

Reading Guide for The Life of Martyn Lloyd-Jones, 1899-1981
Week One

One: A Welshman Now!

1. Why did Martyn's family move from Cardiff to Llangeitho when he was five?
2. What happened in this new area back in the 1730's?
3. What was the spiritual climate like in the chapel of Llangeitho?
4. What kind of man was Martyn's father?
5. What kind of woman was Martyn's mother?
6. How did Martyn's dad handle his purchase of a pack of cigarettes?
7. What was his family life like?
8. Where did Martyn spend his holidays?
9. What happened one night in January, 1910?
10. How did life change for the Lloyd-Jones family after this?

Two: School-days: Tregaron and London

1. What were some of the difficult things for Martyn at the Tregaron County School?
2. What two events took place in 1913?
3. What sad news did Martyn's dad share with them in January 1914?

4. How did things work out for Mr. Lloyd-Jones in Canada?
5. What filled the air in London when Martyn was sent there in 1914?
6. What kind of business did Mr. Lloyd-Jones finally settle on in September 1914?
7. Who was the preacher at Westminster Chapel in those days?
8. Where did Martyn begin study for the medical profession on October 6, 1916?

Three: The World of Medicine

1. What was the name and significance of the medical school MLJ attended?
2. What was significant about the Lloyd-Jones family's first visit to Charing Cross Chapel?
3. What happened to Martyn's brother Harold?
4. For whom did MLJ wait four hours to see in December, 1918?
5. How did MLJ first distinguish himself in the estimation of Sir Thomas Horder?
6. How did MLJ describe Lord Horder's success as a doctor?
7. How did MLJ's contemporaries remember him as a physician?

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Week Two

Four: “All Things New”

1. What did MLJ come realize as he entered his early twenties?
2. Explain the two kinds of preaching MLJ describes: the one he needed and the one he heard.
3. What influences came to MLJ that proved irresistible to bring him to faith (pp.45-48)?
4. How did MLJ begin to see his own sinfulness?
5. What did he discover was the real cause of all his troubles?
6. Note the six signs of Wales' degeneration in his message on pp. 51-52. How was this message received?
7. What decision had MLJ come to by this time, 1925?

Five: The Call to the Ministry

1. What was MLJ already studying in February, 1925?
2. What were some evidences of the “intense struggle” MLJ was experiencing about leaving the medical profession (pp. 56-57)?
3. How was his second message about modern Wales received?
4. What did MLJ assert was the supreme fault and greatest need in Wales in that day?
5. How did MLJ respond to Mr. Williams protest that “Welsh life is not the same today?”

6. How did MLJ feel about the Salvation Army band when he came out of the theater?
7. How did the biography of Puritan Richard Baxter affect MLJ?
8. How was MLJ's struggle with the call to the ministry finally resolved?
9. What did MLJ know by June, 1926?

Six: Bethan and Aberavon

1. What do you learn about Bethan on pages 69-70?
2. What kind of ministry was MLJ looking for? (71)
3. How did MLJ respond to Mr. Rees' surprise about his wanting to serve in a mission situation?
4. How did he reply to Bethan's question about his ability to preach?
5. What were the conditions at the Mission or Sandfields by this time?
6. As MLJ headed to the church to preach on November 28, 1926, what did he warn Mr. Rees about?
7. How did MLJ respond to the big poster about his coming to preach?
8. What two passages did he choose for the first morning and evening service at Sandfields?
9. When did MLJ and Bethan get married? Where did they honeymoon?
10. What surprised them and could have been a disaster on their first night in Sandfields?

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Week Three

Seven: A Different Preaching

1. What was MLJ's big challenge as he came to Sandfields? (pp. 85-86)
2. What was MLJ's attitude toward programs and politics in the church?
3. What was the main point of his sermon "Called to be Saints?"
4. What was MLJ's habit in his two messages on Sundays?
5. What hope did he give sinners who felt they were too bad from Romans 6:23?
6. What effect did the coal mine explosion in South Wales have on MLJ?
7. What were MLJ's views on pledges and altar calls?
8. How was Sam Jones the reporter affected by MLJ's message on July 3, 1927?
9. Why did MLJ refrain from personal references and giving testimonies?

Eight: Early Days at Sandfields

1. How did their home meet MLJ's conviction about living among the people?
2. On pages 102-103, what were some of MLJ's study habits at this time?
3. What were the three meetings during the week and their specific purposes?

4. In the sermon on page 106-107, what was MLJ's view on preaching morality?
5. Why did MLJ drop the class for church membership?
6. What happened to the Church Secretary, Mr. Rees, on October 2, 1927?
7. How did MLJ's preaching affect his wife, Bethan?
8. What happened on October 26, 1927 in MLJ's life?

Nine: A Leader without a Party

1. What were some of the problems other preachers had with MLJ's message?
2. How did Mr. Prytherch describe MLJ's preaching?
3. What was Cynddylan Jones helpful criticism of MLJ's preaching? What did MLJ learn?
4. What was MLJ's chief criticism of the Calvinistic Methodists' preaching of his day?
5. What helpful criticism did the Brigend minister have of MLJ's preaching?
6. MLJ was not quick to join associations. Why and what does this say about his character?
7. What did MLJ tell one young aspiring preacher to do? Did he do it?
8. What place did Edwards' *Works* have on MLJ's life and ministry at this time?

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Week Four

Ten: A Local Revival

1. What was MLJ's view of revival?
2. What brings no greater joy to any minister?
3. What is the first work of the Spirit in a person's heart?
4. What did MLJ see as the big problem with just focusing on the love of God in preaching?
5. What happened to Harry Woods?
6. What two reasons did MLJ give for why men give no thought to their souls?
7. What false and blasphemous conception of God do so many people have?
8. What change did God bring into Mark McCann's life?
9. How about "Staffordshire Bill?"
10. How did the reporter describe how MLJ shocked the local people out of despair?

Eleven: The Church Family

1. How did MLJ handle the fellow who asserted, "I cannot believe in the deity of Christ?"
2. What were several activities MLJ did with other men in his church?

3. How was Bethan involved with the ladies of the church?
4. What good counsel did MLJ give the people from his message on Galatians 6:1-5?
5. What kind of evangelism courses did the church offer?
6. What happened to William Nobes?

Twelve: Enlarged Work

1. What was Mr. Powell-Parry's impression of MLJ?
2. How did MLJ describe a preacher in his message to College in Bala?
3. What American theologian did MLJ discover in the John Knox Seminary library? What especially did he appreciate about his books?
4. What was MLJ's problem with Karl Barth's theology?
5. Why did MLJ not feel called to minister to the Evangelical Union?
6. What happened in Langeitho in August, 1935?
7. In what ways did MLJ's pulpit language not follow the traditional approach?
8. What was MLJ's interesting view of national character, as in the English and the Welsh?
9. What did MLJ declare to be the chief need of Wales? How does this produce great preaching?

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Week Five

Thirteen: Leaving Aberavon

1. What did MLJ say at Albert Hall, London, that got Dr. G. Campbell Morgan's attention?
2. What two sermons did MLJ preach the first time he preached at Westminster Chapel?
3. When did Dr. Morgan hear him again and what were MLJ's thoughts about Westminster Chapel at that time?
4. What were MLJ's conclusions about the issue of mental illness?
5. What conviction did MLJ come to about his ministry at Sandfields?
6. How did Dr. John Short of the British Weekly describe MLJ and his preaching?
7. What was Dr. Morgan's request to MLJ after he declined the offer from Marylebone?

Fourteen: England and War

1. How did G. Campbell Morgan hope to settle the direction of Westminster Chapel?
2. What were the views of the "new generations of preachers" in London in the 1930s?
3. What differences did the Lloyd-Joneses see between Westminster Chapel and Sandfields?
4. What was the very important announcement made on April 23, 1939?

5. What key truth did MLJ present in his message, *Christ Our Sanctification*? How does this sound like John MacArthur?
6. How did MLJ prepare the family house at 12 Vincent Square for war-time conditions?
7. What kinds of sermons did MLJ during the months of September and October, 1939?
8. How did MLJ answer his theme question, “Why Does God Allow War?”
9. What happened to the Spain sisters?

Fifteen: Inside the Family

1. What was MLJ’s main concern for Bethan’s work load?
2. How do we know MLJ had a good capacity for sympathy?
3. What was the one argument MLJ and Bethan had amongst themselves?
4. What were MLJ’s two physical problems or conditions?
5. What did MLJ conclude about his gardening career?
6. How did MLJ and family practice the Sabbath?
7. What do you learn about C. S. Lewis on p. 220?
8. How did MLJ describe his delight in horses?

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Sixteen: The Emerging Leader

1. What were Weatherhead and Soper convinced was the problem in churches?
2. How did Rattenbury describe MLJ's preaching?
3. How did Professor Ross describe MLJ's preaching?
4. What was the purpose of the great "Rally" at Andrews Hall on May 9, 1942?
5. Of what organization was MLJ elected president in 1939? For how long?
6. What was the objective of the July, 1941, conference at Kingham Hill School?
7. What did MLJ emphasize in his October 4, 1943, message about evangelism?
8. With what questions did he challenge the hearers at the Bonnington Hotel Conference?

Seventeen: New Agencies

1. What were the three new agencies established during MLJ's early days at Westminster?
(See pp. 237, 240, 243).
2. What inspired Geoffrey Williams to begin collecting and lending books to friends?
3. What kinds of books did Mr. Williams have in his 20,000 volume library?
4. Why did it need to be moved to London? Where did it eventually end up?

5. How was the second agency structured? What was MLJ's vision for it?
6. Briefly, what were MLJ's five major points in his address at Sion College in 1942?
7. What influence did MLJ have on these three agencies or evangelical institutions?

Eighteen: Westminster Chapel, 1943-45

1. Why was the transition from Dr. Morgan to MLJ as pastor not so smooth?
2. What were the financial arrangements for MLJ at the Chapel?
3. When and on what epistle did MLJ begin his first expository series?
4. What was one of the problems at the Chapel that "pressed him hard."
5. How did MLJ structure the new church prayer meetings in 1942?
6. What did MLJ do about all the activities that had been disrupted by the war?
7. How did Mary-Carson Kuschke describe her experience at the Chapel?
8. How did MLJ and the congregation respond to the "doodle-bug" bomb of June 18, 1944?
9. How did Tom Allen describe the effect of MLJ's preaching? Where were they meeting at that time?
10. What did MLJ say about his preaching in his letter to Philip Hughes, March 13, 1945?

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Nineteen: Guidance Confirmed

1. How did Wales and the leadership of the Free Churches in England affect MLJ?
2. How did MLJ describe the spiritual climate of England in a letter to Philip Hughes on April 17, 1946?
3. How had the war affected the membership of Westminster Chapel?
4. To what was the “low level” of the life of the church due?
5. How did MLJ introduce the people to expository series?
6. How did the Friday night meeting progress and how did MLJ structure it? How did he handle the different responses or speakers?
7. How did MLJ respond to Elizabeth’s criticism of the chapel music at Oxford?
8. How did MLJ describe the year 1948 in his letter to the members?
9. What did Mr. Sunder-Rao describe as the primary thing in MLJ’s message?

Twenty: Wales and the Summer of 1949

1. What profoundly disturbed MLJ about his homeland of Wales in 1948?
2. What was MLJ dealing with in the summer of 1949 while in Wales?

3. How did one of A. W. Pink's sermons help him?
4. How did MLJ struggle when he returned to Westminster Chapel in September, 1949?
5. How was 1949 a "real turning point" for MLJ?

Twenty-One: A Rising Tide of Youth

1. What did MLJ speak on in his three messages to the Welsh IVF conference in September, 1949?
2. How did MLJ influence the university students in England around this time?
3. How was Jim Packer's interest in the Puritans awakened?
4. How did Packer describe MLJ's preaching?
5. When was the first Puritan Conference held and what was the subject?
6. Why did MLJ think the ladies came to the conference? What was Packer's response?
7. What did MLJ speak on at the 1950 IVF conference? What was the effect?
8. What were the two main reasons the sovereignty of God was neglected in preaching?
9. What was the main subject of MLJ's third address?
10. Why did MLJ consider Calvinism a fundamental in the Christian faith?

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Twenty-two: Sundays in the 1050s

1. What sorts of people made up the congregation at Westminster Chapel?
2. What did MLJ think about trying to make everyone feel welcome?
3. What happened to the troubled Welshman.
4. How long did MLJ spend in the book of Ephesians? How many sermons?
5. What qualified for “expository preaching”? How did MLJ describe preaching?
6. What about the children at Westminster Chapel?
7. What about shouting “Amen!” and slow singing?
8. What did Mr. Hettrick say about every part of the message?
9. How were the Zodiates’ lives changed by their visit to hear MLJ?
10. What did MLJ believe about the timing and effect of regeneration?
11. What did Wilbur Smith say he realized within three minutes of hearing MLJ preaching?

Twenty-Three: Opposition

1. How did Scripture become a divisive issue among the church leadership at this time in London?

2. How were the liberals defining a Christian (bottom of p. 325)?
3. What did MLJ insist on at the conference at Swanwick in 1952?
4. How did Micklin describe MLJ in the March, 1953, column of the British Weekly?
5. What was the one explanation for the state of the church? (p.332)?
6. Jump to 337, top. What decision did Graham make for his London Crusade?
7. How did MLJ respond to the question of the historicity of Adam?
8. How did MLJ challenge the hearers at his 1958 message to the London Bible College?

Twenty-Four: An Awakening of Books

1. What new interest could MLJ speak of by 1959?
2. Where were young people beginning to come in increasing numbers?
3. How did The Banner of Truth Trust come into existence?
4. What doctrine was creating “a considerable disturbance” in these 1950s?
5. What was MLJ’s response to some who wanted to have all-night prayer meetings?
6. What were the reasons Reformed people could miss the need for revival?

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Week Nine

Twenty-Five: Unity: Ecumenical or Evangelical?

1. How did MLJ explain his understanding of unity from John 17 and Ephesians 4?
2. How did Huxtable attack MLJ's convictions? (amazing!)
3. What did MLJ learn during his summers of 1960 and 1962?
4. What were Ramsey's, Soper's, and Vincent's views?
5. What were MLJ's conditions for supporting Graham in July, 1963?
6. What excessive fear dominated evangelical leaders in these days?
7. How did MLJ think about Roman Catholicism and Catholics?

Twenty-Six: Crisis Years

1. What was MLJ saying in his comments about "there is a timing in these matters?"
2. How was MLJ disappointed with Packer in the spring of 1965?
3. What was MLJ accused of proposing, to which he responded in June, 1965?
4. What crisis does Murray discuss on p. 380 and how does MLJ fit in?
5. How did MLJ and John Stott differ on the night of October 18, 1966?

Twenty-Seven: Controversy

1. Why did MLJ not correct the inaccurate information about his view on unity?
2. What was the long-held evangelical belief about the church?
3. How did MLJ's question, "What is a Christian?" disrupt the Keele Congress of 1967?
4. Why did the 1970 book *Growing Into Union* create even more controversy?
5. What did John Stott assert at the Nottingham Congress of 1977?
6. What was one of MLJ's saddest experiences and why?
7. What did MLJ assure was the effect of evangelicals staying with opponents of evangelical truth?
8. What did J. C. Ryle say about the tongue and the heart?
9. How did Packer miss the whole point in his reasons why "the Keele" vision failed?
10. According to the religious world of this era (and today), what kind of people hold to the inerrancy of Scripture?
11. Where did MLJ's hope for the church not lie and where did it lie?

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Week Ten

Twenty-Eight: The End of an Era

1. What happened on October 21, 1966 in Aberfan, South Wales?
2. On what text did MLJ preach on the first anniversary of this disaster?
3. What were MLJ's thoughts of training to witness to others from John 4?
4. What was the topic of his last sermons preached at Westminster Chapel, February 18 and 25, 1968? How old was he?
5. What was discovered about MLJ on Thursday, March 7?
6. What were the comments of an eleven year old girl about MLJ's preaching?
7. How did MLJ wish to leave the ministry at the Chapel?

Twenty-Nine: A World Pulpit

1. What are the different series of books he began to work on?
2. What is the background of his book Preachers and Preaching?
3. In what sense were the 70s the most decade of his life?
4. How far and with what impact were his published sermons having at this time?
5. What were MLJ's views on the charismatic movement?

6. What was David Lillie's assessment of MLJ's views on the new interest in the gifts of the Spirit?

Thirty: The 1970s

1. What was MLJ's answer to the BBC question, why are there so few conversions?
2. What did MLJ tell Joan Blakewell of the BBC after filming?
3. What kind of a grandpa was this dear man?
4. What did MLJ say about preaching and reading in these days?
5. Summarize the author's five points on the principles MLJ urged on ministers.

Thirty-One: Dying...He Worshipped

1. What were MLJ's thoughts about our thoughts of death in March, 1980?
2. What did MLJ preach on in Glasgow on Friday, May 9, 1980?
3. What was "the best thing I ever did" and what "ruined" many men?
4. What's the ultimate test of a preacher? Why did he say this?
5. What did he see as the one explanation for how God used him?
6. What was one of his favorite hymns and what did he affirm on January 19, 1981?
7. What was the M'Cheyne Bible reading for February 28, 1981? He died March 1, 1981.