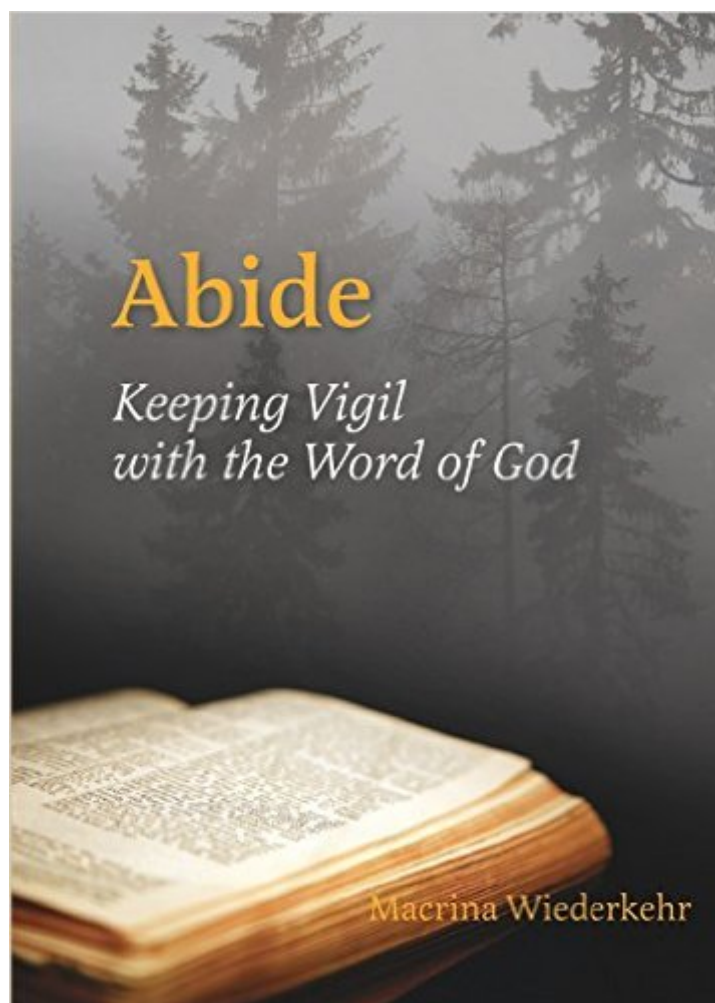


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# Abide: Keeping Vigil With The Word Of God



## Synopsis

In the Gospel of John Jesus directs us, *Abide in me, as I abide in you*. This book is an invitation to make the Word of God your home through the practice of *lectio divina*. Macrina Wiederkehr, OSB, encourages you to turn the words of Scripture over in your heart as a plough turns over the soil to welcome the seed. In these scriptural meditations, the piercing reflective questions and personal prayers lead the reader into a deeper relationship with the Divine. Aware that drawing near the Word of God requires a special kind of presence, the author invites you to breathe in the Word, wait before the Word, walk through the pages of Scripture as a pilgrim, and, finally, abide in an intimate and transforming communion with God. The format of the book lends itself not only to daily personal prayer and reflection, but to group faith sharing as well. Macrina Wiederkehr, OSB, author of the popular *A Tree Full of Angels* (HarperCollins) and *Seven Sacred Pauses* (Ave Maria), is well known for her creative spiritual writings and retreat ministry. She is also a regular columnist for *Stepping Stones*, the Little Rock Scripture Study newsletter. She has lived monastic life for fifty years and makes her home with the Sisters of St. Scholastica, a Benedictine monastery in Fort Smith, Arkansas. Writing and retreat ministry have become a part of her evolving call. Visit her personal blog at <http://macrina-underthesycamoretree.blogspot.com/>.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I highly recommend this book by a talented poet and strongly spiritual Christian author and retreat leader. The short readings (daily?) are focused on Scripture using a unique yet historical process for

devotional readings. The author wisely has you start the process with silence before multiple reflective readings using the Lectio Divina (Sacred Reading) method "before" you read the author's reflections on the same Scripture. In this four step sacred reading process focused on a Bible passage, you slowly read the passage, contemplate (discursive meditation), pray/respond as you are led, and then rest in God's peace. I have found this book's unique process highly effective for devotional reading, almost like having a conversation to compare insights at the end. The readings are arranged topically into chapters with over-arching themes. At the end of each chapter there is also a poetic reflection to integrate the shorter readings. Strongly recommended! Claudia Duffee Student in Masters in Christian Spirituality Program Bellarmine University & Louisville Seminary Contemplative Poet

I think I have purchased at least 6 copies of this book, and I have shared it with a group of friends in my prayer circle. Everyone gives this book rave reviews. I have never recommended a book that was so universally enjoyed by so many different people. Find out for yourself.

We are using ABIDE for a small faith-sharing group. We like Macrina's stories and thoughts, the questions and ending prayer. We are able to complete one section at each meeting with plenty of time for discussion and prayer. It could be enjoyed if read by an individual, but the group can really add depth. I would recommend this book as a tool to seek more from Scripture.

As soon as I opened this book to a random page I knew I loved it. The author inspires me to deepen my own efforts at lectio; as I read her sharings I'm reminded to slow down on my scriptural reading and not rush for meaning. It takes time to enter the scriptural passage and spend time there -- to live it as the apostles lived it. All of the passages so far have led me deeper into biblical meaning. Macrina reaches out and touches us in our heart. She has led me to further contemplate what I am called to offer of myself to the world. I plan to share this with my interfaith bible group and suggest we use it in the future. Macrina's writings connect with everyone. I have also ordered two more of her works, so now I own four.

I find the author to be a kindred spirit. Surprised me. I don't always see things in the same light, but her thought provoking comments challenge me to look more deeply at Scripture. How can that be anything but good?!

This book & my Bible have been my morning companion for the past 6 months & I'm only about 1/2 way through. Macrina's thoughts and suggestions are rich in imagery & prayer. I've given one to all of my women friends & they feel the same way. I think this is a great second half of life book as it calls forth all the possibility of our true selves.

I love this book! Macrina shares her "gift" of a gentle and loving appreciation for all that God offers us. You are drawn into contemplation with her beautiful words of encouragement to see God in everything that surrounds you. I would recommend this book to anyone who is looking for a peaceful, reflective, meditative approach in their spirituality. :-)

If you have not read any of Macrina's books, I would highly recommend them. If you are searching for that light, longing, or want to be closer to God, her books are for you. She is Awesome!!! This book will enlighten your journey with God

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