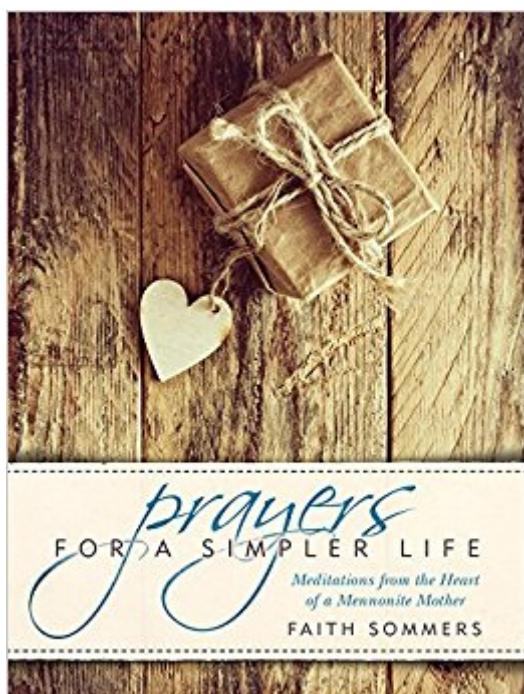


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Prayers For A Simpler Life: Meditations From The Heart Of A Mennonite Mother (Plainspoken Devotion)



Synopsis

Do your quiet times with God feel disconnected from the rest of your overflowing days? Shouldn't our devotions affect how we live our lives? In this 90-day devotional for women, plain Mennonite mother and wife Faith Sommers helps connect your moments with the Lord to the rest of your life. Steeped in the faith of Amish and Mennonites, who maintain that how we live is as important as what we say, Sommers' words hold gentle warmth and wise nudging for readers tired of disjointed living. Offering daily devotions, prayers, journal prompts, and ideas for how to simplify your life and strengthen your faith, *Prayers for a Simpler Life* guides readers toward a deeper commitment to the way of Jesus. Features ninety days of devotionals rooted in Scripture and the simple life, daily prayers, journal prompts, and tips for simplifying your life.

Book Information

Series: Plainspoken Devotion

Paperback: 200 pages

Publisher: Herald Press; First edition (February 21, 2017)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1513801260

ISBN-13: 978-1513801261

Product Dimensions: 5.8 x 0.6 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars 11 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,391,824 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #99 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Christian Denominations & Sects > Mennonite #608 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Christian Denominations & Sects > Amish #1840 in Books > Religion & Spirituality > Worship & Devotion > Meditations

Customer Reviews

Faith Sommers is a conservative Mennonite mother, wife, and columnist for *Ladies Journal*, a publication for Amish and Mennonite women. She and her husband Paul have six children between the ages of six and twenty-one.

Very nice book.

First, the disclaimer. "I was provided a free copy of this book. All opinions are my own." That done,

PRAYERS FOR A SIMPLER LIFE is a devotional rich in the faith of Amish and Mennonite. There is a scripture passage to read, a story related to it, a prayer and a reflection to think about. Those who know me know that I don't just write Amish fiction, but my ancestors came from this background. I live a simpler life, although I do not attend an Amish or Mennonite church, but a very conservative Baptist one. Both of my oldest two daughters have read this devotional and we keep it where it is picked up often to read. I often find my teen daughter sitting and reading it. Are you trying to wrap your mind around God's love? With scripture, wisdom, prayer, and real life truths, Mrs. Sommer's shows us the many ways God cares for us. The devotions are short enough to be read in a few minutes, yet deep enough you could spend hours of study and prayer if you want to. This will be a devotional I will likely spend a lot of time in. Recommended for women, mothers, and those who love devotionals and want to deepen their faith.

I absolutely love the simplicity of the Mennonite or Amish life styles. Their sense of community and their love of God is something to be admired and replicated within our own lives and homes. Yet in our far-too busy lifestyles, we barely have time to complete all the items off our "To-Do" list, and can't even find time for prayer or God. We make bargains to ourselves we will try and do a better job of that tomorrow. Yet what if we simply took the time at the beginning of our day and just spent 10 minutes with God, reflecting on His attributes, growing our faith, seeing the light of God's truth in our daily lives, dealing with negative emotions, improving our relationships with others, understanding the Fruit of the Spirit, seeing analogies in our lives with that of the ocean, learning how to have a servant's heart, and even dealing with the joys of cooking and seeing lessons of faith in that. Perhaps it is reflecting on the beauty of God in the way we get ready for our day, dealing with the stress women do, understanding the sacrifices to God that can improve our lives and finally coming back to the spring that refreshes and provides water for a thirsty and parched soul. In 13 weeks, once a day, Faith Sommers, a Mennonite mother leads readers into a short devotional, Prayers for a Simpler Life, focusing on each of these situations to help us understand that even in our daily routines, God can be found and a lesson gleaned from something as easy as gardening or putting on our makeup. Each promises to take up no more than 10 minutes but it is a place to begin our days with time with God instead of waiting for the end of the day to do so. Yet you can do both or either one or simply work these into your day however it may suit you. Each daily devotion is coupled with a passage from Scripture to set the tone of each devotion topic along with a short prayer, a real life example from Faith's own life experience and a simple reflection for you to consider on the subject. This would be an ideal way to begin a women's study either in a small group

setting or in a larger church atmosphere because each of these topics deals with the daily struggles of women and the stress loads we bear, from raising children, dealing with our marriages, husbands, friends, and even finding time to serve when we can't even find time to get through our daily tasks at home. It creates a balance and gives readers a reprieve for a short time, to realize that God is always present and He is always teaching us from everything we deal with each day without realizing it. I received *Prayers For a Simpler Life* by Faith Sommers compliments of Herald Press. The best part I love about this book is that it often leads you to further personal study on the subject and really makes you evaluate the simplicity of the things we take for granted every single day. Since it is spring in my next of the woods, the week on using gardening and planting was a huge life to my parched soul and now I look forward to bringing my garden back to life and enjoying my time in it even more. I would give this book a 4.5 out of 5 stars in my personal opinion.

Mennonite wife and mother Faith Sommers has written a 13-week devotional called 'Prayers for a Simpler Life-Meditations from the Heart of a Mennonite Mother' based on her (what many of us would call) old-fashioned lifestyle. And, honestly, to read her words is to step into a quieter place. Her life isn't revolving around her smartphone, current television shows or any number of modern conveniences. There seem to be obvious advantages to this quiet life. Those of us who live in the midst of the technological age read about ways to lessen our stress and how to cope in the midst of our busyness. Sommers talks about beginning the day in the Lord's face, for Him to be the center of our lives, and not just picturing Him on the edges. Her book is restful. It's divided into 13 sections, such as: Relationships, Kitchen Joys, and Stresses Women Face. She talks about her husband and her children, friends, and her beliefs, but she doesn't seem beaten down by the trials she comes up against. But to me, it was too tame. My adult life has been full of strife, maybe in part caused by our family which has crashed into the world, and possibly could have been avoided if we'd not been immersed in modern times. Regardless, I benefit personally with those who have been through the trenches. I'd call this more of a soft devotional. Sweet and full of Gospel truths, but too light for me. But for gentle spirits out there, it's perfect. (I received this book free to review from the publisher, heraldpress)

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