

Getting to the Heart of Interfaith: The Eye-Opening, Hope-Filled Friendship of a Pastor, a Rabbi & an Imam

By Ted Falcon, Don Mackenzie, Jamal Rahman

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A deeply personal journey to interfaith collaboration that offers hope for an inclusive and healing way of being together in the world.

Too often religion seems to fuel more hatred than love, more conflict than collaboration. Interfaith Talk Radio's "interfaith amigos"—a pastor, a rabbi and an Imam—provide a rich understanding of the road to interfaith collaboration by sharing their stories, challenges and the inner spiritual work necessary to go beyond tolerance to a vital, inclusive spirituality.

From their deep commitment and lived experience, they present ways we can work together to transcend the differences that have divided us historically. Together they explore:

- The five stages of the interfaith journey
- The power of our stories
- The core of our traditions
- The promises and problems of our traditions
- New dimensions of spiritual identity
- And much more

Along with inspiring insights and encouragement for tapping into the promise of interfaith dialogue, they provide practical actions, additional readings and discussion questions to help you embody their revolutionary spirit of healing.

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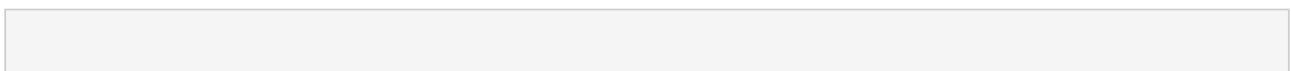
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- Sales Rank: #521947 in Books
- Brand: SkyLight Paths Publishing
- Published on: 2009-06-26
- Released on: 2009-06-01
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 22.86" h x 1.22" w x 6.00" l, .81 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 192 pages



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Editorial Review

Review

"A masterful first-hand account of interfaith dialogue. Insightful, interesting, informative and important ... [will be] of great interest to individual readers and a rich resource for religious communities seeking to create such dialogue."

?**Marcus J. Borg**, best-selling author, *The Heart of Christianity: Rediscovering a Life of Faith* and other books

"[A] very personal book ... proposes a road map for spiritual growth and interfaith cooperation. It will open [our] hearts and minds to each other and each other's faith traditions."

?**Rabbi Leonard A. Schoolman**, founding director, Center for Religious Inquiry, New York; author, *The Changing Christian World: A Brief Introduction for Jews*

"Not an ordinary book, rather the lived experience of three religious leaders and the exploration of their faith differences. Lifts up a way to peaceful living based in understanding and compassion."

?**Rev. Dr. Joan Brown Campbell**, former general secretary, The National Council of Churches in Christ (United States)

"Courageous.... Provides an essential and inspiring guide to religious healing and the human step to spiritual maturity."

?**David Korten**, board chair, *YES! Magazine*; author, *Agenda for a New Economy* and *The Great Turning: From Empire to Earth Community*

"Brings us something new: true and honest friendship as evidenced in tough talk and deep interspiritual sharing. Read this book and live it. Get your clergy to do the same."

?**Rabbi Rami Shapiro**, author, *The Sacred Art of Lovingkindness: Preparing to Practice*

"Important. The perfect book to introduce the world of interfaith cooperation and understanding [and] a great way for any local religious community's adult study group to safely dive in."

?**Rev. Bud Heckman**, director for external relations, Religions for Peace; author, *InterActive Faith: The Essential Interreligious Community-Building Handbook*

"Written with clarity, insight and wisdom ... provides a judicious model for developing bonds across religious boundaries. Read it?and put its recommendations into practice."

?**Sr. Mary C. Boys**, Skinner and McAlpin Professor of Practical Theology, Union Theological Seminary, New York City; coauthor, *Christians & Jews in Dialogue: Learning in the Presence of the Other*

From the Inside Flap

Inclusive spiritual awareness--it's a matter of our survival.

"Look around you. We are living in a pluralistic world society. While we might not talk about it much, we usually interact each day with those of different cultures and different religions. What we have found is that not talking about our differences really does not help. Even if we differ, even if we disagree, it is crucial for

us to deepen the conversation."

--from the Introduction

Too often religion, which was meant to unite, is used to divide. This is the challenge of interfaith dialogue and collaboration--to dig beneath the layers of faith and work toward common ground. Join in the conversation with Interfaith Talk Radio's "interfaith amigos"--a pastor, a rabbi and a sheikh--as they share their belief and practice of inclusive spirituality. They take dialogue beyond the creeds of each faith tradition to the shared values of love, compassion and peace that lead us to healing. Drawing on their deeply personal journeys to interfaith collaboration, they give you the tools you need to take the next step into greater dialogue and deeper celebration in your spiritual life and in your community. Using the five stages of the interfaith journey as their guide, they will inspire you to:

- * Move beyond separation and suspicion * Inquire more deeply
- * Share both the easy and the difficult parts of each tradition
- * Move beyond safe territory * Explore spiritual practices of other traditions

"Brings us something new: true and honest friendship as evidenced in tough talk and deep interspiritual sharing. Read this book and live it. Get your clergy to do the same."

--Rabbi Rami Shapiro, author, *The Sacred Art of Lovingkindness: Preparing to Practice*

About the Author

Pastor Don Mackenzie, PhD, Rabbi Ted Falcon, PhD, and Imam Jamal Rahman?now known as the Interfaith Amigos?started working together after 9/11. Since then, they have brought their unique blend of spiritual wisdom and humor to audiences in the US, Israel-Palestine, Japan and more. Their first book, *Getting to the Heart of Interfaith: The Eye-Opening, Hope-Filled Friendship of a Pastor, a Rabbi and an Imam*, brought the Interfaith Amigos international attention with coverage from the New York Times, CBS News and NPR. Their second book, *Religion Gone Astray: What We Found at the Heart of Interfaith*, probes more deeply into the problem aspects of our religious institutions to provide a profound understanding of the nature of what divides us. Their work is dedicated to supporting more effective interfaith dialogue that can bring greater collaboration on the major social and economic issues of our time.

Pastor Don Mackenzie, PhD, is former minister and head of staff at University Congregational United Church of Christ in Seattle.

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Rabbi Ted Falcon, PhD, founder of meditative synagogues in Los Angeles and Seattle, is author of *Journey of Awakening: Kabbalistic Meditations on the Tree of Life* and coauthor of *Judaism For Dummies*.

Imam Jamal Rahman is a beloved teacher and retreat leader whose passion for helping people deepen their spiritual lives and cultivate interfaith understanding has inspired audiences throughout the world. He has been featured in the *New York Times*, on *CBS News*, the BBC and many NPR programs. He is cofounder and Muslim Sufi minister at Interfaith Community Sanctuary, adjunct faculty at Seattle University and a former host of Interfaith Talk Radio. He is author of *Sacred Laughter of the Sufis: Awakening the Soul with the Mulla's Comic Teaching Stories & Other Islamic Wisdom* and *Spiritual Gems of Islam: Insights & Practices from the Qur'an, Hadith, Rumi & Muslim Teaching Stories to Enlighten the Heart & Mind* (both SkyLight Paths) and *The Fragrance of Faith: The Enlightened Heart of Islam*; and coauthor of *Getting to the Heart of Interfaith: The Eye-Opening, Hope-Filled Friendship of a Pastor, a Rabbi & an Imam* and *Religion Gone Astray: What We Found at the Heart of Interfaith* (both SkyLight Paths), among other books.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Valerie Hemming:

Have you spare time for any day? What do you do when you have considerably more or little spare time? Sure, you can choose the suitable activity to get spend your time. Any person spent their own spare time to take a stroll, shopping, or went to the Mall. How about open or perhaps read a book called Getting to the Heart of Interfaith: The Eye-Opening, Hope-Filled Friendship of a Pastor, a Rabbi & an Imam? Maybe it is to get best activity for you. You already know beside you can spend your time with the favorite's book, you can better than before. Do you agree with it is opinion or you have some other opinion?

Michael Garcia:

Nowadays reading books be a little more than want or need but also be a life style. This reading behavior give you lot of advantages. The advantages you got of course the knowledge the rest of the information inside the book that will improve your knowledge and information. The info you get based on what kind of e-book you read, if you want attract knowledge just go with knowledge books but if you want experience happy read one with theme for entertaining for instance comic or novel. Typically the Getting to the Heart of Interfaith: The Eye-Opening, Hope-Filled Friendship of a Pastor, a Rabbi & an Imam is kind of publication which is giving the reader unpredictable experience.

Donald Freeman:

The book Getting to the Heart of Interfaith: The Eye-Opening, Hope-Filled Friendship of a Pastor, a Rabbi & an Imam has a lot of knowledge on it. So when you read this book you can get a lot of gain. The book was authored by the very famous author. The writer makes some research before write this book. This specific book very easy to read you can get the point easily after reading this article book.

Carolyn Rodriguez:

With this era which is the greater man or woman or who has ability to do something more are more valuable than other. Do you want to become certainly one of it? It is just simple strategy to have that. What you must

do is just spending your time not very much but quite enough to possess a look at some books. One of many books in the top listing in your reading list is definitely Getting to the Heart of Interfaith: The Eye-Opening, Hope-Filled Friendship of a Pastor, a Rabbi & an Imam. This book and that is qualified as The Hungry Inclines can get you closer in growing to be precious person. By looking right up and review this guide you can get many advantages.

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