Small Group Resources Hilliard UMC Owns

Revised April 15, 2016
Staff: Beth Palmer, Director of Adult Spiritual Formation
bpalmer@hilliardumc.org; 876.2403 (church office)
Hilliard United Methodist Church

Contents:
Notes
Recommended Websites for resources
Recommended Authors
DVD Studies
Discussion-Guide Studies (no DVD)
Books (no DVD, no discussion guide)

Notes:
• No study will perfectly meet your group’s needs, and most studies can be adapted to suit your group’s needs. For example, most studies offer more material than there’s time to discuss, or include activities that won’t interest your group, so pick and choose — omit sections that don’t appeal to your group, or add in your own knowledge and study as needed. Depending on the material, you could take two group meetings to discuss one session of the study, or discuss two sessions per week. Use your best judgment, and use the material in the way that best suits your growth in Christlikeness.

• In some cases, reading the original book on which a study is based isn’t necessary; your group can have fruitful discussion and growth just discussing the DVD teaching. Reading the original book deepens the study and enriches lives, to be sure, but it’s not always necessary. Some groups like to read and do “homework” between group meetings; others don’t. Either way is a great way to do a group.

• It’s not always necessary for every group member to buy their own copy of the book or discussion guide — if there’s one copy for the group leader to use for leading discussion, that often works.

• Feel free to disagree with the teacher! Just because we’ve purchased a study doesn’t necessarily mean we agree with everything they teach.

• Most studies are designed for one- to two-hour sessions. Adapt as needed for how much time your group has.

• The church is happy to order materials for you. The church will cover the cost of leader materials (kits, DVDs, leader guides, leader book) and shipping. We ask participants to pay for their books if they’re able. We never want the cost of a book to keep someone from participating in a group, so if someone doesn’t have the money this time, it’s on us, happily.
**Recommended Websites** (where you can find more resources)

*The church is happy to order materials for you, which saves you money (the church is a tax-exempt organization). Contact Beth Palmer. You’re of course welcome to order materials on your own, too.*

Bluefish tv: bluefishtv.com/Home. “Creating videos to help you teach.”

  - Publishing ministry of The United Methodist Church.
  - Includes FaithLink series of one-session studies, of which we already own 26 titles, such as Teach Us to Pray, Peace with Justice Sunday, Love, Greed, Evolution & Creation, Afghanistan, Violence Toward Women, etc.


Living the Questions: livingthequestions.com.

Renovare: renovare.org.
  - “We seek to resource, fuel, model, and advocate more intentional living and Spiritual Formation among Christians and those wanting a deeper connection with God.”

SparkHouse: wearesparkhouse.org.
  - A division of Augsburg Fortress Publishing, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.
  - “Sparkhouse develops faith formation resources for children, youth, and adults. We strive to spark new life in Christian communities.” “At sparkhouse, we’re creating a whole new class of faith formation resources created for today’s Christians. We meet people where they are: using technology, language, and active learning concepts that match our 21st-century lifestyles. Every day we strive to make creativity, collaboration, and even humor synonymous with thought-provoking, Bible-based learning.”

  - Extensive selection of one-session studies (some free!) to download and print at home (or ask Beth to purchase and provide), including titles in Bible and theology, Christian living, church life, contemporary issues (politics, world issues, etc.), parenting, popular culture (movies, TV, books, etc.), Spanish studies, and spirituality.
  - Multiple-session curriculum and a wide variety of books available, too.
  - Produced by The Presbyterian Church USA.

Upper Room Books (division of The United Methodist Church)
  - Books and resources: bookstore.upperroom.org.
  - Small Group Ministry support: upperroom.org/ministry-areas/small-groups.
Yale Bible Study: yalebiblestudy.yale.edu.
- Video and print resources for studying Acts, Luke, John, 1 Corinthians, Romans, 2 Isaiah, and Mark.
- Produced by Yale University Divinity School and The Congregational Church of New Canaan, Connecticut.


Zondervan ChurchSource Publishing: churchsource.com. At bottom of home page, click on “View ChurchSource catalog.”

Some Recommended Authors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Maya Angelou</th>
<th>Anne Lamott</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Karen Armstrong</td>
<td>Max Lucado</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ruth Haley Barton</td>
<td>Brian McLaren</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diana Butler Bass</td>
<td>Brennan Manning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dietrich Bonhoeffer</td>
<td>Ched Myers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marcus Borg</td>
<td>Kathleen Norris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frederick Buechner</td>
<td>Henri Nouwen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Burke</td>
<td>John Ortberg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Dominic Crossan</td>
<td>Parker Palmer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bill Easum</td>
<td>John Perkins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rachel Held Evans</td>
<td>Eugene Peterson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Finley</td>
<td>Richard Rohr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leighton Ford</td>
<td>Mike Slaughter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard Foster</td>
<td>James Bryan Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darrell Guder</td>
<td>John Shelby Spong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phillip Gulley</td>
<td>Leonard Sweet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adam Hamilton</td>
<td>Barbara Brown Taylor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alan Hirsch</td>
<td>Desmond Tutu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bill Hybels</td>
<td>Frank Viola</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reuben P. Job</td>
<td>Jim Wallis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. Stanley Jones</td>
<td>Dallas Willard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jon Kabat-Zinn</td>
<td>N. T. Wright</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sue Monk Kidd</td>
<td>Philip Yancey</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
DVD Studies

Teaching is via video, usually with an accompanying discussion guide. Optional or no prose book to read between sessions.

• 4 sessions with discussion guide.

• 24 DVDs with video teaching by Rob Bell on various topics in faith and theology, such as:
  o “Rain”: Where is God when life isn’t going like we want it to?
  o “Sunday”: Do we get so wrapped up in religion that we miss out on what’s important to God?
  o “Noise”: Why are we so afraid of silence?
  o “Rhythm”: Are our lives in tune with God’s plan for the world?
• Length varies, roughly 10-13 minutes each. Each is a self-contained discussion starter, so watch as many as you want in any order. Discussion questions in booklet with each DVD.

• 5 sessions with discussion guide and DVD discussion starters.

• 4 sessions with DVD teaching, leader guide, and participant’s workbook.
• Hope; Peace; Love; and Joy.

• 6 sessions with DVD & participant study guide.

• 8 sessions. Original book (214p) with discussion guide at the back, including ideas for putting the ideas into practice.
• DVD teaching for 6 of the 8 chapters.
• “Why Christians do what we do.” The authors “communicate the hope that Christianity offers through the discipline of six ancient practices. In addition to exploring core truths, your group will learn what it means to build community among believers by nurturing a faith that leads to action.”

• 9 sessions with discussion guide; leader guide in DVD box.
• Prose book.

• 8 sessions with DVD teaching, leader guide, and participant’s guide.
• Prose book (223 pages).

• 4 sessions plus 13 extra video tips and 3 extended tips.
• Participant’s guide.

• 4 sessions with DVD and discussion guide.
• What if we cared? What if we were honest? What if we failed? What if we got off the couch?

• 8 sessions with video teaching & leader guide.
• Participant book with daily Bible reading.

Disciple Bible Study. Abingdon Press.
*All: DVD teaching, daily Bible reading and reflection homework, leader guide; some have extra resource/study books and/or materials.
• Disciple I: Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study (34 weeks): whole Bible.
• Disciple IV: Under the Tree of Life (32 weeks): Ruth, 1 & 2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther, Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon, Lamentations, and Daniel; Gospel of John, the letters of John, and James, Jude, and Revelation.
• Christian Believer (30 weeks): Church history and doctrine, why we believe what we do.

• Prepare or provide a meal for your group around a movie theme, then show a movie and discuss it. Meal and décor ideas, discussion questions, and activities provided. Provide movie on your own.
• Other books in this series: Dinner and a Movie: G-Rated; Dinner and a Movie: Chick Flicks, Dinner and a Movie: Chick Flicks 2; Dinner and a Movie: Adrenaline Rush

• 7 sessions with DVD & leader guide. DVD sessions filmed in Jerusalem and the Holy Land, where the events took place.
• Original prose book (133 pages).
• “The aim of this book is to help you better understand the events that occurred during the last 24 hours of Jesus’ life, see more clearly the theological significance of Christ’s suffering and death, and reflect upon the meaning of these events.”

• 6 sessions with DVD & leader guide.
• Prose book (222 pages)

• 6 sessions with DVD & leader guide.
• Prose book (132 pages).

• 8 sessions with DVD teaching on Orthodoxy, Catholicism, Lutheranism, Presbyterianism, Anglicanism, Baptists, Pentecostalism, and Methodism (14-18 minutes each).
• Prose book (130 pages).

• 4 or 5 sessions with DVD & leader guide.
• Prose book (110 pages).

• 4 sessions with DVD & leader guide.
• Prose book (160 pages).

• 5 sessions with DVD & leader guide.
• Prose book (169 pages).

• 5 sessions with DVD teaching & leader guide. DVD sessions filmed on location in the Holy Land and Jerusalem, tracing the steps of those involved.
• Original prose book (133p).
• Devotional booklet, 4 weeks, 158-page mini book.

• 8 sessions with DVD & leader guide.
• Prose book (125 pages).

• 6 sessions with DVD (Abingdon Press) & free downloadable leader guide.
• Prose book (337 pages).

• 5 sessions with DVD & leader guide.
• Prose book (132 pages).

• 5 sessions with discussion guide (subtitle on discussion guide is *Where Faith & Politics Meet*). Leader guide in DVD box.
• Original prose book (242p), with a few discussion questions in the back.

• 4 sessions; leader guide in DVD box.
• Small prose book, no participant’s guide.

• 6 sessions with DVD teaching & leader guide, by Pamela C. Hawkins.
• Original 78-page mini book.

• 24 30-minute academic lectures on audio CD with transcript, on how the Bible came into being.

• 8 sessions with DVD and leader guide.
• Prose paperback (125 pages).
Can only one religion be true? Why is there suffering and evil? How can I believe in science and creation? How can I believe in a God I can’t prove? Can I trust the Old Testament? Are marriage, sex, and family life religious issues? Was Jesus’ resurrection real? Why do Christians disagree about so many things?

- 11 sessions with video teaching & leader guide.
- Participant book with daily Bible reading.

- 6 sessions with DVD teaching. Participant workbook with some daily reading and homework.

- 12 sessions with DVD teaching, participant’s guide, Small Group Leader Guide, and Director’s Manual.
- Also available: *Along the Way*, participant’s companion (prose, 211 pages).

- 21 20-minute teaching segments on DVD, presented by over thirty highly acclaimed scholars, theologians and other experts in a video exploration of an open, inclusive, broad-minded, progressive Christianity.
- We own the Home Edition but could upgrade to the public-use version, which offers downloadable participant and leader resources for small group study.
- Prose companion book also available (I don’t think you need to read the prose book to do this study; and I think you can do this study just using the prose book, without the DVD segments; I’m not sure yet whether the book is a direct transcription of the DVD teaching segments or whether it’s different): David M. Felton and Jeff Procter-Murphy, *Living the Questions: The Wisdom of Progressive Christianity*. HarperOne, 2012. Reader’s Guide at the end with discussion/reflection questions.

- Participant’s guide & leader guide all in one.
- 12 DVD teaching segments.
- Prose book (219 pages).
- In-depth look at John 3:16.

- Prose book (142 pages) with “Sweet Spot Discovery Guide” (pages 145-214).
- DVD called “DVD Special.”
- 6 sessions with DVD with leader guide, participant’s workbook (55 pages), and original book (311 pages with very short daily-reading chapters).
- Foundations of discipleship, focusing on one’s relationship with God, a deeper understanding of self, and finding one’s place in the kingdom: preparation/commitment, prayer, community, giving, servanthood, and faith sharing.

- Explore what it means to follow Jesus and accept his gospel message, not just in our minds and heart, but also in our very lives—to embrace the kingdom way of life.
- 5 sessions hosted by Gabe Lyons.
- Participant’s discussion guide.

- 4 DVD teaching segments, with leader guide to watch the 4 teaching segments over 7 sessions; also includes identical teachings on audio CD.

- 7 audio CD teachings plus 1 bonus video session on DVD.

- 2 DVD sessions with leader guide.

- Explore 6 common misconceptions of the nature of God. Experience God’s true nature. Enter into a journey of authentic transformation.” (box cover)
- 12 sessions with DVD teaching segments. No prose book.
- Participant’s discussion guide. Extensive leader guide, giving many ideas for study.

- 11 sessions with DVD teaching (about 60 minutes/segment). Disc 4 is lost, which includes sessions 7 & 8, but we can probably borrow from Upper Arlington Lutheran Church, 451.3736. See their online library catalog at www.ualc.org.
- Participant’s workbook & leader guide.

• 9 sessions with DVD teaching (about 60 minutes/segment).
• Participant workbook & leader guide (we don’t own either but can order).

• 11 sessions with DVD teaching (60& minutes each), with participant’s workbook.

• 8 sessions with DVD teaching, with participant’s workbook & leader guide (we do not own the DVDs, but we have a few copies of the workbook & a leader guide, and we can probably borrow the DVDs from Upper Arlington Lutheran Church, 451.3736. See their online library catalog at www.ualc.org).

• 4 sessions with DVD & leader guide.
• Filmed on location in Rome.
• Culture & Faith in Conflict; Not Good Enough?; Keep the Faith; and A Picture of Your Life.

• 6 sessions with DVD & leader guide.
• Prose book (265 pages).
• “How to recognize divine opportunities in daily life, overcome the fear of missing out or of making the wrong choice, and walk through open doors with confidence.”

• Prose book (168p) (optional).
• 6 sessions with DVD discussion starters. Participant’s guide with discussion questions and activities. Personal exploration to do at home.

• 6 sessions with DVD teaching on learning to trust God. Participant’s guide. Leader guide.
• Prose book (224 pages).

• Prose book (272 pages) (optional).
• 6 sessions with DVD discussion starters. Participant’s guide with discussion questions and activities. Personal exploration to do at home.

• Prose book (254 pages) (optional).
• 5 sessions with DVD discussion starters. Participant’s guide with discussion questions and activities. Personal exploration to do at home.

• 6 sessions with DVD teaching and participant’s guide.
• Prose book (194 pages).

• 8 sessions with video teaching and participant’s guide. (We just own participant’s guide but can order video.)

• 6 sessions on DVD, with workbook.
• Prose book (336 pages). (We don’t own the workbook or prose book but can order.)

• 4 sessions with DVD teaching and discussion guide.
• 2000 Overlooked Scriptures; Plan A; Biblical Compassion; and What Can We Do?

• 6 sessions with DVD teaching, leader guide, and participant’s guide.

*Saving Jesus Redux*. Living the Questions, 2010 (livingthequestions.com, LLC).
• “Kidnapped by the Christian Right. Discarded by the Secular Left. Jesus needs saving.” Exploration of a credible Jesus for the third millennium. “Join a host of experts for a conversation around the relevance of Jesus for the 21st century.”
• 12 segments on DVD.
• We own the home edition but could upgrade to the public-use edition, which includes downloadable resources for small group study and a participant reader. We do have a printout from First Community Church of 12 participant guide handouts.

• 13 Get-Together ideas in Leader Guide to facilitate lasting friendships with one another and with God. DVD video illustrations and music/audio CD.
• Small *Friendship First* participant booklet.
- 6 sessions with DVD teaching hosted by John Ortberg.
- Participant’s guide.

- 5 weeks with at-home reading (5 short sections per week), with DVD discussion starters.
- A few reflection questions at the end of each daily reading.

- Small prose book (141 pages).
- 4 sessions of DVD teaching. Free leader guide to download at AbingdonPress.com/LeaderGuides.

- 1 “68-minute distillation of Bishop Spong’s understanding of the God-presence in Christ.”
- Prose book (318 pages).

- 6 sessions with DVD teaching, leader guide, and participant’s workbook.

- Abridged version of the Bible, New International Version.
- 31 sessions (or do 2/week and meet 16 weeks), with DVD discussion starters.
- Discussion questions starting on page 473 of *The Story*. Separate participant’s guide (optional).
- Companion resource (optional): *Exploring the Story*. Contains background information, archeological references, interpretive resources, etc.
- Versions for young children, older children, and youth (with separate youth DVD).
- Set of audio CDs, unabridged version of *The Story*.

Vander Laan, Ray. *FaithLessons Series*. Zondervan/Focus on the Family. 12 (?) volumes, all with leader guide in DVD box and separate discussion guide, of which the church owns:
- Vol. 4, *The Death and Resurrection of the Messiah*, 10 sessions.
• Vol. 5, *Early Church*, 5 sessions.
• Vol. 6, *In the Dust of the Rabbi*, 5 sessions.
• Vol. 7, *Walk as Jesus Walked*, 5 sessions.
• Vol. 8, *God Heard Their Cry*, 5 sessions
• Vol. 11, *The Path to the Cross*, 5 sessions.
• Vol. 12, *Walking with God in the Desert*, 7 sessions.

• 10 sessions with DVD teaching (25-minute segments), participant’s guide, and prose book (185 pages).
• Prose book contains discussion questions for each chapter in the back of the book.

• 4 sessions with DVD teaching, participant’s guide, and prose book (254 pages).
• Prose book includes a couple reflection/application questions at the end of each chapter.
• 2 DVDs. Disc One has 4 short sessions (25 min each); Disc Two has 4 long sessions (approx. 1 hour each).

• 6 sessions with DVD teaching. First 3/4 of workbook is a daily devotional with journaling space. Last 1/4 is small group discussion guide. No prose book.

• 6 sessions with DVD teaching. Discussion questions at end of book.

• 6 sessions with DVD teaching (roughly 26 minutes each) by Dallas Willard and John Ortberg (2010). DVD case includes Leader Guide with session plans.

• 6 sessions with 30-minute teaching segments featuring Dallas Willard, Richard Foster, and John Ortberg.
• Leader guide in DVD box with discussion questions.
• Prose book (304 pages) (optional).

• Participant’s guide & leader guide.

• 4 volumes: Ruth, Song of Songs, Esther, and Judith.
• Discussion questions and resources available at uppitywomenofthebible.com.

• 6 sessions on our relationship with God with DVD discussion starters (we don’t own the DVD but can order).
• Original prose book (351 pages).

• 10 sessions with DVD with leader guide. Participant’s guide.
• Prose book (304 pages; don’t own but can order) (optional).
Discussion-Guide Studies

No DVD teaching. Discussion guide has everything you need — some have a bit of reading between sessions, but not as much reading as books listed in the next section here; most have no reading between sessions.


- 6 sessions. Participant guide & leader guide all in one.
- Other titles we own from this publisher:
  - *Thriving Love*.
  - *Fulfilling Faithfulness*.
  - *Your Pathways: Strong Connection with God*.


- 8 sessions; participant’s guide & leader guide. This is the book we use for our foundational class, Exploring the Bible (formerly Bible Foundations).


- 12 sessions.


- 12 sessions on cultivating a missional life.


- “Discover your spiritual gifts, personal style, and God-given passion for serving in the Body of Christ.” This is the curriculum we use for our foundational class, Exploring Your Spiritual Gifts (formerly Discovering Your Spiritual Gifts).
- 4-6 sessions with homework. A couple weeks include DVD clips to foster discussion, but the homework and small group discussion are primary.


- Available in 2 formats:
  - 1 volume, 28 sessions, or
  - 5 volumes, 5 or 6 sessions each.

Eisenbaum, Pamela M. *Invitation to Romans: A Short-Term Disciple Bible Study*. Abingdon Press, 2006. (100 pages)
- 8 sessions with leader guide.

- 4 sessions.

- 7 sessions. Participant’s and Leader Guides combined in one book.

- 8 sessions. Participant’s and Leader Guides combined in one book.

- 7 chapters on separation of church and state; creation and evolution in public schools; death penalty; euthanasia; prayer in public schools; abortion; and homosexuality.
- 157 pages with discussion questions at the end of each chapter.

- 6 sessions. Daily Workbook by Harnish and Justin Larosa, with homework.
- Leader Program Guide with CD-ROM.
- Companion Reader (74 pages).

- 6 sessions, participant’s guide, with guidelines for leaders at back.
- Prose book (180 pages) with questions for reflection and discussion at the back.

• 9 sessions. “Travel with 8 biblical characters … who discover God’s grace through
their encounters with Jesus.”

• 8 sessions, leader guide at back of book.

• 10 chapters with reflection/discussion questions for each.

• 8 sessions, leader guide at back of book.

• 8 sessions, leader guide at back of book.

• 7 sessions. Leader guide included in participant guide.

• 9 sessions with separate Study Guide by Peterson and Peter Santucci.

• 3 sessions on sharing your faith with people you know.
• This is the book we use for our foundational class, Exploring Faith Sharing (formerly Sharing Your Faith).

• 7 sessions on discovering wholeness and purpose in every area of life: spiritual, physical, vocational, emotional, relational, and volitional dimensions.
• Several other titles in this series at SerendipityHouse.com.

• 13 sessions on the stress of anxious anticipation; making mistakes; relationships; loss; labor (work); excess demands; crisis; anger; negative evaluation; change; unfulfilled expectations; decision making; and monotony.
- 13 sessions.
- Discussion guide & leader guide in same book.

- 12 sessions with leader guide and participant’s guide. Minimal homework.

- 8 sessions, 9 weeks: Discovering a Balanced Vision of Christian Faith and Practice; Practicing the Prayer-Filled Life; the Virtuous Life; the Spirit-Empowered Life; the Compassionate Life; the Word-Centered Life; the Sacramental Life; and Discovering a Practical Strategy for Spiritual Growth.
- Guidelines for developing an ongoing spiritual formation group, through an introduction to the basics of Christian discipleship, as seen in the life of Jesus Christ: prayer, virtue, empowerment, compassion, proclamation, and wholeness. Learn how to practice the spiritual disciples that flow from the life of Jesus, and incorporate them into one’s own life at home, individually, between sessions.

- 4 sessions.

- 12 sessions.
- We own the Study Guide but not the accompanying DVD.

- 7-week introduction to the Christian spiritual life.
- Learn spiritual practices in the group and then practice them at home (journaling, sharing faith journeys, meditating on Scripture, breath prayer, holy listening, and the daily examen).

- 9 sessions. Participant’s workbook & leader guide. Daily Bible readings at home.
- Also available (though we don’t own): *Meeting God in Scripture: Entering the Old Testament.*
• This book is more about devotional reading of scripture, allowing the Bible to transform participants, rather than studying the Bible for information.

• 26 sessions on the Gospel of John.
• Wright is a noted scholar of the New Testament who has taught at several prestigious universities (Cambridge, Oxford, and McGill).
• Series includes studies on every New Testament book/letter, of varying numbers of sessions.
**Books**

*Reading between group sessions is primary. Group sessions are for discussing what you’ve read at home on your own. Some of these books have some discussion questions built in; some don’t.*

- Prose book (139 pages), with ideas for practice at the end of each chapter and a Guide for Groups at the end.


- A few discussion questions provided at the end of the book.

- A few reflection/discussion questions at the end of each chapter, and a few activities for personal growth with each chapter. Some tips for leaders at the back.

- Reader’s Guide at the end with discussion/reflection questions.
- DVD: 21 20-minute teaching segments. See full description under *Living the Questions* in the DVD Studies section here.


- Foreword and reflections by Nathan’s dad, Richard J. Foster.
- “More than thirty years after his father’s classic book brought them to the masses, Nathan Foster took his own unique path into the spiritual disciplines. As he sought day by day to develop habits that would enable him to live more like Jesus, he encountered problems both universal and personal. Along the way, he found creative new ways to practice the disciplines and discovered that a vital, conversational relationship with God was truly within his grasp. Now he invites you to join him on the journey. You may just find that holy habits are truly possible for all.” (back cover)

- An in-depth look at the inward spiritual disciplines of meditation, prayer, fasting, and study; the outward spiritual disciplines of simplicity, solitude, submission, and service; and the corporate disciplines of confession, worship, guidance, and celebration.


- “What is the *one aspect* of this broken world that, when you see it, touch it, or get near it, you just can’t stand? What reality is so troubling that it thrusts you off the couch and into action? This is what Bill Hybels refers to as *holy discontent*: a personal ‘firestorm of frustration’ that, although sparked by that which is terribly wrong, can catalyze fierce determination to set things right.... Hybels invites you to consider the dramatic impact your life will have when you willingly convert the frustration of your holy discontent into fuel for changing the world.” (from back cover of book jacket)


- “Are you bedraggled, beat-up, and burnt-out? Most of us believe in God’s grace -- in theory. But somehow we can’t seem to apply it in our daily lives. We continue to see Him as a small-minded bookkeeper, tallying our failures and successes on a score sheet. Yet God gives us His grace, willingly, no matter what we’ve done. We come to Him as ragamuffins -- dirty, bedraggled, and beat-up. And when we sit at His feet, He smiles upon us, the chosen objects of His ‘furious love.’ Brennan Manning’s now-classic meditation on grace and what it takes to access it -- simply honesty -- has changed thousands of lives.” (back cover)


- Also available: *Workbook for Men* and *Workbook for Women*.


- “This is not just a book to read. At the end of each chapter you’ll find an opportunity for soul training, engaging in spiritual practices that reinforce the biblical messages on your mind and heart.” (book jacket)
- Discussion questions and practical soul-training exercises accompany each chapter.


- 255 pages with some reflection/discussion questions at the end of each chapter.
- See also the companion DVD study (listed in DVD section), as well as *Renovation of the Heart in Daily Practice* (next in this section), which is a very accessible way to get at Willard’s original book.


- 61 short sections from Willard’s *Renovation of the Heart* (1-2 pages), with short reflections by Jan Johnson, each followed by a “Today’s Experiment” activity.


