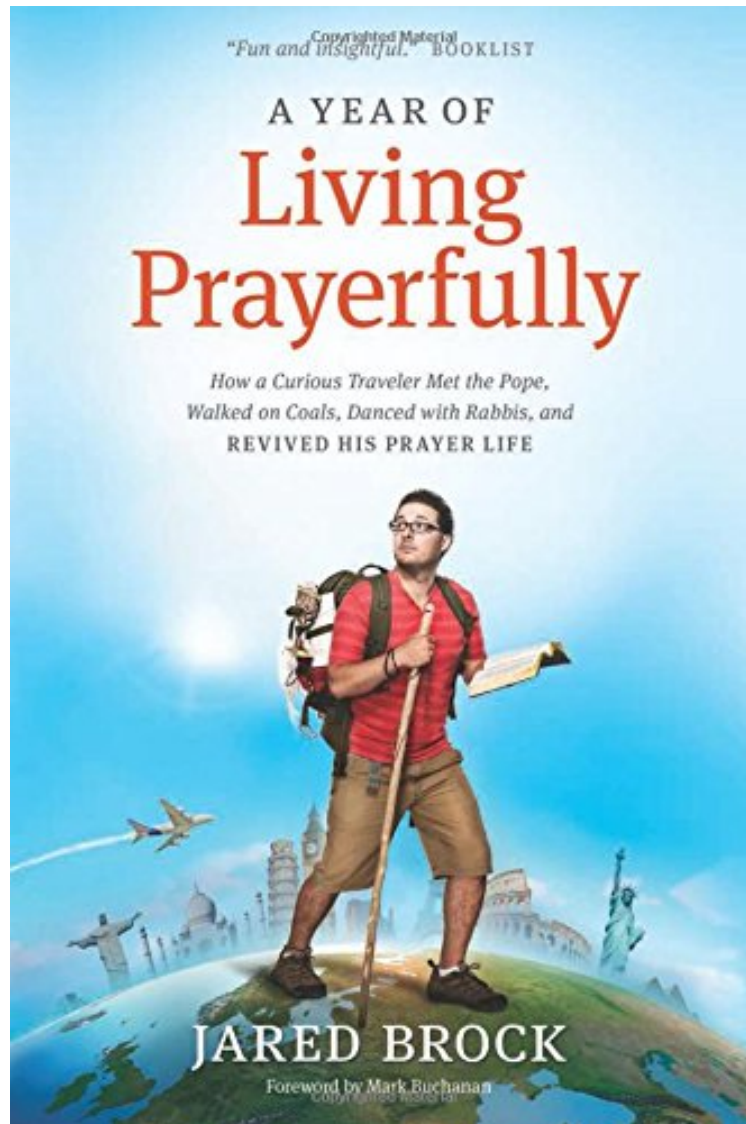


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A Year of Living Prayerfully: How A Curious Traveler Met the Pope, Walked on Coals, Danced with Rabbis, and Revived His Prayer Life

Jared Brock

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Jared Brock : A Year of Living Prayerfully: How A Curious Traveler Met the Pope, Walked on Coals, Danced with Rabbis, and Revived His Prayer Life before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Year of Living Prayerfully: How A Curious Traveler Met the Pope, Walked on Coals,

Danced with Rabbis, and Revived His Prayer Life:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. He confesses he is like many of us who pray shopping lists to the ...By Bill McClure
A Year of Living Prayerfully by Jared Brock
This is not a manual on Apologetics. Instead it is the account of a young couple who take a year off from work to discover how to pray. Jared Brock reports his encounters openly and with no pretense. The result is that the reader, first of all, enjoys the visits to a Jewish synagogue in New York City, explores Jerusalem for the sources of the birth of Christianity but now filled with the Muslim guards standing at the entries of the buildings selling tickets. And so on to Greece, Italy, Spain, France (to see the Pope) etc. Out of his journeys, the reader is whisked back to the U.S. and then to Asia. Along the way with the very informed descriptions of the religious leaders, Jared Brock drops in pearls of wisdom to assist in everyone's prayer life. He confesses he is like many of us who pray shopping lists to the Holy Father. Instead, he shares his learning that prayer is connecting to God. It is letting God's peace and guidance flow to and through us. His pearls and quotations tell how this is done. One of the memorable moments is to visit the Koreas. In North Korea he found entire cities built to impress visitors but they had very little (if any) people living and working there. Christianity is outlawed and 50,000 Christians are living in concentration camps because they prayed to God. Another ten million people are in chains in concentration camps. People were starving and lived very limited lives. However, in contrast, in his visit to South Korea, Mr. Brock was free to travel. Christianity is not barred. The largest church in the world is the Yoido Full Gospel Church in Seoul, South Korea and the principal building is 14 stories tall with seven other 10 story buildings surrounding the facility. They have about one million members; many in sister buildings in other cities. About 200,000 attend the Sunday morning service in the main building. This is inspiring! I found the book to be rewarding and memorable. Excellent writing, terrific research for the background for the Israeli sites, and those in Greece (especially the "men Mountain"), etc. I found his paragraphs to be persuasive and inspiring. My prayer life has changed because of this book.
2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A Year of Living Prayerfully is amazing!
By Lana Phillips
First of all, let me tell you again—this review is for the Tyndale Blog Network in exchange for an honest review. I'm telling you now, first, so that I don't forget; and secondly, because I bought the Kindle version when it went on sale. I WILLINGLY bought this, so I have two copies. I love memoirs, and since I've been trying to sort out myself spiritually for a while now, I'm intrigued by people for whom faith seems to come more easily or for people who are trying to figure things out too. "We wanted to be prayer warriors, but we felt like prayer wanderers." Have you ever felt this way? Goodness knows, I have and do. The journey that Jared and Michelle Brock went on to spark their faith and joy in prayer was a pilgrimage filled with laughter and well, prayer. Walk alongside them. I'm betting you won't be sorry.
0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Well-written travelogue exploring a rich tradition of Christian prayer
By V. Srinivasa Raghavan
I just finished reading this book. I am not a Christian, yet I loved this book a lot. Part travelogue, part religious, the "prayerfully" in the title was primarily exploring the Christian prayer tradition. The author explores the various Christian prayer traditions all over the world, and states that understanding them improved his own prayer practices. His primary question to any religious figure he meets is to find what prayer means to that person, and the variety of answers provided are illuminating. His experiences in Israel, Vatican, Italy, Mount Athos, the pilgrim route in Spain, the highly commercial empire in Korea, his refusal to bow before Kim Il Sung's statue in Pyongyang, etc. are great to read. His lucky meeting with the Pope, his unsuccessful attempt in meeting Billy Graham, his encounters with the radical Westboro Baptist Church are amusing. The book is full of beautiful quotations on prayer from various Christian ministers and saints. It is written in a humorous style, and is not like the usual heavy religious books. This book opened my eyes to the deep and rich prayer traditions in the Christian tradition, and many of the practices sound similar in intent to the Hindu and Buddhist traditions as well.

Follow Jared on a 37,000-mile trip around the world as he... * Dances with Hasidic Jews in Brooklyn