

Assignment Title: Reading Report

Into Abba's Arms By Sandra D. Wilson PH.D.

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Professor: Dr. Ronald Walborn and Guest: Dr. Wanda Walborn

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Summary

Dr. Sandy Wilson describes her journey in moving *Into Abba's Arms*. She starts by explaining her experiences that left her feeling abandoned and broken. Then she describes how she began to take off the mask she protects herself with and sit in God's presence to listen to his voice. As she sits in Abba's presence and still her soul, He speaks truth and love over her. She encourages all readers to do the same.

Every person desires acceptance and love; it is how God created us. The wounds that we experience in this sinful world leave us with holes in our hearts. People fill these holes with people and things instead of looking to God for healing. When we do not believe God's love and acceptance, we look to other relationships for fulfillment and put more trust in people than we do in God. The misplaced trust and unhealed wounds affect our lives, especially relationships and ministry.

When we recenter on Christ and rest in His arms, acceptance from people does not matter. Resting in Jesus, also gives the ability to forgive. Wilson outlines what forgiveness is and what it is not. Forgiveness is a key component in healing and moving toward deeper intimacy with God. God desires for us to come to Him and rest in His arms. He loves us more than we can imagine and wants to restore us through His love.

Interaction and Critique

Ministry flows out of intimacy with God. This book inspires me to sit in God's presence and listen for His leading in future ministry. Though I am passionate about special needs ministry, God is opening doors for my fiancé and I to begin young adult ministry. Many of the young adults, including my fiancé, have experienced abandonment from a parent. This book helped me empathize and understand more of the affects of abandonment. It also helped me recognize what "mask" I tend to put on. This illumination helps me better understand myself and

how I relate to people, especially my fiancé. I am better prepared to lead my peers and help them draw closer to God.

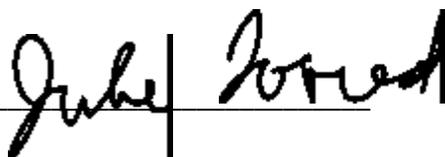
I agreed mainly with the reality that unhealed wounds affect relationship and the need for sitting in silence. I resonate with both concepts because I have seen them in my life. I have seen the power that intimacy with God brings. In addition, I have tried to get people to like me because I felt rejected previously. I do not fully agree with the classifications of “masks” and think that people can overlap. Wilson recognizes this herself as it is not one size fits all.

Similarly to the author, I struggle to fully grasp God’s love for me. I have met God in very intimate moments, yet it is hard for me to believe He enjoys spending time with me. This book, however, has reminded me of God’s desire to commune with me. I can gage my intimacy with God based on how long it has been since I wrote a poem. The closer I am to Christ, the more I write. My quiet time this morning inspired a poem. It has been the first poem I’ve written in over three months. Wilson reminded me of the power and sweetness found in intimacy with Christ. Through this foundation, I can serve and follow God’s leading for me in ministry.

With integrity, I have read this book (circle one):

- Thoroughly and Entirely ___%
- **Quickly but Completely 100%**
- Thoroughly but NOT Entirely ___%
- Quickly and NOT Completely ___%
- Not at all

Signed: _____



Bibliography

Wilson, Sandra. *Into Abba's Arms*. Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House Publishers, 1998.