

BIBLIOGRAPHY FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH

EASY BOOKS TO READ -- FOR THE BEGINNER:

MERE CHRISTIANITY by C.S. Lewis.

This is a small but meaty book that delves into the basic questions of belief and analyzes the problems of taking the leap of faith. All books by Lewis are good. If you or your children haven't read the CHRONICLES OF NARNIA, DO IT!

THE COST OF DISCIPLESHIP by Dietrich Bonhoeffer.

This is a Christian classic that distinguishes between cheap and costly grace and if we want to grow it is going to cost us something too -- as it did Christ.

HINDS FEET ON HIGH PLACES (AND OTHER BOOKS) by Hannah Hurnard.

This is an excellent parable of the faith journey. It is an absolute must -- for all ages.

INTERMEDIATE BOOKS:

REDEMPTIVE INTIMACY, and MORALITY AND ITS BEYOND by Dick Westley.

These are great books that should be read individually but are fantastic for discussion groups. There is much, much food for thought here. The clergy must read these to understand what organized religion can and cannot do for the individual.

RELEASE OF THE SPIRIT and THE SPIRITUAL MAN vol I, II, III, by Watchman Nee.

I have gained a lot of insight from this Chinese writer; many charismatics enjoy his writings.

THE LIFE OF THE SPIRIT AND THE LIFE OF TODAY by Evelyn Underhill.

I am a fan of this English woman and buy everything I can find that she wrote. She has read all the Christian classics and relates them to us in a practical way. She is, indeed, an apostle of the 20th century.

DEEP BOOKS THAT ARE EXCELLENT (Give some a try. You won't be disappointed.)

SILENT MUSIC and THE STILL POINT by William Johnston

These books written by an Irish Jesuit who teaches Eastern and Western mysticism at the University of Tokyo -- excellent.

MYSTICS AND ZEN MASTERS by Thomas Merton.

Any and all of Merton's works are first rate.

WORKS OF LOVE by Soren Kierkegaard.

His Gospel meditations are classic.

WAITING FOR GOD by Simone Weil.

A twentieth century Christian classic on the mystic experience -- one of the most noted books on spirituality in our century.

MYSTICISM by Evelyn Underhill.

The classic work on Christian spirituality/mysticism.

REVELATIONS OF DIVINE LOVE by Julian of Norwich.

One of the most beautiful books on spirituality ever written.

INTERIOR CASTLE by St. Teresa of Avila.

Perhaps the most noted book ever written on the stages of spiritual growth. She is, apart from the Bible, the most read author of spirituality/mysticism.

(Bibliography compiled by Ed Alcott)