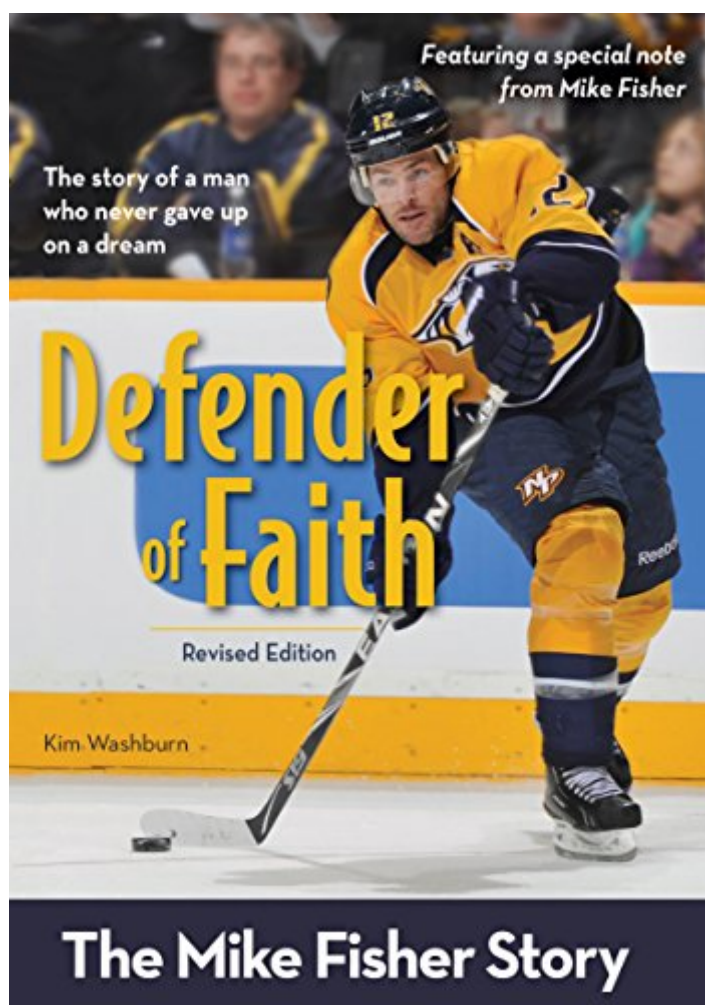


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Defender Of Faith, Revised Edition: The Mike Fisher Story (ZonderKidz Biography)



Synopsis

The revised edition of *Defender of Faith* describes the extraordinary true story of professional hockey player, Mike Fisher, who grew up to become one of the NHL's greatest stars, now married to country singer Carrie Underwood. He has been nominated for the Selke Trophy as the best defensive forward in the league, he's competed in the Stanley Cup finals, and he's been a former alternate captain for the Ottawa Senators. Today he plays professionally for the Nashville Predators and is an active humanitarian, using his fame to benefit others and putting his faith in Christ first—both on and off the ice.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Where have all the role models gone? Who should kids -- and particularly Christian kids -- look up to these days? Maybe it's only because the "bad" stories get more press, but it often seems like all of the celebrity "heroes" (singers, actors, athletes, etc) are greedy, vain, or downright criminal! Thankfully, that's not the case, and there are still some truly worthy heroes to be found. Mike Fisher

is one of them. This book tells the story of one of the NHL's grittiest players, currently a Center for the Nashville Predators. It chronicles his life as a child growing up in Peterborough, Ontario, and his rise through the professional hockey ranks to the highest levels of national and international competition. More importantly, it reveals how his life and his career have been impacted by his faith in Jesus Christ. *Defender of Faith* stays pretty surface-level as far as the specifics of the Christian faith, choosing to focus on portraying major events in Fisher's life rather than dwelling on doctrines or denominational issues. This is to be expected, as the book's target audience is children ages 9-12, as part of the ZonderKidz Biography Series. For a kids' book, it is excellent; an easy and enjoyable read. The book's greatest strength is the way it shows Fisher living out his faith in a winsome manner despite his role in the high-pressure world of professional sports. A naturally quiet and reserved man, Fisher realized the platform that he had to impact lives, and has stepped into the public spotlight (particularly since his marriage last year to country music superstar Carrie Underwood) as an outspoken advocate of Christianity and community involvement. I was particularly interested in hearing how he reconciled his faith in the gospel with his tough-nosed play, including his willingness to engage in fights on the ice. Fighting in the NHL is often criticized as being an act of aggression, but Fisher sees it (as do I) as a way to protect one's teammates. The role of protector and defender is very compatible with a Christian view of masculinity, and I was glad to see Fisher debunk the all-too-common idea that Christians must be passive pushovers! It was also touching to read about Fisher's relationship with a young boy named Elgin-Alexander Fraser. I was well aware of Fisher's active role in community service and philanthropy -- including running the Mike Fisher Hockey Camp, serving as honorary board president of an organization for terminally ill children called Roger's House, and his involvement with Hockey Ministries International and the Make-a-Wish Foundation -- but did not know that he had cared so much about the children he worked with that he visited this very sick 3-year-old multiple times between games during the 2007 Stanley Cup playoffs. When the boy died just as the Ottawa Senators advanced to the Finals (a lifelong dream for every hockey player), Fisher served as a pallbearer for the funeral. One thing I would like to have read that the book lacked was an account of some of Fisher's struggles with his faith. In interviews, he has mentioned that there were times in his career when hockey became almost an "idol" to him, and that he had to refocus and get his priorities straight. These are the types of struggles that are common to every Christian, and it would be very beneficial for young people to have the opportunity to see that their role models are also real people with real trials, and to observe how they persevere through these times of difficulty. This is sadly missing from his biography. Still, this is a great biography for kids, and particularly for those who are hockey fans. As a Christian and

a Nashville Predators fan, I am immensely proud to have Mike Fisher on my team, and I look forward to many years of cheering for him both on and off the ice! Please note that 100% of all proceeds from the sale of Defender of Faith will go to World Vision, a Christian humanitarian organization dedicated to working with children, families, and their communities worldwide to reach their full potential by tackling the causes of poverty and injustice.

Not a Jets or a Predators fan. That said, this is a good but unenthralling read for kids. When it comes to more than a very surface-level book, though, it's not particularly impressive. Against what exactly is Mike Fisher defending the faith? There's no major trial or attack on his faith mentioned anywhere in the book other than that hockey sometimes "almost became an idol", so I fail to see the merits of trumpeting oneself with an overblown title. That he's married to Carrie Underwood seems to be the main reason the media pays attention to him. Considering his reputation as a gritty, tough teammate-defending hockey player and a talented defensive forward, that's a pity. If there were actual examples in the book explaining why he struggled or with what, it might be more useful. As is, "This hockey player is a Christian" is about the full summary of the book. Given the work with various ministries and example set to teammates, I was hoping for a lot more from this book. It's readable at its target age, but not particularly encouraging because there's no particular struggle anywhere. I applaud Mike Fisher for his stand for Christ. Just wish that had come out in the book a lot more.

If you have a young sports fan in your life, this is a good choice. The author keeps the story moving and doesn't get bogged down in statistics. The character of Fish develops throughout his NHL experience, and he shines through the adversity and his successes. What surprised me about this book was the aspect of hockey that involves protecting your team and physical contact. Be prepared to read this book with your child and to discuss this issue of fighting to protect your community. You'll enjoy this book and appreciate how organic and real Mike's relationship with God is. Mike is a role model because he develops his abilities to the fullest and shows maturity and compassion when life gets rough.

Enjoyed reading about Mike Fisher's hockey career. What a blessing his story is and an inspiration to Christians all over the world. I'm excited to see what God has in store for him in the future.

Written by my 14-year old daughter: This book is a great read for everyone. Mike Fisher is such an

amazing man. He is a great defender of faith. Mike Fisher is a role model for everyone, not just athletes. This book gives you facts that you may not know about his life and faith in Jesus. The book goes in order of his life starting all the way back to his childhood to now living out his dream as an NHL player, and husband to country singer Carrie Underwood while still staying on track with his walk with God. This book is a great read for all ages! I love Mike Fisher so much more! What a Godly guy! :)

Great book! Very inspirational!

I loved this book. It was a great read. I'm 12 years old and my mom bought this book for me on her Kindle through .com. Defender of Faith inspired me to continue to be a good Christian and keep a strong faith in God. It was a positive story. Mike Fisher had to overcome many obstacles, but he overcame them through his faith in God. I loved it!

Came as expected!

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