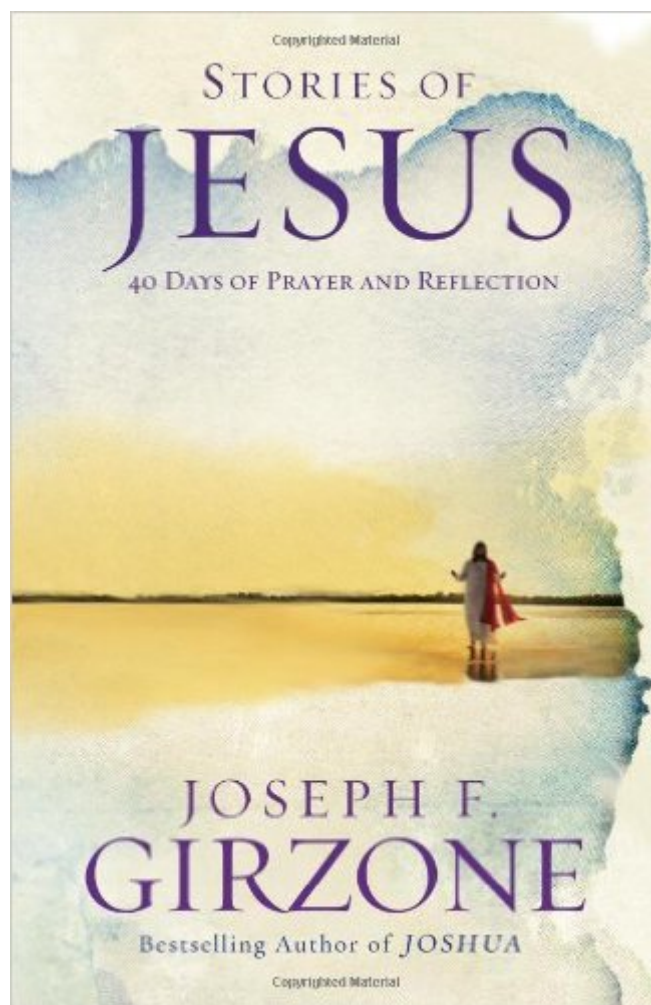


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Stories Of Jesus: 40 Days Of Prayer And Reflection



Synopsis

Stories of Jesus provides a portrait of Our Lord in a day-by-day reflection format, based on the Gospel accounts of his life and teachings. Through these reflections, Girzone introduces Jesus and his adult ministry "from his baptism by John the Baptist through his public life and work, to his death and resurrection" pausing along the way to focus on the important people and events of Jesus's world. Girzone invites the reader to "enter into the mind and heart of Jesus, and subtly develop an intimacy with him that may form and deepen one's personal relationship with the Savior." Each day opens with a passage from one of the Gospels, followed by an imaginative retelling of the story found in the scriptural text, and a brief prayer at the end. The forty-day format allows readers to use this book for Lent, or at other times of year to provide a "retreat with Jesus." This creative approach to the life of Jesus will inspire a sense of God's Son as someone who is a constant companion as we walk through our own lives, one who understands, guides, and loves us with deep affection.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

In 1 Corinthians 2:16, St. Paul tells us that "we have the mind of Christ," but what does that mean? How are we to understand "the mind of Christ," recognize it in ourselves, and manifest it in the world? Even though we may be faithful to our religion and spend endless hours reading the Gospels, we may still not fully discern Jesus' thoughts, feelings, and intentions. We may still not have insight into "the mind of Christ." In his latest book, *STORIES OF JESUS: 40 Days of Prayer*

and Reflection, Joseph Girzone brings us into close contact with "the mind of Christ," with the thoughts, feelings, and intentions of Jesus, and he helps us to relate our own thoughts, feelings, and intentions to those of Jesus. Beginning with the Holy Spirit's visit to Mary and ending with the Resurrection, Girzone leads us through forty Gospel readings with insights that illuminate the mind and heart of Jesus and with prayers that invite us to reveal his mind and heart in our daily lives. Girzone prays: "Father, give me the grace to be grateful and to use my gifts and talents to show your love to others so that when they see me, they recognize you living in me and loving them through me." For anyone who seeks greater understanding of "the mind of Christ" and who seeks to be a Christ conscious disciple of Jesus, this book offers profound and timeless insights for reflection, prayer, and transformation. Not simply another book to read and put aside, *STORIES OF JESUS* will be your constant companion on your life's journey with God.

Each entry in Joseph Girzone's *Stories of Jesus* begins with a passage from Scripture, primarily from John and Luke. The selections were chosen for their dual emphasis on the human and divine qualities of Jesus. Following each of the 40 readings, Girzone presents his creative interpretation of the event based on his theological training and historical research. His process is in some ways like that of a screenwriter adapting a book for the movies, fleshing out the characters and adding dialogue and clues to motivation. All 40 reflections end with original prayers. Luke 8:1-3 is the reading for day 12, titled *The Strange Group Who Followed Jesus*. Girzone reviews the "crew" traveling with Jesus as coarse and uneducated fishermen, a mixture of women representing the well-to-do and politically connected, and Mary Magdalene, whose reputation was built around her being possessed of seven devils. Girzone points out that in the absence of "motels or the like where they could stay," the company camped outdoors together. Needless to say, the itinerant teacher was widely criticized. "Yet, through it all, Jesus just kept moving on in his own merry way." The message for us today is that Jesus was comfortable with every sort of person, and his teaching sets us free. The author's goal of presenting Jesus as a companion for people of all ages and spiritual leanings is the basis for his present ministry. Joseph Girzone was born in 1930, joined the Carmelite Order in 1948, and was ordained as a Catholic priest in 1955. After poor health forced him to retire from the active priesthood in 1981, he turned to writing as a second career. He is best known for a nine-book series on *Joshua*, a modern day version of Jesus. The books have sold millions of copies and been translated into several languages.

I consider Joseph Girzone one of the best spiritual writers of this age. When you read his books, you

feel like you are right there in the time period with Jesus. this book helped me to meditate on the new testament stories. i really enjoyed the personal meanings of father grizone. i own almost everyone of his books and find it rewarding to reread each and everyone of them. thank you father girzone for the special times with Jesus

I love all of Joseph Grizone's books. They are a great comfort to me. My spiritual life has been greatly enriched because of his writings. He emphasizes the love of Jesus. In my day, being a Catholic, we were taught the fear of Jesus. It has been hard to get rid of the guilt we were dealt with in my younger years, but he has truly shown me what it means to have a loving Savior who understands our humanness.

Reading this during the season of Lent has brought a new perspective to me concerning Jesus and what he went through. Highly recommend this book as well as his Joshua series. It was a wonderful read and each day left me with anticipation for the next.

I have read nearly every one of Joseph Girzone's books and each are truly worth the time to read. . This one is great for religious meditation and contemplation, especially during Lent but also at any time. Great Daily reading.

This book is written in a short, but concise order of Jesus' time on earth. He ponders questions we have probably asked ourselves, and explains simply and as honestly as he can. This book led me through the Lenten season truly inspired and with deeper appreciation of what Jesus went through on His journey to save us all !!!

This book is a great gift. Reading it daily a great focus, I found the insights helpful. It's much like his book "Jesus: a new understanding". In that the base for each day comes from the same source. I recommend it as it makes me thirsty to delve into the Bible stories of Jesus, to seek out the person Jesus.

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