

## New Resources November 2016

Date: 2016-12-01

ADULTS  
242.332  
HAWKINS

Hawkins, Pamela C. **Behold! : Cultivating Attentiveness in the Season of Advent** . Nashville, TN : Upper Room Books, 2011.

**Summary:** Behold is an old-fashioned word we rarely hear these days. It's not in most modern translations of the Bible. Yet Pamela Hawkins says this word softens the edges of her heart. "I cannot say this word without moving, without extending and lifting a hand, palm open, toward the object of my attention," she remarks. Enter Advent this year with an attitude of curious expectancy and trustful anticipation. Linger for a while and pay close attention to the meaning of the season as you focus on a single word each week, pray the beautiful prayers and hymn texts, and try various forms of prayer. You can follow all the spiritual practices Hawkins suggests or choose the ones that most capture your attention. The spiritual practices include reflection, silence, prayer, reading scripture, reading or singing of hymn texts, Christian service and action. You will learn how to use the following prayer methods: Praying with Images, Silent Prayer, Prayer Beads, Compline (Night Prayer). Behold the Word with new eyes, new ears, a new heart, and a sense of new possibilities. Let Pam Hawkins encourage and help you behold the "news of great joy," Christ the Lord, who is coming to make all things new! 4-week study for individuals or small groups. Includes Leader's Guide. --Upper Room

ADULTS  
242.332  
UPPER

**Light of Lights : Advent Devotions from the Upper Room Daily Devotional Guide.** Nashville : Upper Room Books, [2014].

**Summary:** This Advent book invites readers to commit to the practice of daily prayer. The collection of meditations from The Upper Room daily devotional guide is arranged to coordinate with the themes of the four candles on an Advent wreath: Hope, Love, Joy, and Peace. Meditations are included for Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and the Sunday after Christmas. A complete Leader's Guide for small groups and instructions for making an Advent wreath are included. --Upper Room

ADULTS  
248.4  
ISENHOWER

Isenhower, Valerie K. **Living into the Answers : A Workbook for Personal Spiritual Discernment.** Nashville, Tenn. : Upper Room Books, 2008.

**Summary:** What do I do now?! Face life's "forks in the road" and write your own future—fearlessly. Be guided to your own wisdom within the context of the always-present divine voice. Living into the Answers teaches a way to ask for and receive God's guidance as you approach an issue or choice. "Large or small, the decisions of life point toward particular paths," write Isenhower and Todd. "Paying attention to the process of discerning God's desire for our life starts us on a journey that leads to abundant life. ...It opens us to a larger number of life choices and to a more interactive relationship with God who calls us for future possibilities." Discernment isn't magic. It isn't passive. Discernment isn't a complicated mystical practice. Rather, it's a process of listening and choosing based on the understanding that God is to be at the center of decision making. The authors explain how to live in a way that satisfies the yearning for a deeper connection with the spiritual. There may not always be one "right" answer because there's no shortcut to knowing which job to take, house to buy or relationship to pursue. But we don't have to make these decisions alone. As people of faith, we know every aspect of our lives is important to God, who created us for a purpose. Living into the Answers is an inspiring and practical personal workbook that introduces tools and practices that invite God in as we consider priorities and alternatives, guides us to create prayerfully considered options, helps us live with the confidence that God will use our choices to invite us into a deeper and more fruitful relationship. With Isenhower and Todd as your guides, you'll learn how

to make every decision an opportunity for living in God's presence more deeply. --Upper Room

**Content Notes:**

- Introduction -- What is spiritual discernment? -- When is discernment inappropriate? -- Biblical references to discernment -- The process of discernment -- Resting during the journey of discernment -- Looking for certainty in the process -- Presuppositions -- personality types -- Images for god -- Assumptions about God's interaction with us -- Exploring the inward life -- Personal spiritual practices -- The spiritual disciplines -- Prayer -- Listening - - Lectio divina -- Naming and framing -- Naming an issue -- Framing the questions -- Centering -- Core values -- Holy indifference -- Remembering -- Biblical call to remember -- Personal stories -- The community of faith -- Journaling -- Listening -- Data gathering -- The holy spirit -- Consolidating -- Pondering -- Path building -- Which paths are possible? -- God's open-ended options and paths -- The path and its relationship with god -- Fruits of the spirit -- Dead-end paths -- Sifting -- Which path emerges most clearly? -- Consolation or desolation? -- More considerations -- Resting -- Sabbath and rest -- Remembering the process -- Prayer -- Waiting to share -- Concluding and beginning.

ADULTS  
248.4  
NIEQUIST

Niequist, Shauna. **Present Over Perfect DVD: Leaving Behind Frantic for a Simpler, More Soulful Way of Living.** Grand Rapids, Mich: Zondervan, 2016.

**Summary:** In this five session video Bible study, New York Times bestselling author Shauna Niequist invites you on a journey that changed her life. She will walk a path with you, a path away from frantic pushing and proving, and toward your essential self, the one you were created to be before you began proving and earning of your worth. Shauna will help you begin leaving behind busyness and frantic living and rediscovering the person you were made to be. Present Over Perfect is a hand reaching out, pulling you free from the constant pressure to perform faster, push harder, and produce more, all while maintaining an exhausting image of perfection. She offers an honest account of what led her to begin this journey, and a compelling vision for an entirely new way to live: soaked in grace, rest, silence, simplicity, prayer, and connection with the people that matter most to us. The study guide includes first thoughts, video notes, group discussion questions, practicing presence reflections, and solo work for you to complete between sessions. This DVD is designed to be used with the Present Over Perfect Study Guide. --Zondervan

**Content Notes:**

- 1. Pain Points (23:00) -- 2. The Roles We Play (20:00) -- 3. Yes, and No (21:00) -- 4. Unflashy, Unspectacular, Good (22:00) -- 5. Living the Love (21:00)

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248.4  
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**Content Notes:**

- A Note from Shauna -- How to Use This Guide -- 1. Pain Points -- 2. The Roles We Play -- 3. Yes, and No -- 4. Unflashy, Unspectacular, Good -- 5. Living the Love

ADULTS  
248.86  
MORGAN

Morgan, Richard Lyon. **At the Edge of Life : Conversations When Death is Near** . Nashville : Upper Room Books, [2014].

**Summary:** Drawing on 60 years of experience as pastor, hospice chaplain, volunteer, and friend to dying persons, Richard Morgan offers perspective and advice to people coping with a family member, friend, or patient who is approaching the time of death. These 30 meditations take us from accepting our own mortality and the impending death of someone we care about through "making preparations," "finding closure," and "dying moments." In each meditation Morgan uses personal stories and scripture to lead into a reflection question and prayer. The result is a sense of peace that gives readers confidence as companions to the dying. --Upper Room

ADULTS  
248.8629  
HUDSON

Hudson, Trevor. **One Day at a Time : Discovering the Freedom of 12-Step Spirituality** . Nashville, TN : Upper Room Books, 2007.

**Summary:** Each day brings news of someone entering rehab for treatment. While many people struggle with obvious addictions such as alcoholism or substance abuse, less evident but just-as-serious problems may lie below the most composed surface. In One Day at a Time, Hudson takes a fresh look at the Twelve Steps used by Alcoholics Anonymous. These practical guiding principles of recovery can help you, whatever your struggle, to reclaim self-worth and renewal. Discover how the Twelve Steps can help you have a closer relationship with God and enable you to live with greater joy and freedom. One Day at a Time is for you if you worry too much, battle stress and tension, struggle with compulsive or addictive behavior, feel trapped by self-condemnation, guilt, and regret, sabotage relationships with destructive behavior, worship regularly but feel bogged down in pious clichés and empty ritual. Taking one step at a time, one day at a time, you will find out how to be victorious over weaknesses that once sabotaged your life and relationships. --Upper Room

**Content Notes:**

- Finding the power to live for a change ix -- Introduction: Mapping our journey -- Step one: the courage to change -- Step two: hope for change -- Step three: decision time -- Step four: daring to face ourselves -- Step five: coming clean -- Step six: ready and willing -- Step seven: the quest for humility -- Step eight: reflecting on our relationships -- Step nine: restitution -- Step ten: maintaining progress -- Step eleven: finding God's will -- Step twelve: sharing the message.

ADULTS  
253.7  
MANSKAR

Manskar, Steven W. **Disciples Making Disciples : A Guide for Covenant Discipleship Groups and Class Leaders**. Nashville, TN : Discipleship Resources, 2016.

**Summary:** Disciples Making Disciples: Guide for Covenant Discipleship Groups and Class Leaders, by Steven W. Manskar is for pastors, Covenant Discipleship group members, and class leaders. It provides information needed to organize the ministry, form groups, write a covenant, lead a meeting, support groups so they help the congregation live out its mission of making disciples for the transformation of the world. The book also describes the office of class leaders and how to introduce this powerful disciple-making office to the congregation. --Upper Room

ADULTS  
394.2649  
SKELTON

Skelton, Stephen. **The First Thanksgiving: How the Pilgrims Became Missionaries, In Their Own Words**. Franklin, Tenn: The Entertainment Ministry, 2016.

**Summary:** It is often said that the Pilgrims came to America for religious freedom. But That is not what the Pilgrims said. According to their governor, William Bradford: "They cherished a great hope...of laying good foundations...for the propagation and advance of the Gospel of the kingdom of Christ in the remote parts of the world...." This is the story of how the Pilgrims became missionaries. --Back Cover

**Content Notes:**

- Session 1: Why the Pilgrims Came -- Session 2: What the Pilgrims Sacrificed -- Session 3: Who the Pilgrims Reached -- Session 4: How the Pilgrims Gave Thanks

CHILDREN  
259.22  
GORDON

Gordon, Melanie C. **Growing Everyday Disciples : Covenant Discipleship with Children** . Nashville, TN : Discipleship Resources, 2016.

**Summary:** Growing Everyday Disciples: Covenant Discipleship With Children is a formational resource by Melanie C. Gordon, Susan Groseclose, and Gayle Quay that equips adults who serve in ministry with children ages 8-11 to guide children towards a mature faith through everyday acts of compassion, justice, worship, and devotion under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Covenant Discipleship helps connect children with Jesus Christ and one another through ongoing mutual accountability and support for living in the world as Christ followers. The resource offers leaders in ministry with children suggestions for forming covenants, exploring accountability, evaluations, and a choice of plans to organize, maintain, and evaluate Covenant Discipleship groups with children. This resource also provides a brief background on discipleship, covenants, and society meetings of the Methodist Movement, and can be used as preparation for confirmation.

YOUTH  
259.23  
ARTHUR

Arthur, Sarah. **The God-Hungry Imagination : The Art of Storytelling for Postmodern Youth Ministry** . Nashville, TN : Upper Room Books, 2007.

**Summary:** What kind of story is your church telling? Ministry experts describe our culture as having "lost its story." Through neglect or rejection, the next generation seems unplugged from the church's core beliefs. For the most part, young people simply do not feel part of the ongoing, communal story. Paradoxically, this has occurred at a time when youth have fully embraced social networks that connect the world in self-obsessed "I" narratives. This world is starving for a story bigger than what you find on Facebook and YouTube. Sarah Arthur emphasizes the importance of story, an intrinsic aspect of the Christian faith but an aspect that is often overlooked in ministry, especially youth ministry. Arthur shows how youth ministry can be planned as a transforming series of story moments instead of programming. She weaves together her personal experiences and insights along with the sociological work on the faith of teenagers from the book Soul Searching by Christian Smith and Melinda Denton. Repeatedly and unapologetically, Arthur stresses the importance of a distinct Christian language for teenagers. If teens can't speak the Christian language, they don't know the Christian story. If they don't know the Christian story, they don't know how Christians are supposed to live. So what's her solution to this narrative deficiency? The idea of youth ministers as bards, or storytellers. Arthur reminds youth ministers that their primary task is to tell the Christian story, to reclaim the imagination as part of spiritual formation, and to reclaim the church as God's ongoing story. This book would be insightful for all ministers, not only those who work with youth. It can help us make a significant shift in the way we think about and approach ministry in the postmodern world. --Upper Room

**Content Notes:**

- Preface by Ron Foster, with Kenda Creasy Dean -- Postmodern ministry -- A "narratable world"? -- Imagination -- Defining "imagination" -- Imagination & spiritual formation -- Story -- What is story & why does it work? -- What story are we telling? -- Storytelling -- Worship as story -- The art of immersion -- Practical concerns -- The youth pastor as bard -- Notes from the field.