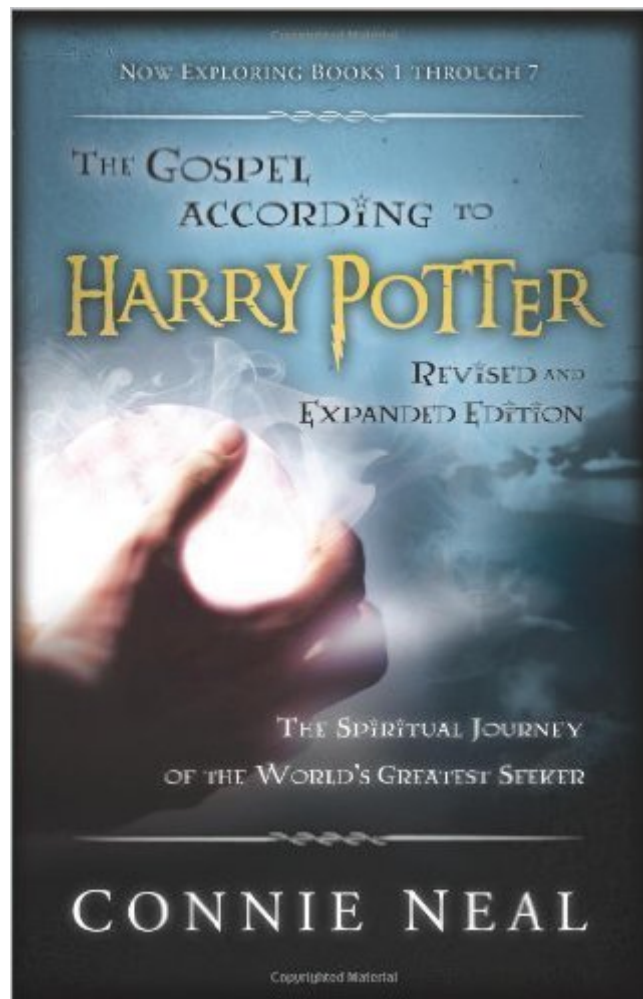


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The Gospel According To Harry Potter: The Spiritual Journey Of The World's Greatest Seeker (Gospel According To)



Synopsis

In this inspiring consideration of the spiritual themes in the popular Harry Potter series, well-known Christian author and Harry Potter fan Connie Neal explores the world of magic and mystery created by J. K. Rowling alongside the stories and grand themes of the Bible. Contrary to those who reject the series as a threat to the Christian faith, Neal demonstrates how the lessons in Harry Potter not only echo many of the stories in the Bible but reinforce the central messages of Christianity. This revised and expanded edition explores all seven installments in the Harry Potter series. (This book has not been prepared, endorsed, or licensed by any person or entity that created, published, or produced the Harry Potter books or related properties.)

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Customer Reviews

I have read Connie Neal's other book's dating from 2002 and always found her points interesting. In the past, she was more "let's all get along" between Harry Potter fans and foes. Now, her latest work is nicely updated and makes stronger Christian comparisons than before since Rowling's series is complete. Along these lines, I also highly recommend the very compelling "Does Harry

Potter Tickle Sleeping Dragons?" by author, Nancy Solon Villaluz also available here at .com. (Click above on "see all my reviews" to read my review of it.) Certainly, Ms. Neal and Ms. Villaluz's works nicely complement each other in this emerging area of Potter discovery.

I used this book in a Bible study we did for my youth group and I highly recommend this book to anyone who is interested in seeing just how theological the Harry Potter books are. Your mind will be blown with the verse by verse comparisons and ideas that this cultural phenomenon has with one of the oldest scriptures in the world.

In *The Gospel According to Harry Potter*, Ms. Neal explores the correlation between Biblical principles and stories and the fictitious world of Harry Potter. She presents over 130 different points. While some were quite obvious, others were a unique look at familiar Scripture. A few of her critiques even caused me to rethink my initial impressions of JK Rowling's work. Each novel is covered in a separate section so that readers can go book by book without any "spoilers". This would make a great base for a group or family Bible Study.

Neal's book goes through each of the 7 Harry Potter books chronologically. In every entry, she selects a short passage or quote from the novel which reflects a Christian virtue. She explains the main idea of the passage, and connects it to a relevant passage from the Bible. I used the book during Lent several years with my elementary and middle school children when I wanted a short 1-2 pg. reading in the evenings that included a scriptural verse/concept. The children enjoyed and learned from it. Author J. Granger is still my favorite Christian Harry Potter analyzer, but this book by Neal had a useful format for a short daily bible study with kid appeal.

This book was so great I used it to teach to Sunday school for about a six-month period the kids related to it because they had read the books and seen the movies but never had seen it dissected and explained in a Christian point of view. They were then able to relate the morals and values of how daily events are related to Christ's teachings and how we all experience them and how the Christian religion is present in our lives every day and part of our moral makeup.

Many interesting points to relate to bible stories and Harry Potter books and basis for discussions. Harry Potter is a story of the conflict between good and evil as is most of the bible, but many of Connie Neals' efforts to relate the two are stretched too far and trying to find a correlation that was

not intended by J. K. Rowling.

This book is a great resource. I always found myself making Biblical analogies and metaphors while reading Harry Potter and am so glad I found this book. It makes really great connections between characters/ideas from Harry Potter and Bible verses. LOVE IT!

For youth who've grown up with the Harry Potter books and for adults who've read them and thought that a lot in the series "could preach", this book gives us more to connect Harry and the rest of the characters with our biblical faith. The Gospel According to Harry Potter begins with a thoughtful explanation of why Christians (and hopefully people of other spiritual traditions) can read Harry Potter and remain faithful people - there is no celebration of or encouragement to practice witchcraft advocated by the author. Instead we find great connections with scripture, Christian tradition and ethics. This book is a wonderful way to get young people to think about how they make decisions, especially the most important ones, in their lives.

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