

ART OF SPIRITUAL DISCERNMENT
ON-LINE MEDIA & READING ASSIGNMENTS
MONTH FOUR: MIND

A. SPIRITUAL TRADITION: Native Spiritual Traditions

Audio CD: "Native Spirituality for Today," Richard Groves:
Required listening- First 42:50 minutes/61 min. total; you are welcome to listen to the entire CD but it is not required

Readings: 1) Black Elk: The Sacred Way of the Lakota, Wallace Black Elk, pp. 17-31
2) People of the Lie, M. Scott Peck, pp. 9-42
3) Job and the Mystery of Suffering, Richard Rohr, pp. 31-46
Optional: Circle of Life: Washte and Wakan, A Native Compilation, p. 23-56

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 4, *Mind: Spirituality and Psychodynamics*, pp. 51-82

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: "Considering the Mystery of Evil" Jack Kennedy
Required listening- Recording #4: Listen to the entire 36 min. session.

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.

Ritual: As a way of experiencing Native Spiritual wisdom, create a 'Potlach' ceremony sometime during the coming month [described in the on-line DVD teaching of the month].

D. OPTIONAL FILM

Facing the Mystery of Evil with Bill Moyers

This month there is an optional documentary on-line that is highly recommended. Though it is dated, the topic and speakers are powerful and provide dynamic insights into our monthly topic. Consider viewing this with others as grist for conversation.