A Select Reading List on the Reformation

Children

This booklet on Luther’s wife is designed especially for confirmation age children.
Quizzes and answers for teachers based on this booklet are available from Concordia Publishing House’s website at www.cph.org.

Grube, Edward. *Hero of Faith: Martin Luther.*
This booklet on Luther’s wife is designed especially for confirmation age children.
Quizzes and answers for teachers based on this booklet are available from Concordia Publishing House’s website at www.cph.org.

The story of Martin Luther is retold here in graphic novel form.

Leigh, Susan. *Katie Luther: Mother of the Reformation.*
The story of Katie Luther is retold here in graphic novel form.

Maier, Paul L. *Martin Luther: A Man who Changed the World.*
This picture book story of the life of Martin Luther is perfect for sharing with young children.

History

Bainton, Roland H. *Reformation of the Sixteenth Century.*
In many ways a companion piece to his bestselling biography on Luther, Bainton’s introduction to the Reformation is equally well-loved.

Sengele, Mark. *Inside the Reformation: The Times that Changed the World* by Mark Sengele
This book provides a visual journey through the Reformation with concise text and colourful pages. While not laid out as a traditional history book, it shares the same information through pictures, illustrations, and short articles.

Ozment, Steven. *When Fathers Ruled: family life in Reformation Europe.*
Ozment’s classic study of marriage and family in the Reformation era sheds light on the significance of the Reformation for ordinary families.
Luther’s Life

Bainton, Roland H. *Here I Stand: A Life of Martin Luther.*
This bestselling biography of Martin Luther was first published in 1950 and remains a classic to this day. A great option for those wanting a scholarly but accessible introduction to a man and the Reformation he helped start. After this, you might want to check out Bainton’s other book, *The Reformation of the Sixteenth Century.*

Nohl, Frederick. *Luther: Biography of a Reformer.*
Another good introductory biography of Luther, first-published in 1962.

Reformation Writings

Dillenberger, John, ed. *Martin Luther: Selections from His Writings.*
A classic one-volume edition of many of Luther’s most important works. Well-worth the read.

Luther, Martin. *The 95 Theses.*
This short work was Luther’s first public criticism of the selling of indulgences. While not representative of his mature theology, the 95 Theses remains important in that its publication is responsible in many ways for the beginning of the Reformation.

Luther, Martin. *The Small Catechism.*
This small book by Luther summarizes Reformation theology in simple terms so that they could be taught by parents to their children. It focuses on six aspects of Christian belief specifically: The Ten Commandments, The Apostle’s Creed, The Lord’s Prayer, Holy Baptism, Confession and Absolution, and Holy Communion. While simple, it is not simplistic, and Christians will benefit from lifelong study of the book.

This was the first Lutheran confession of faith, and was presented to Emperor Charles V by the Evangelical princes of Germany. It demonstrates how Reformation theology was in keeping with Scripture as well as the history of the church, and articulated recent abuses in the church that they opposed.

*The Book of Concord.*
When you’ve read Luther’s *Small Catechism* and the *Augsburg Confession,* you'll want to move on to the other works in the Book of Concord. There's Luther’s Large Catechism and Melanchthon’s Apology (or Defense) of the Augsburg Confession. You'll also find the three historic creeds of the church (the Apostle's Creed, the Nicene Creed, and the Athanasian Creed), along with other documents, including The Smalcald Articles, The Power and Primacy of the Pope, and the Formula of Concord. Together, these works stand as the authoritative expression of Lutheran theology.
Women and the Reformation

The eminently readable Reformation scholar Roland H. Bainton turns his attention to influential women of the Reformation, writing short biographies (focusing here on France and England).

Bainton, Roland H. *Women of the Reformation in Germany and Italy.*
The eminently readable Reformation scholar Roland H. Bainton turns his attention to influential women of the Reformation, writing short biographies (focusing here on Germany and Italy).

The eminently readable Reformation scholar Roland H. Bainton turns his attention to influential women of the Reformation, writing short biographies (focusing here on Spain through Scandinavia).

The classic biography of Katie Luther’s life is brought into English in this translation of the German original.