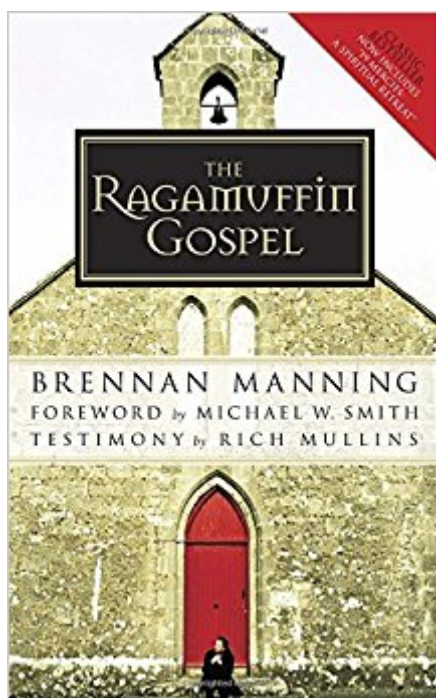


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The Ragamuffin Gospel: Good News For The Bedraggled, Beat-Up, And Burnt Out



Synopsis

A Furious Love Is Hot on Your Trail! Many believers feel stunted in their Christian growth. We beat ourselves up over our failures and, in the process, pull away from God because we subconsciously believe He tallies our defects and hangs His head in disappointment. In this newly repackaged edition—now with full appendix, study questions, and the author's own epilogue, *"Ragamuffin Fifteen Years Later,"* Brennan Manning reminds us that nothing could be further from the truth. The Father beckons us to Himself with a "furious love" that burns brightly and constantly. Only when we truly embrace God's grace can we bask in the joy of a gospel that enfolds the most needy of His flock—the "ragamuffins." Are you bedraggled, beat-up, burnt-out? Most of us believe in God's grace—in theory. But somehow we can't seem to apply it in our daily lives. We continue to see Him as a small-minded bookkeeper, tallying our failures and successes on a score sheet. Yet God gives us His grace, willingly, no matter what we've done. We come to Him as ragamuffins—dirty, bedraggled, and beat-up. And when we sit at His feet, He smiles upon us, the chosen objects of His "furious love." Brennan Manning's now-classic meditation on grace and what it takes to access it—simple honesty—has changed thousands of lives. Now with a Ragamuffin's thirty-day spiritual journey guide, it will change yours, too. Includes a 30-Day Spiritual Journey Guide!

"Brennan Manning does a masterful job of blowing the dust off of shop-worn theology and allowing God's grace to do what only God's grace can do—amaze." —Max Lucado, Bestselling author of *The Gift for All People*

"I found deep comfort in realizing that Jesus loves even me, a ragamuffin, just as I am." —Michael Card, Musician, recording artist, and author of *A Violent Grace*

"This is a zestful and accurate portrayal that tells us unmistakably that the gospel is good, dazzlingly good." —Eugene Peterson, Author of *The Message*

The world assigns value to people using measurable standards. Someone is a successful student if she receives As. Someone is a strong athlete if he runs five miles a day. The Lord, however, knows nothing of standards. The Ragamuffin Gospel was inspired by Brennan Manning after he discovered firsthand what it means to live by grace instead of performance. His words bring new life and sweet refreshment to Christians who are tired of never measuring up.

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Customer Reviews

Brennan Manning wrote *The Ragamuffin Gospel* "for the bedraggled, beat-up, and burnt-out," the marginalized folks to whom Jesus ministered: the children, the ill, the tax collectors, the women. In other words, the ragamuffins. Manning understands better than most that behind our facades of order and self-assurance are inadequacies that can find healing only in Jesus. While the powerful and religious elite challenged him, Jesus embraced and healed and fed the needs of the ragamuffins. Jesus delivered love, healing, and, most of all, grace. Grace is defined as "the freely given and unmerited favor and love of God." But, as Manning points out, we have "twisted the gospel of grace into religious bondage and distorted the image of God into an eternal, small-minded bookkeeper." In reality, God offers us grace immeasurable. Brennan Manning gently encourages us to embrace that grace in the face of our greatest needs. And Manning certainly knows whereof he speaks, having taken a journey from priesthood and academic achievement through a collapse into alcoholism. Manning came face to face with his need, finally abandoning himself to grace. And he invites us now to join him in a life of grace. Manning is without doubt one of the most eloquent writers on the subject of grace because he openly shares his own pain and struggle to help readers deal with failure and inadequacy. And he sweetly challenges them to do the same. --Patricia Klein

--This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

“Brennan Manning does a masterful job of blowing the dust off of shop-worn theology and allowing God’s grace to do what only God’s grace can do • amaze.” —Max Lucado, Bestselling author of *The Gift for All People*

“I found deep comfort in realizing that Jesus loves even me, a ragamuffin, just

as I am. — Michael Card, Musician, recording artist, and author of A Violent Grace — “This is a zestful and accurate portrayal that tells us unmistakably that the gospel is good, dazzlingly good.” — Eugene Peterson, Author of The Message From the Hardcover edition.

A life changing event and a peace so welcome from reading these words. Brennan Manning and I met many years ago at a "weekend renewal" he lead at our church. What a blessing to read his book and be reminded , after all this time of the powerful love of God for each of us that he so beautifully shared with us at that weekend. For anyone who wants to better understand the profound love God has for us and the forgiveness He offers so freely, this book will bless the reader beyond measure.

This is a book I have been wanting to read for a long time, and it has not disappointed. For anyone who has been beat up in life and is needing to reconnect with the grace of the Almighty God, I highly recommend Brennan Manning's book. I began reading it on a retreat I was recently on, and this is helping to rejuvenate me in body and spirit. Brennan Manning had his own struggles in life so he understands those of us who are struggling and writes directly into our hearts.

I'd never thought of myself as a Ragamuffin. I used to think I was kind of a Bohemian fritter. But , I'm a ragamuffin after all. The Gospel is not of stones and legality. The Gospel is that of love and grace. Apprehend it or don't, that's what it is. All these nominal Christians and their lust for judging and burning people boggles the mind. What's hate got to do with it? God's love is unimaginably massive. There's no room in the human heart for God's love and hate too. Also it's hard to feed hungry people while your cramming dogma and doctrine down their throats at the same time.. In a very charitable and passionate way, Brennan talks about the Gospel as God's ineffable love and infinite grace. I wouldn't trust anyone who finds it contemptible. My favorite book of his is " All Is Grace ". Very autobiographical and a tender read also.

Not as good as his book on the fierce love of God. Here Manning keeps reproving the reader for not accepting the unconditional love of God as he ought, and winds up slapping the reader around with the love of God. Paradoxically, he condemns the reader while trying to enforce how much and how unconditionally God loves him. Let God love as He loves. His love needs no defense.

Fantastic, eloquent, a classic for sure. Jesus was for the average ragamuffin who the religious are generally turned off by, and avoid. Christ while on this earth was full of grace and truth. He went to the prostitute, regular sinners, those outcast by society and the "unclean" not accepted by the leaders of corrupt system of Judaism of that day and he shared the unconditional love that can melts the hardest of hearts. This book will likely touch you too as it has so many. Lose your religion and embrace grace! It is the only thing that will cause you to fall in love with Jesus. He did not die for nothing. He died to forgive YOU! When you over flow with love because you know he loved you first, his love for you will overflow to others so that you will love others, like he loved them. Once you embrace grace, the world looks different, you see people different, you'll see yourself differently too. Religion always deals with rules, when reduced to a list of rules we are like actors in a play, on the outside we perform because on the inside we are dead. But if we focus on Jesus, knowing that he loves the least of these which includes us, we are changed from the inside out. We will never be perfect until he comes but we can enjoy life more even in the most difficult of circumstances. At the end of the day, only grace makes since? If you are hesitant don't think just buy the book and you will likely not be sorry, I wasn't. God, if you let Him will change your through the message of the gospel through this gifted writer and communicator. This man of God who has since gone to be with Him will help you let God capture you heart. it was one of his gifts and we all have certain gifts. If you feel worn down by religion, not able to measure up and the joy is gone, The Ragamuffin Gospel may be just what you need!

This book reminds us that we ALL sin and God still loves us with a passion! It helped relieve me of some guilt I've been carrying around and at the same time helped me realize God's great love for us!

Wow. This is one of those books that you could read every year and it still be as powerful as the first time. I've bought extra copies to give to friends... New to the faith or saved by grace for many years, this book is good for all Christians. I do not see an issue with the way Manning portrays sin... In no way is he saying to live in unrepentant sin and be glad in it. His point is to remind us of our depravity, our absolute need for a savior, and that Jesus came for the ragamuffins... Not those who have it all together!

Powerful book that teaches grace, empathy and grounded communication as a Christian

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