

Baker, Alan T. Foundations of Chaplaincy: A Practical Guide. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans Publishing, 2021. 256 pages

This book covers various aspects of the chaplaincy ministry. It does an excellent job of explaining exactly what a chaplain is and does. It explains the protocol of chaplaincy ministry and how it differs from local church ministry. It is a very practical “how to” guide for chaplaincy ministry. Reading the book I was able to see that much of our class lectures were based on the priceless wisdom offered by the book.

Cash, Carey H. A Table in the Presence. Waterville, ME: Presidio Press, 2005. 272 pages

This book gives a realistic glimpse into the horror of war. But it also shows how God is at work even amidst such horrors. Chaplain Cash shares many powerful testimonies of the power of God at work in people’s lives that he personally experienced in Iraq. The book is spiritually inspiring for anyone who reads it but for anyone considering military chaplaincy, it can give such readers an idea of what to expect in military chaplaincy while serving in a warzone. This book is a great example of how God shows up in unlikely places.

Fisher, Carlton. My Brother’s Faith: Understanding the Beliefs of Others without Compromising Your Own. Wetumpka, AL: Peace Fish, 2014. 309 pages

This book is written by a well experienced prison and military chaplain of a Southern Baptist background who has had wide exposure to many different Christian denominations and cults as well as major world religions and even lesser known religions. He explains from his personal experiences how we can faithfully cling to our faith but still understand why other people believe and act differently. Evangelical Christians, myself included, in our efforts to uphold the exclusivity of Jesus Christ and the truth of God’s Word, have not always gone about interacting with others in ways that are helpful. This is damaging to our witness. People need to do a better job of overcoming prejudices and stereotypes about other religious groups, political persuasions and races/ethnic groups (even within the same faith tradition) in order to understand one another better. This is particularly important for chaplains as they work in pluralistic and ecumenical environments.

Linzey, Paul. Safest Place in Iraq: Experiencing God During War. NY, NY: Morgan James Publishing, 2021. 202 pages

This book is similar to A Table in the Presence. It too contains testimonies of God at work in people’s lives amidst the horrors of war and can give prospective chaplains an idea of what to expect in such a ministry. I think it is fascinating how chaplains who write books like this have so many amazing testimonies to share. It goes to show that when people walk in faith while in adverse circumstances and environments, God really shows up in a mighty way. A

book like this may help a prospective chaplain be willing to take the step of faith to serve in combat.

Total: 1,039 pages I understand that I did not meet the 1,500 page minimum and will have points deducted as a result.