

## 1. Jesus Calling

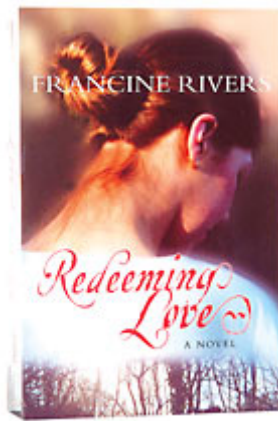
Author is Sarah Young

It is a devotional book with a reading for every day of the year. It is written like its Jesus himself speaking to you. The words are taken from various scripture references, so it's not really made up, just paraphrased and arranged along similar thoughts. There are words of reassurance, comfort and hope, and words that constantly remind you of God's Presence and allow you to enjoy His peace.

From the back of the book: "Jesus is calling you... for a greater sense of 'God with you'. Or perhaps Jesus seems distant without you knowing why. Or maybe you have wandered farther from Him than you ever imagined you would. Here is a year's worth of daily readings from Young's journals to bring you closer to Christ and move your time with Him from a monologue to a dialogue. Each day is written as if Jesus Himself were speaking to you. Because He is."

This book is a best seller and you'll think of someone else who needs to read it too. Buy one for them as well.

You can't help but hear the words of a loving God and want to read it, live it, pray it and experience it every day.



## 2. **Redeeming Love** - Author is Francine Rivers

This is one of her early romance novels but still one of the best.

From the back of the book: The story is set in “California’s Gold country, 1850. A time when men sold their souls for a bag of gold and women sold their bodies for a place to sleep.

Angel expects nothing from men but betrayal. Sold into prostitution as a child, she survives by keeping her hatred alive.

Then she meets Michael Hosea. A man who seeks his Father’s heart in everything, Michael obeys God’s call to marry Angel, and to love her unconditionally. Day by day, he defies Angel’s every bitter expectation until, despite her resistance, her heart begins to thaw. But with her unexpected softening come overwhelming feelings of unworthiness and fear. So Angel runs...”

This is a superbly written story, which holds you throughout, frustrated at the weakness of human love and crying out for God’s perfect love to heal and redeem.

This powerful story gives hope to those who live with feelings of unworthiness, guilt, shame, anger, betrayal, bitterness and fear. It paints a wonderful picture of God pursuing the lost, willing to forgive and make them whole with His love, like in the Old Testament book of Hosea.

Be prepared to have your own understanding of love in marriage examined and challenged too.

A Christian novel that leaves you loving God, and each other, more is always worth the read.