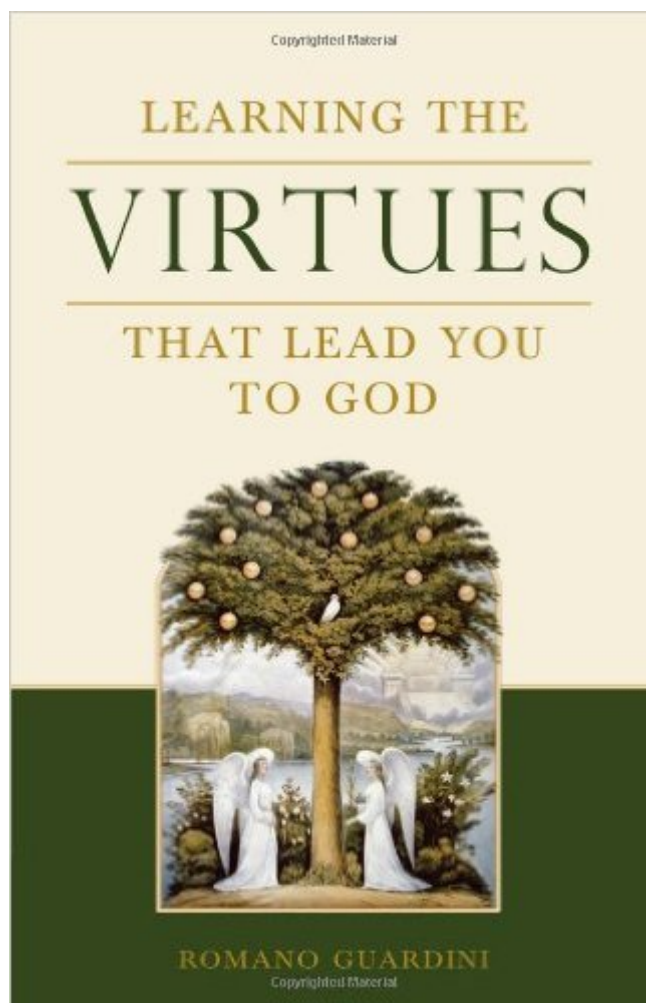


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# Learning The Virtues: That Lead You To God



## Synopsis

There's more to goodness than keeping the Commandments: you've got to cultivate virtue, too, so that you please God in what you do not merely in what you don't do. In these pages, you'll learn countless ways to grow in such virtue. The wise Msgr. Romano Guardini, a German priest hailed by Pope Benedict XVI as a great figure who aspired to the truth of God and to the truth of man, leads you from a consideration of virtue in itself to a discussion of each of the key virtues that will make you holy and lead you to God. Here you'll learn how to begin practicing the virtues and make them part of your daily routine. You'll also learn about: Envy, the hidden sin, even in the spiritually mature: how to fight it Courtesy: how good manners are spiritually vital to souls "What is truth?" The surprising answer to Pilate's question will transform you Patience: it's the prerequisite for all moral growth, and only the morally strong attain it Orderliness: not a moral virtue in itself, but lack of it may cost your soul Why a sense of humor is so important even to your spiritual health The strange contradiction in blaming God for the evil in the world Belief in progress: in our day it can be a form of idolatry The tyranny of justice: why so many justice movements turn unjust (knowing this is the key to our future as a society) Asceticism: it's not just for monks without it, you may not be saved! Trashy movies: there's spiritual danger even in the ones that don't obviously glorify sin Discover why noise weakens the soul, and how silence is balm for your spiritual life Plus: many other topics to help you grow in the virtues that lead you to God!

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This book, formerly titled *The Virtues*, is one of Guardini's best books. It is a list of his chosen

virtues, with a chapter devoted to each. On looking at the virtues he chooses, one sees the essence of his writing. Some of them are: truthfulness, patience, justice, reverence, asceticism, courage, kindness, courtesy, silence, justice before God - they are the virtues of the interior man, the virtues drawn out of contemplation and knowledge of the true nature of the human being. They are also a statement on the times in which we live, where truthfulness, justice, reverence, courage, kindness, courtesy, and, most especially, silence are hard to come by. Guardini's gift is that he can penetrate the indoctrination, distractions and ultimately, the lying of our age and pierce through to the bedrock of our spirituality, the nature of man, and man in relationship to God. His writings bring man back to what is essential, and strengthen him in trying to live by these precepts. One of Guardini's purposes in all that he did was to shore up the faith in an age that attacks it mercilessly, and in an age that tries to falsify the nature of man (in advertising, media, manipulation, etc.) This is a wonderful book. It is the holy stratosphere surrounding the throne of God. Highly recommended.

Romano Guardini's books never disappoint, but I was a bit reluctant to start this one. Virtues, in my mind, were manly things, the word "virtue" being derived from the Latin word "vir", the generated male. Guardini's list of virtues -- patience, acceptance, disinterestedness, kindness, courtesy, unselfishness -- seemed too tame, too domesticated. I was wrong. One comes to appreciate that Guardini's virtues are absolutely essential in this world that tries to distort human nature. These "quiet" virtues orient us toward our essence and allow us to appreciate the singularity of everyone else and everything in God's creation. They are an antidote to the noisiness, the emphasis of grand gestures, the resentments of modern living. They all point to ways to "take possession" of oneself under the umbrella of humility before the Divine. A book to be read chapter at a time, followed by reflection.

When I went to college 25 years ago I read the original book "The Virtues" as a required reading. After all this time I still remember the impact this book has had on me! It is the only textbook that I have remembered & cherished. I have bought copies to give to friends as gifts, and now that my children are teenagers, I will be giving them their own copies to keep. Guardini has a unique way of presenting the virtues. It is the best book on this subject !

This is not a book for the person looking for a light pass over of the virtues. I could only read one chapter at a time, because it confronted me with much to contemplate. I do recommend it highly though for those who want to confront their shortcomings but especially for those who want a

pathway out of the endless cycle of sins. There are no more excuses in the confessional!

If I had a little more money, I would buy a box of these and give a copy to everyone I know. A beautiful, thought-provoking, life-transforming book.

This is an excellent book, and it has the added benefit of helping to guide you in the right moral direction. I would recommend it to all who would like to recognize and overcome faults and areas of need in their lives.

Guardini is a sadly neglected moral theologian who apart from Josef Pieper would be hard to better in the last 100 years. His works besides being of the most important subjects possible for human consideration are written in perhaps the clearest possible way for everyone to understand. I therefore recommend them to every one.

Through the text emerges the image of a modest, honest and wise man of faith who has experienced life and extracted pearls of wisdom that he shares with his readers. The writing is simple yet powerful - the hallmark of a great thinker who has grasped the essence of a things. As a spiritual guide this book is as essential as "Spiritual Combat" by Scupoli and "Introduction to the devout life" by de Sales but more accessible, given its contemporary language. This is a life-long companion I will carry with me to nurture my soul and to help me work towards purity.

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