

Ruthless Trust The Ragamuffins Path To God Brennan Manning

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The Ragamuffin Gospel Visual Edition

The Inner Voice of Love

Do you believe that God not only loves you, but that he also likes you? It's just one of the soul-searching questions posed by bestselling author Brennan Manning who confesses he has been "John the beloved, Peter the coward, and Thomas the doubter all before the waitress brought the check." The NIV Ragamuffin Bible offers a collection of Manning's raw, painfully honest, yet grace-filled devotions, meditations, and reflections of his journey limping back to—like the prodigal son—his overjoyed father. When you journey through this Bible, you will likewise find yourself returning to your Heavenly Father, basking in the knowledge that God not only loves you, he delights in you. Features:

- Complete text of the world's most popular modern-English Bible, the NIV
- 104 Devotions guide you into a deeper connection to God and his Word
- 250 Reflections help you understand what it means to be a child of God
- 150 Quotes offer short but thoughtful insights into God's kingdom

9-point type size

The Ragamuffin Gospel

The Signature of Jesus challenges the gospel of "cheap grace" and calls the church to radical discipleship. With passion and boldness, author Brennan Manning invites readers to risk living life as Jesus lived—committed to simplicity, purity of heart, and obedience to the gospel. As a radical alternative this book is offered to Christians who want to live by faith and not by mere "religion," for those who recognize that many of the burning theological issues in the church today are neither

burning nor theological; who see Christianity neither as a moral code or a belief system but as a love affair; who have not forgotten that they are followers of a crucified Christ; who know that following him means living dangerously; who want to live the gospel without compromise; who have no greater desire than to have his signature written on the pages of their lives. "Behold," Jesus proclaims, "I stand at the door and knock." You may have already met him at the door...but do you truly know him? Have you been transformed by His furious, passionate, unexplainable love? Join Brennan Manning, the bestselling author of *The Ragamuffin Gospel*, on a personal journey to experience Christ's love and live with His passion. From the Trade Paperback edition.

Breaking Ground

"I had an obsession with the Amish. Plain and simple. Objectively it made no sense. I, who worked hard at being special, fell in love with a people who valued being ordinary." So begins Sue Bender's story, the captivating and inspiring true story of a harried urban Californian moved by the beauty of a display of quilts to seek out and live with the Amish. Discovering lives shaped by unfamiliar yet comforting ideas about time, work, and community, Bender is gently coaxed to consider, "Is there another way to lead a good life?" Her journey begins in a New York men's clothing store. There she is spellbound by the vibrant colors and stunning geometric simplicity of the Amish quilts "spoke directly to me," writes Bender. Somehow, "they went straight to my heart." Heeding a persistent inner voice, Bender searches for Amish families willing to allow her to visit and share in their daily lives. *Plain and Simple* vividly recounts sojourns with two Amish families, visits during which Bender enters a world without television, telephone, electric light, or refrigerators; a world where clutter and hurry are replaced with inner quiet and calm ritual; a world where a sunny kitchen "glows" and "no distinction was made between the sacred and the everyday." In nine interrelated chapters--as simple and elegant as a classic nine-patch Amish quilt--Bender shares the quiet power she found reflected in lives of joyful simplicity, humanity, and clarity. The fast-paced, opinionated, often frazzled Bender returns home and reworks her "crazy-quilt" life, integrating the soul-soothing qualities she has observed in the Amish, and celebrating the patterns in the Amish, and celebrating the patterns formed by the distinctive "patches" of her own life. Charmingly illustrated and refreshingly spare, *Plain and Simple* speaks to the seeker in each of us.

Above All

This is Henri Nouwen's "secret journal." It was written during the most difficult period of his life, when he suddenly lost his self-esteem, his energy to live and work, his sense of being loved, even his hope in God. Although he experienced excruciating anguish and despair, he was still able to keep a journal in which he wrote a spiritual imperative to himself each day that emerged from his conversations with friends and supporters. For more than eight years, Henri Nouwen felt that what he wrote was too raw and private to share with others. Instead, he published *The Return of the Prodigal Son*, in which

he expressed some of the insights gained during his mental and spiritual crisis. But then friends asked him, "Why keep your anguish hidden from the many people who have been nurtured by your writing? Wouldn't it be of consolation for many to know about the fierce inner battle that lies underneath so many of your spiritual insights?" For the countless men and women who have to live through the pain of broken relationships, or who suffer from the loss of a loved one, this book about the inner voice of love offers new courage, new hope, even new life. From the Trade Paperback edition.

In Pursuit of Love

In the first part of the "Dead Hand" series, Sinclair has written an exposé on institutionalized religion. He condemns the leaders for being hypocrites and accuses the institutions as being unjust and ripe for exploitation. With chapter titles such as "The Church of the Slavers" and "The Church of the Servant Girls," "The Profits of Religion" is sure to start a few conversations.

What Keeps You Up at Night?

Warning: If modern church culture makes perfect sense to you, and you always fit in seamlessly, don't read this. As for the rest of us... While American church culture (and American culture at large) seems largely designed for the extroverted, it's estimated that half of the American population is introverted, and they're often left wondering how, even if, they fit in the kingdom of God. As one of them, popular radio host Brant Hansen brings news. It's wonderful, refreshing, and never-been-said-this-way-before good news. In his unique style, Hansen looks to answer questions that millions of people carry with them each day: If I don't relate to God as emotionally as others do, is something wrong with me? How does one approach God, and approach faith, when devoid of the "good feelings" that seem to drive so much of evangelical church culture? How does God interact with those who seem spiritually numb? Is the absence of faith-based emotion a sign of that God has moved on or was never there? What if we aren't good at talking to people about our faith, or good at talking to people at all? What if I'm told I'm too analytical, that I "think too much"? Where does a person who suffers from depression fit in the kingdom? Is depression a sure sign of a lack of faith? This book is good news for people who are desperately looking for it. (And for their loved ones!) It's also for those who want to believe in Jesus, but inwardly fear that they don't belong, worry that don't have the requisite emotion-based relationship with God, and are starving for good news. *Blessed Are the Misfits* is going to generate discussion, and lots of it. It's simultaneously highly provocative and humbly personal. It's also leavened with a distinct, dry, self-effacing humor that is a hallmark of Hansen's on-air, writing, and public speaking style.

The Wisdom of Tenderness

About the book: Do you ever look at people who call themselves Christians, and wonder about the lack of Christlikeness in them? Have you ever looked into your own life and questioned where you really stood with God? Do you ever entertain the inner suspicion that your relationship with God is pretense, a charade, the mere repeating of the words and feelings of others without internal conviction and change? Have churches today misunderstood the Gospel, what it really means to be a follower of Christ? In this deeply thought-provoking book, *Getting Into Jesus' Life*, John Vosnos addresses these questions and more in profound and practical ways, exploring what it means to be a genuine follower of Christ and offers identity with Christ and participation in Jesus' life as the key to living as a Christ-centered follower of Jesus-and the extraordinary difference this makes! About the author: John G. Vosnos has earned both the Master of Divinity and Doctor of Ministry degrees from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, Trinity International University. After a short career in corporate business, he entered pastoral ministry where he has served for forty years. He and His wife, Gayle, have three grown children and reside in Barrington, Illinois where John serves as a pastor in the Village Church of Barrington.

Abba's Child

In *Finding Sanctuary* Abbot Christopher Jamison, host of the BBC television series *The Monastery*, suggests the teachings of St. Benedict are a tool for everyday life for those who are religious and for those simply searching for spiritual guidance. The *Monastery* involved five non-monks living the monastic life for forty days while TV cameras tracked their progress. The sight of monks responding thoughtfully and helpfully to ordinary people's struggles was a surprise to millions of viewers who had presumed that monks were out of touch." St. Benedict wrote his Rule for monastic living 500 years ago when he was abbot of Monte Cassino, the monastery that sits atop an inspiring Mountain to the East of Rome. The name, "The Rule of St. Benedict," often misleads people into thinking that Benedict wrote "a book of rules." In fact, he wrote insights for Christian living with practical suggestions for daily practice. The insights still guide people today and many of the rules have been adapted to local conditions as Benedict requested. In every generation monastics integrate modern realities and the wisdom of the Rule in a new fusion. That fusion is the spiritual energy enabling monasteries to be places of sanctuary today as they have been for centuries. And that sanctuary can be recreated in the hearts of people of God's will. This book explains how St. Benedict's wisdom can be applied to busy modern lives, and how sanctuary, peace, and *in si'* can be achieved by people living inside and outside of monasteries.

The Prodigal

In times of suffering, simplistic answers ring empty and hollow. But Henri Nouwen, beloved spiritual thinker and author, offers real comfort in the concrete truth of God's constancy. Nouwen suggests that by greeting life's pains with something other than despair, we can find surprising joy in our suffering. He suggests that the way through suffering is not in denial,

but rather in living fully in the midst of the trials life brings our way. Hardcover ISBN 0-8499-1711-5

Finding Sanctuary

Manning's original bestselling message about God's love comes to life through the provocative photographs, illustrations, and other attractive images throughout this visual book.

Breaking Free from Fear

"Today's teens are even more passionate about changing the world than the generation before them. They are learning just how closely their lives tie in to God's sweeping story of redemption. And as they see how their journeys of faith are connected to an ongoing story, they are asking how to go deeper into that story. So how can we help align their passion with God's mission so that their lives and the world can be changed? Story, Signs, and Sacred Rhythms presents a new model for youth ministry that is relevant to the missional church and the changing culture. After challenging youth pastors around the world to consider A New Kind of Youth Ministry, Chris Folmsbee now brings a practical approach to youth ministry that will: • offer a clear and compelling vision of a narrative-missional youth ministry • present a theologically rich and accurate summary of God's story and mission • equip you with an approach to youth ministry that enables you to create, sustain, and refine environments for Christian transformation • unpack a ministry design that's customizable, measurable, and evaluative, allowing you to refine and change course as needed • empower you to transform an emerging generation, resulting in teens joining God in his mission to restore the world By exploring a narrative approach that is about God's story, looking at the signs of God, which are God's images and metaphors to guide our lives, and discovering the saintly cadences that provide the connection between God and mission, you'll find concepts and ideologies of an entirely new way of thinking about and doing youth ministry."

Reflections for Ragamuffins

"I just can't ever seem to shut off my brain and rest." It's easy to feel paralyzed by uncertainty. We want our questions answered, our decisions affirmed, and our plans applauded. But life doesn't come with an instruction manual and rarely follows a straight path. How would your life change if you learned to lean into uncertainty instead of waiting on the sidelines for just the right moment or opportunity? The paradox of faith is that you can't activate it until you act on it. Trust compels us to move forward. If you don't, then you'll be left with a laundry list of unrealized expectations. You were meant to experience a life of abundance and blessing, not frustration and failure. Clarity only comes when we look back. So if you wait until you have clarity, you'll never find it. Instead, you must move forward even when you feel scared to death. That is

when you'll be able to turn the fears that keep you up at night into fuel for your journey. If you want to experience a breakthrough in your life, then you must find a new cadence that will provide the strength you need to move forward in spite of your doubts, questions, and fears. The rhythm of faith is not hinged upon our circumstances but our willingness to surrender. In his most insightful work since the debut bestseller, *Plan B*, Pete Wilson provides a plan for living that will lead you to a place of peace that you've only dreamed about and a life filled with meaning, significance, and satisfaction.

Learning from the Giants

Beloved Christian writer Brennan Manning has long been illuminating the transforming power of God's constant love for us in his bestselling books. Now he identifies self-hatred as the reason that so many of us seem unable to accept this incredible, unchanging love. By clearly examining and understanding Jesus' life, we can put self-hatred behind us forever and truly be transformed in the ways God intended.

Between a Rock and a Hard Place

You know the story: God told Abraham he would become a great nation. Then he told him to sacrifice his own (and only) son, Isaac. Abraham obeyed God and was about to kill Isaac—when God intervened. This is a classic 'between a rock and a hard place' situation. So how was Abraham able to obey in the face of losing it all? Or to bring it closer to home—what would you have done? In this powerful book, Tony Evans reveals what to do when your love for God is tested. According to Evans, “When you don’t know God, or when you either forget or dismiss what is true about Him, then you don’t know how to respond...” Moving through passages in both the Old and New Testaments, Evans makes a powerful case for obedient living as the key to an abundant life.

The Signature of Jesus

In his sequel to *The Ragamuffin Gospel* bestselling author Brennan Manning shows how true and radical trust in God can transform our lives. Manning, beloved author and spiritual teacher, shows us how trust in God can transform our lives and open us up to deeper experiences of grace and love. In *Ruthless Trust*, he turns his focus from furious love to radical trust, revealing the ways in which trust renews our faith and help us grow.

A Glimpse of Jesus

From the inspirational author of *The Ragamuffin Gospel* comes a powerful contemporary retelling of the Parable of the

Prodigal Son. Jack Chisholm is “the people’s pastor.” He leads a devoted and growing megachurch, has several best-selling books, and a memorable slogan, “We have got to do better.” Jack knows how to preach, and he understands how to chastise people into performing. What he doesn’t know is anything about grace. This year, when it comes time for the Christmas sermon, the congregation at Grace Cathedral will look to the pulpit, and Jack will not be there. Of course, they will have seen plenty of him already—on the news. After an evening of debauchery that leads to an affair with his beautiful assistant, Jack Chisholm finds himself deserted with chilling swiftness. The church elders remove him from his own pulpit. His publisher withholds the royalties from his books. Worst of all, his wife disappears with their eight-year-old daughter. But just as Jack is hitting bottom, hopeless and penniless, drinking his way to oblivion, who should appear but his long-estranged father, imploring his prodigal son: “Come home.” A true companion piece to *The Ragamuffin Gospel*, *The Prodigal* illustrates the power of grace through the story of a broken man who finally saw Jesus not because he preached his greatest sermon or wrote his most powerful book, but because he failed miserably. Jack Chisholm lost everything—his church, his family, his respect, and his old way of believing—but he found grace. It’s the same grace that Brennan Manning devoted his life to sharing: profound in nature and coming from a God who loves us just as we are, and not as we should be. “A wonderfully written story that is as entertaining as it is thought provoking.” —Publishers Weekly, starred review “. . . the consummate final tale. What they have created is the Ragamuffin at his best, full of hope, full of love, and finally, full of belief in the goodness of God.” —Phyllis Tickle, founding editor, Religion Department, Publishers Weekly “Brennan Manning’s last work continues the powerful message of grace and forgiveness that has transformed so many lives. *The Prodigal* will transform you too.” —Mark Batterson, New York Times best-selling author of *The Circle Maker*

A Book of Prefaces

Whether we realize it or not, shame affects every aspect of our lives. But God is telling a different story. Curt Thompson unpacks the soul of shame, revealing its ubiquitous nature and neurobiological roots while providing the theological and practical tools necessary to dismantle shame. Embrace healing and wholeness as you find freedom from the negative messages that bind you.

The Profits of Religion

"Patched Together is a very special story to me. It is, in many ways, my story" These words begin this rich story from Brennan Manning, the beloved author of *The Ragamuffin Gospel*. Follow the character Willie Juan, a lonely boy who finds belonging in the eyes of the mysterious Man of Sorrows, through three distinct seasons of his life: morning, noon, and night. Each season is filled with memorable characters, significant wounds, and lingering questions. More than a charming tale, *Patched Together* is a remarkable story in which readers will see themselves. Willie Juan and readers alike will be connected

by the thread that ties all the patches together—the everlasting truth that in the end, only Abba's love remains.

All Is Grace

The loss or disaffiliation of young adults is a much-discussed topic in churches today. Many faith-formation programs focus on keeping the young, believing the youthful spirit will save the church. But do these programs have more to do with an obsession with youthfulness than with helping young people encounter the living God? Questioning the search for new or improved faith-formation programs, leading practical theologian Andrew Root offers an alternative take on the issue of youth drifting away from the church and articulates how faith can be formed in our secular age. He offers a theology of faith constructed from a rich cultural conversation, providing a deeper understanding of the phenomena of the "nones" and "moralistic therapeutic deism." Root helps readers understand why forming faith is so hard in our context and shows that what we have lost is not the ability to keep people connected to our churches but an imagination for how and where God could be present in their lives. He considers what faith is and what steps we can take to move into it, exploring a Pauline concept of faith as encounter with divine action.

Blessed Are the Misfits

You may think you are a Christian—but are you sure? Jesus' call to follow him is more than an invitation to pray a prayer. It is a summons to lose your life and find new life and ultimate joy in him. In David Platt's book *Follow Me: A Call to Die. A Call to Live* he asks the question, "What did Jesus really mean when he said, 'Follow me'?" What if we really listened to Jesus' words and heard what he is saying? When people truly engage with Jesus' personal invitation to follow him, everything changes, for he is worthy of all our trust and affections. *What Did Jesus Really Mean When He Said Follow Me?* builds on the message of *Follow Me* to motivate readers to experience our grand purpose: to exalt the glory of God by spreading Christ's gospel—to make disciples who are making disciples. This booklet is a great resource to share with others to discuss crucial faith questions in a personal and grace-filled manner and engage others to be disciple-makers in obedience to Jesus. Ideal for small groups or personal and mass evangelism.

The Soul of Shame

The best-selling author of *The Prodigal God* explores Jesus' perspectives on life's biggest questions as they might have been observed by those who met Him personally, arguing that people do not have to embrace blind faith or willful ignorance in order to explore the deep realities of God's purposes. 75,000 first printing.

Open Mind, Open Heart

Many Christians feel broken and angry but don't think they can express these real feelings around others—or to God. So we put on a mask to hide our identity. Feelings of embarrassment and shame make us hide from the One who truly loves us. Author Brennan Manning encourages you to let go of this stressful, unreal impostor lifestyle and freely accept your identity as a child of God. Find the rest that you long for as you grow in character and accept His lordship. Includes discussion questions.

Cure for the Common Life

Imagine a stormy day at sea, your ship yielding to a relentless wind, pummeled by crashing waves, subject to the awesome force of nature. A force that is both fierce and majestic. A power that is nothing short of furious. Such is God's intense, consuming love for His children. It's a love that knows no limits, and no boundaries. A love that will go to any lengths, and take any risks, to pursue us. Renowned author and ragamuffin Brennan Manning presents a love story for the brokenhearted. For those who are burdened by heavy religion. For those who feel they can never measure up. It is a provocative and poignant look at the radical, no-holds-barred love of our Heavenly Father. It is a message that will forever change how you view God.

Encounters with Jesus

Brennan Manning shares his joyful message in a powerful new way with his first-ever collection of daily devotions. For every day of the year the beloved author of Ragamuffin Gospel and The Boy Who Cried Abba offers a verse of scripture, and each day's meditation is completed with a complementary reading from his own writings. Whether your life has already changed by Brennan Manning's dynamic version of the good news or you are meeting him here for the first time, Reflections for Ragamuffins will open your mind and heart to a profound new experience of God's unconditional love.

The Furious Longing of God

Why is it easier to obey God than to trust Him? Because obeying God makes sense to us. In most cases, His laws appear reasonable and wise, and even when we don't want to obey them, we usually concede that they are good for us. But the circumstances we find ourselves in often defy explanation. Before long, we begin to doubt God's concern for us or His control over our lives. We ask, "Why is God allowing this?" or "What have I done wrong?" During such a time of adversity, Jerry Bridges began a thorough Bible study on the topic of God's sovereignty. What he learned changed his life, and in

Trusting God he shares the fruit of that study. As you explore the scope of God's power over nations, nature, and even the details of your life, you'll find yourself trusting Him more completely—even when life hurts. This new edition replaces both *Trusting God* (paperback ISBN 9781600063053) and the study guide (paperback ISBN 9781600063060) by combining both resources into one volume!

Ruthless Trust

Real life is long on law and short on grace—the demands never stop, the failures pile up, and fear sets in. Life requires many things from us—a stable marriage, successful children, a certain quality of life. Anyone living inside the guilt, anxiety, and uncertainty of daily life knows that the weight of life is heavy. We are all in need of some relief. Bestselling author Tullian Tchividjian is convinced our exhausted world needs a fresh encounter with God's inexhaustible grace—His one-way love. Sadly, however, Christianity is perceived as being a vehicle for good behavior and clean living—and the judgments that result from them—rather than the only recourse for those who have failed over and over and over again. Tchividjian convincingly shows that Christianity is not about good people getting better. If anything, it is good news for bad people coping with their failure to be good. In this "manifesto," Tchividjian calls the church back to the heart of the Christian faith—grace. It is time for us to abandon our play-it-safe religion, and to get drunk on grace. Two hundred-proof, unflinching grace. It's shocking and scary, unnatural and undomesticated ... but it is also the only thing that can set us free and light the church—and the world—on fire.

Plain and Simple

Is God a wrathful judge? A gentle healer? A father? Brother? Friend? In *The Relentless Tenderness of Jesus*, Brennan Manning brings you to a deeper understanding of the true nature of God. Through poignant and unforgettable stories and challenging observations, Manning helps you stretch your mind and reject simplistic explanations of who God really is. With rich insights you'll see how God can at once be a roaring lion, pacing the globe and seeking you out; and simultaneously a tender lamb, there to comfort you in any time of need. A unique experience, this book will forever change the way you think about God.

Trusting God

"Sweet Spot." Ever swung a baseball bat or paddled a Ping-Pong ball? If so, you know the oh-so-nice feel of the sweet spot. Life in the sweet spot rolls like the downhill side of a downwind bike ride. But you don't have to swing a bat or a club to know this. What engineers give sports equipment, God gave you. A zone, a region, a life precinct in which you were made

to dwell. He tailored the curves of your life to fit an empty space in his jigsaw puzzle. And life makes sweet sense when you find your spot. But if you're like 70 percent of working adults, you haven't found it. You don't find meaning in your work, or you don't believe your talents are used. What can you do? You're suffering from the common life, and you desperately need a cure. Best-selling author Max Lucado has found it. In *Cure for the Common Life*, he offers practical tools for exploring and identifying your own uniqueness, motivation to put your strengths to work, and the perfect prescription for finding and living in your sweet spot for the rest of your life.

The Relentless Tenderness of Jesus

Through her own gripping story of escape from human trafficking, Rebecca Bender teaches us what trafficking in America looks like - and what we can do about it - as she reveals the light of God in even the darkest places. *Pursuit of Love* is a riveting read that will give you the confidence to pursue your own purpose and take you on a journey to places you never thought possible. Born and raised in a small Oregon town, all-American girl Rebecca Bender was a varsity athlete and honor roll student with a promising future. Then a predator pretending to be her boyfriend lured her into a web of lies that sent her down a path she never imagined possible. For nearly six years, Rebecca was sold across the underground world of sex trafficking in Las Vegas. She was branded, beaten, told when to sleep and what to wear, and traded between traffickers. Forced into a dark sisterhood, Rebecca formed bonds with her trafficker and three other women, creating a false sense of family. During that time, God began revealing himself to her. And in the midst of her exploitation, she found the hope she needed to survive. After a federal raid, Rebecca escaped. Her life was forever changed as she felt the embrace of her heavenly Father guiding her to healing and wholeness. Rebecca soon began to use her own experiences to change the lives of others as she went back into the darkest places she had known - assisting FBI, VICE, and law enforcement across the country in some of their most difficult cases. Through Rebecca's incredible story of redemption, we remember that our past does not have to determine our destiny.

Faith Formation in a Secular Age

It has been over twenty years since the publication of *The Ragamuffin Gospel*, a book many claim as the shattering of God's grace into their lives. Since that time, Brennan Manning has been dazzlingly faithful in preaching and writing variations on that singular theme - "Yes, Abba is very fond of you!" But today the crowds are gone and the lights are dim, the patches on his knees have faded. If he ever was a ragamuffin, truly it is now. In this his final book, Brennan roves back his past, honoring the lives of the people closest to him, family and friends who've known the saint and the sinner, the boy and the man. Far from some chronological timeline, these memories are witness to the truth of life by one who has lived it - All Is Grace.

Turn My Mourning into Dancing

A character study of Jesus Christ inspires readers to accept Jesus' love and live a righteous life.

What Did Jesus Really Mean When He Said Follow Me?

If you could spend a few minutes with the giants of faith in the Old Testament in person, what lessons would they share with you? In *LEARNING FROM THE GIANTS* John C. Maxwell draws on fifty years of studying the Bible to share the stories of Elijah, Elisha, Job, Jacob, Deborah, Isaiah, Jonah, Joshua and Daniel. These people fought and won epic battles, served kings, and endured great hardships for God to come out on the other side transformed through His grace. Through them Maxwell explores timeless lessons we can learn about leadership, ourselves, and our relationship with God.

NIV, Ragamuffin Bible, eBook

Previously published: Sisters, Or.: Multnomah Publishers, c2000.

Getting Into Jesus' Life

Written primarily for new Christians, this discipleship-oriented book is designed to help people lay a biblical foundation in six weeks. In Psalms 11:3, David wrote, "If the foundations are destroyed, what will the righteous do?" A solid, biblical foundation is key to long-term spiritual success. With this goal in mind, this book is uniquely formatted to encourage the reader to interact with the Bible, spend time with God daily, meet with a mentor or small group, and explore topics that are vital to cultivating a biblical worldview.

Seizing Your Divine Moment

A deeply personal and heartfelt devotional from the beloved author of *The Ragamuffin Gospel*. Raw vulnerability can be scary. It can also save our lives. In this book, Brennan Manning has laid out a month of honest prayers to God, whom he affectionately calls Abba, in an easy-to-use format that can guide your own prayers. Each day contains morning and evening prayers coupled with Scripture and excerpts from Manning's contemporary spiritual classics—in a modern-day collection of psalms, complete with cries for help, expressions of wonder, and invitations into the comforting mercy of God.

Patched Together

In this inspiring book, Erwin McManus uses the biblical account of Israel's war with the Philistines (1 Samuel 13 and 14) and the characters of Saul and Jonathan to demonstrate the difference between living a life of purpose and adventure, and living one of apathy and missed opportunity. In the midst of a less-than-hopeful battle, Saul—who should have been leading—rested beneath a pomegranate tree as Jonathan seized the divine moment that would impact the future of Israel. Through this story McManus artfully illustrates the eight characteristics of an adventurer's heart, what he calls "the Jonathan factor." Using powerful examples from his own life and ministry, along with fresh biblical teaching, McManus asserts that God crafts divine moments specific to each of us—priceless opportunities for us to actively engage in God's big-picture plan. Apathy and apprehension prevent us from being all we are meant to be for God's kingdom. But by developing the characteristics McManus outlines, Christians can move from mundane to miraculous living.

Dear Abba

A beautiful new gift edition of this classic work of spirituality, complete with ribbon marker. This book is designed to initiate the reader into a deep, living relationship with God. Written by an acknowledged spiritual master, the book moves beyond "discursive meditation and particular acts to the intuitive level of contemplation." Keating gives an overview of the history of contemplative prayer in the Christian tradition, and step-by-step guidance in the method of centering prayer. Special attention is paid to the role of the Sacred Word, Christian growth and transformation, and active prayer. The book ends with an explicit treatment of the contemplative dimension of the gospel.

One Way Love

A Stirring Invitation to Accept God's Unfathomable Tenderness

Story, Signs, and Sacred Rhythms

Presents a six-week Bible study guide to dispelling fears and the stresses they cause in order to confront situations with courage, strength, and faith in God.

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