



# ELISABETH ELLIOT

## MISSIONARY OF CHRIST

Christian Biographies  
Richard D. Phillips  
Second Presbyterian Church



## EARLY LIFE

Born Dec. 27, 1926 in Brussels, Belgium to missionary parents.

Grew up in Philadelphia, PA, where her father edited *The Sunday School Times*

Attended Wheaton College

Majored in Greek and Classics to prepare as a Bible translator.

Called to missions, she took a year after college at Prairie Bible Institute.

# JIM & ELISABETH ELLIOT

Jim was born in 1927, son of an itinerate Brethren preacher

Inspired by David Brainard and William Cary, Jim had a burning passion to take the gospel to unreached peoples.

Jim roomed with Elisabeth's brother at Wheaton, and they got to know one another in Greek class. They labored together doing street evangelism in Chicago.

Jim was persuaded that he should remain single to serve Christ wholeheartedly. But during their last week at college, he told Elisabeth that he loved her. They committed to "casual letter writing." Jim thought he might be able to marry "in five years or so."

They went separately to Ecuador to witness to the Quechua people, Jim arriving a year after Elisabeth.

Finally, he proposed, agreeing to marry "after they had first learned Quechuan." They were married in Quito, Ecuador in 1953.



## THROUGH GATES OF SPLENDOR

Through missionary pilot Nate Saint, Jim learned of the unreached Auca Indians

Seeking to reach these deep jungle tribe, the landed on a river beach in Jan. 6, 1956. Three Aucas – 1 man and 2 girls – came to their camp, where they exchanged gifts.

After singing, “We Rest on Thee” and praying for God’s blessing, the five missionaries returned to the beach. They radioed their wives that a large group was approaching hoping it was a welcoming party.

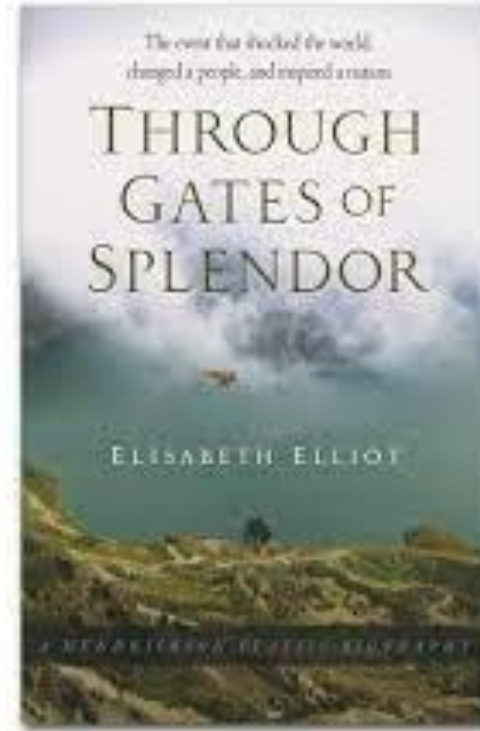
When contact was lost, a rescue party found the five men speared to death in the river.

# FAMOUS SAYINGS OF JIM ELLIOT

“Live to the hilt every situation you believe to be the will of God.”

“I only hope that He will let me preach to those who have never heard that name Jesus. What else is worthwhile in this life? I have heard of nothing better. 'Lord, send me!'”

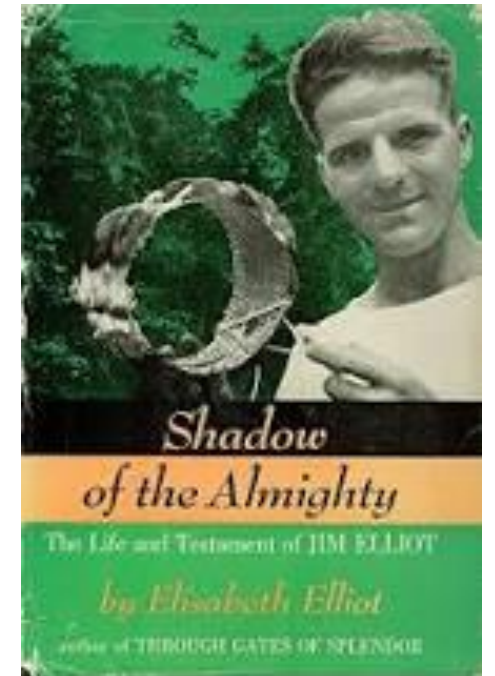
*Why not stay home to evangelize?* “They have the Scriptures, Moses, and the prophets, and a whole lot more. Their condemnation is written on their bank books and in the dust on their Bible covers.”



God, I pray,  
light up  
these idle  
sticks of my  
life and may  
I burn up  
for Thee.



He is no fool who  
gives up what he  
cannot keep, to  
gain what he  
cannot lose.  
Jim Elliot



# ELISABETH AMONG THE AUCAS

Remained for 2 years serving the Quechuan people at Quito.

Meeting 2 Auca women, she learned the Auca language, and with Rachel Saint she went to them.

Lived with the Aucas, eating monkey flesh, serving and witnessing. They named her “Woodpecker.”

She learned why the Aucas had killed her husband:

“The Auca was trying to preserve his own way of life, his own liberty. He believed the foreigners were a threat to that liberty.”

Through their forgiveness and teaching of God’s love, the tribe converted to Christ (one of the first was Mincaye, one of the men who killed her husband. They changed their tribe’s name to Waorani (the True People).

After 2 years, Elisabeth returned to the US. (Rachel stayed until her death in 1994).



# AFTER ECUADOR

Returning to the US, Elisabeth became a Christian writer and speaker. Her 3 books from Ecuador, *Through Gates of Splendor*, *The Shadow of the Almighty*, and *The Savage, My Kinsman* were best sellers among Christians.

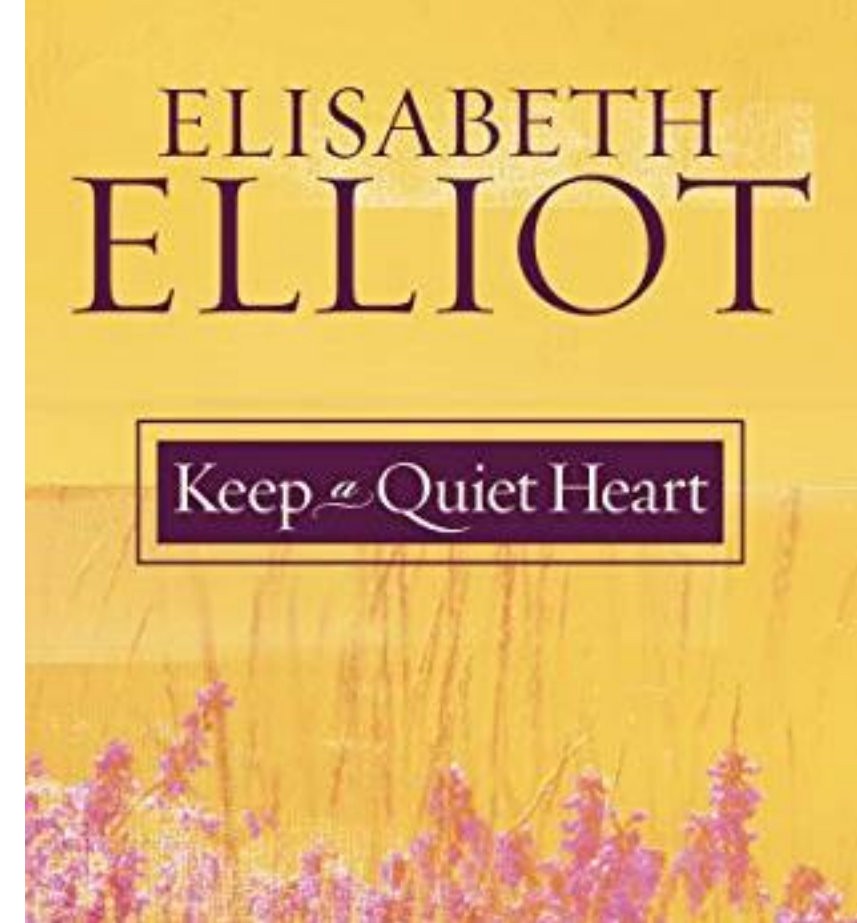
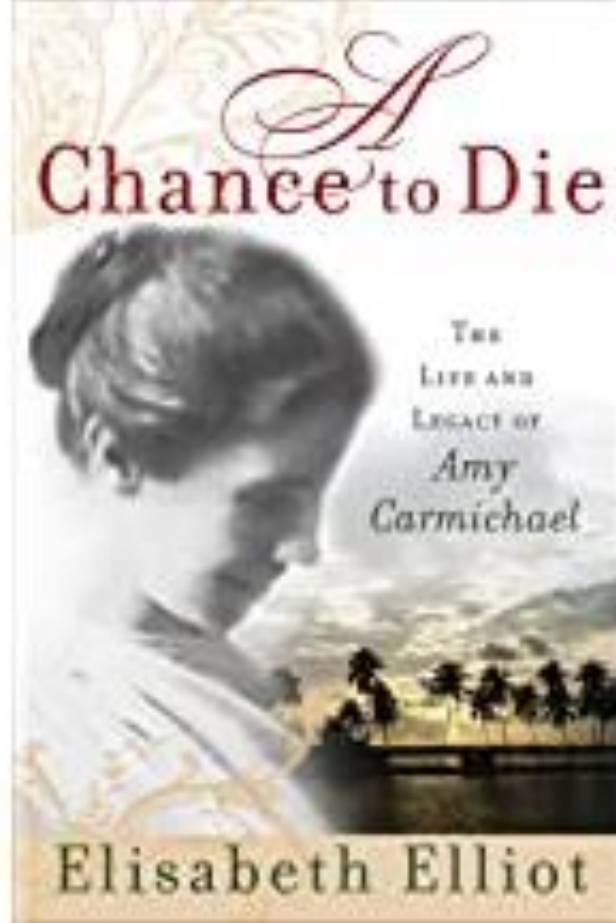
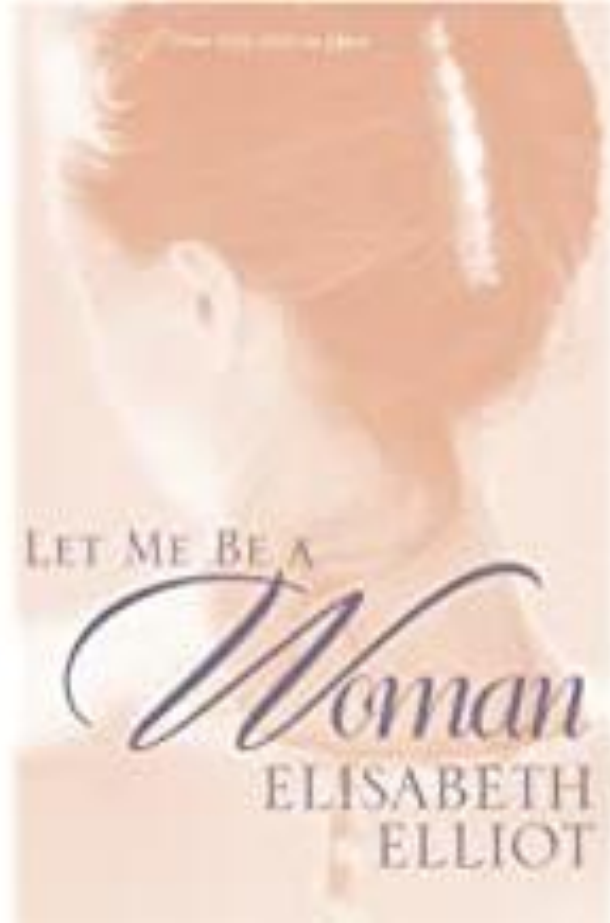
Married Addison Leitch in 1969, a theology professor at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary in Massachusetts (18 years older). He died of cancer 4 years later.

Elisabeth offered to take in seminary boarders. Two came. One married her daughter and the other married her, Lars Grens.

From 1988-2001, hosted the radio show *Gateway to Joy*

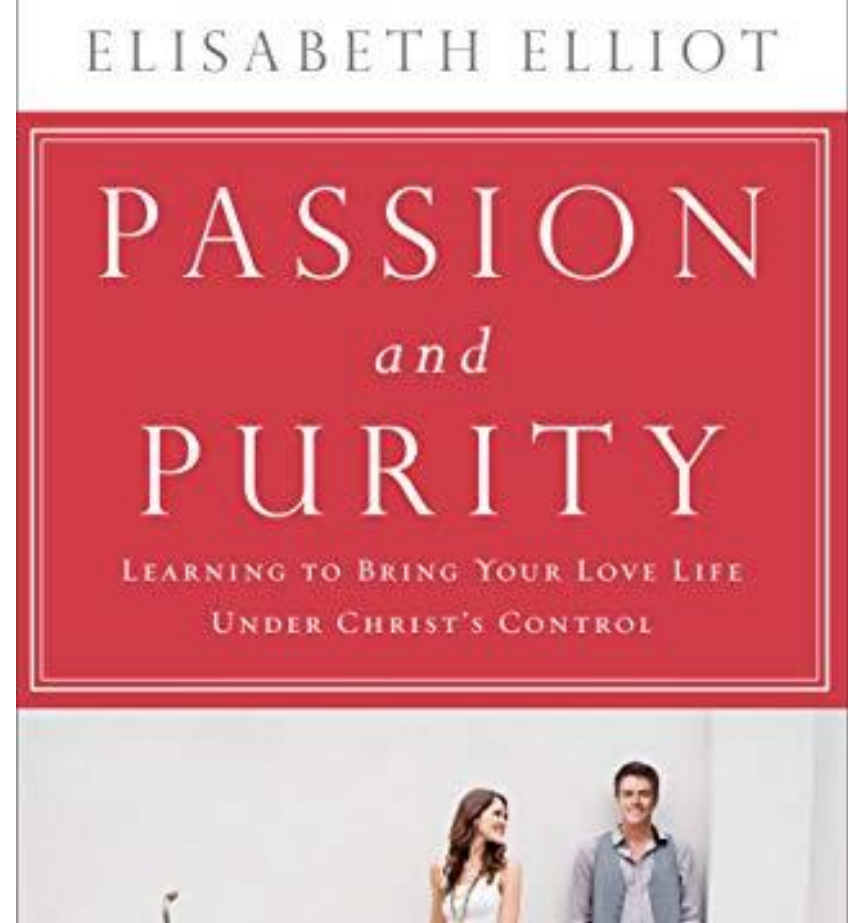
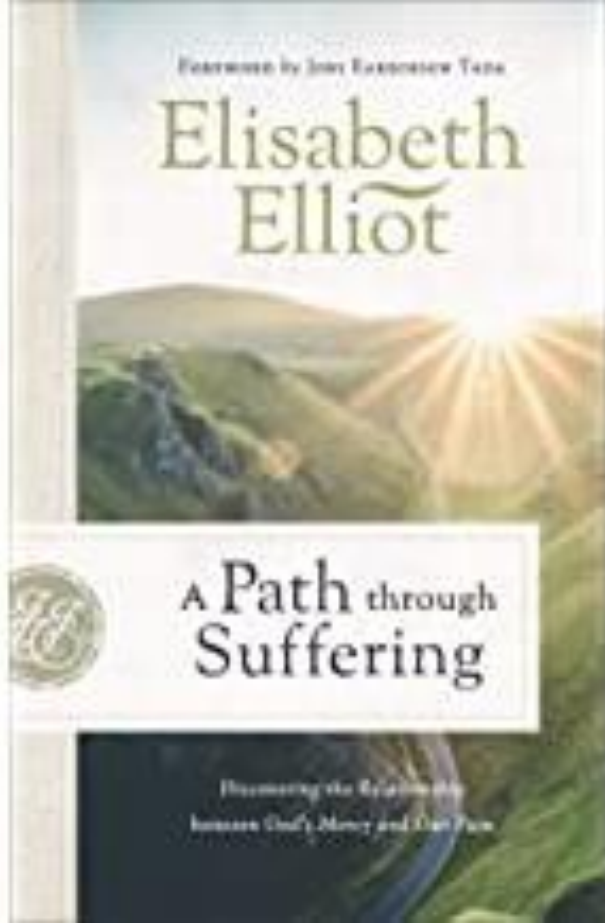
- *"You are loved with an everlasting love and underneath the everlasting arms. This is your friend, Elisabeth Elliot."*





## ELISABETH ELLIOT'S BOOKS |





# ELISABETH ELLIOT BOOKS



## LATER YEARS OF ELISABETH ELLIOT

Continued to write and speak until 2005, when she began suffering dementia.

Spent the last ten years of her life with dementia.

- “She accepted those things, [knowing] they were no surprise to God. It was something she would rather not have experienced, but she received it”

Died in 2015 at the age of 88.



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## SOME SAYINGS OF ELISABETH ELLIOT



Perhaps some future day, Lord,  
Thy strong hand will lead me to the  
place  
Where I must stand utterly alone;  
Alone, Oh gracious Lover, but for  
Thee.

