

# *Spiritual Experience*

*What one seeker found.*



# Spiritual Experience

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## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Permit me to introduce myself. My name is John Arthur Jenkins. I am a Truth seeker, poet, songwriter and an author. This book is my gift to you. It contains what I found as a result of *my* seeking. I sincerely pray that you will find this book a help to you in *your* search for Truth.

My intent follows the thinking of two of the great minds on the leading edge of spirituality who are quoted as saying:

**Religion is belief in someone else's experience.  
Spirituality is having your own experience.**

-Deepak Chopra

**Rings and jewels are not gifts, but apologies for gifts. The only gift is a portion of thyself. Thou must bleed for me. Therefore, the poet brings his poem; the shepherd, his lamb; the farmer, corn; the miner, a stone; the painter, his picture; the girl, a handkerchief of her own sewing. <sup>1</sup>**

-Ralph Waldo Emerson

And so I bring this gift to you...in a book. It is my sincere hope and prayer that the messages herein will motivate you to do as another famous entity has suggested;

**“Seek and ye shall find...the still small voice of God.”**

After reading the book I warmly encourage you to indulge yourself by **“having your own spiritual experience”**

Because I Love you,

John

<sup>1</sup> Found in an 1843 essay titled “Gifts” by the prominent lecturer Ralph Waldo Emerson who argued that a gift is only worthwhile if it is integrally related to the gift-giver

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### **Acknowledgements**

This book received its first forward momentum on September 4, 2004 from the encouragement of a dear friend, Mrs. Virginia Zurbrigg. This gentle lady out lived two husbands...both ordained ministers. Had it not been for her gentle yet positive push I might never have seriously considered doing this.

More than anything else I do this for the benefit of my children who, for the most part, did not understand what happened to their dad. Hopefully this will give them and others an insight into how God can sneak up on you when least expected and get active in your life.

With Light, Love and Laughter,

John Arthur Jenkins

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## INTRODUCTION

This little book is for you. It was written from the top of my head and the bottom of my heart.

There are many things in this world that I do not understand, but one thing I do understand is that I was born with an insatiable curiosity. I am sure that if my parents were here today to testify that they would say without a shadow of a doubt, "He never stopped asking why."

Not only would I ask the normal questions of a normal little boy, but I would ask questions even as an adult that other adults would never think or dare to ask.

I would not even hesitate to ask a question that others might considered to be stupid. Perhaps it is because of this latter tendency that I found answers to questions sometimes quite by accident with no one being more surprised than I.

I certainly never considered myself an intellect. My schoolteachers would certainly testify to that, however, leave me to my own resources and I would ask God or nature seemingly dumb questions and get marvelous answers.

Indeed, this book might even be entitled '*Spirituality for Dummies*'. If you gain nothing else from the words between the covers, you will certainly gain the ability and the fearlessness to ask God a seemingly dumb question.

If you read this book as though you're sitting beside grandpa on the back porch swing and grandpa is just reminiscing...then, child, welcome. I love you.

If 40 years ago someone had suggested to me that someday soon I would be able to hear the still small voice of God I would've said: "You're out of your cotton picking mind." I am certain that I would have considered myself among the least likely souls to whom the divine would ever choose to speak, so there would have been total disbelief in the suggestion made.

Well, here I am today in my 70s, and listen to this: Someday soon *you* will be able to hear the still small voice of God.

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No, I am not out of my mind, many folks may think so, but that is their opinion, not mine. No, I am not BS'ing you. I speak the truth but, I will be very quick to add this qualifying statement:

*Do not take my word for it.* This is something you have to prove for yourself.

Neale Donald Walsh jolted the Christian world when he released *Conversations With God*. Some loved it, some wanted to crucify him. Sound familiar? He took a huge risk in releasing the Truth he had discovered. His was the snow plow that cleared the road for many more to follow.

Me, I like to learn from studying a subject, however, I learn best when I learn from experience...usually my own...but if I can avoid getting hit on the back of the head by a spiritual 2" x 4" as a result of studying what someone else experienced then I would gladly take that route.

If this little book will bless just one soul, then it will have been well worth the writing. I invite you to come along with me. Pull up a comfortable chair, kick your feet up onto something supportive and settle back for a story or two. Some of us old folks just love to talk and a curious audience is by far our best company.

Oh, by the way. Believe it or not, God loves you...as is...and so do I.

John

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Now I just heard someone say: "Okay old man what cha got up your sleeve?"

Well, I definitely have an ace or two. Could you use a couple of them up yours? Let's get down to business. Here is an example of a Spiritual Experience.

### **THE CEILING**

One day as I sat reclined in my chair I started to study the ornate pattern on the plastered ceiling. The plasterer was very talented, as was obvious from the precise border around the ceiling and the central swirling pattern which surrounded the light in the middle of the ceiling. With no intent other than child like curiosity I let one thought just pop out of my mouth:

"God? If You decorated this ceiling what would it look like?" And in the blink of an eye, there across the ceiling, as though written by a huge finger in wet sand, I saw the words..."I love you."