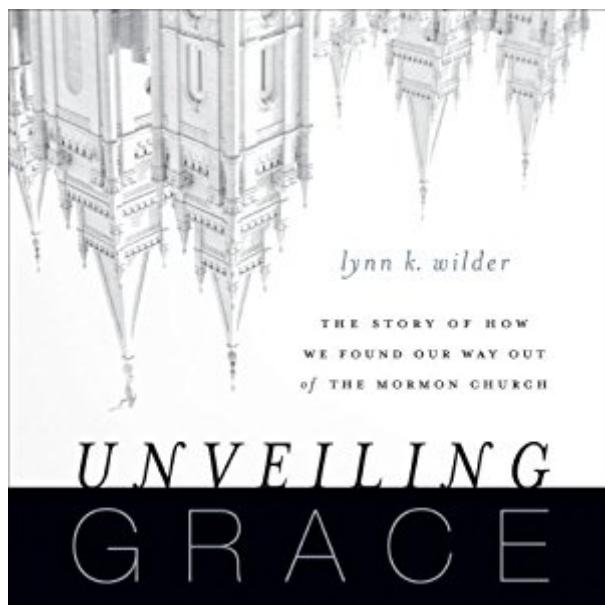


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Unveiling Grace: The Story Of How We Found Our Way Out Of The Mormon Church



Synopsis

From a rare insider's point of view, *Unveiling Grace* looks at how Latter-day Saints are 'wooing our country' with their religion, lifestyle, and culture. It is also a gripping story of how an entire family, deeply enmeshed in Mormonism, found their way out and what they can tell others about their lives as faithful Mormons.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 9 hours and 22 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: Zondervan

Audible.com Release Date: January 15, 2014

Whispersync for Voice: Ready

Language: English

ASIN: B00HVM0VBI

Best Sellers Rank: #139 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Christian Denominations & Sects > Mormonism #714 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Leaders & Notable People > Religious #729 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Religion & Spirituality > Christianity

Customer Reviews

Lynn Wilder, a former professor at Brigham Young University, writes of her life as a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints and after over 30 years as a devoted follower she discovers the true Jesus of the Bible in the book *Unveiling Grace*. She tells of how she was raised in a traditional Christian home, and attended a Methodist church as a child. Later when she and her husband were college students they were visited by Mormon missionaries and were soon converted and began attending a Mormon church. The story she tells of the way in which the church soon became the central focus of her life and how she and her husband became more active, assuming additional leadership roles in the church, is fascinating. She reveals the many temple rituals she and her husband undertook and some of the unusual practices she accepts without question.

Throughout her life as a Mormon she writes of how the Holy Spirit continued to guide her and protect her. She relates how through the power of prayer she was able to have four healthy children, after having multiple miscarriages. The Holy Spirit, through strange dreams and events, prompts her to return to school to earn a doctorate degree, and later accept a position as a professor at the

prestigious Mormon owned university. The writing of her story is vivid. I grew to know and understand the writer and her family, and empathized as she relates her struggles. The way in which God reveals the truth to her and her family is amazing, and makes reading this book worthwhile. This book has the potential to change the life of any Mormon who has the strength to read it. For Christians, this book provides a practical guide to understanding what the Mormon religion teaches, and the methods it uses to convert and retain members.

I normally avoid what could be construed as anti-Mormon literature because it often contains inaccuracies, is frequently motivated by vindictiveness, and speaks openly of things held sacred to Mormons (aka LDS Church) in a derogatory, condescending way. However, the person that referred me to Dr. Wilder's book was highly credible and deeply cultured. I was immediately intrigued. Like Lynn Wilder I was deeply entrenched in Mormonism and speak fluent Mormonese. I stopped short of giving the book five stars for a few reasons that will be clear to anyone who reads the entire book: 1) It belabors certain points and it should be obvious what those are. 2) There is a fair amount of redundancy of concepts (Mormon Jesus, false religion, etc). 3) Anyone familiar with Mormon culture-isms AND modern Protestant congregation culture-isms will note that Mormons have not cornered the market in peculiar cultural norms and clichÃ© behavior. Visit the campus of a typical Bible college, Christian University or megachurch and be witness to some very clichÃ© AND cliquish behavior. For example, I was literally escorted, by the arm, out of a very prominent Baptist Church in Birmingham, AL. The associate pastor and the security staffer intercepted me on my way to find a seat. Why? Because I was "at the wrong church." You see, that body of believers were all white and I was (am), uh....black. I didn't fit their established demographic profile. So I would simply urge caution when negatively characterizing one group's cultural failings, as Dr. Wilder has done, against what is being presented as the model. In the case of this book an insular Mormon culture with all of it's Wasatch Front-isms VS Christ-led mainstream Christianity.

I've just read this book (did not purchase from , but wanted to comment on it, regardless), and I am not and never will be a Mormon. However, the writing style, the details (which were not too-detailed), the honesty, the knowledge and the history facts or factoids Mrs. Wilder shared, ... to my reading mind, I just loved it. I am a Christian and attend an Assembly of God church ... years ago I knew some Mormons and we were co-workers and somewhat of friends; however, for me to remain true to myself, I felt nearly trapped and suffocated, as these 'friends' would not let up - in different attempted ways - in converting me to Mormonism. Honestly, I had my own built-in warning

signs/feelings/intuition - whatever you wish to term the appropriately placed word, that I was being pressured to JOIN and SEE THINGS the Mormon way. I walked a fine line, as I not only worked with these people, I ended up moving to the same city (in California), that they lived in. After I left my job, I don't even remember now how I slowly stopped saying 'yes' to their dinner invitations, their 'come to our Ward with us on Sunday' invites, but I had to. Sadly, they just couldn't be normal, regular people/friends to me; but the purpose seemed to always and slowly be, to get me to come over to their spiritual thinking, of Mormonism. I did attend 'church' with them only one time out of politeness, but the session seemed to be more of a human gathering of a large crowd of people. I never for one second FELT the Holy Spirit in the room or the building or even SAW IT in these very nice and well-meaning church attenders, of the Mormon faith. I attended to be polite to these people, but, knew that they didn't know God or Jesus the way He is to be known and is known in the born-again Christian community.

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