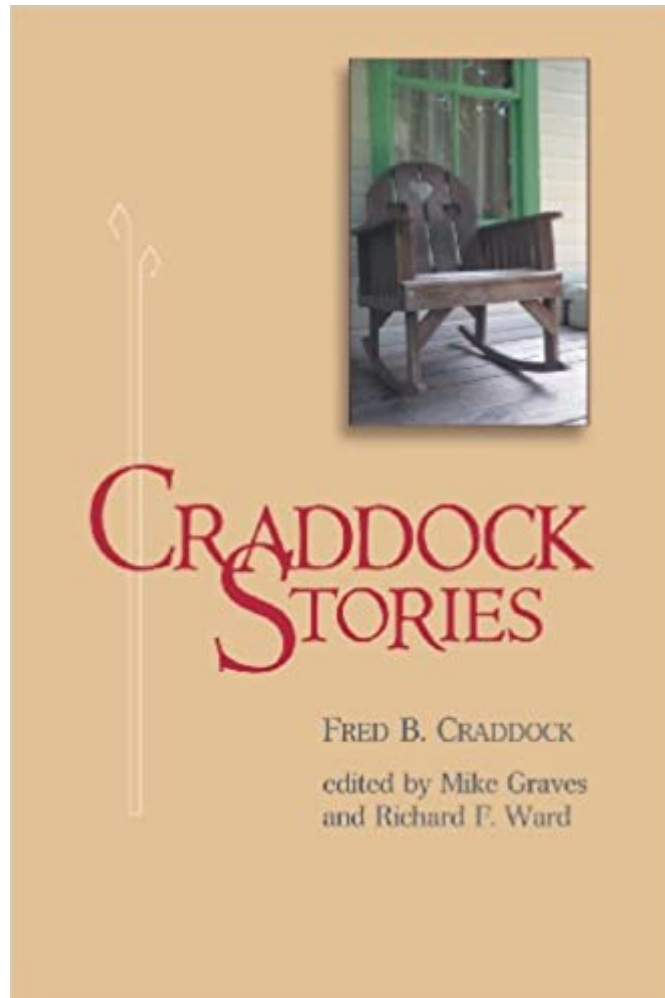




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# Craddock Stories



## Synopsis

One of the things that makes Fred Craddock's sermons so compelling is his masterful use of storytelling, but, until now, few of his stories have ever been published. This collection offers for the first time hundreds of Craddock stories told in his own words and a glimpse of his life.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 27 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #420,983 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #307 in [Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Ministry & Evangelism > Sermons](#) #321 in [Books > Religion & Spirituality > Worship & Devotion > Sermons](#) #479 in [Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Ministry & Evangelism > Preaching](#)

## Customer Reviews

Fred Craddock is Bandy Distinguished Professor of Preaching and New Testament, emeritus, at Candler School of Theology, Emory University, and is minister emeritus of Cherry Log Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). He is a sought-after lecturer, an author of several books, and a captivating storyteller.

It is very hard not to like Fred Craddock, one of today's great homiletics. Craddock Stories is a fascinating collection of many of Craddock's famous tales, anecdotes, and stories that will be as interesting to preachers who want to study how to tell a story as they will be to all readers who simply want to hear some great stories from a man who loves the gospel and the church. This collection is edited by Mike Graves and Richard F. Ward and they are to be commended for doing a wonderful job. Sermon illustration books are a dime a dozen, and I am pretty skeptical of most of them. This work, however, along with R. Kent Hughes' wonderful collection, is well worth having. I have used stories from this book, never without saying, "Fred Craddock tells the story of..." first! (I do believe it was Craddock who tells about going to a church to hear a student preach and hearing

the student present one of Craddock's life stories as if it were his and not Craddock's! If I recall, Craddock shook his hand afterward and commended the young man on his message, much to the minister's embarrassment.) Craddock is a master of understatement and of subtle illustration. Oftentimes you hear a Craddock story and it grows more profound as it sinks in. His stories are usually folksy, colloquial, and earthy. They deal a lot with the church as a family, the radical forgiveness one finds in Christ, and our all-too-current church prejudices and foibles. Craddock is a master at putting his finger on the blind spots of church culture yet he is never elitist or snobbish in doing so. Rather, he can be brutally honest about his own contribution to these shortcomings. If you would like to read a collection of fascinating, intelligent, thoughtful, provocative, and oh-so-interesting stories that will stir your heart and convict you over and over again, get Craddock Stories! Wyman Richardson[...]

You will not be disappointed! Dr. Craddock, who passed from us recently, lives up to his being named one of the top ten preachers in America. Down-to-earth and yet supremely profound. Story-teller extraordinaire!!! You will not be disappointed.

Craddock Stories is a collection of brief retellings of Craddock's life experiences from childhood, through seminary, from professor to parish pastor. This is a collection of the Fred B. Craddock stories which are most often quoted by others. They are a virtual string of pearls; subtle but extremely clear recantings of scripture and daily life rubbing up against each other. Extremely helpful in the pulpit and as clarifying points for difficult places in life. Strongly recommend. Craddock Stories

I was disappointed but not enough to stop reading. I guess I had my expectations too high. The stories are a mixture of fascinating, strange, interesting, weird, helpful, antiquated, etc. I marked a few that I may modify and use later but on as illustrations.

My preaching prof was a great person by the name of Dr. Fred Craddock. As I read this collection of stories, I saw him standing before the class or chapel service and telling these stories. Every reader would do themselves a great service by reading and digesting the contents of this book.

It really does not get better than Dr. Craddock. I was privileged to take a college course from him many years ago. I heard his name spoken in reference to biblical scholarship so I looked him up

and bought a couple of his books. What a reawakening! I cannot recommend this book and his compiled sermons enough.

Great stories.

Graves and Ward have pulled together a group of insightful and poignant stories written and told by one of the great preachers and teachers of preachers. This book should be on every preacher's book shelf or desk!

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