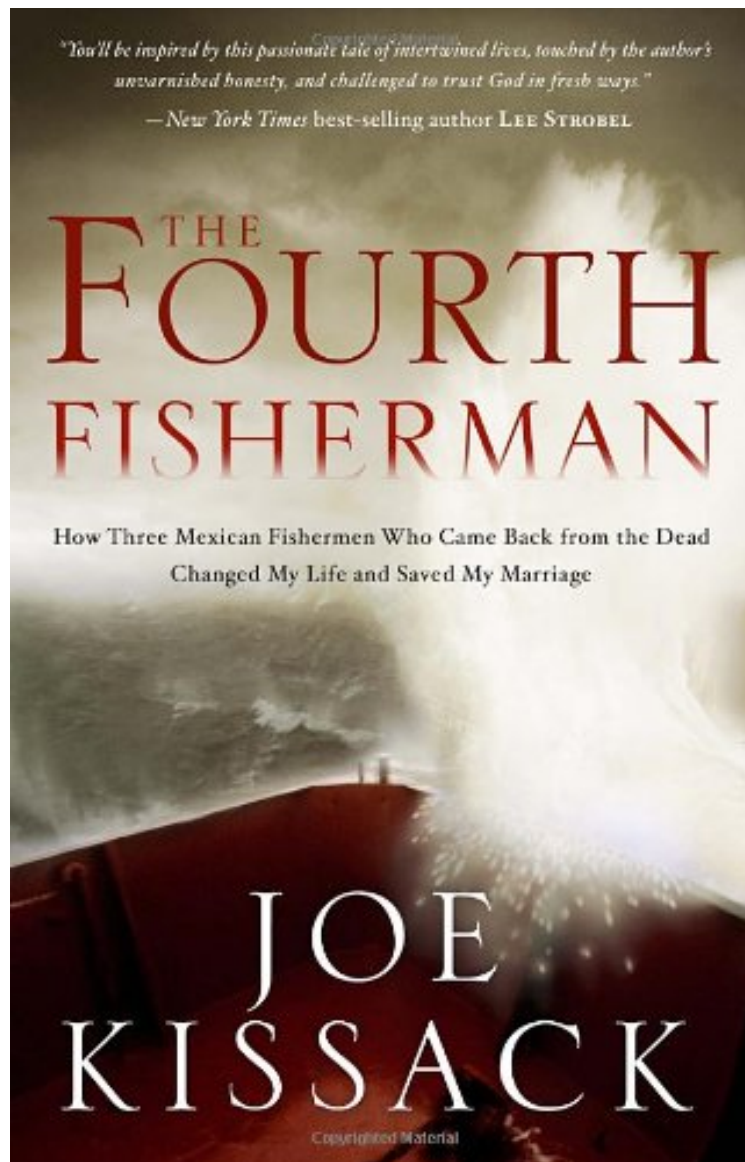


(Free and download) The Fourth Fisherman: How Three Mexican Fishermen Who Came Back from the Dead Changed My Life and Saved My Marriage

## The Fourth Fisherman: How Three Mexican Fishermen Who Came Back from the Dead Changed My Life and Saved My Marriage

Joe Kissack

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**Joe Kissack : The Fourth Fisherman: How Three Mexican Fishermen Who Came Back from the Dead Changed My Life and Saved My Marriage** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Fourth Fisherman: How Three Mexican Fishermen Who Came Back from the Dead Changed My Life and Saved My Marriage:

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By Barbara G. LongMy husband. oves to read and he enjoyed the book very much and I loved the price.  
5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Carmen is the 5th Fisherperson  
By M. CastellonI enjoyed Joe's book very much, and I applaud his honesty. It is unusual, in my experience, to receive such clarity of purpose in our walk with Jesus, and it takes much courage to risk so much following Him. I must say, however, that I view his wife Carmen as perhaps being the real hero of the tale. It takes a remarkable kind of strength and faith to hold the kite strings and let the wind pull one's spouse all over creation. And the wind seems to have been rather strong. I wonder if a future edition might offer an opportunity for Carmen to share some of her own faith, hope, and inspiration in this remarkable story of these two lifemates, trusting God, and going-without-always-knowing.  
1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A book I have highly recommended even to people that are agnostic  
By Katherine KarraschParallel stories are very relatable to my life and of people I know. A book I have highly recommended even to people that are agnostic.  
I found myself crying throughout the book as it related to parts of my life.  
Nice to know I'm not the only person who has experienced a connection with God

We each came to a moment of brokenness; what we found there was God. And he was enough. It was the subject of headlines around the world: Three Mexican fishermen in a small open boat without any supplies, drifting for more than nine months and 5,500 miles across the Pacific Ocean. Through blistering sun and threatening storms, they battle starvation, dehydration, hopelessness, and death. Their lifelines? An unwavering faith and a tattered Bible. Thousands of miles away, Joe Kissack, a successful Hollywood executive, personified the American dream. He enjoyed the trappings of the good life: a mini mansion, sports cars, and more. He had it made. Yet the intense pressure of his driven and high-powered career sends him into a downward spiral, driving him deep into suicidal depression, insidious addictions, and alienation from his family. His lifelines? A friend and a Bible on the table between them. Thoughtfully told with candor and humor, Kissack weaves together the incredible true voyage of fishermen adrift in the sea and his own life's journey as a man lost in the world. It is a story that will buoy your spirit and renew your hope and faith.

.com QA with Author Joe Kissack Your story of rising to the top of your profession sounds like a dream come true, yet you were so unhappy. Where do you think things went wrong? Foundationally, things went wrong very early in my life. In families where the father is misled-chances are that everyone in the family will be misled. Because of an unsafe childhood home, ruled by an alcoholic, I was born into and grew up in a constant state of survival. It created unconscious drive towards protecting myself and gaining any and everything for my subsistence. My professional life was just an extension of that mode of operating (except in our culture, especially in business, it is what is thought of as success). Often, a life on this course looks fine until it starts to come off the tracks. It seems that when things start to go wrong, they are going wrong in or very near the present moment. This is rarely the case, and the root cause of where things go wrong can be traced back to a time that seems disconnected to the present instance. Often we miss this because we don't know what we don't know. Why do you think your wife, Carmen, stuck with you during your addictions and depression? The short version is - she loved me. She is an incredible woman and the hero of this story. She prayed. She held out hope. She did and does the thing that rock solid women like her do - stick with knuckleheads who don't deserve to be stuck with. Millions of women are doing this right now, hoping that somehow, by some miracle perhaps, the men in their lives will come to their senses. Sometimes they do. And what they find is a woman who is the hero of their story. You grew up in an alcoholic house. How do you think your two daughters were affected by your addictions and what have you done differently since your sobriety? My children have been, and will continue to be, greatly affected by my addictions and that of the generational predisposition that my/our DNA carries with it and we have made a conscious decision to call it out of the darkness and shine a light on it. But, they have also been greatly affected by my sobriety. The truth of our past gives the next generation a chance to fight against it, without it having to be a secret. I bring it up often in our home with a simple statement: Please allow me to remind everyone that our family comes from a long line of addiction and depression. Please proceed with caution! People often say you have to hit rock bottom before you can change. Do you think your spiritual awakening would have happened if you didn't hit that bottom? I would tend to agree with that statement, but I can only comment as it relates to my experience and me. It is really hard for me to say what would or would not happen for anyone else. In my case, I was on a fine line between the continued living existence of this human body, and the end of its existence and the death of it. My spiritual awakening and the rock bottom seemed to have an interesting timing with each other to come at the same moment. However, I don't think everyone will or has to have it happen this way to them. We all make choices, and for the longest time I chose to ignore what I knew to be truth of where it was all heading. I did that up until the very moment of surrender. Some people do it sooner. I think they are the smart ones. How have your non-religious friends reacted to your newfound faith? It is kind of a mixed bag. Some have found it to be a reason to distance themselves: Don't you think Joe has carried this God thing a little too far? While others have grown closer: We have been praying for you and wondering when God's grace and mercy would be showered down on you. The truth is, at least for me, it doesn't matter what anyone's reaction is. It is none of my business what others think about me. It is really none of my

business what I even think about me. There is only ONE opinion of me that counts, and I know where I stand with Him. You use humor throughout the book. Tell us about how you reacted when your house was on fire and what that symbolized in your life. Ah yes. I used to be really funny. So it is not so much that I use humor throughout the book, but more like I just use me. It is just the way I see things. I am sometimes able to find the humor in even the most tragic of times. (Thank goodness I had the greatest editor in the world, Ken Peterson, to let me know when I had crossed a line.) At the time of our house fire I was in a heavily medicated state - doing all I could to keep from feeling the excruciating pain of my great sadness, the unending fear and doom of my daily existence, and loss of control of a life that was once looked great. When I pulled into the driveway to see the smoke billowing out of the windows I reacted with sort of a default of do something. I just needed to do something about it. My literal house was on fire but my metaphoric house (and everything in it) was on fire, too. It wasnt just falling apart in disrepair and going to crumble down one brick at a time. It was going to flare up and incinerate everything in my life like an atomic explosion. Mowing the grass was my attempt at radiation treatment. Your search for the fishermen started out badly. Did you ever consider leaving Mexico and why did you stay? Oh, I considered leaving on several occasions: when I first heard from my colleagues that I was on my own; when I first heard of the cannibalism; and when I got my expensive hotel bill and imagined the cost of it all. I also considered leaving when there were no seats on the flight I needed; when I heard how much the miraculous first class seat was; when I met the soldiers with machine guns; and when I saw the rough looking gang with machetes. For a normal person, those would be seven pretty good reasons to turn and run the other way. I wish I could tell you that I stayed because I had some great plan, but I didnt. I stayed because each time I tried to leave, something (or someone) countered the obstacle I was facing with a tiny glimmer of hope (or I am just really stupid). It gave me just enough courage to take one more step forward even though I couldnt see where my foot was going to land. The media focused on some the questions around the fishermen's survival and you address the issues head on in your book. Why do you think the doubts began quickly after the rescue? I have been in media for nearly 30 years. I have a pretty good understanding of what sells, which by the way, you dont have to be in media for 30 years to understand, all you have to do is look at what the media offers as news. There is no such thing as Journalism in media today. It is mostly Opinionism with a few facts thrown in to make it sound like someone is doing their job as a journalist. The media companies use this Opinionism with a slant towards whatever precise demographic, psychographic, or like-minded constituency, which uses a particular media outlet and buys the products that are advertised on those outlets. There may have been legit doubts in the survival, but the doubts seemed to be fueled by an agenda to tell (or more likely sell) a sensational story. If there were real doubts, wouldnt it make sense to investigate the doubts further, rather than just make a claim of something sinister and whipping it into a frenzy? If investigated, it could have easily been determined what the survival was, but that is not what the media did. If they had, they would have found out how outrageous their claims were. You write about your relationship with your father, his alcoholism and you feeling that you could never be good enough. Did you ever resolve that conflict with him? And what advice, if any, do you give adult children who still struggle with unresolved issues with their parent or parents? I have tried on many occasions to engage my father in this conversation and unfortunately have not been able to. However, I have been able to find peace over it. I have done what I know how to do, to reconcile. I started to realize that perhaps he did too, but it wasnt going to include any sort of a conversation on his part. He doesnt know how to do that. It is like trying to buy a gallon of milk at a flower shop. It doesnt exist there. Then a friend suggested that I start to see him through a different lens. Gods lens. Once I started to do that, things changed. I started to see my father in a completely new way, perhaps the way that God sees him. It made me sad to think that this man had been wounded in such a way that made him the way he was. I was filled with sorrow for him. Soon, resentments and anger were replaced with a different set of empathetic emotions that eventually led me to forgiveness and grace, all without ever having one conversation about it with him. Recently I received a letter from a woman from Oregon who was reading *The Fourth Fisherman* over the phone with her father, who lived in California. It was serving as a conduit for a discussion between them about their own unresolved issues. I consider it a great honor and privilege that in some small way, this book was able to serve them. This is the very reason I do what I do. Was the process of writing the book difficult? Yes and no. The overall process of writing a book is one of the most difficult things I have ever done. What to write? Why to write it? How to write it? Where to write? The time, energy, and effort are unlike any other thing I had ever done. And when you think you are finished, you find out you are not. It seems to go on forever and forever. After a certain point you cant even tell what is good and what isnt. However, there is something about it when it is working right, when you are feeling the flow of it all that it becomes almost effortless, and sometimes seems to write itself. I have often looked back at what I have written, after one of those moments where it just seemed to flow out of me, and wondered, Did I write that? Its not bad. Then to have someone find meaning in it or that it blessed them in some way is, well, it is just the best feeling in the world. Do you hope to make the book into a movie? I wrote the movie of this journey before I ever wrote the book. I am a visual person and I could see scenes in my head. I really had no idea what I was doing as a writer and I thought for some reason that writing a movie would be easier than writing a book (for the record, neither one is easy). I worked very hard at my plans to make this happen, and eventually came to understand that my plans were not the plan, and eventually I surrendered this outcome to God. I am sure He will let me

know if He wants me to do more on this any time soon. Do you plan to write another book? I am working on that right now. I have several more books in me, and I can tell one of them is trying to get out! I have been praying, thinking, asking questions, and writing to see where I am being led on this. You speak to different groups across the country. What is your message and what do you hope to accomplish? I have spoken to just about every kind of group you can think of: business, church, hospitals, schools, publically traded companies and private ones - even a car dealership! I will go anywhere, anytime, to see any amount of people to share this story. I do it because I see people connecting to this story. Somehow, people are seeing their own stories in the midst of the fishermen and my story, and they are finding hope in the truth of who they are and like me, they have become the fourth fisherman. Praise for The Fourth Fisherman Faith and hope unite the unlikely stories of Mexican fishermen lost at sea and an American television executive even more profoundly lost in his affluence. You'll be inspired by this passionate tale of intertwined lives, touched by the authors unvarnished honesty, and challenged to trust God in fresh ways. Here's an adventure story that may well launch you on your own new adventures with God. Lee Strobel, New York Times best-selling author We love this message. Joe weaves together two stories with the same central theme, being lost and adrift, and tells how one thing faith in God provided each of the four fishermen the courage and comfort to face the next day and its uncertainties and ultimately led them safely to shore. These are the stories that we hold tight in our memories when days seem so uncertain and doubts scream at us that we'll never find the shore. Shaunti and Jeff Feldhahn, best-selling authors of For Women Only and For Men Only This book is about the fishermen's agony and survival, or at least that's where Joe begins. But the real book, the inner story, shows readers how God took a once high-powered salesman who was obsessed with success and image and turned him into a new man: a dedicated husband and a serious, committed Christian. Cecil Murphey, New York Times best-selling coauthor of 90 Minutes in Heaven People of faith, myself included, often put limitations on it. But, as you'll read here, real freedom comes when we finally surrender to the mystery of God and what He is doing. Thank you, Joe, for being so honest and real. I loved it! Jeff Foxworthy, stand-up comedian and television personality You won't be able to put this book down. It is more than the true story of three courageous fishermen and one brave author. Believe it or not, hidden within their inspiring stories is your story. It is the belief that life is bigger than we think. It is the hope of wanting our lives to have purpose. It's all there. If you're looking to find that hope, a common purpose, and a reason to still believe, you've come to the right place. But be warned. The journey begins when you board this boat. Jeff Henderson, North Point Ministries Joe is an ordinary guy who has been given an extraordinary story. He answered a call that few will ever get a chance to say yes to. I wish it could have been me. Steve Bartkowski, NFL legend, outdoorsman, and motivational speaker About the Author Joe Kissack is a speaker, author, screenwriter, film and television executive, publisher, and entrepreneur. His job descriptions cover a wide spectrum, from working on a farm and cleaning out refrigerated beef trucks to serving as a senior executive for Sony Pictures. His speaking engagements also vary, as he provides inspiration for charities, churches, and business conferences. Joe lives in Atlanta with Carmen, his wife of more than twenty-five years, and their two daughters.