

Devotions for a Sacred Marriage: a Year of Weekly Devotions for Couples

By Gary Thomas

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I usually avoid recommending books I haven't actually finished reading. I am making an exception for this book., because I really do not wish to wait an entire year to share my enthusiasm. Dede and I are going through this book together. As the title suggest, we cover just one devotion a week. Each week seems to bring a different spiritual lens for inspecting one's own inner motivations and thought processes that can either gum up or bless the marriage relationship. One chapter I especially enjoyed reminded the reader that his or her spouse is God's adopted daughter or adopted son and to treat them accordingly, or the Father would be displeased. Dede and I both read the same chapter at about the same time, but we do not read it out loud to each other. We often discuss the chapter, but sometimes we just comment on whether or not we agreed with its premise or found it thought provoking. Each devotional is a mere three or four pages long. Like all devotionals, it is impossible to get a lot out of them if you do not genuinely put something into them. But, if you approach each chapter with a relaxed and open mind, this book may be a great help in bringing new found tenderness and understanding into a marriage relationship.

To be honest, Dede and I have given this book away to our adult children and the feedback we have received so far has been less enthusiastic than my own. So, it may not be a great gift for millennials.