingâ •even to deathâ •to save a people he loves. In six short chapters, The Kingdom and the Cross zooms in on Christ's work on the cross and what it all means about who God is and how we're to live as his people. A soul training exercise is included for each chapter to help the new true narrative take root in our hearts. And a discussion guide at the end makes this complement to The Apprentice Series perfect for groups to work through together, especially during the season of Lent. Understanding Christ's work on the cross is crucial for any apprentice of Jesus. Here is a resource to help you seeâ •and believeâ •more fully, that you might live more faithfully in his kingdom.

## Book Information

Series: Apprentice Resources

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## Customer Reviews

How can something so central seem so overlooked? How can a moment of redemption feel so undefined, so forgotten, so underappreciated? For those who rely on Jesus, what do you believe about atonement and justification? What have people taught you about the purpose of the cross? As I have wrestled with those questions, I have discovered a very open, very loose feeling story - a

story that seems to have so many answers, so many perspectives out there. This story of "The Cross" and redemption is also something I've heard many of us struggle to spell out and re-tell. Really, if someone were to ask you, "What's the point of the cross?" how would you respond? Do you feel comfortable with your reply? In *The Kingdom and the Cross*, James Bryan Smith writes a short devotional piece that helps us pause and wonder. His work is designed to inspire contemplation rather than meditation (that is, a state of wonder in the face of beauty). It is a little book that helped me pause. It doesn't have endless lists of Scripture verses, but aims for simple statements and stories; it doesn't take us through the trenches of historical development of atonement theories, but rather invites us to pause in front of art and icons, seeing through artistic windows the depth and grace of redemption....perhaps that's just what we need these days - a few less arguments and pride-inspired correctness, and more dwelling with the Father because of Jesus, which seems to be the point of the cross anyway....I decided to read *The Kingdom and the Cross* because our church will be spending the coming season of Lent exploring God's love for us in the cross.

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