



The Pleasure of His Company: A Journey To Intimate Friendship with God

Dutch Sheets

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Popular Author Invites Readers to Intimacy with God

In one of his most personal books yet, Dutch Sheets shares life lessons he has learned for cultivating an intimate relationship with God. Each of the thirty short chapters reveals a simple practice or biblical mindset that will help draw readers away from the noise of life and into the Lord's peaceful presence.

The Pleasure of His Company: A Journey To Intimate Friendship with God Details

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Author : Dutch Sheets

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From Reader Review The Pleasure of His Company: A Journey To Intimate Friendship with God for online ebook

Linda Walters says

I found that each chapter has a prayer in it so it offers up the opportunity to be interactive with your faith and what you read. I like that at the end of each prayer is the notations of the scriptures that have been used in it. One of my favorite explanations in this book is about God seeking worshippers. I have heard that said and explained quite a few times in quite a few different ways. But what I got out of it this time is that God longs for the singer of the song. For songs fresh from their heart, that relationship link that comes from that time together. Heart to Heart! God wants us to be eager to be with Him as He is eager to be with us! If He wanted puppets He could have made us that way! He's seeking people who want to know Him!

The story that Dutch Sheets shared about how God pursued him after he fell away for a time was heartwarming. After his parent's divorce shattered him, it shows how much God would personally do to reach one of his kids.

I like his interpretation of Luke 10:38-42. I'm paraphrasing here but he said, If you will truly connect with Me... everything will work well if you'll simply listen to me.

Chapter 10 made me smile. It had to do with Dutch's impatience and how hard it is to wait. He had some amusing suggestions of how life would look if he was in charge, with impatience given full reign. Also interesting was the Biblical meanings of the word "wait". In fact Dutch Sheets gives many different meanings for words that we take for granted. Word from their original form, and their meanings adds more depth to the Scriptures. He does it in a way that enlightens without being too heavy.

This got my attention: Lingerers, what a good term. The fact that good things happen to lingerers (Hebrews11:6) To linger: to leave slowly and hesitantly.

One last thing that really touched me was how he shared the time that God asked him to do something. God didn't demand that he do it, God asked him to. It was formed as a question. Since I have experienced the same (as I am sure others have) it really hit the mark with me.

I'm not sure I personally would use this book as a devotional but I can see how it could be.

I received this book FREE from Bethany House in exchange for an honest review.

Caroline says

The Pleasure of His Company by Dutch Sheets (Bethany House, 2014) addresses some of the ways we can redirect our focus to Him.

With 30 shorter chapters (of about 8-10 pages each), this book can be used as a month-long devotional, or just a regular non-fiction read. Each chapter focuses on one part of the relationship between believer and God (examples: "The Discovery," "The Friendship," "The Offering"). The author uses a conversational tone combined with biblical discussion and study to look at how we can learn and apply examples within the Bible in our lives. Each chapter then ends with a page-long prayer.

The author shares the foundational premise of the book on page 15:

“Our company is what He longs for. Enlightened worshipers know this. They also know that when they approach Him, He responds; and the pleasure of His company becomes their reward.”

This author's tone in some parts throws me off just a little bit. He offers valid points in every chapter (like “God is a Father at heart”), but occasionally comes across as criticizing in some of his stories. Some readers may enjoy his tone (which is not meant to harm, but probably more for effect), but others may prefer a different “voice.” This is personal preference, but I still think most readers will gain encouragement from this book. I wouldn't recommend this book for those unsure about the faith or brand-new believers, but perhaps more for those who are looking for encouragement to refocus on who God is as our Creator and passion-filled God.

Disclosure: I received a free copy of this book from Bethany House publishers in exchange for my honest review. All opinions expressed are my own. I was not compensated in any other way.

Kimberly says

I enjoyed reading Pleasure of His Company: A Journey to Intimate Friendship With God by Dutch Sheets tremendously. It has 30 fabulous chapters full of ideas to bring you closer to God.

Yes I LOVE the idea of God being the life of the Heaven's Party and dancing at the return of a lost soul. I too want Jesus to be my friend and walk with me daily, sharing in the good and the bad. Laughing and crying along me.

This book will help you get to know the Lord on a more intimate level. In this fast paced world we live in we need to take time to slow down and hear what God has to say. The author gives you ideas on how to do this and steps to set up your own place to meet with God. Several bible verses are mentioned to help you in this journey to get closer.

Also some humor thrown in, which is always good. I would like to add that I too like tomato and mayonnaise sandwiches, yes it is a southern thing.

On a more serious note if you too would like a more intimate walk with God I definitely recommend this book. Watch for it will be available January 2014!

I received an advanced copy of this in exchange for my review rather it be good or bad.

Karen Roberts says

Dutch Sheets addresses a much-needed subject for today's busy Christian in The Pleasure of His Company. Sheets walks the reader through the Bible to examine followers like David, Joshua, Paul, Jesus, and even Samson. Throughout the book of short meditations, he peppers his writing with practical, everyday applications, many times stemming from his relationships and marriage.

Sheets ends each devotion with a prayer focused upon the Scriptures covering the chapter's topic. He lists the Scriptures at the end of the prayer, so that the reader can look them up and meditate upon them further.

Sheets reminds the reader that if we set ourselves apart unto God, holiness will follow. This "setting apart" is not convenient or inexpensive, but the pleasure of hearing God's heart serves as a catalyst that creates a hunger for more intimacy.

The Pleasure of His Company came to me at just the right time to make a meaningful impact on my life. I was able to look at my relationships and apply the principles he addressed. I plan to purchase multiple copies of this book to give away.

I received a complimentary copy of this book from the publisher, Bethany House, a division of Baker Publishing Group, in exchange for my honest review.

My prayer for you

Father, thank You for always being there for us. Bless, we pray, Dutch Sheets. Thank You for the pleasure of Your company. Teach us to wait upon You and rest in Your presence.

Marcia says

This book was absolutely amazing! I highly recommend this book to anyone who is looking to improve their relationship with the Lord.

Virginia Garrett says

What would it mean in your daily life if you knew God, the Creator of the Universe desired to spend time with you? What if you could truly find pleasure in His company?

Sound like an impossibility? Something reserved for a select few, none of which happen to be you?

World-reknown author and speaker, Dutch Sheets, has written a book sharing his life stories on how he cultivated, and continues to cultivate a personal, deep relationship with Jesus. He has found pleasure in His company and he can't keep it to himself.

Each short chapter contains Scripture, a personal story and/or a Biblical story that illustrates the profound truth, and closes with a prayer. It would make a great devotional book, and since there are 30 chapters, you could easily read through it in a month, and then read it again the next month.

It is easy to read, engaging and for the most part spot on Biblically. There were a few times I had to stop and think about what I thought about that passage/verse and decide for myself if I agreed with Dutch Sheets or not. (As we all must do when reading books!)

I give this book 4 out of 5 turning pages.

I received a free copy of this book from Bethany House Publishers for the purpose of review. All opinions are my own.

Noreen Taylor says

Dutch Sheets has been a favorite author of mine since we lived in northern California. I have read many of his books on prayer and over the years found him to be authentic and accurate in his perspective. I have kept several of his books in my library, even as I weeded books out to give away. The subtitle of this book is A Journey To Intimate Friendship With God. This book is excellent; can be read as a devotional or just a reference. No matter where you are in your spiritual walk, this book would be an excellent read. Dutch Sheets has a wonderful ability to weave scripture and everyday experiences from his life into practical applications. The chapters cover The Person, The Seeker, Discovery, Dance, Search, Priority, Decision, Distractions, Choice, Union, Spoiler, Place, Walk, Offering, Friendship, Stretch, Un-distracted, Courtship, Listener, Lingerers, Visit, Prodigal, Return, Return, Revelation, Look, Altar, Advantage, Face, Connection, Price. Although there are 30 chapters, there are only 265 pages. Dutch shares how much the Father loves to spend time with us and wants us to come to Him. This is a wonderful book and I would give it 5 stars. I was provided this book free by Bethany House, a division of Baker Publishing, for my honest review; I was not compensated in any way.

Sue says

God desires an intimate relationship with each one of us but we either believe we're not worthy of it or that we're too busy to make the time for it. Each short chapter shows how God has sought us out not to punish us but to just spend time with us. The back cover indicates that the book can be enjoyed as a daily devotional and that is just how I read it in what proved to be a much-needed kickstart reset in my own walk. Now I'm again making time to seek Him in the morning a priority and I'm savoring it throughout the day.

Joanne Viola says

Let a crisis hit, a wound reopen, or fear strike and you soon find out who it is you want to call. There is something about the person who is close to God which draws you to them in the time of need. I have found this to be true time and time again in my own life.

I am currently reading, The Pleasure of His Company: A Journey to Intimate Friendship With God by Dutch Sheets. The author shares life lessons and Bible stories which illustrate how to cultivate an intimate relationship with God. Sheets shares how he personally came to recognize that God desired his company. He encourages us to get away from the noise of each day and spend time alone with God, in His Word. He explores various aspects of enjoying God's company and finding Him in the course of our day.

Each chapter is short and easy to read as Sheets conveys his thoughts in a style which is conversational, which I enjoyed. He includes word studies and quotes from other sources making this book a rich read. He concludes each chapter with a prayer which makes this book a wonderful devotional.

“No matter how important or noble our activities may be, including working for Him, they don’t trump time

with Him.

If our foundations are not laid with the strengths and wisdom found in His words, they will crack under pressure.” (Page 61)

This book contains insights and stories which will invite every reader to desire a more rewarding spiritual life. It is full of encouragement and sure to lift your soul.

**Thanks to Bethany House, I received a copy of this book in exchange for my honest review. I was not required to write a positive review, and all the opinions I have expressed are my own.

C.E. Hart says

Dutch Sheets invites us to cultivate a deeper, more intimate relationship with God. With biblical stories as references, **The Pleasure of HIS Company** displays our God in vivid color.

In our everyday life we meet strangers, encounter friends and acquaintances, create new relationships, or even fall in love. And we realize that there are certain things expected to transpire. Perhaps we learn their names, what they like and dislike, etc... Well, this book does just that. It reveals our God, the essence of who He is, what He desires, and how growing closer to Him will bless our lives.

My favorite feature of this book is its inviting conversational tone. If I'd opened the cover to dry, scholarly styled lessons I'd have probably briefly skimmed its pages and quickly put it aside. But this book needs to be savored.

Dutch Sheets' tone is engaging and friendly, as if having a conversation with a friend. Each of the 30 chapters begins with a simple phrase describing different aspects of our walk with God. (e.g. The Seeker, The Courtship, The Connection.) Though the chapters are succinct, they each deliver mind-stimulating, heart-penetrating messages using Bible stories to illustrate their truths. It also closes each section with an associative prayer and supportive verses for further reading or study.

Used as a daily devotional, or to read through in one sitting, this book serves as an encouraging friend, and as the back cover states, shows us ways to enjoy God more.

Disclosure of Material Connection: I received a Review Copy free from the publisher. I was not required to write a positive review. The options I have expressed are my own. I am disclosing this in accordance with the Federal Trade Commission's 16 CFR, Part 255

Linda says

I used this book as a devotional. I've been to conferences where Dutch was speaking and have read most of what he has written. Always, I am edified by what he has to say in his down-to-earth way.

Jill says

In his new book, "The Pleasure of His Company", Dutch Sheets shares lessons he has learned to help us draw closer to God and cultivate a "real" relationship with Him. Personal stories aside, Sheets presents the wonder of spending time in God's presence in an encouraging tone. When we spend time in God's presence, we learn. We are encouraged and God draws us to Himself.

God doesn't desire worship as much as He longs to spend time with His children. This is the message Sheets wants us to learn. Sharing personal lessons and valuable insights into Scripture, Sheets draws us closer to God and helps us cultivate a relationship with God that is both sustaining and encouraging. This devotional length book can be used as a daily reminder of how much we mean to God and how we can yearn to be in His presence as much as He wants us to spend time with Him.

God is real. His passion and love for us is immeasurable. Sheets shows us a God who is present and desires our companionship. I will be reading "The Pleasure of His Company" often. The prayers at the end of each chapter are heaven sent.

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Barbara Repan says

I absolutely loved this book. I feel this book helped me draw closer to my Father after realizing more how He wants us to spend time with Him; quiet, uninterrupted time with Him. My mind cannot wrap around the King of the Universe wanting a relationship with me. But I'm grateful He does. It gives God pleasure to spend time with His children. Any father should desire to spend time with their children and God is no different. The Pleasure of His Company is about closeness with God by seeking His heart. Who doesn't want that? There are 30 chapters with a wonderful prayer at the end of each. The prayers are taken from Scripture. Many of the chapters strongly spoke to me and it was exactly what I needed at the time. I love when that happens!

I enjoyed the many Bible references and stories that we've all heard but Mr. Sheets brought many of them to life. I especially loved the word studies he included. It helped make sense of many of the verses and stories taken from the Bible.

Chapter 20, The Lingerers, was my favorite and it stirred something in me. The author mentions allowing only certain people into his heart. God is like that too. God will allow many in His presence but more selective with His heart. "His presence is free, but His heart will cost you time and effort." Not everyone will take the time and effort to know God's heart.

Mr. Sheets writes with humor, shares life lessons and tells Bible stories in way you can relate to your life. Many of the chapters have changed my life, if not the entire book.

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My review is posted on Amazon, Goodreads and my Blog, Barbara Ann ~ brepan.wordpress.com

Cosmé says

Overview:

The Pleasure of His Company was a very good book. Mr. Sheets made some very good points in quick, easy-to-read chapters. Nearly every point was backed up with a personal life experience as well as a passage from the Bible. Some chapters included life experiences or notes from other people/authors. Following those, Mr. Sheets discussed the point he made in humorous conversational writing.

Pros:

Many of the points that were made were out of the ordinary and not something I might have thought of on my own. I found the discussion to be sound, in the biblical sense, as far as I understand it. The chapters all followed the same rough pattern, making the option to study the book, rather than just read it, appealing. The writing is conversational and pleasant as well. Each chapter covered different topics that encouraged more thought and depth, I would say the book was age appropriate for young adults and above. Chapter topics covered many different situations, showing how it's possible for anyone to come to Christ, no matter what their life is like.

Cons:

Because of the "study" layout, I found that it was actually slightly difficult to just read the book. (Due to time pressure, I had to read the book and was unable to stop and study.) I wish the book had been a little more friendly towards that regard, but I am looking forward to getting the chance to go back over it later and "study". Also because of the layout, I saw too much of a routine. It was almost always the same order of information per each chapter (life story, bible story, discussion), but again, I think this is just a studying thing. So all in all, I liked the book, just take note that it's more like a devotional or a book to just be read slowly.

I received a free copy of The Pleasure of His Company from Bethany House Publishers in exchange for an honest review.

Cheryl says

Book Review: The Pleasure of His Company by Dutch Sheets

book-review

A Journey to Intimate Friendship with God. That's the subtitle to this book. A journey it is. This book is not a step-by-step list of things to do nor is this book a deep theological work, but a journey of sorts. Not traveling from one place to another, but more about who you are traveling with, in this case, God.

I found this book to be a very enjoyable read. I especially enjoyed the author's genuineness and authenticity. Glimpses of his real humanity shone through. I appreciate his honesty. This much authenticity is rare to find

and this case, funny, too.

The author's conversational writing style was also enjoyable. Given the importance and gravity of the topic he balanced it well with stories and more than a dollop of pleasant humor.

While reading, at some points, worship songs came to my mind. I think he must have been truly drawing me into His company.

Overall I found this book to be extremely encouraging and not the least bit condemning nor judgmental. Most of all each chapter felt like an invitation—an invitation to know God more intimately and the invitation felt just like the way I've felt the Holy Spirit do it—with gentle loving nudges. So each chapter felt like a gentle loving nudge from the Holy Spirit towards the Father.

If you would like to experience these invitations for yourself purchase your own copy of this book now. If you don't enjoy stories and humor and prefer scholarly works, this book probably isn't for you.

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