

cost of discipleship pdf

cost of discipleship pdf: A Comprehensive Guide to Understanding and Accessing the Resource

In today's digital age, spiritual growth and discipleship are more accessible than ever before, thanks to numerous online resources. One such valuable resource is the *Cost of Discipleship PDF*. Whether you're a pastor, a Christian leader, or an individual believer seeking to deepen your faith, understanding the significance of this document and knowing how to access it can profoundly impact your spiritual journey. This article explores what the *Cost of Discipleship PDF* entails, its importance, where to find it, and how to utilize it effectively.

What Is the Cost of Discipleship?

Definition and Overview

The *Cost of Discipleship* is a renowned Christian book originally written by Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a German theologian and martyr, in 1937. It challenges believers to consider the true meaning of following Jesus Christ, emphasizing that discipleship involves sacrifice, commitment, and often, suffering.

The *Cost of Discipleship PDF* refers to a digital version of this influential work, which is widely available online for free or purchase. It encapsulates Bonhoeffer's theological insights into what it truly means to live as a disciple of Christ in a world that often opposes Christian values.

Core Themes Covered in the Book

The content of the *Cost of Discipleship PDF* generally includes discussions on:

1. Grace and Law: Differentiating between cheap grace and costly grace
2. Discipleship as a call to radical obedience
3. The significance of cross-bearing and self-denial
4. The cost of following Jesus in everyday life
5. The importance of community and accountability among believers

Understanding these themes helps believers grasp the depth of discipleship

and the sacrifices it entails.

Why Is the Cost of Discipleship PDF Important?

Spiritual Growth and Reflection

Having access to the *Cost of Discipleship PDF* allows individuals to study Bonhoeffer's profound insights at their own pace. It prompts reflection on what it truly costs to follow Christ and encourages believers to evaluate their commitment.

Educational Tool for Churches and Study Groups

Many churches and Christian study groups utilize this PDF as a foundational text for discipleship courses. It provides a structured way to teach about the challenges and rewards of Christian obedience.

Historical and Theological Significance

Bonhoeffer's work remains influential in Christian theology, especially regarding the cost of discipleship and authentic faith. Accessing the PDF enables readers to explore this influential perspective directly.

Where to Find a Cost of Discipleship PDF?

Official Sources and Publishers

The *Cost of Discipleship* is available through various legitimate publishers and websites:

- [Amazon](#): Offers both Kindle and paperback editions, with some free versions available through Kindle Unlimited or promotions.
- [ChristianBook](#): Provides digital and print copies.
- [Goodreads](#): Links to various editions, including free PDF versions from reputable sources.

Free PDF Resources

Some websites offer free PDFs, often authorized or in the public domain, of Bonhoeffer's works:

- [Archive.org](https://www.archive.org): A digital library with free access to many classic Christian texts.
- [Bible.org](https://www.bible.org): Offers free downloadable PDFs for study purposes.
- [Bible.com](https://www.bible.com): Sometimes features downloadable study guides and PDFs related to discipleship.

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3. Check file reviews or comments if available, to ensure the PDF is complete and uncorrupted.

How to Use the Cost of Discipleship PDF Effectively

Personal Study and Reflection

Reading the PDF slowly and thoughtfully enhances understanding. Consider:

1. Highlighting key passages that resonate with your current spiritual journey.
2. Taking notes or journaling your thoughts and applications.
3. Sharing insights with a small group or accountability partner.

Group Discussions and Bible Studies

The PDF serves as an excellent resource for group study. Strategies include:

1. Assigning chapters for each session to encourage deep discussion.
2. Using reflection questions at the end of each section.
3. Facilitating debates on the themes of grace, sacrifice, and obedience.

Applying the Principles to Daily Life

Discipleship is not just theoretical but practical. Consider:

1. Identifying areas where you may need to make sacrifices for your faith.
2. Implementing a daily prayer or fasting routine inspired by Bonhoeffer's teachings.
3. Engaging in acts of service that embody the cost of discipleship.

Benefits of Accessing a Digital Copy

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Conclusion

The *Cost of Discipleship PDF* is a powerful tool for anyone seeking to understand the true demands and blessings of following Jesus Christ. By accessing this resource, believers can deepen their faith, challenge their commitments, and grow spiritually. Whether you find a free version online or purchase a physical copy, engaging with Bonhoeffer's insights can transform your perspective on discipleship. Remember to choose reputable sources when downloading PDFs, and approach your study with prayer and open-hearted reflection. Embrace the journey of discipleship – it's a costly but eternally rewarding pursuit.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the typical cost associated with discipleship programs as outlined in 'Cost of Discipleship PDF'?

The cost of discipleship programs varies depending on the organization, but it generally includes expenses related to materials, training sessions, travel, and sometimes membership fees. The 'Cost of Discipleship PDF' provides an overview of these expenses to help individuals and churches plan financially.

How can I access the 'Cost of Discipleship PDF' for free or at a low cost?

Many churches and ministries offer free or affordable copies of the 'Cost of Discipleship PDF' on their websites or through their outreach programs. You can also find downloadable versions on Christian resource sites or request it directly from the publisher or organization that produced it.

What key factors influence the overall cost of discipleship according to the PDF?

Key factors include the scope of the program, the number of participants, the location of training sessions, the materials required, and any associated travel or accommodation costs. The PDF breaks down these elements to help churches and individuals budget effectively.

Is there a suggested financial commitment for individuals pursuing discipleship as per the PDF?

The PDF often recommends a voluntary financial contribution to support discipleship programs, but emphasizes that the primary focus should be on

spiritual growth. Many programs offer scholarships or sliding scale fees to ensure accessibility.

How does the 'Cost of Discipleship PDF' address the value versus the expense of discipleship?

The PDF highlights that while there is a financial cost involved, the spiritual and personal growth benefits far outweigh the monetary expense. It encourages viewing discipleship as an investment in one's faith journey and community development.

Can churches or organizations customize the costs outlined in the PDF to fit their budget?

Yes, the 'Cost of Discipleship PDF' provides a flexible framework that churches and organizations can adapt based on their resources. It encourages creative solutions to minimize costs while maintaining the integrity and effectiveness of discipleship efforts.

Additional Resources

Cost of Discipleship PDF: An In-Depth Review and Expert Analysis

In the realm of Christian education and spiritual growth, resources that facilitate a deeper understanding of discipleship are invaluable. Among these, the Cost of Discipleship PDF has emerged as a prominent digital resource, offering believers and scholars alike an accessible and comprehensive way to explore the profound themes presented by Dietrich Bonhoeffer. This article aims to provide an in-depth review of the Cost of Discipleship PDF, examining its content, structure, usability, and overall value, all through an expert lens to assist you in determining its relevance for your spiritual journey or teaching ministry.

Understanding the Significance of the "Cost of Discipleship"

Historical and Theological Context

Published originally in 1937, Dietrich Bonhoeffer's *The Cost of Discipleship* is regarded as a theological masterpiece that challenges believers to consider what true discipleship entails. Bonhoeffer's central thesis revolves

around the idea that genuine following of Christ is not a superficial commitment but demands a willingness to bear personal costs—be it social, material, or even life itself.

The core message emphasizes that cheap grace—grace that is offered freely without any accompanying requirement of change or sacrifice—is a distorted version of Christian doctrine. Instead, Bonhoeffer advocates for a costly grace—one that calls believers to authentic discipleship, which may involve rejection, suffering, and active service.

In the digital age, the availability of a Cost of Discipleship PDF makes this influential work more accessible than ever, enabling individuals and groups to engage with its challenging themes conveniently from any device.

Features and Content of the Cost of Discipleship PDF

Comprehensive Coverage of Bonhoeffer's Key Themes

A well-crafted Cost of Discipleship PDF typically includes the full text of Bonhoeffer's original work, but many versions also feature supplementary content such as:

- Introduction and Contextual Background: Explaining the historical setting of the book's writing, particularly Bonhoeffer's experiences in Nazi Germany.
- Annotations and Footnotes: Clarifying complex theological ideas or historical references.
- Chapter Summaries: Offering quick overviews to aid comprehension.
- Discussion Questions: Facilitating group study or personal reflection.
- Additional Resources: Links to sermons, articles, or related works for extended study.

These features make the PDF not merely a digital copy of a book but an interactive learning tool.

Structure and Organization

The PDF is generally organized into logical sections aligning with the book's chapters, which include:

1. The Cost of Discipleship: An introduction to the concept of costly grace.
2. Cheap Grace and Costly Grace: Contrasting superficial faith with authentic

discipleship.

3. The Call to Discipleship: Exploring the demands and responsibilities involved.

4. Discipleship in Practice: Applying theological principles to everyday life.

5. The Cross and Discipleship: Emphasizing sacrifice and surrender.

6. Community and Discipleship: The importance of fellowship and accountability.

7. Discipleship and Society: Engaging with the broader social implications.

The logical progression guides readers from foundational concepts to practical application, making it suitable for both academic study and personal reflection.

Usability and Accessibility of the PDF

Ease of Access

One of the main advantages of a Cost of Discipleship PDF is its portability. Users can download the file instantly from various online platforms—be it official church resources, theological websites, or digital bookstores. The PDF format ensures compatibility across devices such as computers, tablets, and e-readers, facilitating study on the go.

Navigation and User Experience

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- Bookmarks: Providing a structured outline for easy access.
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rather than a static document. This interactivity is particularly beneficial for group studies, sermons, or individual meditation.

Value and Limitations of the Cost of Discipleship PDF

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How to Choose the Right Cost of Discipleship PDF

Given the variety of options available, selecting an appropriate PDF resource requires careful consideration:

- Source Credibility: Opt for well-known publishers, church organizations, or educational institutions.
- Content Completeness: Ensure the PDF contains the full text and any

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- Format and Features: Look for PDFs with interactive features like hyperlinks, bookmarks, and annotations.
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Conclusion: Is the Cost of Discipleship PDF Worth It?

The Cost of Discipleship PDF stands out as an invaluable resource for Christians, theologians, pastors, and students seeking to delve into Bonhoeffer's challenging yet profoundly transformative insights. Its portability, interactive features, and comprehensive content make it an ideal tool for both personal growth and group study.

While it may not fully replace physical books for all readers, its advantages in accessibility, affordability, and supplementary material make it a compelling choice in today's digital age. When chosen thoughtfully from reputable sources, the Cost of Discipleship PDF can significantly enrich one's understanding of authentic Christian discipleship and inspire a life committed to costly grace.

In summary, if you are committed to exploring the depths of what it truly means to follow Christ and are comfortable engaging with digital resources, investing in a high-quality Cost of Discipleship PDF is undoubtedly worth considering. It transforms Bonhoeffer's timeless message into an accessible, interactive, and practical tool that can shape your faith journey for years to come.

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cost of discipleship pdf: The Cost of Discipleship Dietrich Bonhoeffer, 1995-09 Previously published: New York: Macmillan, 1959.

cost of discipleship pdf: *Life of Christ - Teacher's Manual PDF* Dr. Brian J. Bailey, 2020-01-10 Inspired by a series of visions given by the Holy Spirit, Dr. Bailey examines the pre-existence, birth and early years, ministry, crucifixion, and resurrection of Christ as seen in the four gospels. Throughout this work runs the sense of awesome love of the Father in Heaven for His only Son, who took upon Himself the form of a man, fully obeying the will of His Father, even unto the death of the cross. You will be encouraged as you see the fervency with which Christ lived so that we might have

abundant life by living according to the pattern He set before us in His own life upon this earth.

cost of discipleship pdf: *Beyond the Pale* Stacey M. Floyd-Thomas, Miguel A. De La Torre, 2011-09-12 How should Augustine, Aquinas, Bonhoeffer, Kant, Nietzsche, and Plato be read today, in light of postcolonial theory and twenty-first-century understandings? This book offers a reader-friendly introduction to Christian liberationist ethics by having scholars from the margins explore how questions of race and gender should be brought to bear on twenty-four classic ethicists and philosophers. Each short chapter gives historical background for the thinker, describes that thinker's most important contributions, then raises issues of concern for women and persons of color. Contributors include George (Tink) Tinker, Asante U. Todd, Traci West, Darryl Trimiew, Ada María Isasi-Díaz, Robyn Henderson-Espinoza, and many others.

cost of discipleship pdf: *The Highest of All Mountains* Samuel K. Sarpiya, 2021-03-18 This book is for people who believe that the gospel is a message of peace and this gospel of peace is relevant for our time. Peacemaking is a core part of our Christian discipleship just as we learn how to pray, just as we learn how to love our neighbors, just as we learn how to feed the hungry. We can also learn how to be peacemakers. Sarpiya believes that peacemaking is central to the Christian faith and practice. This book will serve as a guide that will offer a scriptural guide with practical stories and applications. Readers will be challenged by Scripture to take the call to peacemaking into their communities. The fact that numerous peace treaties have collapsed serves to show how difficult it is to transcend cycles of violence and foster a sustained, durable peace. The one place that one could look to for answers about how to move toward peace is within faith communities, and sometimes not just one faith acting alone but working alongside other faiths, in concert with other faiths, taking an interreligious approach. *The Highest of All Mountains* shows how Sarpiya's Christian peacemaking backed by the interreligious approach brings the monotheistic faiths together, as they all agreed on one denominator to their faith's origin, Abraham.

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cost of discipleship pdf: *Controversies in Interreligious Dialogue and the Theology of Religions* Paul Hedges, 2013-01-03 A challenging controversial discussion of the current state of the debate about Christianity and other world faiths.

cost of discipleship pdf: *The Living Word*™ 2025-2026 Rena Black, Kate Cousino, Karla Hardersen, Julia Strukely, 2025-03-01 *The Living Word*™ helps youth ministers, parish catechists, and high school religion teachers meet teens where they are and guide them to a deeper understanding of the Gospel's role in their lives. This model of liturgical catechesis through lectionary readings enhances the liturgical preparation, liturgical participation, and liturgical living

of teens. Each session can be easily incorporated into lessons or group activities that have already been planned. This resource includes materials for each Sunday and holyday of obligation from the first Sunday of August through the last Sunday in July. Additionally, The Living Word™ includes digital resources to help teens reflect on and act on the Sunday Gospel throughout the week. The Living Word™ includes the following: -Complete and flexible 30-minute sessions to complement your current teen programs -Connections to the liturgical calendar and to Catholic teachings -Ritual with the proclamation of the Gospel -Reflections to help teens understand the Gospel in the context of their own experiences and concerns -Useful tools for integrating the New Evangelization in your teen ministry -Digital reproducibles (in PDF and JPG format) for teens that can be printed, emailed, and shared via social media Authors include: Rena Black, Kate Cousino, Karla Hardersen, and Julia Strukely.

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cost of discipleship pdf: "Professor Heussi? I Thought You Were a Book" Eric W. Gritsch, 2009-07-27 Professor Heussi? I Thought You are a Book is an entertaining account of six decades of graduate education with the subtitle A Memoir of Memorable Theological Educators, 1950-2010. In personal encounters as well as in books, academic icons appear on the horizon of memory: Viktor Frankl in Vienna, Karl Barth in Basel, Carl Jung in Zurich, Reinhold Niebuhr in New York, Paul Tillich at Harvard, and the doctor father Roland Bainton at Yale. They are mixed with has-beens, upstarts, and other special professorial characters. In this memoir of Lutheran scholar, Eric Gritsch, these accounts are also fed with collegial encounters during his thirty-three years of teaching and research in church history at the Gettysburg Lutheran Seminary, with international excursions for Luther research and ecumenical dialogue with Roman Catholics. Ambition, stamina, and humor are ingredients that spike this cocktail of theological education of a native of Austria in the 1950s and 60s. Connoisseurs of anecdotal learning will find some satisfaction in this personal history of graduate studies in Europe and in the United States.

cost of discipleship pdf: What Christians Believe Anna Wierzbicka, 2019-02-28 Many people today, both Christians and non-Christians, are confused about or unaware of the essentials of Christian faith. In this book, Anna Wierzbicka takes a radically new approach to the task of communicating what Christians believe to the widest possible audience. The Story of God and People, the heart of the book, sets out the core tenets of Christian faith in narrative form using simple language that is accessible to anyone, even those with no familiarity with Christianity or Christian vocabulary. The Story is not only simple but also universal: though written in English, it is not phrased in full English--English as we know it today, shaped by history, culture, and tradition--but in Minimal English. Minimal English contains only those 400 or so English words that can be translated into any other language; essentially, it corresponds to the shared core of all languages. In the introduction to the book, Wierzbicka explains Minimal English and minimal languages in general, and in The Story of God and People that follows, she demonstrates the effectiveness of Minimal English as a tool for global understanding. At the same time, the use of

Minimal English allows her not only to retell the Christian story in a strikingly new way, but also to rethink its meaning, bringing into relief its internal cohesion, logic and beauty.

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cost of discipleship pdf: Salt, Light, and a City, Second Edition Graham Joseph Hill, 2020-07-24 Jesus is calling his church to be a multiethnic and missional people who listen and learn from the many voices of world Christianity. Graham Joseph Hill issues a moving call for churches to be missional by being conformed to the image of Jesus Christ. Hill does this by exploring the thinking of twenty-five Asian, African, Latin American, Indigenous, African American, diaspora, Caribbean, Oceanian, Eastern European, and Middle Eastern pastors and theologians. These are as diverse as Melba Padilla Maggay, Emmanuel Katongole, Lamin Sanneh, Oscar Muriu, Ruth Padilla DeBorst, Pope Francis, Richard Twiss, Lisa Sharon Harper, Willie James Jennings, Ada María Isasi-Díaz, Soong-Chan Rah, and Mitri Raheb. These voices show us the future of missional churches in world Christianity. When churches are conformed to Christ they make disciples, heal a broken world, and witness to Jesus and his gospel. Jesus forms us in his image and moves us to be a people of shalom, humility, character, justice, peace, wisdom, prayer, beauty, and witness. The church has had a Reformation but now it needs a Conformation. Hill explores biblical themes and the voices of world Christianity to show that a missional church is conformed to the image of the incarnate, crucified, resurrected, and glorified Christ. Conformity to Christ is the heart of missional ecclesiology and discipleship.

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cost of discipleship pdf: Solus Jesus Emily Swan, Ken Wilson, 2018-07-10 If you read one book this year about the future of Christianity, then choose this book. Five hundred years ago the Protestant Reformation claimed the Bible as the authoritative guide for Christian living ("Sola Scriptura!" Only Scripture!). In this groundbreaking work, Emily Swan and Ken Wilson claim the authority of the church is shifting back to where it should be: in Jesus (Solus Jesus!). As co-founders of Blue Ocean Faith, Swan and Wilson are pioneering what it means to be post-evangelical--post-Protestant, even--in a time when such re-imagining is desperately needed. Solus Jesus not only grapples with the authority question in Christianity, but also provides a massive re-think of traditional atonement theories. Leaning on the work of René Girard, they conclude that the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus together reveal a completely good, non-violent God who is

on the side of the oppressed and scapegoated of this world. As a work of queer theology, the book is intersectional in its understanding of justice, and invites readers to reconsider our understanding of what it means to follow Jesus. This book is timely, to say the least. For Christians looking for guidance on how to address distressing issues of injustice; for help understanding how they can faithfully follow Jesus and love their neighbors as themselves; and for practices for how to experience the living Jesus and his Spirit of love—*Solus Jesus* is the book for you. “Born in a cauldron of faith and pain, *Solus Jesus: A Theology of Resistance* is a highly original, deeply provocative first stab at a post-evangelical, post-‘gay debate’ pastoral theology,” writes David P. Gushee, author of *Changing Our Mind* and Director of the Center for Theology and Public Life at Mercer University. “Drawing from personal experience and those who have long carved out theologies far from power, Swan and Wilson show how *Solus Jesus* can open a portal to the divine communion that is possible between all people,” writes Deborah Jian Lee, author of *Rescuing Jesus: How People of Color, Women and Queer Christians are Reclaiming Evangelicalism*. “Ken and Emily’s book is loving and courageous, compelling and convicting, scholarly and personal all at once. ... This book held up a mirror to my heart, asking me to forsake my anxious need for certainty, to repent of all the rivalries that cripple me, and to rest again like a child, at the breast of a God in whose fierce and fearless love there is home for us all,” writes the Rev. Susan K. Bock of Grace Episcopal Church in Mount Clemens, Michigan. “*Solus Jesus* challenges us to see the authoritative Jesus in a fresh light, so that his life, message, death, and rising summon us to live in a new way as individuals and congregations,” writes Brian D. McLaren, author of *The Great Spiritual Migration*. “Around the world, tension and conflict are signaling a shift in our socio-political conditions. To remain relevant, Christianity must have a response to this moment. Grounding themselves in their lived experience, Ken and Emily are leaning into the conversation and offering a powerful response to the travails of our time. A must-read for Christians looking to discern where the Spirit is leading us in the 21st Century,” writes Rev. Mariama White-Hammond, AME Church Planter, Boston.

cost of discipleship pdf: T&T Clark Handbook of African American Theology , 2019-07-25 This handbook explores the central theme of Christian faith from various disciplinary approaches and different contexts of black experience in the United States. The central unifying theme is freedom; an important concept both in American culture and Christianity. African American theology represents a Christian understanding of God's freedom and the good news of God's call for all humankind to enter life-true human identity and moral responsibility-in genuine and just community. Contributors to the volume argue that African American theology highlights how racism and other intersecting forms of oppression complicate the human predicament; and that their eradication requires an expansion of salvation to include the liberation of persons who lack full participation in society and enjoyment of the good (and goods) made possible by that society. The essays in this handbook employ the tools of biblical criticism, history, cultural and social analysis, religious studies, philosophy, and systematic theology, in order to explore and assess the nature and impact of race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, class, immigration, and cultural and moral pluralism in America-as well as the intersections between African American and African diasporan religious thought and life.

cost of discipleship pdf: From Babel to AI Dawn Lewis Sutherland, 2025-03-21 *From Babel to AI: Idolatry, Transhumanism, and the Crisis of Imago Dei* confronts the profound questions of human identity and purpose in an age dominated by technological innovation. Drawing from biblical narratives like the Tower of Babel, this thought-provoking work explores how artificial intelligence, transhumanism, and other modern advancements echo ancient struggles with idolatry and hubris. At its core, this book calls readers to rediscover the doctrine of the imago Dei—the belief that humanity is created in the image of God—as the foundation for addressing the ethical and theological challenges of our time. Through compelling analysis and case studies, it unpacks the dangers of dehumanizing technologies and offers a robust theological framework for engaging them while safeguarding human dignity and relationality. Whether readers are a scholar, church leader, or thoughtful believer wrestling with the implications of AI and transhumanism, *From Babel to AI* will inspire all to think deeply, act faithfully, and reclaim humanity’s divine purpose in a rapidly changing

world.

cost of discipleship pdf: The Broken Way (with Bonus Content) Ann Voskamp, 2016-10-25 A New York Times bestseller! Brokenness doesn't only find us in the big things—things like illness, hardship, or grief. It can find you in the everyday. Learn to walk in a way that glorifies Jesus and receive freedom, not beyond your fear and pain, but within it. We are fragile and we know it. Sometimes, living with Christ in a messed-up world feels less like victory and more like walking uphill. Ann Voskamp, the New York Times bestselling author of *One Thousand Gifts*, sits at the edge of her life and her own unspoken brokenness and asks: What if you really want to live abundantly before it's too late? What do you do if you really want to know abundant wholeness? This one's for the lovers and the sufferers. This one's for the busted ones who are ready to bust free, the ones ready to break molds, break chains, break measuring sticks, and break all this bad brokenness with an unlikely good brokenness. You could be one of the Beloved who is broken—and still lets yourself be loved. Ann desperately wants you to know: God is attracted to the broken, the sin-sick, and those in need. The very things people are most ashamed of are the exact broken things that draw God to his people. You can live in the face of your unspoken pain. You can discover and trust this broken way—the way to not be afraid of broken things. *The Broken Way* is simple in presentation, written in Ann's unique style—a new way for desperate Christians in need of a fresh revelation of the grace of God. This ebook includes the full text of the book plus an exclusive section of beautiful photos paired with powerful passages from the text that is not found in the hardcover.

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