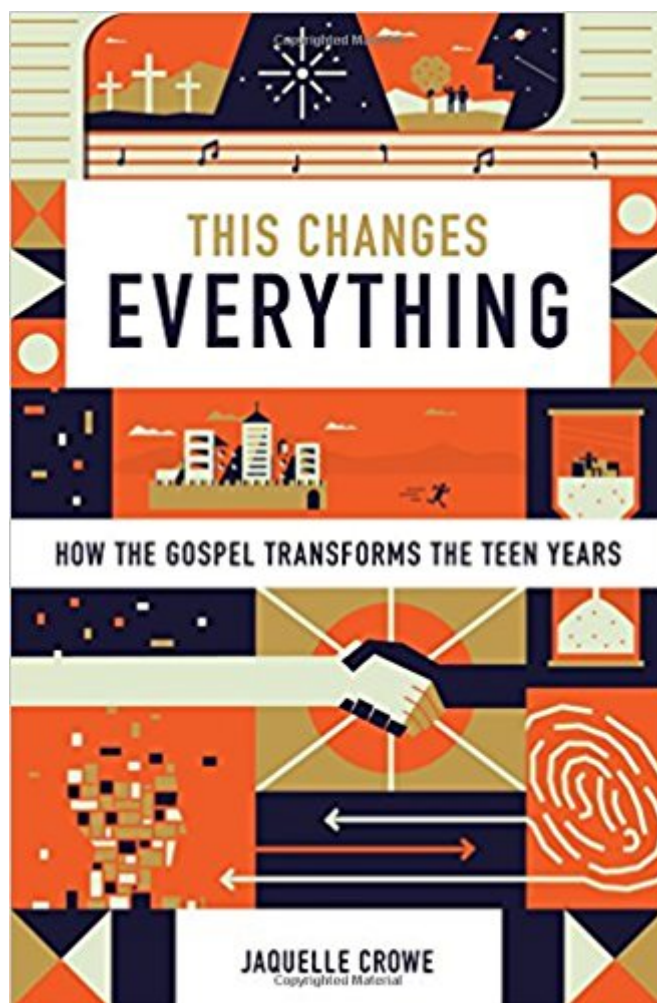


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# This Changes Everything: How The Gospel Transforms The Teen Years



## Synopsis

My name is Jaquelle, and I'm a teenager. I like football movies, sushi, and dark chocolate. But the biggest, most crucial, most significant thing about me is that my life's task is to follow Jesus. He is the One who changed my life. That's what this book is about. It's for teenagers eager to reject the status quo and low standards our culture sets for us. It's for those of us who don't want to spend the adolescent years slacking off, but rather standing out and digging deep into what Jesus says about following him. This book will help you see how the truth about God changes everything—our relationships, our time, our sin, our habits, and more—freeing us to live joyful, obedient, and Christ-exalting lives, even while we're young.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

“No longer little children, not quite independent adults, teenhood is the fast transition between the two. In all the changes, wise teens need straight talk—bold talk—the kind of advice that is sharp enough to help them cut through the false promises and lies of our culture and blunt enough to push back all the old, tired stereotypes of teenagers. You found it! This book is fearless, lucid, God focused, and gospel drenched, all applied in concrete practices, and aimed at nothing less than your eternal joy. These precious years are not the time to slack off, Jaquelle says, it's the time to stand out. This book stands out as a valiant work from one teen serving other teens (and those who love them)!”  
—Tony Reinke, staff writer and researcher, [desiringGod.org](http://desiringGod.org); author, *Lit! A Christian Guide to Reading Books* and *12 Ways Your Phone Is Changing You*  
In a culture where many young people feel entitled and struggle through swamps of victimization, Jaquelle Crowe calls

her fellow teens to Christian discipline. She wants them to choose the hard tasks, the road of discipline, the life of obedience and service to Christ, in response to the gospel of grace. May she and her fellow visionaries "and there is a growing number of them!" follow this path to the end, empowered by transforming grace.

"D. A. Carson, research professor of New Testament, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School; cofounder, The Gospel Coalition

œJaquelle Crowe writes her first book with this purpose: "that the gospel will change your life, that you will surrender all to the cause of Christ." That is a compelling purpose, and one that many teenagers will embrace wholeheartedly, thanks to this book. May Christ bless Jaquelle and use her book toward that glorious end!

"Ray Ortlund, lead pastor, Immanuel Church, Nashville, Tennessee; council member, The Gospel Coalition; president, Renewal Ministries; author, *Marriage and the Mystery of the Gospel*

œJaquelle's zeal for the gospel is contagious. This book is enjoyable and practical, but the effect thereof is individual transformation with global ramifications. I pray that a multitude of teenagers would take up and read this book.

"Gloria Furman, author, *The Pastor's Wife*; *Missional Motherhood*; and *Alive in Him*

œOne of my hopes for the church is that we would take seriously those in the teen years, that we would speak to them as those capable of and accountable for understanding the implications of a vibrant faith. Jaquelle Crowe does this, and even better, she does so as a peer. In *This Changes Everything*, both Jaquelle's practical words and her positive example offer needed encouragement to other teens. And they deeply encouraged this mother of teens, as well.

"Jen Wilkin, author, *Women of the Word* and *None Like Him*; bible teacher

œPaul told Timothy to set an example and not let anyone despise his youth. Jaquelle is a young woman who embodies this truth and demonstrates the power of the gospel for young leaders. She describes her book as a chicken nugget. It's for those old enough to stop gumming baby food. She's right. There's a lot here to chew on. I recommend this book for both you and the young people in your life.

"Dan DeWitt, Director, Center for Biblical Apologetics and Public Christianity, Cedarville University; author, *Christ or Chaos* and *Jesus or Nothing*

œIn this gospel-saturated little book, Jaquelle gives a courageous and winsome call to young people to treasure Jesus above all, and to see how faith in him touches and transforms every area of life. Teens, I commend this book to you, as well as the witness of a godly young woman who is living boldly and openly for the glory of Jesus Christ and his life-changing gospel.

"Jon Nielson, Ministry Director, Christian Union, Princeton University; co-editor, *Gospel-Centered Youth Ministry*

œJaquelle Crowe is an outstanding writer, not just "for a teenager," but for anyone. Writing takes work, as does following Jesus, and in *This Changes Everything*, the author has done her work well. Reading this book was a pleasure; it's biblical, challenging and refreshing.

Jaquelle's heart comes across clearly, her theology is strong, and what she says about church is desperately needed. I highly recommend this book both for teenage Christians and their parents.

• "Randy Alcorn, Founder and Director, Eternal Perspective Ministries; author, *Heaven, The Treasure Principle, and The Ishbane Conspiracy*

• Jaquelle writes as a teenager to teenagers. She writes with skill, with passion, and with a firm grounding in Scripture. I could list the many strengths of her book, but perhaps the most effective endorsement is this: I will gladly give *This Changes Everything* to my own teenagers with confidence that it will be a blessing to them.

• "Tim Challies, blogger, Challies.com

• "This is a great book written by a bright young person, where Jaquelle clearly shows what young people can and should be challenged with the gospel of Jesus Christ. In a brief and very readable text, the author explains what the gospel is

• "what it demands and how it saves more than how it benefits us. The message of the cross is not a pragmatic message but rather a radically transforming and life-giving message. Read it and you will find what I just said to be true. I recommend it, especially for young people, parents, and young leaders.

• "Miguel Nájera, senior pastor, International Baptist Church, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic; president and founder, Wisdom & Integrity Ministries

• "In a culture where teens have been given a free pass to live self-focused, immature, irresponsible lives, they desperately need to know that they were created for a bigger purpose. In *This Changes Everything*, Jaquelle brings the gospel to life by showing how relevant and applicable it is to our modern generation. This book is a must for all teens!

• "Kristen Clark and Bethany Baird, Founders, Girl Defined Ministries; authors, *Girl Defined: God's Radical Design for Beauty, Femininity, and Identity*

• "Powerful! Packed with the fundamental values of the Christian faith, *This Changes Everything* does an excellent job presenting what truly matters most to my generation. A simple, yet profound book, I would recommend *This Changes Everything* to any young person eager to start taking their faith seriously.

• "Trent Blake, age 17, Mulberry, Florida

• "We teenagers are at a confusing and impressionable place in our culture. Without clear direction on why and how we should be living as Christians, it's easy to just give up. With plenty of real-life illustrations, *This Changes Everything* clearly explains why the gospel matters so much and challenges us to live for the glory of God.

• "Olivia White, age 13, Mebane, North Carolina

• "So often, as teenagers, we get caught up in school, sports, and other activities and forget that our lives should really be about God. In this book, Jaquelle points us back to the Creator of all things and his wonderful plan for us. And she doesn't just leave it as ushy-gushy feelings. With a humble attitude, she shows what it looks like to take this good news and allow it to transform our lives. I highly recommend this book!

• "Jason Zimmerman, age 16, Ithaca, New York

• "This book was phenomenal. Jaquelle

writes personally and she has a way of making you think deeper than is comfortable. As a young Christian myself, this book cut straight through me and gave me a deeper yearning for Christ, as well as practical ways to live a life more like Christ's. She is on point with everything she says and uses the Bible as the basis for everything.â Emma Roth, age 17, Grafton, Ohio

Jaquelle Crowe (BA, Thomas Edison State University) is a young writer from eastern Canada. She's the lead writer and editor-in-chief of TheRebellion.com and a contributor to the Gospel Coalition, desiringGod.org, and Unlocking the Bible. Her first book is *This Changes Everything: How the Gospel Transforms the Teen Years*.

Every once in a while I pick up a book to review that I am somewhat interested in reading, but after the first couple of pages I become aware that I have something really solid in my hands. *This Changes Everything: How the Gospel Transforms the Teen Years* by Jaquelle Crowe was just that type of book for me. As a father of a teen and someone who has worked with youth in the church I am always on the look out for good books that will challenge young people. The challenge of *This Changes Everything* is quite straight forward: Don't waste your teen years living life the way the world expects you to live, instead live like a new creation in Christ who is capable of serving Him and His church in many ways. Crowe introduces the book with a picture of a young child moving past baby food and moving on to chicken nuggets. At some point the child has to recognize that the chicken nuggets provide more substance. Crowe states that "This Changes Everything is, in my mind, a chicken nugget. It's for young people who are Christians but no longer gumming spiritual baby food. We've eaten the basics and are still hungry for more. We're ready for meat and reject the fluff so often pressed on us. We really don't want to be talked down to. We want to know how to live a godly life as teenagers and as Christians, and we don't want to be spoon-fed when we're ready to dig in ourselves." Crowe continues with a Christ-centered charge for teens: If we love Jesus, we'll love truth, and we'll want to grow. We'll reject the status quo. These aren't our rebellious years; these are the years we rise up to obey the call of Christ. This isn't our time to slack off; it's our time to stand out. This isn't a season for self-satisfaction; it's a season for God-glorification. Our youth is by God's grace, in God's hands, and for God's fame. He is the whole point of our lives. *This changes everything* is a rich, Christ-centered book for teens that will encourage them to grow in their faith and serve God through their teens years instead of wasting them away. Again, Crowe is pointed and spot on when she

challenges teens, "We are Jesus-followers. That means we don't have to waste our lives. It means we do hard things. It means we turn our backs on what the world says is cool. It means we're members of a mission that will change everything. It means we stand out from those around us like blazing light in a pitch-black room. It means we're in a war, and we fight long and hard every day on the winning side. Make no mistake; Jesus changes everything. This is the truth I've learned: if you live for Jesus, you can't live an unchanged life. If the gospel is true, it will inescapably change every little part of us—what we do and think and say and mean, and who we hang out with and esteem and listen to and why, and how we live today and tomorrow and for all eternity. It will not be easy, safe, or always comfortable by any means. But it will be good. It will awake in you deep and unquenchable joy." I am incredible thankful for this book. I have read it, as has my daughter, and we passed around a copy to many other teens. A really outstanding book! I received a digital copy of this book from Crossway in exchange for an honest review.

This is a truly challenging book that after forty or so pages and a look at the epilogue convinced me it is one book that readers will find hard to put down. One need not be a teenager to feel the powerful hope reaching out that life can be changed. For those who feel they have lost too much, as in the sad story of "Thirteen Reasons Why" a teenage suicide, this book also written by a teenage girl presents the One Great Reason Why Not! If you are a teen reading this, then you will want to read for yourself what this teen is saying.

For me to actually take the time to write a book review indicates how worthwhile this book is. I am using this well-written resource with mothers and their teen daughters in a summer book study. It has been an absolute hit with this group. Jaquelle is an extremely gifted writer. She makes Jesus Christ the main thing. I am so thankful to see this in a young writer. The book is packed with Scripture and references many solid theologians. The reader can tell that Jaquelle has a high view of God and His Word. This book is written with teens in mind, and yet the adult readers in our group find that it resonates with them just as much! Jaquelle has a joyful tone throughout the text. She spurs the reader on from chapter to chapter, reminding us that Jesus Christ is worthy. I cannot wait to see what she writes next. Well done!

This book was/is an amazing and impacting book, I would recommend this book to any Christian teen out there!

I am a girls' minister, and this book is something I would 100% recommend to a teen believer. It's best for a student who is eager to learn. Easy to read, fun, charming, convicting, and application-heavy, it's perfect for middle schoolers and early high school. Any kid who doesn't like to read could probably still appreciate this book. It's mostly about the basics, but she's articulate and wise enough to keep older readers invested as well.

I teach a teen Sunday school class. After hearing the author on Doctrine & Devotion I knew this would be perfect for my class. The teens love that it was written by another teen. The subjects are engaging. We had heart discussions due to this book. I would recommend this for all ages but especially for teens.

This book is truly inspirational. It answers so many practical questions for the Christian teen who wants to pursue Christ. I was thoroughly encouraged in each chapter. Almost every page I found myself nodding in agreement. I never struggled to understand the content, and the message was crystal clear. The gospel changes everything! It could not be more apparent. Jaquelle Crowe writes in a way that makes you feel like you are in the room with her, very personal. I'm sure I will find myself reading this book over and over again.

Though I'm no longer a teenager, "This Changes Everything" highlights sound wisdom of note that both men and women in their twenties and thirties can still benefit from. This wisdom is rooted in the Scriptures, and Jaquelle eloquently brings it to the surface by way of careful introspection, references to other respected authors, and practical application for life. The result, unsurprisingly, is a nudge to become more like Jesus as he, like the gospel, changes everything.

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