

Living Spiritually: Are You Serious About Walking the Talk?

by
Anne Samuel

COMPLETE REVIEW BY *WRITER'S DIGEST* JUDGE*

Those who read spiritual books hoping for clear guidance and insights that can be easily infused into their daily living will be very pleased to find this book. Throughout, the author presents beautifully-worded, clear and inspiring insights that pace well, and it's genius to lay the book out with text on the left and pull-out statements on the right. This truly makes the gems in the book stand out, and page after page delivers crystal-clear truths and messaging that resonate with the reader, who thinks, "Ah, I've finally found some answers!" Well done.

Author's voice is one of authority, without any hard edges. We get the sense that we are having a wonderful conversation with a faith-based friend who knows her stuff. She's the kind of resource we all want in our lives, and reader is happy to find her in the pages of this book.

Author does a wonderful job of weaving in subtle touches of her own experiences and faith journey from the start, such as, "I have always resisted the practice of having role models," which is completely unique and, as always, author goes into satisfying detail on the lesson.

I have never seen such perfectly concise descriptions of the major religions, as provided on page 4. Beautifully done and showing the similarities in the religions, which creates a universal feel for the reader, no matter what his or her faith grounding. Brilliant!

Author organizes the text well, with well-chosen bullet lists, underlined subheads and quotes. Well done.

Excellent approach to the darker personality traits like ego. When done gently like this, the reader is safer to explore whether or not she has these traits. Author does a beautiful job of creating a safe learning experience, which leads to inspiration, and so many of her insights stick with the reader long after the book is done.

The exercises are done well, and paired well with the lessons, and the author does a great job with economy of words, not feeling like she has to write a hefty book to make more of an impact. It's a wonderful connection to the truth of faith that lessons are simple. Beautiful job with pacing and expansions.

The spiritual lessons from mythology and literature are also done well, concisely and with good visual and sensory details. Author mixes up sentence lengths well for a natural, conversational journey through this book.

Well done. Very well done.

***Judge, 22nd Annual Writer's Digest Self-Published Book Awards. October 2014.**