

Welcome

SPIRITUAL PREPARATION FOR CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP

This workshop explores **personal/congregational spiritual formation**, **worshipful meetings** to draw and deepen our presence to God and one another in shared ministry, and **radical examples** effective in leading leaders toward **becoming a people of prayer**.

“...what we will be has not yet
been made known.” I Jn 3:2

“I remember the days of
long ago, I meditate
on all your words
and consider
what your
hands have
done.”
Psalm 143:5

Photo of
Linda Keen
as a child

(You had to be there)

Spiritual preparation

Desert abbas & ammas

Image of
Desert
Father

3rd -4th
Centuries

Image of
Desert
Fathers

(artist's conception)

Image of
Desert
Mothers

(artist's conception)

Anthony de Mello
1931–1987
East Indian Jesuit,
Retreat Leader, Author

The Song of the Bird
One Minute Wisdom

Photo of
Anthony de Mello

**SPIRITUAL
DISCIPLINES**

**Prayer,
Journalling,
Holy Reading, Fasting**

“Thou hast made us
for thyself, and our
heart is restless until
it find thee.” *Confessions*

Augustine 354-430
Bishop of Hippo

Image of
Augustin of Hippo

The Interior Castle

**Teresa of Avila
1515-1582**



Image of
Teresa of Avila

Image of
Bernard of
Clairvaux

(artist's conception)

“If you are wise
therefore you will show
yourself a reservoir and
not a canal.”

Bernard of Clairvaux
Cistercian abbot
1091-1153

Possible definition of spiritual formation

Image of
Paul
(artist's conception)

- to become mature in Christ

The Apostle Paul

Possible definition of spiritual formation

Photo of
Henri Nouwen

- the place where you hear
God's voice

Henri J.M. Nouwen
Priest and author

Possible definition of spiritual formation

Image of
Paul
(artist's conception)

- Helping others to practice the presence of God in a variety of settings

Rev. Dr. Stephen Bryant, GBOD
Special Assistant to the General Secretary
Development of Int'l Resources and Initiatives

Possible definition of spiritual formati

Photo of
Marjorie
Thompson

- The spiritual life is simply the increasing vitality and sway of God's Spirit in us.

Rev. Marjorie Thompson
Pathways Center for Spiritual Growth
Upper Room Ministries

Possible definition of a spiritual leader

Photo of
E. Glenn
Hinson

- You will be a charge, a model for believers in word, conduct, love, faithfulness, and purity. You will do far more than your mind conceives and human abilities permit, by resting your confidence in God who can make you competent.

Dr. E. Glenn Hinson, Ecumenist, Author,
Professor of Church History and Spirituality

Richard T. “Dick” Murray

1924–2002

Christian Educator, DISCIPLE

1960's photo of
Rev. Dr. Dick Murray

**“We WANT TO WANT
to...”**

**SPIRITUAL
DISCIPLINES**

**Prayer, Journalling
Holy Reading
Acts of Compassion**

Possible group study:



Discovering Your Spiritual Type, Corinne Ware (Alban 1995)

Possible group studies:

Spiritual Gifts

Spiritual Disciplines

Fruits of The Spirit

Soul Feast Marjorie Thompson

An Adventure in Healing

and Wholeness James K. Wagner

Companions in Christ



Available through
UPPER ROOM
MINISTRIES

Possible group study

Image of
Anna
(artist's
conception)

“Living with the Saints”
1 or 1 ½ hrs – one per evening

Image of
Augustin
(artist's
conception)

From “Great Devotional Classics” or
Maxie Dunnam’s “Keeping Company...”

Image of
Brother
Lawrence
(artist's conception)

Image of
Iraeneus
(artist's
conception)

Image of
Bernard of
Clairvaux
(artist's
conception)

Image of
Perpetua
(artist's conception)

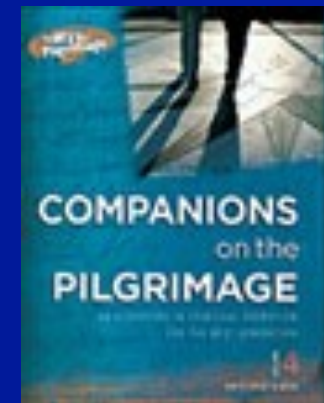
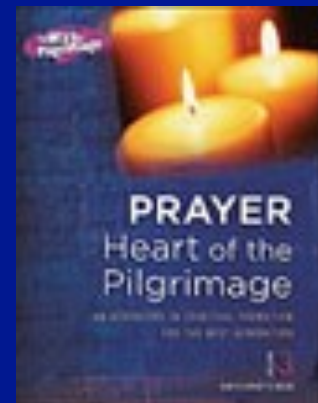
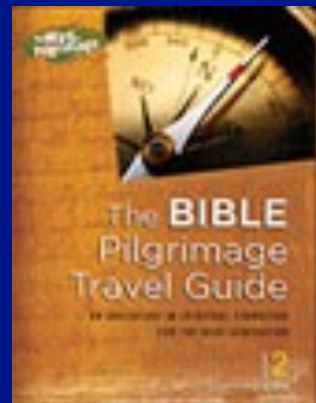
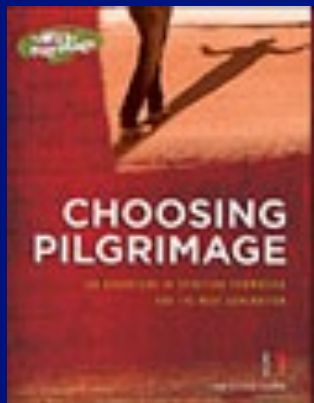
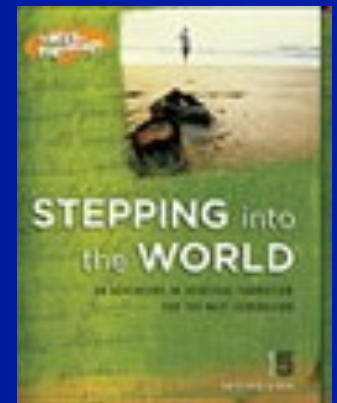
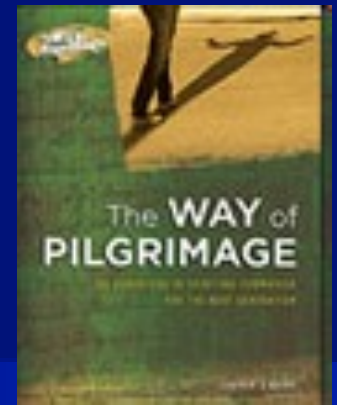
Photo of
Thomas Merton

Image of
Amma Syncletica
(artist's conception)

Possible group study

“The Way of Pilgrimage”
Youth and Young Adults

www.WayofPilgrimage.org



Possible group study

Photo of
E. Glenn
Hinson

“Spiritual Preparation for Christian Leadership”

by E. Glenn Hinson

Personal growth



Academy for Spiritual Formation

- 3-day Model
- 5-day Model
- 2-yr (40-day) Model
- Spiritual growth through disciplined community—a people on the journey

www.upperroom.org/academy

DISTINCTIVE QUALITIES OF SPIRITUAL LEADERS

- Influence
- Depend on Holy Spirit
- Accountable to God
- Exert significant influence on unbelievers
- Seek God's will

WORSHIP-FUL meetings

MEETINGS ! ! !

- Meeting

- Meeting

- Meeting

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- Meeting

TRUST...

Photo of
Eric Law

Finding Intimacy in a World of Fear
Eric H.F. Law

Personal & congregational transformation through meetings

- Culture (context)
- Worship-ful Work (~~agendas~~)
- Mutual Invitation (respect, team life)

EXTERNAL CULTURE

SEE

HEAR

TOUCH

games • cooking • dress

ASSUMPTIONS

IMPLICIT DECISION-MAKING
PROCESS

INFORMAL LEADERS

VALUES
PATTERNS

UNARTICULATED BELIEFS

BOUNDARIES

MYTHS

**INTERNAL
CULTURE**

4-d christian change process

- Delve into & reveal the internal organizational culture
- Discern actively the will of God
- Differentiate between our way and God's way
- Decide to follow God

Agenda

Worship-ful Work

Prayer

Gathering in The Spirit

Old Business

Thanksgiving for What has Been

Minutes...

Update, evaluate, celebrate...

Reports...

Nourishing Life...

New Business

Responding to God's Will

Voting...

Consensus building...MIM

Next Meeting

Thanksgiving for What will Be

Prayer

Gleaning for Prayer-Going in peace

Worship-ful Work

Gleaning for Prayer in Meetings

Thanksgiving

Intercession

Petition

Praise

Worship-ful Work

Gathering in The Spirit

Opening to God

Thanksgiving for What has Been
Decisions & Assignments...

Offering to God

Nourishing Lives...

Response to God

Responding to God's Will

Consensus Building...

Thanksgiving for What Will Be
Decisions & Assignments...

Benediction &
Sending Forth

Gleaning for Prayer

Mutual Invitation Method

PRESENCE is full participation

Every VOICE is HEARD

Diversity of POWER

Each one is in CONTROL

Power is SHARED

Process is PRAYERFUL

Mutual Invitation Method

Cross on table

Youngest person lights candle

Sing: "Be Glorified" or

Say: Jesus Christ is the Light of the World.
Jesus Christ is here with us.

Leader shares, then invites next one

Cross, candle, music = Sight & Sound

Mutual Invitation Method

Cross, candle, music = Sight & Sound
Meeting attendance stays "up"

We make space for God

Silence is GOOD!

**Next reflection time, last speaker
speaks first**

Mutual Invitation Method

Photo of
Eric H.F.
Law

Eric Law

“The Wolf Shall Dwell With the Lamb:
A Spirituality for Leadership
in a Multicultural Community”

“Sacred Acts, Holy Change: Faithful
Diversity and Practical Transformation”

“Inclusion: Making Room for Grace”

“Finding Intimacy in a World of Fear”

Becoming a People of prayer

“...what we will be has not yet
been made known.” I Jn 3:2



IS THIS YOUR

United Methodist Church?

**What in the World
is the Holy Spirit Saying to Us?**

Vision: A Prayer Conference!

Hosted by _____ UMC

Becoming a People of Prayer

WORKSHOP OPTIONS:

Centering Prayer
Concerts of Prayer
Daily Prayer Times
Fasting
Inner Healing & Deliverance
Leading Prayerful Meetings
Prayer & Evangelism
Prayer as Action
Prayer for Healing
Prayers for Home & Family
Prayer Life of Spiritual Leader
Soaking Prayer

Prayer Stations & The Labyrinth
Prayer Thru Life's Transitions
Praying the Psalms
Praying the Scriptures
Talking with God
Teaching Prayer in Small Groups
Training for Prayer Team
Ministry Prayer Walking
Prayers of Lament
Prayer as a First Language
Careful and Prayerful
Prayer for the World

Taking all this back home: where to begin?

- Start where you are (context of congreg.)
- Pray as you can, not as you can't (work on self)
- Enlist at least 2 others (you are not alone)
 - Covenant to study/discern
 - God's will in your congregation
 - Process for meetings & decision-making
 - Examination of church internal culture

TRUST...

Photo of
Pierre
Tielhard
De Chardin

...in the slow work of God...

-- Pierre Tielhard de
Chardin
1881-1955

Desert Mother says...

PERSEVERE!

You can't do anything
a hundred times
before you've done it
the ninety-ninth time.

Brilliant

now that I've given up hope

Ashleigh

I Feel Much Better,

Woodbridge Press, CA, 1984.

Transformation : Outgrowth of Spiritual Leadership

- Church Meetings < “Worshipful Work”¹
- Roberts’ Rules < Consensus Building
- Discussion in order around the table <
Mutual Invitation

Method²

¹ *Transforming Church Boards into Communities of Spiritual Leaders*, Charles M. Olsen

² *The Wolf Shall Dwell With the Lamb*, Eric H.F. Law

Bibliography

NO MATTER HOW FAR
YOU GO FROM ME --
YOU CAN NEVER PASS
THE POINT OF NO RETURN.

Ashleigh

Brilliant

Much Better, now that I've given up hope
Woodbridge Press, CA, 1984.

I Feel

Photo of
Howard
Thurman

“Follow the grain in your
own wood.”

--Howard Thurman, 1900-1981

Desert
Father

Perpetua

Glenn
Hinson

Image of
Jesus Christ

Marjorie
Thompson

Amma Syncletica
Desert Mother

Henri J.M.
Nouwen

Eric H. F.
Law

John Wesley

Image of
Jesus Christ
Icon writer's
conception

St. Isaac
the Black

Howard
Thurman

Anna,
wife of
Simeon

Desert
Father

Thomas
Merton

YOU

Image of
Desert
Mothers

Nancy
Ortberg

Steven
Bryant

Pierre T.
de Chardin

Image of
Desert
Fathers

Bob
Whitesel

Will
Mancini

Jim
Sheppard

Bernard of
Clairvaux

Ryan
Barnett

Charles
Anderson

Image of
Desert
Father

Trisha
Taylor

Lovett
Weems

Peter
Steinke

Reggie
McNeal

St. Anthony
Desert
Father

Image of
Jesus Christ

(Icon writer's conception)

Deep peace
of the running wave to you
Deep peace
of the flowing air to you
Deep peace
of the quiet earth to you
Deep peace
of the shining stars to you
Deep peace of the gentle night to
you Moon and stars pour their
healing light on you...

Deep Peace: A Gaelic Blessing
from the CD **Night Passage LIBANA**
Spinning Records, Cambridge, MA, arr. Bill Douglas

*Thank
you*

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