

# The Beauty of the Word: The Challenge and Wonder of Preaching / Westminster John Knox Press, 2011 / 2011 / 9780664236953 / James C. Howell / 176 pages

The book begins with the words: "You could say I'm just like any normal kid. I have a family, I have a computer, I have an Xbox". August "Auggie" Pullman then talks about his family, and then it skips to: "My name is August." It contains three stories, each telling the events of Wonder from different perspectives. The first story, called "The Julian Chapter", is told from the point of view of school bully Julian where he explains why he mistreats Auggie and if he will change. The second, called "Pluto", focuses on August Pullman's life before Beecher Prep and is told from the point of view of Christopher, Auggie's oldest friend. Wonder-ful Picture Books by Denise Krebs. Wonder image by mrsdkrebs On July 17, many of us enjoyed the wonder-filled book club chat about Wonder by R.J. Palacio. One of the questions asked by Colby Sharp was a great one. "What picture book?" Your Wonder novel study lessons will thrive when you choose between the interactive workbook, notebook style of the flip book, or the Wonder Google Drive version. Works great with a read aloud and focus on the Wonder character Read Aloud Novel Studies Wonder Precepts School Reading Reading Workshop Reading Classroom Teaching Wonder Activities 6th Grade Reading. Official Book Trailer. Praise for Wonder. "Full of heart, full of truth, Wonder is a book about seeing the beauty that's all around us. I dare you not to fall in love with Auggie Pullman." "The New York Times. "Few first novels pack more of a punch: it's a rare story with the power to open eyes"and hearts"to what it's like to be singled out for a difference you can't control, when all you want is to be just another face in the crowd." "Rich and memorable It's Auggie and the rest of the children who are the real heart of 'Wonder,' and Palacio captures the voices of girls and boys, fifth graders and teenagers, with equal skill." "The New York Times (April 2012). "Palacio has an exceptional knack for writing realistic conversation and describing the thoughts and emotions of the characters . . . Whereas so many books on preaching dwell either in the land of abstract academic theory or overly simplistic platitudes and sound bytes on communication for hungry consumers, Howell offers a true work of grace. This is a book rich with both deep theology and personal experience. It is a book that serves to heighten the task of preaching to lofty places while reminding the preacher that she must live and share both in the life of scr This is the very best book on preaching I've read in some time." While Howell clearly points out the challenges of preaching, he adeptly calls attention to the Wonder of preaching as well. A great reminder, a prompt to new thought, a clear explanation, a challenging proposal--all found in a readable presentation. Preaching textbooks, preaching classes, and, worse yet, evangelical pulpits scarcely mention Scripture's primary subject matter, the kingdom of God fulfilled in Jesus Christ. Theology classes usually teach kingdom doctrine, but preaching classes rarely discuss it. Preaching textbooks are notorious for leaving out the kingdom of God's relationship to homiletics. Through His resurrection, Jesus demonstrated His power over death and the beauty and wonder of a life alive before God. The remainder of the New Testament reveals how the church exists as a present day sign of the kingdom and how God's kingdom will be completely established at the second coming of Jesus Christ.