



Volume 61 | Issue 1

Article 76

5-1-2018

Goff's "Love lives here" (book review)

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Recommended Citation

Claunch, Kristina Elizabeth (2018) "Goff's "Love lives here" (book review)," *The Christian Librarian*: Vol. 61 : Iss. 1 , Article 76.
Available at: <http://digitalcommons.georgefox.edu/tcl/vol61/iss1/76>

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Book Reviews



Goff, M. (2017). *Love lives here*. Nashville: B&H Publishing Group. 236 pp. \$17.99. ISBN 9781433648915

In reading *Love Lives Here*, I was not sure of what I should expect. Would this book simply tell me many platitudes? Teach lessons I have already learned? Will there be depth or just a lot of stories about someone else that do not connect to me? I stopped myself and remembered that I wanted to read this book with an open mind and a readiness. I am thankful to say that “golden nuggets” were to be found in abundance. Maria Goff writes with a great gentleness that brings a sense of warmth and healing as you read the stories and life lessons conveyed on the pages. The covers of the book tell you it is about “discovering” what is truly necessary and understanding the truth not stated by society. However, I found this book not only identifies false messages held by society, but also helps you recognize the intended identity and relationship the Lord desires for you. This book abounds with relatable experiences and learned lessons from an individual who has walked down many diverse paths and through different trials of life and has meditated on these life-changing moments. Maria relates her story with understanding and grace that pulls the reader in and giving them pause to consider your own views and experiences.

This book does a marvelous job of touching on loss, uncertainty, fear, pain, and difficulty; placing these in the context of relationship with Jesus. This book also brings to the foreground the subjects of joy, peace, comfort, life, freedom, trust, faith, and purpose and gives a clearer understanding of how to recognize and embrace these attributes in one’s life. One of the reasons I really enjoyed this book was how the author centered her examples and understandings on personal growth and family. The word “family” has taken on different meanings and purposes in our present society and many people do not always know what a “family” is supposed to look like or how to embrace their role and encourage the roles of other members. I feel this book gives great guidance and peace concerning the personal roles of family members and the purpose of a family in society and in relationship with the Lord. This book, written from the perspective of a woman who fits the roles of daughter, wife, mother, and friend, includes wisdom and principles relevant to everyone ready and willing to accept the “golden nuggets” found within.

Reviewer

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