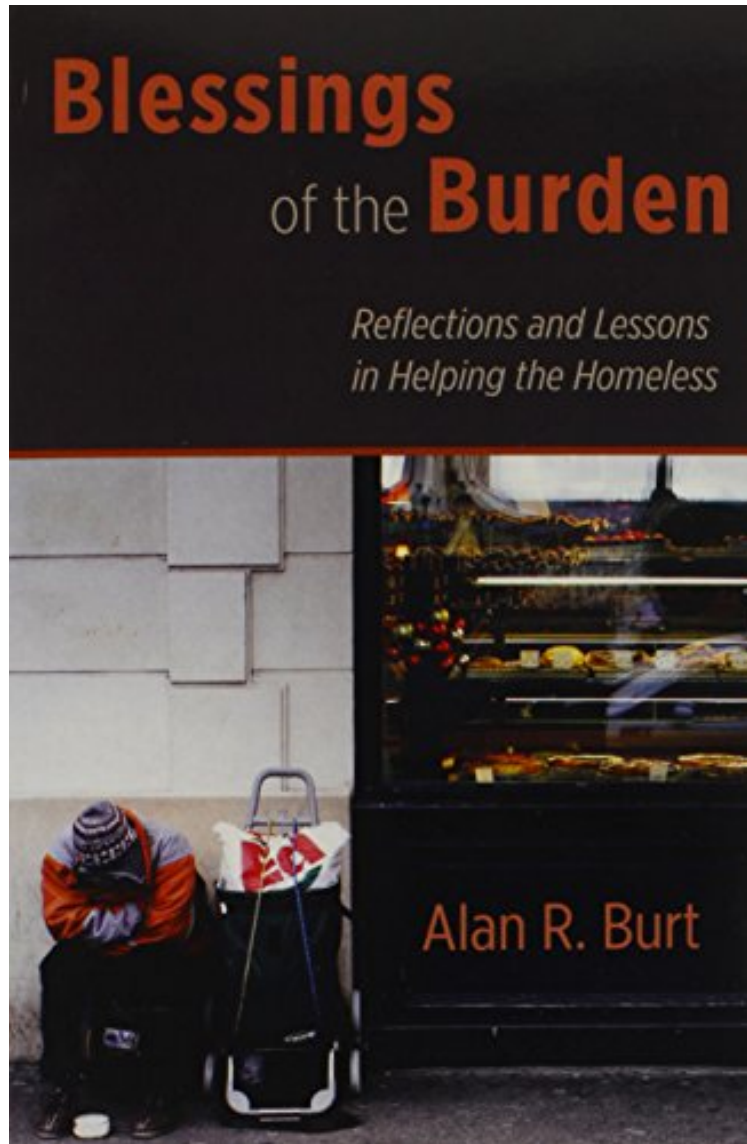


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Blessings of the Burden: Reflections and Lessons in Helping the Homeless

Alan R. Burt

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Alan R. Burt : Blessings of the Burden: Reflections and Lessons in Helping the Homeless before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Blessings of the Burden: Reflections and Lessons in Helping the Homeless:

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Moving and InspiringBy Elise DennisIn this compelling book Alan Burt makes himself vulnerable at the outset, sharing his own story of how he was led to look past frightening

stereotypes and to step out into involvement with homeless men and women--an involvement that has become his life's passion, through which he has helped so many people. But Alan's own story is actually minor here, for it is his homeless friends themselves, who really come to life in these pages, that make this such a remarkable book to read. The moving and inspiring interview with Billy Bishop, a formerly homeless man who went on to head Homeless not Helpless, a housing venture run by and for homeless people, is itself worth the price of the book. 5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. blessings for the author By L. Morgan Alan Burt shares his life long passion of serving the homeless on Cape Cod in his book 'blessings of the burden.' he takes us into the lives of some of the men and women he has come to know and care for. without Mr Burt's vision, I may have gone along in my life not reflecting on who these 'homeless' people were prior to their 'hitting' the streets. thank you Mr. Burt for putting into words, what others have not had the opportunity to see first hand, thank you for giving a person such as myself the willingness after reading this book to do more and advocate in my community for the homeless. if you ever thought for a moment as you passed by a homeless person on a street corner "what if" , buy this book. buy this book for yourself, for the homeless person you passed by and in a sense for your community. 5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. An important message By Karen Morgan Mr Burt has put a human face on such an important issue. The telling of personal stories challenges our complacency.

In Blessings of the Burden Alan R. Burt shares his heart for people who are homeless. Full of personal stories drawn from almost two decades of firsthand experience working with the homeless, this book is a passionate plea for greater community involvement in confronting the pressing social problem of homelessness. Unfolding in five parts, Blessings of the Burden includes Burt's own journey from apathy to advocacy, a moving interview with a formerly homeless man who is now the director of an organization that fights homelessness in Cape Cod, Burt's analysis of the fourteen main reasons why homelessness is such a massive problem in America, and an example of how one community developed an innovative and cost-effective approach to helping the homeless among them. Powerful and compelling, Blessings of the Burden will inspire readers to get involved with the homeless and to become advocates for their needs, believing that they can make a difference in their communities.

Steven Bouma-Prediger-- Hope College "Blessings of the Burden is a heartfelt reflection on the plight of the homeless in America. In this touching personal account of his own work with homeless people, Alan Burt gives voice to the voiceless among us -- people we all too often ignore and neglect. Woven into this compilation of stories is a perceptive analysis of the forces that cause homelessness as well as prayers and lessons about what ordinary people like us can do. May this slim volume find a broad readership." Dan Wolf-- Massachusetts State Senator "Alan Burt's journey, his message, and his ability to translate conviction into action are an inspiration. He is proof positive that individuals with faith, vision, and commitment can make profound differences in the lives of individuals and communities." Gabriel Fackre-- Andover Newton Theological School "The remarkable story of care and advocacy for the homeless on Cape Cod is inextricable from the life and witness of Alan Burt. Readers will be drawn into the sorrows and joys of the real people who are his companions on a shared journey. . . . A model of ministry for other communities." Philip F. Mangano-- American Round Table to Abolish Homelessness "People of faith who seek solutions to the moral disgrace of homelessness, who want to move from servicing homelessness to solving the problem, will benefit from this story."