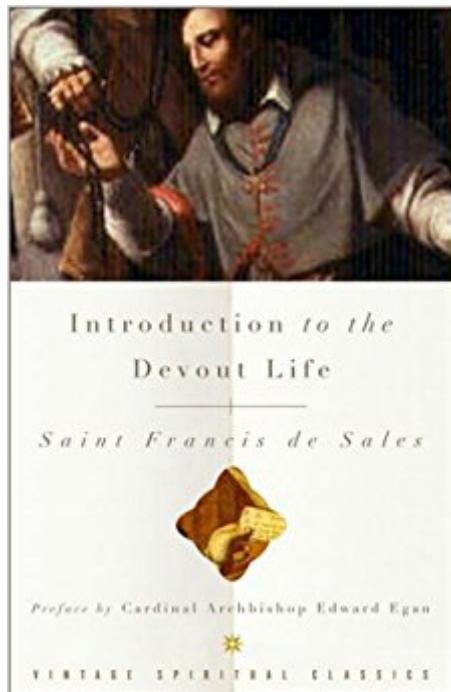


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# Introduction To The Devout Life



## Synopsis

Francis de Sales' *Introduction to the Devout Life* has remained a uniquely accessible and relevant treasure of devotion for nearly four hundred years. As Bishop of Geneva in the first quarter of the seventeenth century, Francis de Sales saw to the spiritual needs of everyone from the poorest peasants to court ladies. The desire to be closer to God that he found in people from all levels of society led him to compile these instructions on how to live in Christ. Francis' compassionate *Introduction* leads the reader through practical ways of attaining a devout life without renouncing the world and offers prayers and meditations to strengthen devotion in the face of temptation and hardship.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Devout life does not require withdrawal from the world. This was the central insight of Saint Francis de Sales, a 16th-century priest whose *Introduction to the Devout Life* has not gone out of print in almost four centuries. Francis served the church at a dangerous time in a dangerous place: during the Reformation, in Calvinist areas of France, when celebrating mass was punishable by death. He was a popular minister and a prolific letter writer whose correspondence was cherished for its clear and direct instruction in the ways of piety. The book collects passages from many of those letters, organized as one message addressed to the allegorical character Philothea (which means "lover of God"). The book includes long sections about prayer, temptation, and how to maintain and renew devotion to God. But it is most distinguished by its discussion of how to live a holy life in the secular

world. Each chapter (such as "How to Combine Due Care for a Good Reputation with Humility") is frank, uncannily modern, and precise. --Michael Joseph Gross

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yes

love this book and St. Francis' work

Arrived on time and as expected. Reading now.

Great book, as I was going through I was highlighting and trying to absorb and understand it in a 2016 sense. Each thought and feeling I had as I went along was explained within the next chapters that I read which was amazing. This book provides a clear guideline on how to live a devout life without completely leaving the world and becoming a hermit.

A very helpful practical guide for lay spirituality. Evidently written for a young married woman, it is applicable to individual piety without much change. The translation is reasonably modern and quite readable.

The first spiritual book actually written for lay people - and it is still as powerful as it was three and a half centuries ago.

This is an excellent guide for your prayer life. The book arrived in excellent condition.

Clear and simple, refreshes as the Alps of France whence he came. As with many many. Saints, he

knows well how my soul works-- and how it should work !

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