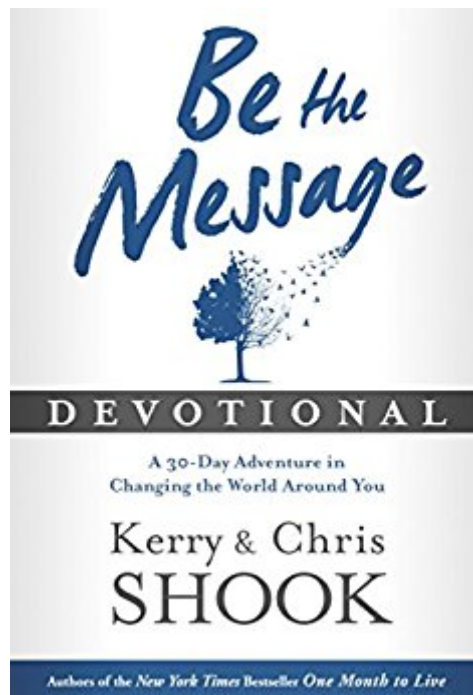




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Be The Message Devotional: A Thirty-Day Adventure In Changing The World Around You



Synopsis

Drawn from the book *Be the Message*, this thirty-day devotional will help you cultivate your life message and live it out. Over the course of a life-changing month, you will learn how the messes in your life can become a door of hope, discover new ways to love those in front of you, and find out how God is calling you to take a stand in the world. Using Scripture, illustrations, and practical action steps, the *Be the Message Devotional* can bring you to a deeper understanding of how your life can make a difference and be the gospel to the world. The Gospel is not a well-crafted sermon. It is a life well lived. It is you. How will God live out his message through you?

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Customer Reviews

A great companion to *One Month To Live!*

great little book love the daily devotions

I can be critical of devotion books. Many of them are sappy and shallow, full of biblical pleasantries

and warm fuzzies. This one, *Be the Message Devotional: A 30-Day Adventure in Changing the World Around You* by Kerry & Christ Shook, makes an attempt at cutting through the feel good pleasantries and encourages the readers to delve down into what will reawaken them in the faith. In full disclosure, I have not read the book *Be the Message*, from which this devotional material is based, so I don't know how well it supplements the original book. It does work, though, as a stand alone devotional. I had no trouble working my way through the devotional without having read the book. Each day is broken down into six small parts, some to help you look inside yourself and take a look at your faith and others to look outside to the world around you. As far as the title, *Be the Message*, I don't feel that the devotional book necessarily points in that direction. The last of the six parts of each day is really the only part that talks about reaching out to the world around you. That doesn't make the rest of the devotional book bad, but just know it isn't tightly focused on evangelism or changing the world. My personal complaint about this devotional is because each day had six tiny parts to the day's devotion, it seemed a little too quick paced. While there is a general theme to each day, not all the parts focus in the same direction. They really were like tiny individual parts instead of flowing one into the other. It's not bad, but I think the devotional would have a stronger impact if each part lead to one clear message each day and each message lead to one big overall theme. This complaint, though, wouldn't cause me to necessarily disqualify this devotional from being something I'd suggest to others. The actions and meditations were different than things I've seen in other books. If you are using this for a daily quiet time, then I think this would perfectly suffice. If you are looking for a book that centers on the theme of changing the world around you, I'm not sure this is the book for you. I was given a free copy of this book from WaterbrookMultnomah in return for my honest review.

Most devotionals follow a fairly standard, tried-and-true format and most focus on the intimacy of your one-on-one relationship with God. Kerry and Chris Shook's new 30-day devotional, *Be the Message*, helps readers make the transition from personal faith to faith-applied. This follows through with their theme in the book, *Be The Message*, about how the gospel is not so much about what we say, but about how we live. Each day's reading is short and to-the-point. The daily reading includes sections called: Open Yourself to a dynamic encounter with God, Open God's Word to hear God's message, Open Your Mind to understand God's message here and now, Open Your Heart to the divine whisper, Open Your Life to God's transforming power, Open Your Arms to a world that needs to receive God's incarnate message through you. Most of the lessons about the Scripture are fairly standard, inspirational, but not particularly surprising, eye-opening or fresh. However, this devotional

would be great for someone who wants to learn about loving others, serving others, and living out the Gospel through service, compassion, and practical acts of mercy. This is what sets this devotional apart. I received this book free from the publisher. I was not required to write a positive review and the opinions I have expressed are my own. I am disclosing this in accordance with the Federal Trade Commission's 16 CFR, Part 255 : "Guides Concerning the Use of Endorsements and Testimonials in Advertising."

I am usually all about devotionals. I pick ones that have daily relations to what i'm going through or speak to me. This book was all of that but, for some reason I found it hard to get through. I don't know if it's cause my faith is wavering and the message was real or if it was the layout of the text. The book itself is rather small, so the text is small, and they try to fit a lot of words onto a page so you get the full context of what points they're trying to show the reader. This book also has a writing area for you to sit and reflect. I liked that part the most. I haven't filled mine in yet because, I read it quickly to get this review done. This is definitely one of those kind of devotionals that i'm going to have to do on the day that corresponds with the day I'm doing it on. Ex. day 1 on the first day, day 2 on the second day, day 3 on the third day, etc. It is for sure not one of those type of books that you have to read daily, to get the full affect of what's being written, rather than rushing through it. I have high hopes for this book; I'm sure it will serve its purpose and speak to me the way God wants it to speak to me, if I follow it the way it's supposed to be followed. I give this book 3 out of 5 because of the size of the book itself, the font, and the texture of the paging.

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