



The Kingdom Within: The Inner Meaning of Jesus' Sayings

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By showing how Jesus' teachings relate to our inner depths, this book guides us toward a more conscious and creative life. *The Kingdom Within* explores the significance of Jesus' teachings for our interior life -- that inner reality that Jesus called "the kingdom of God." It is Sanford's conviction that contemporary Christianity has overlooked this inner dimension of Jesus' teachings and so has lost touch with the human soul.

Illustrated with case histories and dream material drawn from the author's work as a psychotherapist, *The Kingdom Within* examines such characteristics as extroversion and introversion, masculinity and femininity, thinking and feeling, and sensation and intuition to show how Jesus met the criteria of wholeness or fullness of personhood. Step by step, Sanford helps us to shed the outer mask, to eschew sin, which "means living in enslavement to what we don't know about ourselves," and to follow the road of consciousness, which leads to "a great treasure waiting only to be discovered."

The Kingdom Within: The Inner Meaning of Jesus' Sayings Details

Date : Published August 11th 2009 by HarperOne (first published June 1970)

ISBN : 9780060670542

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Format : Paperback 208 pages

Genre : Psychology, Spirituality, Nonfiction, Religion, Christianity, New Testament, Faith



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Elizabeth says

This is one of the top suggested reads to go with a book study of Natural Spirituality (Rockwood Hudson). Sanford illuminates scripture we would normally associate with an outer experience and helps us to see the meaning for our more unconscious inner lives. In this way we learn the journey to God is not a place to get to, but an uncovering of the hidden Christ within -- which gets us to an inner journey to the kingdom of God. Lots of good passages marked to read again...

Diana A Owens says

oke to me and said "seek first the Kingdom of God and all these things will be added," reading this book thirty years later I understand what I have been experiencing in my life, and feel grateful for the insight it has brought me. I would recommend this book to anyone seeking an understanding of their inner life.

Years ago when I was seeking to know myself and God' a voice spoke to me. The voice said "Seek you the kingdom of heaven, and all these things will be added. .". I am grateful this book has helped understand what that voice meant.

Hilda says

This book was so good I might have to go out and purchase my own copy since the copy I have was borrowed :) I really enjoyed reading my first book by this author. There was a lot of wisdom and insight into some of the scripture passages. The author shared his own insight of course but it was very thought provoking for me, and definitely worthy of a re-visit in the future.

Richard says

I think I was surprised how much I liked this book - candid, real, and at the same time christian. very well done.

Todd says

It took me a while, but i have finished this book. It really made me think about the integration of body, mind, and spirit. We must see ourselves as a whole person, with both male and female, light and dark, divine and human fully realized in the way that Christ lived His life.

Katherine says

This book has been helpful in my journey of consciousness and wholeness. It is a different perspective from what I'm used to reading in Christian literature, as it delves deep into psychological aspects of the Christian life. I loved the focus on the development of the individual, but that also scared me. I come from a context where individual-focus sounds selfish and prideful. But at the risk of seeming selfish I've longed to explore and develop my inner consciousness and therefore reach more unity within myself.

Something that came to mind while reading is that, too often, we are concerned more with being good than being whole. If I develop wholeness by embracing creativity in life, then goodness will flow out of that. Trying to be good by following rules for the sake of rules will be exhausting and unproductive.

I have a lot to work on in myself, but I found this book to be very encouraging in my journey.

Christy Priest says

I am currently reading this book and taking the class with Rev. Billie. WOW! It is very in depth and fascinating. I am only through chapter 4 and I have learned so much.

Robin says

Thought provoking even for this atheist. A Jungian interpretation of Jesus. If this author had been my first exposure to the church I could see attending.

Mark says

I'm currently reading this for a class at church. It is deepening my understanding of the Kingdom of God.

Connie says

Fabulous book for those seeking to engage with scripture on many levels. Sanford invites us to use our imagination and allow the depths of our souls to be transformed by taking time to inwardly digest God's word.

Frank says

This is an interesting book dealing with what Jesus call "The Kingdome of God." He has some remarkable

insights on what Jesus' words mean. He showed how the two parables comparing the Kingdom to the Peril and the Treasure in the field are not the same, in fact they are actually opposites with an astounding result I had never realized. I thought the first half of this book the best I have read on this subject. But then he got into psychology and the second half of the book, although it too had some good stuff, had a lot of trash that was a little tough wading through. That is why I only gave it two stars.

Kevin says

Very insightful, clear, progressive and gentle words in understanding the Christian faith, beliefs, and a God who truly loves all unconditionally. Definitely not a read for radical, right fundamentalist!

♥ Ibrahim ♥ says

I am a big fan of Jung, in-depth psychology, and the theme of the Kingdom within is one of my favourite Christian topics and I like to read extensively on it. I hope to discuss this book with somebody who read it.

Ron Rowland says

Wonderful glimpse into the psychology of Jesus, finding Him to be the model of a perfect, whole person.

Daniel Coburn says

John Sanford offers an integration of Christian spirituality and Jungian psychology in this book. A very insightful psychological interpretation of the teachings of Jesus.
