

**SPIRITUAL JOURNEY:  
Can I Really Get Close to God?**

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Dr. Wanda Walborn's book, *Spiritual Journey: Can I really get close to God?*, is extraordinary. It is a life changer. It is filled with powerful nuggets to empower believers and non-Christians to walk out of the darkness into God's matchless light and love. This book is an asset for my ministry to lead people who believe they are too broken for God to use on a spiritual journey of deliverance to know, 'Yes, we can all get close to God, and He can use us.'

Dr. Walborn was transparent about her journey, mistakes, and breakthroughs to assist the readers in navigating one's everyday challenges. Her relatable stories were shared with depth and healing wisdom to give hope to the readers. The Mirror Moments were very engaging; they let the reader stop, think, and embrace the unseen issues holding one back from a closer relationship with God and, in some instances, pray. The questions after every chapter were carefully thought out to challenge and inspire the reader to face the answers and resolve issue to get us to another level of intimacy with Christ.

The book had fascinating topics, but as a person who has dealt with rejection mainly from the body of Christ, chapter 2, *Obstacle: Fear of Rejection*, stood out to me the most. Dr. Walborn hit the nail on the head with this topic. "The possibility of facing rejection is enough to put on a happy face and go with the flow."<sup>1</sup> From a child, I knew the two greatest commandments were:

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and most important commandment. The second is like it: Love your neighbor as you love yourself." All of Moses' Teachings and the Prophets depend on these two commandments." (Matthew 22:37- 40)

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<sup>1</sup>Walborn, Dr. Wanda, *Spiritual Journey: Can I Really Get Close to God*, (Carpenter's Son Publishing, Franklin, TN, January 2021) 53.

This is my spiritual expectation, but when I encountered discrimination and racism in seminary, a place I would have never thought I would see it, my worldview was magnified. I reached for my mask, went back into my shell, and every semester, "I read the room and adapted to my surroundings"<sup>2</sup> only too glad when we no longer had to go into the classroom because I could not hide my blackness; seeing the racism and hearing my classmates talk about it consistently was depressing.

I agree with Dr. Walborn's statements,

"Belonging is more felt than stated. Telling people, they belong is one thing, but making room for them speaks much louder than words."<sup>3</sup>  
"Trying to get acceptance we desperately long for as well as keeping the rejection monster from swallowing us alive and making our worst fears become reality."<sup>4</sup> "True belonging means love and acceptance as you are to experience community, accountability, fellowship, and healing."<sup>5</sup>

Dr. Walborn asked, "Have you ever felt like you didn't belong?" As black people, we are often made to feel as though we don't belong. She goes on to state: "Belonging is a basic human need, intended to first be experienced in relationship of family." We are all brothers and sisters in the body of Christ. "It is impossible for the body to be considered as separate parts," yet where we are supposed to feel the most love, we see and feel rejected in the institution amongst teachers of the Word.

I do not disagree with anything written in the Spiritual Journey. The book was on point. It should be read by everyone that calls themselves a Christian. We have too much church hurt in God's body.

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<sup>2</sup> Ibid, 54.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid, 68.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid, 54.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid, 68.

## **Bibliography**

Walborn, Dr. Wanda, *Spiritual Journey: Can I Really Get Close to God*, (Carpenter's Son Publishing, Franklin, TN, January, 2021)

Holy Bible, GOD'S WORD Translation (GW), God's Word Mission Society, Orange Park, Florida, 1995

With integrity, I have read this book (circle one) Thoroughly and Entirely 100 %

Quickly but completely \_\_\_\_%

Thoroughly but NOT Entirely \_\_\_\_%

Quickly and NOT Completely \_\_\_\_%

Not at all

Signed: Jennifer Skeete