

Bibliography on Passionate Spirituality, Inspiring Worship & Small Group Ministry

This bibliography on Passionate Spirituality, Inspiring Worship & Small Group Ministry is taken from Ed White's recommended bibliography on congregation transformation (see "bibliography/forms" button on the Church Development & Evangelism Page). Through being passionate about our spirituality, inspiring worship & small group ministry, we create spiritual energy in ourselves and others.

C. Passionate Spirituality

67. Making Room For Life: Trading Chaotic Lifestyles for Connected Relationships

By Randy Frazee Zondervan Publishers Grand Rapids MI 2003 A compelling strategy for escaping the rat race in order to have time for one another, for our children, for the church and for God.

68. Christ Plays In Ten Thousand Places: A Conversation in Spiritual Theology by

Eugene H. Peterson Eerdmans Publishers Grand Rapids MI 2005 Grounds spirituality in Trinitarian theology and offers a clear statement of what it means to live out the Christian life.

69. Listening To God: Spiritual Formation In Congregations by John Ackerman Alban

Institute 2001 A manual for spiritual formation in the life of a congregation. Helpful exercises and instruments.

70. A Praying Congregation: The Art Of Teaching Spiritual Practice by Jane E. Vennard

Alban Institute Herndon VA 2005 An excellent manual on how to develop a praying congregation.

71. Breathing Space: A Spiritual Journey In The South Bronx by Heidi B. Neumark

Beacon Press Boston MA 2003 Spirituality and Justice meet in this beautiful account of ministry at the Lutheran Church of the Transfiguration set in one of the most troubled neighborhoods in America. Beautiful stories of people who have been through hell and found new life together.

72. SABBATH: Restoring The Sacred Rhythm of Rest by Wayne Muller Bantam Books

1999 Explores the manner in which we have traded time for money in this society to the point where our relationships to one another and to God are at risk.

73. A Hidden Wholeness: The Journey Toward An Undivided Life by Parker J. Palmer

Jossey Bass San Francisco CA 2004. The journey to integrity where your inner self and outer self become congruent. The importance of creating circles of trust.

74. Paying Attention: Focusing Your Congregation On What Matters by Gary E. Peluso Verdend The Alban Institute Herndon VA 2005. “Where in our society do we give anyone or anything our quiet undivided attention for any sustained meaningful period of time?”

75. The Rapture Exposed: The Message of Hope in the Book of Revelation by Barbara R. Rossing Basic Books New York NY 2004 Reveals the unbiblical nature of the “rapture” theory and the “Left Behind” series of novels which makes Jesus the opposite of the Jesus described in the Bible. Then proceeds to expound the real meaning of the book of Revelation.

76. The Spirit Led Leader: Nine Leadership Practices and Soul Principles by Timothy C. Geoffrion The Alban Institute Herndon VA 2005. An exposition of the relevance of the spiritual journey for fruitful leadership.

77. Traveling Together: A Guide For Disciple Forming Congregations by Jeffrey D. Jones Alban Institute Herndon VA 2006. An excellent description of the specifics of a disciple making congregation.

78. Called To Be Church: The Book Of Acts For A New Day by Anthony B. Robinson and Robert W. Wall Eerdmans Publishing 2006 A superb exposition of how the experience of the early church in the book of Acts illuminates the issues facing mainline Protestantism today.

79. Living The Resurrection: The Risen Christ In Everyday Life by Eugene H. Peterson Navpress 2006. Connects the heart of Christian faith with everyday life in the workplace, home and community.

80. The Word That Redescribes the World: The Bible and Discipleship by Walter Brueggemann Fortress Press Minneapolis 2006 Traces the conflict between the Kingdom of God and the succession of empires that seek to play God throughout the Bible and on into the present. A sobering study for those of us who find ourselves citizens of what may be the most pretentious empire in history.

81. Money Matters by Mike Slaughter Abingdon Press 2006 A discipleship curriculum that helps the believer understand God’s principles for generosity. Contains a DVD full of resources to help implement the course.

82. The Sacred Way: Spiritual Practices for Everyday Life by Tony Jones Zondervan Grand Rapids 2005 This book will sit easy on your heart although it may at times disturb the rhythms of your day.

83. Divine Intervention: Encountering God Through The Ancient Practice of Lectio Divina by Tony Jones Navpress Colorado Springs CO 2006 A spiritual discipline of reading, contemplation, prayer and meditation.

84. God and Empire: Jesus Against Rome: Then And Now by John Dominic Crossan Harper Collins San Francisco 2007 Exploring the choice between empire and Kingdom of God.

85. War Is A Force That Gives Us Meaning by Chris Hedges Random House NY 2002 Chris was a foreign correspondent for fifteen years in Central America, the Sudan, Bosnia and the Middle East. He experienced a succession of life threatening situations. He gives a compelling description of the addictive power of war and the manner in which it can seduce and then destroy our humanity

86. American Fascists: The Christian Right and the War on America by Chris Hedges Free Press NY 2006 Describes the attempt of fascism in Christian garb to replace a free society with a theocracy in which only white male fundamentalists have a voice.

87. Shaking The Gates Of Hell: Faith Led Resistance To Corporate Globalization by Sharon Delgado Fortress Press Minneapolis MN 2007 Exploring the likely consequences of corporate globalization and global warming. Provides documentation for Brian McLaren's conviction that our world is currently pursuing a suicidal course.

E. Inspiring Worship

103. Worship Evangelism by Sally Morgenthaler Zondervan Grand Rapids MI 1999 Makes a convincing case that true worship can be a powerful means of evangelism and that we need to reclaim authenticity in worship where there is a true encounter between people and the Almighty.

104. Emerging Worship: Creating Worship Gatherings For New Generations by Dan Kimball Zondervan Press Grand Rapids MI 2004 The post baby boomer generation wants something very different from their parents. They want authenticity, experience, tradition, liturgy and mystery.

105. A Royal Waste of Time: The Splendor of Worshipping God and Being The Church For The World by Marva J. Dawn William Eerdmans Publishing Grand Rapids 1999. A measured and thoughtful discussion of the issues surrounding worship...traditional vs. contemporary . This book is a sequel to her earlier book **Reaching Out Without Dumbing Down.**

106. Beyond The Worship Wars: Building Vital and Faithful Worship by Thomas G. Long The Alban institute 2001 Offers a third way beyond the worship wars between "traditional" and "contemporary".

107. How We Seek God Together: Exploring Worship Style by Linda Clark, Joanne Swenson and Mark Stamm Alban Institute Identifies and explores congregational worship style. A unique resource for congregations seeking to answer the question "Why do we do things the way that we do?"

108. Designing Worship Teams: Discovering and Birthing The Drama of Twenty First Century Worship by Cathy Townley Abingdon Press Nashville 2002 A moving testimony

to the manner in which young 21st century Christians develop worship out of their shared faith journey

F. Healthy Small Groups

109. Building A Church Of Small Groups:A Place Where Nobody Stands Alone by Bill Donohue and Russ Robinson Zondervan Publishers 2001 It took over a decade for Willow Creek to organize its 18,000 members into 2700 small groups.

110. Companions In Christ: A Small Group Experience In Christian Formation Nashville Upper Room books 2001 This popular interdenominational resource is a guide to creating small groups around the Christian practices of prayer, scripture reading, ministry, worship, study, and conversation. Includes participants' books, leaders' guides, a journal, orientation and training events, and online support at www.companionsinchrist.org

111. Transforming Discipleship: Making Disciples A Few At A Time by Greg Ogden Intervarsity Press Downer's Grove IL 2003 Explores the model of developing mature disciples through mutual coaching in small covenant groups. Of three or four. An excellent model for multiplying leaders who will multiply leaders.

112. The Disciple Bible Study Series published by the United Methodist Church is one of the best comprehensive Bible Study programs that approaches the bible from the perspective of growing disciples.

113. The Search To Belong: Rethinking Intimacy, Community and Small Groups by Joseph R. Myers Zondervan Grand Rapids MI 2003 Small groups are important but they are not a cure all. Myers describes the four spaces in which people need to belong. They are public space, social space, personal space and intimate space. Small groups can be misused with harmful results.

114. The Christian Small Group Leader by Thomas R. Hawkins Discipleship Resources Nashville TN 2004.A superb manual for those who are going to lead small groups.