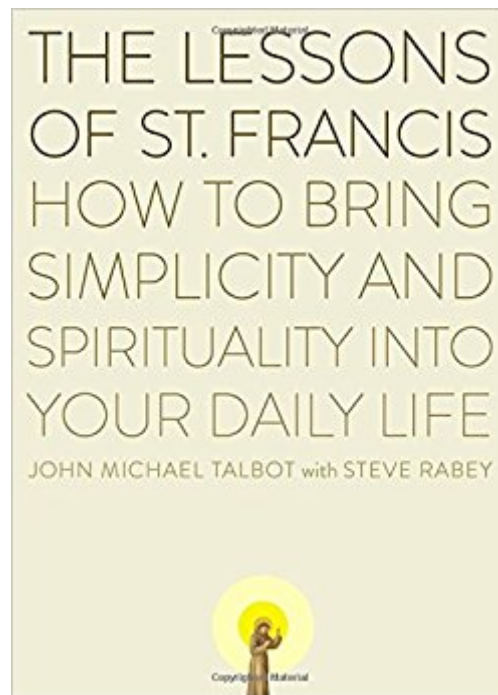




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# **The Lessons Of Saint Francis: How To Bring Simplicity And Spirituality Into Your Daily Life**



## Synopsis

The life of St. Francis of Assisi was a paradigm of simplicity, humanity, and love. In today's busy world, his practices have enormous appeal, described in this inspiring work by John Michael Talbot, the founder of The Brothers and Sisters of Charity, a lay order based on the Franciscan principles of simplicity and self-sufficiency. In *The Lessons Of St. Francis*, Talbot and co-author Steve Rabey demonstrate the enduring significance of Franciscan wisdom. Organized by topic, such as Simplicity, Humility, Compassion, Solitude, Service, and Prayer, each chapter includes excerpts from the writings of St. Francis, as well as those of his followers and biographers. Combining deep spiritual insights with the offer of a saner, less chaotic way of living, *The Lessons Of St. Francis* offers wise advice on how to incorporate these virtues into our own lives today.

## Book Information

Paperback: 272 pages

Publisher: Plume; English Language edition (October 1, 1998)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0452278341

ISBN-13: 978-0452278349

Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 0.7 x 7.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 88 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #91,879 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #57 in [Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Churches & Church Leadership > Church Institutions & Organizations](#) #325 in [Books > Religion & Spirituality > Worship & Devotion > Devotionals](#) #649 in [Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Catholicism](#)

## Customer Reviews

Well-known Christian musician Talbot founded the Brothers and Sisters of Charity, a Franciscan lay order. Here he discusses their way of life, which is based on the ideals of simplicity, service, and love for creation that St. Francis of Assisi inspired. Drawing on insights from the saint's enigmatic life, Talbot encourages readers to pare down the overwhelming demands of modern existence and to distinguish between the needs of interior life and the pull of worldly desires. Readable and filled with concrete suggestions, this is sure to appeal to seekers of a more simple and authentic life. Copyright 1997 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

"A thought-provoking work that, like St. Francis, can appeal to anyone, anywhere." —*Houston Chronicle*  
 "Like translations of the Bible, the lives of saints need to be periodically retranslated for a new time. The Lessons of St. Francis does just that for all who are open to being transformed by the life of this enduring saint." —*Michael Card*, award-winning musician and the author of *The Joy in the Journey*  
 "A fine manual of spirituality for everyday living | an excellent introduction to St. Francis and his ongoing influence. Anyone who seeks a simple, commonsense approach to spirituality in today's busy, noisy world will benefit from this book." —*CBA Marketplace*  
 "Readers will learn much about the mission, legacy, and timeless appeal of Francis, this most human of saints." —*Wichita Eagle*  
 "This small wisdom book combines personal narration with practical advice to cut across all religious traditions. Through the universally loved life and works of Francis of Assisi, the author weaves a guidebook of spirituality for moderns. The whole tapestry works because the strands are strong and reliable. The reader is invited to take up those threads and make, not a medieval tapestry, but a refashioned modern life after the pattern of St. Francis." —*Murray Bodo*, author of *The Journey and the Dream*  
 "Filled with concrete suggestions, this is sure to appeal to seekers of a more simple and authentic life." —*Library Journal*  
 "Covers every aspect of the best of Christianity lovingly, producing a book that could easily make converts." —*Booklist*

I am basing a spiritual enrichment program for the women of my parish on this book. It is written in a clear, down to earth style, and it contains a series of lessons on the habits we should seek to make a part of our daily lives, such as simplicity, humility, compassion, community, and service. It is filled with stories about St. Francis' life and certainly helps us to appreciate why Francis of Assisi is perhaps the most popular saint in Christianity.

John Michael and Terry Talbot were among the first Christian recordings I listened to, and I was expecting more of this work. Not to be overly critical, but not too "meaty". Francis of Assisi can be a difficult one to understand, unless one has gone through the radical transformation that he went through, and followed Jesus closely through the very difficult times in life.

Excellent review of a most unique saint! As a follower of Francis' teachings, Talbot puts the peace

and joy of St. Francis in our hands with easy to follow life changes that will make a profound difference in your perspective on life.

I first bought this book as a teenager, and littlerally wore my first copy out, as it went everywhere with me. I just rebought a copy at 32 years old, and it is a blessing to have this resorce in my life again. The book is very informative helping one to apply aspects of St. Francis life an practice into ones daily life. This book is not just for those called to live in far off places, but practical for just about every walk of life!

Talbot introduced me to this amazing man who I knew very little about. If ever there was a man who took literally the teachings of Jesus and followed them masterfully it was Francis of Assisi. The book captures his essence, yet is short and easy to read.

Just enjoy reading about St. Francis..... His love of God, most impressive.

This is an easy read actually, more of a gentle read as St. Francis is presented. As I close the book, I find myself challenged to look within! Thank You Mr. Talbot!

John-Michael Talbot manages to crystallise essential of Franciscan spirituality in a manner which makes it appealing and accessible for those in any state of life. Of particular note are his words about prayer, the practise of virtue, discretion and charity in dealing with others, and maintaining integrity without letting one's zeal exceed one's prudence.

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