

RESOURCE CENTER SPOTLIGHT

For more information on our resources call Brenda at the Conference office 717-652-1560 or e-mail:bwaleff@pccucc.org.

April 2014



Take This Bread Study

Sara Miles

The story of an unexpected and terribly inconvenient Christian conversion, told by a very unlikely convert, **TAKE THIS BREAD** is not only a spiritual memoir but a call to action. Raised as an atheist, Sara Miles lived an enthusiastically secular life as a restaurant cook and writer. Then early one morning, for no earthly reason, she wandered into a church. "I was certainly not interested in becoming a Christian," she writes. "Or, as I thought of it rather less politely, a religious nut." But she ate a piece of bread, took a sip of wine, and found herself radically transformed....

Miles is the one who should be debating atheists such as Sam Harris and Richard Dawkins about spirituality and religion. She is aware of and condemns all the cruelties committed in the name of religion, but also believes in the right to have a sense of mystery in one's life.

If you are looking for something for study group to read especially after Easter or into the summer, this might be it. Includes a guide for study groups.

The Gospel According to Starbucks

Study

Leonard Sweet

You don't stand in line at Starbucks® just to buy a cup of coffee. You stop for the *experience* surrounding the cup of coffee. Too many of us line up for God out of duty or guilt. We completely miss the warmth and richness of the experience of living with God. If we'd learn to see what God is doing on earth, we could participate fully in the irresistible life that he offers. You can learn to pay attention like never before, to identify where God is already in business right in your neighborhood. Leonard Sweet shows how the passion that Starbucks® has for creating an irresistible experience can connect you with God's stirring introduction to the experience of faith.



The Four Acts of Prayer

Study

Walter Wangerin

10 segments on DVD. Walter Wangerin hosts the series that looks at four acts in prayer: we speak, God listens, God speaks, we listen. Wangerin uses stories to explore the elements of the complete circle of praying. a 15 minute video segment; leader's guide is provided which lists quotes from the video as discussion starters. 15 minute class exercises; a scripture is included for journaling.





R.E.A.D.Y! (Revolutionary Engaged and Driven Youth): This FREE ONLINE YOUTH CURRICULUM is one of self-discovery to broaden their view of themselves, the church, the community, and their place in the world. Go to

http://globalministries.org/ready to download. Email: ready@ucc.org for more information.

Session 1 Challenging stereotypes and prejudices

Session 2 Recognizing God in all religious traditions

Session 3 Discovering differences and similarities to people in different cultures

Session 4 Realizing God's mission requires a constantly evolving world view

In each session there are bible quotes (linked to the appropriate scripture passage), reflection questions, quotes for reflection, embedded videos, and exercises. Each session could be completed in one hour with a bible passage/discussion and video/reflection question but the materials are plentiful and flexible enough to be used in one or several sessions. The resource can also be used for adult study.

The Global Ministries Mission Education team welcomes your feedback and has provided a link at the end of Session 4.

Conference Resource Center Policy

- •Books, periodicals and videos may be borrowed for 30 days unless otherwise noted.
- •Items may be requested by using the online resource catalog, visiting the resource center or contacting the conference office.
- •All items are available free of charge unless the item needs shipped to you. The charge for shipping is \$2.00 per item.
- •Audio Video equipment may be borrowed but must be returned the day after its use.
- •Curriculum samples are available; however, due to copyright laws these are only for review. If your church likes the curriculum, they must purchase it.
- •If an item is not returned within the 30 days, you will receive reminder e-mails from our office. If you would like to keep an item longer than 30 days, call the conference office and request a renewal. If the item is not on hold for someone, this can be arranged.

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