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# Faker: How To Live For Real When You're Tempted To Fake It

## FAKER

How to live for real when you're  
tempted to fake it

Nicholas T. McDonald



## Synopsis

Have you ever felt like a faker? Facebook, Twitter and Instagram allow us to paint beautiful pictures of our lives. But many of us feel like fakers. If people really knew who we were, what would they think? Would they still care? What would life look like if we stopped pretending? This book not only explores that question, but provides the thrilling answer found in a short story told 2,000 years ago. This richly illustrated book for teens and older brings the power of this exciting story to bear on our modern lives.

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## Customer Reviews

I was first introduced to Nicholas McDonald via Tim Challies. Not in person, of course, but online. Challies shared an article from Scribble Preach on pastoral debt -- a reoccurring problem for seminarians, apparently â on his blog. Curious, I stopped by his (McDonald's) site to give it a read. I left inspired by the article. Also with a free eBook. After reading the piece, I downloaded "25 Mistakes I made Before Getting Published," a free eBook offered on Scribble Preach for email

subscribers. After reading, my energy and adrenaline was soaring. I was so inspired that I couldn't fall asleep until 3:00am! I was sleepy in church the next morning. Okay, on to the book " or I should say, the other book. Honestly, this, Faker, is a book I wish someone would have handed me 10 years ago. All the Christian books I read in Jr. High and High School (both of them) were weak on theology. In hindsight, it was as if I was being talked down to, given a watered down-message. This book is not like that. McDonald takes a parable from Luke 18, and deconstructs wisely and winsomely showing that being a "Faker," like the Pharisee, is when we try to justify ourselves before men, when we try to be like someone we're not, when we pretend like we have it all together when we don't. And we've all done it. One of my favorite parts about the book is McDonald's vulnerability. He shares a lot of his own mistakes and flaws. I'm like that too. Glad I'm not the only one, I thought, as I read. The book is highly relatable. He never pretends as if he's got it all together, but points us to the One who does. Indeed, this book gets not only to your head, but also to your heart.

I try to vary my reading enough to include books that are targeted at different demographics from me. I generally enjoy reading them, but try as I might, I can't really evaluate them as well as I would like. After all, I inevitably bring my perspective. Whether it's reading a book for women, a book for teens, or a book intended for people from a completely different background, I can't help but approach it as a middle-aged, Christian, Caucasian, Canadian (and any number of other adjectives) male. Yet I persevere and almost invariably benefit from the reading. Well, recently I read Faker by Nicholas McDonald. This is a book targeted squarely at teens and young adults. And though it was quite a long time ago that I fit those qualifications, I do have at least some memories of them. And I think Faker would have been a great book for me to read, probably when I was around sixteen or seventeen years old. Now that I have teens of my own, I think it would be a great book for them to read. I grew up a church kid "one who was well-taught and well-trained. Though I grew up knowing the right things to do and say, I experienced all the usual struggles in actually doing and saying them. I learned pretty quickly how to fake it "how to give the right answers even while secretly doing the wrong thing. But it wasn't only faking it in front of parents, pastors, and teachers. I learned as well that I needed to fake it in front of my friends, to put on an acceptable persona, to bury my fears and problems (and sometimes even my virtues). That's what this book is about: How to live for real when you're tempted to fake it.

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