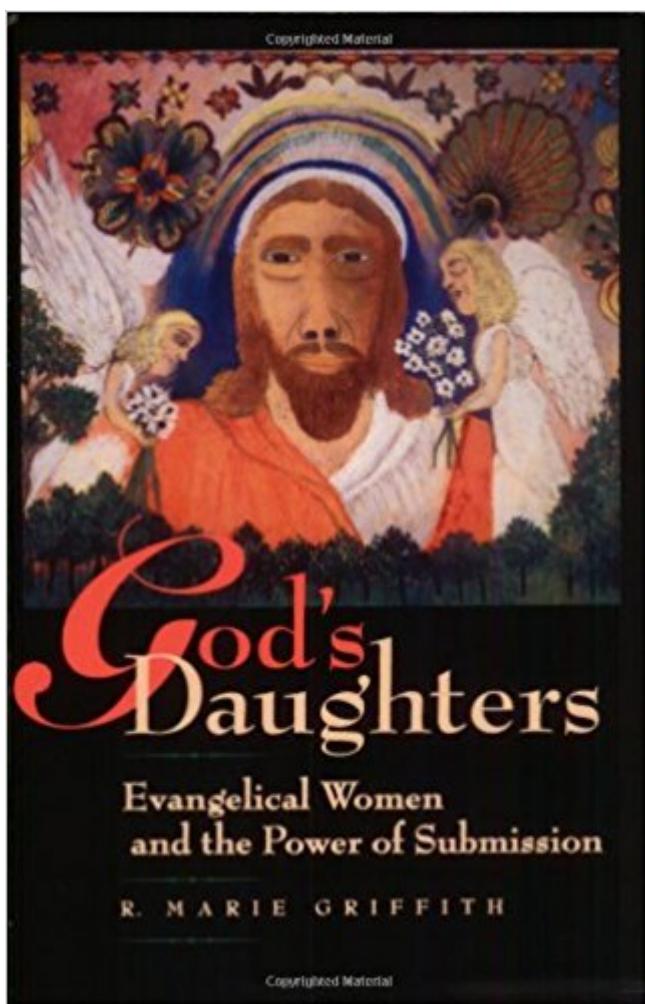


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# God's Daughters: Evangelical Women And The Power Of Submission



## Synopsis

In recent decades, religious conservatives and secular liberals have battled over the "appropriate" role of women in society. In this absorbing exploration of Women's Aglow Fellowship, the largest women's evangelical organization in the world, R. Marie Griffith challenges the simple generalizations often made about charismatic or "spirit-filled" Christian women and uncovers important connections between Aglow members and the feminists to whom they so often seem opposed. Women's Aglow is an international, interdenominational group of "spirit-filled" women who meet outside the formal church structure for healing prayer, worship, and testimony. Aglow represents a wider evangelical culture that has gained recent media attention as women inspired by the Christian men's group, Promise Keepers, have initiated parallel groups such as Praise Keepers and Promise Reapers. These groups are generally newcomers to an institutional landscape that Aglow has occupied for thirty years, but their beliefs and commitments are very similar to Aglow's. While historians have examined earlier women's prayer groups, they've tended to ignore these modern-day evangelical groups because of their assumed connection to the "religious right." God's Daughters reveals a devotional world in which oral and written testimonies recount the afflictions of human life and the means for seeking relief and divine assistance. A relationship with God, envisioned as father, husband or lover, and friend, is a way to come to terms with pain, dysfunctional family relationships, and a desire for intimacy. Griffith's book is also valuable in showing the complex role that women play within Pentecostalism, a movement that has become one of the most important in twentieth-century world religions.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Griffith finds in these women a quiet strength that feminist discourse has all but ignored."--"Mother Jones

"Vivid, lucid, and well-written. I came away with a better understanding of how the specific realities of being 'submissive wives' are negotiated, constructed, challenged, and transformed."&#151;Lynn Davidman, author of *Tradition in a Rootless World*"Griffith's deft portrayal is a unique and important contribution to the study of Pentecostal spirituality and a compelling model for the retelling of women's religious experience in twentieth-century American culture."&#151;Margaret Bendroth, author of *Fundamentalism and Gender, 1875 to Present*

This is a research documentary on the aglow movement written by a research student. It was interesting to see her perspective on this movement as well as her integrity in reporting the movement's beliefs and manifestations. A little "heady" but good information.

Book was as described. Shipping was quick and packaged well. Would purchase from again.

I just devoured this book sitting in a bookstore. The book is revolutionary for feminism: a great critique of feminist stereotypes of religiosity with real life stories. It opens up feminism to religion and religion to feminism by drawing out parallels ignored in dominant discourses. As I read some of the stories, I had tears streaming down my face. I was completely engrossed by both the ethnographic elements and the theoretical arguments. Great job!

Griffith does what I thought was impossible -- makes me feel sympathetic towards "submissive" fundamentalist women. This was a required text for one of my courses at a pretty liberal seminary. It was good for all of us to remind ourselves that "the other side" is made up (mostly) of normal, well-meaning human beings of good faith.

This book is easy to read for a scholarly study. The author makes clear her own mind set in studying the subject and has succeeded in objectively describing her observations. I found it to be an interesting and informative book about a group of people with whom I have little contact and about

whom I am inclined to have many prejudices. Ms. Griffith has made their interests clear and given me at least a small understanding of their world view.

I had to read this for college. I hated it! If it had been 100 pages it would have been much more interesting.

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