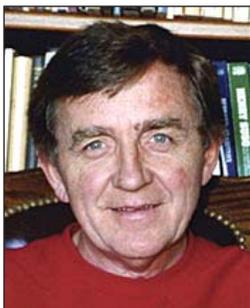


Learning to Live a Contemplative Way of Life



James Finley, Ph.D.

WCCM-USA SOUTHWEST REGION CONFERENCE

A 3-Day Retreat with James Finley

Friday June 15 - Sunday June 17, 2012

Hilton Tucson El Conquistador

At the age of 18, James entered the Trappist Monastery of the Abbey of Our Lady of Gethsemani in Kentucky. During this time his novice master was Thomas Merton. He spent 6 years at the monastery living the traditional Trappist life of prayer, silence and solitude under Merton's guidance.

A well known author and respected teacher in his own right, James Finley leads retreats and workshops throughout the world. He takes time out from his professional life as a clinical psychologist in private practice to bring a unique understanding of the life of the mystics and contemplative living to his audiences. He has degrees from the University of Akron, Saint Johns College, and the Fuller Theological Seminary. Finley is a gentle teacher with a love of humor and storytelling, yet his scholarly approach to his subject is unmatched. His books include: *Merton's Palace of Nowhere*; *Christian Meditation: Experiencing the Presence of God*; *The Contemplative Heart*.

As an international retreat leader on many subjects, but especially Contemplative Living and Spiritual Healing, James continues to share the wisdom of his own life and experience in an engaging and profound way.

For further information on James Finley go to:

www.contemplativeway.org

Through his profound teachings, James allows us to chuckle at our human frailties and accept them as God's creation as we move through opening our hearts to a larger reality. At this conference an emphasis will be given to the teachings of the mystics that help us pass through the challenges and graces in which we are awakened to God's presence in our lives.

Our contemplative stance will be:

- Learning to enter the mind of Christ;
- Learning to ground ourselves in the simplicity and silence of wordless prayer;
- Learning to recognize and yield to the often subtle way that God accesses our mind and heart;
- Learning to bear witness to our spiritual awakening by our Christlike love for ourselves and others and all things;
- Other fundamentals of Contemplative Living will be introduced.
- Time will be given for group meditation, personal reflection and discussion of the themes presented.

Contemplation is this mysterious realization of the oneness in which we are no longer a self apart from God asking for anything, but rather someone in God.

James Finley



Sat. afternoon breakout session

Robert A. Jonas, Ed.D.

The Teachings of Henri Nouwen

Robert A. Jonas, M.T.S. (Weston School of Theology, Cambridge, MA: Masters in Theological Studies,), Ed.D. (Harvard, Cambridge, MA: psychology and education), is the founder and director of The Empty Bell, a contemplative sanctuary in Northampton, MA, with a special emphasis on the Buddhist-Christian dialogue, and on the arts. www.emptybell.org

Jonas is an author, musician and retreat leader. A Christian in the Carmelite tradition, he has also received spiritual formation with Buddhist teachers.