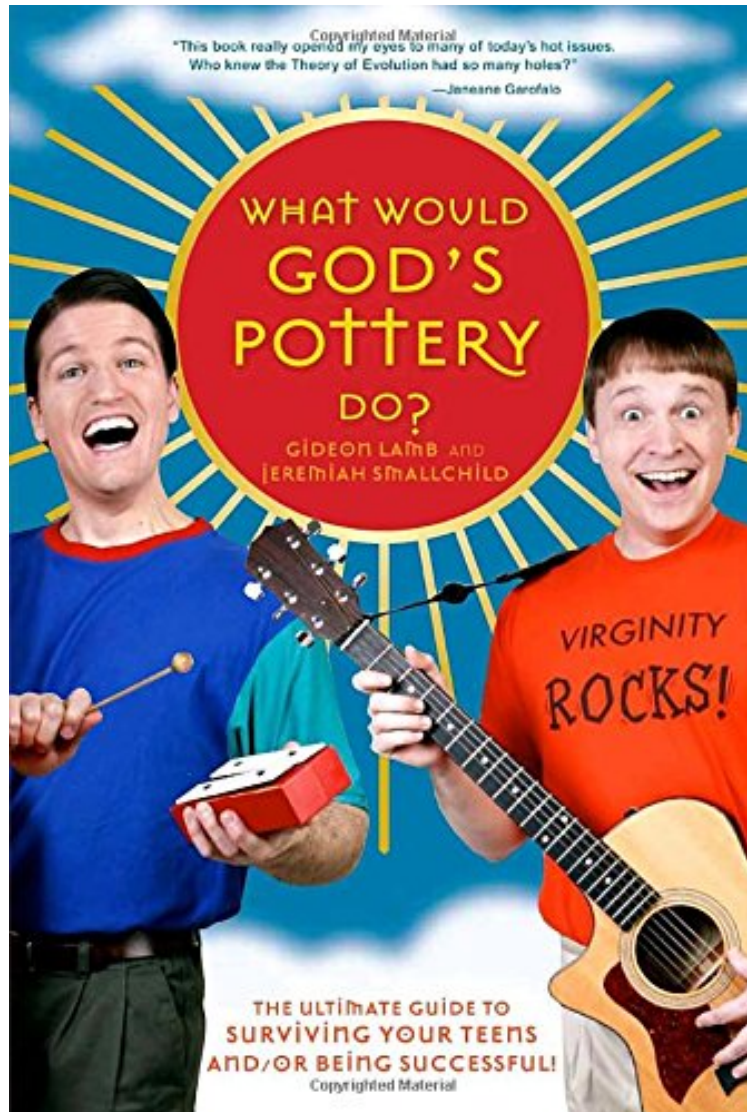


[Free] What Would God's Pottery Do?: The Ultimate Guide to Surviving Your Teens and/or Being Successful!

What Would God's Pottery Do?: The Ultimate Guide to Surviving Your Teens and/or Being Successful!

God's Pottery
ePub | *DOC | audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#4562898 in Books 2009-09-08 2009-09-08 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.09 x .83 x 6.101, 1.04 #File Name: 030746461X304 pages | File size: 30.Mb

God's Pottery : What Would God's Pottery Do?: The Ultimate Guide to Surviving Your Teens and/or Being Successful! before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised What Would God's Pottery Do?: The Ultimate Guide to Surviving Your Teens and/or Being Successful!:

10 of 10 people found the following review helpful. Consummate satire for teens and parents By David R. Cook Full

disclosure: I know Jeremiah Smallchild (aka Wilson Hall) quite well, as well as his parents who are good friends. I am also an 80 year old grandfather. So I promptly ordered two books because of my connection to "Jeremiah" and because I have a couple of teen age grandsons whom I thought would like the book. I have only seen God's Pottery perform once while they were on NBC's Last Comic Standing series. They are very funny. Now having said all that here is my unbiased review, except that this is "a guide to surviving your teens" and I'm now surviving old age. Judging the book for its intended audience is a bit tricky. First of all the book is very funny in lots of places, outrageous in some places, and in one or two perhaps subtle spots I winced at some lines that seemed out of bounds or uncalled for. Nothing very damaging. As I read the book I had to pause to read passages aloud for my wife that I sometimes couldn't complete because I was laughing so hard and so was she. Keep in mind I am reading the book in the first place to satisfy myself that it is OK to give to our teen grandsons. So I have to tell you that these guys are in a class with Jon Stewart and Stephen Colbert when it comes to satire. And frankly, I cannot judge how my teen grandsons will respond to this sort of humor. My out will be to send the book to their parents to check it out for themselves before passing it along. For me the funniest chapter was on "pubescence" and the "dating" chapter was a close second. I laughed tears in many places. Here is a sample: Throughout there are faux letters written to Gideon and Jeremiah from faux teens. There is one from 14 year old Brad who confesses that all he can think about is SEX. He writes, "I was watching our lunch lady stuff all these hot dogs in their buns, and then my Downstairs Area began to get tingly and warm, and then...well, I had to 'go to the bathroom.' if you know what I mean. And I've been choosing to 'go to the bathroom' about four or five times a day! I'm so ashamed. Please tell me how to be a better person." GJ respond with a convoluted explanation as to how the hot dog buns could have prompted such thoughts (very funny) and they conclude this way: "Yet even though your mind brought you to the brink of sexual action, you are to be commended, Brad Washburn, for not acting on the impulse! Going to the bathroom four to five times a day is perfectly normal, and it sounds like a good way for you to get your mind off of the dirty stuff. We recommend that you keep going to the bathroom as often as you want." OK, this is not only marvelous dead pan humor but a very subtle way to give teen age boys permission to masturbate without feeling guilty about it. I wish I could have learned that when I was in my teens. The book is replete with this kind of "advice". Will a teen "get it"? Quite possibly in an educated and reasonably "liberal" family system they probably will. On a more personal note, the chapter on dating spoke beautifully and hilariously to the most memorable agonies of my adolescence, the anxiety that accompanies asking a girl for a date. Throughout the book they provide examples of "conversations" between people to illustrate how to handle certain situations. There is one for asking a girl for a date and it is gut busting funny. Each chapter concludes with a section "For the Parents". In the introduction to the book the teen readers are warned darkly in no uncertain terms that they are to refrain from reading those sections. Fat chance. But the parents shouldn't miss these gems. Here you will find some satire that is totally outrageous, unless you "get it". For example, in the chapter dealing with accepting your parents as friends and supporters, albeit with absolute authority to tell the teen what he or she must do, the parent's section deals with the one problem parents will have with invoking their absolute authority, which is the presence of grandparents who will promptly undermine them. The solution to this problem is to insure that the parents keep grandparents away from the house at all times, limiting their teens just to occasional visits to the nursing home when the grandparents are near death. "God's Pottery", by their own subtle reference buried in a line in the book, are a "fake Christian" rock team doing a fake mission of saving people for Jesus. Jesus is referred to often as a model for teens, a regular guy who just happened to have died, waited three days, and then rose again. Face it, there is a heavy dose of satire for the fundamentalist family values crowd in this book. While I think the subversion this book would provide for that sort of fundamentalist right wing morality could maybe "save" some of those teens from worse problems down the road, this is clearly not the niche for this book. Are they subversive of religion in general and Christianity in particular? Only if your brand of Christianity gets your knickers in a twist at any satirical word play with Christian orthodoxy. Yes, for some there is blasphemy to be found, but as a Christian myself in the church in which "Jeremiah" grew up, the references to Jesus throughout can pass the test of the core of the Gospel without a heavy hammer of evangelism. I have to say this is a really remarkable book, possibly unlike anything that's ever been written as a guidebook for getting through adolescence. For one thing it is extremely (I use the word advisedly) sophisticated. It has to be read and understood as humorous satire first, something a smart teen will enjoy like they enjoy sophisticated comic books such as Calvin and Hobbes and Peanuts. So that leaves the question of whether there is any good advice in here for the teens. In a quirky way, I pondered the theme of chastity/virginity that is pushed throughout, albeit in a good natured way. It is hard to argue against virginity before marriage as the best way to insure against the curse of an unwanted pregnancy. They don't provide any satirical loopholes for this admonition so I take them as serious on this. They never discuss "safe sex". They take a number of opportunities to poke satirical fun at the danger of believing in the THEORY of Evolution and for parents who "worry about the Godless curriculum" in schools they offer the possible solution of "HOMESCHOOLING". Among the values of home schooling are that their children will "bypass" all the bad advice from peers and "just learn how to become young adults from you." And "Best of all, you never have to say good-bye to them again. Summer/winter, morning/afternoon/night...they are always there with you. What a joy!" And so it goes. Is this just a book of teen humor for teens, or adult humor about teen life for adults/parents, or serious

advice and good information for teens delivered in a humorous satirical mode intended to be "hip" to the teen argot and culture? Whatever its intentions are, the GP's have written a very high quality satirical advice book for teens who appreciate satire and will probably get some good laughs along the way, will hopefully want to read a passage to their parents, and just might get some good things to think about with regard to their decision making while negotiating the terrifying and exciting teen years. I might also note that the tipoff to the humor quality and "frame" of this book comes from the cover statement of Janeane Garofalo: "This book really opened my eyes to many of today's hot issues. Who knew the Theory of Evolution had so many holes?" Garofalo has to be every progressive's favorite comedian.² of 2 people found the following review helpful. Delightful dark humor with a sunny disposition By Accalia Overall this is a very funny book that skewers pop culture and religion very, very sarcastically. So if you can't appreciate sarcastic humor, this certainly isn't the book for you. But if you enjoyed books like "Betty Bowers is a Better Christian Than You" and Stephen Colbert's "I Am America (And So Can You)", then you will probably enjoy this. In the guise of an instructional manual for teenagers, this book takes you through topics like family, relationships, and drugs and alcohol (I both fear and pity the person who could mistake this book for a serious self-help guide). The footnotes are great, they reminded me of Jen Lancaster's brand of humor. I ended up reading most of the book out loud to my husband when he would ask why I was laughing, and he found it as funny as I did. I felt like it wasn't 100% of what it could have been (not every section was as funny as others, thus the 4 stars), but it was well worth the price of book.³ of 3 people found the following review helpful. God's Pottery is well-crafted satire! By D. Carballo I had seen the comedy duo God's Pottery on "Last Comic Standing" and thought they were great, but I wondered how their routine would translate to the written page. The verdict: innovative and wide ranging satire (with funny figures to boot). "Gideon Lamb" and "Jeremiah Smallchild" take a tongue-in-cheek approach to adolescence, social issues, and fundamentalist religion. Just about everyone is a fair target, especially themselves. If you can't laugh at yourself what *can* you laugh about? They cover a different topic each chapter in a good natured sort of way, with the best sherds of humor at the bottom of the page in footnotes that had me rolling.

Youth of Today, Rejoice—This is the book you've been waiting for ever since you stopped watching Davey and Goliath and started growing hair on your downstairs area! Gideon Lamb and Jeremiah Smallchild totally get it. From their take on Hootie and the Blowfish records to hip biblical parables to the joys of home-schooling, they know what the kids are into, and they know how to relate to them like a couple of "awesome dudes." Which is why Gideon and Jeremiah, aka God's Pottery, are the perfect people to address the tough issues that plague the Youth of Today—issues as complicated and troubling as rap music, speed dating ("the silent killer"), and the myth of "sexercise." What Would God's Pottery Do? combines essays, photographs, frank confessionals—not to mention several clearly labeled "humor" sections!—to help steer kids in the right direction, all while speaking their language. Gideon and Jeremiah are totally jazzed to reach out and touch the youth using their trademark blend of people skills and biblical know-how. Though aimed primarily at adolescents, What Would God's Pottery Do? contains life lessons for students of any age (except old people)! Many cynics out there claim that God's Pottery is not really a Christian duo but rather a brilliantly executed parody. To those nonbelievers, Gideon and Jeremiah have but one thing to say: "We still love you, and we still want to help everyone—even the ones who will be going to Hell when they die!"

"This book really opened my eyes to many of today's hot issues. Who knew the Theory of Evolution had so many holes?"—Janeane Garofalo "If you want to go to Heaven, buy this book. If not, see you in Hell. Or rather, see yourself in Hell—I'll be in Heaven (I bought the book)."—Will Forte "I love God's Pottery! Gideon and Jeremiah are like the brothers I never had, if I'd had two really judgmental brothers who dressed funny."—Mike Birbiglia About the Author GIDEON LAMB and JEREMIAH SMALLCHILD have starred on television both in the United States and abroad, most recently as finalists on NBC's Last Comic Standing. When they're not on television, you can often find them on tour throughout the United States! And when they're not on tour, Jeremiah loves to spend time with his Shetland pony-dog Zaccheus while Gideon loves to read about magical places and then imagine he's playing pick-up basketball with Jesus in those places. Excerpt. © Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved. Hello, Reader(s)! We are Gideon Lamb and Jeremiah Smallchild, collectively known as God's Pottery. We're a Christian acoustic folk duo that uses a unique blend of music, people skills, and Biblical "know-how" to address the issues facing today's Youth and the Spiritual Community at large. And we are absolutely jazzed to be addressing you from the pages of this book! We know the world can be a difficult place sometimes—especially for a young person—and you need the right set of skills to help guide you through. That's why we—God's Pottery (or just GP if we're feeling laid-back and familiar)—decided to write What Would God's Pottery Do? and give the gift of our experience, advice, and leadership to the Youth . . . and anyone who's still growin' and dreamin'! Can one book really make a difference? Yes, for reading is the language of learning, and learning is the gateway to knowledge. It seems there are more and more people these days writing "self-help," "how-to," and "try-this" books, but few have the qualifications necessary to get through to the Youth in their language with the lessons so vital to their development. Do we have the qualifications? Let's put it this way: You're not going to find any other self-help books whose authors were awarded "Neatest Ideas" and "Best Listener"

ribbons by both their pastor and their youth pastor. (Seriously, you can ask our pastor, Elaine, or our youth pastor, Gregg.) We're going to tackle a lot of ground in the pages to come, because we want to prepare you as best we can for the minefield/shooting range/possible mistake-factory that are your teenage years. We're going to talk about your family and your friends. We're going to talk about Drugs and Alcohol. And we're going to talk about Sexual Intercourse (it's OK if it makes you giggle a bit at first, but try to shake that out now, because it's important to be serious to get the most out of this book). Now, we know that some of these issues can feel scary to talk about, but we have found that taking on issues is like driving in the snow: You have to steer into the problem. Swimmer and cereal-box model Michael Phelps provides a great example. Phelps had a problem at the 2008 Olympics: He wanted to be the fastest swimmer in the pool, like a flame shooting through the water. Through intense training and eating way too much, he was able to accomplish his goal, solve his problem, and win a gold medal that he can wear forever. (Unless he's forced to sell it to pay for his burgeoning marijuana addiction.) We may not win a gold medal with this book, but if we can help just one person and make just one new friend . . . Brother, we don't need any gold. Throughout the book, you'll find hip photos, charts, and lists that illustrate or further "break down" the topics covered using lingo you Teens will understand. You'll also hear personal stories and opinions from each of us every now and again in Gideon's Corner and Jeremiah's World. And since we've spent a lot of time with comedians, we thought we'd share some of our comedy skills with you in a recurring section called Laff Trax! We like to have fun along with our teachings, and it's OK to laugh sometimes, especially when you need a break from all the intense topics we'll be covering. And pay attention, because we conclude each chapter with Quizz Whizz!, a chance to test your comprehension of the material covered. Following each chapter is a special section for parents called For the Parents! Teens can skip right over this section, since it's filled with boring "adult" material, and not the cool, edgy information you'll find in the rest of the book. Besides, a lot of this stuff would be inappropriate for a Teen to read—like a Teacher's Notes section of a textbook that has all the answers to the tests—so just skip right over it and move on to the next chapter. Seriously, please don't read this section if you're a Teen. You're probably eager to "get your canoe in the water" and start "paddling through the rapids" of this book, so we'll "shove you off" with a story: Once there was this boy in junior high school who rode his motor-bike into the sewage plant and landed in a treatment vat, and he had to get hosed off by the Environmental Protection Agency. After they towed him off, they told him he would have to go away to a juvenile delinquent prison! "What about my motor-bike?" he asked. "Once we pull it out of the treatment vat," they said, "we're going to hose it down, and then we'll turn it over to the cops, since it was used in your crime spree." The boy was devastated, but he vowed that he would get his motor-bike back from the cops as soon as he got out of the teen prison. While he was "on ice," the boy developed a taste for fatty foods and a habit for dice games, so he became an overweight gambler by the time he was released, at age eighteen. He went to the police station with all of his dirty gambling winnings from prison and bought back his motor-bike, which the police had been keeping for him all these years. "All sales final," said the police. "Fine with me," said the boy. As he stood over the bike, about to sit down and ride away, the police asked him, "What about a helmet?" "Nah, I don't need a helmet!" said the boy. And he sat down, but because he was much older and had eaten so much fatty food in prison, he was so heavy that he crushed the motor-bike. "Hey, I want my money back!" he cried. "Sorry, all sales final," said the police. And so the boy had to walk home. But since he was a gambler, he ended up back in prison pretty quickly anyway—adult prison. And all because he rode his motor-bike into the sewage plant when he was in junior high. Do you see why it's so important not to mess up when you're younger? One wrong move, and you could end up in a sewage treatment vat, and then in prison. There will be many times as a Teen where you'll face tough situations, and you need to have a sense of how you'll respond. If you find yourself in a spot where you're not quite sure what to do, take a second and ask yourself What would God's Pottery do? You're about to find out. Your Friends, Gideon and Jeremiah:)