

FORMATIONAL TEACHING RESOURCES **- Bibliography -**

GENERAL

The Christian Educators Handbook on Spiritual Formation, edited by Kenneth O. Gangel and James C. Wilhoit (Baker, 1998) ISBN 0801021677

Provides the help Christians need to understand and pursue spiritual growth.

The Courage to Teach: Exploring the Inner Landscape of a Teacher's Life, by Parker J. Palmer (Jossey-Bass, 1997) ISBN 0787910589

This book builds on a simple premise: good teaching cannot be reduced to technique; good teaching comes from the identity and integrity of the teacher.

Creative Teaching Methods, by Marlene D. LeFever (David C. Cook, 1996) ISBN 0781452562

This book includes practical and usable ideas that will make creative teaching a reality in your classroom.

The Deeper Journey: The Spirituality of Discovering Your True Self, by M. Robert Mulholland, Jr. (InterVarsity, 2006) ISBN 0830832777

As you journey deeper in the Christian pilgrimage, you come to realize that the Christian life is more than merely replicating particular spiritual disciplines or practices. You begin to understand that at the core of Christian faith is the transformation of your very identity. If the goal of the Christian journey is Christlikeness, then you must reckon with the unhealthy ways that you root your sense of being in things other than God. Along the way, you will discover a growing sense of intimacy and abandonment to God. Not only will you encounter the joy of discovering your own self, you will also find a greater love for others and compassion for the world.

Invitation to a Journey: A Road Map for Spiritual Formation, by M. Robert Mulholland, Jr. (InterVarsity, 1993) ISBN 0830813861

The author helps Christians understand that we become like Christ gradually, not instantly. He reviews the classical spiritual disciplines and demonstrates the importance of undertaking our spiritual journey with (and for the sake of) others. This road map for spiritual formation provides help to Christians at any stage of their journey.

Learning Styles: Reaching Everyone God Gave You to Teach, by Marlene D. LeFever (David C. Cook, 2002) ISBN 0781451175

A learning style is the way in which a person sees or perceives things best and then uses that knowledge. When we understand learning styles and adjust our teaching or parenting to those styles, we begin reaching everyone God gives us to teach.

Soul Feast: An Invitation To The Christian Spiritual Life, by Marjorie J. Thompson (Westminster John Knox, 2005) ISBN 0664229476

Offering a framework for understanding the spiritual disciplines and instruction for developing and nurturing those practices, "Soul Feast" continues to be a favorite for individual reflection and group study.

Spiritual Disciplines Handbook: Practices That Transform Us, by Adele Ahlberg Calhoun (InterVarsity, 2005) ISBN 0830833307

Instead of just giving information about spiritual disciplines, this Handbook is full of practical, accessible guidance that helps you actually do them—thus providing directions for our journey toward intimacy with Christ.

Spiritual Theology: A Systematic Study of the Christian Life, by Simon Chan (InterVarsity, 1998) ISBN 0830815422

Chan begins with the principal doctrines of God, sin, salvation and the church. He then progresses to a reflective consideration of the practice of the spiritual life, from prayer to spiritual direction. This is a book for those who care deeply about theology *and* spirituality, and strive to integrate the two. Although somewhat theoretical, the end of the book is more practical.

Teaching Today's Teachers to Teach, by Donald L. Griggs (Abingdon, 2003) ISBN 0687049547

This book is a basic, comprehensive manual offering practical guidance that helps teachers learn the art and practice of teaching. Throughout the book, Griggs identifies the basic elements of the teaching process and outlines the essential ingredients needed for effective teaching.

CHILDREN

Joining Children on the Spiritual Journey, by Catherine Stonehouse (Baker, 1998) ISBN 0801058074

By learning about the process of spiritual formation, parents and those leading children's ministries will be enabled to facilitate the spiritual growth of children in their care.

Children Matter: Celebrating their Place in the Church, Family and Community, by Beth Posterski, et. al. (Eerdmans, 2005) ISBN 0802822282

Speaking from their experience with children's ministry in a range of Protestant traditions, the authors draw on the Bible, history, and psychology to lay good foundations for such ministry before discussing the specific content and contexts of faith formation. Finally, they provide wise and practical advice on putting together interesting programs without losing sight of their main purpose. Rather than focusing on innovative ways to use technology, this book emphasizes relationships between people and encourages the church to welcome all children as valued participants in the people of God. It will challenge and encourage anyone invested in ministry with children.

Postmodern Children's Ministry: Ministry to Children in the 21st Century Church, by Ivy Beckwith (Emergent YS/Zondervan, 2004) ISBN 0310257549

Presents a new paradigm for children's ministry in the emerging church of the 21st century and explores current ways churches are putting that vision into practice. You'll learn that preschoolers can learn to worship, how to develop family and intergenerational worship, and how to include children fully in the church community.

Real Kids, Real Faith: Practices for Nurturing Children's Spiritual Lives, by Karen Marie Yust (J-B Families and Faith Series – Jossey-Bass, 2004) ISBN 0787964077

The author offers resources and provisions to guide and sustain parents and children on their mutual journey. This book provides insight and a variety of helpful tips for nurturing children's spiritual and religious formation. Yust challenges the prevailing notion that children are unable to grasp religious concepts and encourages parents to recognize children as capable of authentic faith.

7 Ways of Teaching the Bible to Children, by Barbara Bruce (Abingdon, 1996) ISBN 0687020689

The author uses seven learning styles to show you how to meet the various learning needs of each child in your classroom. Includes 25 lessons, plus activities that satisfy different learning styles.

SMART PAGES (Gospel Light)

These reproducible manuals provide articles and tips to encourage and equip teachers and parents. Books in the series include:

Children's Ministry Smart Pages

Early Childhood Smart Pages

5th and 6th Grade Smart Pages

Preteen Smart Pages

Sunday School Smart Pages

Teacher Training Smart Pages

YOUTH

Contemplative Youth Ministry: Practicing the Presence of Jesus, by Mark Yaconelli (Youth Specialties, 2006) ISBN 0310267773

Youth ministry isn't about what to say, what to do, or how to be; it's about serving the needs of the students God has put in your life. This book is an attitude overhaul that creates a more organic approach to youth ministry that helps you create meaningful silence, covenant communities, and contemplative activities that allow your students recognize the presence of Jesus in their everyday lives.

Deep Ministry in a Shallow World: Not- So- Secret Findings about Youth Ministry, by Chap Clark and Kara Powell (Zondervan/Youth Specialties, 2006) ISBN 0310267072

Whether you're struggling to make anything work in your youth ministry or finding that most things are clicking along, this book will help you develop a practical theology, to ask what is happening, what should be happening, and how you can make it happen. Each chapter is followed by discussion questions to help you process in a group or on your own.

The Godbearing Life: The Art of Soul Tending for Youth Ministry, by Kenda Creasy Dean (Author), Ron Foster (Upper Room, 1998) ISBN 0835808580

Dean and Foster rechart a course for youth ministry through the classical spiritual disciplines of the church. The book identifies families, congregations, and mentor relationships as the "holy ground" where young people are most likely to say "Yes!" to God.

A New Kind of Youth Ministry, by Chris Folmsbee (Zondervan/Youth Specialties, 2007) ISBN 031026989X

This book guides you on the way to discovering, developing and practicing a new youth ministry design. As your youth ministry's principal architect, you have the opportunity to realize a rhythm of disciple-making that more effectively engages youth with God, through Jesus, as they journey toward a life of continual spiritual finding and evolution. This resource will provide you with a ministry design that more influentially encourages students to live, lead, and love in the way of Jesus.

Practicing Passion: Youth and the Quest for a Passionate Church, by Kenda Creasy Dean (Zondervan/Youth Specialties, 2006) ISBN 0802847129

Focusing on the theological resonance between the Passion of Christ and adolescents' experience of passion, the author develops a framework for youth ministry that draws on the historic practices of the Christian community as a "curriculum of passion."

Revisiting Relational Youth Ministry: From a Strategy of Influence to a Theology of Incarnation, by Andrew Root (InterVarsity, 2007) ISBN 0830834885

The author explores the origins of a dominant ministry model for evangelicals, showing how American culture has influenced our understanding of the incarnation. Drawing from Dietrich Bonhoeffer, whose work with German youth in troubled times shaped his own understanding of how Jesus intersects our relationships, Root recasts relational ministry as an opportunity not to influence the influencers but to stand with and for those in need. True relational youth ministry shaped by the incarnation is a commitment to enter into the suffering of all, to offer all those in high school or junior high the solidarity of the church.

Teaching That Makes a Difference: How to Teach for Holistic Impact, by Dan Lambert (Zondervan/Youth Specialties, 2004) ISBN 9780310252474

The goal of every teacher is impact; we don't want to simply fill the time, we want to shape lives. With this in mind, Dr. Dan Lambert presents field-tested techniques of education methods; the teacher/learning process; adolescent development; and spiritual foundations. Ideal for both students of youth ministry and youth workers "in the trenches" with their own students.

ADULTS

Eat This Book: A Conversation in the Art of Spiritual Reading, by Eugene H. Peterson (Eerdmans, 2006) ISBN 0802829481

The author challenges us to read the Scriptures on their own terms, as God's revelation, and to live them as we read them. With warmth and wisdom Peterson offers greatly needed, down-to-earth counsel on spiritual reading. In these pages he draws readers into a fascinating conversation on the nature of language, the ancient practice of *lectio divina*, and the role of Scripture translations. *NOTE: Separate study guide is available.*

A Hidden Wholeness: The Journey Toward an Undivided Life, by Parker J. Palmer (Jossey-Bass, 2004) ISBN 0787971006

This book weaves together four themes that its author has pursued for forty years: the shape of an integral life, the meaning of community, teaching and learning for transformation, and nonviolent social change.

Ministering to Today's Adults: A Complete Manual for Organizing and Developing Adult Ministries in Local Congregations, by Kenneth O. Gangel (Wipf & Stock Publishers, 2006) ISBN 1597525219

Includes: Specific advice based on ages, genders, and circumstances peculiar to certain ministries; Proven, cutting-edge curriculum models that can revitalize your church's adult instruction; Contemporary solutions to the most common problems we encounter in ministering to today's adults.

Renovation of the Heart: Putting on the Character of Christ, by Dallas Willard (NavPress, 2002) ISBN 1576832961

Willard lays a foundation for understanding the ruin and restoration of humanity, by discussing human nature and its components, how they operate, and how they are renewed. It describes common misunderstandings about our human nature, and the discipleship process. Most important, it outlines the general pattern of personal transformation--not as a formula, but as a systematic process that we have the responsibility to undertake as intentional apprentices of Jesus. Only then will our transformation be accomplished, through interaction with the grace of God in Christ, the presence of the Holy Spirit, and spiritual treasures stored in the body of Christ.

To Know as We are Known: Education as a Spiritual Journey, by Parker J. Palmer (HarperSanFrancisco, 1993) ISBN 0060664517

This primer on authentic education explores how mind and heart can work together in the learning process. Moving beyond the bankruptcy of our current model of education, Parker Palmer finds the soul of education through a lifelong cultivation of the wisdom each of us possesses and can share to benefit others.

Triangular Teaching: A New Way of Teaching the Bible to Adults, by Barbara Bruce (Abingdon, 2007) ISBN 068764352X

This practical, hands-on book trains Christian education leaders and teachers in the methods of "triangular teaching," an integrated approach involving multiple intelligence theory, brain research, and creative and critical thinking. It includes a section explaining triangular teaching methods and Bible lessons that illustrate the methods. The book includes helpful triangular teaching tips for the activities described in the Bible lessons. An appendix includes worksheets that a leader or teacher can photocopy for use in a group.

7 Ways of Teaching the Bible to Adults: Using Our Multiple Intelligences to Build Faith, by Barbara Bruce (Abingdon Press, 2000) ISBN 0687090849

Author Barbara Bruce explains our seven "intelligences" and provides ideas for stimulating and using them in an adult study of the Bible.

This bibliography was prepared by the staff of the Covenant Resource Center. While not specifically endorsed by the Evangelical Covenant Church, the above resources may be helpful as you plan for ministry. For additional assistance or suggestions, contact the Covenant Resource Center at 1-800-338-IDEA(4332) or resource.center@covchurch.org. Unless otherwise noted, items may be ordered through www.covenantbookstore.com or info@covenantbookstore.com.