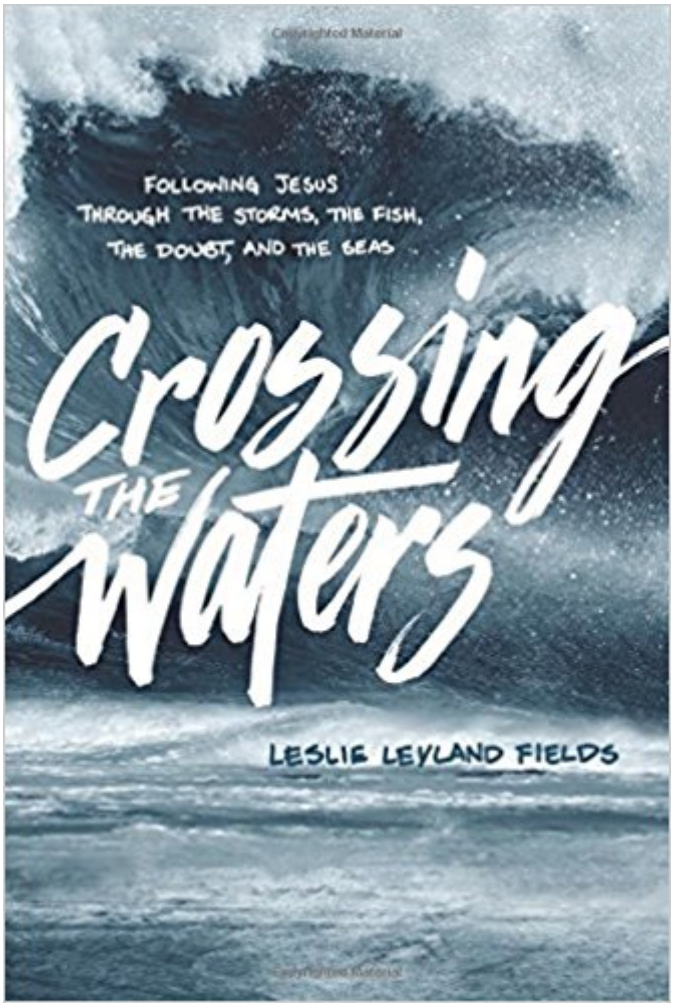
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Crossing The Waters: Following Jesus Through The Storms, The Fish, The Doubt, And The Seas



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Synopsis

Winner of the 2017 Christianity Today Book of the Year for Christian Living.Get ready for the wettest, stormiest, wildest trip through the Gospel you've ever taken!The gospels are dramatic, wild, and wetÃ¢â ¬â ¢set in a rich maritime culture on the shores of the Sea of Galilee. Jesus' first disciples were ragtag fishermen, and Jesus' messages and miracles teem with water, fish, fishermen, net-breaking catches, sea crossings, boat-sinking storms, and even a walk on water. Because this world is foreign and distant to us, we've missed much about the disciples' experiences and about following JesusÃ¢â ¬â ¢until now. Leslie Leyland FieldsÃ¢â ¬â ¢a well-known writer, respected biblical exegete, and longtime Alaskan fisherwomanÃ¢â ¬â ¢crosses the waters of time and culture to take us out on the Sea of Galilee, through a rugged season of commercial fishing with her family in Alaska, and through the waters of the New Testament.You'll be swept up in a fresh experience of the gospels, traveling with the fishermen disciples from Jesus' baptism to the final miraculous catch of fishÃ¢â ¬â ¢and also experiencing Leslie's own efforts to follow Christ out on her own Alaskan sea. In a time when so many are "unfollowing" Jesus and leaving the Church, Crossing the Waters delivers a fresh encounter with Jesus and explores what it means to "come, follow me."

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"What a grand and surprising book this is . . . Fields is a remarkable writer, very talented, very wise. She is, by vocation, not only a writer, but a fisher-person doing her work with her family on a remote

island off the coast of mainland Alaska. This book includes some vivid telling of her wild experiences fishing in the dangerous seas of the Pacific Northwest. But here's the thing: besides being a woman's wilderness memoir and story of life in Alaska, it is also a study of faith.Ã Â Crossing the Waters Ã Â is a tremendous book, what review Mark Galli calls, 'a rare gift.'"Ã Â -----Ã Â Byron Borger, Hearts and Minds Booknotes"Crossing the Waters" Ã Â does what it promises to do: 'lead us across the waters of time and culture' into a new experience with Jesus and his 'rag-tag fishermen-disciples.' It beckons us to a deeper understanding of the life to which Jesus calls his followers---one that requires persistence, sacrifice, faithfulness and dependence---and in doing so, reminds us that our faith is never misplaced." Ã Â ----Suanne Camfield, The Englewood Review of BooksFields is a 38-year Alaskan commercial fisherwoman whose experience on and off the water guides readers through faithÃ¢â ¬â„¢s treacherous depths. To begin this memoir-cum-testament, she shares her often harrowing experiences on the waters as her family fishes for their livelihood season after exhausting season. Fields also parallels her personal story with that of JesusÃ¢â ¬â„¢ relationship with his disciples on the Sea of Galilee. She traveled to the Jordan River and once there, found herself on a tiny boat with other fishermen learning the practices of fishing far from home. Throughout her text, Fields describes her life, challenges, and moments of doubt, skillfully pairing her own story with those of how Jesus and his disciples may have dealt with similar concerns during their own times. Readers of faith will appreciate the colorful depiction of both the land and sea that Fields offers, and they will see familiar Bible passages come alive in her contextualized retellings. In this helpful account, Fields displays a remarkable knack for exploring those treasures that lie underneath the surface. (Publishers Weekly)

This book is a rare gift. It pulses with story and theology, with lived suffering and quiet joy, with vast mysteries and a strong Savior. The question is not whether you can put it downÃ¢â ¬â ¢because that will be hardÃ¢â ¬â ¢but whether you have the good sense first to pick it up, and read. (Mark Galli, Editor in Chief, Christianity Today)

Following Jesus through the storms, the fish, the doubt, and the seas. The author takes us into a world that most of us know just about nothing about. She has been a commercial fisher woman for four decades, and works with her husband and six children in a salmon-fishing operation on their own island off the coast of Kodiak Island, Alaska. It may sound glamorous to some, but she

describes the hard work, dangers and uncertainty that they face every day. Relating her vocation with Jesus's call to his disciples to be "fishers of men" this book is full of analogies to fishing. The author has written ten other books and is a speaker and a popular radio guest. This book comes with recommendations from Jim Daly from Focus on the Family and Mark Galli, Editor of Christianity Today.Some may find it hard to relate to the stories that she tells on her fishing journeys, but we can all relate to how Jesus can bring us through any storm.I have received a complimentary copy of this book in exchange for a review.

I could not put Crossing the Waters down. I was hooked. Fields' true stories from her family's commercial fishing business based on a remote island off the coast of Kodiak, Alaska, are mixed with scenes from the Gospels. Every scene is alive and real. I tried to force myself to stop reading at the end of each chapter in order to savor the insights and encouragement intertwined with the narration, but I couldn't. This is a book I will reread and reread. I purchased five extra copies for Christmas gifts and already need to order more.Crossing the Waters isn't your typical "Christian Life/Spiritual Growth book." It doesn't attempt to solve life issues with formulas. Fields dives into murky waters and surfaces with questions and feelings that plague us all. Any reader will identify with Fields' transparent heart and her question: What does it mean to follow Jesus in the midst of our flesh-and-blood everyday lives? But as she writes about her faith struggles and the disciples' struggles, she always takes the reader back to Jesus. Fields doesn't minimize the pain in today's world, but she shows us how God saves us through the storm and suffering. She speaks to our fears and doubts, reminding us that Jesus is enough.I've been a Christian fro 42 years and have read boatloads of books on spiritual growth. Crossing the Waters is among the best. I'm not surprised it won Christianity Today's 2017 Book Award for Christian Living/Discipleship. The study guide at the end of the book also makes it wonderful to read and discuss with others, whether for a book group or Bible study group.My only regret is that I can't give it a ten star rating.

If you are hankering for a great Alaska fishing yarn, hanker no more. Leslie Leyland FieldÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s Crossing he Waters will feed that hanker like few books out there. Her skilled storytelling is spot on with the sights, sounds, smells, and feel of the greatest salmon fishery on the Planet. I know; IÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢ve been there.Crossing the Waters is an honest book. It mingles Alaskan and Palestinian waters seamlessly, refreshingly free from tiresome gospel platitudes. YouÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢ll come away with a deeper understanding of what it means to follow the Master Fisherman. You will come to know four flawed, hardy fishing partners and gather a

wealth of Galilean lore.Not interested in theology? Read Crossing Waters anyhow. Enjoy the stories and judge for yourself whether LeslieÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s different take on Christianity makes sense. It sure does to me. IÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢ll be adding more of her writings to my must-read pile.

Leslie Leyland Fields proves that God is forever teaching and leading us, whether in the rolling seas around Alaska or the murky waters of the Sea of Galilee. This beautiful combination narrative/scripture study is packed with insights and challenges that led me to dive deeper into the Word and into what I know about the fishermen Jesus called from their nets to "Come, follow me" over 2,000 years ago. I am a fan of Leslie's writing and trust her sound theology, as well as her deep appreciation of family, hard work and living life to its fullest.

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