

AVEL West (Audio Visual Educational Library)

The United Church of Canada

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AVEL RESOURCES FOR STUDY GROUPS

AVEL has many videos/DVDs for use with study groups. There is a separate videography for "Bible Study Groups". For more information please contact AVEL. We look forward to hearing from you.

Affectionately Yours, Screwtape - The Devil and C.S. Lewis

Based on C. S. Lewis' *The Screwtape Letters* (imaginative letters between two devils), this program examines the reality of evil. Presents thought provoking ideas on the military and economic wars of today. Could be used in one or five sessions. 2007 DVD (52 mins)

Beginnings: An Introduction to Christian Faith kit

A 9-12 week small-group study about basic Christian beliefs. Targets inquirers and new church members and is designed to meet adults wherever they might be on their spiritual journey. The kit includes guides for both leaders and participants. 2003 DVD or VHS

Countering Pharaoh's Production Consumption Society Today (from Living the Questions)

Five session study featuring Walter Brueggemann that looks at the journey from slavery to covenant - under Pharaoh's system, under the Roman system and in today's North American society. Includes warm-up questions which can be used in a variety of settings. 2006 DVD

Discovering Everyday Spirituality

An 8-part series with Thomas Moore (*Care of the Soul*). 1994 VHS (25 mins each part)

Story (Parts 1 & 2): *Stories have the power to heal*

Place (Parts 3 & 4) *Discovering the spiritual geography of our lives*

Activity (Parts 5 & 6): *Activities enhance our spiritual lives*

Ritual (Parts 7 & 8) *Rituals give order and meaning*

DreamThinkBeDo (from Living the Questions)

An overview of progressive Christianity for young adults. Each of the twenty self-standing sessions contains a 20-minute DVD segment drawn from the Living the Questions 2.0 series -- updated with connecting narrations, graphics, and music to engage your young adults. Bundled in four five-session modules. Volume 1 available May 2009, Volumes 2, 3, & 4 available late August 2009. 2009 DVD.

Dry Bones: Christianity in Transition

Is Christianity losing its vitality, or is it undergoing a transition that can lead to a new relationship between Shepherd and flock? This study probes the psychological significance of Christianity while seeking to broaden the perception of the sacred in daily life. 2001 VHS (55 mins each) **Tape 1:** My God, My God, Why Hast Thou Forsaken Me? **Tape 2:** Christ's Return

Eclipsing Empire: Paul, Rome, and The Kingdom Of God (from Living the Questions)

A 12 session study with Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan that explores Paul's message of the Kingdom of God, its challenges to Roman imperial theology, and the apostle's radical relevance for today. 2008 DVD

Experiencing Jesus

A 10 session study by Tim Scorer based on Marcus Borg's book *Jesus: Uncovering the Life, Teachings, and Relevance of a Religious Revolutionary*. Participants will need to read Borg's book which looks at who Jesus was, what he taught, and why he still matters today. Study is complete with leader's guide, participant's handbook, DVD, posters, and a copy of the book. 2008

Experiencing the Bible Again for the First Time

A 10 session study by Tim Scorer to learn about the Bible and be shaped by the biblical message. Based on Marcus Borg's book *Reading the Bible Again for the First Time*. Participants will need to read Borg's book. Study is complete with leader's guide, participant's handbook, DVD, posters, and a copy of Marcus Borg's book. 2007

Experiencing Ecological Christianity

A 9 session study by Tim Scorer with Bruce Sanguin that focuses on the ecological crisis and practical responses we can make to it. Participants will need to read Bruce Sanguin's book *Darwin, Divinity, and the Dance of the Cosmos*. Study includes leader's guide and participant's handbook in pdf format for printing, images for projection, DVD and a copy of Bruce Sanguin's book. 2009

Faces on Faith Religious and secular thinkers respond to age-old questions of belief and meaning. 1993 VHS (26 to 30 mins each)
Seven Storytellers of Faith and **Six Leaders of Contemporary Christian Thought** are compiled from these interviews.

Marcus Borg	Dayton Edmonds	Sallie McFague	Lewis Smedes
Rita Nakashima Brock	Richard Foster	Virginia Ramey Mollenkott	Cassandra Thomas
Robert McAfee Brown	Matthew Fox	Thomas Moore	Rhodes Thompson
Walter Brueggemann	Robert Fulghum	Parker Palmer	Desmond Tutu
Frederick Buechner	Gustavo Gutierrez	Chaim Potok	Terry Waite
James Carroll	Ada Maria Isasi-Diaz	Rosemary Radford Ruether	Jim Wallis
John Cobb	Catherine Keller	Robert Raines	Walter Wangerin Jr.
John Dominic Crossan	Harold Kushner	Tex Sample	Renita Weems
Virginia Doctor	Pui Lan Kwok	Elisabeth Schussler-	Walter Wink
Larry Dossey	Madeleine L'Engle	Fiorenza	Janet Wolf
Verna Dozier	Amy-Jill Levine	Bernie Siegel	Brian Wren

Faith and Reason This series features scholars and authors engaged in lively discussion of biblical, theological and ethical issues. Each program is complete on its own. Programs are 25 minutes each and may be used in any order. 1996 and 1997 VHS

Faith and Reason: Historical Jesus Issues

1. What Can We Know About the Historical Jesus?

Marcus Borg and Craig Evans

2. Was Jesus Really Raised from the Dead?

Dominic Crossan and Craig Evans

3. How Did Jesus of Nazareth See Himself?

Dominic Crossan and Craig Evans

4. What Did Jesus Believe About God?

Marcus Borg and A. J. Levine

5. What Made Jesus, Jesus?

Marcus Borg and Charles Kiblinger

6. Is What We Believe About Jesus Important?

Marcus Borg and Tex Sample

Faith and Reason: Our Relationship with God

1. Is God Just?

John Spong and Forrest Harris

2. Does God Punish or Reward Us?

William Mallard and Joan Chittister

3. Is God's Love for Us Unconditional?

Shug McBay and John Spong

4. What Does God Expect Us to Do about Evil?

William Mallard and Joan Chittister

5. Is It All Right with God if We Suffer?

Walter Brueggemann and Forrest Harris

6. How Does God Control Us?

Harold Kushner and Phyllis Tickle

Faith and Reason: Living Your Faith

1. What Can We Expect from Prayer?

Joan Chittister and Charles Kiblinger

2. Don't I Have a Right to My Personal Rights?

Forrest Harris and Walter Brueggemann

3. How Can Anything Good Come Out of This?

Harold Kushner and Phyllis Tickle

4. The Bible: Fact or Fiction?

Walter Brueggemann and A. J. Levine

5. Does Christianity Have a Place at the Political Table?

Dominic Crossan and Gayle White

6. Do We Really Believe in Redemption?

Phyllis Tickle and John Holbert

Faith and Reason: God And Jesus (5 videos in this series)

1. The Nature of God

Martin Marty and Tex Sample

2. What is the Kingdom of God?

Dominic Crossan and Craig Evans

3. Does God Use Us?

Marcus Borg and Forrest Harris

4. The Nature of Christ

Tex Sample and Shug McBay

5. What Should We Believe About Jesus?

Marcus Borg and Charles Kiblinger

First Light: Jesus and The Kingdom Of God (from Living the Questions)

A 12-session DVD and web-based study of the historical Jesus and the Kingdom of God with John Dominic Crossan and Marcus Borg. Filmed on location throughout Galilee and Jerusalem. 2009 DVD

Great Figures of the Bible Elie Wiesel narrates this series. Told with recreated scenes and & works of art. 1994 VHS (60 mins each)

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|----------------|--------------------|----------|
| 1. Adam & Eve | 3. Abraham & Isaac | 5. Moses |
| 2. Cain & Abel | 4. Job | 6. David |

- Great Preachers series** Sermon and interview. Series I & II have a printed copy of the sermon. VHS (25 mins ea)
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|-------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Series I (1997) | Series II (1998) | Series III (2001) |
| 1. Walter Burghardt | 1. Tony Campolo | 1. Walter Brueggemann |
| 2. Fred Craddock | 2. John Claypool | 2. Michael Curry |
| 3. James Forbes | 3. John Collins | 3. John Kavanaugh |
| 4. Billy Graham | 4. Suzan Johnson Cook | 4. Rabbi Harold Kushner |
| 5. Thomas Long | 5. Zan Wesley Holmes, Jr. | 5. Richard Lischer |
| 6. Haddon Robinson | 6. Linda Loving | 6. Eugene Lowry |
| 7. John R.W. Stott | 7. Jeremiah Wright | 7. Joseph Stowell |
| 8. Barbara Brown Taylor | | |
| 9. Gardner C. Taylor | | |
| 10. William Willimon | | |

Great Stories of Faith Some of the best stories from *Faces On Faith* and *Questions Of Faith*. Four or five stories per video. 1996 VHS (3-18 minutes each)

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|-------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Transformation | 2. Breaking Down Barriers | 3. Ritual & Symbol |
| 4. The Light Way | 5. Facing Death | 6. God With Us |

Joseph Campbell & the Power of Myth

Bill Moyers interviews Joseph Campbell in this six part series that explores mythology. 1988 VHS (58 mins each part)

Living The Questions 2.0

A flexible resource for small group exploration of progressive Christianity. Three series of seven sessions each. Presenters include Marcus Borg, John Cobb, John Dominic Crossan, Tex Sample, John Spong and many others. DVD 2007 The original **Living The Questions** program of 12 sessions is also available for loan from AVEL.

Paul: An Appealing or Appalling Apostle? (from Living the Questions)

John Dominic Crossan addresses challenges to understanding Paul, three different "Pauls," Paul's character and theology, and gender balance and imbalance in the New Testament. DVD 2005 (50 mins)

Pioneers of the Spirit Three videos about the life of three mystics and the wisdom they offer for today. 1996 VHS (24 mins each)

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|------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Augustine of Hippo | 2. Julian of Norwich | 3. Teresa of Avila |
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Also of interest - **Hildegard** VHS (48 mins). Hildegard of Bingen was an Abbess, a visionary, mystic and composer.

Praying in the Midst of Life

Led by Ron DelBene, this series is designed to help strengthen personal prayer life. 1994 VHS (approx 23 mins each.)

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|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Our Questions about Prayer | 2. Finding God | 3. Knowing God's Will |
| 4. Praying the Scripture | 5. Learning the Breath Prayer | 6. Retreating at Anytime |

Questions of Faith series

Faith questions are addressed by a variety of contemporary thinkers. DVD or VHS (20 – 30 mins each)

Questions of Faith I (1988)

1. Who is God?
2. What Good is Prayer
3. What's God Got To Do With Evil?
4. What's Being Good Good For?
5. Who Needs Organized Religion?
6. What Matters Anyway?

Questions of Faith II (1989)

1. Who is Jesus?
2. What's the Use of the Bible?
3. Who's Got the Truth?
4. How Do We Right the Wrong?
5. What Gives You Faith?
6. What Happens After Death?

Questions of Faith III (1991)

1. What Do You Mean By Faith?
2. Why Worship?
3. What's Religion Got To Do With Sex?
4. What Are The Moral Dilemmas?
5. Remember Sin and Salvation?
6. What About Grace and Miracles?

Questions of Faith IV (1992)

1. What's the Nature of Human Nature?
2. Whose Life is Sacred?
3. Whose World Is It?
4. What's the Holy Spirit?
5. What's Religious?
6. Why Hope?

Questions of Faith V (1994)

1. What Kind of Power Does God Have?
2. Whose Money Is It?
3. Can Faith Wipe Out Fear?
4. How Do You Pray?
5. How Can We Love Practically Anybody?
6. What's Holiness All About?

Saving Jesus (from Living the Questions)

A 12 session exploration of the relevance of Jesus Christ for the third millennium. Features Marcus Borg, John Dominic Crossan, Matthew Fox, Amy-Jill Levine, James Forbes and others. 2006 DVD

Searching For Spirituality

Joan Chittister in conversation with six others who explore ten attributes that form a Christian spiritual life. 2000 VHS

Video 1: Program 1 - Seeing God in Others - Openness & Love Of The Stranger (24 mins)

Program 2 - Finding God in Daily Life - Dailyness & Work (22 mins)

Video 2: Program 3 - Understanding Others as God Understands Us - Compassion & Community (21 mins)

Program 4 - Falling Into the Presence of God - Prayer & Lectio (24 mins)

Program 5 - Receiving Others Kindly - Humility & Justice (22 mins)

Serious Answers to Hard Questions

Ten theologians address 10 obstacle-to-faith issues. Hosted by United Methodist Bishop Kenneth Carder. 2006 DVD (30 mins each)

1. Evil - R. Kendall Soulen

2. Religion and Science - John Polkinghorne

3. Other Religions - Sathianathan Clarke

4. Evangelism and Tolerance - Scott Jones

5. The God of the Old Testament - Amy-Jill Levine

6. Jesus and Christianity - Richard B. Hays

7. Resurrection - N.T. Wright

8. The Gnostic Gospels - Ben Witherington

9. The Sins of the Church - Douglas M. Strong

10. Forgiveness - L. Gregory Jones

Sharing Our Song of Faith (Spirit Connection, 2007 Lenten series)

Guests from different faith traditions are invited to enter a conversation about portions of the Song of Faith along with United Church people. Five programs with study guide DVD or VHS 2007 (30 mins each)

Simply Christian: Why Christianity Makes Sense

Biblical scholar and Anglican bishop N. T. Wright expands on the themes of his book of the same name in 10 sessions. 2007 DVD

Simply Enough - Straight Talk from Tony Campolo & Shane Claiborne on Simple, Just Living

Two voices from different generations in dialogue about Christian life. Both are challenging and hopeful. Six 12 minute segments with discussion guide and bonus footage. Topics are lifestyle, food, celebrations, stuff, money and justice. 2007 DVD (71 mins + 38 mins)

System Belongs To God (The)

A seven part series with Walter Wink in conversation with Janet Wolf and James Forbes. They offer a new way of thinking and hoping and acting for transformation. 1998 VHS (20 to 25 minutes each)

Talking About God

Contemporary Christian and Jewish people of faith respond to a series of questions about God. 1998 VHS (20 to 25 minutes each)

1. What's Your Experience of God?

2. How Do You Talk About God?

3. Who Are You to God?

4. Where is God in Your Life?

5. What Is God Doing?

6. Whose Side Is God On?

7. How Can Believers Live Together?

Victory and Peace or Justice and Peace? (from Living the Questions)

John Dominic Crossan explores the juxtaposition of Roman Imperial Theology and the Kingdom of God in four 50 minute lectures. Includes study guide. Can be done in 4 - 12 sessions. 2005 DVD

What's God Up To? Bible stories through new eyes

Amy-Jill Levine, popular biblical scholar, presents six stories in the Judeo-Christian tradition of struggling, questioning, and even arguing with the text. 2001 DVD (25 mins each)

1. Temptation in the Garden

2. The Sacrifice of Isaac

3. David and Bathsheba

4. The Prodigal Son

5. The Canaanite Woman

6. Jesus with Mary and Martha

The Wisdom of Faith

Bill Moyers and Huston Smith in discussion about the world's great religions. In the final episode, Smith discusses his philosophy of religion and shows how all wisdom traditions share fundamental truths. 1996 VHS (58 mins each)

1. Hinduism and Buddhism

2. Confucianism

3. Christianity and Judaism

4. Islam

5. A Personal Philosophy

Wrestling with Angels

A six-part series on two videos, each part is 26 minutes. Each session has a well-known author commenting on stories from people who have faced struggles with some of life's really tough questions. 1993 VHS

Part 1: GUIDANCE - Tony Campolo,

Part 2: FORGIVING - Lewis Smedes

WHY ME? - Philip Yancey,

DOUBT - Madeleine L'Engle

PRAYER - Richard Foster

LOVE - Keith Miller