



Finding My Way Home: Pathways to Life and the Spirit

Henri J.M. Nouwen

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Henri Nouwen became one of the most inspiring spiritual guides of the 20th century. Culled from a life of intense seeking, these profound meditations on living, waiting, power, peace, and dying offer important insights that will inspire all who dare to travel a spiritual path.

Finding My Way Home: Pathways to Life and the Spirit Details

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Laura says

This is a book I will need to ponder for a while. It's a collection of four short essays by Henri Nouwen. Nouwen spent the last decade of his life living in a community of mentally and physically challenged people in Canada and writes about that experience, among others, in this book. His notion of fruitfulness in the spiritual life is challenging but also seems so utterly right. It is difficult to try to "rate" an account as personal as this one. I was moved by the book and am likely to remember it, though I may need to re-read it in the future when my mind is less cluttered...

D says

A little light on content, and some of the best lines are quotes from others, like: Waiting patiently in expectation is the foundation of spiritual life. - Simone Weil. However, keep in mind this book was compiled post-mortem, as the compilation of 4 pamphlets. My favorite was the last: The Path of Living and Dying. In particular, I like the treatment of loss: The question is not how to avoid loss or make it not happen, but how to choose it as a passage, as an exodus to a greater freedom.

Cate says

He's got some good gems in this--it honestly never occurred to me that I could have a Passion, like Jesus had a Passion--I'm not sure I've fully worked that out, but if, as Christians, we are to emulate Jesus, then it makes sense that we'd have a Passion too. I wonder if we also send out our spirit to those we leave behind, in some measure? Is that how Elisha got a double dose of Elijah's spirit? I hate the Path of Waiting--probably because I'm not great at the Art of Being, and because our culture has taught me to love independence at the expense of community. That, and I currently face a lot of open-ended waiting--which is torture because I haven't been promised anything specific, so I'm not entirely sure what I'm waiting for. Anyway--worth a read!

RF says

a gift from my husband - seems appropriate for where we are at these days.

Spencer says

And I continue to fall in love with Nouwen's writing. The first essay "The Path of Power" is definitely my favorite, but all four are really good.

Steve says

The last chapter was especially helpful.

Hope Squires says

Lovely! Especially the final section: "The Path of Living and Dying"

r.b says

I always learn something from Nouwen's writing. He writes humbly and is not afraid to share a lot of himself.

Larissa says

What a surprisingly thoughtful little find. If you take time to read slowly and let it stew, I believe the four little essays provide some really special insights.

Rachel says

I read this book in two sittings. The first, right before bed and the second, right upon waking the following morning. As my first read of Nouwen, I am grateful for the vulnerability and insight he so adeptly gives in this collection of essays. In my own personal walk with God, I have come to grow more confident and sure of God's love for me, Rachel, not for anything I could possibly give him. I'm beginning to say "I love you" back with joy and surrender. this book was a wonderful reminder of the community and intimacy, both with God but also with others, that can be found in the short time we have in this world. Nouwen is relatable and my brother in Christ. I'm thankful for such gentle, humble, and truthful encouragement and openness I found in these pages.

Shakira says

wat you can learn from this book is that there are some ppl you really will need in the long run of life

Ken says

thought provoking essays on power, waiting and embracing death. these are written from a spiritual perspective on how we are to live our lives by a former priest and academic who ended up working with the disabled and the marginalized

Rachel says

I could read everything ever written by Henri J.M. Nouwen.

Nancy says

I've had this book for probably five years. I tried to read it at least twice, probably more. I just couldn't stay with it. And I've read Henri Nouwen and loved his books. Well we were leaving for a trip and I was looking for a couple books to take along. I didn't choose this book but apparently it was my time to read this one. When we reached our destination Finding My Way Home was in my bag. Honestly, I did not mean to bring it along. So, okay, I decided give it another chance. This time it spoke to me so truly and I really needed his message for this point in my life. It's a keeper and I'm am very glad that it found me.

Fiona says

This was a great book. I think this is the first Nouwen's book that i read cover to cover. TWICE. I like his perspective on life and death, and makes me think about living differently.

Peyton Herrington says

Good reflections, and a rather short read. I basically read the book between 5 subway rides. It wasn't too heavy, but still retained a great deal of insight.

Barbara says

Lots of insight here; would really give it a 3.75--especially liked the last section.

Michelle Butlig says

Wonderful small book that I know I will re-read many times. I love Nouwen's writings, so personal, real and honest. Especially reflected on the last chapter on death and what it means to really live and continue to live in the lives of people after dying.

Bonnie says

Easy read. Four essays reminding us we are God's beloved. The idea of fruitfulness as in doing so others may benefit, how wonderful.

Cindy Hindman says

Very good and he most definitely knows how to bring you to Christ. Funny thing it spoke so deeply to me as I am moving down the pathway of Christian life. This man was definitely someone who was close to God.
