



# Download Free Experiencing God By Henry T Blackaby Richard Blackaby

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**henry blackaby** is founder and president emeritus of blackaby ministries international, an organization built to help people experience god. he and his wife marilyn have five children and fourteen grandchildren and live in rex, georgia.

**richard blackaby** is president of blackaby ministries international and the oldest child of henry and marilyn blackaby. he holds degrees from the university of saskatchewan, southwestern baptist theological seminary, and dallas baptist university. he lives with his wife and children in canada.

**claudio king** is editor-in-chief for undated resources at lifeway christian resources. he holds degrees from belmont college and new orleans baptist theological seminary and lives with his wife in murfreesboro, tennessee.

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## experiencing god: knowing and doing the will of god, workbook by henry t. blackaby

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  - history
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  - music
  - mystery
  - nonfiction
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- favorite genres
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- account settings
- help
- sign out

- home
- my books
- browse ?
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  - choice awards
  - genres
  - giveaways
  - new releases
  - lists
  - explore
- genres news & interviews
  - art
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this was founded by soka gakkai in 1930 by tsunesaburo makiguchi (1871-1944. not the same as ancient buddha which they only found artifacts of a buddha sitting yoga style. well the lord had other plans for me my neighbors were christians and they had a friend that played guitar it was the guitar that attracted me to church. i thought that is what they meant by church. so i attended and received salvation and lost my roommate. was blessed with a good job, and gained prosperity in spiritual things of god. i had spiritual encounters a few times before the japanese roommates, but did not know how to seek god properly.

i recommend this to all new born again christians that need to develop a strong love and relationship with god. the author and i have many things in common except i do not have the church religion background. i stepped out in faith, and i have the same fundamental experiences when face to face with god in my life with god...spiritually speaking. it is a must read book and their is scriptures and it is only for those who want to become wealthy spiritually instead of worldly wise. ...more flag 22 likes · like · see review may 06, 2012 jeremymanuel rated it liked it shelves: christianity experiencing god is considered a modern christian classic. despite this, my thoughts on the book are mixed.

the point of the book is to find ways to experience god. in particular to see where god is working, and to be involved in his work. overall, i thought that the principles that blackaby presents for doing this are pretty solid. nothing comes to mind that made me really wary when it came down to his basic principles of how to experience god.

there were two things that i did dislike about the b experiencing god is considered a modern christian classic. despite this, my thoughts on the book are mixed.

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there were two things that i did dislike about the book though. first, it suffers from appearing to be a bit prideful. i don't know henry blackaby so i have no idea what he is really like, but the writing style of the book just smacks of arrogance sometimes. even in trying to be humble at one point he says that god had to look high and low for someone as ordinary as me. not to mention constantly referring to some conference where he tells how somebody's life was changed by reading his book. not that it isn't good to have testimonials, but the frequency of such examples, with few examples that don't involve the book or blackaby himself, started to rub me the wrong way.

the second problem i had with the book, was that it gave a lopsided view of how god may speak to you. many of blackaby's examples are amazing. it is about how he and his wife were called to canada to pastor a small church and all the amazing things that were done there or how people were called to serve god in amazing circumstances and amazing outcomes. these examples naturally led me to ask is this how god speaks to everybody? what about god speaking to people in the everyday, in our communities, in things that are not "full-time ministry." i think there has to be balance here; we need to be challenged that we are not just settling for the comfort we have where we are, but i do not believe that god calls everyone the same way. we are not all meant to be paul or mooses at least in terms of our accomplishments. so while i thought it was solid on its principles, the tone of the book and the examples it gave slightly diminished its value in my eyes. ...more flag 19 likes · like · see review view all 5 comments may 19, 2009 steven rated it it was amazing recommends it for: anyone who wants to hear god's voice. shelves: read-more-than-once, favorites when i read this the first time i was so excited to find someone who believed exactly as i did about the way god speaks to his people. of course, blackaby provides a tremendous amount of scriptural support for his position, so that was also very helpful.

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his view remains unusual, though no longer unique.

where some might say, "don't just stand there, do something," blackaby answers "don't just do something, stand there." be still and wait on the lord. he will lead you (provided you are doing the when i read this the first time i was so excited to find someone who believed exactly as i did about the way god speaks to his people. of course, blackaby provides a tremendous amount of scriptural support for his position, so that was also very helpful. his view remains unusual, though no longer unique.

where some might say, "don't just stand there, do something," blackaby answers "don't just do something, stand there." be still and wait on the lord. he will lead you (provided you are doing the other things in the book...)

where others say, "the lord helps those who help themselves," blackaby answers that god often does nothing until his people can "cease striving" and rest in him.

i have never read a better explanation for the way god speaks, including how to know his voice, and the various media through which he speaks (whether scripture, other christians, circumstances, or the church). this is an excellent book and i cannot recommend it too highly.

i'm glad they made a 'book' version. the workbook is probably better because it is so engaging. but so many people will not buy or really use a workbook, so the book version will reach a lot of people. ...more flag 13 likes · like · see review view 2 comments apr 22, 2013 shane gliser rated it was ok a concerned christian's review: nobel intentions but with more theological holes than you can shake a cross at. for example the very thesis verse is taken out of context and thus flawed. to hear the flaw in theology, you can listen to stand to reason's podcast episode from 04/21/2013 ( [strcast2.org/podcast/week1...](http://strcast2.org/podcast/week1...)) and listen to the segment from 1:03:00 to 1:18:30.

this is not to say that it is without value. it is good at getting people into the word and getting people used to the i a concerned christian's review: nobel intentions but with more theological holes than you can shake a cross at. for example the very thesis verse is taken out of context and thus flawed. to hear the flaw in theology, you can listen to stand to reason's podcast episode from 04/21/2013 ( [strcast2.org/podcast/week1...](http://strcast2.org/podcast/week1...)) and listen to the segment from 1:03:00 to 1:18:30.

this is not to say that it is without value. it is good at getting people into the word and getting people used to the idea of seeking god on individual level. in that regard, it's great. however, due to the flawed theological premise, it could lead to long-term disillusionment, frustration, and unfounded fear and doubt for believers who have been told through the book that if they're not hearing from god that there is something wrong with their christian walk.

for a far better guide to good christian living that can be used as a study, i would recommend decision making and the will of god by garry friesen. [goodreads.com/book/show/56...](http://goodreads.com/book/show/56...) ...more flag 9 likes · like · see review jan 09, 2012 maya rated it really liked it we read this book with our bible study group and it was a good one to dive into with others to discuss. blackaby covers all the different ways we can experience god and how important it is to pay attention to each of these. the overall theme of the book is to pay attention to how god could be working around you and how he wants you to be part of that. instead of asking in prayer all the things you want, ask him what he wants for your life, what you should jump into and for guidance.

the book dis we read this book with our bible study group and it was a good one to dive into with others to discuss. blackaby covers all the different ways we can experience god and how important it is to pay attention to each of these. the overall theme of the book is to pay attention to how god could be working around you and how he wants you to be part of that. instead of asking in prayer all the things you want, ask him what he wants for your life, what you should jump into and for guidance.

the book discusses different ways that god can speak to his people and how each of us can experience him as couples, in our children's lives, in the church, marketplace, and his kingdom. i will admit that at times i felt like there was story after story about blackaby at a conference and how someone's life was changed by something he said. but if you can get past some of that there is good ideas to grasp onto and new ways to look at convening with god.

blackaby does a wonderful job at making sure the reader understands that this whole following god thing is not easy and that you will run into hardship and obstacles as you try to follow his will for your life. i wish he would have gone into this a little more but he does an overall good job of covering it.

best parts:  
-i always view my circumstances against the backdrop of the cross, where god clearly demonstrated once and for all his deep love for me.

-when you trust that god always gives his best, you will devote your heart to whatever assignment god gives because you know in that role you can experience everything god has in his heart for you.

-god wants a watching world to come to know who he truly is. he does not call you to get involved in his activity merely so people can see what you can do. he will call you to an assignment that you cannot accomplish apart from his divine intervention. god's assignments have god-sized dimensions.

-if you're focused on self, you'll always seek to protect yourself and pursue what is most comfortable and what most builds you up. ...but if you are god-centered, your focus remains on him alone. storms may rage around you, but as long as you have god in your sight, you'll stay the course.

...more flag 6 likes · like · see review jul 07, 2018 laura rated it did not like it henry blackaby cares a lot about god's kingdom and about people. he wants people to experience true life-changing faith and that's a wonderful impulse. but, he makes some logical flaws that could end up being detrimental to people's faith. blackaby promises that believers today can hear the voice of god the way people did throughout the bible, ex. joseph, mooses, daniel, paul. and god will give specific instructions to each of us. blackaby does not account for believers today having the indwellin henry blackaby cares a lot about god's kingdom and about people. he wants people to experience true life-changing faith and that's a wonderful impulse. but, he makes some logical flaws that could end up being detrimental to people's faith. blackaby promises that believers today can hear the voice of god the way people did throughout the bible, ex. joseph, mooses, daniel, paul. and god will give specific instructions to each of us. blackaby does not account for believers today having the indwelling of the holy spirit, which was not the case in the old testament, or believers today having the entirety of god's inspired word (the bible). hebrews 1:1 clearly teaches that god does not speak to people today the way he did in the past. also, if tuning our hearts to listen to for specific instructions from the holy spirit was essential to being a good christian as blackaby says, you'd think the epistles from romans to jude would spend significant time telling people how to do it. but, i can't find any such instructions. instead the epistles are full of exhortations to follow the commands of christ which are clearly known to anyone who has access to the written gospels.

blackaby says that, just like in the old testament, when god speaks today we will clearly know it is god. this will be because we have such a deep relationship with god. i fear that as people do not clearly hear god's voice to them, they will become depressed thinking it is their own fault because they are not devoted enough.

...more flag 6 likes · like · see review feb 14, 2013 louis lapides rated it did not like it · review of another edition this book is filled with both good and bad theology. unfortunately the bad theology is enough to cause the reader to be misled by the major theme of the book: how to find god's will? blackaby bases his entire theological foundation on the misinterpretation and poor application of several passages in the fifth chapter of the gospel of john. this makes the entire book built on a faulty interpretation of an important passage that is about the trinitarian nature of god and not about how the christia this book is filled with both good and bad theology. unfortunately the bad theology is enough to cause the reader to be misled by the major theme of the book: how to find god's will? blackaby bases his entire theological foundation on the misinterpretation and poor application of several passages in the fifth chapter of the gospel of john. this makes the entire book built on a faulty interpretation of an important passage that is about the trinitarian nature of god and not about how the christian finds god's will. most christians will not agree with my take on this book because blackaby's work is so popular and so many christians have gone through an "experiencing god" seminar. how can such a popular book be so wrong?

my advice concerning this book is to google "critiquing experiencing god henry blackaby" and read what other apologists have said about the false information contained in blackaby's book. ...more flag 6 likes · like · see review view 1 comment feb 27, 2017 jackie rated it it was ok i have tried numerous times to get through this workbook, and i have just been unable to. i find myself skimming the pages just to hurry and finish the days worth of information. i&apos;m unable to put my finger on why. in most (although not all) instances i don't really disagree with what blackaby is saying. yet, i just can't get anything out of the study. no joy, no insight, no pull or enlightenment. unfortunately, i&apos;ve found completing it more of a chore than i desire. perhaps, it&apos;s just the workb i have tried numerous times to get through this workbook, and i have just been unable to. i find myself skimming the pages just to hurry and finish the days worth of information. i'm unable to put my finger on why. in most (although not all) instances i don't really disagree with what blackaby is saying. yet, i just can't get anything out of the study. no joy, no insight, no pull or enlightenment. unfortunately, i've found completing it more of a chore than i desire. perhaps, it's just the workbook form that i dislike. maybe i'll pick it back up and love it at some time in the future.

...more flag 4 likes · like · see review view 1 comment oct 16, 2013 david brown rated it liked it as i participated in a group study on henry blackaby's book: experiencing god, i not only discovered some great insights (like the value of focusing on being christ-centered verses self-centered, the power of the holy spirit, and the importance of fellowship, prayer, and god's word), but i have also found some areas of concern in the author's methodology and philosophy. it may seem like semantics, but men cannot do god's work, only god can do god's work. more importantly, only by following christ as our example can we please god, and i believe that the only way to know how to be like him is through careful (and prayerful) bible study.

unfortunately, several of the author's extra-biblical personal examples suggest that unless your goal or task is truly god-sized, it may not be what god wants you to be doing. preposterous! furthermore, i got the impression that blackaby unequivocally believes that he indeed knew (and consistently knows) the will of god. surely anyone can look back at a situation or an event and infer that god had a hand in the results (especially events that could be classed as miraculous), but to declare that you can accurately predict what is (or is not) god's will is the height of presumption.

even more bombastic was blackaby's statement that, "if you have trouble hearing god speak, you are in trouble at the very heart of your christian experience." [1] although obviously scripture is quoted in each and every chapter, it reads like there is far more to a true relationship with god than reading and applying his word in every aspect of your life; it implies that god speaks directly to us outside of his word. this almost charismatic "sensing" or "feeling" of god's will borders on mysticism which requires pure emotion rather than thoughtful biblical precision. to me, this approach is a far less reliable method of discerning god's truth. blackaby's assertion that "truth is a person" (jesus) is a nice slogan, but it overly simplifies an answer to pilate's rhetorical question, "what is truth?" (john 18:38)

luckily, i happened to have another book that i was reading in parallel with this study, which provided an unexpected balance. it was simply a book of president abraham lincoln's quotes and famous speeches. in it i found that lincoln wrote, "i do not boast that god is on my side. i humbly pray that i am on god's side." [2] did honest abe presume to know that he was doing the will of god? by no means! he simply hoped that his actions were in line with what he knew from his studies of scripture. and did he know the bible? indeed he did!

years before his renowned political career, in a tiny one-room schoolhouse in indiana, each student in turn regularly read from a single classroom bible. lincoln had read and listened to god's word in its entirety even before his own family could afford to buy a bible of their own. throughout his life he often quoted from this "great book" in his discussions, debates, letters, and speeches.

what was lincoln's view of the bible's role in his own philosophy and how he conducted his life? read the words he spoke to a delegation of black americans who had presented the president with a bible in 1864. "so far as able, within my sphere, i have always acted as i believed to be right and just; and i have done all i could for the good of mankind generally. in regard to this great book, i have but to say, it is the best gift god has given to man. all the good the savior gave to the world was communicated through this book. but for it we could not know right from wrong." [2]

this, i think, brings the focus back on to where it should be...the bible. "for my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the lord." (isaiah 55:8) was it god's will that the union should win that terrible war between the states? could not his will have still been done if the outcome had been reversed? in this case, would a union defeat have meant that lincoln was not on god's side? maybe someday we might know the answer to these questions, but i would conjecture that a defeat would not have changed lincoln's convictions. i believe that god can work his will in many ways, both through positive experiences and even through negative experiences resulting from the travesty of our human condition.

do we really require extra-biblical messages from god in order to know the truth? definitely not, and i hope to live my life like historian wayne temple wrote regarding president lincoln, "the longer lincoln lived, the closer he felt to god and the more he relied upon god for sustenance." [3]

references:  
[1] henry blackaby, richard blackaby, and claude king, authors, experiencing god: knowing and doing the will of god.  
[2] gordon leidner, editor, abraham lincoln: quotes, quips, and speeches.  
[3] wayne temple, author, abraham lincoln: from skeptic to prophet. ...more flag 3 likes · like · see review oct 01, 2011 charles erlandson rated it liked it can lead christians to experience god but can also lead them astray

"experiencing god" by henry blackaby and claude king (and now also richard blackaby) seems to be a book for which reviewers find no middle ground. almost all of the reviewers on amazon give the book 5 stars (with one 4 star book) and one 1 star review. i find that the book has the potential to lead many to a deeper, more meaningful experience with god but also has the potential to lead many into false views of how god works with can lead christians to

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for my complete review, see [giveusthisdaydevotional.co...](http://giveusthisdaydevotional.co...)

...more flag 3 likes · like · see review view 1 comment oct 11, 2010 laura rated it it was amazing this is a great study. it is very intense and hard core. it will literally grip you and make you want to put it down because there is no way to get through it without being changed by it.

if you are seriously committed to hearing what god wants you to do or what he is trying to tell you, then i highly recommend it. if you are struggling with your commitment, i still recommend it, but you will be faced abruptly with "his will". this is a great study. it is very intense and hard core. it will literally grip you and make you want to put it down because there is no way to get through it without being changed by it. if you are seriously committed to hearing what god wants you to do or what he is trying to tell you, then i highly recommend it. if you are struggling with your commitment, i still recommend it, but you will be faced abruptly with "his will". ...more flag 3 likes · like · see review jan 17, 2021 esinat ba rated it really liked it shelves: wisdom, spirituality, theology, nonfiction if you are looking for a good, though provoking theological studies, this is the book to go for. flag 3 likes · like · see review feb 19, 2022 beverly rated it really liked it good study! we did this as a sunday school class and did help me think through some things the lord was speaking to me about. also, it helped me to evaluate how deep or shallow my relationship with the lord has been at times and how it is now. flag 2 likes · like · see review jun 23, 2017 chris rated it it was ok recommends it for: mature, discerning christians when i just believe i am a christian, i don't mean that i say that i believe in god, and go to church. i mean, i am a bible believing, gospel teaching, praying, hands up worshiping, church going, holy spirit filled, child of the king, jesus praising, woman of god who has gained much wisdom - saved by god's grace - and humbly receiving mercy on a continual basis for i am a sinful human being.

having said that, what i got from experiencing god bible study, is we don't matter one iota to god except that w when i say that i am a christian, i don't mean that i just believe in god, and go to church. i mean, i am a bible believing, gospel teaching, praying, hands up worshiping, church going, holy spirit filled, child of the king, jesus praising, woman of god who has gained much wisdom - saved by god's grace - and humbly receiving mercy on a continual basis for i am a sinful human being.

having said that, what i got from experiencing god bible study, is we don't matter one iota to god except that we bring others to christ through our works. if you go through spiritual boot camp in your life as a christian, suffering, growing pains, lots of valleys, very few mountain tops, etc. it's because he is preparing you to do his work. that's all that matters. if you are disobedient, and don't do what he tells you to, he will use someone else to get the job done and then take everything away from you, never talk to you again, and basically throw you away. if god heals you, or blesses you in any way - it's only because he wants you to do some kind of big god-sized work. if you don't, you are useless. i'm not saying this is what the bible says. i'm saying this is what *i personally* understood from this bible study.

also, he is inconsistent in his teachings. especially in explaining how we hear from god (via the holy spirit). which is a whole other rant i won't get into.

see, i gave my life to the lord in 1996. near the beginning of the millennium, i remember seeing on tbn, advertisements for a new approach for churches to grow. how they could follow a proven business plan, and it will make them rich. this is when the emergent church as we know it today, all started. then, you have some new-age teachings that have crept into the church as well. for anyone who has spent the bulk of their lives as a christian the past 2 decades, has been taught a slant on the bible that teaches what god can do for us - not what we can do for god. the good news about this bible study, is it offers a needed balance. the bad news is, it goes way overboard.

the examples at the beginning of each chapter show how the "formula"(which he denies is a formula) he teaches, brings about a good work of god. and are mostly about planting churches. this is excellent. but, back up and read how it all started. someone gets an idea or a feeling that god wants to do a work. but does he teach that is how we hear from god? yes and no. it's not very clear because he contradicts himself.

in one part, they shared the miraculous healing of their daughter from cancer. i wrote this along the side of the page: these people are so single mindedly focused on dedicating their lives to seeing how god wants to work through them - they seem to be more happy about how god used that to increase the faith of those who were praying, then they were about their daughter being healed.

being a christian is no easy walk. but, if i were a baby christian and did not have discernment - this book would be a thorny weed of impossible doom to choke out any hope. ...more flag 2 likes · like · see review view 1 comment jul 15, 2007 crystal rated it it was amazing recommends it for: christians seeking to deepen their relationship with god shelves: christian this was a wonderful devotional--the best i've ever used. henry blackaby skillfully guides you through selected scriptures and reflection questions to a deeper understanding of god, his word, and your faith in him. i read this a long time ago--i actually want to get another copy of the workbook now, years later, and go through it all over again. who can't use a little help with their spiritual walk? this was a wonderful devotional--the best i've ever used. henry blackaby skillfully guides you through selected scriptures and reflection questions to a deeper understanding of god, his word, and your faith in him. i read this a long time ago--i actually want to get another copy of the workbook now, years later, and go through it all over again. who can't use a little help with their spiritual walk? ...more flag 2 likes · like · see review may 24, 2017 autumn slaght rated it really liked it · review of another edition recommends it for: anyone who wants a deeper relationship with christ, or who is seeking what he desires from them. recommended to autumn by: my pastor. "most bible studies help people. this one changes lives forever."

i'd have to agree. this workbook right here is one of the most life-changing experiences of my young adult life so far.

myself and a small group from my bible study decided to start this bible study in november, 2016. we broke each unit up into two weeks. this study really opened my eyes to what the lord desires from me. not from my entire life as much as from day to day.

this book list seven things to go with the study beginning w "most bible studies help people. this one changes lives forever."

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this book list seven things to go with the study beginning with how god is always at work around us, how he desires a love relationship with us that is real and personal, how important and crucial it is to the christian walk to obey him.

i didn't agree with everything in this book. the author spoke about making a covenant relationship with church members and also had one or two statements that i didn't quite agree with. however, the majority of it i did.

if you ever decide to read this amazing study, i strongly encourage that you do! however, it will have an impact on you. henry and richard blackaby and claude king don't really use nice little watered down words...they're straight to the point. are you willing to surrender all to god? absolutely? if the lord called you home this very second, could you stand before him and truly say, "i love you with all my heart?" how would you rate your walk with god? oh, yes, these were all tough questions. but i encourage you...this study is so worth it. coming away from it, i can honestly say that i feel like i have a deeper relationship with god and not only that, but i have gained a whole new perspective on him as my lord and sovereign king. this study really helped me recognize his activity where he was working somewhere near me and, as it says so often in the pages, to join him. ...more flag 1 like · like · see review jan 16, 2019 sdneyann chase rated it it was amazing god's timing is so good in having me read this book right now. i'm facing a decision right now, and this book talks a lot about discerning god's will and the importance of a love relationship with him. one of the quotes i really enjoyed was, "truth is revealed, not discovered." i highly recommend this book to anyone interested in experiencing god in their lives. god's timing is so good in having me read this book right now. i'm facing a decision right now, and this book talks a lot about discerning god's will and the importance of a love relationship with him. one of the quotes i really enjoyed was, "truth is revealed, not discovered." i highly recommend this book to anyone interested in experiencing god in their lives. ...more flag 1 like · like · see review oct 27, 2021 meagan rated it it was ok shelves: dnf this ended up being a dnf for me. i just couldn't get into the writing style; also, reading other reviews gave additional insight into book contents that gave me pause on continuing further. i sure appreciate that insight! this ended up being a dnf for me. i just couldn't get into the writing style; also, reading other reviews gave additional insight into book contents that gave me pause on continuing further. i sure appreciate that insight!

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currently, psalm 38:4 is on my heart, for my sins



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the purpose driven life is more than a book; it's a road map for your spiritual journey. combining thoughtful verses from scripture with timely stories and perspectives from warren's own life, the purpose driven life will help you discover the answer to one of life's most important questions: what on earth am i here for?

throughout the purpose driven life, warren will teach you to spend time getting to know yourself and your creator in order to live your life to the fullest. unlocking your true purpose will also reduce your stress, simplify your decisions, increase your satisfaction, and, most importantly, prepare you for eternity.

designed to be read over the course of forty-two days, the purpose driven life will help you see the big picture, giving you a fresh perspective on the way that the pieces of your life fit together. every chapter of the purpose driven life provides a daily meditation and practical steps to help you uncover and live out your purpose, starting with exploring three essential questions:

- the question of existence: why am i alive?
- the question of significance: does my life matter?
- the question of purpose: what on earth am i here for?

each copy of the purpose driven life also includes thoughtful discussion questions, audio bible studies that go along with every chapter, and access to a supportive online community, giving you the opportunity to dive even deeper into each life-changing lesson.

\$13.99 fresh encounter: god's plan for your spiritual awakening revised henry t. blackaby from the multi-million bestselling authors of *experiencing god* comes *fresh encounter*, a book for church laypersons and leaders that illuminates god's pattern and plan for personal revival and spiritual awakening.

greatly revised from the original 1996 edition with forty percent new material, *fresh encounter* looks to examples of revival throughout the bible to better understand what it will take to bring about true and lasting spiritual renewal in the world today. among the new topics here that were not covered in the first edition are:

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