



## Here and Now: Living in the Spirit

*Henri J.M. Nouwen*

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## **Here and Now: Living in the Spirit** Henri J.M. Nouwen

Not a faint memory, but happening right here and now, spiritual living takes place in the present; the Spirit meets us in the ordinary. These inspirational reflections by Henri Nouwen succeed in convincing us that God's presence is reliable.

## **Here and Now: Living in the Spirit Details**

Date : Published April 30th 2016 by Crossroad (first published 1994)

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Author : Henri J.M. Nouwen

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# **From Reader Review Here and Now: Living in the Spirit for online ebook**

## **Joe Oaster says**

Henri Nouwen writes with such a gentle voice that I feel his sincerity. Nouwen is cited by many Christian authors I read, so I picked up this book. Almost every day (I read one chapter a day in the morning) I found a line that really touched me. He is surely an author I will read again. He shares his personal struggles and gives such great encouragement.

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## **Lynne Modranski says**

I've wanted to read something by Nouwen for a while. I'd read bits and pieces of his work and had been intrigued. I wasn't disappointed. I read "Here and Now" as part of my morning devotions and truly enjoyed every page. Several of the readings I'd like to share with friends. I really wish each section was available as a mini-book. Highly recommend!

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## **Wendy LeRoy says**

This book was written in a really simple, nice way. I loved reading a few passages before I went to sleep. Very inspirational. I want to read all things Nouwen now.

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## **Josh Morgan says**

This book full of brief meditations from Nouwen on life with God. I found each section more compelling than the last, and this is a book I will return to over and over again to remind me of the depths of God's love.

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## **Eileen says**

1994. The author says, "One day I simply sat down... and began to write... I found I was writing about myself, my friends and family, and my God, all connected in many intricate ways." A collection of short pieces on various topics such as living in the present, suffering, compassion, relationships, joy.

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## **Shanna says**

Beautuifully written and very inspirational.

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## **Chris Theule-VanDam says**

Nouwen is my all-time favorite.  
This was a re-read.

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## **Janis says**

*Here and Now: Living in the Spirit* is a series of essays written by one of my favorite theologians, Henri Nouwen. Topics include Joy, Suffering, Relationships, and others. These reflections are perfect for personal daily devotions, but could also be used in a group setting since discussion questions are included in an appendix.

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## **Joshua Lawson says**

A fantastic little book of meditations on the spiritual life. Nouwen writes like a man who has seen and heard the things of which he speaks.

"A new beginning! We must learn to live each day, each hour, yes, each minute as a new beginning, as a unique opportunity to make everything new. Imagine that we could live each moment as a moment pregnant with new life. Imagine that we could live each day as a day full of promises. Imagine that we could walk through the new year always listening to a voice saying to us: 'I have a gift for you and can't wait for you to see it!' Imagine." ~ Henri Nouwen

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## **Sabra says**

Such a great read! I think I folded down every other page.

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## **Courtney Huskisson says**

Really great for personal spiritual reflection. You can take this book as slow or as fast as you want. As a whole it's an easy read, but each chapter breaks down to different topics and the chapters break down to different reflections on the topic. I enjoyed being able to take a slow pace and focus in on the truths at hand.

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## **SJ says**

Here and Now was a recommendation by a dear Christian friend who knows how drawn I am to Buddhist teachings. Given that it was written by a Catholic priest, I cracked it open expecting to have (not entirely unpleasant) flashbacks to my Catholic upbringing. Instead, I found an incredibly open and nondenominational approach to living a moral and centred life which was not at all offensive to my slightly

more secular approach to morality. The collection of musings by the author on various topics of everyday life, feels at times like an intimate conversation with an old friend. Nouwen is so gentle and kind in his approach to life that each turn of the page is comforting and uplifting without being sappy or overdone. This is a work of the heart, and it shows. I found the book's urgings to approach life in the present to be one worth repeating and I would recommend it to others.

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## **John says**

This is one of those books that I wish I liked better than I did.

"Here and Now" is a collection of short chapters on topics such as "Compassion," "Relationships" and "Suffering," each divided into very short meditations.

The author was a professor at Harvard, Yale and Notre Dame who spent the last 10 years of his life in a community with physically and mentally handicapped people. This is not a career move many people would choose to make. If I were a professor at Harvard, Yale or Notre Dame -- or even at the University of Minnesota Duluth -- I probably would think I was hot stuff. I probably would think it was below my dignity to leave that career to go live among people with profound physical and mental limitations. Even as it is, I fear that I think it would be below my dignity.

Nouwen knew better. And he was simply putting into practice the teachings and example of Jesus Christ.

Nouwen writes with particular credibility on the subject of compassion. He doesn't write as if he thought he was a martyr who sacrificed himself; he writes about how blessed he was to embrace that lifestyle.

Throughout "Here and Now" Nouwen seems to be writing with a smile on his face.

But even though he writes on a diversity of topics, it all starts to seem the same. Reading the last chapter seems pretty much like the same thing as reading the first chapter.

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## **Kris says**

Father Nouwen is wise and gentle with his Godly musings. The chapter on compassion was original in thought to me. I will need to go back over that again and ponder. Some of the book felt a little disjointed. He emphasizes something that I know to be true: our God is a personal God who knows us intimately and wants to be our lover and friend.

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## **Amsutker says**

Quick meditations— as Nouwen himself admits, no deep exegesis or intellectual treatise—on a variety of topics. Nice read but looking forward to reading more of his kind and thoughtful voice in a more unified collection.

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