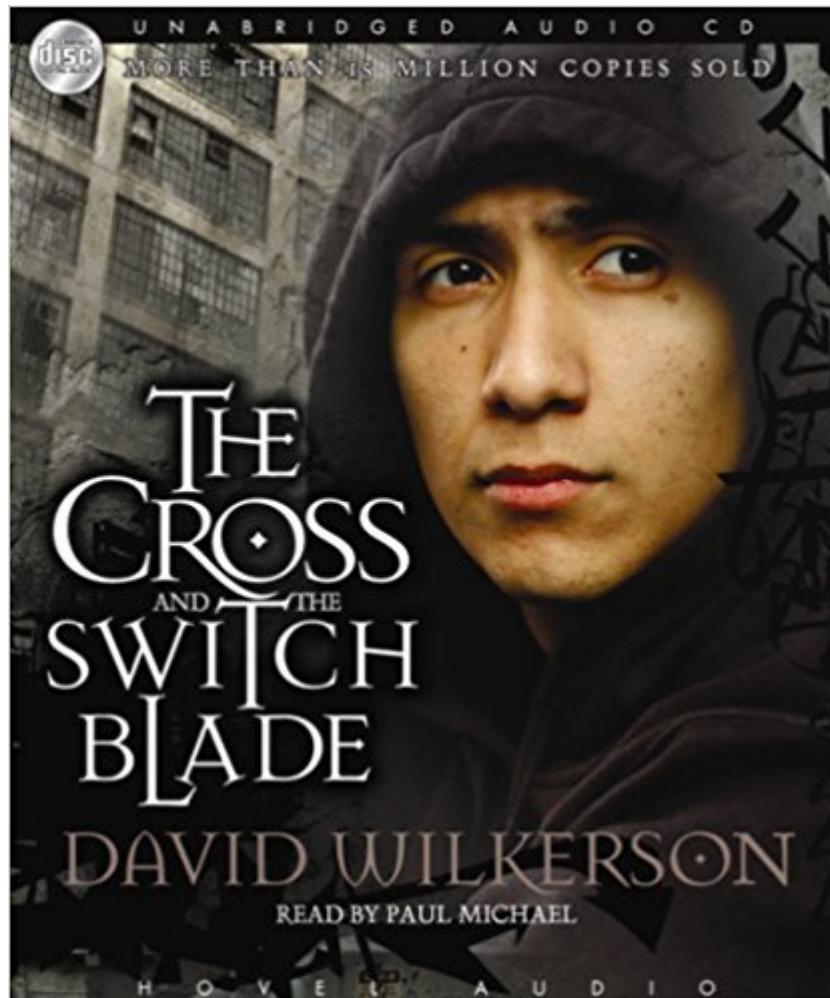




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The Cross And The Switchblade



Synopsis

The astonishing true story of Wilkerson's outreach to New York teens trapped by drugs and gangs. Gang-fighters! Drug addicts. Teenage runaways and prostitutes! The toughest and most hopeless kids that New York's ghettos had to offer. Then a young preacher from the Pennsylvania hills arrived on their turf and began preaching a message of renewal, miracles, and God's love. This is one of the century's great true stories. Over 14 million copies in print!

Book Information

Audio CD

Publisher: Hovel Audio; Unabridged edition (December 1, 2007)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1596445351

ISBN-13: 978-1596445352

Product Dimensions: 5 x 0.8 x 6 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 461 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #431,249 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #237 in Books > Books on CD > Biographies & Memoirs #241 in Books > Books on CD > Religion & Spirituality > Christianity #296 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Ministry & Evangelism > Youth Ministry

Customer Reviews

"Go to New York City and help those boys." When David Wilkerson heard those words in his heart late one night as he glanced at a picture in Life magazine, he was dumbfounded. The boys in question were members of a violent gang and on trial for murder. He, on the other hand, was a country preacher settled comfortably in a little mountain church in Pennsylvania. What could God possibly expect him to accomplish--in New York City, of all places? But the thought would not let him go--and his life and the lives of countless despairing teens were changed forever on account of it. This is the riveting story of the founding of Teen Challenge, an inner-city ministry that today maintains residential and crisis counseling centers around the globe. But even more, it is a story of how the most unlikely people can hear--and follow--God's call to do the impossible. This 45th anniversary edition includes a brand-new foreword by Charles Colson and two new epilogues celebrating Teen Challenge and reflecting on fifty years of following God's lead. "David's story will touch your life in a way few books can."--from the foreword by Charles W. Colson David Wilkerson (1931-2011) was the founder of Teen Challenge and World Challenge and longtime senior pastor of

Times Square Church. He authored more than thirty books, including the bestselling *The Cross and the Switchblade* and *Knowing God by Name*. He ministered to people worldwide, and on the day of his death, he was still ministering. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

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I have not reread this yet, but what I had remembered was that it had quite an impact on teens and up in age. A true story about a pastor brave enough to try and change gang fighters into warriors for Jesus Christ .

After reading an abridged version of *The Cross and the Switchblade*, I was eager to hear how this movement had continued. I got my answers and also the answers to some of the threads left hanging in the first book. It's basically chronicling that unfolded with the Teen Challenge movement and how Wilkerson's life went on. For me it was not so riveting as the earlier days but I came away with appreciation for the humanness of the author in all his struggles and attempts to follow the leading of his God.

A great faith story written well. My Christian faith does not weigh "speaking in tongues" as heavily as this story does--but "My thoughts are higher than your thoughts." The ministry's experience showed them that addicts were not truly saved from addiction until they had this particular "brand" of Holy Spirit baptism. I acknowledge God's sovereignty on "speaking in tongues" along with everything else in human experience, but I'm unable to fully embrace the viewpoint expressed in the book. Read this great story, be inspired to act on your faith, and make your own decision!

Purchased this for someone who is incarcerated thinking maybe it would hit home. I heard Nikki Cruz speak at The Brooklyn Tabernacle and like I said prayed that the person I bought it for might find "something" in it. I will never know as we are responsible for the input not the outcome, only time will tell. Not for everyone but definitely for the person I bought it for. The story of David Wilkerson

was made into a movie way back in the 1960's I think played by Pat Boone. Wow how times have changed, one of the best selling books of 1959 was Twixt 12 and 20 by Pat Boone (who was Pat Boone lol), imagine that selling today? David Wilkerson walked where most men would not dare to walk into the streets of hell but saved a lot of souls. Truly a man of God if this type of book is for you.

I read this book because a homeless women whom I've grown to really like a great deal, has a real burning love for homeless teens. She made me promise I would read it. It is a very easy read and wonderful story of how the Lord steps in to help those who walk by faith in taking on what appears impossible to others. It is also a very strong testimonial to how one person can make a tremendous difference in the world. My most important take away from this book isn't "to trust God", that is a given, but to not give up on teens. So many people have good intentions in working with teens, the homeless and other disadvantaged group. Like the seed thrown on poor soil they start with a flurry and wither in the competition from other things in their life. I have worked with many disadvantaged and the worst thing you can do is show your face and then pull back on your commitment. The Cross and the Switchblade really brings to light the importance of not giving up on this group. As I write this during the Christmas season where good meaning people bubble over with generosity, I'm deeply saddened because the people whom get the attention during this season are forgotten the other 11 months of the year. I would recommend this book to any one he believes a social situation is hopeless and they can't make any difference.

I don't remember why I first picked up this book. I think I might have chosen to read it because my pastor mentioned the title so many times. When I did start to read it, I was amazed at the honesty David Wilkerson conveyed. This book demonstrates faith in action. It points to the power of prayer. There is no doubt that God works in mysterious ways. The cross and the switchblade is a story that clearly proves that point. This is a book about lives that have been changed because of God...because of the Holy Spirit. I thought I had questions before reading it. I now have questions that need to be answered because of reading it. Questions that are intended for God. Prayers, actually. Yes, this book is a reminder to turn to God. Amazing.

This book has increased my faith, knowledge, understanding and most importantly...My love for God and people. Our Home Church Street ministry team goes out every Tuesday to be a witness of Jesus Christ to those who are lost, and I feel more equipped to carry out the work of The Father.

Amazing testimony of the Love and Power of God

Thirty years ago a new young Christian from a mainstream Baptist church was given the Cross and the Switchblade to read. And as she read about the drug addict boys being filled with the a Holy Spirit and speaking in tongues, God said to her, "I want you to have that gift". And after some attempts at dissuading God she agreed and accepted it. That was me, and like the book says, that power encounter changes you forever. You know you belong to God in a way that you did not before. Now, thirty years on and re-reading the same book it is just as relevant to the prayer, healing, deliverance and mental health ministry God has lead me into! We serve a God whose Forgiveness and Love are more powerful than we can dare to dream. DO YOURSELF A FAVOUR AND READ THIS BOOK!

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