

Plain Living: A Quaker Path To Simplicity

A Quaker's faith is tested during the War of 1812 in this "stunning work of historical fiction" (Kirkus Reviews, starred review). Mark Greenhow, a naive and peaceful Quaker, lands on the shores of North America on the eve of the War of 1812, thinking only of finding the missing sister, a missionary whose adventurous spirit he has always admired. His pursuit begins by hitching a ride with the voyageurs who have canoed the rivers, transporting the tons of furs that feed the trade that has made the region a battleground of the French and British empires. Though Mark enters this brave new world with his conscience clean and his convictions sound, his encounters with a place and people he never could have imagined test his rigid upbringing. The backwoods of Canada have certainly led his sister astray; she has been excommunicated from the Society of Friends for running off with a non-Quaker. After her child is stillborn she runs again, deep into Indian country. On this increasingly desperate search, Mark finds himself among spies and domestic warriors, displaced natives, infidels, and the pious each engaged in their own battles to maintain their particular way of life. With Elphinstone's crisp and effortless prose, coupled with her riveting, organic way with description, her fully drawn characters, and the history of the region, she "brings the landscapes and peoples of 1800s Canada back to thrilling life in her pacy, colorful and intelligent epic: the finest trip along these rivers since Brian Moore's great Black Robe" (The Independent).

I would like to pose a series of questions to those of you who might read this book. Imagine what it might be like to go alone to a different country, stay in a rustic one-room cabin in the woods near the sea, and become disengaged from the phone, e-mail, the Internet, and even the TV and to do this for an extended period of time. What might you do? What might happen to you? This is the story of such an experience. I went north to Canada in an open-hearted spirit of seeking. I carried with me a meditation practice, a spiritual mind-set, the knowledge of sixty-some years of living and little else. I desired to live a basically simple and simply basic life for several weeks during three separate seasons. For the first time in my life, I learned how it feels and what it means to stop. Little Dipper is a memoir of that experience and of some of the surprises that occurred when I let go into the present moment.

"The most valuable aspect of religion," writes Robert Lawrence Smith, "is that it provides us with a framework for living. I have always felt that the beauty and power of Quakerism is that it exhorts us to live more simply, more truthfully, more charitably." Taking his inspiration from the teaching of the first Quaker, George Fox, and from his own nine generations of Quaker forebears, Smith speaks to all of us who are seeking a way to make our lives simpler, more meaningful, and more useful. Beginning with the Quaker belief that "There is that of God in every person," Smith explores the ways in which we can harness the inner light of God that dwells in each of us to guide the personal choices and challenges we face every day. How to live and speak truthfully. How to listen for, trust, and act on our conscience. How to make our work an expression of the best that is in us. Using vivid examples from his own life, Smith writes eloquently of Quaker Meeting, his decision to fight in World War II, and later to oppose the Vietnam War. From his work as an educator and headmaster to his role as a husband and father, Smith quietly convinces that the lofty ideals of Quakerism offer all of us practical tools for leading a more meaningful life. His book culminates with a moving letter to his grandchildren which imparts ten lessons for "letting your life speak." The editor of Plain magazine offers his inspirational and incisive reflections on how he chose to reject the complexities of the modern technological world to embrace a simpler life, describing his weeklong walk across the state of Ohio in order to turn in his driver's license at the state capital.

Finding the Peace God Promises

Faith Community Nursing

The Quakers: A Very Short Introduction

A Slap in the Face

A Comprehensive Encyclopedia of Beliefs and Practices

Little Dipper

A 12-step Guide to Living Simply

When Colin asks Jane to marry him she joyfully accepts – but then asks him if he would mind waiting for a few months, maybe a year and a half, as she has always wondered if God was calling her to be a nun. Over the course of 18 months, in 2011-2012, she tests out this vocation in a series of religious houses, and we follow her journey and her wonderings. The religious houses she spends time in are based initially in Canada, but then on the Isle of Wight and finally North Yorkshire, and she meets a range of well-realised characters en route, finding both godliness and narrow minded prejudice and inhumanity in all places. What is God calling her to do? Superbly written, very funny, very evocative and very feisty.

Who are the Quakers, what do they believe, and what do they practice? The Religious Society of Friends--also known as Quakers---believes that everyone can have a direct experience of God. Quakers express this in a unique form of worship that inspires them to work for change in themselves and in the world. In "The Spirit of the Quakers," Geoffrey Durham, himself a Friend, explains Quakerism through quotations from writings that cover 350 years, from the beginnings of the movement to the present day. Peace and equality are major themes in the book, but readers will also find thought-provoking passages on the importance of action for social change, the primacy of truth, the value of simplicity, the need for a sense of community, and much more. The quoted texts convey a powerful religious impulse, courage in the face of persecution, the warmth of human relationships, and dedicated perseverance in promoting just causes. The extended quotations have been carefully selected from well-known Quakers such as George Fox, William Penn, John Greenleaf Whittier, Elizabeth Fry and John Woolman, as well as many contemporary Friends. Together with Geoffrey Durham's enlightening and sympathetic introductions to the texts, the extracts from these writers form an engaging, often moving guide to this accessible and open-hearted religious faith.

Twelve time-honored Christian practices that will help us, and the world, to flourish Practicing Our Faith offers help to Christians who are asking how our faith can help us discern what we might do and who we might become. How can we live faithfully and with integrity in a world where the pace of existence is so fast and life's patterns are changing all around us? Can we conduct our daily lives in ways that help us not just get by but flourish--as individuals, as communities, and as a society in concert with creation and in communion with God? These questions are on the hearts and minds of many seekers who are exploring spirituality today. They are also at the heart of Practicing Our Faith. Practices are those shared activities that address fundamental needs of humankind and creation and that, woven together, form a way of life. The twelve practices explored in this book are practices that human beings simply cannot do without, particularly at this time in history. This book will stimulate your imagination. It will encourage you to reflect. It initiates a conversation that will spread into many contexts, each of which presents unique opportunities for noticing, discussing, and living the practices of faith.

The Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) is small by anyone's definition, with only about 300,000 members worldwide, but its impact has been widely felt. Unlike other historical dictionaries, the authors present a series of worldwide essays on Quaker theology, history, and practice as well as the lives of individuals who have made this faith their life. The entries prove the variety among Friends today and also gives a clear sense of unity despite their diverse membership and their periodic disagreements and divisions.

The Spiritual Traveler

Quaker Life

Four-in-one Collection

Holy Silence

Friends Journal

Aging with Wisdom and Grace

New World Coming

The abolitionist John Woolman (1720-72) has been described as a "Quaker saint," an isolated mystic, singular even among a singular people. But as historian Geoffrey Plank recounts, this tailor, hog producer, shopkeeper, schoolteacher, and prominent Quaker minister was very much enmeshed in his local community in colonial New Jersey and was alert as well to events throughout the British Empire. Responding to the situation as he saw it, Woolman developed a comprehensive critique of his fellow Quakers and of the imperial economy, became one of the most emphatic opponents of slaveholding, and helped develop a new form of protest by striving never to spend money in ways that might encourage slavery or other forms of iniquity. Drawing on the diaries of contemporaries, personal correspondence, the minutes of Quaker meetings, business and probate records, pamphlets, and other sources, John Woolman's Path to the Peaceable Kingdom shows that Woolman and his neighbors were far more engaged with the problems of inequality, trade, and warfare than anyone would know just from reading the Quaker's own writings. Although he is famous as an abolitionist, the end of slavery was only part of Woolman's project. Refusing to believe that the pursuit of self-interest could safely guide economic life, Woolman aimed for a miraculous global transformation: a universal disavowal of greed.

Spiritual discernment is the traditional name for listening and responding to divine guidance. In this book you will approach decision making as an active participant, a co-creator with God in shaping your life. Drawing on twenty-five years of experience as a psychologist and fifteen years as a spiritual director, Nancy L. Bieber presents three essential aspects of Spirit-led decision making:

A new edition of an occult classic, which includes a new introduction by Mary K. Greer, author of Women of the Golden Dawn, and a new afterword with excerpts from rarely seen documents by Fortune herself describing how the book came about. After finding herself the subject of a powerful psychic attack in the 1930s, famed British occultist Dion Fortune wrote this detailed instruction manual on protecting oneself from paranormal attack. This classic psychic self-defense guide explains how to understand the signs of a psychic attack, vampirism, hauntings, and methods of defense. Everything you need to know about the methods, motives, and physical aspects of a psychic attack and how to overcome it is here, along with a look at the role psychic elements play in mental illness and how to recognize them. This is one of the best guides to detection and defense against psychic attack from one of the leading occult writers of the twentieth century.

"Presents the Quaker practice of silence and expectant listening"--Back cover.

Adventures in a cloistered life

Historical Dictionary of the Friends (Quakers)

The Quakers in America

The Spirit of the Quakers

A Way of Life for a Searching People

And Then There Were Nuns

Practicing Our Faith

Follows the stories of four Quaker women as they struggle with affairs of the heart.

For anyone feeling too busy or too stressed seeking to simplify their life, this guide maps out several routes to simplicity. For over 300 years, the Quakers have lived out of a spiritual center in a way of life they call "plain living". Their accumulated experiences and distilled wisdom have much to offer anyone seeking greater simplicity today.

Integrating the findings of modern psychology and traditional Christian spirituality, this book presents a spirituality of gratitude that can guide contemporary Christians in living with an expanded awareness of how grace abounds everywhere, as well as the personal and cultural hurdles that stand in the way of being grateful.

This elaborate book explores Quakerism, its legacy, and its relevance for Gandhian research. The topics covered here include the historical circumstances, conditions, and thought that led to the birth of Quakerism; the seeds and history of the movement; the themes, principles, and practices of the sect; and the aid, change, reform, and conciliation efforts Quakers made to make people, communities, and nations more tolerant, problem-free, and united. As such, the book will appeal to scholars, planners, policy-makers, and practitioners concerned with the boundaries of liberties, freedoms, pacifism, peace, and justice across people, communities, and nations.

Psychic Self-Defense

Walking My Belief

Quakerism, Its Legacy, and Its Relevance for Gandhian Research

Seven Key Words Plus One

Marking the Quaker Path

A Quaker Path to Simplicity

The Quakers are a fascinating religious group both in their origins and in the variety of reinterpretations of the faith since. Emerging from the social unrest of the English civil war, the Quakers have gone on to have an influence way beyond their numbers: be it their continued stance against war or their pioneering work against slavery. At the same time, Quakers maintain a distinctive worship method to achieve the direct encounter with God which has been at the heart of the movement since its beginning. This book charts the history of Quakerism and its present-day diversity, and outlines its approach to worship, belief, theology and language, and ecumenism. ABOUT THE SERIES: The Very Short Introductions series from Oxford University Press contains hundreds of titles in almost every subject area. These pocket-sized books are the perfect way to get ahead in a new subject quickly. Our expert authors combine facts, analysis, perspective, new ideas, and enthusiasm to make interesting and challenging topics highly readable.

Plain Living*A Quaker Path to Simplicity*

Must reading for anyone feeling too busy or too stressed and seeking to simplify their life—to listen to the longings of their heart. Most of us living in this complex and time-pressured era have moments when we wish we were living simpler, more meaningful lives. Sometimes these

wishes are fleeting desires, but for many today the search for a life of greater simplicity and meaning has developed into a deep longing. There are many routes to simplicity. This book focuses on and provides direction to the gimmick-free spiritual path followed by Quakers. For over three centuries Quakers have been living out of a spiritual center in a way of life they call "plain living." Their accumulated experiences and distilled wisdom have much to offer anyone seeking greater simplicity today. Plain Living is not about sacrifice. It's about choosing the life you really want, a form of inward simplicity that leads us to listen for the "still, small voice" of God. This book goes beyond the merely trendy to make the by now well-worn Quaker path to plain living accessible to everyone.

In Practicing Peace, Catherine Whitmire introduces the Quaker tradition of peacemaking and applies it to everyday situations. From practicing peace at home to actively pursuing nonviolence in the world around us, she affirms that peace is practical, desirable, and attainable for spiritual seekers of all religious traditions.

A Quaker Book Of Wisdom

A Devotional Walk Through the Quaker Tradition

Discover the Hidden Happiness in the Simple Life

Living the Quaker Way

Life Lessons In Simplicity, Service, And Common Sense

A Novel

Quaker Spirituality

Insults are part of the fabric of daily life. But why do we insult each other? Why do insults cause us such pain? Can we do anything to prevent or lessen this pain? Most importantly, how can we overcome our inclination to insult others? In *A Slap in the Face*, William Irvine undertakes a wide-ranging investigation of insults, their history, the role they play in social relationships, and the science behind them. He examines not just memorable zingers, such as Elizabeth Bowen's description of Aldous Huxley as "The stupid person's idea of a clever person," but subtle insults as well, such as when someone insults us by reporting the insulting things others have said about us: "I never read bad reviews about myself," wrote entertainer Oscar Levant, "because my best friends invariably tell me about them." Irvine also considers the role insults play in our society: they can be used to cement relations, as when a woman playfully teases her husband, or to enforce a social hierarchy, as when a boss publicly berates an employee. He goes on to investigate the many ways society has tried to deal with insults-by adopting codes of politeness, for example, and outlawing hate speech-but concludes that the best way to deal with insults is to immunize ourselves against them: We need to transform ourselves in the manner recommended by Stoic philosophers. We should, more precisely, become insult pacifists, trying hard not to insult others and laughing off their attempts to insult us. A rousing follow-up to *A Guide to the Good Life*, *A Slap in the Face* will interest anyone who's ever delivered an insult or felt the sting of one--in other words, everyone.

If God has promised to give us the "peace that passes understanding," why do we sometimes feel so anxious? What are we so afraid of? Are there ways of living that lead to peace? Conversely, are there ways of thinking and acting that lead to anxiety and a conflicted life? How does Jesus embody peace and where did his peace come from? Finding the Peace God Promises sets our longings for peace beside God's promise to provide it. Exploring the stories that shape us, the memories that define us, and the relationships that connect us, bestselling author Ann Spangler looks for ways to help us become more peaceful. What can we learn from Scripture, from Jewish tradition, from the Amish and others about rest, simplicity, healing, and peace? The stories she shares and the answers she discovers may surprise you, enabling you to experience the transformative peace God wants you to have.

Simplicity Lessons is a practical guide for those who long for a slower pace of life with more time for relationships, fulfilling work, and living ones dreams. Working on your own or as part of a simplicity study group, you will explore the major a

This booklet explores why Quakers do the things they do in the way that they do them. A companion piece to the popular "Celebrating the Quaker Way," it draws on the author's experience of Quakerism and includes extracts from Friends talking on the topics of inward spirituality, worship, and life. The author is a British Quaker with an ongoing ministry among Friends.

The Innocents Abroad

The Grateful Heart

Simplicity Lessons

Boston and New England : a Guide to Sacred Sites and Peaceful Places

Grateful Heart, The: Living the Christian Message

The 1920s and the Making of Modern America

Why Insults Hurt - and Why They Shouldn't

To thrive spiritually we need to learn from the trees. Each part of the tree, its roots, trunk, branches, leaves, and seeds, gives valuable insights into the Christian life. The roots, which are critical to the tree's health and invisible to the naked eye, refer to the need to develop the inner life of the Christian. The root system shared among neighboring trees highlights the importance of communal living among Christians. The trunk, which is mainly used for wood and has rings in it, points to the need for Christians to live sacrificially and to review their lives periodically. The branches instruct Christians to draw strength from Christ by abiding in him. The leaves call on Christians to be thankful and to seek rejuvenation of their souls when they enter a dry patch in their spiritual lives. The seed that falls to the ground and dies challenges Christians to stay put and wait on God in order to gain a foothold in their spiritual lives. This book will convince us to look at trees in a different light. We begin to appreciate trees, which we have taken for granted, for their silent wisdom.

This masterful six-volume encyclopedia provides comprehensive, global coverage of religion, emphasizing larger religious communities without neglecting the world's smaller religious outposts. • Coverage of the religions of more than 240 countries, including all of the larger religious communities, denominations, and sects • Detailed statistical information on the major religious communities in each country • 100+ entries on famous and important religious sites and places of pilgrimage • Biographies of the 100 most influential religious leaders in history • More than 150 photographs, plus maps and illustrations for each nation • A bibliography for each entry

Simplicity in forms of worship, opposition to violence, concern for social injustice, and, above all, a faith in the personal and corporate guidance of the Holy Spirit are characteristics of the spirituality of the people called Quakers. The author has assembled a comprehensive collection of Quaker writings.

This unique text combines traditional parish nursing content with community health nursing methodology, coverage of community and faith community assessment, and health education and health promotion/disease prevention programming.

The Sacred Art of Finding Your Way

John Woolman's Path to the Peaceable Kingdom

The Definitive Manual for Protecting Yourself Against Paranormal Attack

A Plain Life

Roots of Healing - Tides of Change

Selected Writings

The Living Church

"To an astonishing extent, the 1920s resemble our own era, at the turn of the twenty-first century; in many ways that decade was a precursor of modern excesses....Much of what we consider contemporary actually began in the Twenties." -- from the Introduction

The images of the 1920s have been indelibly imprinted on the American imagination: jazz, bootleggers, flappers, talkies, the Model T Ford, Babe Ruth, Charles Lindbergh's history-making flight over the Atlantic. But it was also the era of the hard-won vote for women, racial injustice, censorship, widespread social conflict, and the birth of organized crime. Bookended by the easy living of the Jazz Age, when the booze and money flowed seemingly without end, and the crash of '29 that led to breadlines and a level of human suffering not seen since World War I, *New World Coming* is a lively, entertaining, and all-encompassing chronological account of an age that defined America. Chronicling what he views as the most consequential decade of the past century, Nathan Miller -- an award-winning journalist and five-time Pulitzer nominee -- paints a vivid portrait of the 1920s, focusing on the men and women who shaped that extraordinary time, including, ironically, three of America's most conservative presidents: Harding, Coolidge, and Hoover. In the Twenties, the American people soared higher and fell lower than they ever had before. As unprecedented economic prosperity and sweeping social change dazzled the public, the sensibilities and restrictions of the nineteenth century vanished, and many of the institutions, ideas, and preoccupations of our own age emerged. With scandal, sex, and crime the lifeblood of the tabloids, the contemporary culture of celebrity and sensationalism took root and journalism became popular entertainment. By discarding Victorian idealism and embracing twentieth-century skepticism, America became, for the first time, thoroughly modernized. There is hardly a dimension of our present world, from government to popular culture, that doesn't trace its roots to the 1920s, and few decades are more intriguing or significant today. The first comprehensive view of the era since *Only Yesterday*, Frederick Lewis Allen's 1931 classic, *New World Coming* reveals this remarkable age from the vantage point of nearly a century later. It's all here -- the images and the icons, the celebrities and the legends -- in a book that will resonate with history readers, 1920s aficionados, and Americans everywhere.

This unique guidebook introduces hundreds of churches, synagogues, mosques, meeting houses, Buddhist meditation centers, Hindu and Sikh temples, as well as retreat centers of all religious traditions. Introductory chapters recount New England's spiritual history, offer an overview of its many faith traditions, and explain its sacred architecture. 100 illustrations.

A Publishers Weekly "Top 10 in Religion" selection. "This is nothing less than the gospel itself...a much-needed book." --FR. RICHARD ROHR, OFM, Center for Action and Contemplation, Albuquerque, New Mexico "Living the Quaker Way is a treasure trove of practical wisdom about what it means to bear witness to our hope for a better world." --Parker J. Palmer, author of *Let Your Life Speak* Philip Gulley invites us into a bracing encounter with the rich truths of Quakerism--a centuries-old spiritual tradition that provides not only a foundation of faith but also vision for making the world more just, loving, and peaceable by our presence. In *Living the Quaker Way*, Gulley shows how Quaker values provide real solutions to many of our most pressing contemporary challenges. We not only come to a deeper appreciation of simplicity, peace, integrity, community, and equality, we see how embracing these virtues will radically transform us and our world. *Living the Quaker Way* includes a 30-day spiritual practice that applies the Quaker tradition of Queries.

The flourishing website known as the Episcopal Café (www.episcopalcafe.org) produced by the Diocese of Washington attracts several thousand visitors a day. Its popular column "Speaking to the Soul," which contains a concise, well-developed spiritual reflection for every day of the year, draws from many different sources, including scripture, church history, saints' biographies, books of prayers, liturgies, and ancient and contemporary theologians and spiritual writers. This daily reader grew out of that column. It follows the Episcopal Church's liturgical seasons and includes observation of major feast days as well as saints' days. The reading for a particular saint's day might be taken from the saint's writings, prayers, or biography, or might develop a theme such as martyrdom or growth in the spirit. Other readings focus on particular emphases of the seasons (the Incarnation during Advent and Christmas; spiritual disciplines during Lent); or speak more generally to the Christian life (prayer, discipleship, ministry, the sacraments, conflict and reconciliation, and so on). Readings are taken from every century of the church's life, with particular attention to how the writings and experiences of earlier Christians can shed light on the difficulties, joys, and concerns of the church today. Excerpts are long enough to give a satisfying and complete context of the writer's intended meaning.

Plain Living

A Quaker in the British Empire

Voyageurs

Religions of the World: A Comprehensive Encyclopedia of Beliefs and Practices, 2nd Edition [6 volumes]

Decision-making & Spiritual Discernment

Tree Wisdom for Living the Christian Life

Daily Readings for the Christian Year

The Quakers in America is a multifaceted history of the Religious Society of Friends and a fascinating study of its culture and controversies. Lively vignettes of Conservative, Evangelical, Friends General Conference, and Friends United meetings illuminate basic Quaker theology and reflect the group's diversity while also highlighting the fundamental unity within the religion. Quaker culture encompasses a rich tradition of practice even as believers continue to debate whether Quakerism is necessarily Christian, where religious authority should reside, how faith is transmitted to children, and how gender and sexuality shape religious belief and behavior. Praised for its rich insight and wide-ranging perspective, The Quakers in America is a penetrating account of an influential, vibrant, and often misunderstood religious sect. Known for their long-standing commitment to social activism, pacifism, fair treatment for Native Americans, and equality for women, the Quakers have influenced American thought and society far out of proportion to their relatively small numbers. Whether in the foreign policy arena (the American Friends Service Committee), in education (the Friends schools), or in the arts (prominent Quakers profiled in this book include Turrell, Bonnie Raitt, and James Michener), Quakers have left a lasting imprint on American life. This multifaceted book is a concise history of the Religious Society of Friends; an introduction to its beliefs and practices; and a vivid picture of the culture and controversies of the group today. The book opens with lively vignettes of Conservative, Evangelical, Friends General Conference, and Friends United meetings that illuminate basic Quaker concepts and theology and reflect the group's diversity in the wake of the sectarian splintering of the nineteenth century. Yet the book also examines commonalities among American Friends that demonstrate a fundamental unity within the religion: their common commitment to worship, the ministry of all believers, decision making based on seeking spiritual consensus rather than voting, a simple lifestyle, and a commitment to peace. Thomas Hamm shows that Quaker culture encompasses a rich tradition of practice even as believers continue to debate a number of controversial questions: Is Quakerism necessarily Christian? Where should religious authority reside? Is the self sacred? How does one transmit faith to children? How do gender and sexuality shape religious belief and behavior? Hamm's analysis of these debates reveals a vital religion that balances both unity and diversity.

The life of a fully committed Quaker can be described as a series of passages, beginning with a truthful understanding of one's spiritual condition and deepening through attention to inward experience, spiritual covenant, discipline, and the practice of discernment, culminating ultimately in the maturation of spiritual authority in a beloved community. Robert Griswold explains these passages for modern Friends, drawing from the writings of early Quakers, and offers us a glimpse of the profound growth that can flourish when we turn ourselves over to a life dedicated to the Spirit. Discussion questions included.

An illustrated A to Z reference containing over 600 entries providing information on the theology, people, historical events, institutions, and movements related to Protestantism.

Aging with Wisdom and Grace explores the contributions faith can make to optimal aging, providing a Christian perspective on such topics as loss and diminishment, loneliness and suffering, death and dying, regrets and unhealed wounds, gratitude, and generativity.

The Quakers of New Garden

Speaking to the Soul

Encyclopedia of Protestantism

The Rooted Life

Practicing Peace