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## Collins' "Genesis. NET abide Bible journal" (book review)

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# Book Reviews

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Collins, P. (ed.). *Genesis*. NET abide Bible journal. (2020). Nashville, Thomas Nelson. 208 pp. \$9.99. ISBN 9780785236917

This Genesis volume is part of the NET abide Bible journal series, which seeks both to guide believers to a deeper understanding of scripture and to a more meaningful and personal relationship with God. People sometimes read scripture without reflecting on its meaning, applying to their own lives, or hearing God's voice and guidance as expressed in it. This Bible journal guides the reader to utilize innovative ways for engaging with the text more closely. The ultimate goal is for believers to develop ongoing spiritual practices and disciplines that they will use whenever reading and reflecting on scripture. This volume on the Book of Genesis is structured in the same way as other ones. The author provides a new and fresh translation of this biblical book, written in a clear and readable manner. He also introduces the reader to the Book of Genesis. The structure of the Bible journal makes engagement with the text easy to accomplish. When one opens the journal to a place in Genesis, the page on the left has the biblical text and the page on the right has lines for note taking. The page at the right also gives instructions for the reader to follow as they consider the specific biblical passage. These instructions on engaging with the passage are of four different types: picturing, praying, reflecting, and contemplating. Examples of these instructions might be as follows. In picturing, one might be asked to imagine they are Abraham and facing specific challenges, ones that the reader can relate to. In praying, one might be asked to read the words of a verse or two and use them to pray to God about them. In reflecting, he or she might be asked to consider specific and challenging questions related to the text. In contemplating, one might be instructed to clear their mind of any distractions and reflect on God's faithfulness. This Bible journal leads the reader into a fuller understanding of the Book of Genesis, but more importantly, it guides the reader to interact personally with the text and to view God's close presence as found in it. Libraries in faith-based colleges and universities will find this book to be useful for students in their study and application of the Book of Genesis.

## Reviewer

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