



The Dusty Ones: Why Wandering Deepens Your Faith

By A. J. Swoboda



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Through every turn of the biblical story, God's people are a wandering people. When they are rescued from slavery in Egypt, God sends them into the desert, where they wander for a generation. Jesus and his disciples wander from town to town. In fact, some of God's most important truths are imparted to people with dusty feet as they travel on the road.

With his trademark thoughtful introspection, A. J. Swoboda boldly suggests that wandering is not an absence of faith but a central component of faith. In *The Dusty Ones*, he leads the restless, the frustrated, and the curious on a spiritual journey to uncover the answers to questions like

- Do I wander because I'm failing or because God has left me?
- Is the desert something I can overcome?

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- Why is God sometimes "hidden" in the Bible?
- What do I do when the end seems nowhere in sight?

This compassionate and contemplative book offers hope and peace to Christians and seekers alike as they make their way down the winding road of faith.



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Editorial Review

From the Back Cover

For the follower of Jesus, the question is not whether you will wander but when. So why not learn to wander well?

Through every turn of the biblical story, God's people are a wandering people. Examining the theme of wandering in the Bible and in his own life, A. J. Swoboda shows that some of God's most important truths are revealed to those whose feet are dusty from the road. Cultivating the art of wandering, Swoboda suggests, is not only a good idea for Christian faith and practice; it is a holy discipline that can revolutionize a person's experience of God.

If you're restless, doubtful, or questioning, you will emerge from this journey with the assurance that not all who wander are lost. There's hope and peace for all those who travel the winding path seeking to experience God in all his glory.

"A unique, well-rooted, and spiritually nourishing work. If you've experienced your own desert seasons or periods of wandering, this book is Swoboda's gift to you."--**Seth Haines**, author of *Coming Clean: A Story of Faith*

"Reading *The Dusty Ones* is like talking to a friend who's wandering alongside us on this road of truth, which is 'always bumpy, but always worthwhile.""--**Cornelia Becker Seigneur**, author of *WriterMom Tales*; founding director of Faith & Culture Writers Conference

"A. J.'s words are like water in our own wilderness, reminding us that God is forging a deep work in our desert spaces. May we all have the courage to live as one of the dusty ones."--Jo Saxton, chair of the board of 3D Movements; speaker and author

"A new book by A.J. Swoboda is always a cause for celebration, and his latest book, *The Dusty Ones*, is no exception. Combining the heart of a pastor and the mind of a scholar, A.J. does a masterful job of writing with honest realism about both the struggles of the life of faith and its joys, which are often experienced in the midst of our pain. Prepare for a challenging, bracing, elegant, and down-to-earth vision of what it means to live as a Christ-follower in the here-and-now."--**Terry Glaspey**, author of Not a Tame Lion: The Spiritual Legacy of C.S. Lewis, editor of The Prayers of Jane Austen

"A. J. Swaboda tackles the spiritual journey by helping us see that there is no map and the road is crooked. Spiritual formation involves journeying with Jesus in ways that are often counterintuitive. Swaboda offers us a clear destination without simplifying the realities we will face along the way. He writes in a fresh and personal manner making this a book that will encourage all sincere travelers."---Morris Dirks, founder of SoulFormation

About the Author

A. J. Swoboda (PhD, University of Birmingham) teaches biblical studies, theology, and church history at Portland Seminary and Fuller Theological Seminary, among others. He pastors Theophilus Church in Portland, Oregon, and is the author of *A Glorious Dark* and coauthor of *Introducing Evangelical*

Ecotheology.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Howard Martinez:

The book The Dusty Ones: Why Wandering Deepens Your Faith make one feel enjoy for your spare time. You should use to make your capable more increase. Book can to be your best friend when you getting anxiety or having big problem together with your subject. If you can make reading a book The Dusty Ones: Why Wandering Deepens Your Faith being your habit, you can get far more advantages, like add your own capable, increase your knowledge about several or all subjects. You may know everything if you like available and read a reserve The Dusty Ones: Why Wandering Deepens Your Faith. Kinds of book are a lot of. It means that, science publication or encyclopedia or some others. So, how do you think about this book?

Marie Clayton:

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Lillie Stein:

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Joshua Hsu:

The Dusty Ones: Why Wandering Deepens Your Faith can be one of your starter books that are good idea. Most of us recommend that straight away because this book has good vocabulary that can increase your knowledge in words, easy to understand, bit entertaining but still delivering the information. The article writer giving his/her effort to set every word into delight arrangement in writing The Dusty Ones: Why Wandering Deepens Your Faith however doesn't forget the main level, giving the reader the hottest and

based confirm resource information that maybe you can be among it. This great information can drawn you into completely new stage of crucial thinking.

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