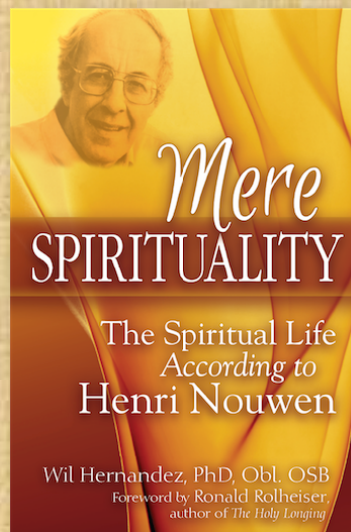


WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING ABOUT MERE SPIRITUALITY

“In this book, Wil Hernandez captures Henri Nouwen’s ‘spirituality of the heart’ while providing readers with a cohesive summary of the primary themes woven throughout the entire canon of Nouwen’s writings. Filled with lots of primary source material, the book is a wonderful place for readers to get an overview of the critical components of Nouwen’s authentic spirituality.”

—**Karen Pascal**, executive director, Henri Nouwen Society & Legacy Trust



“I have read a lot of Henri Nouwen over the years but always haphazardly. By organizing Nouwen’s writings around the three movements of the spiritual life—communion, community and commission—Wil Hernandez has provided his readers a way to dive deeply into Nouwen’s timeless wisdom. Mere Spirituality is a treasure.”

—**Rev. Jane E. Vennard**, spiritual director; author, *Fully Awake and Truly Alive* and *Teaching—The Sacred Art*

“This is a life-giving reminder that spirituality is not a program added to one’s life, but it spills from our heart and from the very core of our being. This book is both an invitation and an essential encouragement.”

—**Rev. Terry Hershey**, author, *Sanctuary: Creating a Space for Grace in Your Life*

WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING ABOUT MERE SPIRITUALITY

*“Reminiscent of C.S. Lewis’s *Mere Christianity*, Henri Nouwen’s *Mere Spirituality* focus on solitude, community and ministry is a simple yet profound introduction to contemplative practice as a basis for active ministry in the world. Wil Hernandez is an expert interpreter of Nouwen’s life and works.”*

—**Michael J. Christensen, PhD**, coeditor of the Nouwen trilogy *Spiritual Direction, Spiritual Formation and Discernment*

“An invaluable resource! This marvelous book offers a fresh framework for deepening our understanding of the spirituality of one of our most beloved guides—Henri Nouwen. No one captures the heart of the spiritual journey quite like Henri Nouwen, and no one captures the heart of Nouwen’s spirituality quite like Wil Hernandez.”

—**Diane M. Millis, PhD**, author, *Deepening Engagement: Essential Wisdom for Listening and Leading with Purpose, Meaning and Joy*

“Wil Hernandez is one of the most insightful interpreters of the writings of the late Henri Nouwen. In this invitational book, we are invited into the heartbeat of Nouwen’s thought, where the life of contemplation and prayer, the practices of community, and a costly service in the world are woven into a beautiful mosaic. This vision can re-invigorate a tired Christianity in the Western world.”

—**Charles Ringma**, theologian and activist; author, *Hear the Heartbeat with Henri Nouwen: Reflections on the Way of the Seeking Heart*

*“Highly recommended! The author not only provides a beautifully clear and wise guide to the rich abundance of Nouwen’s wisdom but also gently invites us to join in the heart-full spiritual experience Nouwen knew so well. A book to savor and read over. *Mere Spirituality* is a treasure for those just discovering Nouwen’s writings and for those returning to them.”*

—**Nancy L. Bieber**, teacher; spiritual director; author, *Decision Making and Spiritual Discernment: The Sacred Art of Finding Your Way*

WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING ABOUT MERE SPIRITUALITY

“For many years Wil Hernandez has studied, taught, and steeped in the Christian wisdom of Henri Nouwen, and we are the beneficiaries. Hernandez draws on and extends his earlier illumination of Nouwen’s works of devotion, soul care and formation in this comprehensive overview of all the writings and teaching of this master theologian. Every explorer needs a good map by an expert cartographer, and this book is a fully trustworthy and orienting guide as we enter the densely rich territory of Henri Nouwen’s spirituality.”

—**Susan S. Phillips, PhD**, executive director, New College Berkeley, Berkeley Graduate Theological Union; author, *The Cultivated Life: From Ceaseless Striving to Receiving Joy*

“Wil offers his readers the gift of an accessible introduction to Henri Nouwen’s thought and in the process demands thoughtful engagement and deep ‘heartfulness’ from the reading. This is a book that invites you to really ponder your own inner dynamics, provides practical applications and offers the guidance of a wise mentor on the journey.”

—**Christine Valters Paintner, PhD**, author, *The Soul of a Pilgrim: Eight Practices for the Inner Journey*.

“Under the headings of ‘Communion,’ ‘Community’ and ‘Commission,’ Wil Hernandez’s Mere Spirituality lays out the brilliant spirituality of Henri Nouwen for the reader and student in the clearest and most useful terms. I imagine this unpretentious but lovely book will quickly become a classic in seminaries where students are particularly seeking to understand how their own intimate relationship with God, their relationship to the larger community of the church, and their mission in ministry to the larger world come together to form a single Christian life.”

—**Roberta C. Bondi**, professor emerita, Candler School of Theology, Emory University