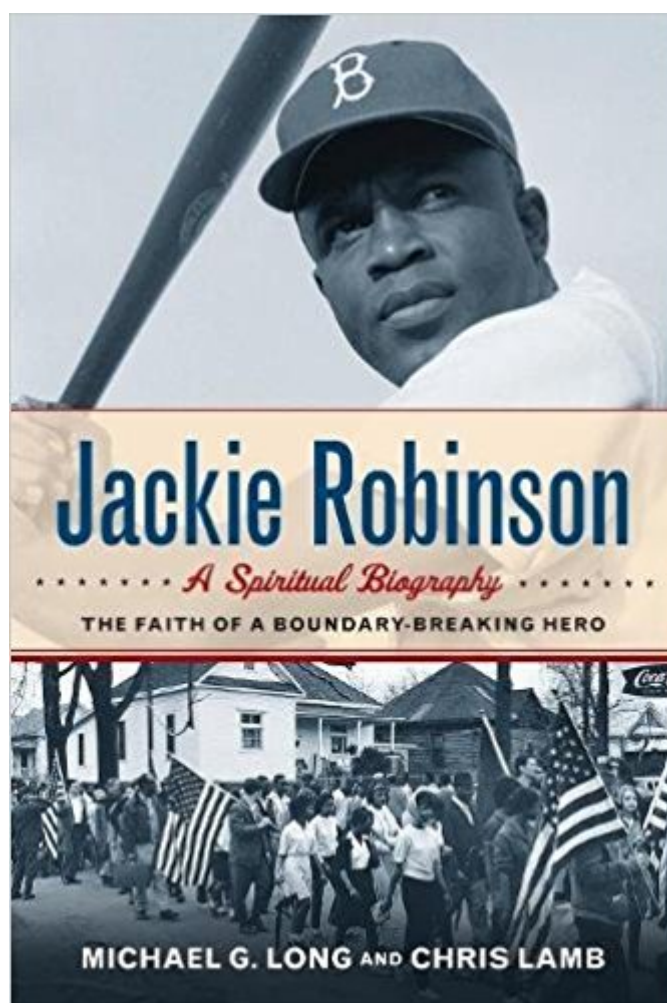


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Jackie Robinson: A Spiritual Biography: The Faith Of A Boundary-Breaking Hero



Synopsis

Jackie Robinson believed in a God who sides with the oppressed and who calls us to see one another as sisters and brothers. This faith was a powerful but quiet engine that drove and sustained him as he shattered racial barriers on and beyond the baseball diamond. *Jackie Robinson: A Spiritual Biography* explores the faith that, Robinson said, carried him through the torment and abuse he suffered for integrating the major leagues and drove him to get involved in the civil rights movement. Marked by sacrifice and service, inclusiveness and hope, Robinson's faith shaped not only his character but also baseball and America itself.

Book Information

Paperback: 212 pages

Publisher: Westminster John Knox Press (March 10, 2017)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0664262031

ISBN-13: 978-0664262037

Product Dimensions: 6.1 x 0.7 x 9.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 11 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #156,095 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #81 in [Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Sports & Outdoors > Baseball](#) #223 in [Books > Sports & Outdoors > Baseball](#) #450 in [Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Ethnic & National > African-American & Black](#)

Customer Reviews

"In this fast-paced read, Long and Lamb paint a portrait of groundbreaking baseball player Jackie Robinson that is both refreshing and exciting." --Publishers Weekly

Michael G. Long is Associate Professor of Religious Studies and Peace and Conflict Studies at Elizabethtown College and is the author or editor of several books on civil rights, religion and politics, and peacemaking in mid-century America, including *Peaceful Neighbor: Discovering the Countercultural Faith of Mister Rogers*, *Beyond Home Plate: Jackie Robinson on Life after Baseball*, and *First Class Citizenship: The Civil Rights Letters of Jackie Robinson*, which was named a best book of the year by Publishers Weekly. Chris Lamb is Professor of Journalism at Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis and is the author and editor of several books on sports, race, and the media, including *Blackout: The Untold Story of Jackie Robinson's First Spring Training*

and Conspiracy of Silence: Sportswriters and the Long Campaign to Desegregate Baseball, which was called one of the best nonfiction baseball books of all time by The Huffington Post and was named the Best Book on Journalism and Mass Communication History by the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication in 2013 . His articles on sports have appeared in The New York Times, Sports Illustrated, Wall Street Journal, ESPN.com, and New Republic.com.

This biography is the quintessential American story that is as relevant today as it was 70+ years ago. It is a story of faith, faith in ones self, in ones God, and in ones country. Along with this faith is a man of courage, conviction, and loyalty that is as inspirational today as any story of an american hero. This book should be read by any christian or non christian who loves this country and believes in the american spirit of perseverance, self discipline, and excellence. Included in this bio is the seldom told story of the women in Jackies life, his mother Mallie, and his wife Rachel. Each of them were influential and contributed to his spirit driven life. A well written book which insightful and easy to read. EJacobs

A long awaited story of Jackie Robinson's incredible journey of faith, something not included in most of the films about him. Definitely a book worth reading for inspiration and a deeper look into a man of courage, strength and conviction!

Jackie Robinson A Spiritual Biography by Michael G. Long and Chris Lamb is a wonderful journey through the faith life of Jackie Robinson. Jackie is best known for breaking the color barrier in professional baseball and many, like me, know little about him beyond his time in sports. This story starts with his life as a child on a plantation in Georgia and through his mother's strong faith and hard work the family ends up living in Pasadena California. Jackie goes on to attend college and plays multiple sports while there. Of course, he eventually ends up playing for the Brooklyn Dodgers as the first negro to play for a major-league team. This is just the beginning of his story. After baseball Jackie continues to live his faith through various positions and service projects for his community and the country. This book is the story of his deep faith in the God who cares for everyone, including all colors and religions, and calls us to unite as one family. I rate this book 5 of 5 stars. I am so glad I read this book. It helped me to better understand the history of the time and relate it to what is happening in our country today. Some of the quotes from the 1960's ring true today with the turmoil in our country. It also made me take a look at my own faith and examine my life in terms of what I am giving back to God. I believe this book is

well researched as the historical details I know are accurate. The characters are all real people so some are likeable and some not so much as we all can find in our personal lives. I received an advanced reader copy from the publisher through Netgalley in exchange for my honest review.

This was an interesting biography to read. I know very little about Jackie Robinson, probably what most people do, that he was the first African American major league baseball player. I had seen the movie 42, which was referenced and corrected when needed, but I had no idea of his politics and religious convictions. He spent a lot of time involved in politics after he retired from baseball, and spent more of his life outside the game than in it. I had never thought about it honestly. He came from a religious family and it greatly influenced his actions. It was interesting to see the political connections that baseball gave him, to writing and speaking with presidents about civil rights to meeting with Martin Luther King Jr. It was interesting to know how that all connected and really shows how much of a team effort the civil rights movement was. It wasn't isolated events and people, but many people connect from different ideas of how to accomplish the same goals. From what I read, while Robinson claimed the Christian faith, many of these ideas didn't quite line up with what I would view as orthodox Christian beliefs. He struggled with certain aspects of his faith and was honest about it, which is always great to read, as we all have those areas and it's an encouragement to read how others deal and have gotten through those struggles. Would be a great discussion starting point on living out one's faith and how that looks. As a note for parents, there was accurate language used when the author described some of the names that Robinson was called. The author didn't edit the language, so please be advised if you read this with your children that there are foul words used, mainly in the beginning. I don't recall as of them but (n-word, b-word and so forth). Reviewed in exchange for book;

I received a copy of this book in exchange for an honest review. I want to thank Westminster John Knox Press and NetGalley for the chance to read this book. I am not sure that I would call this a biography. I would call it a history book whose central figure would be Jackie Robinson. He had a tremendous impact on history and the period of time he was alive was certainly one that needs to be reviewed, especially in what this book talks about, civil rights. It is a history of the civil rights movement. Many times we branch off on the people and events that are part of his life, but we always come back to it. This period of time is important to me. Jackie broke the racial barrier in the late 40's and I was born in the early 50's. While I grew up in this time frame, until we get to the 70's much of it was new history to me. And a lot of it rung true to me. I can remember my father telling

me that the negro needed to have his rights. I also remember, when a negro family moved in to the area and I went to play with them, I came home with a beating from my dad that I was never to go to that area again. So I can say that much of the problems between the races that is talked about was quite evident in the years I grew up. The book is not political. It is a history of what happened. And it all revolves around Jackie Robinson. I would gladly recommend this book to anyone. It is not a book that preaches at you, but faith was a part of his life.

This is the second excellent book I have read recently about Jackie R's faith as related to his singular accomplishments. The other is "42:Faith". Together they are a great "double play."

Great, inspirational book!

Inspiring story of an incredible man and athlete.

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