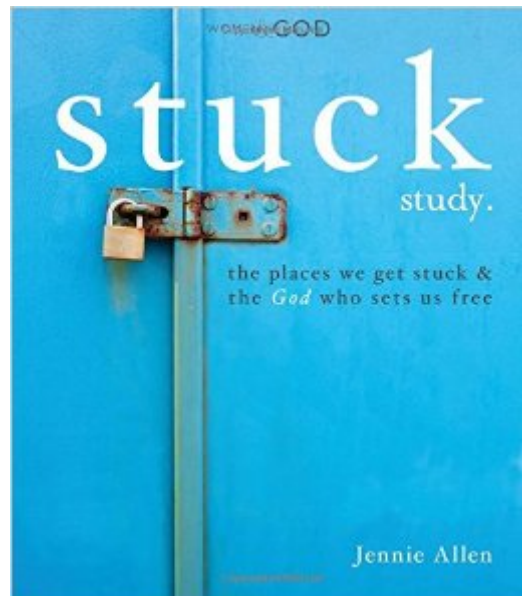


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# Stuck Study Guide



## Synopsis

Do you feel stuck? So many of us live stuck. Stuck in trying to seem perfect. Stuck in sadness. Stuck feeling numb. Stuck pursuing more stuff to make us happy. Stuck in something we can't even name. These stuck places often go unattended inside of us and they are shaping our lives more than we would like to think. We've been trying to fix this feeling with everything but... God. He has a plan for these spaces inside of us, the places we feel broken, but we have to go to Him. Stuck is a journey to take an honest look at the fight going on inside, leading us to the God who has a plan to restore it, to restore us. The eight lessons in this study guide are simple and interactive, offering projects, stories, and Bible study to dig into Scripture, to deeply engage the mind and heart. Because as we realize that our stuck places are the very places that make us ache for God, we find Him waiting there for us with hope and freedom. Designed for use with the Stuck DVD (ISBN: 9780849922541)

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The premise of the book is that we are stuck in anger, discontentment, fear, overwhelmedness, sadness and "as long as [we] are privately fighting and losing inside, [God] is not getting a thing done through or in [us]." Jennie wants us to overcome those emotions (or at least feel them less deeply) in order to achieve our purpose. However, I believe God does lots through us and in us while we're hurting and confused, and that's the beauty of the gospel! Not only is the premise of "Stuck" flawed, but Jennie goes on to make points that are very troubling and ultimately damaging to her readers. I strongly caution you against choosing this book for a group study. In the section on

anger, Jennie describes Elizabeth, a 16 year-old girl who feels angry that she lives in an abusive and dysfunctional home. Elizabeth expresses to an older, Christian woman that her home life simply not fair. Jennie praises the mentor's response as healing. The mentor says, "You're right. You don't deserve this life. You deserve hell and death, and so do I. But God's gracious love for us provided a Savior who took our sins and died for them. He didn't deserve death, and we don't deserve life. It is God's grace that we have life at all." Woah. While there is truth here, this is a heartless and cold response to a child victim. It is dismissive of Elizabeth's pain and shames her for her ingratitude, rather than her family for harming her. This is not the heart of Jesus, who throughout the Gospels is kind, caring and condemning of abuse. Jesus offers love, hope and restoration; He does not shame.(Jennie later clarifies victims of abuse should seek help.

I am involved in a bible study with an AMAZING group of ladies here in Huron. They are seriously AMAZING. And they are totally worth the gratuitous use of all-caps. Our group is very diverse. We have Baptists, Pentecostals, Presbyterians, Christian churchers, Missionary Alliancers, non-denominational and Methodists. In addition to that we have three pastor's wives! It is a fun group with very diverse perspectives. I love it. We recently reviewed the Stuck study by Jennie Allen. It is designed to be an 8 week study. We got the DVD study box set and then purchased additional copies of the study guides so that everyone had one. The study box set comes with the DVD, leader's guide, study guide and discussion questions. The leaders guide has suggested formats, but we usually shared prayer requests, insights from the homework and study guide, watched the DVD and then used the discussion question cards. The ladies in my group really enjoyed this study. I enjoyed it, but I guess I was expecting more. I have a high sensitivity to any Christianease and I tend to be really turned off by it. This study contains quite a bit of Christianease and the DVD sermonettes get a little cliched at times both stylistically and content-wise. I know that Jennie Allen is sincere, but it feels a little youth groupy and not meaty and real enough sometimes. I loved the study guide most of the time. There are great exercises at the end of each week and they really engage all learning styles. Sometimes she has you list, other times write, other times draw and even sometimes go out and do something. It is wonderful. The discussion cards were amazing.

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