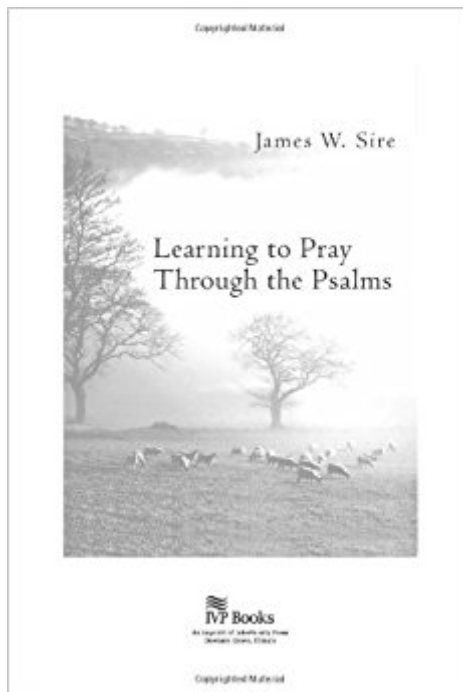


The book was found

Learning To Pray Through The Psalms



Synopsis

Weariness. Wonder. Joy. Longing. Anger. These are the feelings of the Psalms: honest expressions of pain and joy penned by real people in the midst of real life circumstances. Though they were written centuries ago, the Psalms still resonate deeply with us today, giving voice to our thoughts and longings: "Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD." (Psalm 130:1) "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble." (Psalm 46:1) "As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God." (Psalm 84:2) In *Learning to Pray Through the Psalms*, James W. Sire teaches us to take our appreciation for this rich book of Scripture a step further. Choosing ten specific psalms, Sire offers background information that helps us read each one with deeper insight and then lays out a meditative, step-by-step approach to using the psalmists' words as a guide for our own personal conversation with God. A group study is also included in each chapter, along with a guide for praying through the psalm in community. The Lord loves when his people pray. And his Word is a powerful tool for framing honest, intimate prayers. Sire's innovative approach will enrich our minds and our souls as we read more perceptively and pray with all of our emotions.

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Customer Reviews

"The country of the Psalms—its soaring mountains, cascading streams, wildflower meadows of prayers—compels exploration. Jim Sire's wide-ranging intelligence, fused with his attentive spirit, makes him a welcome guide through this country, opening our eyes and ears—our hearts!—to these prayers that teach us to pray." (Eugene H. Peterson, author of *A Long Obedience in the*

Same Direction and translator of The Message)"At times intimate, at times pastoral, but always focused, Sire here creates a solid study of the Psalter for use in Christian devotion, be it private or corporate." (Phyllis Tickle, author of The Divine Hours)

James W. Sire (PhD, University of Missouri), formerly a senior editor at InterVarsity Press, is an active speaker and writer. He has taught English, philosophy, theology, and short courses at many universities and seminaries. He continues to be a frequent guest lecturer in the United States and Europe. His InterVarsity Press books and Bible studies include The Universe Next Door (a worldviews textbook), Scripture Twisting, Discipleship of the Mind, Chris Chrisman Goes to College, Why Should Anyone Believe Anything at All?, Habits of the Mind, Naming the Elephant, Learning to Pray Through the Psalms, Why Good Arguments Often Fail and A Little Primer on Humble Apologetics.

This is a powerful book! I have read it and practiced this type of prayer, and now will read it again. There is a lot to absorb from this book and these practices will become truly mine as time, and God, help me to absorb the what James Sire has written. I would recommend it to anyone who is wishing to strengthen their prayer life!

I found this book to be both helpful and interesting. Author James Sire talks with his readers in first person so makes it personal. He instructs and guides and explains all at the same time. The book is designed for use by individuals or small groups which is helpful. This book is both intellectual and spiritual and most of all it is personal. It gave me a new appreciation for the Psalms. I enjoyed this approach to praying and found it practical and inspirational. SAMH

I was looking forward to reading the Kindle version of this book on my iPhone, but it's practically impossible to read. Even though I've changed my iPhone setting to a large font, the quoted scripture passages throughout the book are in such a tiny font they are impossible to read.

Sire does an excellent job at going through the Psalms, giving explanation, and giving examples of HOW to pray through the Psalms. It was so interesting to see the different emotions and ways the Psalmists prayed. I loved this book, and highly recommend it.

Wife loved this book, in fact we are giving these as gifts.

have read it several times and have shared it with friends and family. good book will purchase for gifts this year

This is really good about helping you understand how the Psalms apply to your life now, and how they can help you express your heart to God.

What a well done book. I was given this book to read by another Pastor on our staff and thus put it in my pile of "to read" books and neglected it for a while. Boy am I sorry that I let it sit for five weeks. This book had gem after gem in it about the structure of the Psalms, how to pray the Psalms and very practical guidelines for having a small group go through the material. Each chapter focuses on a different Psalm and takes you to new depths in thinking about what the Psalmist wrote, felt, experienced, wanted or pursued. We are brought to face the fact that in life each of us has good days and bad days. On the good days we rejoice and thank God, but on the bad days we often ignore God or instead of giving Him praise we complain about how "He" has dealt with us. The Psalms are filled with plenty of "how to" prayers, praises, complaints and supplications. When we are unsure of how to proceed in approaching God, just turn to the Psalms and you will find the help you need. I loved the way the book was laid out. I thought the small group guidelines were good and I look forward to taking a small group through this study on prayer in the near future. You won't be disappointed in this book. Enjoy!

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