

# How to be a *bad* Christian



...and a better human being

Dave Tomlinson

'A wonderful, wise and perceptive book'  
Cole Moreton, journalist and author of 'Is God Still An Englishman?'

Written by a Vicar this book is an easy read that shines a fresh light on what being a Christian is all about. In the course of his work as a vicar, Dave Tomlinson meets lots of people who describe themselves as 'not good enough' to be a Christian, thinking that faith involves going to church a lot, or believing in a list of strange things, or following certain rules. Through this book Dave Tomlinson shows that being a Christian isn't about any of that - and actually, following Jesus is a lot easier, and more fun, than most people think...

This book...

-will interest non-church goers who sense something within them which might approximate to God. People who feel that there is more to life, who want to explore a bit about spirituality and faith but don't want churchy religion.  
-will absorb and inspire church goers who frequently have the thought that, if God really is the God of the universe, there must be wider ways of acknowledging this than by a Sunday morning service.

Dave Tomlinson asks the sort of questions which many would like to ask but don't have the nerve to do so. Through creative writing he talks about conventional things like prayer and the Bible and suffering whilst lighting them up in such a fresh way to let the Son shine in Christianity. -- *Nicki Chatterton*

## **But don't just take my word. Here are some other peoples opinions.**

Where is God? It's a question I often ask people. Does God live in Church? Does God live in Christianity? Does God live in the world and everything we know? In Dave Tomlinson's book *How to be a bad Christian* we wander through paths of discovery that God is wherever God wants to be. This is a gentle yet profound book that nudges people towards receptivity through stories and reflections. It invites us to imagine that the "spirit blows where the Spirit wills", and through its stories we are invited into a generous orthodoxy of faith where people discover their humanity - through discovering God, themselves, and an accepting love. Bad becomes good and good becomes reimagined. Please read it: it could change our communities, and the world.  
-- *Fuzz Kitto, international church consultant*

This is a book which is easy to read and understand, one that opens Christianity to those outside it, on the fringes of it and just as importantly to those already inside it. -- *Melanie Carroll, Together*

This is a way of being a Christian that makes sense to me. This is a way of life I can live with. I'm glad to be known as a bad Christian, thanks to Dave Tomlinson and this beautiful book. -- *Brian McLaren*

If the Christian faith is ever to capture the imagination of our culture, we have to learn the lessons of this book.  
-- *Jeffrey John, Dean of St Albans*

Dave Tomlinson's *How to be a Bad Christian* is as welcome as a glistening pint to a thirsty patron. Free from religious claptrap and moralistic badgering, here's a book that talks about God without boring your socks off. Tomlinson allows humanity and grace to escape the shackles of pious pedants, and flow into the world we all inhabit. Beautifully written, full of streetwise stories and wisdom, delightful and engaging - read it and discover how good it is to be among the bad. A rip-snorting manifesto for a way of living that makes a difference in the world. -- *Mike Riddell*