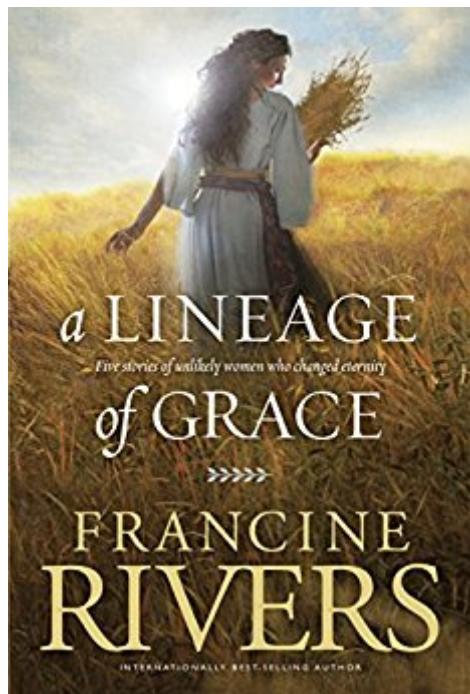


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A Lineage Of Grace



Synopsis

2009 Retailer's Choice Award winner! In this compilation of the five books in the best-selling Lineage of Grace series by Francine Rivers, we meet the five women whom God chose—Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, Bathsheba, and Mary. Each was faced with extraordinary—even scandalous—challenges. Each took great personal risk to fulfill her calling. Each was destined to play a key role in the lineage of Jesus Christ, the Savior of the World.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is by far the best collection of novelettes that I have EVER read. I bought a copy for my sister in law and she bought copies for several friends! Francine Rivers did so much research into Jewish and biblical history and customs of the times to shed light on these biblical women!! This follows the Lineage to Jesus. Very thought provoking. Brought out truths that I had never considered before

The characters and their qualities are loosely based on the biblical characters. I like having some conversation added between them, but at the end of the day, you can't project these feelings, some

actions, and her biases onto Scripture. Rivers clearly acknowledges this and for that I give her 4 stars. I don't give 5 because even knowing all this and after reading it, I admit, it is hard to separate the qualities and personalities she places on the characters from her fictional book and Scripture. Plus, she very clearly has a Protestant bias that didn't leave a very good taste in my mind, almost like she was trying to prove points and lead people toward a path she clearly wants you to believe by picking specific verses and taking parts of the Bible and piecing it together. Other than that, good morals, good fiction for Christian youth and families, great writing!

Loved this book!! It made scripture come alive for me.

Francine Rivers does a wonderful job of bringing to life in our imaginations the people of whom the scriptures tell us. She makes it easy to relate to them and understand that they suffered and enjoyed all the same trials and joys that we do today. And to understand that none of our failings make us unworthy or unable to be used by God if we give our hearts to Him. I recommend this book highly. There is much to be learned from these stories.

A wonderful, wonderful, wonderful book. Written with the wisdom of a seasoned Christian, as well as one who also has an understanding of life without God's hand... It was real and not goodie-two-shoes writing. LOVED IT!

As Bible based historical fiction, this is a real gem! Especially the story of Ruth. Ms. Rivers is very true to the Word as her base for the stories. It just helps make these great biblical stories even more real. As in all historical fiction, I always suggest reading the historical account first - this author answers all the "I wonder" questions I would ask and she does it in a manner that shows she has done her research, both biblically, historically, and archeologically.

In Lineage of Grace we follow Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, Bathsheba, and Mary through their lives as they are each intricately woven into the Lineage of Christ. Tamar shows the story of a woman betrayed, yet a woman determined to do what is right in the eyes of God. Rahab, a harlot, shows that no matter the sin God can still do wonderful things in each of our lives. Ruth, a love story of epic proportions...we see love given from daughter-in-law to mother-in-law, but we also see love shown from man to woman as Ruth takes her rightful place as the wife of Boaz. With Bathsheba, we again see how God can turn a sin into something that is for His glory, if only the participants are willing.

And finally with Mary we get an interpretive look into the life of Jesus' mother and the struggles she went through watching her son, who she knew to be the Christ, grow up and be rejected by a world that was supposedly waiting for his arrival. We see with Mary how God can take the most illogical person to be someone that is important to His plan. This book, Lineage of Grace, is a compilation of 5 separate books written by Francine Rivers several years ago. Each book (then called Unveiled, Unashamed, Unshaken, Unspoken, and Unafraid) included a section at the end called "Seek and Find" where the reader could take a deeper look at the Scriptures pertaining to each story. There were questions to consider and ideas to ponder in order to gain a better understanding of the story itself, but also of how the story and the Scriptures might apply to the reader's spiritual life.

Thankfully, the "Seek and Find" sections are included in this new publication as well! Granted, each book is a fictional expansion of what the Bible gives to us, with Rivers using her imagination to add details. But the details added are historically accurate and do not take away from the basic story told within the Scripture. Rivers simply takes the verses from the Bible and puts the story into 'real life' for the reader to gain a better understanding of what it might have been like to actually live that life. I read this set of books when they first came out and loved them...but I gained new meaning and learned different things reading them again. They are easy to read and are the kind of book a person could read every few years and gain something new from them each time. Francine Rivers did an excellent job in her research for these books and in writing them. I look forward to reading her other series based on men of the Bible called "Sons of Encouragement."

Because this is a work of fiction based on Biblical characters, it is good to be discerning and careful that you don't take it all to be the Word of God, as the author has to speculate so much for the sake of the story. However, I do appreciate the great care that Rivers took to preserve the main point in each account. She also does very well to put you in the mindset of the era and culture; at the same time. Rivers can write a wonderful love story, and in this work, she does so very tastefully. 3 stars because it was not my favorite of Rivers' works, but not bad.

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