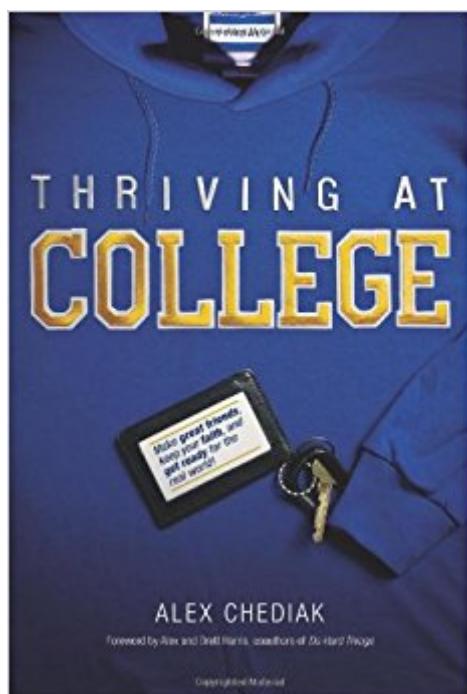


The book was found

Thriving At College: Make Great Friends, Keep Your Faith, And Get Ready For The Real World!



Synopsis

Going to college can be exciting, anxiety inducing, and expensive! You want your child to get the most out of their college experience--what advice do you give? *Thriving at College* by Alex Chediak is the perfect gift for a college student or a soon-to-be college student. Filled with wisdom and practical advice from a seasoned college professor and student mentor, *Thriving at College* covers the ten most common mistakes that college students make--and how to avoid them! Alex leaves no stone unturned--he discusses everything from choosing a major and discerning one's vocation to balancing academics and fun, from cultivating relationships with peers and professors to helping students figure out what to do with their summers. Most importantly, this book will help students not only keep their faith but build a vibrant faith and become the person God created them to be. In a nutshell, *Thriving at College* is about how college students can launch into responsible, fruitful adulthood for the glory of God against the backdrop of a young adult culture that often values perpetual adolescence and the avoidance of responsibility. It explores topics such as embracing responsibility, loving God with all your mind, growing in character and maturity, striving for academic excellence, balancing work and recreation, finding your calling, establishing godly friendships, handling the transition from high school to college, time management, financial discipline, and honoring parents while pursuing functional/economic independence.

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Customer Reviews

"There is no better guide to college than this." Alex and Brett Harris, best-selling authors of *Do Hard*

Things"Alex has written an insightful and useful book to help college-bound people know what to expect, how to prepare for it, and what to do to avoid the pitfalls." Randy Alcorn, best-selling author of Heaven "Written by an 'insider'--a former student, now a professor, this book addresses all the issues a student might face. An excellent gift for all high school seniors."Jerry Bridges, best-selling author of *The Pursuit of Holiness*

Most Christian young people go to college without specific goals and are unprepared for the challenges that await them. While some prosper spiritually, most get derailed, and an alarming number abandon their faith. Alex has written an insightful and useful book to help college-bound people know what to expect, how to prepare for it, and what to do to avoid the pitfalls. (Randy Alcorn, bestselling author of Heaven)Many in my generation look back on their college years with regret, wishing we had been more intentional and focused during our time on campus. Before you invest four years of your life and tens of thousands of dollars, spend a few dollars and a few hours to read this book. (Bob Lepine, cohost of *FamilyLife Today*)Alex's goal is to spare college-bound young people from entering college thoughtlessly and then drifting after they are there. The book has all the right ingredients to meet that goal. (Dr. Leland Ryken, professor at Wheaton College)

Thriving at College is a guidebook for students already in college or entering college. Many students enter college ignorantly, thinking that college is similar to high school. This book touches on common issues and mistakes faced by college students and how to avoid them. The 10 most common mistakes college students make are listed and thrive principles are given on how to avoid making these mistakes. At the end of each chapter, discussion questions are listed.I had second thoughts about reviewing this book. All this changed after I read the Preface. I knew this was going to be a good read and it did not disappoint.Many of the mistakes students make while in college affect their after-college life and plenty of good knowledge can be learned from this book on how to avoid such mistakes. What I like about the book is the practical tips on the dos and don'ts in college. While not all the tips mentioned in the book applies to everyone especially since the book is pretty US-centric, they are important and should be kept in mind. In Appendix 1 of the book, tips on how to choose a college are given. I found them very helpful and will definitely be keeping them in mind the next time I visit an education fair!This book is especially handy for those who have yet to go to college and for parents who want to help their kids avoid common mistakes college students make. As the author is someone who has gone to college and who is a college professor, I agree with what

Alex and Brett Harris said in the Foreword: Alex Chediak "understands this (the college issue) better than most". I think that he is certainly in a good position to give college advice. Overall, *Thriving at College* is crammed with advice and information. As someone who has yet to go to college, I found it extremely helpful and eye-opening. College sounds like an exciting place to be at, but it is littered with pitfalls that has brought many a person away from his religious roots. However, principles and rules given in *Thriving at College* will always remain as what they are: principles and rules. It is up to the reader to take up the initiative and act on them.

We ordered this book and two others from .com as gifts for a college freshman care package. When the three arrived, I saw how THICK this one was and immediately told my wife, "That one's not the winner." Well, I was wrong. Before delivering the books, I read significant chunks of each to confirm they were all audience-appropriate. What I learned was that while the other volumes are good ... "Thriving At College" is EXCELLENT. I pored through this in a couple of days and spoke immediately to our youth pastor. We changed our plans and bought 8 more copies of this one for our high school seniors and staff. The frankness about adolescence and maturity is timely and refreshing for our youth fellowship. The excerpts from student questions are real, very practical advice. ALL of the chapters are relevant. Maybe I would have liked a little more talk about handling some other specific "challenges" (alcohol temptation, sexual temptations beyond hooking up with the opposite sex). But these are indirectly addressed in the rest of the book. I even dare say, some non-Christian seekers/visitors will benefit greatly from reading this. They might not know God personally but they come to fellowship semi-regularly and want to succeed in life. Who knows, if they follow even half of this book's useful "secular" advice which is doled out winsomely - maybe they'll dig harder into the spiritual side of life as well. And of course if you know a Christian student going off or who just entered college- this "coffee chat" with Alex is worth FAR MORE than its modest price!

Going through this with a group of recent grads. So far it fits their lives perfectly. Relatable authors to this generation. We are going through it book club style, one chapter per month then discussing. We started with the intro chapter on the month right before everyone is moving into dorms. So far this schedule is lining up well for our group to finish at the end of year one in college. It has kept everyone engaged and focused on becoming responsible Christ-like young adults.

This book is essential for those who are going to college soon. As a parent who has a daughter in

her senior high school year I found this book an invaluable resource for help in this difficult moment of transition. The author also views the college experience with Christian eyes, explaining that, though difficult, it can be a very relevant moment in the student's life. I'll buy a paperback edition and give to my daughter for I think this is a must read for all students. Great book.

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