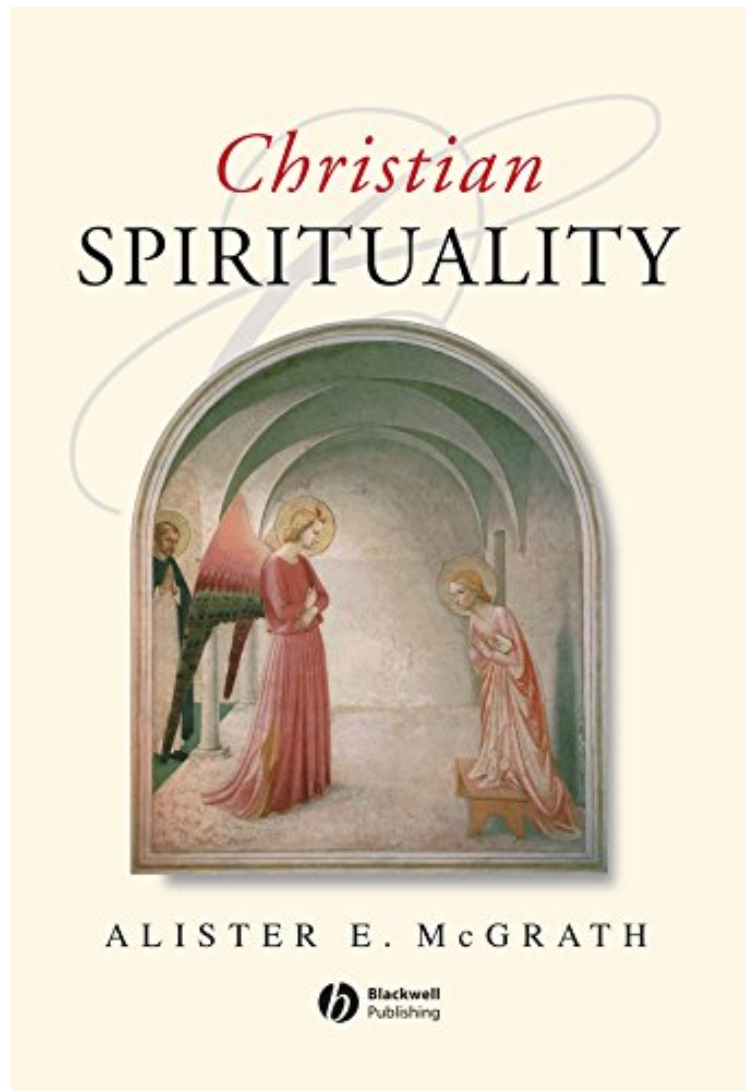


[Download ebook] Christian Spirituality: An Introduction

Christian Spirituality: An Introduction

Von Alister E. McGrath

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Von Alister E. McGrath : Christian Spirituality: An Introduction before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Christian Spirituality: An Introduction:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A good introduction to a diverse subjectVon FrKurt MessickAlister McGrath, theologian at Oxford University, is one of my constant and consistent references. From his books on various topics in theology (historical theology, theology and science, etc.) to his general surveys (his 'Introduction to Christian Theology' remains a standard I use in my classes when I can), he cover material in an interesting, accessible, and generally thorough manner.This particular book,

'Christian Spirituality', is broad introduction to the diverse strands of practice and belief in the history of Christian spirituality. It does not assume any particular theological background -- McGrath introduces the theological underpinning as he develops the topics. Unlike many introductions to this subject, McGrath does not follow a strict historical development approach. This book takes a more thematic approach, building up to a final chapter of classics of spiritual literature from the various strands of tradition within the Christian framework. Primary texts are used throughout this book; these include writers from Catholic, Orthodox and Protestant traditions, but for the most part, all of the writings here are accessible and relevant to those in most traditions. The first chapter sets the stage by looking at terminology and definitions, as well as the limitations and drawbacks of being too precisely defined in a discipline such as spirituality. The second chapter develops broad paradigms -- historical, denominational, psychological, and cultural, particularly looking at the various ways in which Christianity has interacted with the world (in the world, against the world, above the world, transformer of the world, etc.). Chapters three and four look at theological relationships with spirituality. The nature of theology, according to McGrath, is often considered different from, sometimes opposed to, the general nature of spirituality. McGrath agrees, if definitions are high abstractions and intellectually removed from relationship with each other. There are positive and negative aspects of the relationship between spiritual practice and theology -- McGrath argues that, with appropriate care and attention, the tension between the disciplines need not be so pronounced. Chapters five and six develop Christian spirituality from a biblical and a physical/practical sense. Both of these are rooted in the long tradition of Christianity; from the structure of biblical stories to the structure of the church year, there is a way of bringing the images to the forefront. The bible provides many strong images, in word and narrative. The spaces, places and art work of Christian develop in strong symbolic tones means for Christians to develop their spirituality. McGrath covers the many aspects of these. The final chapter has a rich collection of spiritual classics, from Augustine and Gregory of Nyssa to John Henry Newman and Charles Wesley. While most names will be immediately familiar to readers (Francis of Assisi, Teresa of Avila, Martin Luther, etc.), a few will likely be new. Classics are not, as McGrath points out, elitism texts remote and distant, but rather, those texts that have been proven to have enduring qualities and value for generations -- hence, it is hard to proclaim 'new' works as 'classics'; however, there are some relatively recent pieces included. McGrath introduces these texts by looking at various aspects of the texts -- a rather introductory literary and critical analysis framework. Part of the purpose of this book, besides being a survey, is to motivate readers and students to further study. There is bibliographic information given after chapters for further reading, developing the topics covered in more detail. The appendix also a listing for further reading, as well as a directory of internet sites. This is a great resource.

1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Amazing! Von Rev. Cory L. Seibel How does he do it! Certainly, this is the question that those of us familiar with the Michael Jordan of theology keep asking ourselves. How does he manage to be so prolific a researcher and writer? How does he consistently communicate truths that would otherwise baffle us in such clear and understandable terms? How does he achieve his inspiring balance between outstanding theological scholarship and fresh, evangelical piety? Certainly, the present text is no exception to the pattern of excellence that characterizes the rest of McGrath's works. This book is precisely what it claims to be: an introduction. However, as with every other "Introduction" McGrath has produced, it serves its purpose with penetrating depth and illuminating breadth. Theological, historical, and practical in its orientation, this text will benefit every reader who desires to ponder the foundations and practice of Christian spirituality. However, I would especially wish to emphasize the usefulness of this text for anyone seeking to explore the relationship between theology and spirituality. Much reflection and inspiration awaits you between the covers of this 204 page treasure from one of our foremost contemporary masters. Don't miss out!

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A wonderful and concise textbook on the subject... Von Ein Kunde A wonderful introduction to Christian Spirituality, McGrath, as usual, is able to cover a large amount of information in a way that is simple to read and fairly easy to understand, even if one is completely unfamiliar with the subject. He also is careful to remain fairly ecumenical in his approach, covering the relevance and practice of spirituality in all the major branches of the Christian Faith. Having read MANY of his textbooks, I must say that this one is probably (with the possible exception of "Foundations of Dialogue in Science and Religion") his best yet.

Kurzbeschreibung This text fills the need for a clear, informative, helpful and well-written introduction to Christian spirituality. Includes a detailed guide to resources in spirituality available on the Internet Written by a leading theological educationalist in a clear and accessible manner Encourages active engagement with primary sources through worked case studies Pressestimmen "This book ably and accurately provides information that will help those unfamiliar with the Christian tradition to engage with classical texts on spirituality." Amy M. Hollywood, Professor of Religion, Dartmouth College, New Hampshire "This study really is an 'introduction' and is well suited to the needs of undergraduate students in universities, theological colleges, and seminaries. The book will also be useful for adult education courses, and will appeal in addition to a more general readership. There is a need for a reliable, basic,

introductory textbook like this that doesn't make too many assumptions about its readers." Philip Sheldrake, Vice-Principal, Sarum College, Salisbury "I am sure that this book will have a wide readership, particularly among theologians and students of theology. It should also have a wider readership among Christians more generally. Existing works of spirituality often have limited scope and make assumptions about their readers' knowledge. The author's concern to fill gaps and provide adequate explanations and contexts is admirable." Robert Swanson, Reader in Medieval History, University of Birmingham "[The book's] considerable advantage in accessibility and in the structured ordering of ideas makes it ideal as an undergraduate textbook or a committed interest-reader's introduction. It includes frequent invitations and injunctions to read and explore more deeply. The book is written with superb clarity and very considerable breadth of reference...As a working textbook, this has everything one could wish for: interaction with the reader in the form of suggested tasks and internal cross-references; good management of the interrelationship with theology and clarification of terms; window-box texts; a glossary; a list of websites. For university courses and libraries this is a must. For enquirers it is a scholarly and accessible guide." International Journal of Children's Spirituality "This book is highly recommended as a college or seminary textbook on the spiritual life or sanctification. In addition, anyone interested in delving into the tradition of Christian spirituality will find this a useful guide." Bibliotheca Sacra-This book ably and accurately provides information that will help those unfamiliar with the Christian tradition to engage with classical texts on spirituality.- Amy M. Hollywood, Professor of Religion, Dartmouth College, New Hampshire -This study really is an 'introduction' and is well suited to the needs of undergraduate students in universities, theological colleges, and seminaries. The book will also be useful for adult education courses, and will appeal in addition to a more general readership. There is a need for a reliable, basic, introductory textbook like this that doesn't make too many assumptions about its readers.- Philip Sheldrake, Vice-Principal, Sarum College, Salisbury -I am sure that this book will have a wide readership, particularly among theologians and students of theology. It should also have a wider readership among Christians more generally. Existing works of spirituality often have limited scope and make assumptions about their readers' knowledge. The author's concern to fill gaps and provide adequate explanations and contexts is admirable.- Robert Swanson, Reader in Medieval History, University of Birmingham -[The book's] considerable advantage in accessibility and in the structured ordering of ideas makes it ideal as an undergraduate textbook or a committed interest-reader's introduction. It includes frequent invitations and injunctions to read and explore more deeply. The book is written with superb clarity and very considerable breadth of reference...As a working textbook, this has everything one could wish for: interaction with the reader in the form of suggested tasks and internal cross-references; good management of the interrelationship with theology and clarification of terms; window-box texts; a glossary; a list of websites. For university courses and libraries this is a must. For enquirers it is a scholarly and accessible guide.- International Journal of Children's Spirituality -This book is highly recommended as a college or seminary textbook on the spiritual life or sanctification. In addition, anyone interested in delving into the tradition of Christian spirituality will find this a useful guide.- Bibliotheca SacraKurzbeschreibungThis text fills the need for a clear, informative, helpful and well-written introduction to Christian spirituality. Includes a detailed guide to resources in spirituality available on the Internet Written by a leading theological educationalist in a clear and accessible manner Encourages active engagement with primary sources through worked case studies