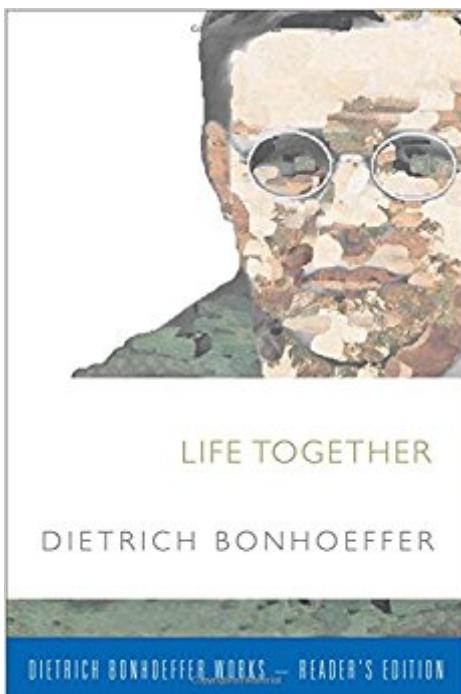


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# Life Together (Dietrich Bonhoeffer-Reader's Edition)



## **Synopsis**

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, one of the most influential Christian martyrs in history, bequeathed to humanity a legacy of theological creativity and spirituality that continues to intrigue people from a variety of backgrounds. *Life Together* gathers Bonhoeffer's 1938 reflections on the character of Christian community, based on the common life that he and his seminarians experienced at the Finkenwalde Seminary and in the "Brother's House" there. The stimulus for the writing of *Life Together* was the closing of the preacher's seminary at Finkenwalde by the Nazis. While Bonhoeffer wrote with his own seminary community in mind, he intended *Life Together* to have a more universal impact, and spoke of a mission and responsibility of the church as a whole. Using the acclaimed DBWE translation, adapted to a more accessible format, this new edition features supplemental material from Victoria J. Barnett and an insightful introduction by Geoffrey B. Kelly to clarify the theological meaning and social importance of Bonhoeffer's work.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

"When I think of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, some words Gorky used of Tolstoy come into my mind--'Look what a wonderful man is living on the earth.'" --Malcolm Muggeridge, author of *Jesus*

Dietrich Bonhoeffer (1906-1945), a German theologian, pastor, and ecumenist, studied in Berlin and at Union Theological Seminary in New York City. He played a central role in the

Confessing Church during the Nazi period and became one of the most influential theologians of the twentieth century.

This is a great addition to the works of Dietrich Bonhoeffer and more accessible to general audience. The additional information on his life and the seminary at Finkenwalde is also very helpful for those who have not read the more complete biographies, (Bethge and Schlingensiepen) and therefore do not know the context in which "Life Together" was written. I still think that this should be a companion book, however, and that the original small book published in 1954 in English should be read as the primary source. I am grateful for Dr. Barnett and Dr. Kelly for this good addition and assume the others in the series will be helpful, too.

My number one takeaway from this book was the requirement that we forgive one another, tolerate the differences and shortcomings in one another; in the church certainly, "as we have been forgiven" (and tolerated!) Such a simple concept, so hard to practice in community. In my community, we are constantly offending one another. And although we teach and preach being un-offendable, it is so hard. Impossible really without the Holy Spirit flowing constantly into us, through us, out of us into the lives of one another. I HAVE to forgive, to look past shortcomings and immaturities in others...because I so desperately need them to do the same for me. Unity is impossible without this tolerance and forgiveness, without seeing the divinity that resides in the other. And unity is where the blessing is, where the blessing is bestowed; Where anything good and pleasant happens in community, according to David.

This book inspired me to commit daily every moment of my life to Jesus so that I can serve others through the study of The Word, listening for guidance, confessing my sins and seeing Jesus in everyone I encounter.

This is a good book on spiritual disciplines and the importance of community in a Christians life. Especially convicting is the chapter on confessing sin one to another. I plan on reading this book again hoping to take in even more. Interesting to read about the context Bonhoeffer was writing about. The ease of my life in my context can make for laziness and busyness to the detriment of my walk with Jesus and others. This book is a wake-up call to the daily rhythms of a lover of Christ.

Very indepth. Have to read several times to absorb the message in context. It is not reading for

pleasure. It is reading to gain information and insight into what community is all about.

Very interesting perspective on the Christian community. With a strong you could almost say Catholic underpinning. Worth reading. Good quotes.

Excellent and inspiring that I have read over the years. Glad I could get it on my kindle.

thanks

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