

Title: Credible Signs of Christ Alive	Author: John P. Hogan
Media type: (check one) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Book <input type="checkbox"/> CD/Audio book <input type="checkbox"/> DVD	Call Number: 261.8 HOG
Review submitted by: Sharon Krieg	Date: 10/05/2015
Subject (e.g. Prayer, Family Life, Sacraments, Saints, Bible Study, Moral Conduct, Social Justice) Stewardship	
<p>1. What is this book about? (describe briefly) This book delves into how the stewardship of Christ-centered people can result in the improvement of poor people's lives through solidarity between the two groups. Six case studies, sponsored through CCHD (Campaign for Human Development) are presented to the reader. Surprising results for the marginalized occur as well as positive relationship developments between the helpers and the receivers of that help. The help empowers the poor to help themselves!</p>	
<p>2. What main message does the author convey? A lovely prayer summarizes what this author talks about: "God of Justice, open our eyes to see you in the face of the poor. Open our ears to hear you in the cries of the exploited. Open our mouths to defend you in public squares as well as in private deeds. Remind us that what we do to the least ones, we do to you. Amen." This outreach is what Pope John Paul II encouraged in his statement, "efforts for justice, the struggle against oppression, and the safeguarding of the dignity of the person are not expressions of philanthropy motivated solely by membership in the human family... they are choices and acts that have a profoundly religious inspiration, they are true and proper sacrifices that are pleasing to God."</p>	
<p>3. What inspired you the most about this book, and why would you recommend it?: I was repeatedly struck with the disconnect between the lives of the poor and the lives of the non-poor. I was aghast at how wretched some of our own U.S. citizens and others exist. I felt hope when I read the solutions that these same stricken people were able to enact after the interventions of caring non-poor Christian people. Situations that seem impossible to improve, joyfully are resolved in the shared struggle. The powerful corporations that conceal their exploitation of the non-powerful get a dose of humbling reality as to the evil they have promoted in the quest for \$.</p>	
<p>4. Who would benefit from reading this book? This book is aimed at a two groups in particular: Young adult Catholic classroom audiences and parish adult education programs. This however, does not exclude Catholic faithful individuals who wish to better understand what actions various Catholic Social Ministries do.</p>	
<p>5. Any other impressions: I will never look at supermarket chicken with blind eyes again. What horrors occur in the effort to get that chicken to consumers is almost beyond belief! This book is fantastic and fascinating! I hope that EVERY single caring Catholic will take the time to READ THIS BOOK! At the least it will expose the goings on of various corporations on their employees, and at best it will cause an attitude of enlightened solidarity and positive action with the causes of the exploited.</p>	