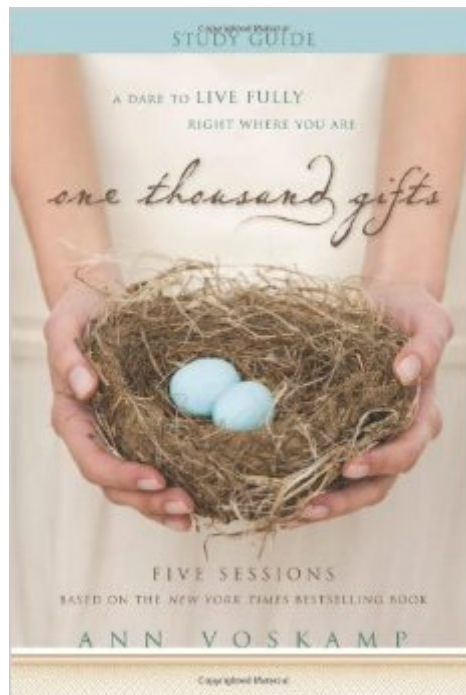


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One Thousand Gifts Study Guide: A Dare To Live Fully Right Where You Are



Synopsis

In the five-session small group Bible study, *One Thousand Gifts*, best-selling author Ann Voskamp ponders the question of finding joy in midst of everything from the typical grind of daily chores and deadlines to the calamity every person eventually faces. "How," Ann muses, "do you break the bondage of fear that has white-knuckle control on your life and instead embrace the everyday blessings that immerse you in Christ's fullness? How can you live life with a heart overflowing with delight?" In this five-session, video-based small group bible study, Ann encourages participants to take on the life-changing discipline of journaling God's gifts to find the good in life in all circumstances. It's only in this expression of gratitude for the life we already have, that we discover the life we've always wanted – a life we can take, give thanks for, and use to serve others. In it, we come to feel and know the impossible right down to our core: We are wildly loved by God. Embark on this personal, honest and fresh exploration of what it means to be deeply fulfilled, wholly happy, and fully alive. This Participant Guide is designed for use together with the *One Thousand Gifts* DVD (sold separately) and includes discussion questions for individuals and groups, between session devotions, DVD session overviews, and a helpful leader's guide. When used in together, the small group study Participant Guide and DVD provide you with a practical tool that can grow your faith. Sessions include: 1. Attitude of Gratitude 2. Grace in the Moment 3. All is Grace 4. Trust: The Bridge to Joy 5. Empty to Fill

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Customer Reviews

Ann Voskamp's writing style is poetic and flowing, and I've read reviews indicating that's

bothersome. It's more a psalm than a gospel, more a poem than a narrative tale. But it IS her story, of coming through tragedy and trying one way to live and then dropping all her defenses and being open to whatever God gives. Her view, her way of telling what she sees, and her bedrock foundation in Scripture make this a book worth having, even if you don't like her writing style. I know there are folks who have problems with it. For example, her use of the Scriptural analogy of bride and groom to explain the relationship between Christ and His church, for example, apparently gives some people the heebie-jeebies. (I would encourage them to remember just exactly WHERE she found that picture, to begin with.) Apparently, her finding God's fingerprints in her life on every single surface also undoes some people. I don't know what to say to them, except perhaps they might benefit from reading Brother Laurence's "Practicing the Presence." Perhaps the writing style in that book is more suited to their tastes, and the message is about the same: you find what you look for. Worship isn't singing, it's praising and serving and listening to God--things better done in the minutes of mundane life than in the hour or so most folks spend in church each week.

I have just watched the first session of the study; glanced at the study guide and I am so excited to do this with a group. Ann has a profound way with words. This is the new year and it is a great time to go to the deep places of Eucharist - Grace, Thanksgiving and Joy. Ann leads us there with a gentle calming and rich teaching of God's word. I am so happy with the clean, lovely simplicity of the filming. (I can't be the only one who doesn't like canned/cheesey clip art!) I am a fast paced person and although I like the speed I live at, it also is my downfall. I usually get bored with those who try to slow it down and smell the roses really quickly. If you are like me I want you to know this is slow like a perfect day at the beach - you won't want to go one second faster but just soak it in and do it again. I believe this study will enrich me and take me to a deeper relationship with God, the God who breathed the stars into existence and the same God who loves you and me and will bring healing and abundant life to us daily. That's worth 5 stars isn't it?

the book itself is very good, but the study guide obviously is not by Voscamp: save your money and buy book only. The "guide" does little to advance the reader's understanding and lends little to a discussion.

Good. I liked the devotional much better. This is personal and slightly philosophical study. Nothing like Precepts or Beth Morre, and that is fine. I wanted something different and I like deeper thought. Not your average Bible Study...more of a Life Study! And that is a good thing.

Words cannot describe the blessing this book has been in my life! The phrase that grace or thanksgiving precedes the miracle is constantly running thru my mind and has completely changed my mind set.

I only half paid attention when I first picked up this book. It even sat in the stack of (I'll get to it later reading) for a while before finally reaching my hands. But from the first chapter, from the first few paragraphs... I had to grab the box of hanky's. I had to hold on tight to the roller coaster of completely human and relate-able stories she uses to open our eyes to the biggest things missing in our lives. She hands us practical every day scenarios and explains how she choose to move from one way of thinking to another. All told I laughed, cried, and underlined, highlighted, star-ed and journal-ed through my whole copy. After which I have delved into the authors blog devouring every article, every thing as well as picking up all the books she has released. The book is decently written though very poetic in it's presentation and imagery. Some people may not be able to relate to it as deeply because of that. Her wording is unique. and it equals the books purpose. If you do enjoy it I would advice to follow her on social medial as she is always posting uplifting tidbits, or handing around printable you can use in your home, etc.enjoy.

Just to be clear... There's a DVD that you NEED, a book, and a study guide. I got all 3 but as long as you have the DVD and study guide you should be fine. I've gone through a very hard time (caringforcrick.tumblr.com) and I'm not sure how, but writing a list each day of things I'm thankful for, gives me strength and happiness. It helps to focus on being grateful for what I do have, and not worrying about the things I don't. She helps you look into things deeper, getting past the bad situations and moving forward with the positives that came from those. I recommend this to anyone, in general. :)

A beautiful well written book which tugs at the heart strings of one's mind and soul. A challenge to be sure to open the eyes of our heart and to live lives of gratitude in all things.

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