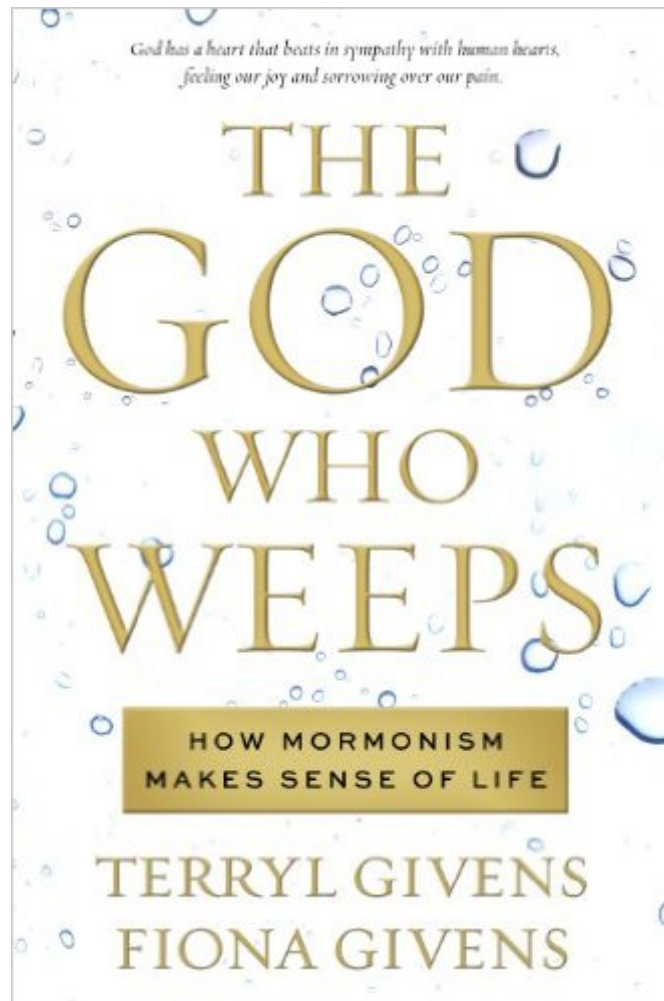


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# The God Who Weeps: How Mormonism Makes Sense Of Life



## Synopsis

Reading this book is like experiencing Mormonism in high definition. Whether you know a lot or a little about Latter-day Saint doctrine, this book will both educate and inspire you. - David E.

Campbell, author of *American Grace: How Religion Divides and Unites us*. A work of theological reflection that has much to offer intellectually and morally serious men and women of every religious persuasion. - Robert P. George, McCormick Professor of Jurisprudence, Princeton An elegant meditation on the basic tenets of the Mormon faith written with precision and poetry. The Givens' literary and religious references are unusually rich and varied, with prose at times urgent and even soaring. - Helen Whitney, producer of *The Mormons* and *Faith and Doubt at Ground Zero*. In the Givens' masterful hands, the Mormon view of God comes alive in fresh and challenging ways.

Mainstream Christians have much to learn from Mormonism, and this book is the place to start. - Stephen H. Webb, author of *Jesus Christ, Eternal God*

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

In John 17:3 One reads: And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent. Despite this seeming injunction to KNOW God, many would push Him away into such a far place in their attempt to glorify His image that He becomes neither possible to know nor even remotely interested in us, either as a group or as individuals. In this little gem Terry and Fiona Givens remind us that it is possible for us as children of God to know our Father and to be about His business, the business of finding eternal life which actually began in the far distant past. We continue that quest in this vale of tears separated from the only true source of happiness. They remind us that we see through a glass darkly at first, but that we can come to know

even as we are known and that it is not just an idle statement, that we can know God. It does not lessen His greatness or glory, but rather adds to it. They poignantly remind us that we can be "joint heirs with Christ if it so be that we suffer with him that we may be glorified together." With erudition and sensitivity they take us on a journey through scripture and literary comment that helps us to be aware of what we knew and what we can know regarding this most important of all truths. The beauty of their work is in its validity and in realizing that the truly great thinkers of all time knew the source of their wisdom and what gave them utterance. When scholars would give us a picture of deity that is so far removed from anything understandable nor even possible to love the Givens remind us of our relationship to this God we worship and His divine Son, a relationship that not only allows, but begs for our understanding.

I've never read a book like this before but its timing in my life was perfect - right around when the Sandy Hook Elementary school massacre happened the same day a dear high school friend died in a tragic accident. I had picked it up because I'd heard a couple podcasts of the authors and couldn't stop thinking about how much I wanted more of what I heard from them. This book helped crystallize many thoughts, experiences, and feelings I have had all my life and the book expressed them so beautifully! This book is meant to be read aloud, it begs to be! I have always struggled to know how to explain my LDS faith to others. I wanted to come from a common ground with other people of faith. I needed a broader vocabulary, a bank of knowledge to draw from. I really appreciated how timeless questions and dilemmas of where did I come from, what's the purpose of life, what happens after I die and so forth are framed through the lens of the world's greatest thinkers with the same questions. Their questions, answers, or portrayals are complimented by an explanation of LDS beliefs in a way I have rarely heard before, but craved as a lifelong member and wannabe scholar. In college I struggled to get a concise understanding about who and what shaped classic theology and world views. Four years wasn't long enough to digest all that was of interest to me! This is a great resource on that score drawing on the authors' backgrounds in comparative literature. And not just from Christians, I love that! I also really appreciate that the book begins by recognizing everyone has a choice - to believe in God or not. Both are valid and evidence can be found on either side if you pursue it. But to not choose is also a choice. It all boils down to God and our agency - so simple.

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