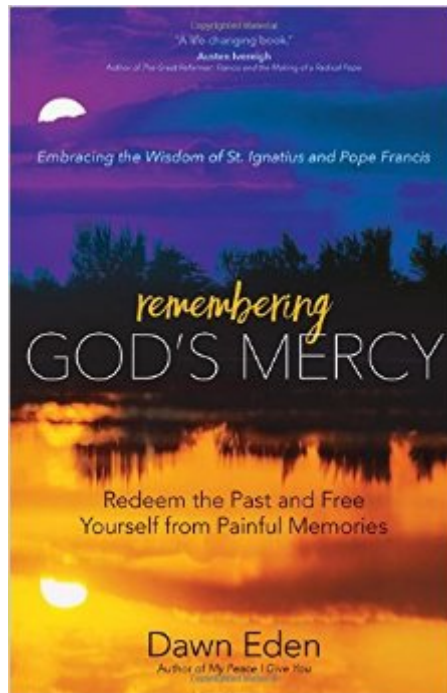


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Remembering God's Mercy: Redeem The Past And Free Yourself From Painful Memories



Synopsis

In the first book to explore how memories impact and are affected by faith, bestselling author Dawn Eden offers a guide to the process she used to heal the pain of her past. Through her own story, as well as the examples of St. Ignatius of Loyola, St. Peter Faber, and Pope Francis, she shows how the mercy of God, who holds all of events of our life in his own memory, can bring you healing and inner peace. Dawn Eden's *My Peace I Give You* helped thousands find peace after abuse and established her as the leading Catholic authority on recovering from traumatic stress. In *Remembering God's Mercy*, Eden--who suffered childhood sexual abuse that left her with PTSD--describes how she was inspired by the example of Pope Francis, St. Ignatius, and St. Peter Faber, all of whom suffered from their own painful experiences and followed a similar path to healing. Pope Francis has spoken openly about how a life-threatening bout of pneumonia affected his relationship with God, saying that recognizing and accepting the power of memories to color perceptions is essential to seeing God in all things and experiencing inner peace. The pope was influenced by the examples of Ignatius and Faber. Ignatius suffered the loss of his mother at a young age and was sent by his father to live with another family. He also fought as a mercenary soldier as a young man and experienced the trauma of war and physical pain. Faber, a student of Ignatius and among the early members of the Society of Jesus, suffered from bouts of depression and anxiety for years. He wrote in his diary how he applied Ignatius's spiritual practices in a way that enabled him to rise above his mental suffering to grow closer with God. Through the wisdom of these three Jesuits, Eden developed an Ignatian model of healing: Acknowledge your memories. Accept that they change the way you see God, your fate, and other people. Allow God to transform your memories by coloring the past and present with his story of salvation. Eden examines how Jesus' wounds can bring healing to your own hurt through prayer, Mass, the Sacraments (particularly confession), and the life of the Church. In each chapter, she will engage you with specific steps to take using the most famous Ignatian prayer, the *Suscipe*--Latin for "receive"--to transform your past traumas into an offering to God that is united with Jesus' own self-offering.

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Customer Reviews

Remembering God's Mercy is one of those rare books that combines personal testimony, theological insight, sound psychology, and prayerfulness all-in-one. Along with reading, I used this book for meditation for a week or two. It's an amazing book that has to be comprehended as by whole chapters and not by lines. When I read a book, I often look for "pull quotes" I can use in preaching or post online, and despite being excellent, this book doesn't specialize in that. Instead there's a reflection over the course of four or five pages that awakens you to some new light but that light can't be summarized in one line. Dawn is a former reporter for several rock and roll publications and, obviously, a convert. She has suffered immensely in her life both from others "including childhood sexual abuse" and from her own sexual liaisons; so, I think her voice is particularly good for reaching those in our society who are hurting. Doctor Eden "okay, she got her doctorate just after writing this book" had previously written a book on healing from sexual abuse but expanded this to a much wider healing in this book, focusing on healing our memories. Dawn points us to go back to our memories before we were hurt and this led me to ask when you talk what to do if someone has a disability or a pain from birth so they have no memories prior to their suffering. I hope she writes a book on that in the future. Nonetheless, her current book is helpful all who've suffered, even for those of us who have not suffered major trauma in our life. She begins by acknowledging the need people have both of psychological and spiritual help: "There is been a growing recognition in recent years that those of us who suffer the effect of painful memories need more than just psychological help."

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