

ART OF SPIRITUAL DISCERNMENT
ON-LINE MEDIA & READING ASSIGNMENTS
MONTH SIX: RELATIONSHIP

A. SPIRITUAL TRADITION: Insights from Reformation Christianity

Audio CD: "Second Millennium Christianity," Richard Groves:
Required listening- Start – 25:00; 56:35-End [35 min. total]; remainder not required.

Readings: **REQUIRED**

- 1) How I Pray, Jim Castelli, ed., 3 selected articles from different Protestant traditions
- 2) Spiritual Friend, Tilden Edwards, pp. 90-102
- 3) The Active Life, Parker Palmer, pp. 15-34

OPTIONAL

- 4) Christianity as Psychology, Morton Kelsey, 111-124
- 5) The Inglorious Work of Spiritual Direction, Eugene Peterson, journal article

Assignment: Choose one or two of the five questions listed on the Reflection Assignment page based on the first segment of Groves' presentation and write a short response [not more than a paragraph] in your journal.

And/or, articulate your own questions and reflections based on any of the three assigned readings [listed above].

B. FOUNDATIONS FOR SPIRITUAL DISCERNMENT

Reading: Care of Mind, Care of Spirit, Gerald May, chapter 6, Relationship: Human Responses to Deeper Spiritual Challenges, pp. 113-148 [sections on Transference, etc. have been assigned earlier and do not need to be re-read unless you wish to re-review].

Assignment: Consider the three teachings/reflections selected from this chapter and choose the one that most interests/challenges you. Write a short response [not more than a paragraph] in your journal.

C. DISCERNMENT-IN-PRACTICE

Audio CD: "God's Plan vs. God's Project," Jack Kennedy
Required listening- Recording #5: First 28 min. of the session; remainder is optional.

Assignment: Consider each of the three quotes [and questions that follow] from Kennedy's talk. Choose one area that you feel drawn to and take it to prayerful reflection... capture your thoughts and further questions in your journal.

Reflection: Regardless of which question you choose, spend some time journaling on the distinction that Jack makes between the Divine 'path' vs. 'project' teaching.