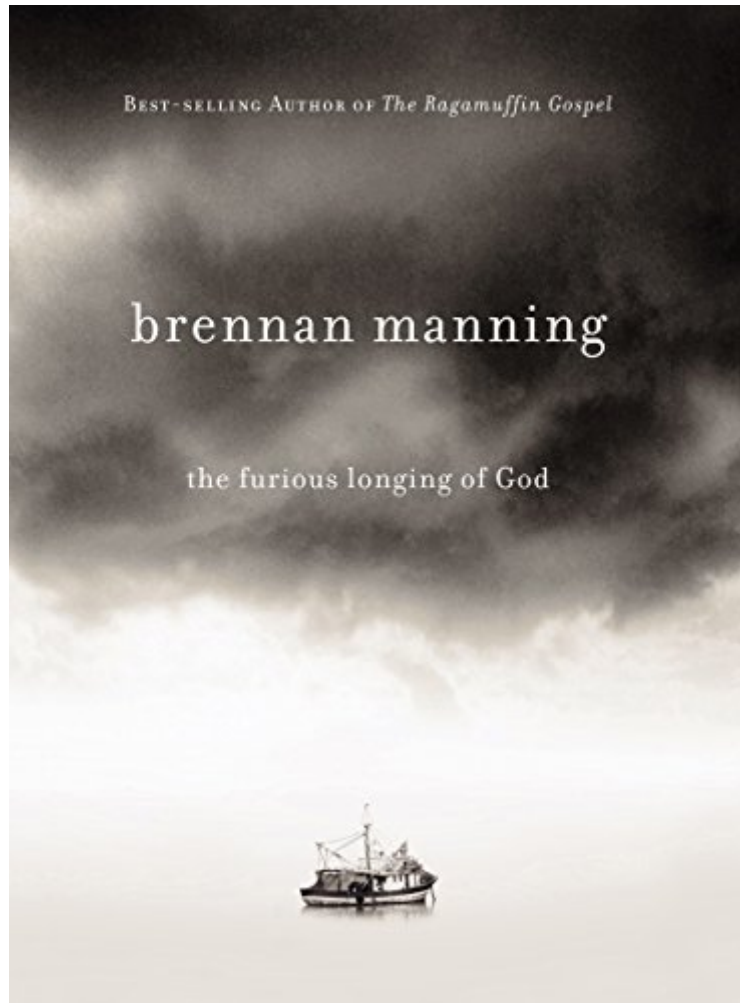




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The Furious Longing Of God



Synopsis

Imagine a stormy day at sea, your ship yielding to a relentless wind, pummeled by crashing waves, subject to the awesome force of nature. A force that is both fierce and majestic. A power that is nothing short of furious. Such is God's intense, consuming love for His children. It's a love that knows no limits, and no boundaries. A love that will go to any lengths, and take any risks, to pursue us. Renowned author and ragamuffin Brennan Manning presents a love story for the brokenhearted. For those who are burdened by heavy religion. For those who feel they can never measure up. It is a provocative and poignant look at the radical, no-holds-barred love of our Heavenly Father. It is a message that will forever change how you view God.

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Customer Reviews

Brennan Manning writes about God's love for us no matter what we've done to run, dodge, deflect, or reject that love. His message took wings with The Ragamuffin Gospel and was reemphasized with books on emphatic faith (Ruthless Trust) and emphatic gentleness (Relentless Tenderness of

Jesus). In this book from 2009, he speaks again of God's determination to love us, come what may, supported with his own experience, biblical passages, and quotes from a broad spectrum of spiritual writers in a few brief chapters. Most chapters could be the basis for a great deal of personal reflection, even without the points to ponder that end most of them. I read a chapter a day as part of my morning prayer time, and that worked for me. This is a book to be sipped and savored.

I read Brennan's book in a single afternoon. When he told the story of the father who "healed" his son, I cried. This book will make you want to get to know your Abba all the more. The only reason I gave it 4 stars is because it's a very short book, I read it in about 2-2.5 hours. I got the Kindle version free and I think \$16.99 is really steep for a Kindle book, especially one so short. Nevertheless, a great read! Brennan's teachings have very Universalist themes, some people speculate he is a Universalist. I have no problem with that, in fact it's part of the reason I read his book. I can read Brennan's words on love and know that he's not simultaneously believing that billions are condemned to hell. This makes his words hold more weight in a lot of ways. If you're not sure what Universalism is, you might want to check out *À Hell and Eternity* - It's all Greek to me. The Kindle version is free right now (as of this posting) for a few days!

This book changed my life. I don't say that lightly. It awakened my soul and left me making some choices that I would have never made before reading this book. I won't get into all the details in a review because it is personal. But this book opened my eyes to our loving Father. It also opened my heart to giving the grace of Christ to others. I am so happy I read this. I highly recommend this book. (Not just to you, but to those in our church, as well. In fact, I loved it so much, we used it as the basis of a small group in the church.) This book also contains a couple personal questions at the end of most chapters, which actually made for a pretty good small group book. It led to some great small group discussion and I highly recommend it in that capacity, as well.

I started reading Brennan Manning in 2003, when I was in a spiritual wilderness recovering from some deep wounding experienced in ministry overseas. His book, *Abba's Child*, helped me sort through the pain and confusion, leading me to God's Word and to understanding His love. I read his classic, *The Ragamuffin Gospel*, quite sometime later and was blessed by the life-changing message of God's unswerving, overwhelming love made possible only through the shed blood of Jesus Christ. Manning's, *The Furious Longing Of God*, was a great devotional read this Thanksgiving week. His poetic storytelling, quotes, and references to Scripture refreshed and

challenged me to forgive as I have been forgiven, love as He loves, and rest in the knowledge of His trustworthiness. His repeated reminder that "I belong to Abba" is perhaps the greatest takeaway. If you've not yet read Manning, this is a good place to start; if Manning is an old friend, this is one not to be missed.

Brennan Manning presented a powerful, inspired book which is both inspiring and transformative. The last chapters were "game changers" in my spiritual walk. I am sharing this with friends. I am very grateful for this work.

Wesley asked, "How can it be that Thou my God shouldst die for me?" The answer according to Brennan Manning is found in the fury of God's love for sinner's. God doesn't love us because we are lovable but because he is love. His love can't be earned or deserved. It can only be received. It is the reason for grace.

I'm not quite through this book and am using this book as a type of devotional (after having read many others several times such as My Utmost for His Highest, Streams in the Desert, Jesus Lives, among a few). Just being a few chapters into this book, Brennan Manning has already helped bring me face to face, or rather heart to heart with my Abba Father. It has truly been healing and very moving, especially growing up without a dad. It's hard not to read this book and then read the Gospels and the rest of the New Testament ever the same again. I'm even more in awe of the incredible love of my Abba Father as perfectly seen in Jesus.

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