



ADULT BIBLE CLASS
TEACHERS'
WORKSHOP







A Few Thoughts on Spiritual Formation...



29 “The most important one,” answered Jesus, “is this: ‘Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. 30 Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ 31 The second is this: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no commandment greater than these.” – Matthew 22:29-31



Mulholland's Four Step Model of Spiritual Formation

“Spiritual formation is

(1) a process

(2) of being formed

(3) in the image of Christ

(4) for the sake of others.”



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⁴ Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. ⁵ Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. ⁶ These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. ⁷ Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up....



⁸ Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. ⁹ Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates. – Deuteronomy 6:4-9



“Christian spiritual formation is the life-long, multi-faceted process through which we intentionally partner with God’s Spirit, God’s Word and God’s people to progress towards the goal of becoming Christ-like in every dimension of our thinking, being, desiring and doing.” – **Ross Cochran**



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“The Bible is primarily a book not of information but of formation, not merely a book to be analyzed, scrutinized, and discussed but a sacred book to nurture us, to unify our hearts and minds, and to serve as a constant source of contemplation. It is important to guard against reading the Bible programmatically as a book full of good stories and telling illustrations that can help us with instant advice, sermons, lectures, papers and articles....



As long as we deal with the Word of God as an instrument with which we can do many useful things, we don't really read the Bible. The Bible does not speak as long as we want to only use it. But when we are willing to hear the Word as a word for us, sacred scripture can disclose itself, and its message can penetrate into the center of our hearts.” – **Henri Nouwen**



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“The process of spiritual formation in Christ is one of progressively replacing our destructive images and ideas about God with the images and ideas that filled the mind of Jesus himself. Spiritual formation in Christ moves toward a total interchange of our ideas and images for his.” - **Dallas Willard**



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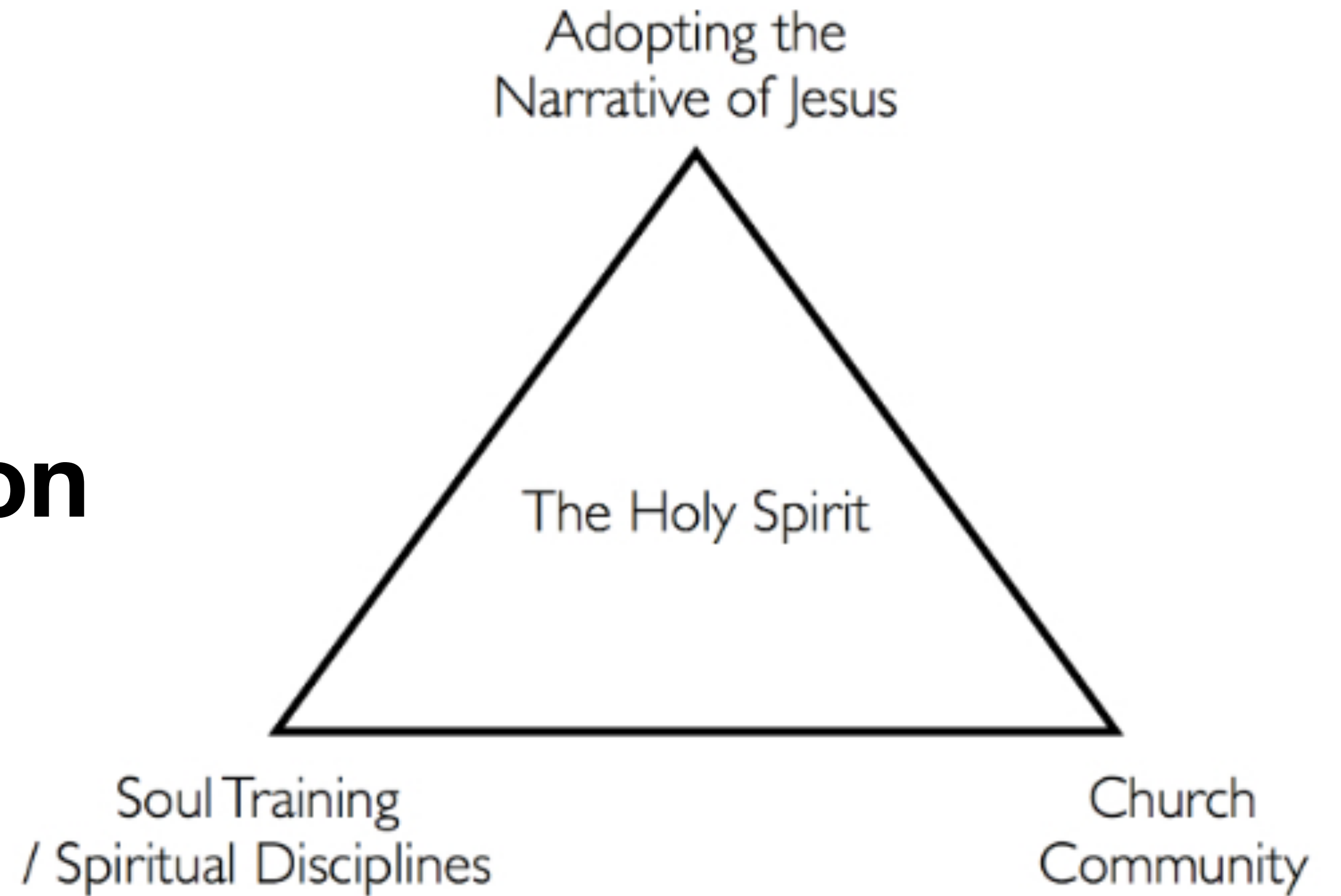
If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. ² If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. ³ If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. – 1 Corinthians 13:1-3



Spiritual Formation Models



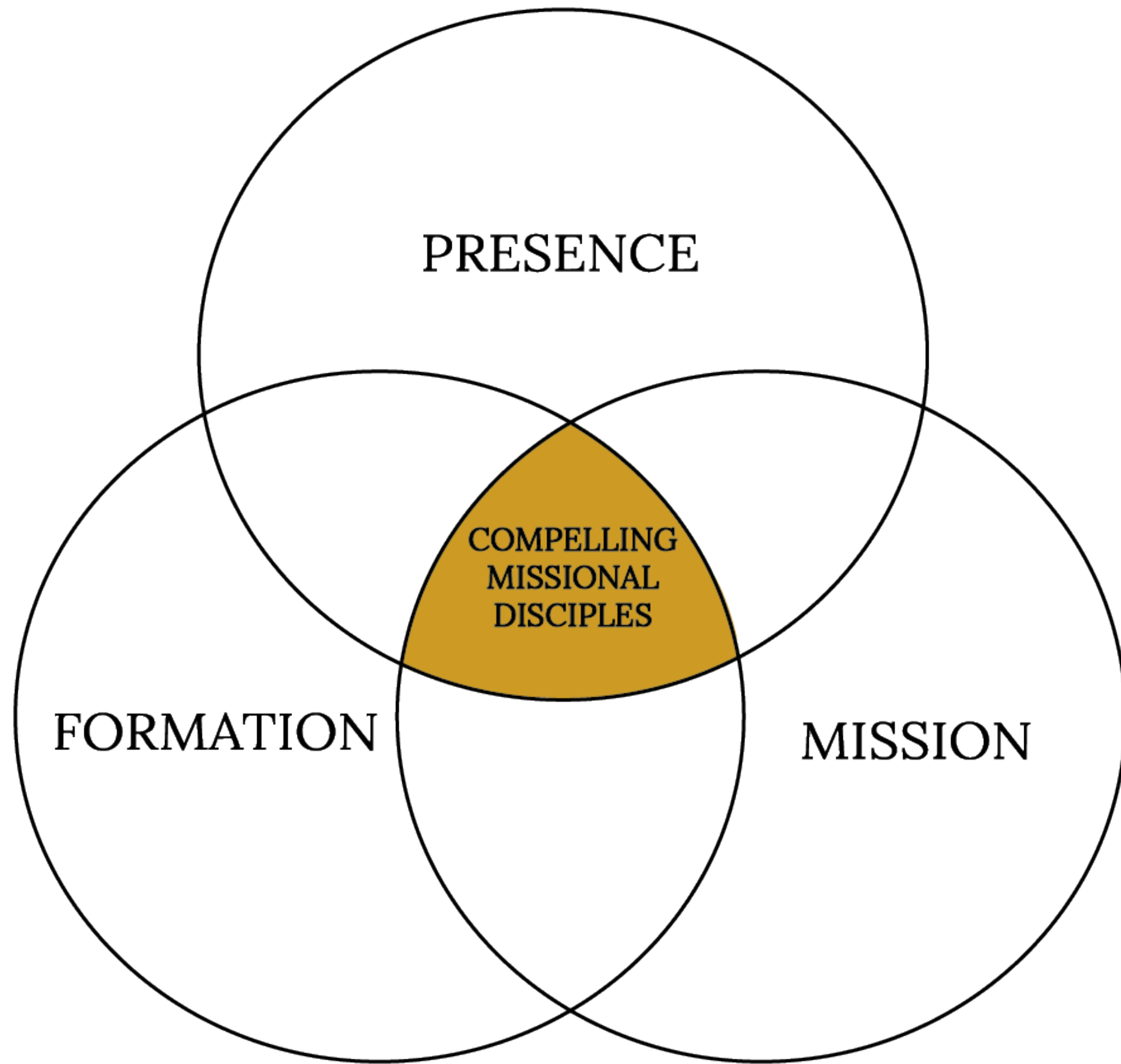
James Bryan Smith's Triangle of Transformation



TIMES	COMMUNICATION	ROLE	GOAL
MEAL TIME	FORMAL DISCUSSION	TEACHER	ESTABLISH VALUES
DRIVE TIME	INFORMAL DIALOGUE	FRIEND	INTERPRET LIFE
BED TIME	INTIMATE CONVERSATION	COUNSELOR	BUILD INTIMACY
MORNING TIME	ENCOURAGING WORDS	COACH	INSTILL PURPOSE

Reggie Joiner's D6 Formation Model



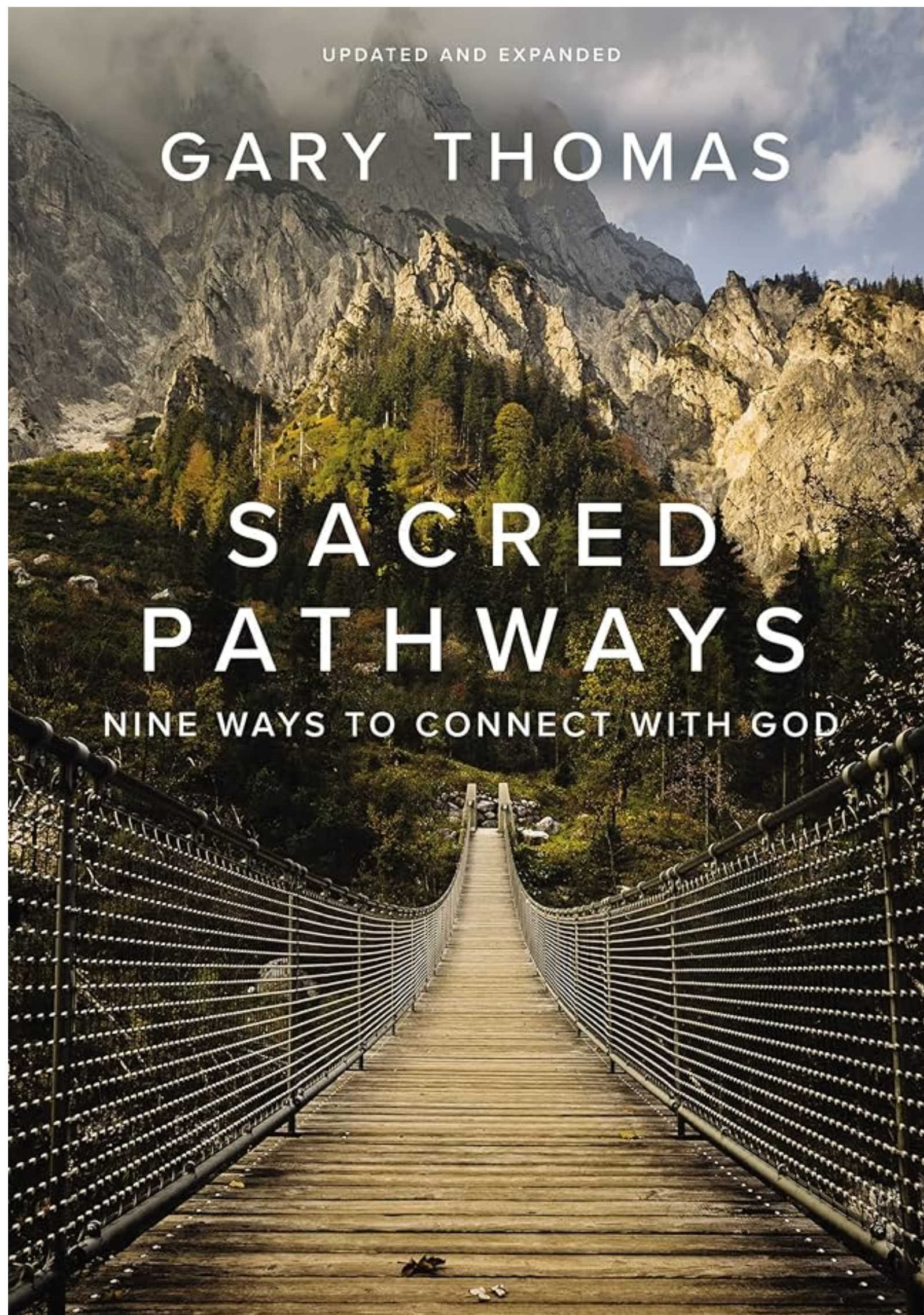


Jon Tyson's Compelling Missional Disciples Model



Sacred Pathways





“Discovering our spiritual temperament is a means by which we can achieve the desired ends – knowing God and obeying his call on our life” – **Gary Thomas**



Naturalist

Loving God Outdoors

- I feel closest to God when I'm surrounded by what he has made
- I feel cut off if I have to spend too much time indoors
- Seeing God's beauty is a central to my faith journey



Sensate

Loving God with the Senses

- I feel closest to God when my senses are engaged
- I would prefer a trip to the museum/concert rather than the woods
- I often factor in the learning environment as much as the message



Traditionalist

Loving God through Ritual and Symbol

- I feel closest to God when participating intentional practices
- I learn lessons through reinforced behavior (familiarity)
- I find symbolism to be helpful and meaningful



Ascetic

Loving God in Solitude and Simplicity

- I feel closest to God during alone time (Free of Distraction)
- I am very introspective and mindful
- I would find prayer journaling to be a helpful spiritual practice



Activist

Loving God through Confrontation

- I feel closest to God when I am participating in Kingdom action
- I am committed to helping advocate for those in need
- I get very frustrated by what I perceive as Christian apathy



Caregiver

Loving God through Loving Others

- I feel closest to God when extending compassionate love to others
- I am very motivated to help those who are poor, sick, or imprisoned
- I mostly help others on a personal level (rather than systemic level)



Enthusiast

Loving God with Mystery and Celebration

- I feel closest to God when in joyful and celebratory settings
- I love being stirred emotionally by a spiritual experience
- I am frustrated when people are not excited in worship settings



Contemplative

Loving God through Adoration

- I feel closest to God when I feel His love in my heart
- I can struggle with my faith when I can't feel God's presence
- I have a relationship with God that is both reverent and friendly



Intellectual

Loving God with the Mind

- I feel closest to God when I learn something new about Him
- I can get frustrated if the focus is too much on feelings/experience
- I would enjoy several hours of uninterrupted study time



Loving Your Students...











