

# Southside Book Reviews

Reviews Of Books Recently Written By Southside Authors

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## A Storyteller Prays

A review of

Josie Bailey *Seasons of the Heart: Inspirational Prayers for All Seasons* (Griffin, GA: Phase One Designs, 2010)

40 pp \$30.95 (hb)

Josie Bailey *More Seasons of the Heart: Inspirational Prayers* (Griffin, GA: Phase One Designs, 2010)

74 pp 36.95 (hb)

A decade ago Josie Strickland Bailey began circulating to a few close friend some inspirational prayers which they found to be helpful. As the word got out, more and more people began to request copies, which finally resulted in her decision to publish them in a series of books.

These books are also filled with beautiful photographs, and the second volume also contains pithy inspirational sayings of famous people. And the books themselves are graphic design treasures suitable for gracing a coffee table. They are visual art works as well as literary art works.

The literary artistry is not suprising when one considers the fact that Bailey is a professional storyteller. I have never heard Josie Bailey tell a story but if she does so with the same excitement which imbues her prayers, she must be a good storyteller ! Perhaps her books could be regarded as prayers delivered in a storytelling style and with a storytelling dynamic.

Volume I contains 12 prayers; and Volume II contains 19 prayers, each one designated by topic, and each one being approximately two pages in length.

Since these are Christian prayers, they are centered upon Christ. These prayers include petitions to God which are quite bold -- perhaps too bold for some tastes! -- but the requests are not made for self-centered purpose but for the sake of the Christian's ministry to others in the Name of God as part of his life in the Kingdom of God.

The prayers found in these books can bless those who join with the author in praying them, and they can serve as an example for the reader who needs help in fashioning his own prayers.