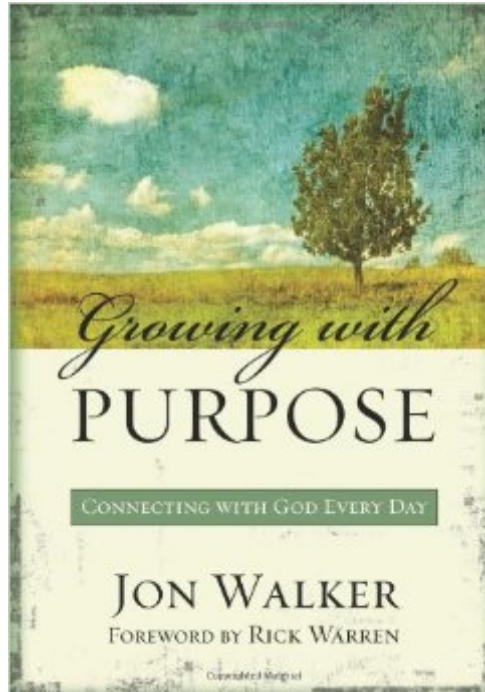


The book was found

Growing With Purpose: Connecting With God Every Day



Synopsis

Spend a year exploring God's purpose for your life. This thought-provoking, yet practical one-year devotional will help you understand that God's grace is the most powerful tool for change in your life. In this time of uncertainty and fear, *Growing with Purpose* teaches that God's perfect love drives out all fear. It's a fresh look at biblical truth that will strengthen your faith and encourage you to trust that God's promises are as certain as the sun coming up tomorrow. You'll find yourself reading it over and over again, growing with purpose and in intimate pursuit of God every day. Spend a year exploring God's purpose for your life ... spend a lifetime connected to the heart of God. Learn more about author Jon Walker's ministry at www.HisGraceEmbraced.com.

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Customer Reviews

Growing with Purpose is a daily devotional written by Jon Walker, a frequent collaborative writer with Rick Warren at Purpose Driven Ministries. Each of the 366 devotions begins with a verse of scripture--most of them from the New Testament with a sprinkling of Psalms and the occasional statement from one of the Old Testament prophets. These are short readings, three to six paragraphs in length, with one devotional taking up each page. Walker presents the devotions in three different ways. In some he highlights observations from the daily verse, in some he presents a scriptural insight that is supported by the verse, and in others he shares short stories- often his own. There is no set pattern to the order of the messages within--they appear to be written for the purpose of encouraging the reader. If each devotional was a puzzle piece, the overall picture

created would be one of grace, hope and love in an enduring race. Growing with Purpose doesn't demand a lot of time or scholarly ponderings, mostly just a few minutes and some honesty. If you start your morning with a cup of coffee to help open your eyes, consider using a daily devotion like this to help open up your heart.

About once a year I look for a new devotional book to go along with my daily bible reading. This year I decided to check out Jon Walker's 'Growing with Purpose' and it definitely hasn't let me down. Walker's writing style is easy to read and understand, and he says a lot without rambling on and on. I look forward to a new interesting and insightful devo each morning. This book would also be a great book for someone who might be struggling with life or trying to find meaning (which is pretty much everyone).

This is a great devotional book to get you started off right for the new year. The devotions are short (one page each) but packed with deep meaning. While they will only take minutes to read, they are profound enough to come back and meditate on all day. I would definitely recommend this book to anyone seeking a deeper walk with the Lord.

This is a fine devotional for those who have just a few moments of time to meditate on Bible verses. Each daily entry begins with a verse of Scripture and is followed by a few paragraphs of explanation or application. Many contain personal stories from the author, or fictional stories that make a point (like a parable). In form, this devotional almost exactly mirrors one I already own -- How Great Thou Art -- by Steve Halliday and William Travis. I like the Halliday book, because the devotions are grouped by theme (the majesty of God, the holiness of God, etc.) and have some heft, being the words of great Christian thinkers and preachers, like St. Augustine, Calvin or Spurgeon. The "Purpose" devotions often drop pop culture references and awkward hyphenated terms -- objective-in-Jesus, Jesus-ones, Jesus-event, Jesus-love -- that are not really my cup of tea. But this devotional will nevertheless focus you daily on God. The author's purpose is to show the reader how to apply Scripture to daily life in significant ways. I appreciate practical advice. What I would really like to see from this author, though, is a memoir. His spiritual insights seem to be hard-won; he mentions years of "backsliding," his girlfriend's pregnancy and the baby's subsequent adoption by his sister, and his clinical depression, among other personal crises. The lessons he could share from these crises might be more meaningful than those he draws from his golf game or the cute things his kids say.

Having read "The Purpose Driven Life" and doing the work book, I became a sincere fan of Rick Warren. I soon realized this man loved the Lord, took the Lord's word and shared it in tangible way that lay people could understand. Thus, when I saw him endorse "Growing With Purpose" by Jon Walker I could trust that it would be a wonderful daily meditation book for each day of the year. I have already read a few and they touched me deeply and profoundly. It is a beautiful looking book and would make a gorgeous gift to that family member or friend who is searching for the purpose of life here on earth. This book will give them timely insights to inspire a closer walk with God. Jon Walker thank-you for writing this book.

Growing with Purpose by Jon Walker is an inspiring devotional. It's easy to read, and each devotional is short and uplifting, and each includes a short Scripture verse. The book itself is 397 pages. Walker worked for 10 years with Rick Warren at Saddleback Church and Purpose Driven Ministries. The writing is not on the same level as Warren's, but it is still a good read. I like the compact size of the book. It's a hardback with good paper. It easily fits into a purse or case.

I believe that everyone has heard of Rick Warren and "The Purpose-Driven Life," so when I saw that Warren wrote the foreword to this book, I was immediately attracted to it--in fact the fronts of both books look very similar. The author, Jon Walker, has (according to the book jacket) worked with Warren in communications and as magazine editor for a number of years, and has published articles on various websites. His extensive experience in communicating and publishing is quite evident here, as I find the author's writings very succinct yet powerful in these easy-to-read, direct-to-the-heart pieces. This is a small book, as many devotional-type books are, making it nice to keep at your bedside or tuck into your purse, briefcase, or bookbag. One of the nicest features is the quality of the pages; they are not slick, but look and feel much like papyrus, maybe--a very nice touch. Each day's one-page writing begins with a scripture passage, and discussion of the same follows. (One can find excerpts from the book on the author's website [...]) There is also a scripture index at the back of the book containing all scriptures referred to in the book, sorted by book of the Bible, as well as a subject index. This book is probably most suited to someone who has a fairly good knowledge of the Bible and a strong belief in Jesus--most scriptures are from the New Testament. This is not a light, non-denominational book of positive affirmations, per se, as some books are, but more of a thought-provoking book for Christians who desire to become more Christ-like, and to take time each day to concentrate on the power of the Holy Spirit in their life. I can

see myself reading this book daily throughout the year, and then starting again the next year at the beginning. I believe that each page is different enough in its content and subject to be a long-lasting "pass-it-down" volume.

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