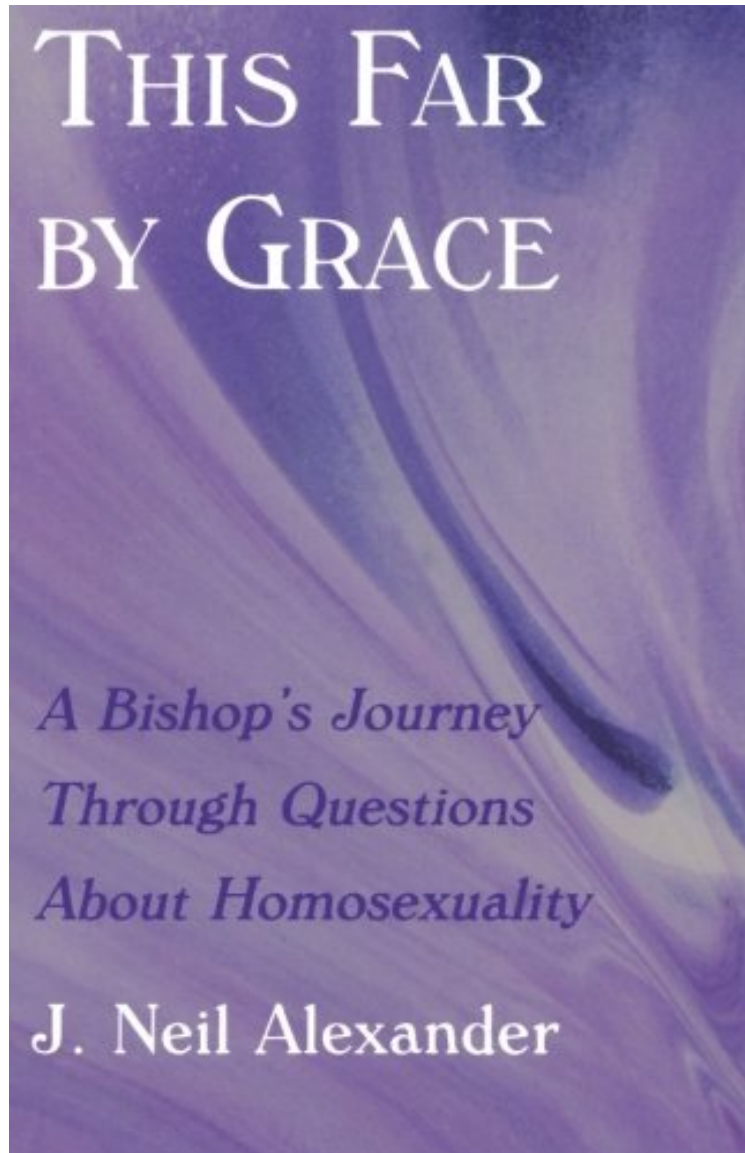


This Far By Grace: A Bishop's Journey Through Questions About Homosexuality

J. Neil Alexander

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J. Neil Alexander : This Far By Grace: A Bishop's Journey Through Questions About Homosexuality before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised This Far By Grace: A Bishop's Journey Through Questions About Homosexuality:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A Breath of Fresh Air!By roderick rogersThis book is a breath of

fresh air in a field filled with books already. Bishop Alexander takes a personal, pastoral approach to the place of homosexual people in the Church. He allows theology to serve God's people, not to hog-tie them. The writing in the book is easy, the topics dealt with broad, the scriptural content dealt with in an honest and critical way. This book will help readers straight or gay as they attempt to move in their thinking from a legalistic, unloving, unchristian understanding to a loving, pastoral, faith and grace-based understanding of people's lives. While the book is set in an Episcopal or Anglican context, the theology and pastoral understanding, the love for all of God's people, shines through. If you are looking for something to read about sexuality and the Church, this book is really great, for it does not require you to swallow the conventions of fundamentalist views of scripture first. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Interesting read to prepare for diversity in my community of faith. By hlcunningham An interesting read as we start the Reconciling in Christ study at our ELCA Lutheran Congregation. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Required Reading! By Marmie Although I don't agree with all of Bishop Alexander's conclusions, this book is a great guide for thinking one's way through a tough issue. The openness of his heart and spirit to God, leading to a caring conclusion requires each of us to step outside our comfort zone and FaceBook theology into serious study and prayer. No matter where you find yourself in the spectrum of thought on this issue, if you ignore this book you have not fully considered the full possibilities of our Christian response.

In this thoughtful and timely book, Bishop Alexander explores his journey through the theological, scriptural, and pastoral aspects of the questions surrounding homosexuality and the Christian faith. Writing in the weeks after the General Convention of the Episcopal Church approved the appointment of the church's first openly gay bishop, Bishop Alexander offers a personal view of his changing outlook from exclusion to acceptance on this important issue. He also offers thought-provoking perspectives on scripture and tradition. This *Far by Grace* will prove a vital resource for discussion and reflection by individuals, parishes, and dioceses.

'From fear to love, from conditional to unconditional, from judgment to mercy,' this is the conversion experience of one wise bishop whose caring discernment on the vexed subject of homosexuality is what the over-heated Episcopal Church needs now more than ever. There could not be a more timely or useful book than this for a church in turmoil, a fine example of pastoral, personal, and prophetic theology. (Professor Peter J. Gomes, The author of *The Good Life*) About the Author J. NEIL ALEXANDER is the bishop of Atlanta. He has taught at the University of the South School of Theology, and General Theological Seminary in New York City. Originally ordained a Lutheran pastor, he has served parishes in Murray Hill, New Jersey, Cowan, Tennessee, and New York City.