

Spiritual Formation Reading List April 2009

Reminder:

"...no devotional book, past or present,
can do anything decisive,
if you are not already longing for a deeper spiritual life
and prepared to receive it."

James M. Houston

On Spiritual Formation...*the process of being conformed to the image of Christ for the sake of others* (M. Robert Mulholland definition)

- Ruth Haley Barton, Sacred Rhythms: Arranging Our Lives for Spiritual Transformation, IVP 2006
- Larry Crabb, The Safest Place on Earth, (Word Publishing, 1999) – retitled Becoming a True Spiritual Community, 2007
- Brent Curtis & John Eldredge, The Sacred Romance: Drawing Closer to the Heart of God, Thomas Nelson, 1997
- Leighton Ford, The Attentive Life: Discerning God's Presence in All Things, IVP, 2008.
- Ken Gire, Seeing What is Sacred: Becoming More Spiritually Sensitive to Everyday Moments of Life, Thomas Nelson, 2006.
- Jeff Imbach, The River Within: Loving God, Living Passionately, NavPress, 1998.
- Brennan Manning, Abba's Child: The Cry of the Heart for Intimate Belonging, NavPress, 1994
- Alister McGrath, The Journey: A Pilgrim in the Lands of the Spirit, Doubleday, 2001
- M. Robert Mulholland, An Invitation to a Journey: A Road Map for Spiritual Formation, IVP, 1993.
- Henri Nouwen, Return of the Prodigal Son: A Story of Homecoming, Doubleday, 1992.
- John Ortberg, The Life You Have Always Wanted: Spiritual Disciplines for Ordinary People, Zondervan, 2002.
- Eugene Peterson, A Long Obedience in the Same Direction: Discipleship in an Instant Society, IVP 1980.
- Dallas Willard, The Great Omission: Reclaiming Jesus Essential Teachings on Discipleship, HarperSanFrancisco, 2006.
- Philip Yancey, Disappointment with God, Zondervan, 1997

On the Spiritual Disciplines (in particular)

- Ruth Haley Barton, Invitation to Silence and Solitude: Experiencing God's Transforming Presence, IVP, 2004.
- Richard Foster, Celebration of Discipline: The Path to Spiritual Growth, Harper, 1978.
- Adele Calhoun, Spiritual Disciplines Handbook: Practices that Transform Us, IVP, 2005.
- Henri Nouwen, The Way of the Heart: The Spirituality of the Desert Fathers and Mothers, HarperOne, 1991.
- Dallas Willard, The Spirit of the Disciplines, HarperSan Francisco, 1991

On Prayer

- C.S. Lewis, Letters to Malcolm, Chiefly on Prayer, Harvest, 1983
- Richard Foster, Prayer: Finding the Heart's True Home, HarperSanFrancisco, 1992
- Emilie Griffin, Clinging: The Experience of Prayer,
- David Hansen, Long Wandering Prayer: An Invitation to Walk with God, IVP, 2001
- James Houston, The Transforming Friendship, (re-released entitled The Prayer: Deepening Your Friendship with God, Victor, 2007)
- Philip Yancey, Prayer: Does it make any Difference? Zondervan, 2006
- Eugene Peterson, Ansewring God: The Psalms as Tools for Prayer, HarperCollins, 1989.

Spiritual Narratives

- Frederick Buechner, The Sacred Journey: A Memoir of Early Days (1982), Now & Then: A Memoir of Vocation (1983), Telling Secrets: A Memoir (1991) HarperCollins
- Sheldon Vanauken, A Severe Mercy, HarperOne, 1987
- Madeleine L'Engle, Circle of Quiet (1972), The Irrational Season (1977), HarperSanFrancisco
- Augustine, Confessions of St. Augustine, 4th century, (esp. books 1-9)

Selected Classics

- Augustine, Confessions of St. Augustine, 4th century, (esp. books 1-9)
- Aelrid of Riveaulx, Spiritual Friendship, 12th century
- Teresa of Avila, The Interior Castle, 16th century
- John of the Cross, Dark Night of the Soul, 16th century
- Thomas A Kempis, The Imitation of Christ,
- John Bunyan, Pilgrim's Progress, 17th century
- Thomas R. Kelly, A Testament of Devotion, 20th century
- C.S. Lewis, Mere Christianity – Book IV “Beyond Personality or First Steps in the Doctrine of the Trinity” 20th century
- A.W. Tozer, The Knowledge of the Holy, 20th century
- Renovare's Devotional Classics and related books, HarperSanFrancisco

Spiritual Formation & Pastoral Work

- Eugene Peterson, Working the Angles: The Shape of Pastoral Integrity, Eerdmans, 1987, Under The Unpredictable Plant: An Exploration in Vocational Holiness, Eerdmans, 1992.

Spiritual Theology

Eugene Peterson (Eerdmans – 4 of 5 volume series on spiritual theology)

- Christ Plays in Ten Thousand Places: a conversation in spiritual theology (2005)
 - Eat This Book: a conversation in the art of spiritual reading (2006)
 - The Jesus Way: a conversation on the ways that Jesus is the way (2007)
 - Tell it Slant: a conversation on the language of Jesus in his stories and prayers (2008)
- Debra Rienstra, So Much More: An Invitation to Christian Spirituality, Jossey Bass, 2005.

History of Christian Spirituality

- Gerald L. Sittser, Water from a Deep Well: Christian Spirituality from Early Martyrs to Modern Missionaries, IVP, 2007

Miscellaneous

- George MacDonald, Diary of an Old Soul
- Edna Hong, The Gayety of Grace
- Kathleen Norris, The Quotidian Mysteries: Laundry, Liturgy, and “Women’s Work, Paulist Press, 1998
- Jean Vanier, From Brokenness to Community, Paulist Press, 1992.
- Mindy Caliguire, Discovering Soul Care, IVP Connect, 2007