



Margaret Placentra Johnston

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By Margaret Placentra Johnston

*"Faith Beyond Belief* is a twofold pleasure. First are the stories of ten courageous people's quests for spiritual integrity. Yet, even more compelling are author Margaret Placentra Johnston's commentaries. She helps us see how these inspiring vignettes illuminate our own search for a form of faith that connects with an ever-evolving understanding of life. Much like the Buddha more than two thousand years ago, Johnston shows us some essential steps we might take in becoming lamps unto themselves."

--Robert C. Fuller, Author, *Spiritual, But Not Religious: Understanding Unchurched America*

"If you're looking for smart insights about spiritual growth, grounded in solid research and presented through fascinating real-life stories, you've found it. Even if you're not looking or religion is not your interest, you'll be glad you picked up *Faith Beyond Belief*. There's no denying that our spiritual beliefs impact our lives. Even if we've replaced them with rationality or a different teaching, they inform our worldview. Author Margaret P. Johnston gives us a clear-eyed view into the varieties and fascinating food-for-thought about our own spiritual maturity. A darn good book."

--Reverend Margaret J Shepherd, MBA, MDiv., author, *The Visionbuiders Manual: 9 Steps to Panoramic success for your Company, Career or Cause*

"Postmodern humanity is hungry for a postmodern faith, and Margaret Placentra Johnston offers us just that. Blending the insights of James Fowler and Paul Ricoeur with the stories of real people grappling with their own spiritual maturation, she offers us a map and a model for our own wrestling with truth. This is an important book."

--Rabbi Rami Shapiro, author of *Rabbi Rami's Guide to God*



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"This book will undoubtedly be considered one of the contributing factors in advancing our understanding of evolving human spirituality and its place in our lives in the new millennium. By acknowledging the emergence of mysticism in ordinary lives, Margaret helps to outline a way of living that is relevant, wise and healing."

-- Reverend Karen Tudor, Senior Minister, Unity Church of Practical Christianity, New Braunfels, Texas and co-host of "Biblical Power For Your Life" on Unity Online Radio

"This book is a welcome and much needed humanization of the psychological and spiritual conflicts that beset humankind. What rings with a strong clarion call in this book is the *psychological truth* of the individual stories. There is much pleasure to be had from reading the true stories that are so well presented by the author."

-- R. G. Kainer, Ph.D., Analytic Psychologist and author of *The Collapse of the Self and its Therapeutic Restoration*

"This book makes an excellent, wise and important contribution to vital contemporary discussions about the role of spirituality and spiritual development at every level – personal, social and global. As the future of humanity may be at stake, how wonderful that this book puts us so firmly back on the right course."

--Dr. Larry Culliford, author, *The Psychology of Spirituality*

"Margaret Placentra Johnston's *Faith Beyond Belief* gives us a good way to know the experience of those who have rejected their own church, but who are nevertheless engaged in a spiritual search beyond the conventional language and categories that left them feeling empty and could not engage them. As such, it is an excellent way to get a feel for what the issues are and the way they are experienced by a growing segment of American society who are 'spiritual but not religious.' You can feel the difference in the openness, the inquiring mind, the caring soul that this book unveils."

--Rabbi Michael Lerner, author of *Jewish Renewal: A Path to Healing and Transformation* and *The Left Hand of God*



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