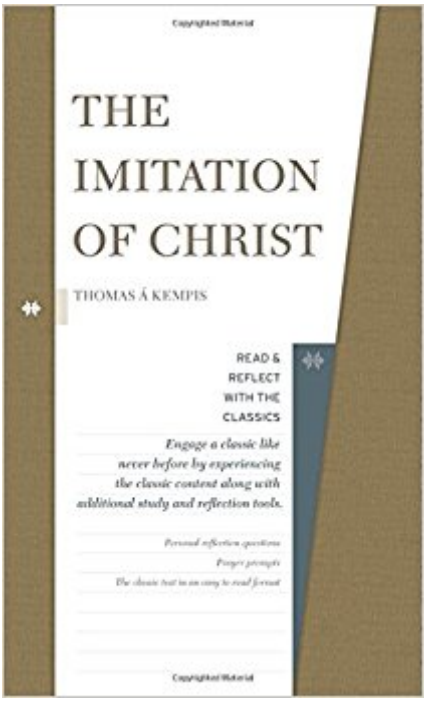
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The Imitation Of Christ (Read And Reflect With The Classics)



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Synopsis

This classic of Christian devotional literature, with readings focused on the life of Christ, has brought understanding and comfort to millions for centuries. Written in a candid and conversational style, The Imitation of Christ discusses liberation from worldly inclinations, recollection as a preparation for prayer, the consolations of prayer, and the place of eucharistic communion in a devout life. The Read & Reflect with the Classics edition of The Imitation of Christ includes the classic text in an easy to read adaption coupled with personal reflection questions, additional study questions, and prayer prompts for today's Christian reader.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The Thomas ÃƒÂ Kempis fan club includes St. Ignatius, Thomas Merton, Thomas More, and even Agatha Christie’s Miss Marple. (She reads a chapter of The Imitation of Christ every night before sleep.) Imitation has exerted immense influence on Christian worship, ethics, and church structure, because it gives specific yet broad-minded guidance about the central task of Christian life--learning to live like Jesus. Better to read this book a little here and there, now and then, than to try gobbling it cover to cover. Imitation is no triumph of orderly thinking, but it’s a great monument and incentive to deep living. --Michael Joseph Gross --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

If a man tells you that he is fond of the Imitation, view him with sudden suspicion; he is either a

dabbler or a saint...Heaven help us if we find easy reading in the Imitation of Christ -- Ronald Knox None, I believe, except the Bible, has been so universally read and loved by Christians of all tongues and sects -- Thomas Carlyle The most influential devotional book in Western Christian history -- Professor John van Engen --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

~A Carmelite Hermit/Priest once came upon me reading a copy of 'The Imitation of Christ' in the cloistered garden of the hermitage that I was living at temporarily. He sat beside me and looked at my book with a warm smile, he said "Always keep this book close to your heart, and you will never go astray". Since that day, it is rare for me to go anywhere without a well read copy of the Catholic Classic stuffed with care in my bag, and read a chapter or two every chance I get. It never gets 'old', and it's refreshing, penetrating words always "speak to me" in new and inviting ways, as if it were the first time reading that particular passage every time! I was very pleased to see these new leather zip-cover versions, as I've gone through a couple soft cover versions with daily wear and tear, in and out of the backpack, etc. There are two versions in these similar covers, two different translations by two seperate publishers. The one pictured here is my personal favorite, published by TAN, it is the same trusted and true old translation that is found in the beloved old 'Confraternity of the Precious Blood' versions.... that familiar little blue soft-covered version with stunning b&w detailed pictures to meditate upon as you read. This version was originally translated from Latin by Richard Challoner D.D., and is more true to the original translation. Though it is written in an older style of proper English, it is easy enough for most people to comprehend, and the older writing style has much artistic, poetic charm that is often times lost in some of the newer 'up-to-date' English translations. Remember, this is the second most translated and published book in history next to the Holy Bible! The other new leather zip-cover version available now looks nearly identical to this, but rather than a Cross on the front cover, it has a 'Chi Ro' design and omits the authors' name. This version, equally impressive, is put out by the Catholic Book Publishing Co., and is the same translation (edited by Clare L.Fitzpatrick) that is available in the small red hardcover version that is quite popular by the same publisher. This too is an excellent version, but the translation is much more modern and more readable by the everyday layperson, or anyone who wishes to hear this timeless wisdom in a more easily accessible version without the 'thee's, thou's, and shall's" of the aforementioned version. It's personal preference, example...first line of the TAN version = "He that followeth me, walketh not in darkness," ..... as opposed to the CBPC's version, "No one who follows Me will ever walk in darkness." (John 8:12). ~But, to be truly enlightened and touched by these timeless words of wisdom of the Spiritual Life, I reccommend buying both versions, and absorbing

both as to get a better understanding of these holy and guiding words. There are those who may say that A' Kempis's writings are 'not for everyone', as most of his writings were written to give guidance to the young novitiates of his monastic order where he served as Novice Master for a time, but please do not let that turn you away from the holy and life changing power of his spiritually uplifting direction that still speaks to many today. If you have any call to any form of holiness, or just want to enhance and reinvigorate your daily spiritual life, there is no way that you can go wrong with Thomas A 'Kempis and this, his most well known and loved body of work.

i thought i was going to like this book as it was broken up into short subject/sayings and it would give me more prespective on christian thought of the middle ages. while it does have many good things in the 'dialoge' supposedly going on between a disciple and Christ - there is at the core of a lot of the sayings just too much of what i would describe as monastic asceticism. too much core emphasis placed on depravity of man and the need for self-denial in most areas of life as the path to Christ. the introduction says it is the most widely read book after the bible. i am surprised at that. some of what the "voice of Christ" says in the book sounds like Christ of the gospels - but way too much of it does not sound like Christ found in the gospels, and more like monastic thought of the time. anyway, that is how it came across to me - my perspective. others may read it and not feel it comes across that way as much as i did. never hurts to read it - it might make you think and analyze what you know and think you know about Jesus and your relationship with Him.

There are lots of Kempis versions and I'm sure you will benefit from all of them, but this is my favorite of the ones I have seen (3 different ones). Why - here:*the translation is remarkably clean and concise. Creasy did a truly wonderful job with what at times can be difficult material but difficult reading never becomes difficult comprehension.*the introductions are priceless. Again, they add value to what is always an enriching text.*study questions for groups. Finally, at the end of each chapter the book offers a series of very penetrating questions suitable for group discussions of any type. This incredibly thoughtful touch by Fr. Billy sets this one apart.I can't recommend this version highly enough. Also, for those where this might be an issue, the typeset is fairly large so it extremely easy on the eyes.

Five stars for the translation, 0 Stars for kindle formatting!!In the hardcover edition, this book is a delight to read. I anxiously waited for the Kindle edition of this translation to be released, as the other kindle editions were a much harder read...so when the kindle edition of this book finally

appeared, I expected the same wonderful experience as with the hardback edition.What a disappointment!! While the translation is preserved, the formatting is NOT. Hyphenation and hard breaks are inappropriate, ILLUSTRATIONS ARE CONSPICUOUSLY MISSING, Initial Caps are almost subscript in printing...making this a CHORE to read. And you can forget about an interactive Table of Contents, or links to jump to the appropriate sections! Shame on the team who submitted the kindle version of this fine book! It deserves much better!!With all that said, the translation is still the best I've ever seen or read for translating middle-age English into a version easily understood in our day and time. It's a shame that the poor kindle formatting detracts so much from the reading experience!I sincerely hope someone at sees this and corrects the problem!!

I love the format with the zippered, gilt edged book with a ribbon. This is one of the most loved and published books of all time and is a good translation. It is wonderful to ponder over a section to help in my pursuit of humility. It came quickly and in good condition.

In my opinion as a minim every Catholic should have three books in there library. The Bible, the Catechism and the Imitation of Christ.

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