

FRUIT-BEARER



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著者:Candy Abbott

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Fruit-Bearer will help you stir up the gift of God which is in you (2 Timothy 1:6). People are tired of superficial platitudes and small talk. They're hurting, confused and disappointed to find that "religion" that worked for them in the past now seems shallow. Fruit-Bearer cuts out the ritual of religion and helps the reader reconnect in a personal and powerful way to the God who wants to use the ordinary person to do extraordinary things.

This "how to" book about personal spiritual growth is designed to stir up the gifts and callings of everyday people who have ears to hear the cry of Revelation 3:2, "Strengthen what remains and is about to die." It's a wake-up call to sleepy believers and over-achievers. Candy Abbott takes the reader by the hand on a spiritual journey where he or she may discover the power of the Holy Spirit and sense the urgency of what God is doing in these intense times.

Candy tackles heavy topics in a lighthearted manner, calling Fruit-Bearer a "Guidebook to Fruitful Living in a Rotten-Apple Society." Her provocative question, "What can I do for You, Lord?" turns up as a worksheet at the end of each chapter for the reader to try on for size the concepts she describes. There are "Seeds for Thought" sprinkled

throughout the book, with tidbits such as, "The church is filled with willing people some willing to work and others willing to let them." The Scripture references she gives are not only easy to understand but intriguing.

Fruit-Bearer is for the "called" (everyday people God handpicks to bear fruit for His kingdom) and the "curious" (those who wonder how). How often does the Holy Spirit visit us in simple, understandable ways, only to find us preoccupied with the cares of this world? How often does the Spirit speak to us, His children, only to be ignored because we don't know how to recognize His voice? Much of Fruit-Bearer is devoted to cultivating the reader's listening skills, the ears of the heart.

You'll join the author in seeing Christianity as a daily adventure, a journey to be enjoyed moment by moment, not just a ticket to a heavenly destination. It's an opportunity to move beyond the comfort zone of "religion" to a place where you know what you believe and are not ashamed to say so. You'll get pepped up as you begin to see how the Lord can use you, an average citizen, to plant a godly idea in the fertile soil of someone's soul or pull up a spiritual weed now and then.

Imagine how it would be if the Lord were to stir up the gifts and callings of every steadfast believer. What if we all began to be truly sorry for the ways we have fallen short of His standards? What if God were to link us together, with all of our unique differences and opportunities, in a fresh commitment, clearly hearing and heeding His call? This is what genuine revival is all about. And history reveals that it begins, without exception, at a grass roots level where the Spirit of the Lord moves in the hearts of everyday people. Often, it starts with a curiosity or perhaps a nagging dissatisfaction, accompanied by a yearning to better understand the deep things of God. True spiritual awakening includes honest soul-searching and heartfelt prayer.

Fruit-Bearer is . . .

A story of consecration: An awareness of how the Lord is constantly cultivating our lives, gently and consistently transforming our character more into the image of Christ.

A story of commitment: An exercise in obedience, recognizing what it truly means to follow Him, wholeheartedly responding to that still, small voice within.

A story of commission: An emphasis on the need for action, moving out beyond dusty traditions and into the mainstream of life, planting seeds that will produce the fruit of the Spirit: "love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control" (Galatians 5:22-23).

A story of urgency: A call from Christ himself who says, "As long as it is day, we must do the work of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work" (John 9:4).

The objective of Fruit-Bearer is simple: To sow seeds--tiny little seeds of faith that will grow into fruit you can taste for yourself; seeds you can plant for others that will make them want to pull the weeds out of their own spiritual gardens; seeds that will get us all thinking about how we can respond to the Lord, to one another, and to the foreboding rumblings that threaten to unnerve our generation.

This is not a "nice little book." It's potentially life-changing for those who have the courage to take it seriously. Readers are not expected to take the author's words at face value. Test the things she says! Get some discussion going. Probe. Dig. Dig deeper. Those who do will find that the One who inspired Candy Abbott to write the pages of

Fruit-Bearer will meet them intimately between the lines.

作者介绍:

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