

Spiritual... mentoring, hospitality, reflection, listening, retreating, direction

TOP PICKS!

Hungry Souls, Holy Companions: mentoring a new generation of Christians.

Hendricks, Patricia. Morehouse, 2006. 259.24 Hen

A smorgasbord of ideas, stories, and practical suggestions on how to be spiritual companions to young people, sharing the richness of their faith while riding along on the awesome and often surprising journey of those in their spiritual care.

The Year of Living Biblically: one man's humble quest to follow the Bible as literally as possible.

Jacobs, A. J. Simon and Schuster, 2007. 220 Jac

The author chronicles his life as he attempts to obey the Bible as literally as possible for one entire year. The result is a book that is highly entertaining, extremely compelling and appropriately irreverent.

Potluck: parables of giving, taking and belonging.

Thomas, Kim. Waterbrook, 2006. 242 Tho

A compelling and transparent collection of meditations that is based on the heritage of the potluck dinner. The beauty and diversity of food is explored as a metaphor for the community of faith. Includes lots of recipes!

The Upper Room Dictionary of Christian Spiritual Formation.

Beasley-Toplette, Keith. Upper Room, 2003. 248.03 Upp

More than 470 articles on past and present topics in spirituality, prayer, forgiveness, pilgrims in spiritual formation and more. Great as an introductory resource!

Short-Term Spiritual Guidance.

Bidwell, Duane R. Fortress, 2004. 253.5 Bid

Offers several specific interventions that can be used: case studies, sample dialogues, practical tips for individuals, group settings, vocational discernment and family counseling.

Group Spiritual Direction: community for discernment.

Dougherty, Rose Mary. Paulist, 1995. 253.53 Dou

Offers both the theological understanding and the detailed information to establish spiritual direction groups, emphasizing that the most important element is the contemplative stance of presence to God for one another within group meeting and prayer for one another outside of the meeting.

Conference Resource Library

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Now it Springs Up: spiritual insights for every day.

Duerksen, Carol, Michelle Hershberger, Laurie Oswald Robinson. Willowspring Downs, 2007. 242.2 Due

A daily guide for spiritual reading and reflection. Each entry includes an invitation to prayer and action and each week includes two entries designated for use with children. Written by three Kansas Mennonite women!

Grounded in God: listening hearts discernment for group discernment.

Farnham, Suzanne, Stephanie Hull and R. Taylor McLean. Morehouse, 1999. 253.7 Far

For those who yearn to be delivered from duty-driven, clock-watching, parliamentary-precised but prayerless church meetings, here is a call to a better way that gently creates energy, hopefulness while listening to God's Spirit.

Lord, Have Mercy: the healing power of confession.

Hahn, Scott. Doubleday, 2003. 234.166 Hah

Gets to the heart of the matter of confession: how it is anticipated in the Old Testament, how it is presented in the New Testament, and how necessary it is for the spiritual life today.

Hospitality: the heart of spiritual direction.

Hay, Leslie A. Morehouse, 2006. 241.671 Hay

How to create a welcoming environment but also live out the deeper meaning of hospitality by providing a welcoming presence through the practice of spiritual direction.

The Spirituality of Community Life: when we come 'round right.

McDonald, Ron. Haworth, 2006. 253 McD

An analysis of community life and its importance in helping people develop to their full potential. Presents alternatives to a culture that creates competition, separation, insecurity, focusing instead on communities that encourage civility, understanding and compromise.

Urban Iona: Celtic hospitality in the city.

Nelson, Kurt. Morehouse, 2007. 263.04 Nel

The author weaves a historical and contemporary understanding and application of Celtic spirituality with a pilgrimage to Ireland and his current ministry on the streets of Portland, Oregon.

Resting Place: a personal guide to spiritual retreats.

Rubietta, Jane. Formatio, 2005. 269.6 Rub

Provides a framework and guidance for 12 retreats on themes of abandonment, discontent, our attempts to control others, being loved, more.

Listening and Caring Skills: a guide for groups and leaders.

Savage, John. Abingdon, 1996. 253.7 Sav

Offers eleven specific and teachable listening skills for improving relationships among those who do ministry in small group settings or when offering counseling to others.

Trustworthy Connections: interpersonal issues in spiritual direction.

Silver, Anne Winchell. Cowley, 2003. 253.53 Sil

Like spiritual direction itself, this book is about asking questions, discussing ideas and suggesting alternatives rather than giving advice or getting answers.

Light in the Dark Ages: the friendship of Francis and Clare of Assisi.

Sweeney, Jon M. Paraclete, 2007. 271.302 Swe

Reveals the many ways that Francis and Clare brought light into darkness, inspired change and challenged the timeless temptations that come with being human: competition, ego, selfishness and greed.

Leaving Church: a memoir of faith.

Taylor, Barbara Brown. HarperCollins, 2007. B Taylor

One of America's most renowned and beloved preachers tells the moving story of how she searched for her own authentic way of keeping faith – even when it meant giving up her pulpit.

School of the Pilgrim: an alternative path to Christian growth.

Webb-Mitchell, Brett. WJK, 2007. 263.041 Web

Uses stories and analysis to walk with readers on a road toward rediscovering the ancient practices of pilgrimage, pushing out traditional human development theories and celebrating unique individual, God-given characteristics.

Practicing Peace: a devotional walk through the Quaker tradition.

Whitmire, Catherine. Soren Books, 2007. 248.4896 Whi

Introduces the Quaker tradition of peacemaking and applies it to everyday situations at home and around the world. Affirms that peace is practical, desirable, and attainable for all spiritual seekers.

Wrestling With God: devotional readings for men.

Faith and Life Press, 2007. 242.642 Wre

Includes five short articles on the spiritual life and 52 short devotionals based on stories of biblical men. Written prayers and reflections make the book handy for personal and group use.