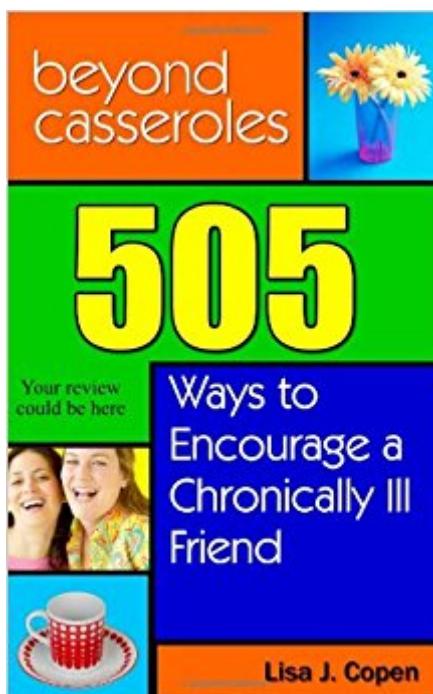


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# **Beyond Casseroles: 505 Ways To Encourage A Chronically Ill Friend (Conquering The Confusions Of Chronic Illness)**



## **Synopsis**

"Call me if you need anything. . . " Most of us have said this because we didn't know what else to say. We care, but how do we show it? Does a casserole really encourage someone? Why don't people ever call? If you have picked up the phone to call someone who is ill and have had a wave of fear wash over you (what do I say?) This book is for you! Packed with 505 ways to encourage a friend, from what to say, what not to say, things to write in cards or emails, gift ideas, things to bring when visiting in the hospital or someone at home, you will find yourself flipping through it to get an idea for someone you care about who is hurting (and not just those with illness).

## **Book Information**

Series: Conquering the Confusions of Chronic Illness

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## **Customer Reviews**

\* The thought of encouraging someone who is hurting seems easy. So why don't we do it? Lisa Copen's practical, well thought-out book gives us easy ways to do what God has called each of us to do. Once you start reading you'll think That is great, why didn't I think of it? Get ready to step into the gap and minister! Ken Chambers, Director of Church Relations, Joni and Friends \* Beyond Casseroles is a loving instruction manual for both the giver and the receiver the lessons of caring and love abound and the messages of hope, acceptance, love and healing are a balm for the soul. Having spare copies to share of this must-have book is one of my strategies for helping those trying to cope with chronic illness. Rest assured, I'm keeping one for me and my family to share! Nancy Derby, RN, BSN, MSEd, VP, Executive Board of Directors, National Fibromyalgia Association \*

From the simple suggestion (Offer to read to her) to the serious warning (If you can't accommodate her joyfully, don't help at all), this book is full of practical tips for being a friend for the long haul. A must-have for all church libraries. Vonda Skelton, author of *Seeing Through the Lies: Unmasking the Myths Women Believe* --various\* I wish pastors would keep the first book on their desk to hand to people that need to know how to help a chronically ill friend. It would smooth the pathway for continued friendships or even new friendships. It is so difficult to know how to help someone with a chronic condition. *Beyond Casseroles* suggests over 500 ways to help and encourage someone with a chronic illness, whether they be your coworker, a friend at church, or a family member.

Lisa Copen is the founder of Rest Ministries, Inc., a Christian organization that serves people who live with chronic illness or pain. She is the editor of *HopeKeepers Magazine* and author of various books on chronic illness, including, "Mosaic Moments: Devotionals for the Chronically Ill"

It's pretty rare that I give a book 5 stars but this deserves each one. It's a small book that easily fits into a small purse but it's packed with a lot of very practical advice. Well thought out. I have ovarian cancer and have been in non-stop chemotherapy for almost 5 years. I have hair so it's not apparent and even amongst my close friends. because I have hair, they forget I am dealing with a disease and treatment that causes severe fatigue, periodic sickness and sometimes, cognitive slowness. And as the cancer continues, most all of the people who were so gung-ho to help me early on have long fallen by the wayside - and that includes my church. There are suggestions that I would personally consider very patronizing, but overall, the suggestions are good. Two particular tidbits in the book that I can appreciate is 'not making a person a project' and 'many small things make a friend'. I have a woman who clearly has made it her mission to preach to me via religious cards (and I am already a faithful Christian) and it irks me to no end. Also, people think unless they have time for some grand gesture they can't do anything - so no one does anything for me. Some of the suggestions in this book are perfect examples of what may seem like small things that really go a long way to just let someone know you're thinking about them. I recommend, as others have, that every church and every doctor's office keep a copy of this little but powerful book.

I knew I would enjoy this book, because I was able to preview a few pages on the site. I also like how it is a good, small size. I am able to pull it out of my purse when I am looking for that right thing to say or do, or if I need some reassurance that other people are going through similar difficult situations as I am.

Great book. Explains what to say and what not to say. Really clever inexpensive ideas on how to brighten a chronically ill person's day. My favorite was to purchase matching coffee mugs for you and your friend, and then commit to pray for one another while using them.

Many times we dont know what to say nor do we know what to do when we intered with someone who has a chronic illness.It is a good book that everyone should.,and it should be in all church libraries.many times we become so desentised to the needs of others.This book reminds us of how we should treat others.Agreat read for everyone.

Lisa Copen gives honest and practical ways to encourage others. The book can apply to many different situations. I highly recommend the book.

Content of book is great but very tattered. Wondered where this book had been!.

I got some really good ideas of things to do to help people with chronic pain and definite things not to say when people are hurting. This book was very helpful!

Excellent book for everyone. We are all called to support each other in times of need. A great encouragement for those in crisis.

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